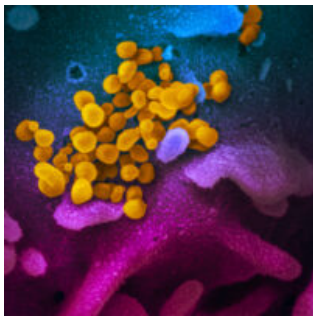


[Home](#) / [COVID-19](#) / [COVID updates](#) / **COVID-19 updates**

## COVID-19 UPDATES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020



The SARS-CoV-2 virus  
(NIAID)

We are working together to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). Below are this week's East Bay COVID-19 and HIV updates. This page is usually updated on Wednesday evenings by [Sophy S. Wong, MD](#) with data and resources gathered from many collaborators in [Alameda County](#), [Contra Costa County](#), [Solano County](#), [CA state](#).

[MASKS](#)[GUIDANCE](#)[RESOURCES & LINKS](#)[ARCHIVES](#)[PDF SUMMARY](#)

Click on these links for

[masks and face coverings](#), [guidance on prevention, testing and wellness](#), [resources and links](#), [archived weekly updates](#) and the [weekly PDF summary](#). [East Bay HIV service organizations](#) are providing services by phone and/or video.

### KEY UPDATES FOR THIS WEEK:

Last Friday, 76 people from 23 organizations joined us for our first workshop on the 5-year **East Bay HIV strategic plan**. We discussed our 5-year vision, priorities and next steps to write a draft of the "living" strategic plan. You can download the [workshop summary here](#) and [slides here](#). Updates will be posted online [here](#).

Our goal is for the East Bay HIV strategic plan to be community-designed and driven. Please [use this form](#) to provide input and feedback on the strategic plan at any point, including input on how we should include key communities.

**Save the date for our [next meeting on writing the strategic plan](#): Friday, October 23, 10-11:30 am.**

On Friday we created this beautiful visioning word cloud together:

# How do we want to be when we come out of this pandemic?



**Oakland Pride 2020:** Virtual pride celebrations happened all last week. You can check out videos from the festivities [here](#). You can also visit the [virtual vendor village](#) open all through September.

**2020 Census:** The last stretch of data collection ends on September 30th, after which the tabulation process begins. Please encourage everyone in your networks to fill out the census. Learn more [here](#).

**2020 Election:** The November 3rd election is upon us. Please register to vote or check your registration status [here](#). Learn more about voting by mail [here](#). In light of the COVID-19 related poll worker shortage, [Alameda](#), [Contra Costa](#) & [Solano](#) counties are all in need of poll workers to make sure the 2020 election goes smoothly.

## EAST BAY COVID-19 UPDATES

**COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in the East Bay continue to slowly trend downward.** [Current estimated transmission rates](#) are 0.91 in Alameda County, 0.89 in Contra Costa and Solano Counties, compared to 0.87 statewide. Transmission rates have been steadily less than 1 since late August. That means on average each person with COVID-19 transmits the virus to fewer than one other person. Our goal is to keep transmission rates less than 1 so cases continue to decrease.

### Statewide Metrics

7.7

New COVID-19 positive cases per day per 100K

4.2%

Positivity rate



Data shown is for 9/15 tier assignments

County risk level	New cases	Positive tests
<b>WIDESPREAD</b> Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed	<b>More than 7</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>More than 8%</b> Positive tests
<b>SUBSTANTIAL</b> Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed	<b>4 - 7</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>5 - 8%</b> Positive tests
<b>MODERATE</b> Some indoor business operations are open with modifications	<b>1 - 3.9</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>2 - 4.9%</b> Positive tests
<b>MINIMAL</b> Most indoor business operations are open with modifications	<b>Less than 1</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>Less than 2%</b> Positive tests

This week Alameda and Solano Counties met criteria for the next (red) tier in California's [Blueprint to Safer Reopening](#) for having 4-7 new cases per day per 100,000 residents *and* a positivity rate of less than 8%. To move forward to the red tier, we must meet *both* criteria for two consecutive weeks. In the meanwhile, we remain in the purple and most restricted tier. Contra Costa County remains in the purple tier for having more than 7 new cases per day per 100,000 residents.

