

PLACER COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE

AUGUST 21, 2020



Placer County COVID-19 Cases at a Glance

The first case of COVID-19, the viral infection caused by SARS-CoV-2, was identified in Placer County on March 1, 2020. Since then, cases have been reported throughout the county.

New cases are investigated as they are reported. Our team of case investigators strive to interview those who have tested positive and their close contacts as soon as possible. These teams provide guidance and offer support to those who need to isolate and quarantine to help keep their families and communities safe.

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases by Location of Residence as of 8/20/20			
Location	Confirmed Cases	Likely Recovered	New Cases in Last 7 Days
Roseville	1107	685	85
Lincoln	476	343	40
Rocklin	470	301	38
Auburn	227	148	6
Granite Bay	87	54	*
Kings Beach	71	47	8
Loomis	65	36	*
Newcastle	31	24	*
Truckee	20	18	*
Meadow Vista	20	13	*
Tahoe City	20	10	*
Foresthill	12	10	*
Colfax	12	9	*
Sheridan	16	9	*
Olympic Valley	7	7	*
Applegate	6	*	*
Carnelian Bay	6	*	*
Elverta	6	*	*
Penryn	6	*	*
Total:	2689	2329	208

* The number of cases in locations with less than 6 cases is masked to protect patient privacy. As such, cases displayed will not add up to total.

Locations with less than 6 cases include: Alta, Bowman, Dutch Flat, Tahoe Vista, Weimar, Homeless, and Unknown.

This week in COVID-19 (8/14 – 8/20):

Cases in congregate living settings continue:

- 6 skilled nursing facilities with 1-26 cases (staff or residents) each:
 - 6 new cases in SNFs this week
- 5 additional long-term care facilities with 2-11 cases each
 - 2 new cases in non-SNF LTCFs this week
- [Click here](#) for the latest information about correctional facility cases

When a case is identified in a vulnerable setting, Public Health recommends testing of all residents and staff.

Placer County residents hospitalized (8/20):

- 22 (1 in intensive care)

Estimated active cases, calculated as total cases minus deaths and likely recovered cases (see link in location table for definition): 330

Confirmed Cases by Geographic Zone		
	Total Cases	Last 7 days
South Placer	2266	181
Mid Placer	284	9
East Placer	130	15
Unknown/Homeless	9	3
Total	2689	208

