

April 23, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

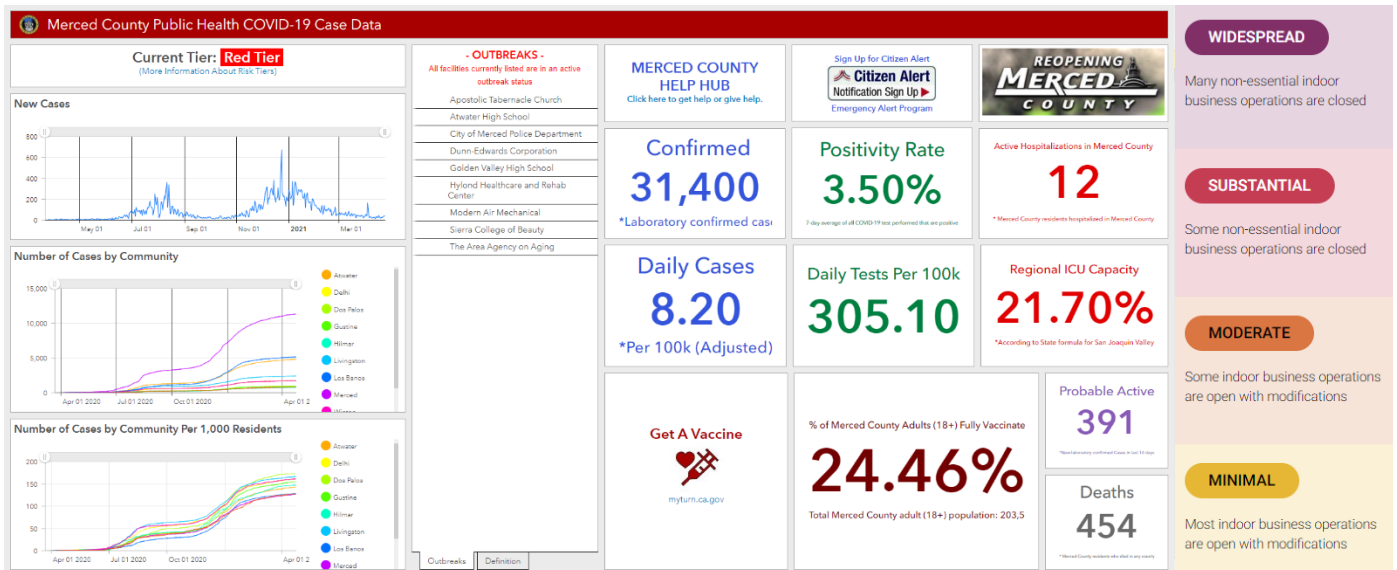
MEDIA CONTACT: covid19media@countyofmerced.com

COVID-19 DAILY STATUS REPORT

PLEASE NOTE: This is an evolving situation. More information will be distributed as it becomes available. For the most up to date information, please visit: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. Additional information is available at www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus. These status reports are released daily on normal business days. Statistics will continue to be updated on weekdays at www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirusstats.

CURRENT STATUS:

- As of 3:30 p.m. Friday April 23, 2021, there are 31,400 confirmed cases (+42 from Thursday) of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) in Merced County. Approximately 391 of those cases are active, and 454 have died.
- Current Risk Tier: Red (Substantial).** Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed.
 - Tiers are determined by the California Department of Public Health based on test positivity and adjusted case rate. Counties can move into more or less restrictive tiers based on these factors. Weekly tiers are updated on Tuesdays. More information: www.covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/



View this interactive dashboard online at:

Desktop: English: <http://dashboard-desktop.reopenmercedcounty.com> Spanish: <http://dashboard-desktop-spanish.reopenmercedcounty.com>
Mobile: English: <http://dashboard-mobile.reopenmercedcounty.com> Spanish: <http://dashboard-mobile-spanish.reopenmercedcounty.com>

- Based on information provided by individuals who test positive, Public Health staff will continue to assess risks of exposure and contact any affected individuals.
- Due to privacy laws, the Public Health Department cannot release identifying information related to positive cases.
- In California, there are 3,626,656 confirmed cases and 60,086 deaths.

