

Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 1/14/2022



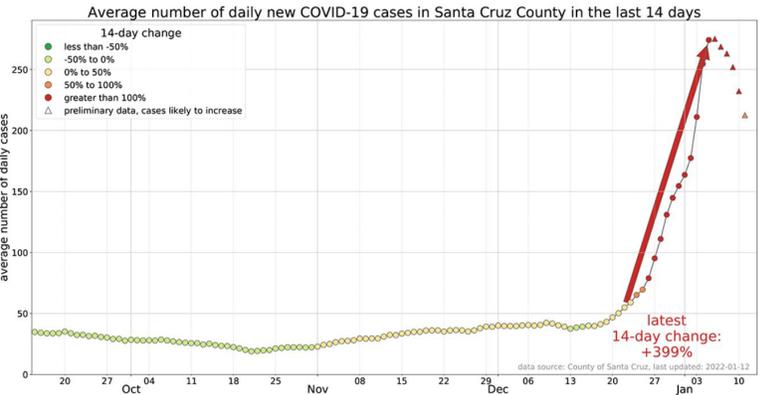
COVID-19 Case Trends – Rising Cases from the Omicron Variant

COVID-19 case rates continue to increase in Santa Cruz County. Public Health's surge response will focus on supporting the healthcare system, supporting the community with COVID-19 preparedness, and maintaining Public Health operations.

Based on local modeling data, we predict that our case rate will peak in late January and hospitalizations will peak in early February.

Individual behaviors **DO** make a difference to **SLOW** the spread. What you can do during the Omicron Surge:

- *Get vaccinated and boosted.*
- *Upgrade your mask for fit and filtration (N95, KF94, KN95, surgical masks).*
- *Improve ventilation and air filtration.*
- *Avoid high-risk, indoor activities.*



Testing

Testing Appointment information is available at the [Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Testing Website](#). Appointments are recommended for all County locations:

- **Santa Cruz City:** Open Monday-Friday from 7am-7pm by appointment only at the Depot Freight building (119 Center Street).
- **Felton:** Located at Mountain Community Resources (6134 Highway 9). Open Friday-Tuesday from 10am-6pm.
- **Ramsay Park:** Open Wednesday-Sunday from 7am-6:45pm; closed 11am-12pm and 4pm-5pm. **Closed on 1/17/22.**
- **Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds:** Open Monday-Friday from 10am-5pm. Registration required. Link to register for all [COE/Inspire Clinics here](#).

For individuals taking a COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test at home, it's important to follow [California Department of Public Health guidelines and test instructions for reporting](#).

Vaccinations

On 1/10/2022, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) approved the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendation of:

- Booster doses for Moderna are now provided at a 5-month interval;
- and Expanded eligibility of Moderna additional doses for immunocompromised individuals 18+.

Details on new guidance [Boosters](#) and [Additional Doses](#) available [here](#).

Watsonville Vaccine Center (250 Main Street):

Open Thursday-Sunday from 9:30am-5pm by appointment only for Individuals 5+.

To schedule an appointment or find a walk-in clinic in Santa Cruz County visit:

- [HSA COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#), or
- [My Turn](#)

All COVID-19 Vaccine appointments are available at **no-cost** and **regardless of insurance status**.



New! State and Federal COVID-19 Guidance

- [K-12 Schools Guidance and FAQ \(1/12/22\)](#).
- [Isolation/Quarantine Guidance \(1/8/22\)](#).
- [Guidance for Face Coverings \(1/5/22\)](#).
- [CalOSHA Standards to Align with CDPH Isolation and Quarantine Guidance \(1/8/22\)](#).
- [COVID-19 Booster Vaccines Fact Sheet \(1/10/22\)](#).
- [Requirements for Visiting Hospitals or Nursing Homes \(1/7/22\)](#).



Public Health Reminders

- **This is going to be a hard month, but it will end soon.**
- Given the movement of people and faster spread of COVID-19, it's **best to assume that you are interacting with people who are infectious**, or you may be infectious.
- It is difficult to contain this surge - we are riding the wave. People who are doing "everything right" may become positive. **Practice compassion to your family, friends, and yourself.**