



COVID-19 UPDATE

March 23, 2022

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COVID-19 Status in SLO County

Total cases	52,936
Active cases	222*
14-day daily case avg	23
Hospitalizations	4
ICU	1
General	3
Deaths	480
Pending	11

* Cases based solely on PCR tests; antigen at-home tests are now more widely used

[Data - County of San Luis Obispo, CDC COVID Data Tracker 3.18.22](#)



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

SLO County Outbreak Data

	2/18/22	3/18/22
Congregate Settings:	22	9
K-12 Schools:	47	9
Preschool/Child Care:	27	1

Data from 3.18.22



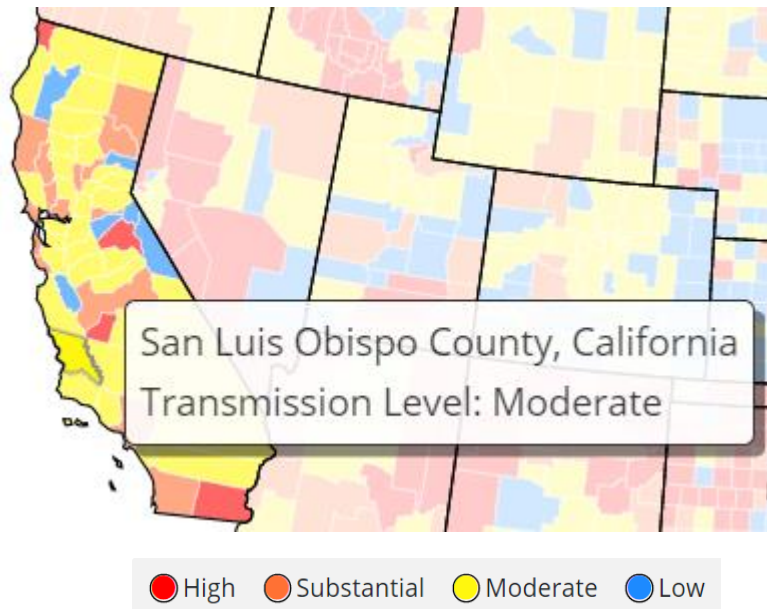
HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

