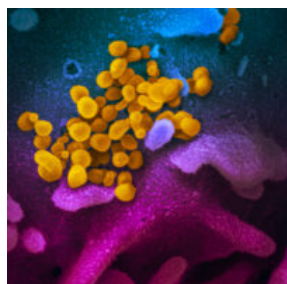


[Home](#) / [COVID-19](#) / [COVID updates](#) / [COVID-19 and HIV updates](#)

COVID-19 AND HIV UPDATES

DECEMBER 23, 2020



The SARS-CoV-2 virus
(NIAID)

Below are this week's East Bay COVID-19 and HIV updates. This page is usually updated on Wednesday evenings 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, video with some in-person visits available.

KEY UPDATES FOR THIS WEEK:



EAST BAY COVID-19 UPDATES

A second mRNA vaccine received emergency approval and is shipped out as California nears 2 million total COVID-19 cases and as ICU capacity continues to dwindle while we approach the Kwanzaa, Christmas and New Year holidays.

California ICU capacity is down to 1.1% and Bay Area ICU capacity slid down to 11.4%, its lowest capacity since the start of the pandemic response. 55% of ICU patients in the state have COVID-19. Southern California and Central Valley ICU capacity is at 0%. This does not yet reflect the recent surge in new cases. LA County is predicting a ten-fold increase in hospitalizations from October to New Year's Eve. [The LA Times published a photo essay](#) on December 17 of what an ICU at 0% capacity looks like.

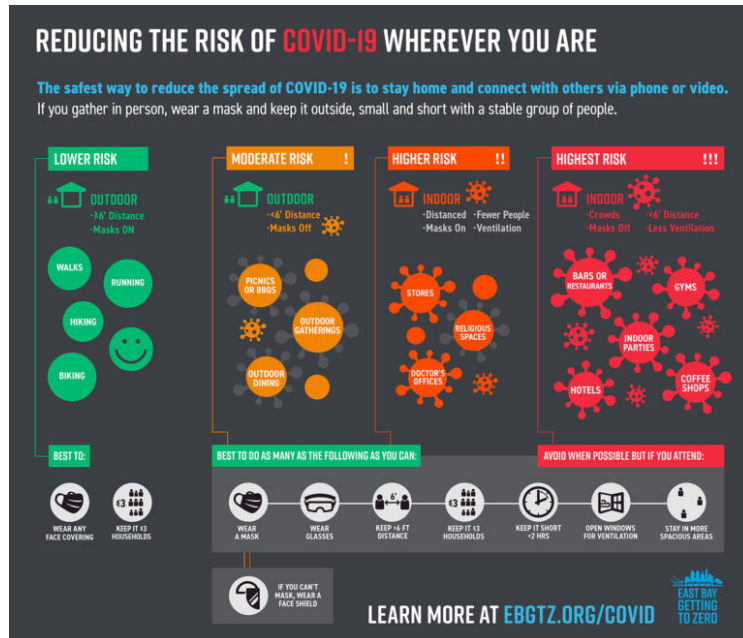
Dr. Mark Ghaly, CA Secretary of Health and Human Services, estimates that about 12% of people who test positive for COVID-19 in California will need hospitalization, and 12% of those hospitalized will require ICU care. Hospitalizations and

community testing positivity rates in Alameda County have more than doubled this month.

There are some little glimmers of hope that our efforts might be starting to stabilize the transmission rates in the East Bay, as the rates of increase are not as high as earlier in December. But it also means that we have to remain disciplined through the holidays.

Some COVID-19 testing sites are remaining open through the holidays with walk-up slots, so please encourage community members with symptoms to get tested. Now is the most important time to wear masks, stay home or outdoors, avoid gatherings and get vaccinated as soon as we're eligible and able to!

Our new COVID-19 prevention and harm reduction infographics in English and Spanish are out! Please download them here in English and here in Spanish and share with your clients, coworkers, friends and family! To download printable PDF versions, click here for the PDF in English and click here for the PDF in Spanish.



References: Bay Area public health guidance on gatherings; summary of evidence and scientific studies

VACCINES ROLL OUT!

The Pfizer BioNTech mRNA vaccine underwent extensive FDA review and received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) approval on December 11. Pfizer shipped 2.9 million doses to receiving facilities the week of December 14, including hospitals, research centers and pharmacies with ultracold freezers. The federal government has contracted with Pfizer for 100 million additional doses to be delivered by July 2021.

