

PLACER COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 4, 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 9/3/20			
Location	Confirmed Cases	Likely Recovered	New Cases in Last 7 Days
Roseville	1311	1137	108
Lincoln	524	487	18
Rocklin	526	479	26
Auburn	264	224	19
Granite Bay	102	89	10
Kings Beach	77	68	7
Loomis	77	69	9
Newcastle	33	31	*
Truckee	20	20	*
Meadow Vista	21	21	*
Tahoe City	24	22	*
Foresthill	14	12	*
Colfax	13	13	*
Sheridan	16	15	*
Olympic Valley	7	7	*
Applegate	7	6	*
Carmelian Bay	7	6	*
Elverta	8	8	*
Penryn	8	7	*
Total:	3083	2742	205
* 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, Unhoused, and Unknown.			

This week in COVID-19 (8/28 – 9/3):

Cases in congregate living settings continue:

- 2 skilled nursing facilities with 12-54 cases (staff or residents) each:
 - 24 new cases in SNFs this week
- 3 additional long-term care facilities with 1-5 cases each
 - 4 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 (9/3):

- 12 (3 in intensive care)

Estimated active cases, calculated as total cases minus deaths and likely recovered cases (see link in location table for definition): 331

Confirmed Cases by Geographic Zone		
	Total Cases	Last 7 days
South Placer	2605	174
Mid Placer	327	20
East Placer	143	11
Unknown/Unhoused	8	0
Total	3083	205

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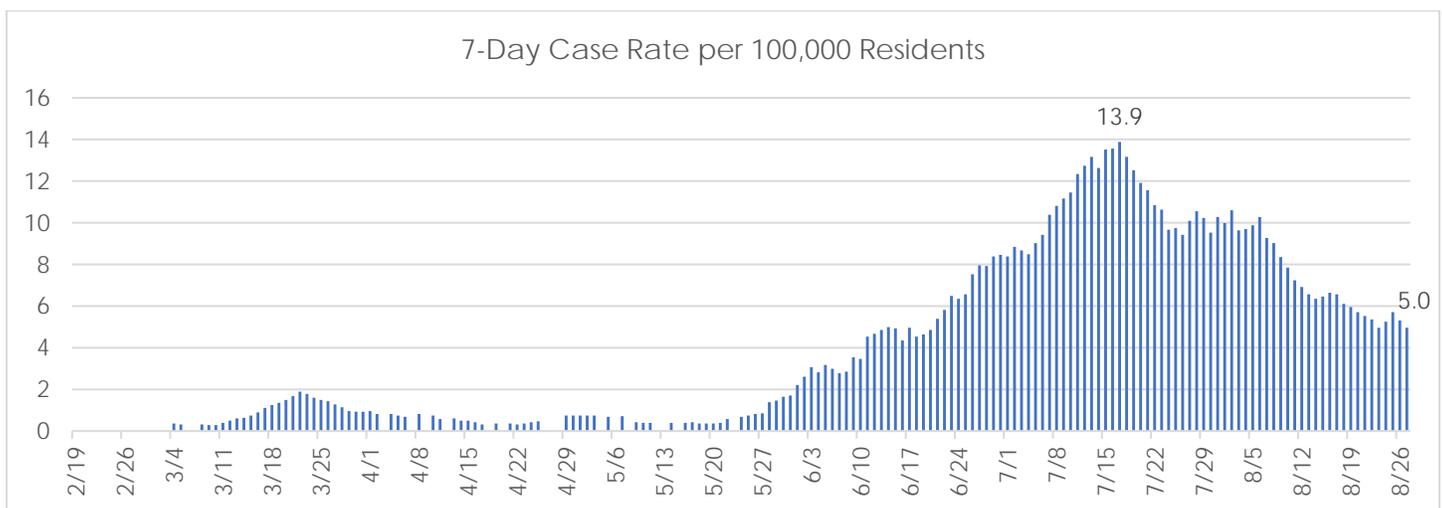
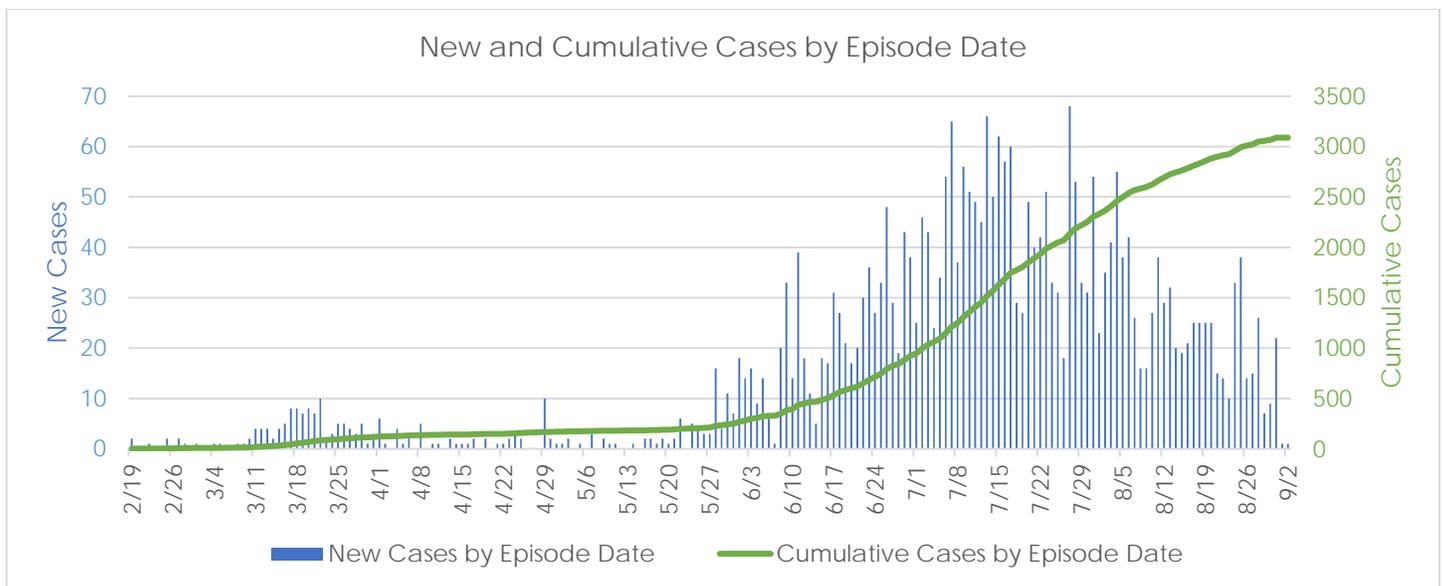
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Cases