CDC COVID-19 Metrics

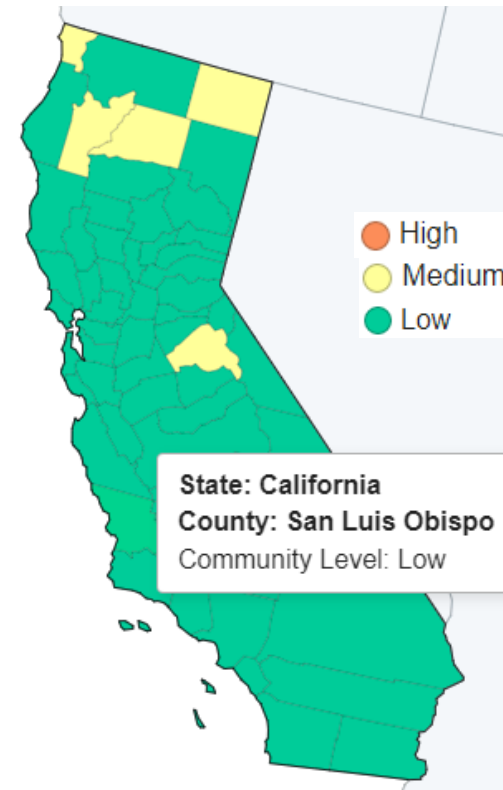
OLD - Transmission Metric

Based on transmission levels:
case rates & testing positivity



NEW - Community Level Metric

Based on hospital numbers & capacity,
& transmission levels



3.18.22



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

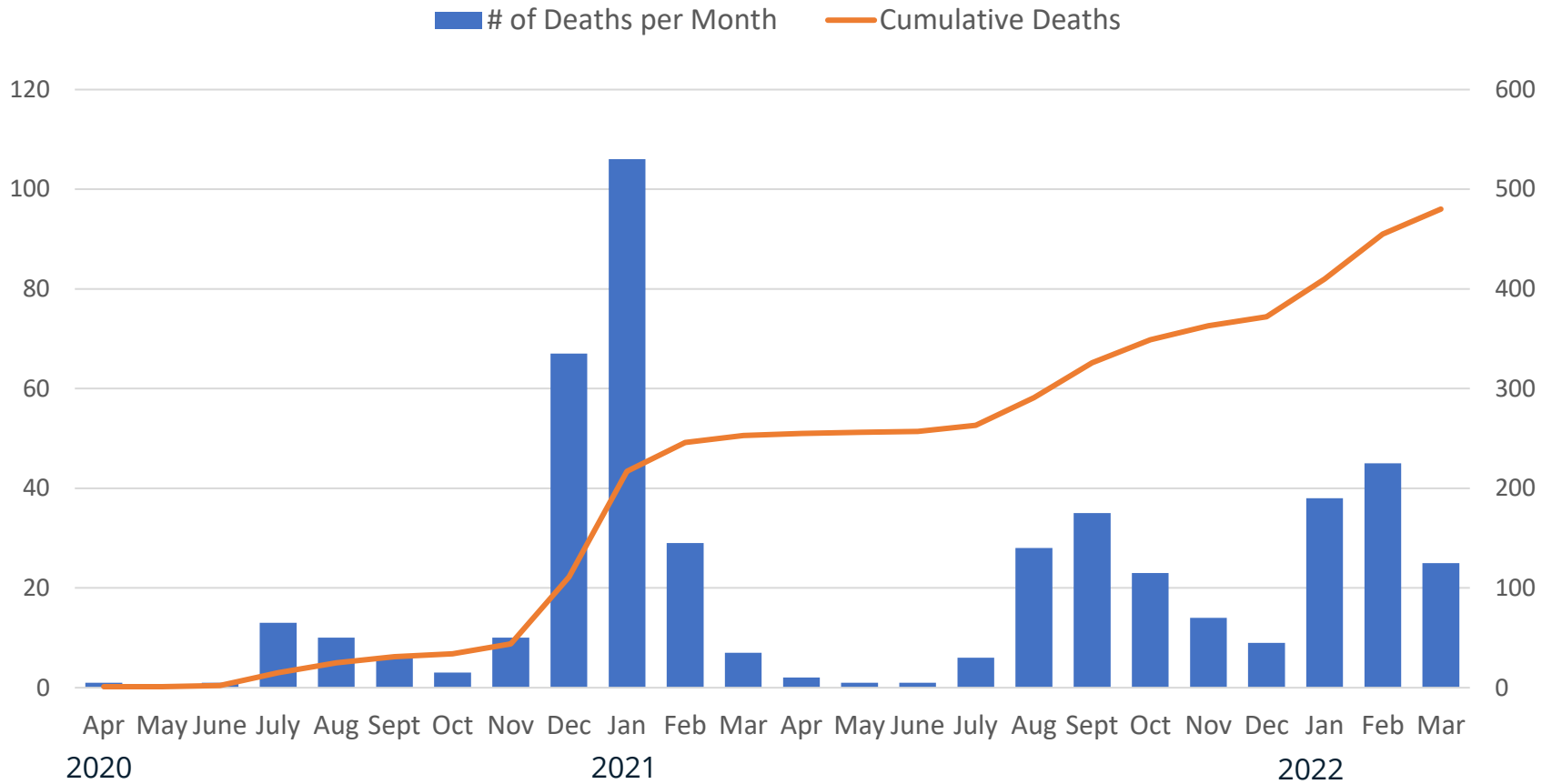
www.slopublichealth.org

Omicron BA.2 Sublineage

- In SLO County, 36% of the sample sequenced are BA.2, as of March 17.
- Statewide, BA.2 sublineage makes up 23% of new cases, up from 10% a week prior.
- BA.2 appears to be more transmissible than BA.1 with similar severity
- Many available treatments are known to be effective against BA.2.