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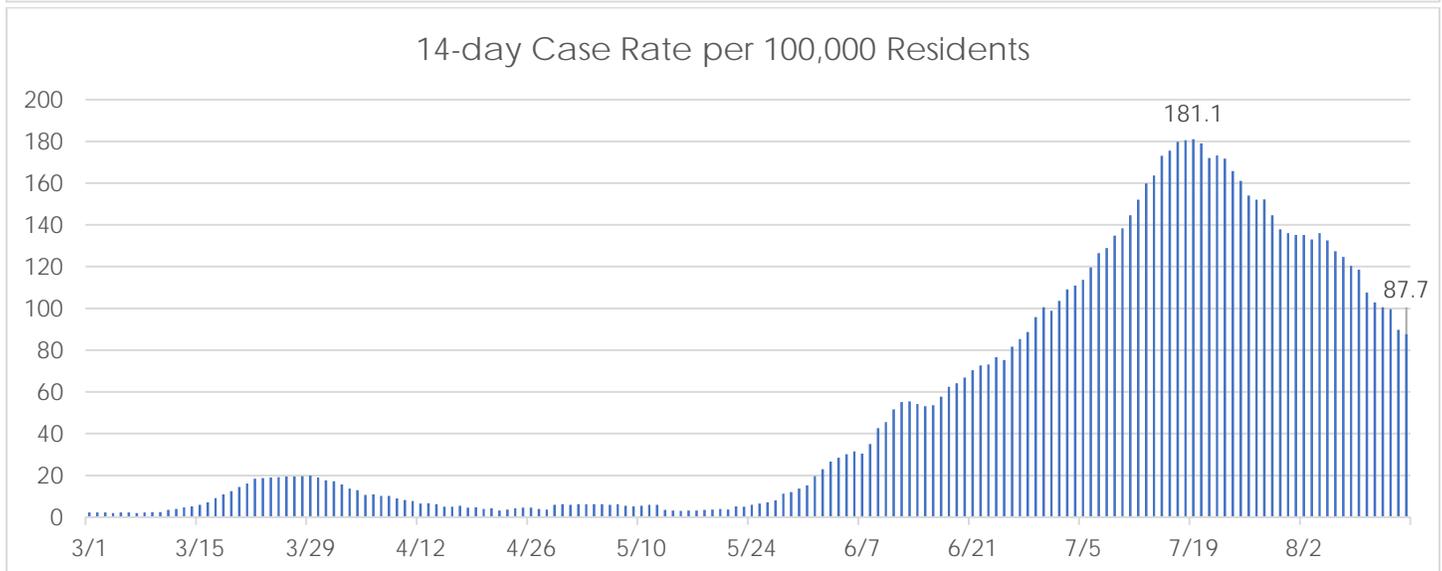
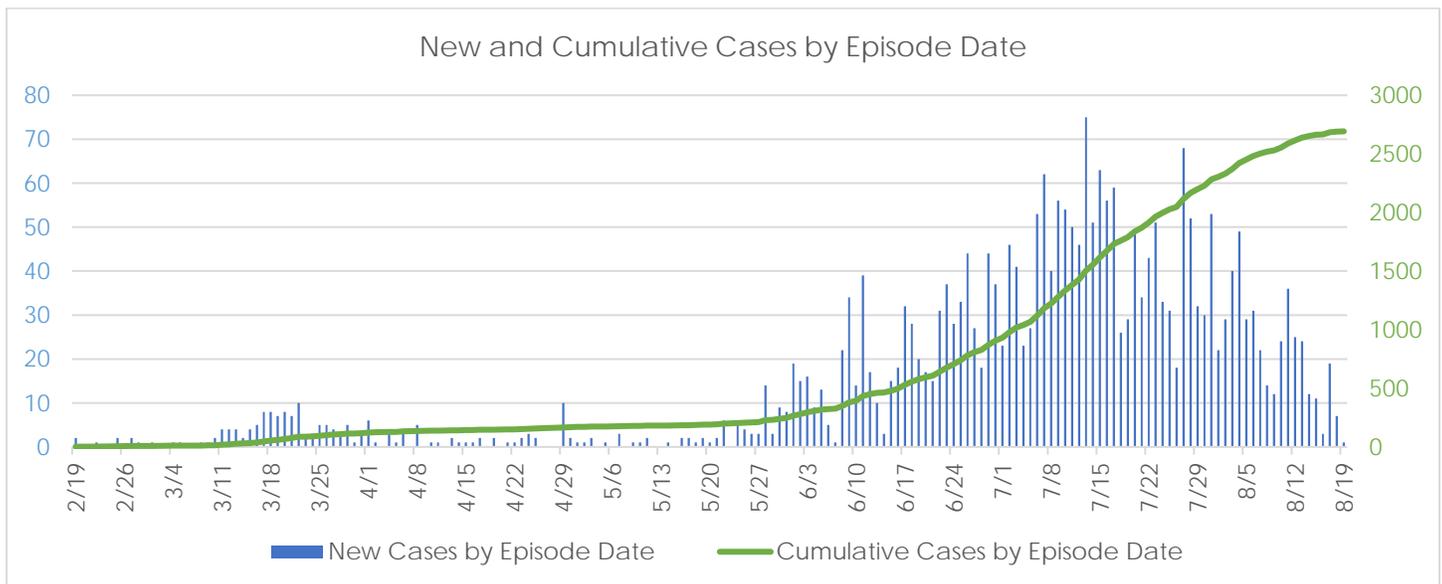
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Cases

There are now 2,689 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Placer County (data current to 8/20). While 208 new cases were received since last week's update, total cases increased from 2,486 to 2,689 (+203) as five cases were transferred to other jurisdictions based on residency determination. An individual who tests positive on multiple occasions is only counted as a single case. To

align with State metrics, Public Health now reports cases by episode date, which is the earliest of several dates (see FAQ section for details). Case calculations using episode date better reflect the transmission of COVID-19 in our county, as episode date reflects the earliest date that a case can be known to have had COVID-19.