Contra Costa County administered its first vaccines on December 15 to health care workers at highest risk of exposure in Phase 1a of the vaccine prioritization framework. Alameda County administered its first Phase 1a vaccines on December 18, and reports from hospital and first responder groups thus far show few side effects and high acceptance rates. Hospitals report that they are on track to use all the doses in this first



shipment soon.

The Moderna vaccine received EUA approval on December 17. This week 6 million doses of Moderna's vaccine are expected to ship across the nation, with doses expected to arrive in Alameda County on December 24.

Aprende más abriendo algunas de las siguientes ligas: [about masks](#) (información acerca de cubre bocas), [COVID guidance](#) (guía del COVID), y [the science behind prevention strategies](#) (la ciencia detrás de las estrategias de prevención.

non-clinical roles such as environmental services, patient transport, interpretation and others. Nursing home residents are included in this phase.

- **Tier 1(now!)**: People working in acute care, nursing homes and emergency services at highest risk as well as nursing home residents.
- **Tier 2** (expected in late January to February): People working in primary care and urgent care clinics, community health workers/promotoras, intermediate care staff and residents, home health workers and public health field staff.
- **Tier 3**: People working in specialty clinics, lab workers, dental and oral health clinics, and non-hospital pharmacy staff.



MARTINEZ, CA – DECEMBER 15 Licensed Vocational Nurse Henri K. receives a Covid-19 vaccine from Infection Prevention and Control Program Manager Holly Longman, right, at the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center in Martinez, Calif., on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020. Frontline healthcare workers who work in roles with high risk of exposure to infectious diseases received their initial doses of the new COVID-19 vaccine recently approved for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (Jane Tylka/Bay Area News Group)

Phase 1b: Essential workers as prioritized by the State Guidelines Group; current priorities include teachers, emergency services and food/agriculture; residents in nursing homes and similar long-term care settings.

Phase 1c: People with underlying conditions that put them at significantly higher risk, such as people with organ transplants on immunosuppressive therapies, COPD, chronic kidney disease, heart conditions, obesity, pregnancy, sickle cell disease, smoking, diabetes, and people over the age of 50 living in congregate settings.

Phase 2: People living with HIV and other conditions that put them at moderate risk (and who are not eligible in Phase 1), other essential workers, other people in shelters or group homes, people who are incarcerated, and older adults not in Phase 1.

Phase 3: young adults, children, other workers.

Phase 4: everyone else.

PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV AND COVID-19 VACCINES

Currently all people living with HIV (PLWH) who don't have severe allergic reactions to components of the vaccines are recommended to get the COVID-19 vaccine once eligible. For PLWH not otherwise eligible in Phase 1, all PLWH will be eligible in Phase 2. We don't know yet when there will be enough vaccines for Phase 2 but it will hopefully be in the spring; we may have an estimated timeline next week. So far in studies, there is not enough data among PLWH yet to know if there are differences in population-level outcomes. There is currently no recommendation to check antibody levels for people living with HIV after completing vaccination. We don't know yet if commercially available SARS-CoV2 antibody tests such as at Quest and LabCorp check for the antibody generated by the vaccines, but providers and patients may considering checking for antibody response while we await more data.

The California COVID-19 vaccine strategy prioritizes safety and equity, with a [scientific safety review work group](#), a [guidelines work group](#) and a [Community Vaccine Advisory Committee](#) co-chaired by CA Surgeon General Dr. Nadine Burke Harris focused on addressing barriers to equitable vaccine implementation and decision-making.

"African-Americans have suffered quite the repercussions of COVID-19," said Dr. [Sylvia Owusu-Ansah](#), 42, an emergency physician at the

Bay Area counties are following CA state guidelines on vaccine prioritization, which starts with:

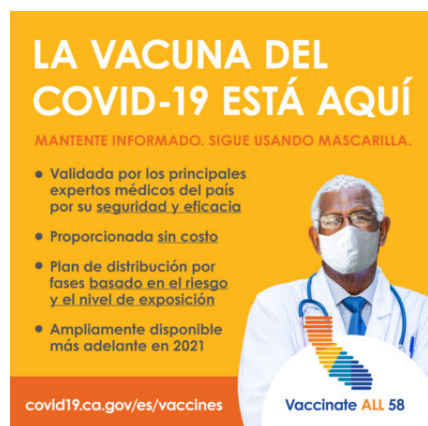
Phase 1a: Persons at risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 through their work in any role in direct health care or long-term care settings, including people in



UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, who is Black and was among the first people to be vaccinated, as reported in the [New York Times](#). "I wanted to share with my community that it is OK, that this vaccine is the thing to do to keep us safe, to keep us healthy and to keep us alive."