SLO County Deaths Over Time



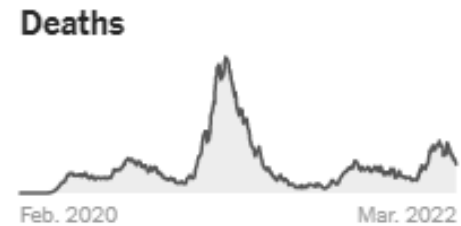
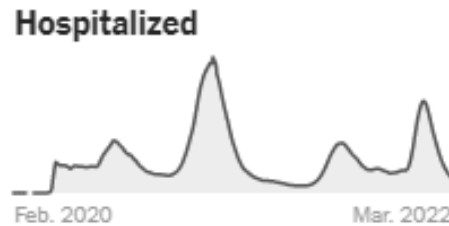
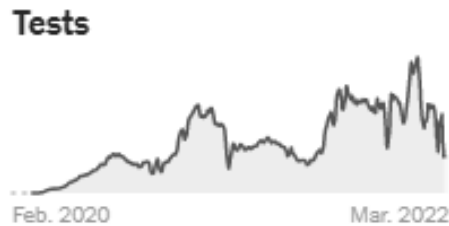
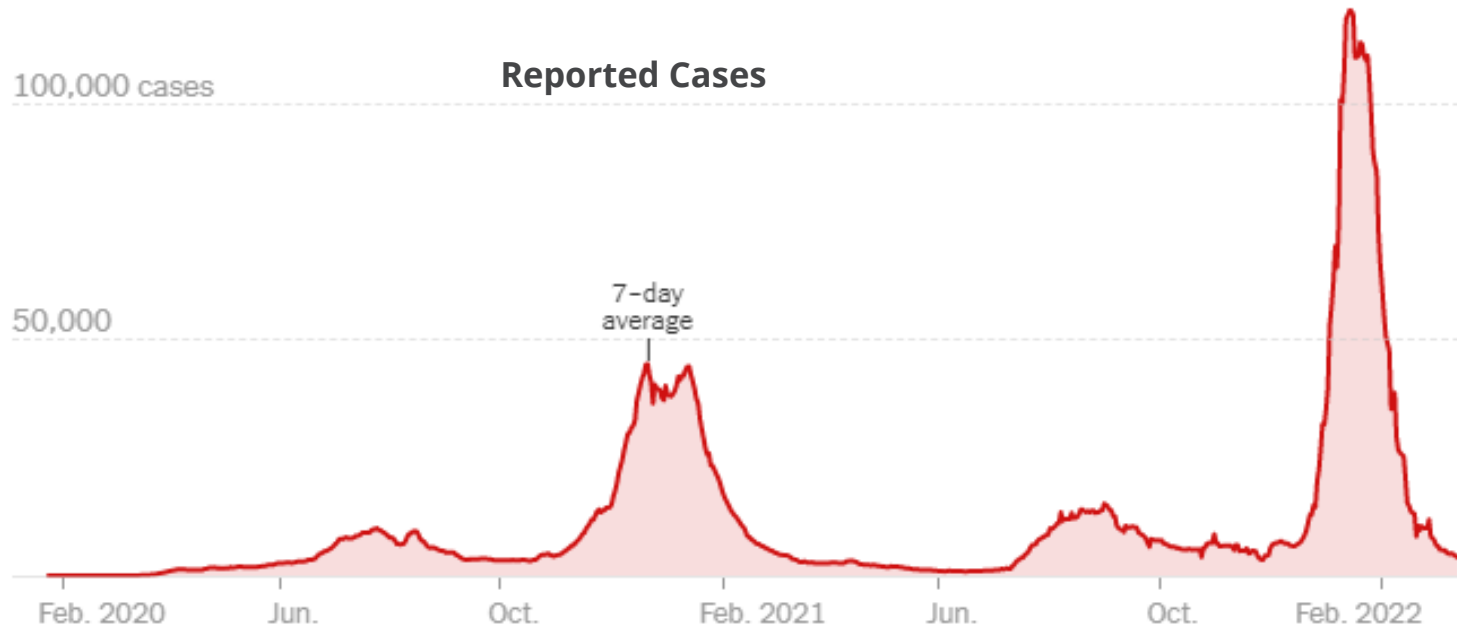
[CHHS Open Data Portal](#) 3.18.22



