

COVID-19 Situation Update for ACUSD Board Meeting

Dr. Rita Kerr, Health Officer April 14, 2021

- **1,735** confirmed cases of COVID-19 to date in Amador County residents (**excluding MCSP inmates**)
- No new MCSP inmate cases since the outbreak resolved last month
- **5** additional Amador County residents cases confirmed today
- **2** newly hospitalized Amador County residents today

Active Cases in Amador as of today: **26** (cases are released from Isolation when they're no longer contagious)

- Current Amador Case Rate per 100,000 population is **10.4** Current Amador test positivity rate is **3.5%**
- Current Amador County Tier Assignment: **Red** (Substantial)

There was an uptick in COVID-19 activity in Amador County at the end of March. Contact tracing revealed Spring Break travel, social gatherings, and household contacts transmission as factors in the increase. The case episode date is the first day of symptoms or the date the positive test is collected, whichever is earlier.

Case counts by week over the past month:

- Feb 28 – March 6: **15** cases
- Mar 7-13: **18** cases
- Mar 14-20: **20** cases
- Mar 21-27: **31** cases
- Mar 28- Apr 3: **29** cases (the number that determines this week's tier assignment)
- So far for the week of April 4-10: **13** 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)

Last week, the Governor announced "Beyond the Blueprint," which anticipates that as more people in the State get vaccinated, as long as hospitalization rates remain stable and low, capacity restrictions and closures by sector will be lifted statewide on June 15. However, continued risk reduction measures such as wearing face coverings and favoring outdoor activities over indoor activities will still be in place. In the meantime, to minimize the possibility for small counties to move to more restrictive tiers, the State has revised the data metrics that determine the county Tier color assignments on the State's Blueprint

- **Test positivity rate** thresholds for tier assignment remain the same, but
- Instead of case rate per 100,000 population, for small counties **absolute case counts** will be used
- Since Amador is a mid-sized small county (population between 35K – 70K), in order to move from Red to Orange Amador will need to have **fewer than 21** cases per week, with test positivity staying **4.9% or lower**, for two consecutive weeks
- To keep test positivity rate low, negative tests are needed in the denominator to offset positives, so keep getting tested!
- Testing and identification of cases also allows the ACPH Contact Tracing Team to notify and instruct positives and contacts about the measures needed to prevent infecting others and keep case numbers down. PH staff works 7 days a week to CT.

The No-Cost OptumServe testing site is located 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 is necessary, just drive up and park at the cones and staff will assist with on-site registration. Adults and children can be tested. If you do want to schedule ahead, go to lhi.care/covidtesting or call 1-888-634-1123.

- To date, **149** Amador County residents are known to have been hospitalized due to COVID-19
- Two Amador County residents are currently hospitalized with active COVID-19
- **38** Amador County residents and **8** MCSP inmates have died of COVID-19. Public Health extends condolences to all who are grieving the loss of loved ones or friends.

COVID-19 VACCINE Update: over **23,500** doses have been administered to date to persons who live in Amador County

- Over **8,500** Amador residents are fully vaccinated, and about **6,500** have had their first dose of the two-dose vaccine series

- **22%** of Amador County's **total** population have been fully vaccinated (25% of people 18 and older, and 50% of >= age 65)
- Per CDC and CDPH: 2 weeks after completing vaccination, persons do not need to quarantine if exposed to COVID (unless symptoms)
- However, the **CalOSHA** emergency temporary standards are still in place for employers/workers
- When you've been fully vaccinated, you can: gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask; gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with is at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19
- In public, everyone, including fully vaccinated people, should still wear a mask, stay at least 6 feet apart from others, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces
- Currently eligible groups to receive vaccine (those who live or work in Amador County)
 - All persons age 18 and older (Amador County currently doesn't have Pfizer vaccine for ages 16-17)
- Other clinics in Amador County that vaccinate their patients include Sutter Health and WellSpace Health
- Four pharmacies in Amador County now offer COVID vaccines - visit their websites to book available appointments
 - CVS
 - Safeway
 - Walgreen's
 - Walmart
- Amador County has begun onboarding to the State's MyTurn vaccine eligibility/scheduling app, will be scheduling vaccine appointments via [MyTurn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov) beginning on April 16

Regarding school data:

Our School Tracker has over 650 line entries since ACUSD schools reopened for in-person instruction last fall.

- Some of those entries represent the same individual being entered more than once
 - For example due to starting on quarantine then being changed to isolation status when they test positive
 - Others have been placed on quarantine more than once due to exposure at different times
 - Linked to the Big Game: 71 students are distance learning while on quarantine this week, 1 staff and 2 coaches are quarantined

We know what works. We can stop the spread of COVID in schools by layering and carefully implementing mitigation strategies, including masks, stable groups, proper ventilation, washing hands, symptom screening and testing. Vaccination adds another layer of protection on top of these measures, which even those who have received vaccine need to continue practicing at this time. It is particularly important that anyone who feels ill (even with mild symptoms) stay home, especially if waiting for COVID-19 test results. If you don't feel great? Isolate.