



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Santa Cruz County**



# Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Surge HSA Public Health Employer Town Hall

---

JANUARY 24, 2022

6:00PM – 7:00PM

ZOOM

# Introductions and Welcoming Remarks

---

- David Reid - Facilitator
- Dr. David Ghilarducci, Deputy Health Officer
- Dr. Joanne Perron, Senior Public Health Investigator
- Jen Herrera, Deputy Director of the Health Services Agency

# Meeting Format

---

- Your time is valuable; we will finish in an hour
- This meeting is for informational purposes only. The contents of this presentation represent public health guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and reiterates legal mandates from California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) for workplace safety.
- Post questions in the chat. For those who cannot use this function, questions can be emailed to [HSAPHAAdmin@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:HSAPHAAdmin@santacruzcounty.us). Answers will be posted on the County's COVID-19 website.
- A recording of this event will be posted on the County's COVID-19 website at [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus)

# Agenda Review

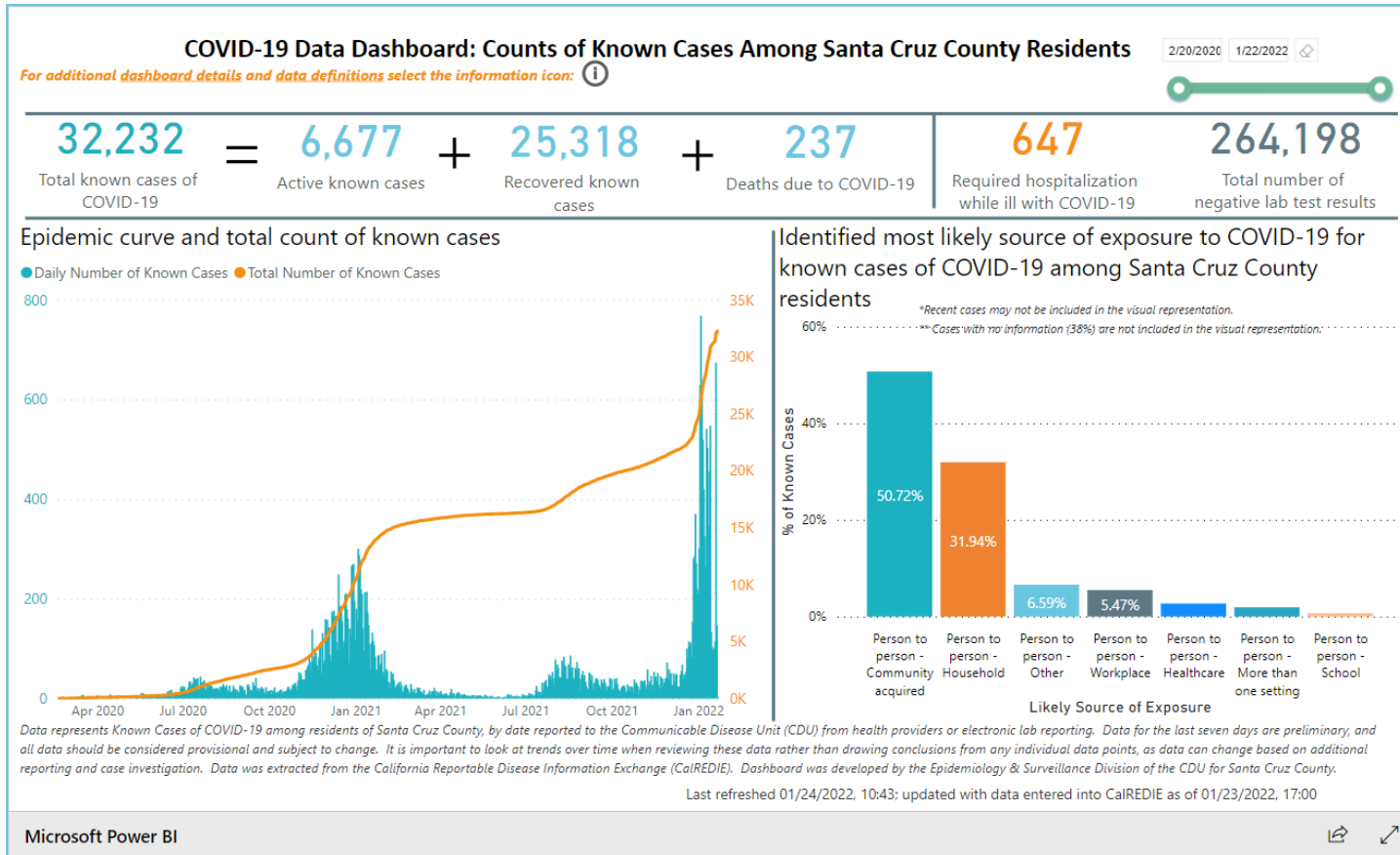
---

- COVID-19 Situational Status
  - Current COVID-19 trends
  - Public health's current focus
- Preventative Measures
  - Information about vaccines and boosters
  - Testing Information
  - Upgrading face masks
  - Improving indoor ventilation and filtration
  - Guidance for common rooms and commuting