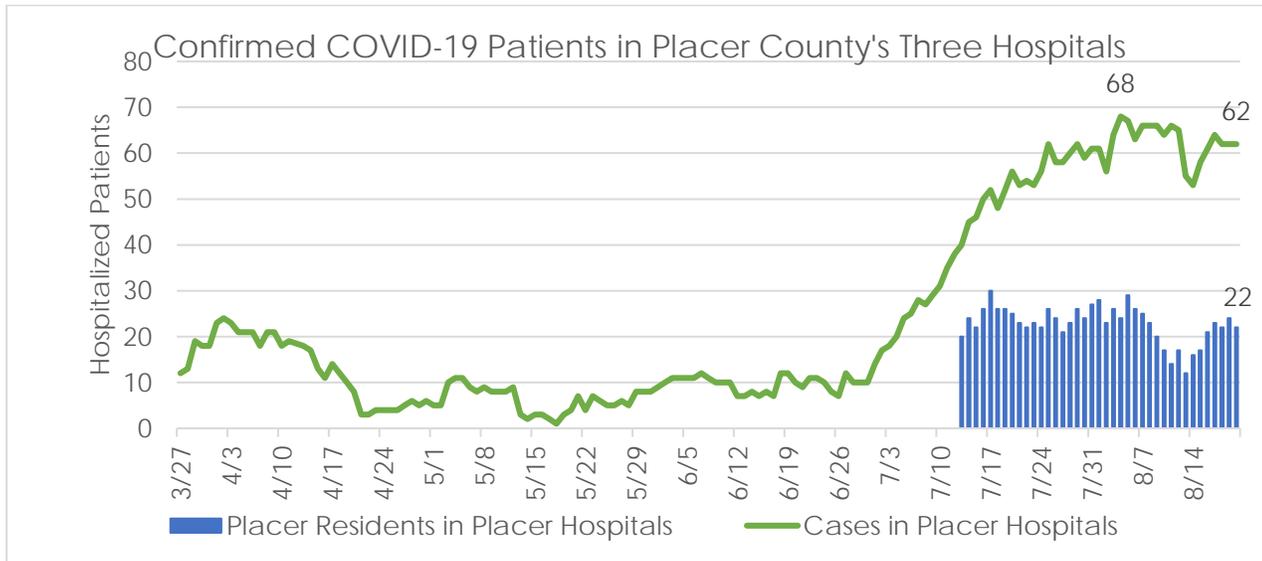
The 14-day case rate is calculated as the total number of COVID-19+ cases reported over a 14-day period, divided by the population of Placer County. This number is then multiplied by 100,000. This case rate is also calculated using episode date. The figure below illustrates a decline in recent weeks.



As information is received by Public Health, episode dates will be updated and case counts will be adjusted to best approximate the date of illness onset. **Data are dynamic and will change as cases are received, updated, and transferred.**

Hospitalizations and Deaths

Hospitalizations in the three Placer County hospitals have remained steady in recent weeks. The majority of those hospitalized are residents of other counties. Placer County's two largest hospitals lie on the Placer-Sacramento County border and provide care to residents of both counties, as well as other neighboring counties. Public Health began collecting residency information from hospitals in July.



As of August 20, Placer County has received reports of 30 COVID-related* deaths.

- 15 (50%) were residents of long-term care facilities
- 20 (67%) resided in South Placer/Valley region
- 10 (33%) lived in Mid-Placer/Foothills region
- 43% of all reported deaths occurred in August
- 50% of those who died were age 80 or above

COVID Deaths by Month	Number of Deaths
March	2
April	6
May	1
June	2
July	6
August	13
Total	30

Age Range	Number of Deaths
50-54	1
55-59	1
60-64	2
65-69	2
70-74	4
75-79	5
80-84	4
85-89	6
90-94	4
95-99	1
Total	30

*COVID-related deaths have COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 listed as a cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death on the death certificate. This is consistent with the case definition set forth by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists and adopted by CDPH.

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Descriptive Statistics

Public Health is working to enter missing demographic information received since resolution of the statewide data issue. A sizeable proportion of race and ethnicity data remains unknown, although systematic data collection has improved through the course of the pandemic. Placer County lacks race/ethnicity data for 31% of cases compared to 35% missing this data statewide. Race/ethnicity information is collected during the case interview, so data quality improves as closed cases are entered into the database. In addition, some cases decline to share this information.

