

# PLACER COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE

OCTOBER 2, 2020

**\*\*Please note: The frequency of Public Health's in-depth reports will soon change; see the FAQs for more information.\*\***

## 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 10/1/20			
Location	Confirmed Cases	<a href="#">Likely Recovered</a>	New Cases in Last 7 Days
Roseville	1602	1470	46
Lincoln	597	554	14
Rocklin	584	557	10
Auburn	282	262	*
Granite Bay	117	106	6
Kings Beach	114	103	*
Loomis	87	83	*
Newcastle	41	34	*
Tahoe City	27	24	*
Meadow Vista	25	19	*
Truckee	23	23	*
Sheridan	16	16	*
Foresthill	15	14	*
Colfax	13	13	*
Penryn	9	8	*
Olympic Valley	8	8	*
Applegate	8	7	*
Carnelian Bay	8	8	*
Elverta	8	8	*
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3611</b>	<b>3343</b>	<b>91</b>
* 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 (9/25 – 10/1):

Cases in congregate living settings continue:

- 3 skilled nursing facilities with 1-27 cases (staff or residents) each:
  - 10 new cases in SNFs this week
- 1 additional long-term care facility with 1 case
  - 1 new case 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 10/1):

- 9 (3 in intensive care)

Estimated active cases, calculated as total cases minus deaths and likely recovered cases (see link in location table for definition): 219

Confirmed Cases by Geographic Zone		
	Total Cases	Last 7 days
South Placer	3061	78
Mid Placer	351	6
East Placer	190	7
Unknown/Unhoused	9	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3611</b>	<b>91</b>

