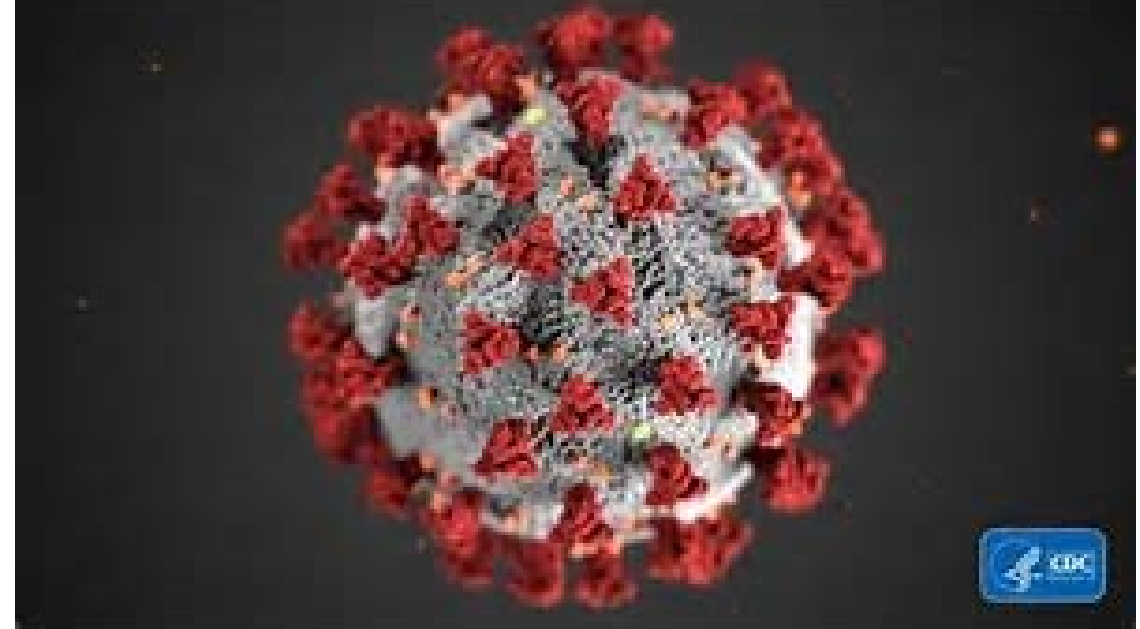


COVID-19 Update



Monterey County Health Department, Public Health Bureau

Edward Moreno, MD, MPH, Health Officer & Director of Public Health

March 16, 2021



Monitoring Metrics

Key COVID-19 Metrics

Case Rate
Decreasing

4.7 per
100,000



Test
Positivity
Decreasing

2.0%
Positive



Hospital
ICU
Capacity
Stable

49%
Available



Testing
Turn
Around
Time
Stable

1.2 days



Vaccination
Coverage
Increasing

22% of 16+
Residents



California Blueprint for a Safer Economy

Modified Blueprint Metric Tier Status (Embargoed until March 16 at Noon)

Monterey County Blueprint Metrics for Week of February 28 to March 6	Tier 1 (Widespread)	Tier 2 (Substantial)	Tier 3 (Moderate)	Tier 4 (Minimal)
Adjusted Case Rate: 4.7	Goal #1: >10 Goal #2: >10	Goal #1: 4 to 10 Goal #2: 6 to 10	Goal #1: 1 to 3.9 Goal #2: 2 to 5.9	Baseline: <1 Goal #1: <1
Test Positivity Rate: 2.0%	>8%	5% to 8%	2% to 4.9%	<2%
HPI Lowest Quartile Test Positivity Rate: 3.4%	>8.0%	≤8.0%	<5%	<2%



Activities Allowed in Red Tier

Effective Wednesday, March 17:

- Restaurant indoor dining capacity is limited to 25% or 100 people, whichever is less.
- Retail store indoor capacity is limited to 50% and grocery stores can operate at full capacity.
- Shopping center indoor capacity is limited to 50%, with reduced capacity food courts.
- Gym and fitness center indoor capacity is limited to 10%.
- Movie theater indoor capacity is limited to 25% or 100 people, whichever is less.



Activities Allowed in Red Tier

Effective Wednesday, March 17:

- Zoo, museum, and aquarium indoor capacity is limited to 25%.
- Higher education indoor lectures and student gatherings are limited to 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is less.
- Schools may reopen grades TK through 12 for in-person instruction after they have publicly posted their COVID-19 Safety Plans for at least five days.