Dr. Sylvia Owusu-Ansah received the Pfizer vaccine on Monday. Kristian Thacker for The New York Times



Help educate our community and get ready for vaccines! Here are some resources:

- [CA COVID vaccine media toolkit](#) in multiple languages
- [Alameda County vaccine education materials and media](#)
- [COVIDReadi registration](#) for potential vaccination sites
- [COVID vaccine info](#) for recipients and caregivers
- [COVID vaccine info](#) for health care providers giving the vaccine

Here are **COVID-19 vaccine references** we use to get the latest updates:

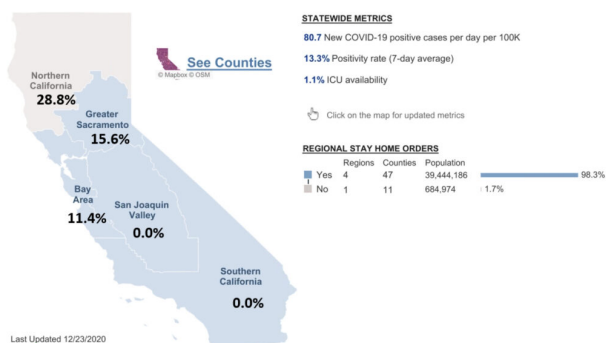
- [UCSF vaccine overview](#): what we currently know and don't know.
- [SF Chronicle](#) and [New York Times Coronavirus Vaccine Trackers](#)
- [WHO COVID-19 vaccine database](#): updated technical data & study links.
- [KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor](#): public attitudes and experience.

BAY AREA SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER

On December 4, the Bay Area Health Officers, including Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and Santa Clara Counties and the City of Berkeley [jointly announced](#) that they are implementing the [State's Regional Stay Home Order](#) early.

- The main message is to **stay home as much as you can**.
- [Click here](#) to download details on the closures and restrictions.
- [Click here](#) for FAQs on the restrictions.
- [Click here](#) for clarifications on the order's impact on schools in Alameda County.

On December 23, the Bay Area region had 11.4% ICU capacity (down from 13% last week) and must follow the [State's Stay Home Order](#). Alameda, Contra Costa County and Solano Counties remain in the highest purple tier (for "widespread" risk) along with 99.9% of all of California in the statewide [Blueprint to Safer Reopening](#). Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano Counties have all rolled back reopenings as per [state requirements](#).



County risk level	Adjusted case rate*	Positivity rate**
WIDESPREAD Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed	More than 7 7-day average of daily COVID-19 cases per 100K with 7-day lag, adjusted for number of tests performed	More than 8% 7-day average of all COVID-19 tests performed that are positive
SUBSTANTIAL Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed	4-7 Daily new cases (per 100k)	5 - 8% and 5.3 - 8% health equity metric Positive tests
MODERATE Some indoor business operations are open with modifications	1 - 3.9 Daily new cases (per 100k)	2 - 4.9% and 2.2 - 5.2% health equity metric Positive tests
MINIMAL Most indoor business operations are open with modifications	Less than 1 Daily new cases (per 100k)	Less than 2% and Less than 2.2% health equity metric Positive tests

Current estimated transmission rates (Re) are 1.21 in Alameda County, 1.29 in Contra Costa and 1.28 in Solano County, compared to 1.09 statewide. Our goal is to support community measures around masking, staying outdoors, avoiding gatherings and vaccinating to get transmission rates back down to less than 1.

The **LEMMA hospitalization prediction for Alameda County as of** December 22 is that Alameda County will exceed ICU bed capacity (median projection) by the last week of January if transmission rates don't change. If we can cut our transmission rate by 50%, the projection is that we can stay within our current ICU bed capacity with a median peak of about 150 ICU hospitalizations around January 1. The **LEMMA model estimates the Rt** for Alameda County at 1.21, down from 1.54 around Thanksgiving week, but still much higher than 1, which means there is still increasing spread.

