

# Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 10/22/2021



## COVID-19 Case Trends

COVID-19 case rates continue to decline in Santa Cruz County, with almost the same daily case rate as this time last year.

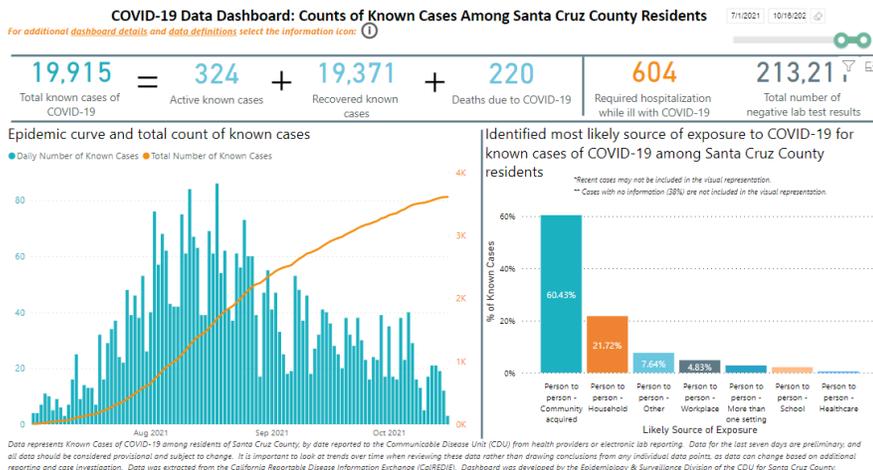
- As of 10/20/21, data shows a -23% change in average number of cases in the last 14 days, compared to 2 weeks ago when it was at a -21% change in cases.
- COVID-19 hospitalizations, ICU need, and daily death rate are all in decline and projected to decline over the next few weeks.
- Majority of known cases since 7/1/2021 were exposed in the community (60.43%) or household (21.72%).
- The [Local Demographics Dashboard](#) shows that among active cases, the most number of cases are in the 35-44 age range (16.98%), followed by the 25-34 age range (15.12%)

## Testing

Testing Appointment Information is available at the [Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Testing Website](#). The Mobile Testing Bus has updated their schedule:

- Santa Cruz City:** Open Monday-Thursday from 8am-4pm by appointment only in the Civic Auditorium Parking Lot
- Felton:** Friday-Sunday from 10am-6pm at the Mountain Resource Center. \*appointments preferred, walk-ins accommodated based on availability.

Appointments for both locations can be found at the [Optum Serve Website](#), [click here for an appointment](#).



## Vaccinations

On 10/22/2021, the [Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup](#) approved Expanded Eligibility for COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters for use in California. This follows the [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) endorsing of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) recommendations](#) on 10/21. The expanded criteria includes:

- Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech** booster doses for the following 6 months after their primary series:
  - 65 years and older
  - Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings, underlying medical conditions or work or live in high-risk settings.
- Individuals 18+ who received **Johnson and Johnson**, two or more months prior.
- Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose.

## Healthy Partnership Spotlight

This week, Public Health and the Medical Reserve Corps partnered with a local residential care facility to provide COVID-19 vaccines and education with staff and residents.

In one afternoon, over **80** COVID-19 vaccines have been provided within this congregate care setting due to this partnership.

Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Santa Cruz County Medical Reserve Corps' Vaccine Strike Team has provided vaccinations to homebound and vulnerable populations ([click for more information](#)).

## Public Health Reminders

- Celebrate Safely!** Recommendations for a safe Halloween and Día De Los Muertos are [now available](#).
- Seasonal Influenza** season is here. Now is the time to get the flu shot from your healthcare provider or local pharmacy. [Click here to access MyTurn appointments](#).
- To find a COVID-19 Vaccine appointment near you, visit [My Turn](#) or the [Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#).