There are now 3,083 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Placer County (data current to 9/3). While 205 new cases were received since last week's update, total cases increased from 2,875 to 3,083 (+208). Data remain dynamic as cases are transferred to and from other jurisdictions based on residency determination.

An individual who tests positive on multiple occasions is only counted as a single case. Public Health reports cases by episode date, which is the earliest of several dates (illness onset date, specimen collection date, date of death or date reported).

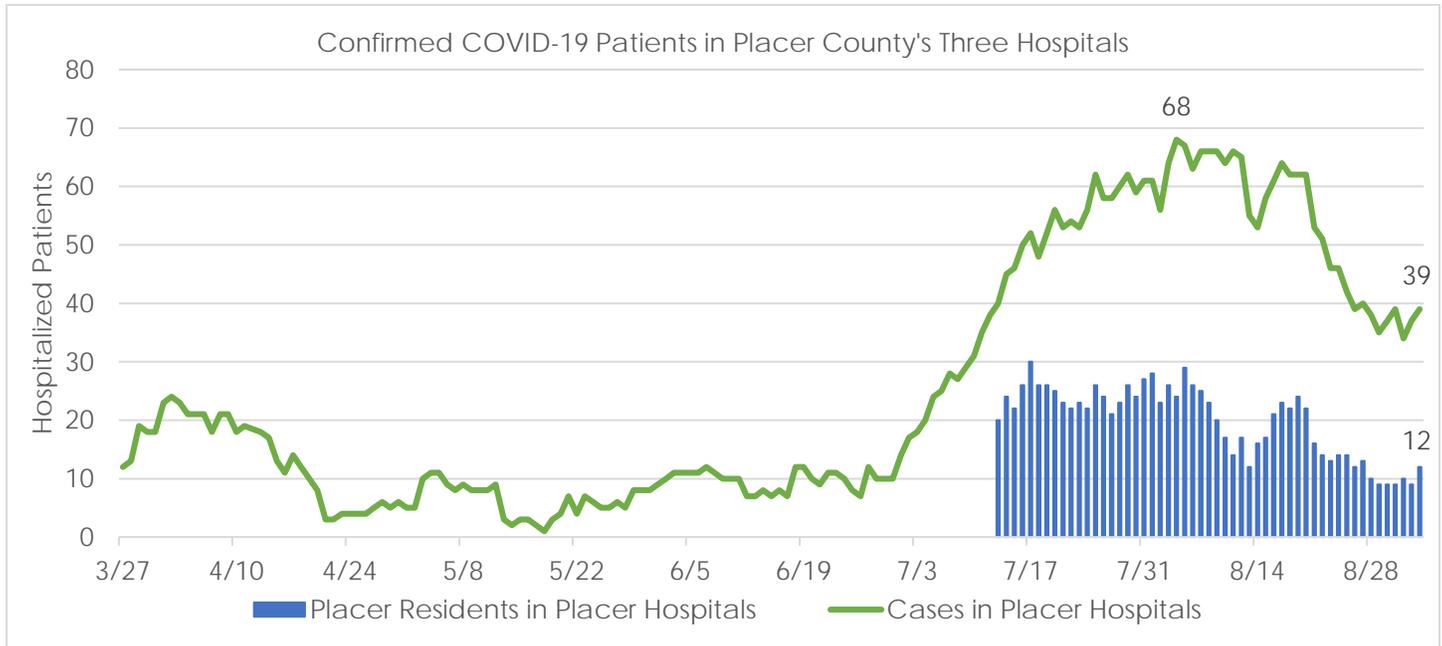
CDPH is now monitoring cases using a 7-day case rate. The 7-day case rate is calculated as the average number of COVID-19 cases reported over a 7-day period, divided by the population of Placer County. This number is then multiplied by 100,000. This case rate is also calculated using episode date.