Testing

COVID-19 Testing Frequency by CDC Week



Possible Reasons for Decreased Testing Rates

- Fewer people ill/fewer exposures
- Less travel (non-holiday season)
- More interest in vaccinating than testing
- Pandemic fatigue
- Fear of repercussions of positive test (loss of income and/or housing)



Expanded Testing Opportunities

LHI Optum Traveling Team for Schools

- Added capacity of up to 1,000 tests per week
- Onsite, free testing for educational employees
- Easy access, appointments facilitated by school staff
- 7 sites currently with possibility of expansion:
 - Gonzales Unified School District, Laurel Wood Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School, Natividad Elementary School, Pacific Grove Unified School District and Vista Verde Middle School
- Utilization currently at 3%



Expanded Testing Opportunities

Agricultural Worksite Testing Options from CA Testing Task Force

- Employers may choose rapid antigen testing or PCR testing
- CDPH will provide ordering physician, laboratory director, and CLIA waiver
- If utilizing PCR testing, companies can drop off tests at LHI sites rather than pay shipping
- There is no maximum limit on number of tests
- For PCR testing, CDPH will collect insurance information but not bill client if no insurance or insurance does not fully cover cost



Who Should be Tested

People with symptoms of COVID-19, including people that have had COVID-19 and people who have been vaccinated.

- People who are infectious are identified and isolate from others to reduce the spread of COVID-19

People who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19

- People who are exposed to COVID-19 and in quarantine can know if they have developed COVID-19 and can then isolate appropriately

People who cannot work from home and must engage the public

- Regular screening can identify people who have developed COVID-19 and can then remove themselves from the worksite and prevent further spread of COVID-19 in the worksite.

People who have been advised by their health care provider to get tested.



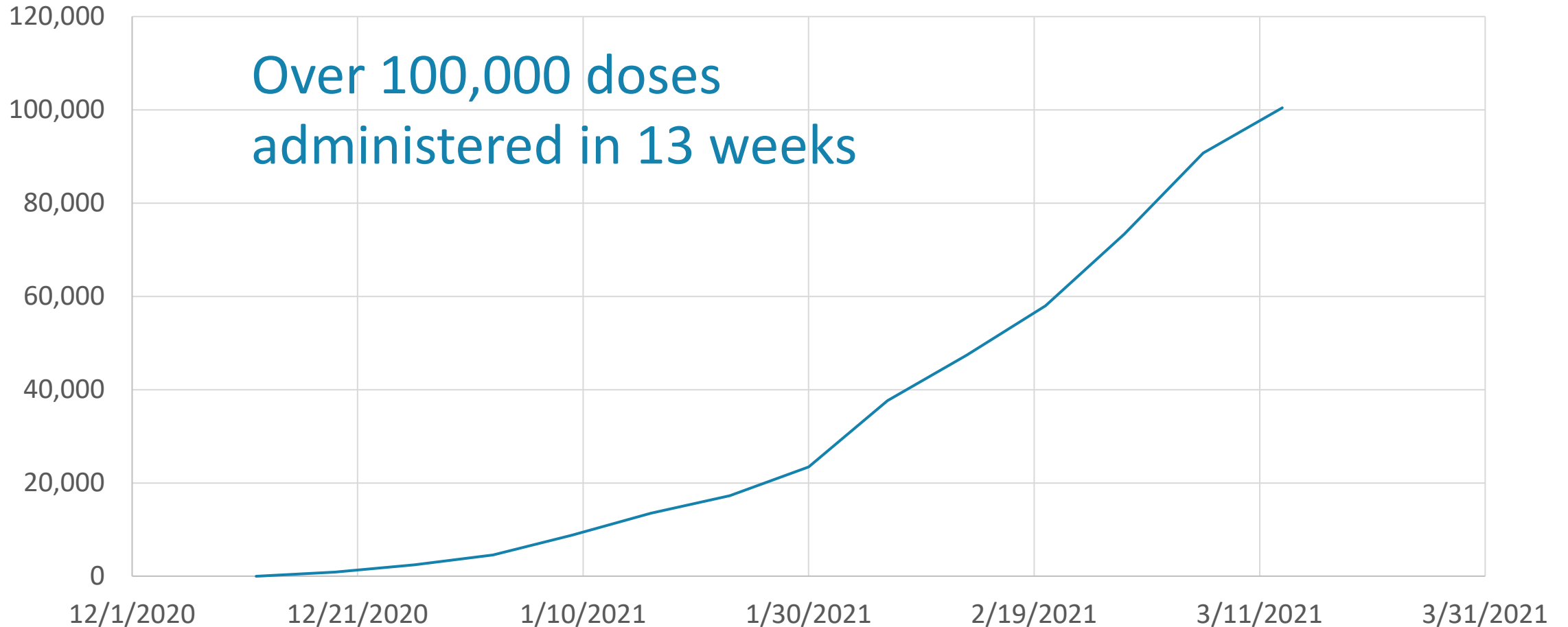
Immunizations

Vaccination Eligibility: March 17

- Everyone 65 years of age and older
- People at risk of exposure while working in health care, education, childcare, food, agriculture, and emergency services sectors
- People 16 – 64 years of age with underlying medical conditions or disabilities that place them at greatest risk for severe COVID-19 disease
 - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Provider-Bulletin-2-12-21.aspx>



COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Administered in Monterey County



Additional vaccine data is on the Monterey County Public Health Website



Community Actions to Reduce COVID-19 Infections

Strategies to Further Reduce Transmission of COVID-19

- Wear a face covering when outside the home
- Avoid gatherings
- Wash hands frequently
- Practice social distancing
- Get vaccinated when you are eligible
- Get tested if you have been in contact with someone who is sick or if you feel sick yourself