- Workplace COVID-19 Protocols
  - Reporting positive cases and close contacts for workplace outbreaks
  - Updated isolation and quarantine guidelines
  - Latest COVID-19 prevention Emergency Temporary Standards
- County Employer webpage and additional resources
- Q&A

# COVID-19 Situational Status

---

# Current COVID-19 Trends



- Case rates have dramatically increased
  - Latest average daily case rate +295% in the last 14 days
  - Currently 6,677 active known cases and 237 total deaths
- The number of cases is double what we saw during the peak of last year's surge. We anticipate that cases will peak in late January-early February
- Hospitalizations have also increased
- COVID-19 Information & Updates Dashboard: [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus)

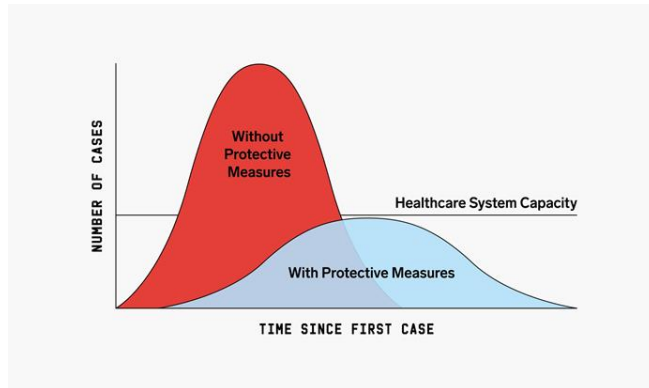
# Public Health's Current Focus

---

Public Health's surge response is focused on supporting the healthcare system, supporting the community with COVID-19 preparedness, and maintaining Public Health operations.

## Key Message:

**Individual behaviors DO make a difference to SLOW the spread** – masking, social distancing, vaccinations, testing, handwashing



Slowing the spread -> Preserves our healthcare system -> Prevents death

# Preventative Measures

---



## County vaccine sites

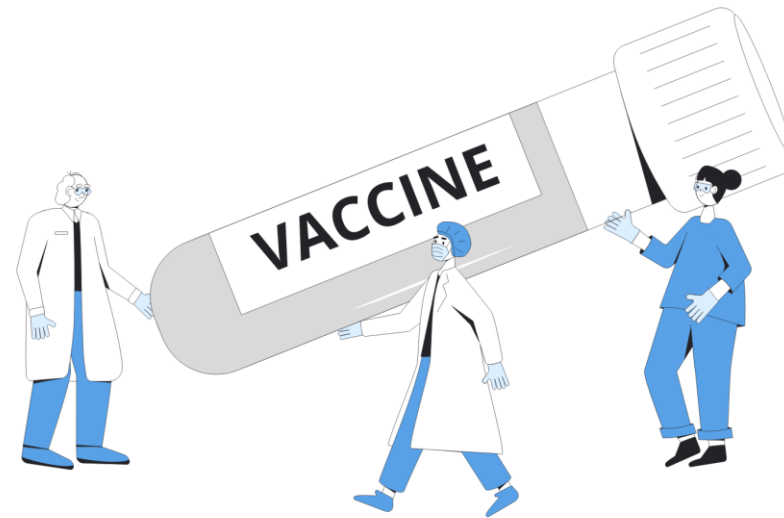
- Watsonville Vaccine Center:
  - Thursday-Sunday from 9:30am-5:00pm
- Vax the Valley – Felton Community Hall
  - Wednesdays from 1:00pm-7:00pm

Appointments for both are available on [MyTurn](#).

Walk-ins available based on supply.