Being in the purple tier means that most schools and non-essential indoor operations must remain closed. California Department of Public Health (CDPH) determines each county's tier weekly on Tuesdays using case and positivity rate data with a 7-day rolling average and 7-day lag to account for reporting delays. A county must remain in a tier for a minimum of three weeks before being able to advance to a less restrictive tier and can only move one tier at a time.

On September 14, Alameda County updated the [Vehicle-Based Gathering Order](#) to allow up to 400 vehicles gather for live performances including entertainment like musical, theatrical, and artistic performances, lectures, presentations, movie showings, as well as religious and cultural ceremonies.

This week Contra Costa County aligned its [COVID-19 health order](#) with California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. The county's new order allows certain personal care services (nail salons, massage, facials, waxing) to operate outdoors, racetracks and cardrooms will be able to operate outdoors, music, television and film production and professional sports without live audiences.

## ALAMEDA COUNTY:

- [5.6 new cases](#) of COVID-19 per day per 100,000 residents.
- [3.4%](#) testing positivity rate.
- [20,097 cumulative cases](#) and 356 deaths.
- [118 hospitalized patients](#) (highest was 213 on 7/28), including 33 ICU patients (highest was 73 on 8/20) with confirmed COVID-19.
- [0.91](#) transmission rate on the ensemble [Cal-CAT](#) model (same as last week) and 0.65 on the [LEMMA](#) hospital data model (down from 0.69 last week).

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY:

- [7.1 new cases](#) of COVID-19 per day per 100,000 residents.

- [4.7%](#) positivity rate.
- [0.89](#) transmission rate, slightly up from 0.87.

## SOLANO COUNTY:

- [5.3 new cases](#) of COVID-19 per day per 100,000 residents.
- [3.4%](#) positivity rate.
- [0.89](#) transmission rate, up from 0.83.

## UPCOMING COVID-19 COMMUNITY TESTING EVENTS IN OAKLAND



[Umoja in Health Partners](#) are providing pop-up COVID-19 testing **this weekend** on Friday 9/18 at BOSS, 9006 MacArthur Blvd and Saturday 9/19 at the Center of Hope Community Church, 8400 MacArthur Blvd. If you would like to volunteer, please [click here](#) to sign up.

The [Sanando Juntos Fruitvale testing event](#) has been rescheduled to September 26 and 27<sup>th</sup> for people in the 94601 zip code.

Our **summary of**

[COVID harm reduction strategies](#) is constantly updated with new studies.

**Free COVID testing sites:** [Click here for Alameda County](#), [Contra Costa County](#) and [Solano County testing sites](#).







**To stay safe during wildfire season and the pandemic, we all need to:**

- Stay in cooler locations away from smoke,
- Wear non-medical N95s when unable to stay indoors during times of unhealthy air quality,
- [Wear face coverings](#) when in public and within 30 feet of others,
- Maintain at least six feet distance from others,
- Sanitize or wash hands frequently, and
- Stay home when sick.

## OTHER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Youth Opportunity:** Lifelong Medical Care is looking for a talented artist between the ages of 13-24 to develop artwork to use for their HIV Prevention and Sexual Health campaign. The artwork will be used online on our website, social media, digital documents; and in print on flyers, documents, promotional swag. Entries of high-resolution files of original art are due by September 30, 2020. Check out the flyer [here](#).
- **Volunteer Opportunity:** The Latinx Center of Excellence (LCOE) Street Team is looking for UCSF clinical volunteers for [Unidos en Salud: Fruitvale](#) to disclose positive COVID-19 test results. The testing will be done at the La Clinica de La Raza Parking Lot (35th Ave. and E. 12th St.) on September 26th and 27th from 9am to 5pm. Learn more and apply to volunteer [here](#).
- **LGBTQ Youth of Color Opportunity:** APEB and UCSF are launching the Oakland Minority Community Education 2020 Stop the Spread TikTok Impact Challenge. They are looking for the most impactful message to educate people about preventing COVID-19 and HIV prevention through this challenge. Apply to join the challenge [here](#).

## COVID-19 harm reduction strategies: Use as many of these as you can!

Strategy	% reduction
 1. Masking	60-95%
 2. Distancing	53-88%
 3. Eye protection	78%
 4. Stay outdoors	~95% <small>In one case series</small>
 5. Hand hygiene	28-45%
 6. Testing/isolation	33%

Updated 8.17.20 \* Data compiled by Sophie S. Wong, MD from: [Good Ware](#), [Freepik](#) and [Sign on Flaticon.com](#). Please see [EBGTL.org/resources](#) for the complete list of sources for this table.