Hospital capacity data released by the Department of Health and Human Services provides capacity reporting from hospitals in 2,200 counties in the U.S. and identifies areas where hospitals are reaching capacity. The data is downloadable as a CSV spreadsheet with a 2-day lag. *The New York Times now has a dashboard* showing the ICU status at specific hospitals.

ALAMEDA COUNTY AS OF DEC. 23:

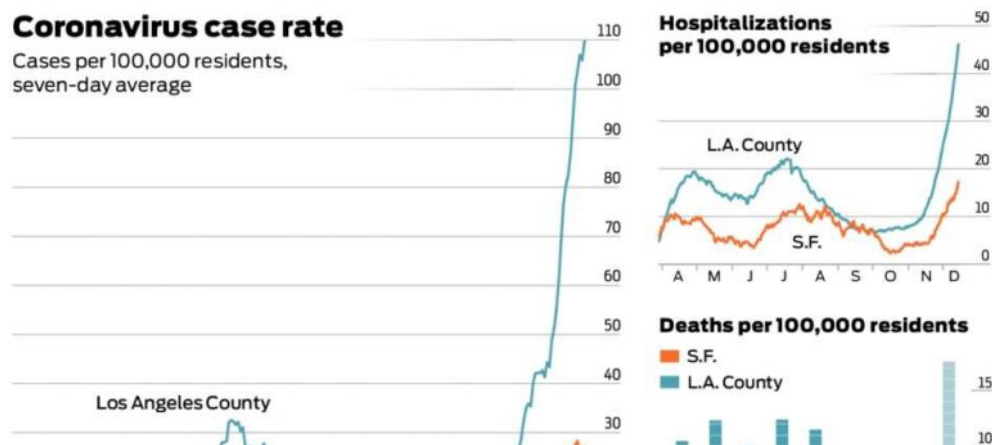
- Purple "widespread" tier week 6.
- 42.1 new cases of COVID-19 per day per 100,000 residents (up from 33.7 last week for the unadjusted new case rate).
- 7.2% test positivity rate countywide (up from 6.0% last week).
- 11.2% test positivity in the lowest quartile [Healthy Places Index](#) (HPI) census tract (up from 9.2%).
- 38,971 cumulative cases and 558 deaths.
- 388 hospitalized patients (up from 332 last week; 388 is the new high on 12/22), including 118 ICU patients (up from 93; 118 is the new high on 12/22).
- 145 out of 440 ICU beds (33%) were available as of 12/22 (up from 31% last week).
- 1.21 transmission rate on the Cal-CAT model (down from 1.37).

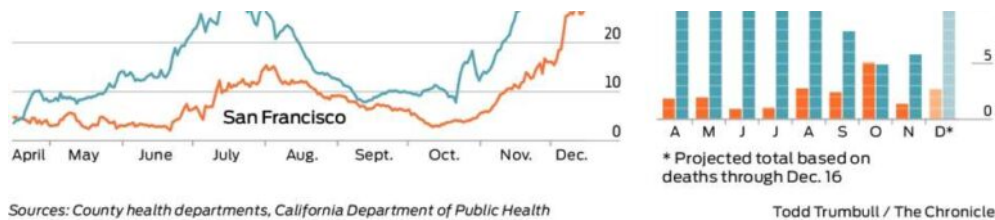
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AS OF DEC. 23:

- Purple "widespread" tier week 6.
- 44.6 new cases of COVID-19 per day per 100,000 residents (up from 35.6).
- 8.7% positivity rate (up from 7.6%).
- 13.5% test positivity in the lowest quartile HPI tract (up from 12.1%).
- 1.29 transmission rate (same as last week).

SOLANO COUNTY AS OF DEC. 23:

- Purple "widespread" tier week 6.
- 55.1 new cases of COVID-19 per day per 100,000 residents (up from 37.4).
- 11.2% positivity rate (up from 8.8%).
- 13.4% test positivity in the lowest quartile HPI tract (up from 11.1%).
- 1.28 transmission rate (up from 1.25).





Los Angeles County compared to Bay Area COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths from the SF Chronicle as of 12/23/20.

NEW CA NOTIFY SMARTPHONE SYSTEM



Download or turn on the new CA Notify app to get COVID-19 exposure alerts and to protect those around you! The new app goes live across California on December 10. After you activate CA Notify and keep Bluetooth on, you will receive alerts if you were in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19. Your privacy is protected as your identity is not known and your location is not tracked.



