

PLACER COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 25, 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 9/24/20			
Location	Confirmed Cases	Likely Recovered	New Cases in Last 7 Days
Roseville	1563	1402	72
Lincoln	585	531	30
Rocklin	575	538	18
Auburn	279	258	*
Granite Bay	112	110	*
Kings Beach	109	91	11
Loomis	87	84	*
Newcastle	39	35	*
Truckee	23	23	*
Meadow Vista	24	21	*
Tahoe City	26	24	*
Foresthill	15	12	*
Colfax	13	13	*
Sheridan	16	15	*
Olympic Valley	8	8	*
Applegate	8	7	*
Carmelian Bay	8	8	*
Elverta	8	8	*
Penryn	8	8	*
Total:	3535	3221	150
* 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 (9/18 – 9/24):

Cases in congregate living settings have decreased:

- 3 skilled nursing facilities with 1-73 cases (staff or residents) each:
 - 1 new case in SNFs this week
- 4 additional long-term care facilities with 1-5 cases each
 - 0 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 (as of 9/24):

- 7 (4 in intensive care)

Estimated active cases, calculated as total cases minus deaths and likely recovered cases (see link in location table for definition): 270

Confirmed Cases by Geographic Zone		
	Total Cases	Last 7 days
South Placer	2994	127
Mid Placer	347	8
East Placer	184	14
Unknown/Unhoused	10	1
Total	3535	150

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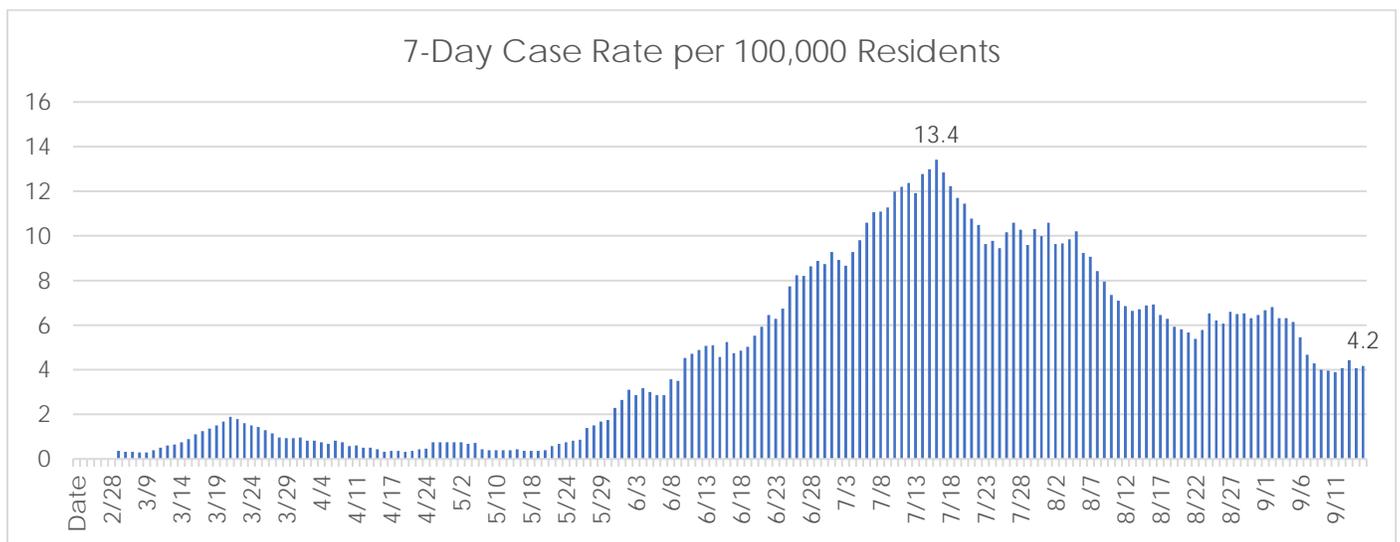
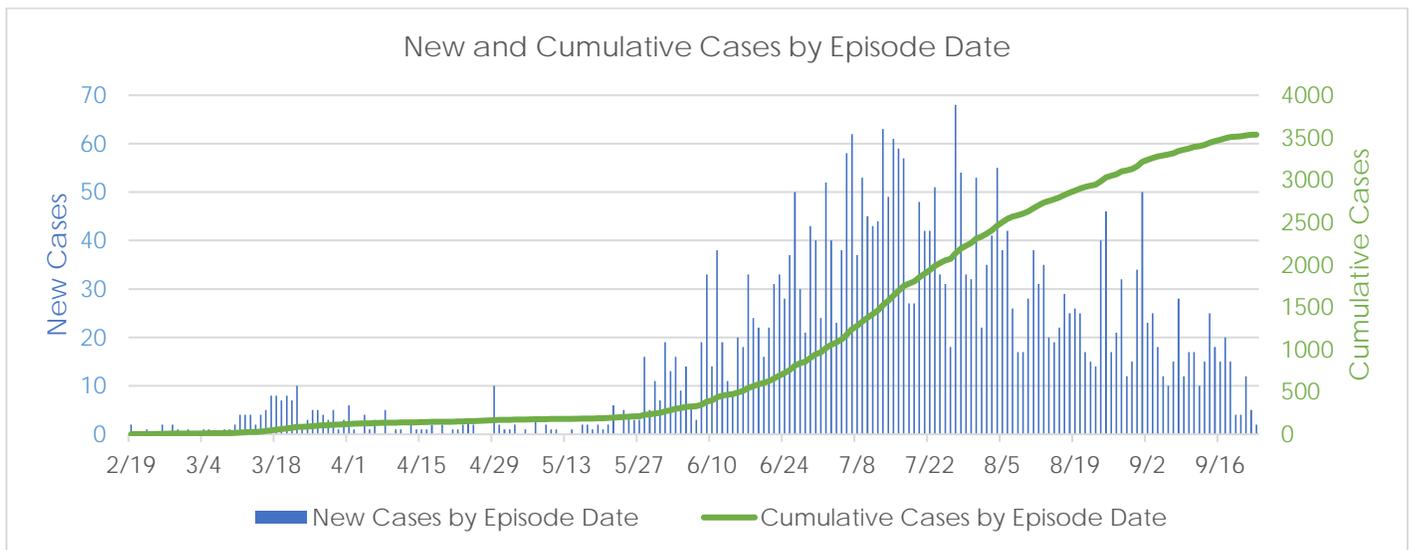
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Cases