- **Webinar:** Join PAETC for two more sessions in the HIV Pharmacology Series. The first session '[Applying HIV Pharmacology to Patient Care](#)' will take place on Thursday, 9/17 from 1:30-3pm. Session 2 '[Supporting patients after their first regimen](#)' will be on Thursday, 9/24 from 1:30-3pm.
- **Virtual Event & CAB Opportunity:** California Preterm Birth Initiative (PTBi) will be hosting a virtual event on '[Healthcare as Sanctuary: ICE, Birthing People, and Justice for Immigrants](#)' on Thursday, 9/24 from 5-6:30 pm. The event will discuss The impact of white supremacist, racist, and xenophobic immigration policies on perinatal health outcomes of immigrants and surrounding communities.
- Additionally, PTBi is looking to add members to their Community Advisory Board. The CAB has 25 members representing San Francisco, Oakland, and Fresno. They are mothers who have lived experience of preterm births, frontline community health and social service providers, as well as representatives of community-based organizations. Click [here](#) for more information on the CAB opportunity.
- **PPE Access:** CDPH Harm Reduction Unit has been working with the CA Office of Emergency Services (OES) to make PPE available to harm reduction programs. They are now extending this aid to harm reduction-minded organizations that aren't necessarily syringe exchange programs just so long as there is a commitment to distributing supplies to people in the community who need them. If you'd like to pursue this opportunity, please reach out to Matt Curtis at [matt.curtis@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:matt.curtis@cdph.ca.gov)
- **Job Opportunity:** CAL-PEP is seeking a [full-time or part-time Case Manager](#) who will support medical adherence and viral suppression by providing client-centered needs assessments; development of, and support in implementing an individualized service plan; referrals; advocacy; and substance abuse interventions to HIV positive individuals in need of such support.
- **USCHA:** 2020 United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA) will take place online Oct. 19-21. [Registration is free](#) for the first 4,000 community/non-profit registrants. All content will be available online for free after the conference as well. The conference organizers, National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) will also provide devices and/or Wi-Fi hotspots to a limited amount of USCHA attendees who need these resources to attend the conference. We want to encourage those who otherwise would not be able to participate virtually to apply. To be considered, fill out [this survey](#) by Friday, September 25th.
- **The Alameda County Landlord Incentive Program** has been set up to incentivize landlords to increase housing availability. The program offers guaranteed on-time monthly payments, resident support services and additional financial incentives. If you or someone you know has a housing unit for rent in Alameda County, please call 510-777-2100 or email [ACHomes@acgov.org](mailto:ACHomes@acgov.org).

**HIV services during COVID-19:** [Click here for Contra Costa HIV services](#) and [see our online directory for Alameda County HIV services](#).

If your organization is in Alameda County and needs COVID-related supplies or staffing, please go to the [Emergency Medical Services website](#) to [request PPE](#), [request staffing](#) and [request testing supplies](#).

Please follow and share our [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

---

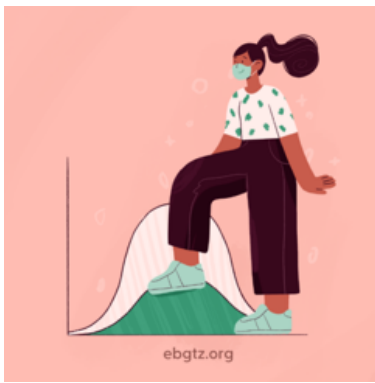
## ALAMEDA COUNTY DETAILED UPDATES:

### TRENDS IN CASES AND HOSPITALIZATIONS

**Case rates continue to slowly trend downward after a peak in mid-July. Hospitalization rates continue to slowly trend down after peaks in July and August, though remaining at higher levels than hospitalizations in June. Our goal is for cases to be flat or decreasing.**

- On September 15, there were [5.6 new cases](#) of COVID-19 per day per 100,000

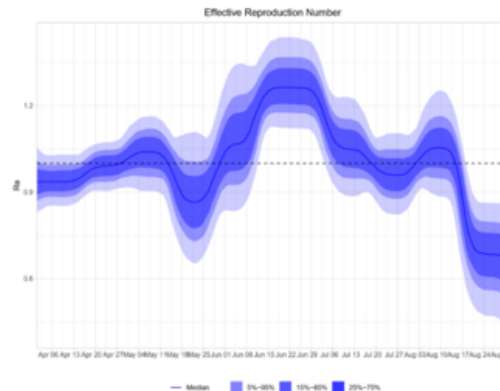




residents and a test positivity rate of 3.4% using CDPH data adjusted through September 5.