COVID-19 and Mental Health: Alameda County

Supervisor Richard Valle recently launched a Mental Health Series, which you can view on [YouTube](#).

MORE COVID-19 VACCINE NEWS

The AstraZeneca and the University of Oxford vaccine, based on a adenovirus vector that is low cost (\$3-4 per dose), easy to manufacture and does not require ultracold refrigeration, is in Phase 3 trials in the US and is undergoing evaluation by the Indian government for EUA in India.

AstraZeneca and the University of Oxford shared [results](#) of a pooled analysis of their phase 2/3 vaccine trials in the UK and Brazil. The Brazilian study used two full-dose vaccinations where efficacy among 8,895 participants was 62.1%. Overall vaccine efficacy across both groups was 70.4%. None of the patients who received the vaccine were hospitalized or had severe COVID-19.

Dr. Robert Rodriguez and Dr. Eric Goosby, two Bay Area physicians on the **Biden-Harris Coronavirus Task Force**, presented on the December 8 [California Medical Association's Virtual Grand Rounds](#) with Dr. Erica Pan and Dr. Seema Jain from CDPH. They shared that the top priority for the national task force is to address public trust and fight misinformation to help increase vaccine acceptance and adoption of other preventive measures. Dr. Rodriguez's role is to support ways to address health care worker burnout and support resilience. Dr. Goosby's role is to support coordination and collaboration between health delivery systems for a more effective vaccine roll out and massive scale up of a national testing effort, including low-barrier and frequent testing for people without symptoms.

A new Health Affairs article on COVID-19 vaccine implementation stresses "the urgent need for health officials to invest greater financial resources and attention to vaccine production and distribution programs, to redouble efforts to promote public confidence in COVID-19 vaccines, and to encourage continued adherence to other mitigation approaches, even after a vaccine becomes available."

The NIH AstraZeneca COVID Vaccine Clinical trial is currently enrolling in Oakland!

- The Phase III study is looking at safety and efficiency of AstraZeneca investigational vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 in adults. In this study, participants will be randomly assigned (by chance) to receive 2 injections of either the investigational vaccine or placebo (4 weeks apart). Participants are reimbursed up to \$100 dollars per visit.

- If interested, please contact Study Coordinator: Ankita Bhalla @ bhallaA@sutterhealth.org or call/text: (510) 295-7090 or (510) 292-3714.

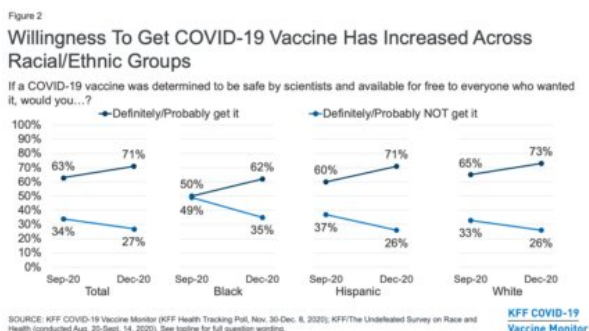
OTHER NEW HIV AND COVID-19 REPORTS AND STUDIES

Racial bias in pulse oximetry measurement may place Black patients at increased risk for undetected low oxygen levels:

A study done at the University of Michigan Hospital and data from ICUs at 178 hospitals comparing pulse ox measurements to arterial blood gas measurements showed that in two large cohorts, Black patients had nearly 3 times the frequency of occult hypoxemia of <88% by arterial blood gas (undetected low oxygen levels) as White patients with pulse ox readings of 92-96%. These findings suggest that reliance on pulse ox may place Black patients at increased risk for low oxygen levels. Clinicians are urged to use additional clinical and patient-reported data to guide the use of supplemental oxygen and other treatment decisions.

A new variant strain of SARS-CoV-2 or "B.1.1.7 variant" that contains a series of mutations has been described in the United Kingdom (UK) and is potentially more rapidly transmissible but there is no evidence thus far that it causes more severe illness or is more deadly. Current EUA and other vaccine candidates are polyclonal (produce antibodies that target several parts of the spike protein) and are expected to be active against the new SARS-CoV-2 variants emerging thus far.

A new KFF COVID-19 vaccine survey finds that more people surveyed are saying they would definitely or probably get a vaccine for COVID-19 if it was determined to be safe by scientists and available for free to everyone who wanted it. This share now stands at 71%, up from 63% in a [September survey](#). The survey finds an increase in the share who say they would get vaccinated across racial and ethnic groups, and among both Democrats and Republicans.

