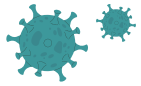# Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 1/28/2022

🦠 COVID–19 Case Trends – Upgrade Your Masks

COVID-19 case rates continue to increase 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 daily average number of cases is triple what we saw during the peak of last year's surge.

- Reproductive number median estimate is hovering around 1, which indicates that *transmission is slowing.*
- The 14-day change graph to the right indicates a *flattening trend*, with a recent spike driven by the 0-19 population.

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.*

Average number of daily new COVID-19 cases in Santa Cruz County in the last 14 days

latest 14-day change: +113%

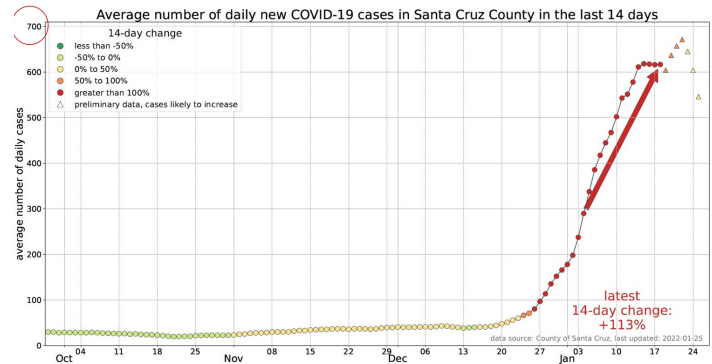data source: County of Santa Cruz, last updated: 2022-01-25

Mask Resources

Public Health recommends that everyone upgrade their masks *(see graphic)*. Click here for CDPH resources on how to get the most out of masking.

- Organizations throughout the county that serve vulnerable populations and communities are beginning to receive masks for distribution.
- CA Office of Emergency Services now has a supply line of high-grade mask and hand sanitizer to supply urgent health and safety services.

Vaccinations

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) encourages COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters for those eligible. For more information:

- COVID-19 Booster Vaccines
- COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Q&A

"Vaccines are how we end this pandemic, and boosters will play a critical role moving forward." -Dr. Tomás Aragón

Ongoing Vaccine Clinics:

- **Watsonville Vaccine Center**: Thursday-Sunday 9:30am-5pm for individuals 5+, 250 Main Street.
- **Felton Vax the Valley**: Wednesdays 1pm-7pm, 6191 Highway 9.

For Santa Cruz County Vaccine Resources visit:

- HSA COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage, or My Turn

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 across Watsonville, Felton, and City of Santa Cruz. Check the Santa Cruz County Testing Website for locations and availability.
- **Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds:** Monday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 9am-3pm. Registration required. Link to 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

- **This is going to be a hard month, but the surge will end soon.**
- It is difficult to contain this surge - but we can work together. People who are doing "everything right" may become positive. **Practice compassion to your family, friends, and yourself.**