

COVID-19 2020 PANDEMIC
VENTURA COUNTY ROADMAP TO REOPENING

STAY WELL VC
Safely Reopening Ventura County



includes Ventura County Containment Plan

updated May 21, 2020

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Background

In mid-January, Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) began monitoring travelers returning from COVID-19 impacted areas and had our first case reported on March 4, 2020 in a returning traveler. Since then, Ventura County (VC) has taken several steps to curb transmission of the virus and allow our healthcare systems to increase their capacity to accommodate a potential surge. Ventura County declared a local health emergency on March 12, 2020 and since has issued several Public Health Officer Orders that are included below.

Public Health Officer Orders

- [May 20, 2020 – STAY WELL VC Order – Safely Reopening Ventura County \(Amended May 20, 2020\)](#)
- [May 12, 2020 – More Business Permitted to Reopen in County of Ventura](#)
- [May 7, 2020 – STAY WELL VC Order – Safely Reopening Ventura County](#)
- [April 22, 2020 – Eviction Prevention Resolution \(Ordinance 4563\)](#)
- [April 20, 2020 – Stay Well at Home Order – Updated](#) | [Essential Business List](#)
- [April 9, 2020 – Stay Well at Home Order – Updated](#) | [Appendix A Social Distancing Protocol Form](#)
- [March 31, 2020 – Modified Stay Well At Home Public Health Order](#)
- [March 20, 2020 – Stay Well at Home Order](#)
- [March 17, 2020 – Public Health Order](#)
- [March 12, 2020 – Declaration of Local Health Emergency](#)

The Ventura County (VC) Roadmap to Reopening framework is based upon the indicators being tracked to modify the Stay at Home order as well as the “Resilience Roadmap Stages.”

Indicators to Modify the Stay at Home Order

On April 14, Governor Gavin Newsom outlined six indicators the state would consider when modifying the Stay at Home order. They include:

1. Ability to test, contact trace, isolate, and support the exposed
2. Ability to protect those at high risk for COVID-19
3. Surge capacity for hospital and health systems
4. Therapeutic development to meet the demand
5. Ability of businesses, schools, and childcare facilities to support physical distancing
6. Determination of when to reinstitute measures like Stay at Home

VC is evaluating its alignment with each of these 6 Indicators. The monitoring and updating will be an ongoing process and the current updates are as follows.

- 1. Monitor and protect the County population through testing, contact tracing, isolating, and supporting those who are positive or exposed.**
 - Expanded testing capacity
 - PH Lab has doubled its capacity
 - East and West County sites opened May 4 (130 daily test capacity at each site)

- 10 drive-through testing sites in most of the County's 10 cities
- In-hospital testing is occurring in each among each of the County's 5 hospital systems
- Increased swabbing in LTC facilities to include all residents and staff
- Additional point of care sites (County with private lab)
- Implementing PH Mobile Testing
- Implementing COVID-19 Contact Tracing Program (see Appendix A)
- Purchasing additional equipment and supplies for contact tracing
- Retrofitting existing office space to accommodate additional staff
- Providing needed isolation in hospitals, at designated facilities & isolation at home
- Hospitals are holding COVID-19 positive LTC facility patients
- Utilizing 4 hotels for vulnerable, at risk individuals

2. Prevent infection in people who are at risk for more severe COVID-19

- Providing meal support for isolated seniors
- Increasing pop up farmers markets and food share distribution sites
- Providing isolation locations for at-risk homeless or quarantined individuals that do not have adequate housing
- Relocating COVID exposed or positive individuals out of long-term care and congregate living facilities into the hospitals and hotels
- Providing testing for asymptomatic individuals in LTCF and possible other locations
- Providing education in isolation procedures to household contacts
- Providing antibody testing

3. Hospitals and health systems can accommodate surge needs

- Added beds and staff to meet surge – 742 bed surge capacity
- Added over 35 additional ventilators

4. Develop therapeutics to meet the demand

- Established plasma donor opportunities on vcemergency.com to provide access to COVID antibodies
- Established relationships with blood bank
- Hospitals using off-label medication regime with consent

5. Business, schools, and childcare facilities support physical distancing

- Businesses, schools, and communities are practicing social distancing
- Comprehensive guidance and support resources are in place
- Social distancing messaging and protocols for local businesses are available
- County and City teams of verification ambassadors are conducting site visits and confirming that social distancing is in place.
- Existing state guidance has been provided to every workplace type and guidance for schools with modifications will be provided before they are allowed to reopen.

6. Ability to reinstitute measures, such as stay-at-home orders

- Maintaining daily tracking of test results, contact tracing, and hospital utilization and capacity
- Utilizing surveillance systems for tracking key indicators

Additional information on how Ventura County is meeting these indicators can be found in the Ventura County Containment Plan (Appendix B).

