



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 25, 2021

### County of Ventura likely to reach State's Yellow least restrictive tier 12:01 am June 2

Ventura, CA – The County of Ventura has reached the threshold for the least restrictive yellow tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy for the first week of the required two-week period. If the County continues to meet that threshold for one more week the County will be able to move to the Yellow Tier on June 2 at 12:01 am. Today, the State has reported that Ventura County's adjusted case rate has dropped from 2.4 new cases per 100,000 people to 1.5 new cases per 100,000. The overall test positivity rate dropped from 1% to .7% and in health equity areas the test positivity rate dropped from 1.8% to 1.4%.

"This is especially great news for our business community. Expanded capacity will help impacted businesses as we head into the summer months. We appreciate the hard work of our community members in getting us to this point," said County Executive Officer Mike Powers.

Moving into the yellow tier will allow for increases in capacity in many sectors and will also allow bars to begin providing indoor service at 25% capacity. The sectors with increases in capacity limits include amusement parks and fairs, gyms and fitness centers, yoga studios, private events, bars, hotels and short-term lodging rentals, private gatherings, breweries, indoor playgrounds, restaurants, cardrooms and racetracks, indoor and outdoor live events and performances, wineries and tasting rooms, family entertainment centers, and museums, zoos, and aquariums.

"Reaching this milestone after the intense last surge, is a testament to the resiliency of this county. Everyone, from residents to businesses to city and county leaders have worked hard to bring our numbers down and we should celebrate this accomplishment now and especially next week should we officially make the yellow tier," said Public Health Director Rigoberto Vargas.

To date, Public Health identified 81,257 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of Ventura County and a total of 1,017 deaths. Currently, there are 10 COVID related hospitalizations and 3 community members in the ICU.

"The Yellow Tier means we are continuing to allow more activities to be done safely with more people. To keep this progress up, we encourage all community members over the age of 12 to get the COVID-19 vaccine," said Public Health Officer Doctor Robert Levin. "The vaccine is the most powerful



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tool available to reduce transmission of COVID and prevent hospitalizations and deaths from the virus. Increasing the number of people vaccinated will help us continue to move forward.”

COVID-19 vaccinations are available for all community members 12 years old and older at County-run sites and many community sites without an appointment. View the full schedule for vaccine sites and mobile clinics at [www.venturacountyrecovers.org/vaccine-information/](http://www.venturacountyrecovers.org/vaccine-information/). Appointments can also be made at MyTurn.CA.Gov or by calling 833-422-4255.

As of May 24, 63.1% of Ventura County residents 12 or older have received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 51.3% 12 years old and older have completed their vaccination.

Additional vaccine information by age breakdown:

- **Age 12-17:** 27.0% or 18,799 individuals have received at least one vaccination.
- **Age 18-64:** 62.5% or 322,130 individuals have received at least one vaccination.
- **65 and older:** 83.7% or 117,829 individuals have received at least one vaccination

Community members who have not yet been vaccinated are encouraged to access free COVID-19 testing to help prevent further spread of COVID-19. The testing site schedule can be viewed at [www.venturacountyrecovers.org/coronavirus-testing/](http://www.venturacountyrecovers.org/coronavirus-testing/). More than 1,487,522 tests have been performed to date.

Additional information about COVID-19 response and resource information can be found at [www.venturacountyrecovers.org](http://www.venturacountyrecovers.org).