There are now 3,535 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Placer County (data current to 9/24). While 151 new cases were received since last week's update, total cases increased from 3,385 to 3,535 (+150). 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).

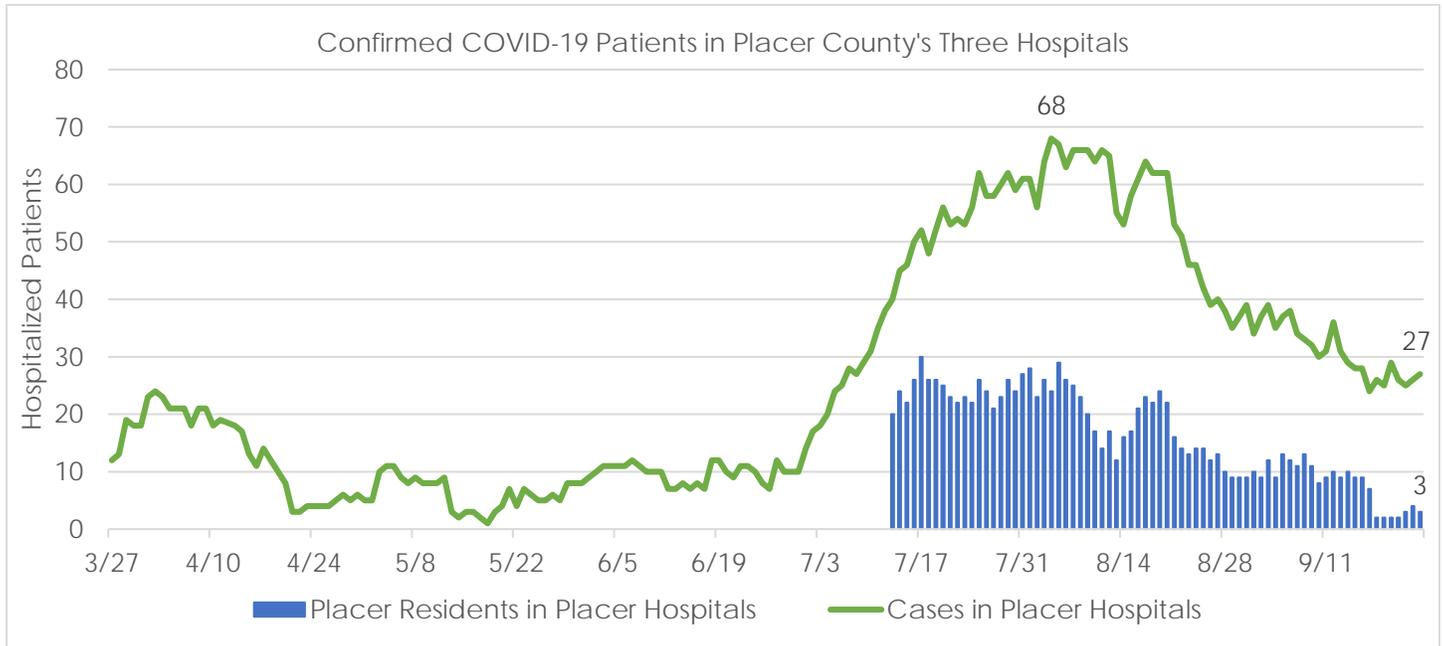
CDPH is now monitoring cases using a 7-day case rate. The 7-day case rate is calculated as the average number of COVID-19 cases reported over a 7-day period, divided by the population of Placer County. This number is then multiplied by 100,000. The figure shown is lagged by 7 days to allow for receipt and transfer of additional results. 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 are relatively stable. 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 24, Placer County has received reports of 44 COVID-related* deaths.

- 27 (61%) were residents of long-term care facilities
- 34 (77%) resided in South Placer/Valley region; 10 (23%) lived in Mid-Placer/Foothills region
- 23% of all reported deaths occurred in September
- 55% 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	10
Total	44

Age Range	Number of Deaths
50-54	1
55-59	2
60-64	2
65-69	3
70-74	6
75-79	6
80-84	8
85-89	9
90-94	6
95-99	1
Total	44

*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 24% of cases compared to 31% 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	337	10%	18	12%	1%
18-34 years	1160	33%	47	31%	2%
35-49 years	842	24%	32	21%	5%
50-64 years	759	21%	34	23%	9%
65-79 years	282	8%	16	11%	19%
80+ years	139	4%	3	2%	32%
Unknown	16	0%	0	0%	0%
Total	3535	100%	150	100%	7%

Ethnicity and Race of Confirmed Cases		
	# Cases	% Cases
Latinx	703	20%
White	1439	41%
Asian	146	4%
African American/Black	57	2%
Multiple Race	128	4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	0%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	18	1%
Other Race	190	5%
Unknown*	844	24%
Total Cases	3535	100%

Cases Ever Hospitalized				
	Overall Cases		Cases in Past Month (since 8/17)	
	# Cases	% Cases	# Cases	% Cases
White	117	50%	19	53%
Latinx	47	20%	4	11%
Asian	11	5%	2	6%
African American/ Black	7	3%	1	3%
Other Race	13	6%	7	19%
Unknown*	33	14%	1	3%
Total Cases	235	100%	36	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.

