



Public Health Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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Santa Cruz County Moves to Red Tier

Santa Cruz County, CA – With continued improvement in COVID-19 transmission rates throughout Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz County will move into the Red (Substantial) Tier under the state’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy beginning Wednesday, March 10.

The move includes the easing of some community restrictions. However, COVID-19 is still a danger to unvaccinated elderly and medically vulnerable residents and remains present in the community. Community members are asked to continue wearing masks and practicing social distancing while in public.

“This change is a sign of our community’s commitment to health and to each other. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter. I urge everyone to get a vaccine once they become eligible so that we may continue on this path to recovery,” Santa Cruz County Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel said.

Under the changes, indoor retail and shopping center operations may increase operations to 50 percent of capacity; indoor operations at restaurants, movies theaters and museums and aquariums may resume at 25 percent capacity; and gyms, climbing walls, and hotel fitness centers may resume at 10 percent capacity.

For sector-based guidance on safe operations, go to <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance>.

Additionally, the state has announced that beginning April 1, outdoor live events may resume at 20 percent capacity, and amusement parks may resume at 15 percent capacity. Additional restrictions apply.

Furthermore, Dr. Newel is removing local orders restricting visitors at skilled nursing facilities and other congregate living settings. Facilities and family members should continue following applicable state regulations or guidance on such facilities.

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