# Information on Vaccines and Boosters

- Vaccines are our best tool for preventing severe illness
- Boosters are needed to stay protected (ages 12+ now eligible)
- If you got a J&J vaccine, get your booster at 2 months (Pfizer or Moderna recommended)
- If you got Moderna or Pfizer, get your booster at 5 months
- For a complete listing of locations and to make an appointment, visit: [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus) or call (831) 219-8607



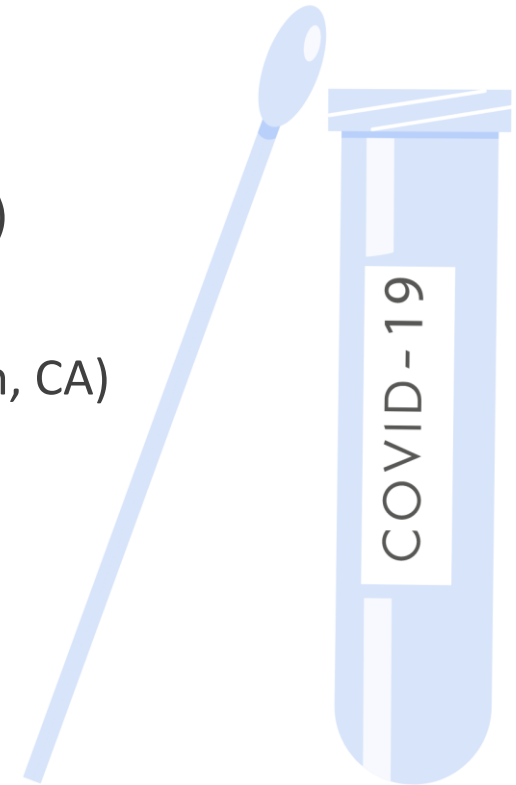
# Testing Resources

---

- It's important to test for early diagnosis & to protect others
- The Depot Freight Building Parking Lot Testing Bus (119 Center St. Santa Cruz, CA)
  - Monday-Friday from 7:00am-7:00pm
- Felton Testing Bus located at Mountain Community Resource (6134 Hwy 9, Felton, CA)
  - Friday-Tuesday from 10:00am-6:00pm
- Optum Serve fixed location at Ramsay Park (1301 Main Street Watsonville)
  - Wednesday-Sunday from 7am-6:45pm

County Office of Education [COVID-19 Testing Resources](#)

COVID-19 Testing appointment information available at the [Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Testing Website](#).



# Masking and Upgrading Your Mask

- Masks are required for all individuals in all indoor settings, regardless of vaccination status (mandate effective 12/15/21-2/15/22)
- Surgical masks or higher-level respirators (N95, KN95, KF94) with good fit are recommended. A cloth mask can be worn over a surgical mask for added protection.

CDPH mask order:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>

Upgrade your mask fact sheet:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Translations/Use-of-Face-Coverings-Fact-Sheets--en.pdf>

**Upgrade Your Mask**  
Consider Fit, Filtration and Comfort

GOOD	BETTER	BEST
 <b>Surgical Mask</b>	 <b>KF94/KN95 Surgical + Cloth</b>	 <b>N95</b>

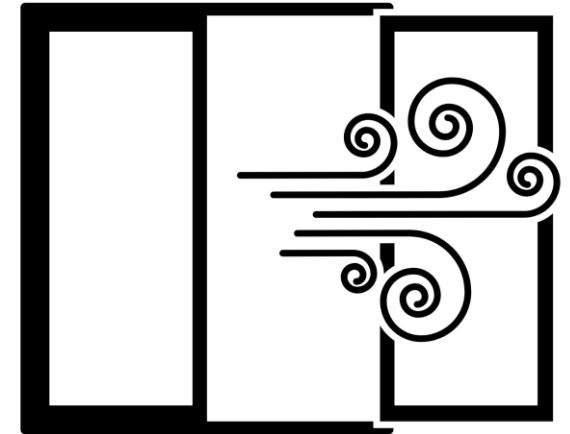
**FAIR**  **Cloth Mask**  
One that fits well and has at least 3 layers. A cloth mask is better than no mask.

