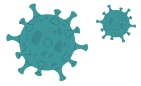


Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 2/11/2022



COVID-19 Case Trends – Cases Decreasing

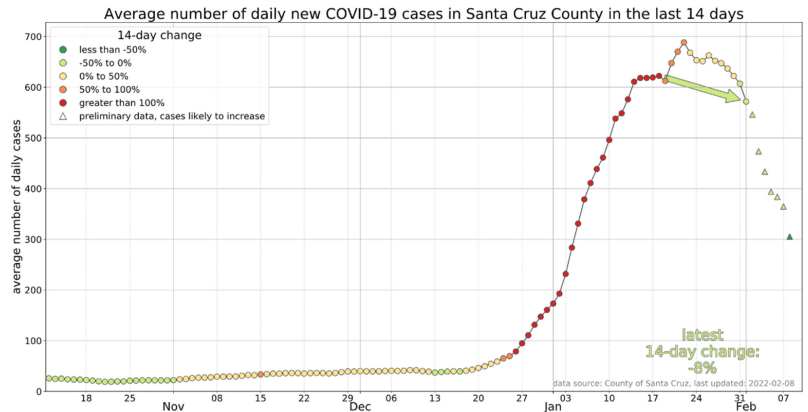
COVID-19 case rates are starting to decrease in Santa Cruz County. Public Health's surge response will focus on supporting the healthcare system, supporting the community with COVID-19 preparedness, and maintaining Public Health operations.

The 14-day change graph to the right indicates a flattening and decreasing trend.

- Reproductive number median estimate is below 1, which indicates that **transmission is not increasing**.

Individual behaviors **DO** make a difference to **SLOW** the spread. What you can do during the Omicron surge:

- Get vaccinated and boosted.
- Upgrade your masks.
- Improve ventilation and air filtration.



Masking Update

Bay Area health officers, in alignment with the State, **strongly recommend continued masking** as an effective tool to prevent the spread of the virus.

- Masking in indoor public settings remains the safest choice for an individual.
- Vaccinations and boosters remain the top defense against the virus.

Click here for the [new CDPH masking guidance](#).

A Few "Pandemic Successes" Amid All The Bad News

Communication around the pandemic has tended to just include the bad things. Indeed, these past two years have been very challenging. However, there have been successes in the U.S.:

- Vaccines have saved over **1 million** lives.
- Unemployment is back to nearly **pre-pandemic** levels. Few people would have predicted this a year ago.
- During the Omicron surge, we've been able to **live life close to the same** as before (but with masks on in some places). This is thanks to vaccination, testing, and other health measures!

www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus



Vaccinations



NEW! BEN LOMOND VACCINE CLINIC

- There is a new vaccine clinic in Ben Lomond, located at Wee Kirk Church, 500 Central Avenue.
- Open Saturdays 10am-2pm
- Appointments and walk-ins available. Click [here for MyTurn appointments](#).
- In partnership with Santa Cruz Community Health.

You can find COVID-19 resources and vaccine information at the [Health Services Agency COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#) or [MyTurn](#).

All COVID-19 vaccine appointments are available at **no cost and regardless of insurance status**.

Testing

Get **free at-home COVID-19 tests** from the federal government. Countywide COVID-19 testing information is available at the [Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Testing website](#).

- **Optum Serve Testing Sites:** Open 7-days a week in Watsonville (new location), Felton, and Santa Cruz. Click [here](#) to sign up for appointments.
- **Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds:** Monday-Friday 10am-5pm and Saturday 9am-3pm. Registration required. Register [here](#).

For individuals taking a COVID-19 rapid antigen test at home, it's important to follow [California Department of Public Health guidelines and test instructions for reporting](#).

Public Health Reminders

- Enjoy time with friends and loved ones, safely and responsibly!
- Compassion, Community, and Trust are helping us get through this surge.
- Some ways to stay safe: wear a mask when gathering in indoor public spaces; get vaccinated and boosted; stay home if you are sick; get tested if you have symptoms.

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Operation Period 77.2 | Activation Level 1 | 2/11/2022