- On September 15, there were [20,097 cumulative cases and 356 deaths](#).
- On September 14, there were [118 hospitalized patients](#) (highest was 213 on 7/28), including [33 ICU patients](#) (highest was 73 on 8/20) with confirmed COVID-19.

Case rates remain highest in those ages 18-50, and hospitalizations in those age groups increased in August while death rates are highest among those over the age of 50.



Trends in Alameda County transmission rates (LEMMA model)

The [LEMMA](#) COVID-19 prediction model using hospital data through September 13 estimates the median Alameda County transmission rate ( $R_t$ ) to be 0.65, down from 0.69 last week and a peak of 1.24 in late June. This means each person with COVID-19 on average transmits the virus to 0.65 other people. If we keep the transmission rate less than 1, new cases will decrease.

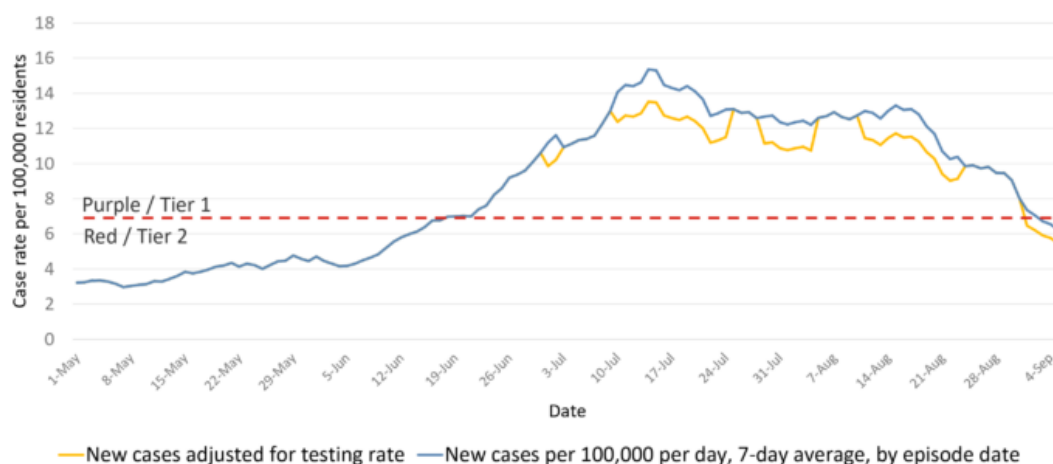
The [California COVID Assessment Tool \(Cal-CAT\)](#) uses an ensemble of 8

models, and estimates our transmission rate to be 0.91, same as last week and compared to 0.87 in California overall.

Please help us get the message out to communities with the [Mask On, Alameda County](#) campaign. [Face coverings are mandatory statewide](#) for everyone over the age of 2.

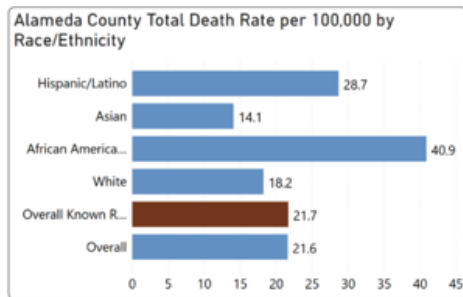
For help with enforcement or report violations of workplace safety orders in Alameda County, please email: [COVID19compliance@acgov.org](mailto:COVID19compliance@acgov.org)