CDPH

# Improve Indoor Ventilation and Air Filtration

---

- Ventilation and filtration replaces air that contains the virus with cleaner air
- Whenever possible:
  - Keep windows and doors open
  - Use MERV 11, 12 or 13 air filters, add 1” foam around the edges or tape over gaps in the filter holder
  - Run the HVAC fan when the building is occupied
  - Consider purchasing portable HEPA air cleaners for high-traffic rooms



Learn more by visiting: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Interim-Guidance-for-Ventilation-Filtration-and-Air-Quality-in-Indoor-Environments.aspx>

# Guidance for common rooms and commuting

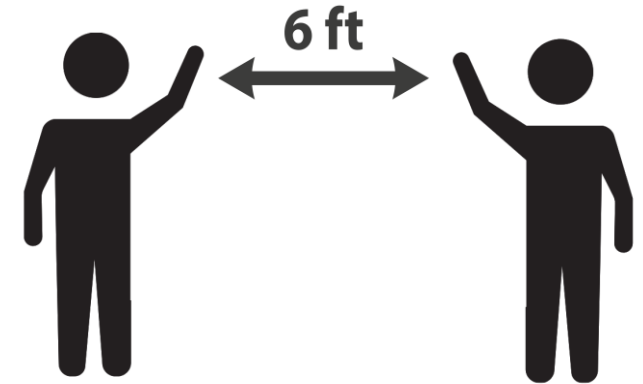
---

- **Breakrooms and other Common Areas**

- Encourage social distancing
- Avoid eating together in breakrooms

- **Commuting**

- Driving separately is the best practice to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19
- If driving separately is not possible:
  - Wear a good mask (surgical or better)
  - Roll down all 4 windows to bring in outside air OR have passenger sit in the backseat and open windows opposite the occupants
  - If rolling down windows is not possible, keep the fan on high in the fresh air mode (do not recirculate air)



# Workplace COVID-19 Protocols

---

Vaccination status	Isolation or quarantine	Period of time to be excluded from work
<b>All workers that test positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status</b>	Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be excluded from the workplace for at least 5 days.</li> <li>• A worker can return to work after day 5 if they do not have symptoms <u>and</u> test negative.</li> <li>• If a worker cannot test or declines to test<sup>1</sup> they can return to work after 10 days.</li> <li>• Must wear a face covering around others at work for a total of 10 days after the positive test.</li> </ul>
<b>Unvaccinated workers exposed to someone with COVID-19</b>	Quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be excluded from the workplace for 5 days after the close contact <u>and</u> take a test on day 5.</li> <li>• A worker can come back to work after day 5 if they test negative and do not have any symptoms.</li> <li>• If the worker cannot test or declines to test<sup>1</sup> they can return to the workplace after day 10 if they do not have symptoms.</li> <li>• Must wear a face covering around others at work for 10 days after exposure.</li> <li>• If the worker develops symptoms, they must be excluded pending a test result.</li> </ul>
<b>Booster-eligible, but not boosted workers exposed to someone with COVID-19</b>	No quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not need to be excluded from work if asymptomatic but must have a negative test 3-5 days after close contact.</li> <li>• Must wear a face covering around others at work for 10 days after exposure. If the worker develops symptoms, they must be excluded pending a test result.</li> </ul>
<b>Workers received a booster, or are fully vaccinated but not yet booster-eligible.</b>	No quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not need to be excluded from work if asymptomatic, but must take a test on day 5 after exposure.</li> <li>• Must wear a face covering around others at work for 10 days after exposure.</li> <li>• If they develop symptoms, the worker must be excluded from the workplace pending a test result.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> An employer may require a test. More information is available in the [Department of Fair Employment and Housing FAQ](#).

[https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh\\_publications/Isolation-and-Quarantine-fs.pdf](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/Isolation-and-Quarantine-fs.pdf)

# Cal/OSHA Isolation & Quarantine

Cal/OSHA has adopted CDPH guidance as part of the COVID-19 ETS

# Reporting Positive Cases and Close Contacts for Workplace Outbreaks

---

- Report Cases to Public Health with the County online [SPOT Intake Form](#):
  - Reports can be submitted if you meet the reporting threshold (3 or more in a 14-day period for non-healthcare/congregate settings) OR if you do not meet the threshold but still want to receive guidance
- Businesses overseen by Environmental Health (i.e. food facilities, public pools, body art, or organized camps) should also report cases directly to [Env.Hlth@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:Env.Hlth@santacruzcounty.us)
- Report any serious injury, illness, or death to the local Cal/OSHA district office immediately. Cal/OSHA prefers calls. Speak with a bilingual representative during business hours at 833-579-0927.