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

CA COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations & Deaths



[The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](https://www.nytimes.com) 3.17.22



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

COVID-19 Hospitalizations & Deaths

Statewide - for the first time since the pandemic started:

- No hospitals are over 20% over their census baseline
- No hospitals have over 20% COVID positive patients

In SLO County, for every 1,000 COVID-19 cases:

- 9 people have died from COVID-19
- 29 people have been hospitalized. This is 5x more than the number of flu hospitalizations.

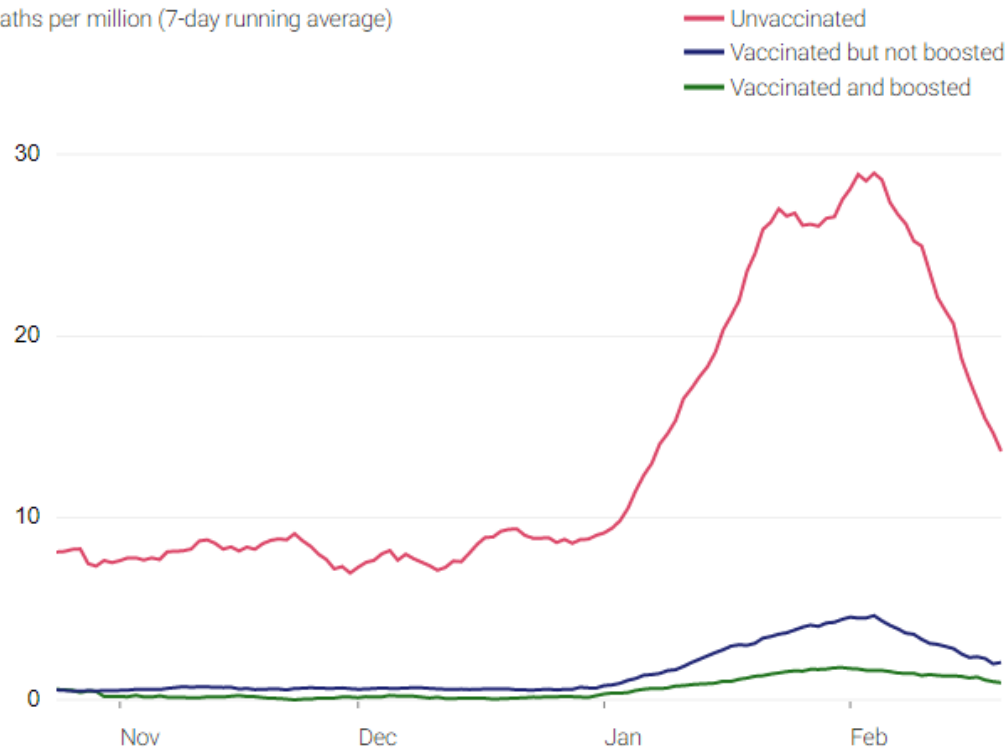


COVID-19 Vaccine and Booster Effectiveness

Unvaccinated people in CA in February 2022 were:

- 7.3x more likely to be hospitalized than those boosted
- 14.5x more likely to die from COVID-19 than those boosted

Deaths per million (7-day running average)