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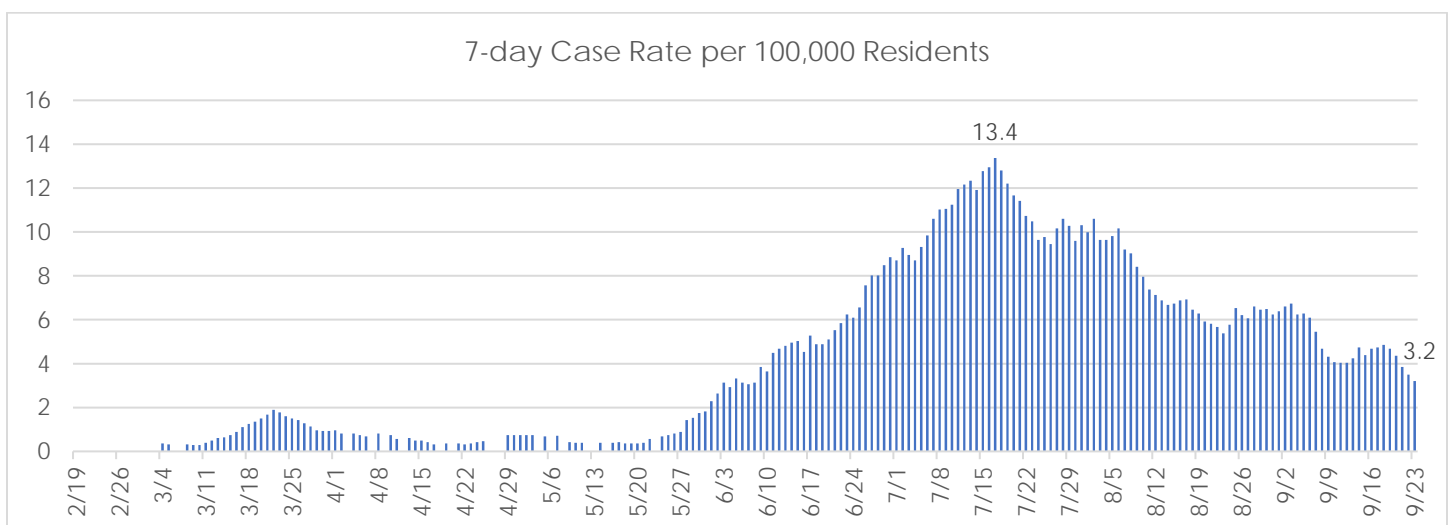
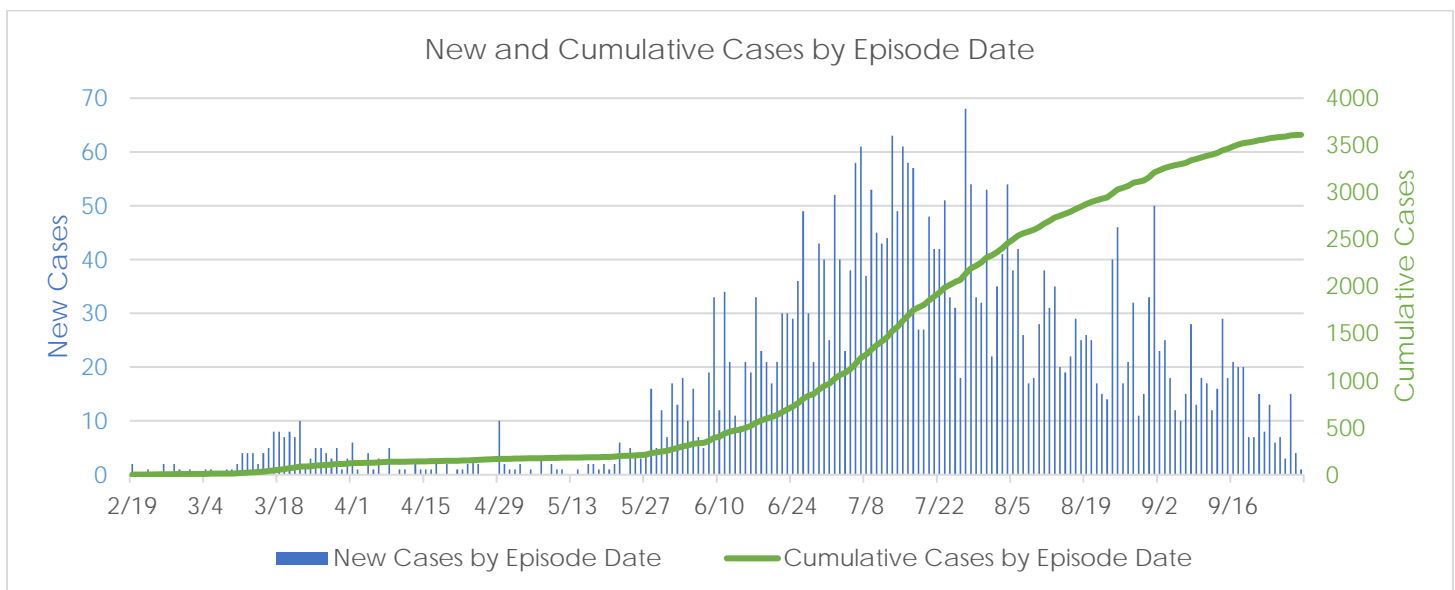
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## Cases

There are now 3,611 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Placer County (data current to 10/1). While 91 new cases were received since last week's update, total cases increased from 3,535 to 3,611 (+76). Data remain dynamic as cases are transferred to and from other jurisdictions based on residency determination and as cases previously reported in other counties are assigned to the original jurisdiction.

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 monitors cases using a 7-day case rate, calculated as the average number of COVID-19 cases by episode date 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.