More information visit: [santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus>employers](https://santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus>employers)



# Latest COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS)

---

## Important requirements that remain unchanged:

- Employers must maintain an effective written **COVID-19 Prevention Program** with the following requirements:
  - Identifying and evaluating employee exposures to COVID-19 health hazards
  - Implementing effective policies and procedures to correct unsafe and unhealthy conditions
  - Allowing adequate time for handwashing and cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects
- Employers must provide training and instruction to employees on certain COVID-related topics

For ETS model prevention program: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/COVID19FAQs.html#resources>

## **Important Revisions:**

- Clearer instructions on how to notify workers of a COVID exposure
- Employees exempted from wearing a face covering due to disability must distance at least 6 feet and either be fully vaccinated or tested weekly
- Employers are required to make testing available at no cost and during paid time to employees who were fully vaccinated before the close contact with a positive case
- During outbreaks, employers must make weekly testing or twice weekly (major outbreaks) available to asymptomatic fully vaccinated exposed employees
- Cal/OSHA adopted CDPH Isolation and Quarantine guidance

### **For additional information and resources:**

COVID-19 ETS FAQ: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/COVID19FAQs.html#iso>

ETS Fact Sheet: [https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh\\_publications/COVIDOnePageFS-12-16-2021.pdf](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/COVIDOnePageFS-12-16-2021.pdf)

Spanish FAQ: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Spanish/COVID19FAQs.html>

ETS Webinars: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/webinars.html>

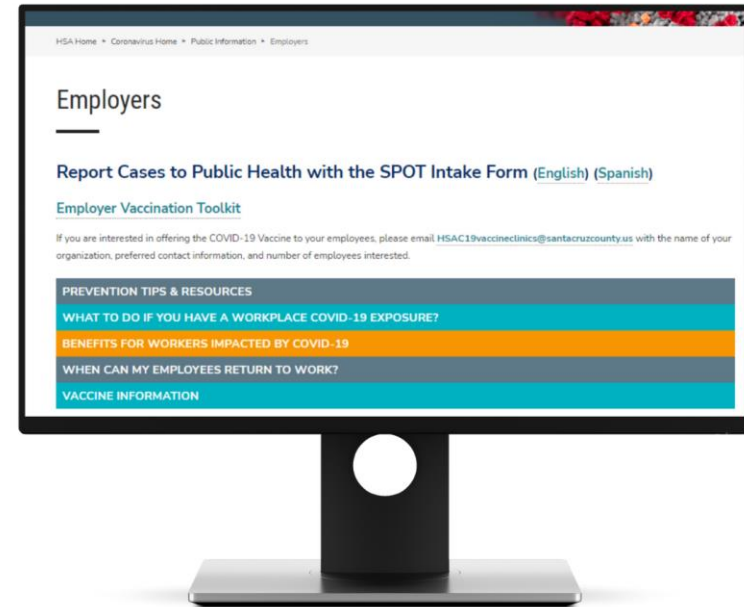
# County COVID-19 Employer Web Page

---

• Much of the information covered is detailed on our website:  
[santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus>employers](https://santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus>employers)

• Web page includes:

- Prevention tips and resources
- What to do if you have a workplace exposure
- Benefits for workers impacted by COVID-19
- When employees can return to work
- Vaccine information



# Additional Resources

---

## •State Resources:

- Cal/OSHA San Francisco Regional Office: 415-557-0300 – [DOSHREG1SanFrancisco@dir.ca.gov](mailto:DOSHREG1SanFrancisco@dir.ca.gov)
- Cal/OSHA Fremont District Office: 510-794-2521
- [COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard \(ETS\) webinars](#): 2/1/22, 2/3/22, 2/9/22

## •At home COVID-19 test kits:

- Government provided test kits (4 tests per house) can be ordered online at <https://www.covidtests.gov>

## •CDPH Fact Sheets:

- [Self-Isolation Instructions for Individuals Who Have or Likely Have COVID-19](#)
- [Self-Quarantine Instructions for Individuals Exposed to COVID-19](#)

## •Santa Cruz County

- Public Health Call Center for COVID questions: 831-454-4242 (Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm)
- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health: 831-454-2022 – [environmentalhealth@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:environmentalhealth@santacruzcounty.us)
- Liaison Team: [LiaisonTeam@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:LiaisonTeam@santacruzcounty.us)
- **Weekly County Executive COVID-19 Summaries**: available at [santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus>Public Information](https://santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus>Public%20Information), in English and Spanish
- **County Informational Flyers**: Vaccines and Testing for Agricultural Workers, Booster Dose Fact Sheet, etc. available at [santacruzcounty/coronavirus>public information>COVID-19 Information and Guidance>SIGNS/MEDIA LIBRARY](https://santacruzcounty/coronavirus>public%20information>COVID-19%20Information%20and%20Guidance>SIGNS/MEDIA%20LIBRARY)

# Questions & Answers