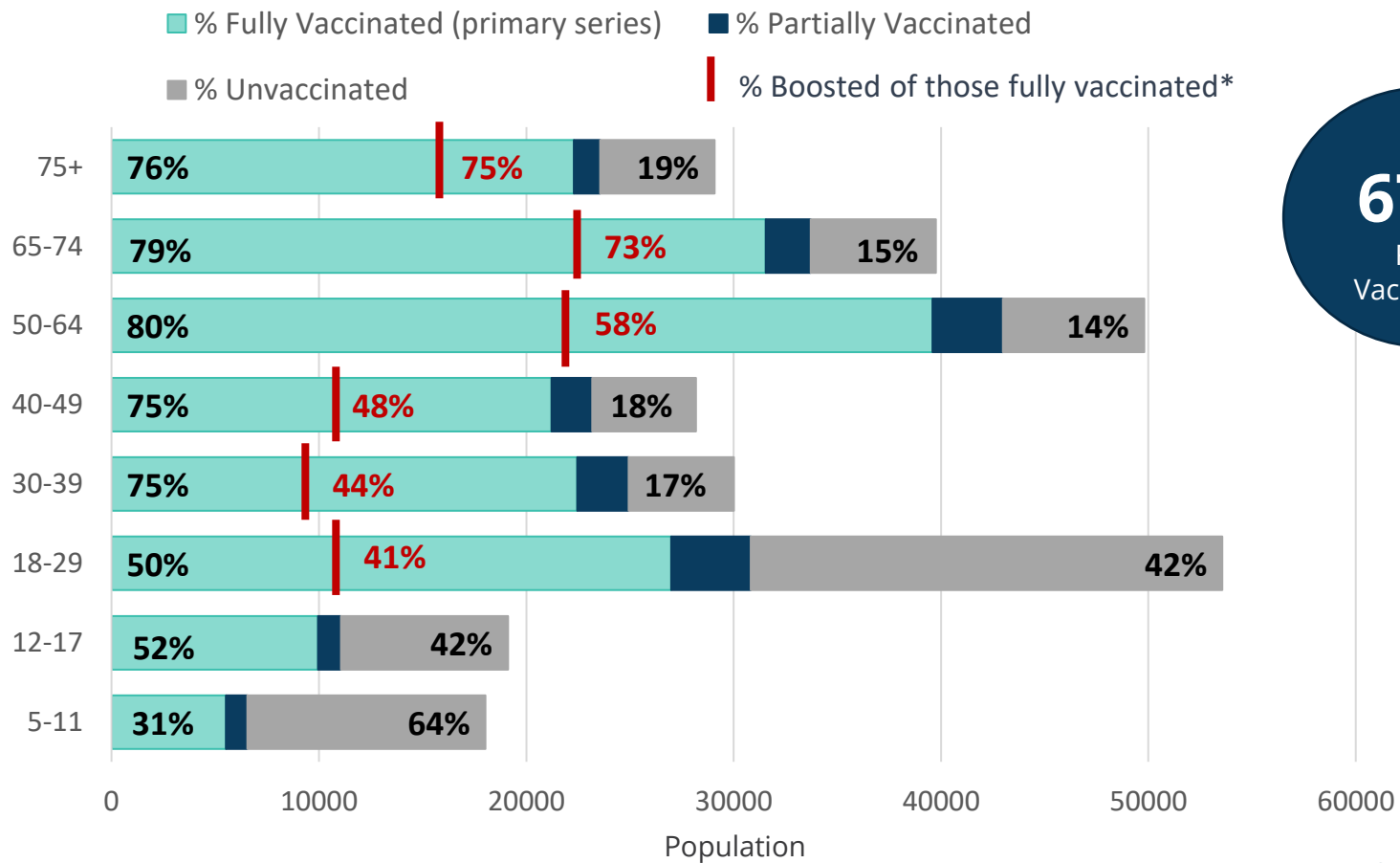
[Tracking COVID-19 in CA, 3.17.22](#)



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

SLO County - Vaccinated & Boosted by Age



* Those under 18 receive additional doses, not boosters, so the percentage of those boosted is 0%.