Age Distribution and Hospitalization among Confirmed Cases					
	Total Cases	Age Distribution Total Cases	Cases Last 7 Days	Age Distribution Last 7 Days	Percent Ever Hospitalized
0-17 years	233	9%	25	12%	0%
18-49 years	1552	59%	118	57%	3%
50-64 years	565	21%	42	20%	10%
65+ years	300	11%	23	11%	23%
Unknown	39	1%	0	0%	0%
Total	2689	100%	208	100%	7%

Ethnicity and Race of Confirmed Cases		
	# Cases	% Cases
Latinx	527	20%
White	1010	38%
Asian	115	4%
African American/Black	38	1%
Multi-Race	11	0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	7	0%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	6	0%
Other Race	137	5%
Unknown*	838	31%
Total Cases	2689	100%

Cases Ever Hospitalized				
	Overall Cases		Cases in Past Month (since 7/20)	
	# Cases	% Cases	# Cases	% Cases
White	82	46%	27	51%
Latinx	34	19%	4	8%
Asian	8	4%	2	4%
African American/ Black	3	0%	2	4%
Other Race	9	5%	4	8%
Unknown*	42	24%	14	26%
Total Cases	178	100%	53	100%

*Some demographic information is unknown despite changes to improve reporting. In addition, some cases decline to share this information. Therefore, data should be interpreted with caution. Data are subject to change as cases are transferred to other counties or new information is obtained. Hospitalization data are dependent upon patient or hospital notification of inpatient status and are likely an undercount.

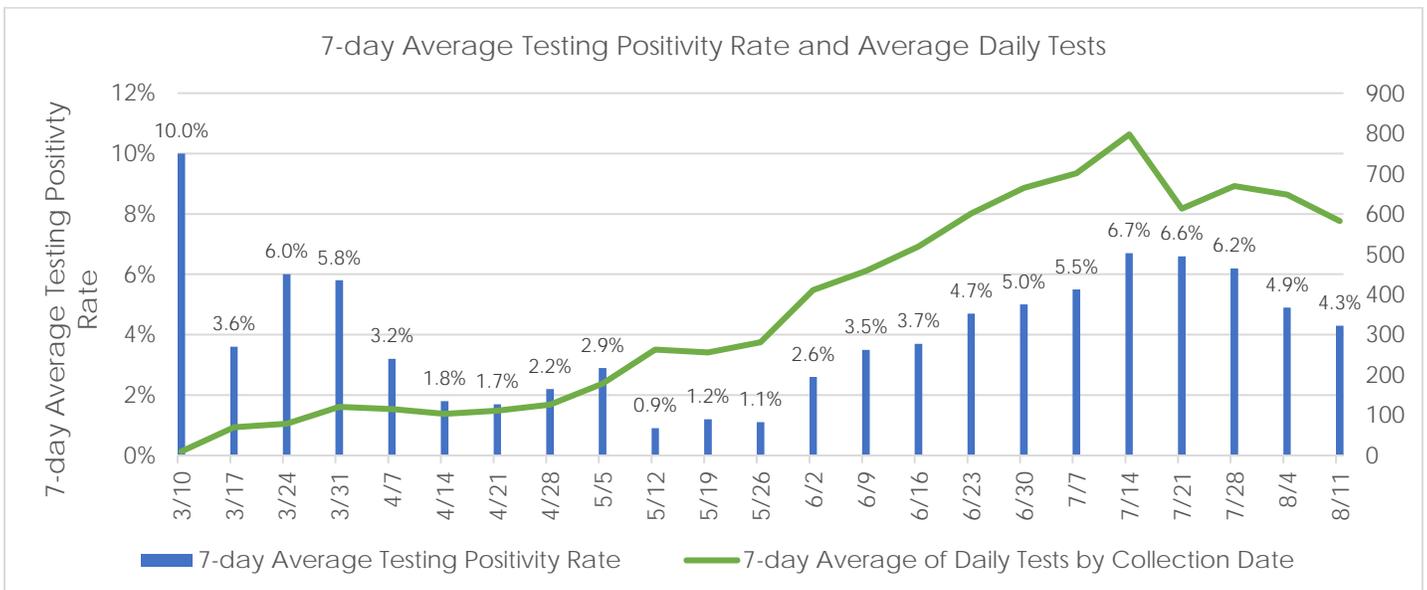
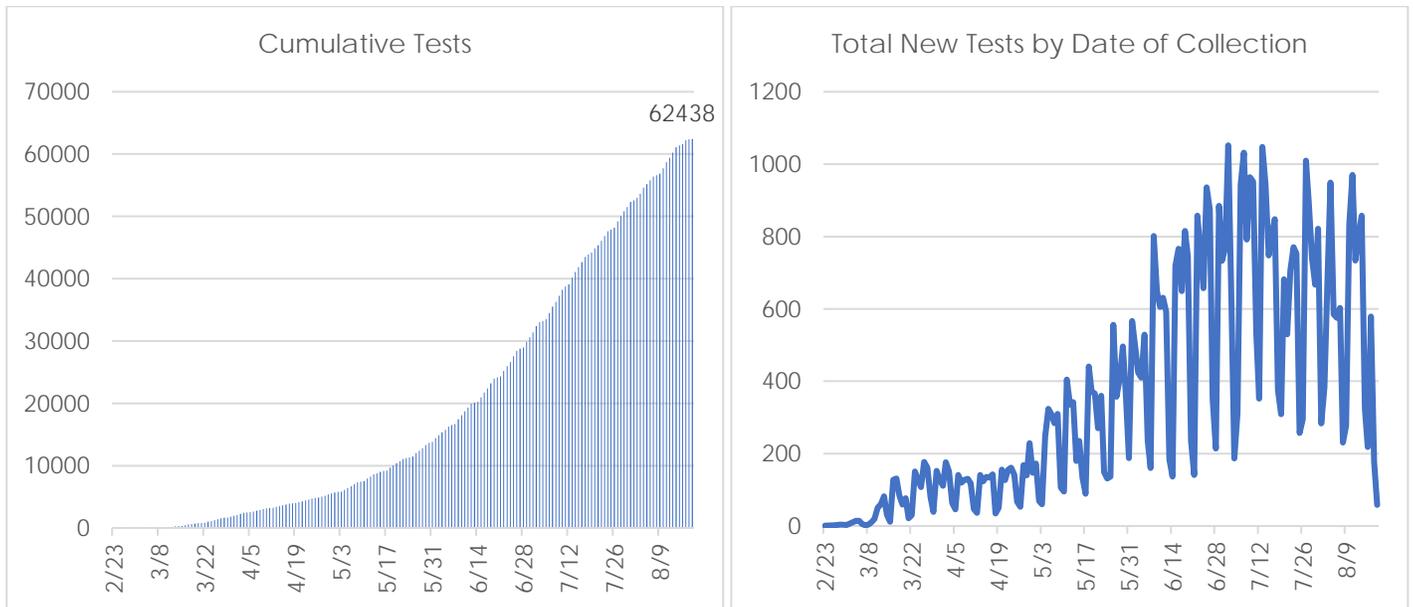
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Testing