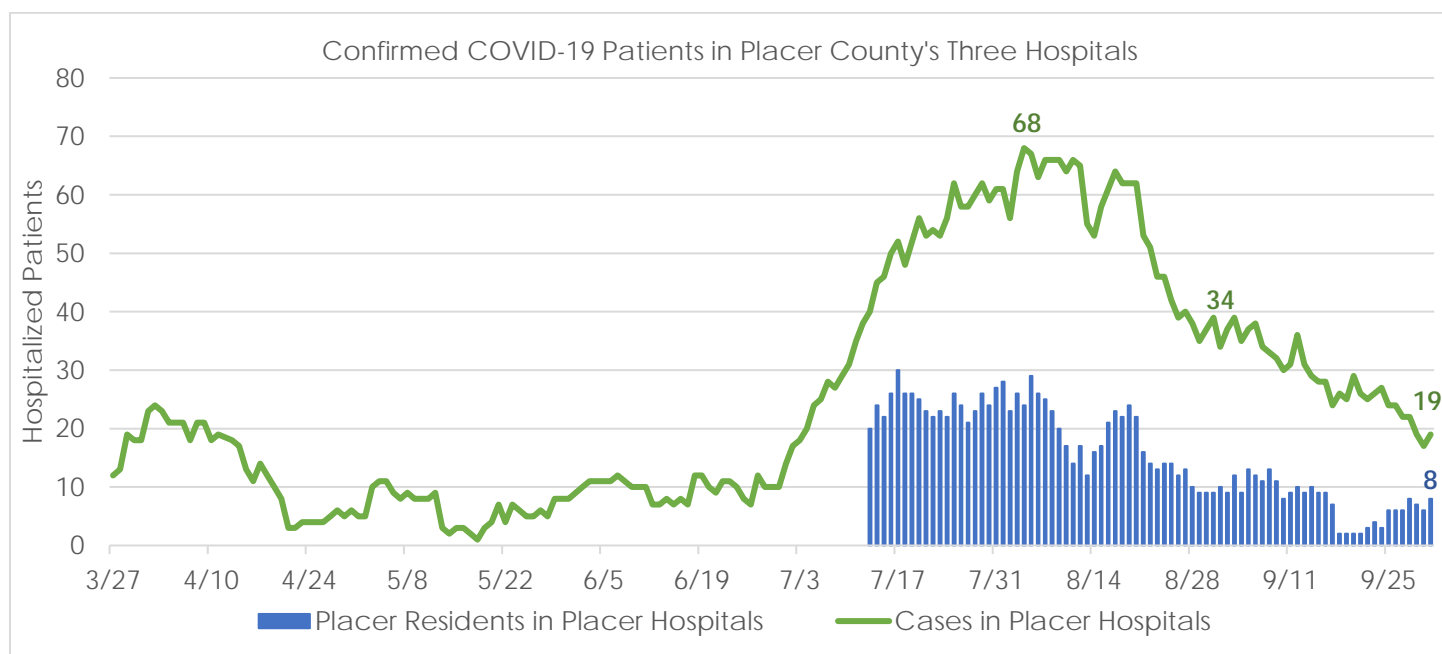
As information is received by Public Health, episode dates will be updated and case counts will be adjusted to best approximate the date of illness onset. **Data are dynamic and will change as cases are received, updated, and transferred.**

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## Hospitalizations and Deaths

Hospitalizations in the three Placer County hospitals have declined 44% since the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. Half of those currently 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 October 1, Placer County has received reports of 49 COVID-related\* deaths.

- 30 (61%) were residents of long-term care facilities
- 49% were 79 years of age or younger.
- 39 (80%) resided in South Placer/Valley region; 10 (20%) lived in Mid-Placer/Foothills region
- 100% of those who died had at least one underlying health condition

COVID Deaths by Month	Number of Deaths
March	2
April	6
May	1
June	2
July	6
August	17
September	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

\*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.

Age Range	Number of Deaths	Cumulative %
45-49	1	2%
50-54	1	4%
55-59	2	8%
60-64	3	14%
65-69	3	20%
70-74	8	37%
75-79	6	49%
80-84	8	65%
85-89	10	86%
90-94	6	98%
95-99	1	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>--</b>

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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 30% 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 of Total Cases Ever Hospitalized
0-17 years	352	10%	16	18%	1%
18-34 years	1180	33%	24	26%	2%
35-49 years	858	24%	20	22%	5%
50-64 years	779	22%	21	23%	9%
65-79 years	286	8%	6	7%	19%
80+ years	140	4%	4	4%	33%
Unknown	16	0%	0	0%	0%
Total	3611	100%	91	100%	7%