Snowflake Local Health Data (3.17.22)

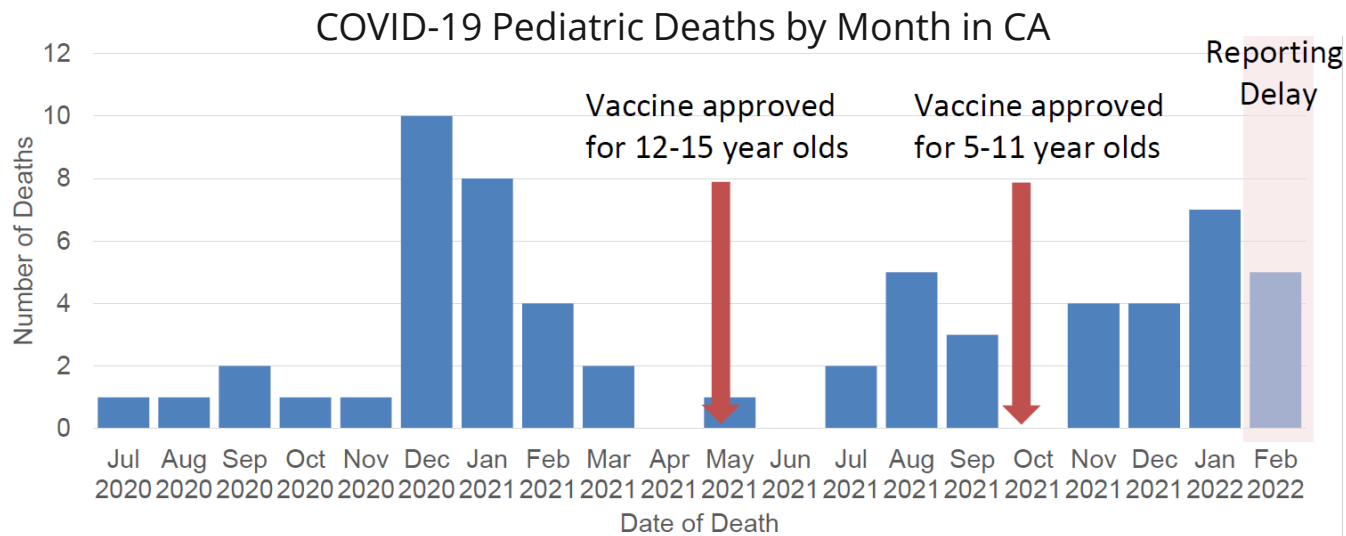


HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

COVID-19 Pediatric Deaths in CA

- 64 children (ages 0-17) have died of COVID-19
- 14 infant deaths
- COVID-19 is 2x as deadly for kids than the flu
- MIS-C is 41x more likely in unvaccinated children.*