Resilience Roadmap Strategies

While ensuring the Governor's 6 Indicators are met, VC is fully aligned with the Governor's "Resilience Roadmap Stages" announced on April 28th. California is using these stages to guide the gradual reopening process. The four stages are:

- Stage 1: Safety and Preparedness
- Stage 2: Lower Risk Workplaces
- Stage 3: Higher Risk Workplaces
- Stage 4: End of Stay at Home Order

On May 8, in early Stage 2 retail (curbside and delivery only), manufacturing, and related logistics were allowed to resume in Ventura County per the statewide stay-at-home order. On May 13, in later Stage 2, businesses were allowed to open in accordance with state guidelines and included:

- Curbside retail
- Personal services, limited to car washes, pet grooming, tanning facilities, and landscape gardening.
- Office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged)
- Childcare facilities
- Outdoor museums and open gallery spaces

All workspaces that reopen and activities that resume in Stage 2 and subsequent stages must do so in accordance with state guidance that can be found online at <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap>. Every individual business that opens will be required to complete a written Prevention Plan customizing their strategy to address:

- Required contents of the written plan
- Employee training
- Individual control measures and screening
- Cleaning and disinfecting protocols
- Physical distancing guidelines

The County of Ventura Public Health Officer recognizes the critical importance of compliance with each aspect of the Prevention Plan. In addition to posting the plan at the workplace, every business is required to post the Ventura County COVID Compliance Hotline number in a prominent location. This will ensure that every employee and customer can report non-compliance easily, quickly, and anonymously. VC businesses are also required to identify a specific person on duty who is responsible for ensuring the prevention practices are being

followed.

Above and beyond state requirements, all County of Ventura businesses are required to register at <https://www.vcemergency.com/vc-reopens> and attest to their readiness. This includes all businesses that can open in Stage 2 and beyond. Critical infrastructure businesses that have already been open are also required to register and attest. This will ensure they avail themselves to the guidance and prevention best practices that have been published.

The registration process accomplishes several key elements of our strategy to ensure safety of all employees and customers.

1. Identification of every business operating in Ventura County.
2. Updated contact information, allowing us to provide direct ongoing information, resources, and the opportunity for surveys and other feedback tools.
3. A mobile application with GIS mapping and business contact information utilized as a tool for County and City Verification Ambassadors to visit each business, verify protocols are being implemented, and update compliance status in real time.
4. Prevention Plan templates have been created and published for each industry type along with the associated state guidance and checklist.

[Expanded Stage 2 Readiness](#)

Counties that have met the readiness criteria and worked with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) can open more workplaces by submitting a written attestation to CDPH. On May 19, 2020, Ventura County submitted an application to pursue variance to move further into Stage 2 by attesting to meet criteria regarding county case metrics, county preparedness, and county response to COVID-19. This attestation was approved by CDPH on May 20, 2020. More information about the criteria and stages can be found at: <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap-counties/>.

Ventura County will advance through the Expanded Stage 2 cautiously. Expanded stage 2 reopening will comprise sectors specifically identified in the state roadmap. Initially, this will include dine-in restaurants and in-store shopping for retail stores initially. We anticipate adding schools with modifications once the state guidance is released. Destination shopping, including shopping malls and swap meets will not immediately be reopened. Additional assessment of the impacts from reopening other sectors will be evaluated before proceeding to this in Expanded Stage 2.

[Low Risk vs Higher Risk Businesses and Sectors](#)

We will perform a VC specific risk assessment for each sector that needs to be considered for re-opening. It will be based on contact intensity, number of contacts and modification potential utilizing Appendix C as a tool, and with input by key stake-holder representatives from each sector (i.e., business, education, and CBOs). Each sector will be categorized into either a **low, medium or high-risk** category. After taking into account VC specific needs such as current COVID-19 key indicator rates and trends, regional approaches (LA, SB and SLO county dynamics), and State guidance, each of these categories will then be placed into a **Low Risk Category** and **Higher Risk Category**.

- Low Risk Category businesses and sectors can be allowed to open in **Stage 2**.
- Higher Risk Category businesses and other sector will be considered for **Stage 3** reopening at 2-4 weeks intervals.
- All remaining businesses and large events will open in **Stage 4** when the end of Stay at Home Order is lifted.

Low vs Higher risk category designation will be made as follows:

Low Risk = low to medium in contact and intensity + low to medium for # of contacts.

Higher Risk = high designation for contact intensity and/or # of contacts.

Triggers for Adjusting Modifications

With reopening and more Ventura County (VC) residents coming into contact with one another, we are concerned that cases of COVID-19 may increase, along with hospitalizations, and even deaths. A major goal of sheltering in place has been to “flatten the curve” and avoid overwhelming the health care system, and this will remain the focus of ongoing monitoring as Ventura County gradually reopens. Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) will review data daily to determine if it is necessary to return to the previous reopening Stage in order to avoid overwhelming the health care system. We will be proactive, not reactive, in tightening mitigation measures such that a return to the previous Stage will be implemented when one or more of the following indicators are met, thereby demonstrating a trajectory that could result in the health care system being overwhelmed:

Epidemiologic indicators: Doubling time of cases less than 5 days

Health care indicators:

- Increasing number of new health care worker infections for 7 consecutive days;
- Less than 7-day supply of PPE for health care workers;
- Hospital census approaching 135% of baseline capacity

Public health indicators:

- Unable to elicit contacts for 30% or more of cases;
- 10% or more of symptomatic contacts fail to get tested or get tested more than 48 hours after symptom onset;
- Insufficient voluntary isolation facilities for non-hospitalized COVID-19 cases who cannot safely remain at home (due to space constraints, vulnerable household members, or otherwise).