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 begun to decline. 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 September 3, Placer County has received reports of 35 COVID-related* deaths.

- 19 (54%) were residents of long-term care facilities
- 25 (71%) resided in South Placer/Valley region; 10 (29%) lived in Mid-Placer/Foothills region
- 49% of all reported deaths occurred in August
- 57% 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	17
September	1
Total	35

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	7
85-89	7
90-94	5
95-99	1
Total	35

*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. Public Health reporting is consistent with the case definition set forth by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists and guidance issued by CDPH.

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Descriptive Statistics

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 30% of cases compared to 33% 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 of Total Cases	Cases Last 7 Days	Age Distribution Last 7 Days	Percent Ever Hospitalized
0-17 years	280	9%	21	10%	1%
18-34 years	1030	33%	60	29%	2%
35-49 years	745	24%	50	24%	5%
50-64 years	661	21%	39	19%	10%
65-79 years	239	8%	24	12%	16%
80+ years	110	4%	11	5%	39%
Unknown	18	1%	0	0%	0%
Total	3083	100%	205	100%	7%

Ethnicity and Race of Confirmed Cases		
	# Cases	% Cases
Latinx	559	18%
White	1180	38%
Asian	129	4%
African American/Black	46	1%
Multiple Race	12	0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	11	0%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	8	0%
Other Race	206	7%
Unknown*	932	30%
Total Cases	3083	100%