*Data only available for children aged 12-17

Calredie 3.4.22



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

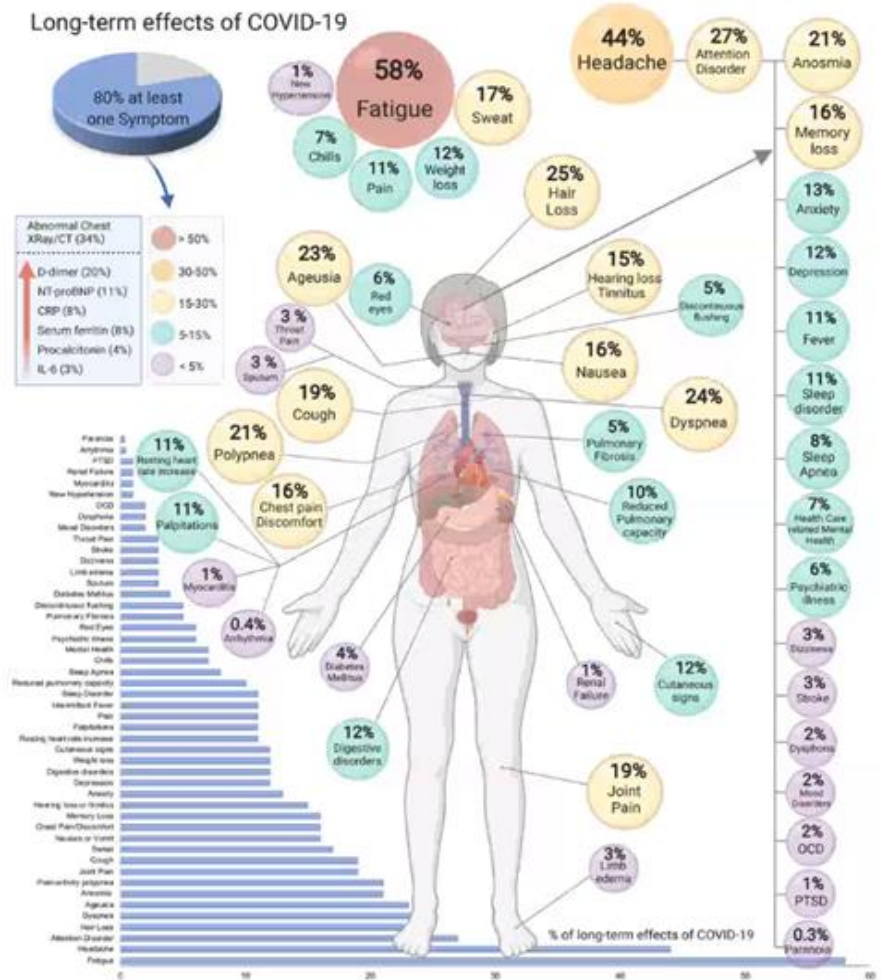
www.slopublichealth.org

Long COVID-19

Long term effects of COVID-19

- A significant proportion of people infected with SARS-CoV-2 develop new or lingering symptoms that can last for weeks to months after initial infection
- August 2021 meta-analysis of 15 studies suggests most common persistent symptoms associated with Long COVID are:
 - Fatigue
 - Dyspnea
 - Chest discomfort
 - Cough
 - Cognitive dysfunction

Long-term effects of COVID-19



alyani@CDPH



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Mobile Vaccine Clinics, Age 5+

No appointment necessary

3/29 **Los Osos**, Los Osos Middle School
Coastal Family Resource Fair
Tuesday, 4:00 – 6:00pm

Open to the public

3/30 **San Luis Obispo**, Pacheco Elementary
Wednesday, 3:15 – 7:00pm

Public Health Vaccine Clinics:

- COVID vaccines are now incorporated into regular Public Health clinics by appointment. Walk-ins will be accommodated.
- Schedule by calling the individual sites.

[SLOPublicHealth.org/COVID19/Vaccines](https://www.slopublichealth.org/COVID19/Vaccines)