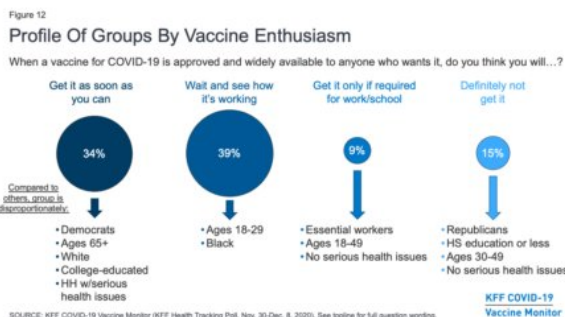
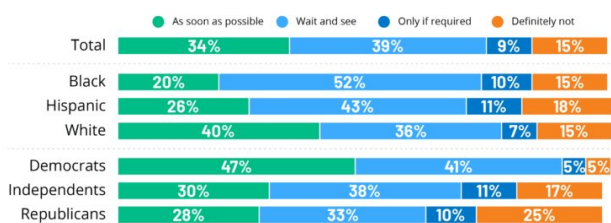


About a quarter (27%) of the public remains vaccine hesitant, saying they probably or definitely would not get a COVID-19 vaccine even if it were available for free and deemed safe by scientists. Vaccine hesitancy is highest among Republicans (42%), those ages 30-49 (36%), rural residents (35%) and Black adults (35%). 52% of Black adults surveyed reported that they wanted to wait and see how the vaccines are working for other people before getting it themselves, so as more safety and efficacy data emerge for diverse vaccine recipients, there may be more willingness to get vaccines. Importantly, 85% of people still report having trust in their own health care providers. Mask acceptance is also up at 73% (21 points higher than in May).

Young adults ages 25-44 have died at historically high rates this year: From March through the end of July, there were almost 12,000 more deaths than were expected based on historical norms. Based on prior trends, around 154,000 in this demographic had been projected to die in 2020. We surpassed that total in mid-November. Even if death rates suddenly returned to normal in December (which they have not) we would anticipate well over 170,000 deaths among U.S. adults in

Republicans and Black Americans More Likely to Be Hesitant About Getting COVID-19 Vaccine

Percent of the public who fall in each group by COVID-19 vaccine enthusiasm:



this demographic by the end of 2020.

Small indoor gatherings are driving transmission in Marin County: Health officer Dr. Matt Willis reported that the main driver of transmission in Marin County is not large parties but more “around the edges of that,” such as playdates and relocating small outdoor visits of mixed households indoors.

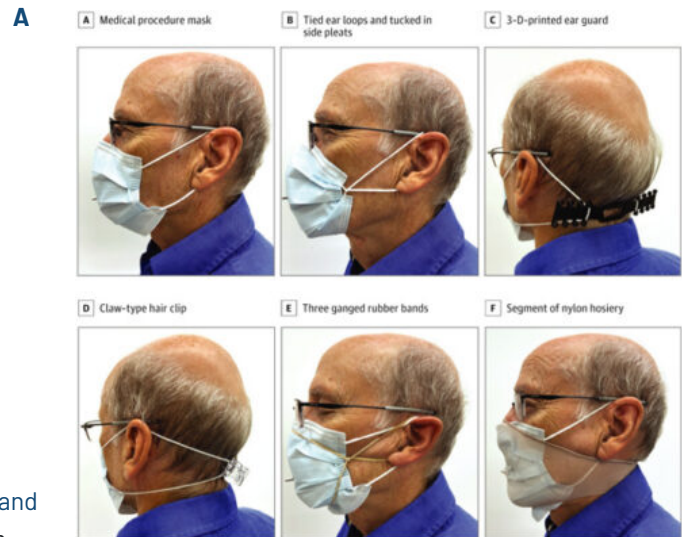
Applying harm reduction principles from HIV and the overdose epidemics to COVID-19: Drs. Monica Gandhi and Joshua Barocas published an [opinion article](#) “Harm reduction principles can help us restore trust in public health messaging on COVID-19” in the British Medical Journal (BMJ). They write, “Public health and scientific messengers must evolve non-judgmental, holistic, and [patient focused styles of messaging](#) around risk reduction and disease prevention. Returning to our discipline’s basic principles and centering our approach around [reducing harm](#) may help restore trust in public health.”



