

## COVID-19 Situation Update for ACUSD Board Meeting

Dr. Rita Kerr, Amador County Health Officer

May 26, 2021

- **1,797** confirmed cases of COVID-19 to date in Amador County residents (**excluding MCSP inmates**)
- Active Cases in Amador as of today: **10** (cases are released from Isolation when they're no longer contagious)
- **Two** Amador County resident are currently hospitalized with COVID-19

COVID activity in Amador County has stabilized at a low level, and Amador moved to the (minimal) **Yellow** Tier effective last Wednesday, May 19.

The case episode date is the first day of symptoms or the date the positive test is collected, whichever is earlier. Over the past four weeks, case episode counts per week in Amador County have been in single-digits:

- Apr 25 – May 1: **5** cases
- May 2 - 8: **8** cases
- May 9 - 15: **7** cases
- So far for the week of May 16 - 22: **8** case episodes (this number may go up as some people wait a few days after symptoms begin to get tested, and more lab results are received)

Current Amador County test positivity rate is **1.6%**

### COVID-19 VACCINE Update:

- Over **31,000** doses have been administered to date to persons who live in Amador County
- **57.6%** of Amador County residents age 12+ have had at least one dose of vaccine
- The Statewide average this week is **63.1%**
- Amador was within 5% of the statewide average for persons age 12+ with at least 1 dose last week, which allowed our county to move to the Yellow tier based on absolute case count <14 and test positivity rate <2%
- Over **13,250** Amador residents age 12+ are fully vaccinated, and about **5,000** more have had their first dose of the two-dose vaccine series
- 1/3 of Amador County's **total** population have been fully vaccinated (**39%** of people 12 and older, **60%** of those age 65 and older)
- When you've been fully vaccinated, you can: gather indoors with other fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask; gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household without masks (unless any of those people are high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19)
- Fully vaccinated people also do NOT need to quarantine or get tested if they are a close contact to a case of COVID-19, as long as they remain without symptoms
- Fully vaccinated people do not need to wear a face covering in public outdoors, unless they are in a crowd
- **A person is fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose of the 2-dose series vaccines, or 2 weeks after they get the single-dose J&J vaccine**
- Currently eligible groups to receive vaccine:
  - All persons age 12 and older who live, work or go to school in Amador County
  - Those under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or bring a signed consent to be vaccinated
  - The consent form is available on the [amadorgov.org](http://amadorgov.org) COVID-19 webpage
- In addition to the vaccine clinics being offered by the Public Health Department, health systems such as Sutter, WellSpace, Kaiser, etc. may vaccinate their patients. Local pharmacies (CVS, Safeway, Walgreen's and Walmart) also offer COVID vaccines by appointment; visit [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov) to search by vaccine type and distance for availability.

The No-Cost OptumServe testing site remains at the back entrance of the HHS building off Lower Ridge Road. It is still available Mon-Wed-Sat, but hours have changed to **7 a.m. – 3 p.m.** No appointment necessary, just drive up and park at the cones and staff will assist with on-site registration. Adults and children can be tested, results in 2 days. If you do want to schedule ahead, go to [lhi.care/covidtesting](https://lhi.care/covidtesting) or call 1-888-634-1123. **NOTE: The OptumServe testing site will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.**

As Californians get vaccinated, the state is reopening and will be moving “Beyond the Blueprint” on June 15. On that date, all sectors listed in the current Blueprint Activities and Business Tiers Chart may return to usual operations, with no restrictions on capacity or physical distancing. Travelers will be advised to follow CDC recommendations and the CDPH Travel Advisory. Masking will be subject to CDPH Guidance for Face Coverings\*. Mega Events characterized by large crowds (>5,000 indoors and >10,000 outdoors attendees) will have additional requirements (for indoors) or recommendations (for outdoors) for attendees to provide vaccine verification or negative testing. Employers are subject to the current Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards, if applicable to them. CDPH will continue to provide updated guidance for youth, healthcare and high-risk congregate settings.

School guidance documents will be updated by the State before school resumes in the fall. Meanwhile, as tier movement and updated guidance allows for more activities and events to take place, we all need to continue consistently practicing the measures that help limit spread of COVID-19. For schools: symptom screening, stable groups, face coverings, adequate spacing between desks and proper ventilation are key strategies. Outdoor activities are safer than indoor activities. Wash or sanitize your hands frequently. It is particularly important that anyone who is quarantined, on isolation, or who feels ill (even with mild symptoms) stay home, especially if waiting for COVID-19 test results. If you don't feel great? Please isolate.

\*While the CDC released a recommendation on May 13 that fully-vaccinated individuals no longer need to wear masks or physically distance (even indoors) the CA State Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Mark Ghaly, released a statement on May 17 to clarify that California's existing face coverings guidance remains in place until June 15, allowing time for more Californians to get fully vaccinated. “As of May 3, 2021, face coverings are no longer required outdoors in California except at crowded events, and for unvaccinated people, when physical distancing cannot be maintained. In indoor settings outside of one's home, including public transportation and schools, face coverings continue to be required regardless of vaccination status.”