Ethnicity and Race of Confirmed Cases			
Overall Cases			
	# Cases	% Cases	% Population
Latinx	724	20%	15.3%
White	1480	41%	73.6%
Asian	150	4%	7.5%
African American/Black	59	2%	1.6%
Multiple Race	131	4%	1.3%
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	0%	0.6%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	18	0%	0.2%
Other Race	184	5%	--
Unknown*	855	24%	--
Total Cases	3611	100%	100%

Cases Ever Hospitalized				
	Overall Cases		Cases in Past Month (since 9/1)	
	# Cases	% Cases	# Cases	% Cases
Latinx	48	20%	3	11%
White	121	51%	18	64%
Asian	11	5%	2	7%
African American/Black	7	3%	1	4%
Multiple Race	--	--	--	--
American Indian/Alaska Native	--	--	--	--
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--
Other Race	11	5%	2	7%
Unknown*	33	14%	0	0%
Total Cases	238	100%	28	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.

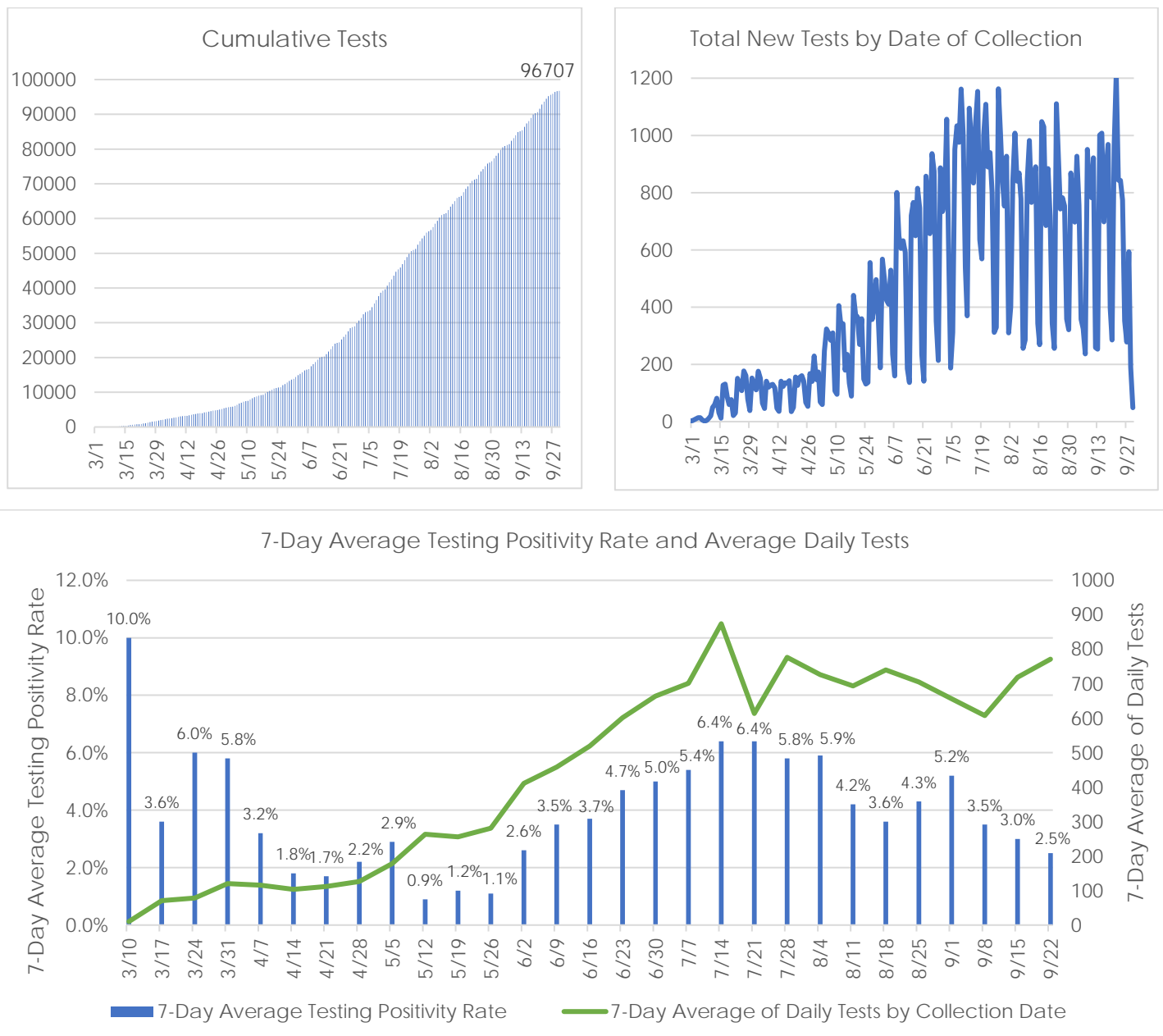
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## Testing