## Alameda County COVID-19 Daily Case Rate, 2020



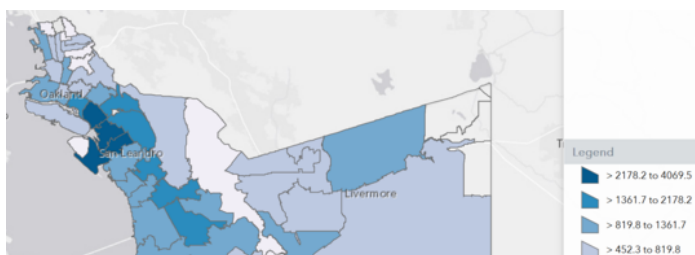
Notes: Data as of 9/1/2020. County is Alameda LHI

## DISPARITIES AND EQUITY

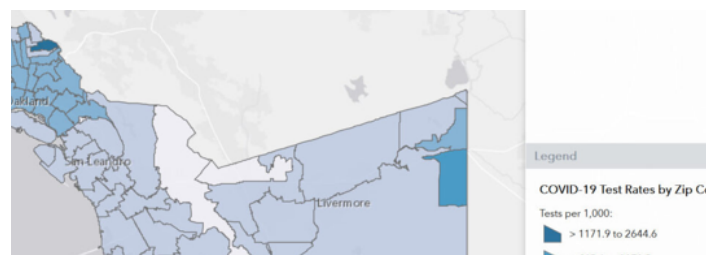


[Updated race and ethnicity data in Alameda County](#) show that Latinx people continue to face the highest case rates and Blacks/African Americans continue to face the highest death rates. Currently Latinx people have 6.4 times the case rate and 1.6 the death rate compared to Whites. Blacks/African Americans have 2.2 times the case rate and 2.3 times the death rate compared to Whites. Native Americans have 1.9 times and Pacific Islanders have 2.3 times the case rate compared to Whites. These disparity rates are similar this week (within 0.4) compared to last week.

The highest case and positivity rates in Alameda County continue to be in the Fruitvale and Coliseum zip codes in East Oakland and the 880-highway corridor. However, as can be seen in the [case and testing rate maps](#), the highest rates of testing are not occurring in the zip codes with the highest case rates. Community-led grassroots testing efforts in the most highly impacted neighborhoods aim to increase testing for those who need it most.



Case rates by Zip Code



Testing rates by Zip Code

These persistent disparities underscore the urgent need to address racial and socioeconomic inequities in economic stability, workplace safety, education and access to precautions, rapid access to testing, safe isolation housing, quarantine, medical care, and income replacement.

## TESTING

We have conducted over **3,500 tests per day** in the past week, which is above our goal of 3,100 per day. The percentage of people testing positive is 3.4%, using CDPH data through September 5. This is within our positivity rate goal of less than 8%, but varies greatly by zip code and race/ethnicity.

[Umoja in Health Partners](#) are providing pop-up COVID-19 testing on Friday 9/18 at BOSS, 9006 MacArthur Blvd and Saturday 9/19 at the Center of Hope Community Church, 8400 MacArthur Blvd. If you would like to volunteer, please [click here](#) to sign up.

[The Sanando Juntos Fruitvale testing event](#) has been rescheduled to September 26 and 27<sup>th</sup> for people in the 94601 zip code.

Updated testing locations and appointment links are posted the [COVID-19 testing webpage](#) and searchable in this [interactive map of COVID-19 services](#) (click to filter for COVID-19 testing). 11 community testing sites offer free tests using [county testing guidance](#) for any community member with symptoms, all essential workers and those at higher medical risk regardless of symptoms.

## UPCOMING UMOJA FREE COVID-19 TESTING DATES

**FRIDAY, SEPT 18**  
(9AM - 4PM)  
@ BOSS  
(9006 MACARTHUR BLVD.)  
WALK-UP TESTING



**SATURDAY, SEPT 19**  
(9AM - 4PM)  
@ CENTER OF HOPE  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
(8400 MACARTHUR BLVD.)  
WALK UP &  
DRIVE THROUGH TESTING