Cases Ever Hospitalized				
	Overall Cases		Cases in Past Month (since 8/3)	
	# Cases	% Cases	# Cases	% Cases
White	96	47%	25	56%
Latinx	36	18%	3	7%
Asian	8	4%	1	2%
African American/ Black	5	0%	2	4%
Other Race	15	7%	7	16%
Unknown*	45	22%	7	16%
Total Cases	205	100%	45	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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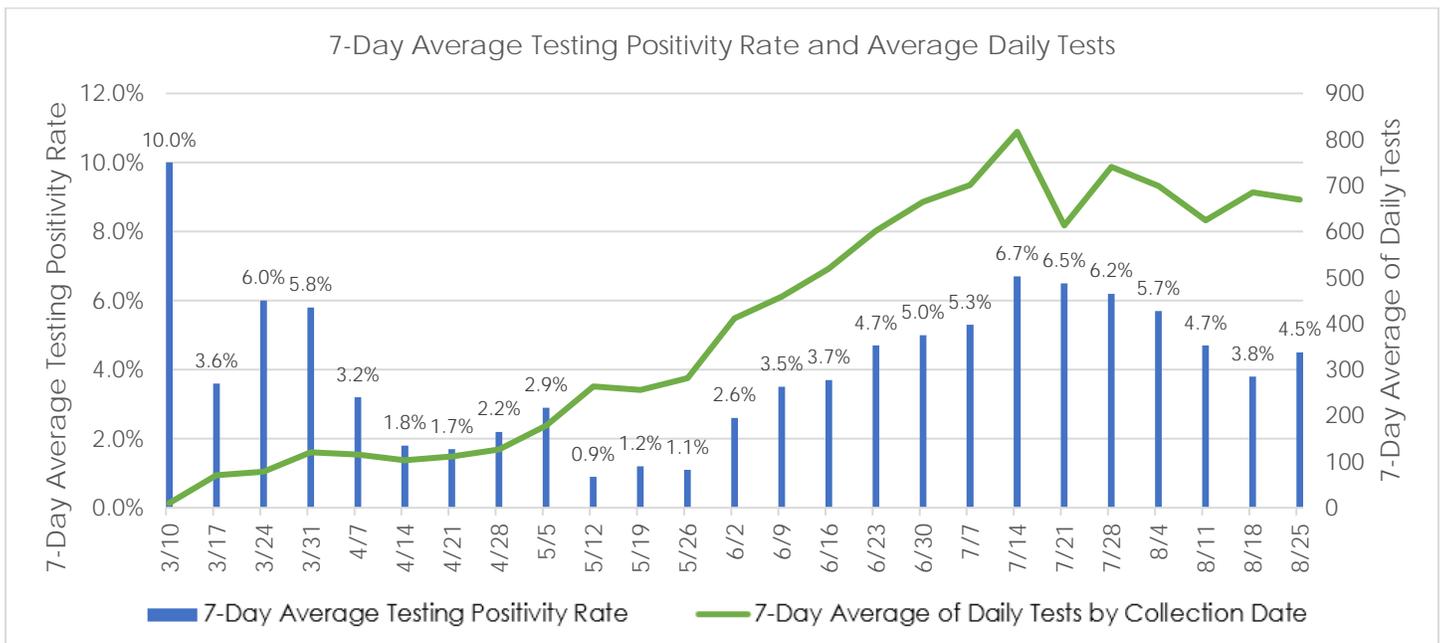
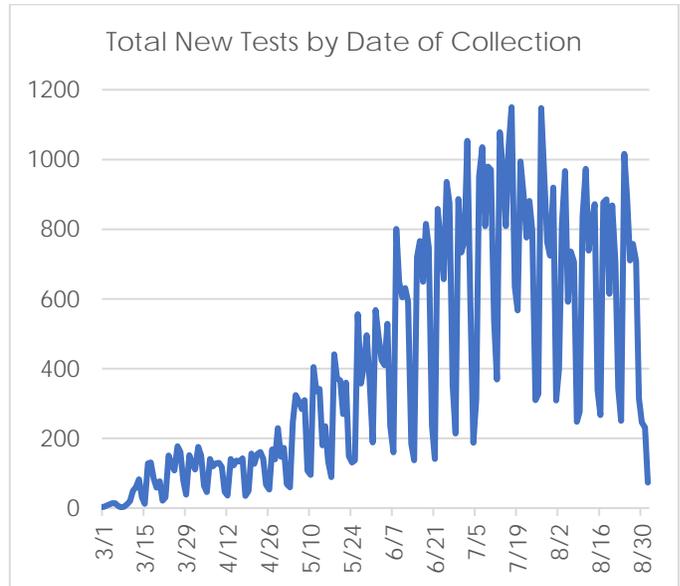
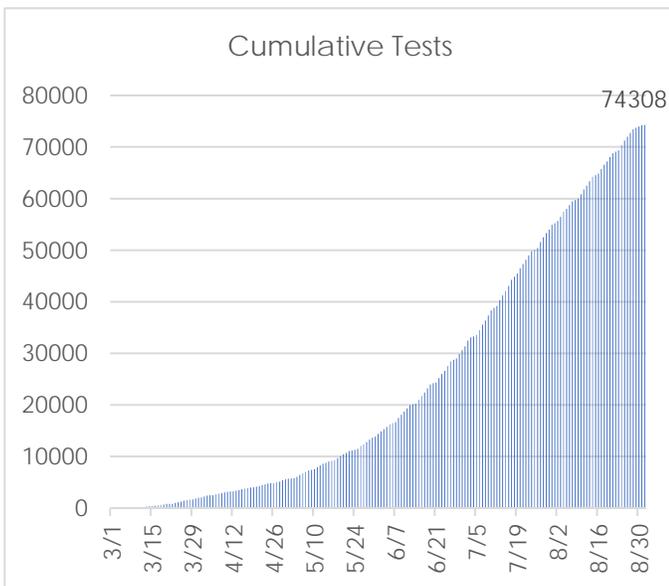
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Testing