As of August 20, Placer County Public Health has received 62,438 total test results to detect COVID-19 infection. Overall, 4.3% of tests have been positive. The 7-day average testing positivity rate is 4.3%. Public Health now reports and calculates using all tests, rather than the total number of individuals tested, following thorough consultation with the California Department of Public Health. Please see the FAQ section for details. Reported tests only include molecular tests that detect viral RNA. They do not include serology (antibody) tests. An individual who tests positive on multiple occasions is only counted as a single case.

* Testing positivity rate is the number of new positive tests in the last 7 days / total tests reported in the last 7 days. The 7-day average testing positivity rate is variable for several days as new test results are reported. Public Health reports the rate for the 7-day period ending 7 days prior to the current day. The figures for daily tests will increase as new results are received.



FAQs of the Week

What has changed about calculations reported in this update and on Placer County's daily COVID-19 dashboard?

The charts for new and cumulative cases now data display by episode date rather than specimen collection date. Episode date is defined as the earliest of the following dates for each case: illness onset date, specimen collection date, date of death or date reported. Counts for any given day (particularly the most recent 7-14 days) are likely to change as new information is received.

Similarly, Placer County now calculates the 14-day case rate per 100,000 residents using episode date rather than specimen collection date, to more closely align with the State's Monitoring List metrics.

The 7-day positivity rate has been adjusted to consider all tests taken versus individuals tested.