As of October 1, Placer County Public Health has received 96,707 total test results to detect COVID-19 infection. The 7-day average testing positivity rate is 2.5% and the overall positivity rate is 3.7%. Following consultation with the California Department of Public Health, Placer County Public Health 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.



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## FAQs of the Week

### What will change about the frequency of dashboard updates and this report?

Starting Friday, October 2, the COVID-19 dashboard will be updated Monday through Friday, excluding weekends and holidays. This means that new cases posted to the dashboard under "Change Since Last Reported" is expected to be higher on Mondays, since the net change in cases will include all newly received cases from the weekend. This is consistent with the reporting frequency of many other counties.

Starting Friday, October 2, Public Health will be shifting this report to a monthly schedule, publishing the first Friday of each month. It will continue to address FAQs and provide more in-depth data analysis than is present on the dashboard.

### Why did Placer County remain in the State's 'red tier' this week?

While Placer's 7-day test positivity rate again met criteria for the orange tier, the county's lagged 7-day case rate on Sept. 28 (when the State conducted its assessment, the results of which were announced Sept. 29) fell in the red tier. Because the State determines a county's tier assignment by the more restrictive of the two, the county remained in the red tier.

Using CalREDIE episode dates, there were 18 more cases during the period last assessed by CDPH (Sept. 13-19) compared to their previous assessment window (Sept. 6-12). When a case rate is close to the threshold between tiers, even slight increases can have an impact on a county's placement. There was an increase in the proportion of cases who had participated in large gatherings (15% of cases with an episode date between Sept. 13-19 compared to 9% of cases Sept. 6-12), which could be connected to Labor Day gatherings and activities.

Currently, as of Oct. 1, the county's case rate has dipped back into orange tier criteria. If the metrics remain within orange tier range for the next two State assessment periods – expected to be announced Oct. 6 and 13 – the county could potentially move forward. Public Health is currently in the process of evaluating the State's [new equity metric](#) as well and expects to hear more from CDPH in the next assessment period.

Residents can refer to the State website's [county map](#) to see the results of each week's State assessment on Tuesdays. California Department of Public Health's "Blueprint Data Chart" [Excel sheet](#) also breaks down weekly assessment data in more detail. The case rate and positivity rate charts on the county's dashboard are continually historically updated and are intended to be a "live look" at numbers, but the CDPH website is the final word on tier movement.



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## 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 for Placer County			
State Indicators	Week Ending 9/12	Week Ending 9/19	Current (Lagged 7 days)
Adjusted case rate per 100,000 (7-day average, 7-day lag)	3.4	4.5	3.5
Testing positivity rate (7-day average, 7-day lag)	3.2%	3.1%	2.5%
Current overall tier	Red (Substantial transmission) since 9/8		
Date of next State update	Tuesday 10/6		

### [State Tier Legend:](#)

Adjusted case rate per 100,000 (7-day average, 7-day lag)	>7	4-7	1-3.9	<1
Testing positivity rate (7-day average, 7-day lag)	>8%	5-8%	2-4.9%	<2%

## 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](#)).