As of September 3, Placer County Public Health has received 74,308 total test results to detect COVID-19 infection. Overall, 4.1% of tests have been positive. The 7-day average testing positivity rate is 4.5%. Following thorough consultation with the California Department of Public Health, Placer County Public Health now reports and calculates testing positivity using all tests, rather than the total number of individuals tested. Reported tests only include molecular tests that detect viral RNA. They do not include serology (antibody) tests or antigen 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

Has Placer County Public Health begun reporting the revised metrics now used by the State? When will we be in the State's 'red' tier?

Yes. This week's COVID-19 Update includes the historical 7-day case rate graph (see page 2). The dashboard now includes the daily value and the historical data graph is under construction. Reporting for the 7-day testing positivity rate remains the same.

Placer County is currently in the State's 'purple' tier. Counties need two weeks of qualifying data to enter another tier.

Placer County's 7-day testing positivity rate was 3.8% the week ending Aug. 18 and is at 4.5% as of Sept. 3. Both these figures would fall under the orange tier.

Placer County's 7-day daily case rate was at 5.3 the week ending Aug. 18 and is at 4.96 as of Sept. 3. Both these figures would fall under the red tier.

Given these trends, Placer County Public Health expects that the State will move the county to the 'red' tier from the 'purple' tier on Sept. 8.

What sort of changes would be needed to enter the 'orange' tier?

Other than for its initial assignment, a county must stay in a tier for at least three weeks before moving to the next tier. If a county's adjusted case rate for tier assignment and testing positivity measure fall into two different tiers, the county will be assigned to the more restrictive tier.

Currently, while Placer's testing positivity rate is falling within the orange tier, the daily case rate is not. The county must reach a daily case rate of between 1.0 to 3.9 per 100,000 residents for this metric to fall into the 'orange' tier. This would equate to a daily average of between 4.0 to 15.6 cases per day. In addition, a county cannot skip a tier. Even if both the case rate and the testing positivity rate fell within the orange tier, Placer would not be able to move directly from the purple tier to the orange tier without spending at least 3 weeks in the red tier.

Counties testing at a rate above the state average have their case rate [adjusted](#) by the State. Currently, Placer County is not testing above the state average rate so this adjustment is not applied.

How are skilled nursing facility outbreaks addressed?

This week, one skilled nursing facility (SNF) in Roseville is experiencing the largest SNF outbreak in Placer County to date, with 61 combined staff and residents infected and three deaths thus far as of 9/4.

When a case is detected in a staff person or resident of a SNF, Public Health provides intensive support. This support includes providing specimen collection supplies and laboratory testing as needed to support facility-wide testing; PPE as needed; and technical assistance on infection prevention and control, including isolation and quarantine of infected and exposed persons, respectively. Public Health also arranges in-person site visits with California Department of Public Health Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program consultants to provide additional technical assistance on infection prevention and control. Placer has coordinated 2 such visits in the Roseville facility so far. Public Health in its role as the Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) helps facilities request staffing as needed in outbreak situations, and to arrange resident transfers as needed.

Monitoring/Thresholds

Every county in California is assigned to a tier based on its testing positivity and adjusted case rate. At a minimum, after the initial placement process, counties must remain in a tier for at least 3 weeks before moving forward. Data is reviewed weekly and tiers are updated on Tuesdays. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks.

State Monitoring Indicators			
State Indicators	Week Ending 8/11	Week Ending 8/18	Current (Lagged 7 days)
Case rate per 100,000 (7-day average, 7-day lag)	9.6	7.1	5.0
Testing positivity rate (7-day average, 7-day lag)	4.7%	3.9%	4.5%
Current overall tier	Purple		
Date of next State update	Tuesday 9/8		

*The former Attestation Trigger chart has been removed as the county variance process is no longer relevant. The Monitoring List chart has also been replaced.

Preventing Infection

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

- This Labor Day weekend, remember: the safest gathering is a virtual gathering. The next safest gathering is a small, outdoor, distanced gathering with everybody wearing masks; washing/sanitizing their hands; and not sharing food, utensils, or other items.
- 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.
- Find [Guidance for Confirmed Cases \(English\)](#) ([Spanish](#)) and [Guidance for Contacts \(English\)](#) ([Spanish](#)).