RECENT ACTIVITIES & UPDATES:

- Merced County Public Health continues to coordinate with federal, state and local partners to further prepare us for future impacts. This includes working with the California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to monitor COVID-19.
- Vaccination Information: www.vaccinatemercedcounty.com
- Please note: Merced County's COVID-19 Dashboard was streamlined this week to provide a more user-friendly experience. Vaccine information, previously located on a secondary tab, was integrated into the main dashboard along with a link to the State's My Turn website.
- Vaccine Finder Update: Due to the County's transition to MyTurn.ca.gov for vaccine scheduling, Merced County has removed its "Vaccine Finder" tool from its COVID-19 website. Anyone wanting to be vaccinated can use My Turn to find/schedule vaccination appointments.
- Merced County Library to Reopen Seven Branches for In-Person Services: www.countyofmerced.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2041
- Merced County Regional Parks Reopening on Weekends: www.countyofmerced.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2040
- The OptumServe COVID-19 vaccination site in Atwater is once again available, and will now be supplied with Pfizer vaccine: <https://bit.ly/2QeyjHO>
- California Aims to Fully Reopen June 15:
 - The move forward comes as the state has reached 20 million vaccinations, including 4 million in its hardest-hit communities. Masking and vaccinations will continue. Hospitalization rates must stay low and vaccination availability high for the state to fully reopen.
 - More information: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/beyond_memo.aspx
- The Merced County Office of Emergency Services and Merced County Department of Public Health proclaimed a local and public health emergency March 13 in order to help address the outbreak. The Board of Supervisors ratified those actions during a March 16 special meeting.
- The Merced County Public Health Department Operations Center was activated Jan. 27, 2020 (453 days) in order to prepare for COVID-19 in and around our community. The Merced County Emergency Operations Center and Human Services Agency Department Operations Center are also currently active.

VACCINE INFORMATION:

- To register for vaccine clinic notifications, visit [MyTurn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov). Those who do not have internet access can call 1-833-422-4255.
- For up-to-date COVID-19 information, visit: www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirusstats.
- Everyone age 16 and up is currently eligible to receive vaccination.

MERCED COUNTY COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS SCHEDULE WEEK OF 04.19.2021



Vaccinate Merced
Together we can end the pandemic.



APPOINTMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

To schedule an appointment please visit

myturn.ca.gov or Call (833) 422-4255

Individuals 16+ are now eligible to receive Pfizer and 18+ to receive Moderna.

Walk-ins are welcomed during the last 3 hours of each clinic
based on supply availability.

W E D 04.21.21	Merced Fairgrounds 900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Merced, CA 1st Dose Only (Pfizer) Time: 10 AM - 4 PM , walk-ins welcomed from 1 PM - 4PM
THURS 04.22.21	Merced Fairgrounds 900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Merced, CA 1st Dose Only (Moderna) Time: 10 AM - 6 PM, walk-ins welcomed from 3 PM - 6PM
F R I 04.23.21	Los Banos Fairgrounds 403 "F" St, Los Banos, CA 1st Dose Only (Moderna) Time: 10 AM - 6 PM, walk-ins welcomed from 3 PM - 6PM
S A T 04.24.21	Winton Community Hall* 7069 - 7113 Walnut Ave, Winton, CA 1st Dose Only (Pfizer) Time: 10 AM - 4 PM, walk-ins welcomed from 1 PM - 4PM

*Winton Community Hall: **registration for this clinic is through**
www.vaccinatemercedcounty.com and not My Turn.



Revised on 04/21/2021

For more information, visit Merced County's website at
www.vaccinatemercedcounty.com or scan the QR code to
access My Turn.