Negative results have similarly been adjusted to count all tests. Prior to this, tests were filtered on a person basis. For example, if a person received 3 negative tests, only one would have been counted, regardless of how far apart those tests were taken. Now, all three negative results would be reflected because at this stage of the pandemic, many persons have been tested at different times for different potential exposures.

Confirmed cases will continue to be filtered by person – that is, only one positive test per Placer County resident will continue to be reflected in confirmed case totals.

Another change to the dashboard is the removal of the 'new cases by region' figure and the introduction of 14-day case rates by region. Because of the dynamic nature of the data, the daily count of new cases by region is not a particularly useful figure. As information on new cases is gathered, cases may be transferred to other counties, or their address may be updated, putting them in a different region than they were initially reported in. The 14-day case rates by region provide a more accurate look at recent overall trends in cases for the three regions. The 14-day regional case rates are calculated in the same manner as the overall 14-day case rate but use the regional populations and are calculated per 10,000 population rather than per 100,000 population. Additionally, cases that do not have a valid zip code are not included in the calculations for regional case rates, but are included in the overall case rate. The new 14-day regional case rates can be found on the 'Case Rate and Testing Data' tab on the dashboard.

Why were these changes made?

These changes were made to align our local data with State data, in order to reduce confusion and better assess status in relation to the State's Monitoring List thresholds.

Case calculations using episode date better reflect the transmission of COVID-19 in our county, as episode date reflects the earliest date that a case can be known to have had COVID-19.

Changes to the positivity rate were made following thorough consultation with the California Department of Public Health. While some counties, including Placer, had been using unique individuals tested, to calculate positivity rate, CDPH uses the total number of tests. Early in the pandemic, it was more useful to look at individual people tested rather than total number of tests performed. Now that many people have been re-tested over time (within new exposure windows), it is more valuable to count each test result as this provides a stronger approximation of positivity rate and testing capacity. This difference in methodology did not result in large differences between calculations made by CDPH and by Placer County until recently, when the number of people receiving multiple tests or being re-tested reached a volume large enough to have a significant effect.

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Following these detailed conversations, Public Health has decided to follow the State's lead in updating our metrics in accordance with the logic above. CDPH also has additional filters in place to remove erroneous duplicates (such as multiple labs reporting the same result for the same person on the same day) from their calculations. Placer County now uses the values calculated by CDPH for positivity rate and reports those directly rather than calculating them separately. However, Placer County's value for total negatives is still calculated internally and represents an estimate of the total number of negative results ever received by public health, including duplicate results and re-tests. It is important to remember that the total negative tests and the total confirmed cases are not comparable values and cannot be used together to calculate a positivity rate.

What are the remaining differences between State and County reporting?

Interpreting data from several sources can be difficult. While Public Health is working to minimize the confusion this can cause, some differences will likely remain between figures reported by the State and the County due to daily timing of data collection or reporting lags.

Have the issues with CaREDIE ended?

The State reports that the backlog is fully resolved and that case numbers are up to date. Placer County has also processed all cases that were reported from the backlog.

Monitoring/Thresholds

Placer Attestation Thresholds		
Placer Triggers	Threshold	Current Value
Doubling time of cases	<5 days for 5 straight days	82 days
Hospital census	>135% licensed capacity	85.7%
Health care worker infections	Increasing for 5 days	Not increasing for 5 days
PPE for health care workers	<7-day supply	>7 day supply
% of cases with contacts elicited	<80% of cases	>80%
% symptomatic contacts tested within 48 hours of symptoms	<90%	<90%

AND {

State Monitoring Indicators		
State Indicators	Threshold	Current Value
Case rate per 100K (14-day)	>25 (or >100 alone)	87.7
Testing positivity rate (7-day)	>8%	4.3%
Change in 3-day hospitalization average	>10% (only if n>20)	1.6% (n=62)
% ICU beds available	<20%	22%
% Ventilators available	<25%	81%

Preventing Infection

Personal precautions go a long way to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- Anyone who is feeling ill should stay home.
- Vulnerable (high risk) individuals are encouraged to stay at home. This includes those over age 65 or with serious medical conditions.
- Wear a face covering in public. [Read some Face Covering FAQs here.](#)
- When in public, maximize physical distance from others (at least six feet).
- Maintain good hygiene practices by washing hands, using hand sanitizer, disinfecting frequently touched surfaces, and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid gathering with people you don't live with.