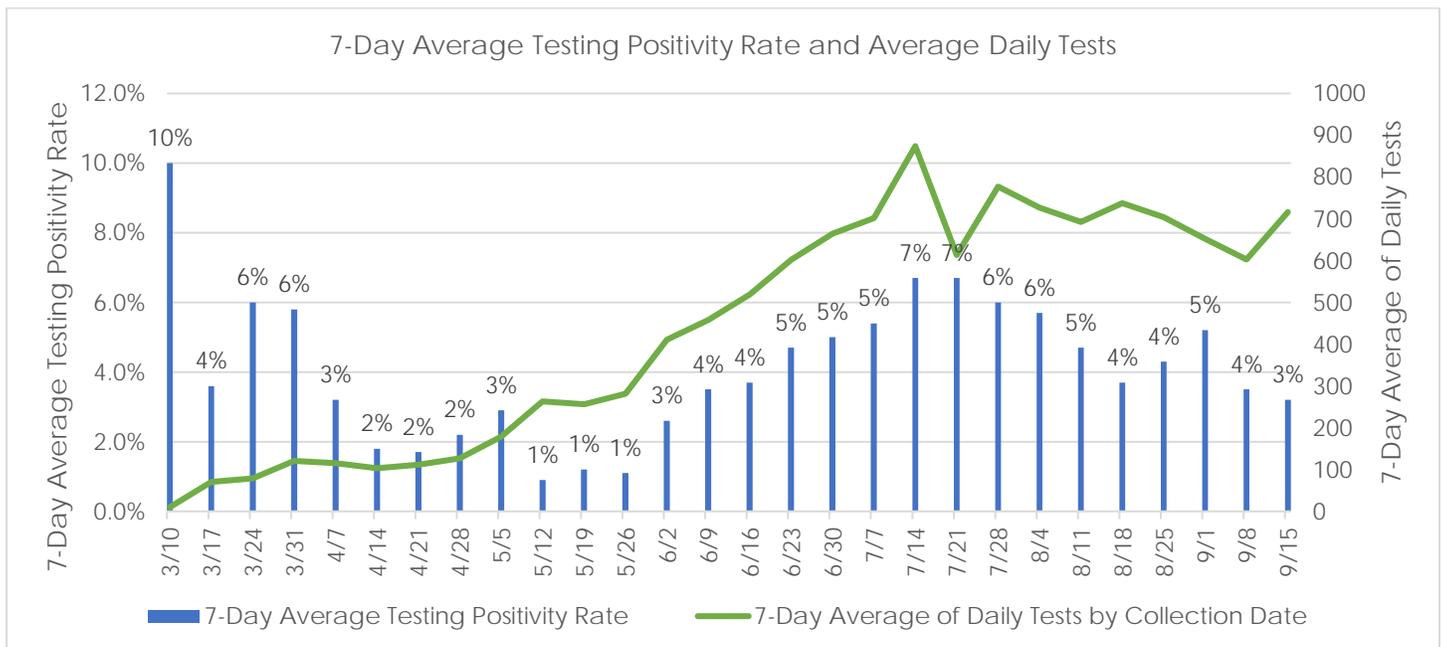
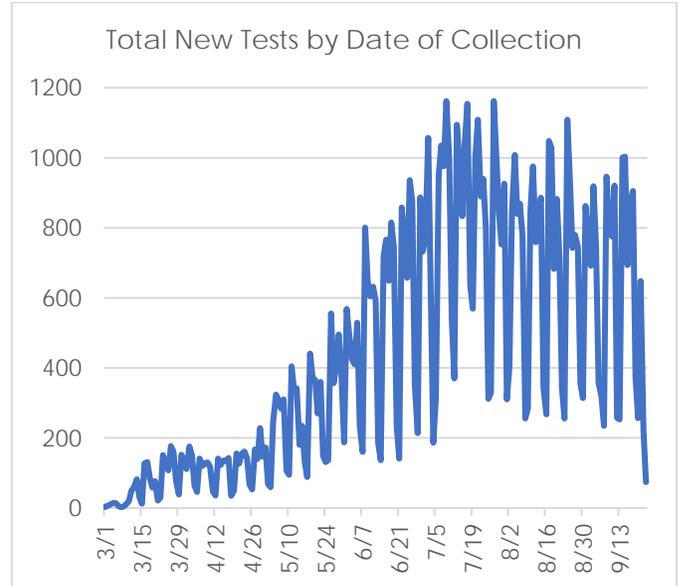
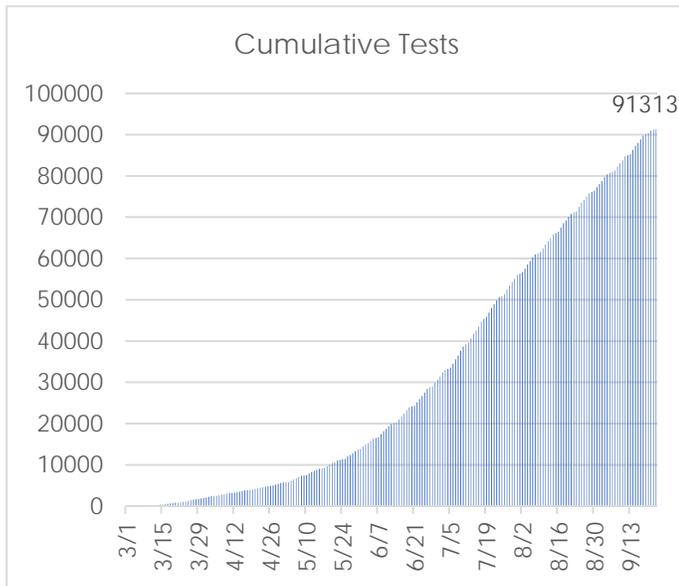
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Testing