COVID-19 TESTING:

Testing Site	Location	Registration
Golden Valley Health Centers	645 Seventh St, Los Banos	1-866-682-4842 www.gvhc.org
Golden Valley Health Centers	857 W. Childs Ave., Merced	1-866-682-4842 www.gvhc.org
OptumServe Site: Merced	900 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr, Merced	1-888-634-1123 or online at www.lhi.care/covidtesting
CVS – Merced	1970 Yosemite Pkwy, Merced	https://bit.ly/3e9kaS4
CVS – Atwater	1651 Bellevue Rd, Atwater	https://bit.ly/3e9kaS4
CVS – Livingston	474 Winton Parkway, Livingston, CA 95334	209-394-6785 https://bit.ly/3e9kaS4
Fountain View Urgent Care	374 W. Olive Ave. # A, Merced	209-384-5766
Castle Family Health Urgent Care	3605 Hospital Rd, Atwater	209-381-2000
San Joaquin Drug	9215 E, CA-140, Planada	209-382-1291
OptumServe Site: Los Banos	Los Banos Fairgrounds: 403 F St., Los Banos	1-888-634-1123 or online at www.lhi.care/covidtesting
Dos Palos Apex Health Center	1549 Golden Gate Ave, Dos Palos	209-392-0022
Apex Medical Group	311 West I St., Los Banos	209-826-2222

- Within the public health system, every person who has met CDC criteria for severe disease within Merced County has been tested.
- Public Health is actively identifying other methods to enhance testing capability for providers throughout the community and increase testing county-wide. We will continue to be notified should positive tests come through either system (public health or commercial).

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND PRECAUTIONS:

- Coronavirus symptoms include: mild to severe respiratory illness, fever, cough, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and loss of

taste or smell. If symptoms develop, individuals should stay at home to limit exposure to others.

- Anyone who has had contact with a person with possible COVID-19 infection and has the above symptoms should call his/her local health department/health care provider immediately.
- Do not go to your provider's office without calling ahead. Do not call 911 for suspected COVID-19 unless you are having a medical emergency.
- During the flu season, there are steps you can take to protect your health and the health of those around you:
 - Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Stay away from work, school or other people if you become sick with respiratory symptoms such as fever and cough.
 - Cover sneezes or coughs with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Wear a face covering when in public.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- **Sign up for COVID-19 alerts:** www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus
- Merced County Public Health COVID-19 **Information Webpage:**
 - www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus
- Merced County Public Health **Information Line:**
 - 209-381-1180 (English, Spanish, and Hmong. Live reps. available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- **Email** COVID-19-specific questions to Merced County Public Health:
 - COVID19@countyofmerced.com.
- Updated **CDC Information:**
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html>
- **CDC Resources for Households:**
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/index.html>
- How to **talk to your kids** about the coronavirus:
 - <https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus>
- Guidance for **Businesses and Employers:**
 - <https://bit.ly/2IH2G2u>
 - www.covid19.ca.gov
- Report **Price Gouging:**
 - <http://www.countyofmerced.com/3381/Price-Gouging>
- Report **Consumer Fraud:**
 - www.countyofmerced.com/2322/Consumer-Fraud
- Report **business activities and large group gatherings** that violate the Stay Safe to Stay Open Health Order:
 - Information Line: 209-381-1180 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Friday)
 - Email: COVID19@countyofmerced.com
- **Free Virtual Care** options through Dignity Health for those with COVID-19 symptoms:
 - Patients can receive a free Virtual Care Anywhere visit if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Symptoms can include fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
 - To access a free virtual urgent care visit, visit www.dignityhealth.org/virtualcareanywhere, download the Virtual Care Anywhere app in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or call 855-356-8053 and use the coupon code COVID19.
- **Get Help/Give Help:**

- www.gethelpgivehelpmerced.com
- **Donations**—help community members impacted by COVID-19:
 - www.countyofmerced.com/donations
- Apply for **benefits**— Individuals experiencing financial hardship may qualify for cash assistance through CalWORKs, food nutrition assistance through CalFresh, and medical assistance through MediCal:
 - www.getcalfresh.org (CalFresh only)
 - www.C4yourself.com (CalWORKs and MediCal)
 - 1-855-421-6770
- **Unemployment Insurance** questions to local Merced County EDD Office:
 - WSBModestoFieldOffice@edd.ca.gov
- Information regarding **tenant protections**:
 - www.countyofmerced.com/3412/Real-Estate
- 24/7 **Warm Line for Youth** (emotional support):
 - 209-381-6800 or 1-888-334-0163 (toll free)
 - Additional Behavioral Health resources: www.countyofmerced.com/3395/Behavioral-Health-Resources
- **Reopen Merced County**:
 - www.reopenmercedcounty.com

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