new mask study conducted by the UNC School of Medicine and

EPA showed that **consumer masks protect the wearer** from

airborne particles that might carry SARS-CoV-2, especially snug and multilayered masks. A snug 2-layer woven nylon mask had 79% fitted filtration efficiency (FFE). An unmodified medical/hospital mask with ear loops only had 38.5% FFE, but with loops tied and corners tucked had 60% FFE. [Click here for a video demonstrating how to tie the ear loops on disposable medical-procedure-type masks to increase protection.](#)



The “HIV in Alameda County, 2017-2019” report and its Executive Summary was written and released by the Alameda County HIV Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit on December 15. This report presents the most recent county-level data on the HIV epidemic and summarizes findings on new HIV diagnoses, people living with HIV, the continuum of HIV care, HIV among key populations, and social determinants of health and HIV in Alameda County from 2017-2019. Many thanks to the HIV epi and surveillance team for this important report!

A new CDC MMWR Vital Signs report found that HIV-related deaths have fallen by 48% in the U.S. from 2010 to 2017, but disparities in HIV-related deaths persist for certain populations. The authors write, “Rates of HIV-related deaths during 2017 were highest by race/ethnicity among persons of multiple races (7.0) and Black/African American persons (5.6), followed by White persons (3.9) and Hispanic/Latino persons (3.9). The HIV-related death rate was highest in the South (6.0) and lowest in the Northeast (3.2).”

On December 4th the CDC COVID-19 Response Team issued its first comprehensive guidance on public health strategies to address high levels of SARS-CoV-2 transmission and deaths, including recommendations for universal mask wearing.

A new study on COVID-19 disparities including 9,722 patients in the New York University Langone Health system found that Black and Latinx patients were more



likely than White people to test positive for COVID-19.

Asian and multiracial patients who tested positive were

more likely to be hospitalized than White, Latinx or Black patients. Among people hospitalized with COVID-19 infection, Black patients were less likely than White patients to have severe illness and to die or be discharged to hospice. Dr. Gbenga Ogedegbe, the lead author said, "We hear this all the time – 'Blacks are more susceptible.' It is all about the exposure. It is all about where people live. It has nothing to do with genes."

These and other recent studies suggest that Black and Latinx people in the US have higher rates of COVID-19 because they are more often exposed to COVID-19 because of social and environmental factors, not because of innate or genetic vulnerability.

A new worldwide analysis shows that men with COVID-19 are hospitalized and die at higher rates than women. The meta-analysis of 3,111,714 reported global cases shows that while there is no difference in the proportion of men and women with confirmed COVID-19, men have almost three times the odds of requiring intensive care (OR = 2.84) and have higher odds of death (OR = 1.39) compared to women.

The CDC provides options for shortened quarantine duration for asymptomatic people from 14 days to 7-10 days: Based on updated analyses and modelling data, the CDC recently provided additional options to reduce the duration of quarantine in asymptomatic people: 7 days with PCR testing (performed on days 5-7)–or 10 days without testing. These durations should be effective for preventing most transmission (96% and 99% respectively).

The Naughty N'awlins swingers convention became a superspreader event with 41 out of 250 attendees later testing positive despite [requiring testing and mask wearing](#) but only *when not eating and drinking*, so there were plenty of opportunities for people to take off their masks.

A case report from a restaurant in South Korea showed that a person exposed for 5 minutes and sitting 6.5 meters (21 feet) away while ceiling air conditioners blew air around.

In an informal survey of 700 epidemiologists, half said they would keep up with personal behaviors like social distancing until at least 70% of the population was vaccinated.

Our **summary of COVID prevention research** is constantly updated with new studies.








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

To slow the COVID-19 surge, we all need to stay home as much as we can and when we go out:

- [Wear masks](#) and glasses,
- Stay outdoors whenever possible,
- Avoid crowds and maintain at least six feet distance from others,
- Sanitize or wash hands frequently, and
- Stay home when sick.



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

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

Updated 12.23.20 * Data compiled by Sophy S. Wong, MD
Icons by Good Ware, Freepik and Srip on Flaticon.com
Please see [EBGIZ.org/resources](#) for the complete list of sources for this table.