As of September 24, Placer County Public Health has received 91,313 total test results to detect COVID-19 infection. The 7-day average testing positivity rate is 3.2%. Following 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

Could Placer enter the orange tier on Tuesday, Sept. 29?

Placer County's testing positivity rate and case rate both fell within the orange tier range at the time of this week's state assessment. If both metrics still fall within the orange tier range when the California Department of Public Health conducts its next assessment and announces results on Sept. 29, Placer County could progress to the orange tier. A county must meet criteria for the next less restrictive tier for both measures for the prior two consecutive weeks in order to progress to the next tier. View the [California Blueprint Data Chart Excel sheet linked on the CDPH site](#) for a detailed look at how the State is assigning tiers each week.

Placer's testing positivity rate is well within the orange tier. The case rate has been hovering near the threshold between orange and red.

See Placer County's Monitoring Indicators on the next page.

How has testing prioritization changed in California?

On September 22, CDPH announced that because testing capacity and turnaround time have improved statewide, individuals who fall within all four tiers in the [Testing Prioritization Guidance](#) can now be tested. This includes people who are asymptomatic but believe they have a risk for being actively infected as well as routine testing by employers.

How does the 'new cases by episode date' chart on the daily dashboard compare to the test positivity and case rate calculations?

The case rate and testing positivity rate recorded on the dashboard are now pulled directly from CDPH to show residents the metrics that are being used to calculate Placer County's tier within the State's "Blueprint for a Safer Economy." The "cases by episode date" charts on our dashboard display confirmed cases from local tracking. CDPH may be using slightly different episode dates due to lags or other factors. Public Health plans to transition the "cases by episode date" chart source to use CalREDIE data to match CDPH in the near future.

Monitoring/Thresholds

Every county in California is assigned to a tier based on its testing positivity and adjusted case rate. 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 2 consecutive weeks. If one or both of a county metrics land in a more restrictive tier for 2 weeks in a row, a county must move backward to the more restrictive tier.

The State is considering the addition of a third Blueprint metric to address health equity. The metric is still under development; we will share details once they are available.

State Monitoring Indicators			
State Indicators	Week Ending 9/5	Week Ending 9/12	Current (Lagged 7 days)
Adjusted case rate per 100,000 (7-day average, 7-day lag)	6.1	3.4	3.9
Testing positivity rate (7-day average, 7-day lag)	4.4%	3.2%	3.2%
Current overall tier	Red (Substantial transmission) since 9/8		
Date of next State update	Tuesday 9/29		

Preventing Infection

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

- 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.
- Find [Guidance for Confirmed Cases \(English\)](#) ([Spanish](#)) and [Guidance for Contacts \(English\)](#) ([Spanish](#)).