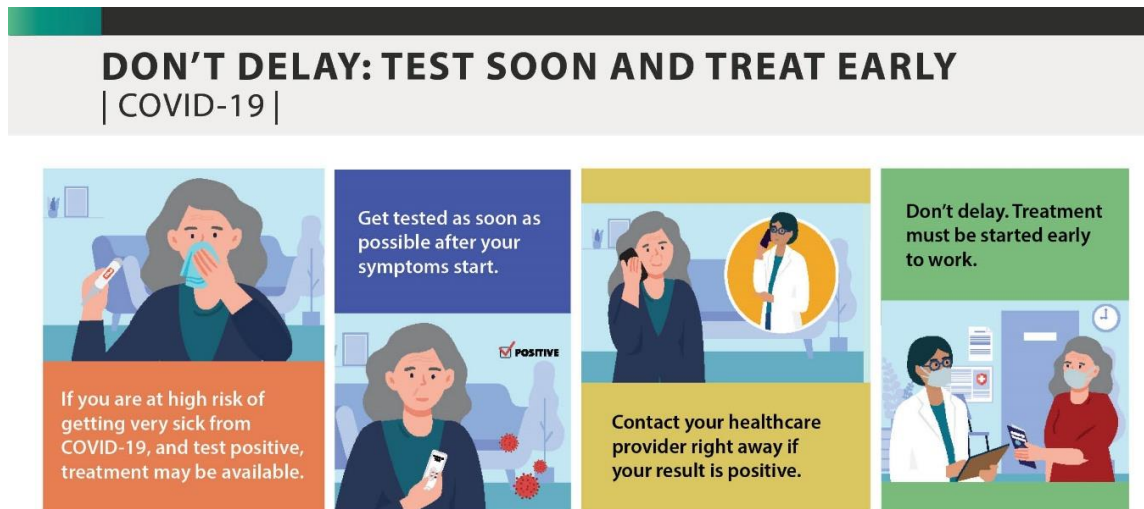


HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

COVID-19 Treatments in SLO County

- Now available for people who are age 65+ or who have [medical conditions](#) that put them at higher risk.*
- Currently no cost, but there may be an administrative charge. Medicare and Medicaid cover all costs.
- Learn more at slopublichealth.org/treatments.



*Medical Conditions: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

COVID-19 Treatments in SLO County

Antiviral Medications

- **Paxlovid** - take-at-home pills that may reduce the risk of hospitalization and death; has become available at pharmacies.
- **Remdesivir** - series of IV infusions in a hospital or clinic setting over the course of several days. Currently in adequate supply.

Monoclonal Antibody Therapy

Bebtelovimab & Sotrovimab - laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off harmful pathogens such as viruses.

Protection before COVID-19 Exposure

Evusheld - combination of two long-acting antibodies that can prevent the virus from infecting cells in the body; Intended for [immunocompromised](#)* individuals for whom vaccines may not create strong protection.

*Immunocompromised: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>
For More information: slopublichealth.org/treatments



Test to Treat Model

- Faster, easier access to life-saving COVID-19 treatments
- Positive result on a rapid test in a clinic >> patient receives treatment, if appropriate, at the same visit
- Not yet available in SLO County, but encouraging pharmacies, hospitals, urgent cares, community clinics to participate
- Community testing sites may add Test to Treat option soon
- [CDPH Test to Treat Locations](#)



SLO County COVID-19 Testing Sites

- No-cost PCR testing remains available at community sites in Grover Beach, SLO, and Paso Robles with an average turnaround time of less than two days.
- slopublichealth.org/testing
- Community testing sites transitioning to offer both PCR tests and rapid antigen tests in the next few weeks.
- COVIDtests.gov - Order 4 more free tests mailed to home.



Communications Update



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

SLO County – Online COVID-19 Navigator

- The interactive COVID-19 Navigator can help you identify next steps based on the latest guidance

slopublichealth.org/COVID19

Begin by selecting which of the following applies to you:

SLO County Resident / General Public (Most Common | [En Español](#))

Health Care Workers (CDPH Guidance for Health Care Workers)

TK-12 Students (CDPH Guidance for K-12 Schools | [En Español](#))

Child Care Providers (CDPH Guidance for Child Care Providers)

Employers/ Workplace (Cal/OSHA ETS)

Find out the earliest date you can end your isolation or quarantine.

Isolation Calculator (If you have COVID-19 | [En Español](#))

Quarantine Calculator (If you don't have COVID-19 but were exposed | [En Español](#))



Transition Phase to Living with COVID-19

- Consider impact of infection on hospitalization and death rather than case rate
- PHD to shift from mandates to education, information and recommendations
- Coaching individuals to assess their individual risk from COVID-19 (age >50 or >65, overweight, underlying medical conditions, vaccination status, etc.)
- Teaching to assess risk of venue/event you want to visit/attend (indoor/outdoor, crowding, ventilation, length of event, eating & drinking, etc.)
- Wear the best mask for personal protection when in public indoor settings
- Test yourself if you had contact with a positive case, or if you have symptoms – isolate yourself if positive for at least 5 days and retest on day 5. If negative, you may stop isolation



Partner Input



HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.slopublichealth.org

Next Steps

- [Resources for Partners](#)
- Future meetings moving to every other month
 - Next meeting: **May 25, 2022** – 10:30am – 11:30am