OTHER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Funding Opportunities:

- **The California Youth Opioid Response** (YOR California) issued a Request for Applications to improve and expand access to a continuum of youth-specific opioid use and/or stimulant use disorder (OUD/StUD) intervention, Medication-Assisted Treatment and other treatment, and recovery services for youth ages 12-24 and their families. The RFA is available at the [YOR California website](#). Applications are due on January 15, 2021.
- The National Library of Medicine has opened applications to the **2021 HIV/AIDS Community Information Outreach**

Program (ACIOP). They are looking for proposals from organizations and libraries to design and conduct projects that will improve access to HIV/AIDS related health information for patients, the affected community, and their caregivers. The application deadline is December 28 2:00 PM ET. Learn more and apply [here](#).

Web events:

- NASTAD will be hosting a webinar on Thursday, December 17 from 1pm-2:15pm on the topic of **trans-inclusive and trans-centered harm reduction services**. The webinar will cover the importance of tailoring syringe services and other harm reduction programs to transgender participants and how to assess and respond to specific community needs. To join the webinar, please register [here](#).
- Also, please join NASTAD for a [webinar](#) focused on **overdose prevention** and response in Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Register [here](#) for this webinar.
- PAETC is hosting session 2 of the **HIV & SARS-CoV-2 Winter Webinar Series** on December 17, 2020, 10am-11:30am. Learn more [here](#) and register [here](#).

Resources for reference:

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced that the first-ever **STI National Strategic Plan** (STI Plan) will be released on Thursday, December 17, 2020. The plan will serve as a roadmap to help federal and non-federal stakeholders at all levels, and in all sectors, reverse the sharp upward trends in STI rates and further address this growing public health epidemic. You can learn about the STI Plan and where to find more information about it by participating in a webinar hosted by HHS. The webinar will take place on Thursday, December 17, 11am – 12noon. Register [here](#).
- **Kaiser Family Foundation conducted a national survey titled ‘How COVID Changed HIV Care and Prevention: A Survey of Ryan White Providers.’** It was found that Ryan White providers, who receive federal funds to provide HIV treatment services, experienced significant disruptions and changes amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the issue brief [here](#).
- CDPH Office of AIDS has shared their **December OAVoice newsletter**. Please access it [here](#).

Resources for community members:

- **Word of Mouth food pantry is offering Free fruits, vegetables and groceries.** They will be out there on Saturday 12/19 and 12/26 from 11 am to 2 pm on each day for no-contact pick up. Address is: 8400 Enterprise Way, Oakland, CA. More information [here](#).

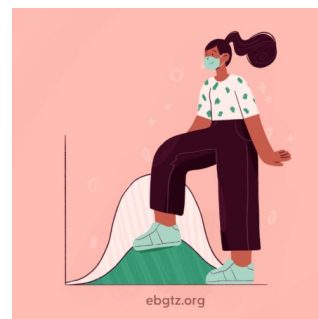
HIV services during COVID-19: [Click here for Contra Costa HIV services](#) and [see our online directory for Alameda County HIV services](#).

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 and testing supplies and [request staffing](#).

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

A note about this webpage: COVID data updates will be posted to this page on Wednesdays in the late afternoon during non-holiday weeks. New studies will be continuously added to our summary of [COVID-19 harm reduction strategies](#). The emailed [HIV+COVID-19 update newsletters](#) are now on a bi-weekly schedule of 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

Official Alameda County COVID-19 weekly updates are accessible on the [county website](#) and will not longer be posted on this page. You can sign up to receive the Alameda County weekly COVID-19 newsletter by emailing Jamie.Yee@acgov.org.



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 Vaccines:** [California State updates](#), [Alameda County updates](#)
- **COVID Testing, Food, Shelters:** [Alameda County COVID testing and services](#), [what to do if you test positive or have contact with someone with COVID](#), 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:

[Click here](#) for all current approved businesses and activities.

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](#), [youth extracurricular](#) and [general outdoor recreation activities](#).

Download links for **Alameda County clinical guidance** on: [COVID-19 testing](#), [antigen 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 testing supplies, antigen test kits and/or PPE, and request staffing.

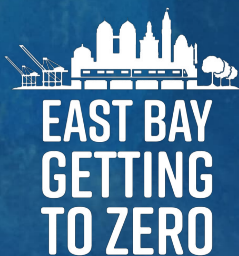
LOOKING FOR COVID-19 TESTING?

- **Alameda County COVID testing sites:** This webpage includes 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.

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[YOUTH](#)
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[COVID-19](#)

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