**BOSS**  
BAY AREA OUTREACH SERVICES

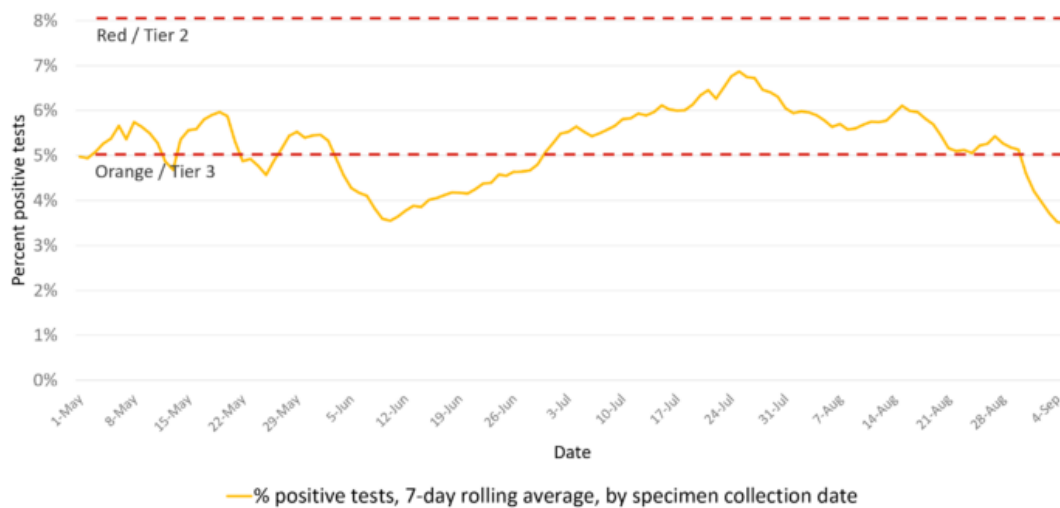


**MASK ON ALAMEDA**  
PLEASE GIVE US YOUR OPINION  
ABOUT COVID-19 AND MASK WEARING:  
[HTTPS://IS.GD/MASKONALAMEDACOUNTYSURVEY](https://is.gd/maskonalamedacountysurvey)

Testing sites provide critical support with disease containment by:

- distributing [isolation orders](#) and [contact tracing information](#) for all people getting tested,
- reminding people to stay home until they get test results and to pick up calls from the health department, and
- submitting full names, addresses, dates of birth and phone numbers and demographics (including race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity) for all positive cases, including positive antigen results, using the [COVID-19 Confidential Mortality Report \(CMR\)](#).

### Alameda County COVID-19 Test Positivity, 2020



Notes: Data as of 9/1/2020. County is Alameda LHI



Alameda County  
Health Care Services Agency



Alameda County Public Health Department  
Celebrating Healthy People in Healthy Communities

9/14/2020  
10

## CASE AND CONTACT INVESTIGATIONS, ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

Alameda County currently has 42 outbreak investigators, 125 trained case investigators and contact tracers at the county, and 29 at community-based organizations, with a goal to reach 300 in the fall. Between September 9 through 15, 45% cases were reached within 24 hours of receiving contact information, and 72% cases were reached within a week after multiple attempts. The Community Resource Group supports people who need to isolate with food and lodging and has been making about 50 food deliveries each day.





[Project Roomkey](#) continues to provide isolation/quarantine housing for people living in crowded conditions or are experiencing homelessness. There are now 1,234 hotel room and trailer slots open with 936 or 76% occupied. This exceeds our goal of having 1,203 rooms or trailers, representing 15% of the 2019 point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness in Alameda County.

Rolling applications for the COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing services funding opportunity are due every first and third Friday of the month. For more information, go to: [Request for Qualification \(RFQ\) No. HCSA-900420](#).

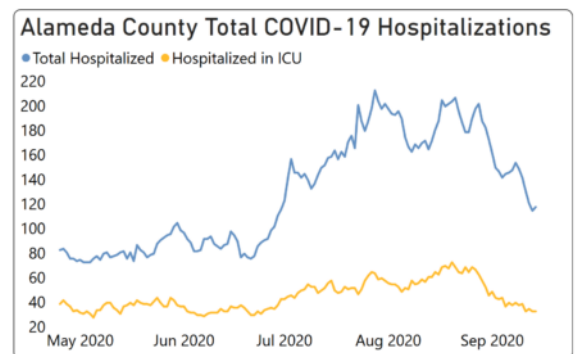
The Alameda County Responsibility to Community Health (ARCH) Program provides financial assistance to self-isolating County

residents in high-risk communities who have tested positive for COVID-19. For more information, please see the [FAQ](#) and [press release](#).

## HOSPITAL CAPACITY AND SURGE PLANNING

As of September 14, our hospital capacity indicators are:

- 5% of the patients in hospital beds across Alameda County were confirmed COVID-19 positive (highest was of 10.8% on 7/22), 11% of ICU patients were COVID-19 positive (highest was 24% on 8/20). These percentages have been decreasing since the end of August and within our goal of 50% of less.
- 39% of the staffed inpatient hospital beds and 38% of the ICU beds were available, which is within our goal of above 20%. 77% of the mechanical ventilators were available.



If your facility in Alameda County needs COVID-related supplies or staffing, please go to the [Emergency Medical Services website](#) to [request PPE](#), [request staffing](#) and [request testing supplies](#).

### Opportunities to help:

- [California Health Corps](#) – Use this link to register for the California Health Corps which is a State program for trained medical and healthcare workers to sign up and provide availability to assist in the COVID-19 response.
- [Medical Surge Volunteer Sign Up](#) – Use this link to register as a volunteer with the County of Alameda to assist with the COVID-19 response. Medically and non-medically trained volunteers will be needed. [Click here for more information](#).

## TOP LINKS:

- **HIV:** [FAQs for people living with HIV \(PLWH\)](#) and [Preguntas Frecuentes in Spanish](#), [Guidance for PLWH \(CDC\)](#), [Guidance for HIV providers](#)
- **HIV services during COVID-19:** [Click here for Contra Costa HIV services](#) and [see our online directory for Alameda County HIV services](#).
- **Key Communities:** [Harm Reduction Coalition](#), [Immigrants Rising](#), [Protecting Immigrant Families: Public Charge](#), [Healthcare for the Homeless](#)
- **COVID Testing, Food, Shelters:** [Alameda County COVID testing and services](#) and [isolation housing](#), [Contra Costa](#)

[County COVID testing](#)

- **COVID PPE, staffing or testing supplies:** [Alameda County EMS- request PPE](#), [request staffing](#) or [request testing supplies](#).
  - **Public Health Department Updates:** [Alameda County](#), [Contra Costa County](#), [Solano County](#), [California State](#)
  - **COVID Data:** [Alameda County](#), [Contra Costa County](#), [Solano County](#), [California State](#), [California \(SF Chronicle\)](#), [National/Global \(JHU\)](#), [By Race](#)
  - **DIY Face Coverings and Masks:** [CDC \(easy no-sew\)](#), [Kaiser \(sewn\)](#), [Maker Mask \(sewn, science-based\)](#), [Olson Mask \(sewn\)](#)
- 

## ALAMEDA COUNTY GUIDANCE:

Download links for **Alameda County community or business** guidance on: [Face coverings](#), [social bubbles](#), [childcare and camps for all children](#), [graduations](#), [vehicular gatherings](#), [construction](#), [curbside retail pickups](#), [manufacturing and warehousing](#), [personal services](#).

Download links for **Alameda County clinical guidance** on: [COVID-19 testing](#), [isolation orders in 7 languages](#) for all people getting tested, [reporting COVID-19 cases](#), [Project Roomkey isolation housing](#), [home health agencies](#), [remdesivir allocations](#), [routine vaccines](#), reporting pediatric [Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome](#), [resumption of non-urgent medical services](#), and [testing in Skilled Nursing Facilities](#).

**If your organization is in Alameda County and needs COVID-related supplies or staffing**, please go to the [Emergency Medical Services website](#) to [request PPE](#), [request staffing](#) and [request testing supplies](#).

---

## LOOKING FOR COVID-19 TESTING?

- [Alameda County COVID testing sites: searchable map](#) (filter for COVID-19 testing) or [webpage](#). This list includes several community-based sites offering free testing for anyone with symptoms, including people without health insurance.
- [Contra Costa County free drive-through or walk-in COVID testing](#)
- [Solano County free testing sites](#)
- Please check the listing for updates and call the testing site before you leave your home/shelter/camp/car to make sure they are open for testing, you are eligible, and register if needed.
- If you don't have a provider and have COVID symptoms: In Alameda County, call Alameda Health System 510-437-8500 for a phone screen and guidance. In Contra Costa County, call 844-729-8410. In Solano County, the county COVID warmline is 707-784-8988.
- If you're having difficulty breathing and unstable, please go to your nearest emergency room.

[BACK TO UPDATES](#)