VC is also tracking other epidemiologic, health care, and public health indicators at www.vcemergency.com. The Health Officer will notify the CDPH Duty Officer of emerging concerns within 24 hours. The final decision to return to a previous Stage will be made by the Ventura County Health Officer after consultation with CDPH.

Appendix A - Reopening Contact Tracing Plan

Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) will implement a COVID-19 Contact Tracing program utilizing a team approach and following CDPH and CDC guidelines for contact tracing for supporting individuals with suspected or confirmed infection and their contacts.

VCPH contact tracing will be divided into these 4 components:

- 1. Case investigation**

Finding and notifying cases, eliciting contacts, requesting isolation, following during isolation, and assessing for other needs will be provided by the Public Health Nurse (PHN).

- 2. Contact tracing**

Finding and notifying contacts, screening for symptoms, informing about quarantine, assessing for other needs, following-up during isolation for symptoms and adherence will be provided by contact tracers.

- 3. Data management**

COVID-19 positive lab values are reported into the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE). CalREDIE is a compliant public health information national network that the CDPH has implemented for electronic disease reporting and surveillance. In addition to utilizing CalREDIE, all contact tracing team staff will use the state-purchased data management and communications platform, which allows monitoring of contacts during the isolation period. A Power BI dashboard will also be created to analyze the information collected through the contact tracing process. Power BI is Microsoft business intelligence platform that provides users with tools for aggregating, analyzing, visualizing and sharing data.

- 4. Isolation and Quarantine**

Cases and contacts will be isolated as instructed by county health officer's orders to stay home or be transferred to an alternate site, such as a hospital holding unit, if isolation cannot be achieved safely in the current home environment.

The capacity to perform effective contact tracing is reliant on readily available and sufficient testing, and an ability to investigate all positive COVID-19 individuals. The contact tracing workforce must be staffed to allow for notification of all contacts, provision of isolation instructions, monitoring, and provision of clinical and social supports when needed.

Based on current Ventura County population of approximately 850,000, we plan to have about 130 contact tracers trained and available by May 31, 2020. Currently, we have 6 contact tracing teams led by a Public Health Nurse (PHN) which includes 10 contact tracers for each team – thus 60 tracers. This is sufficient for our current need. We will have an additional 70

contact tracers trained and CDPH certified ready for deployment and added to the existing workforce. As these reserves begin to exhaust, we will train additional numbers. Social worker consultation and support staff is also available to the teams. Each contact tracer will have approximately 10-15 contacts to monitor. The roles of the PHN and tracers are outlined below.

Comprehensive COVID-19 contact tracing team key roles

Sr. PHN Contact Tracing Supervisors (Case Resource Supervisor)

Provides supervision for contact tracers, case investigators, and/or clinical consultants on the case investigation team. Supports team with difficult cases/contact situations.

PHN Team Lead (Case Investigator and Clinical Consultant)

Conducts interviews of confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases to determine period of infectiousness, evaluate risk exposure, and identify clinical and other resource needs, and ensure isolation measure are in place. Provides clinical support to case investigators or contact tracers on symptomatic cases/contacts and consults on complex cases. Collaborates with healthcare providers, hospitals, and other facilities regarding clinical recommendations.

Contact Tracer

Locates and notifies contacts of COVID-19 exposure. Performs symptoms screen, informs about isolation, and assesses for other needs. Follows up with contacts during isolation for ongoing assessment of symptoms and adherence. Provide education, information, and support to understand how to isolate from others who are not exposed, monitor themselves for illness, and the possibility that they could spread the infection to others even if asymptomatic. Educate on signs and symptoms of illness.

Support Staff (Surveillance Triage)

Processes incoming case and provider reports from the CalREDIE data transmissions. Acts as a resource for interjurisdictional communication and ascertains pertinent demographic, locating (e.g., "people-searches") and medical information for cases and contacts.

Social Worker

Arranges, coordinates, and assists cases/contacts in obtaining supportive services required for isolation or quarantine (e.g., housing, food).

Appendix B – Ventura County Reopening Containment Plan

Testing

- **Is there a plan to increase testing to the recommended daily capacity of 2 per 1000 residents?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County would have to test approximately 1,280 people per day to meet the testing volume of 1.5 per 1,000 residents as required by Stage 2 variance attestation. Testing capacity in Ventura County exceeds the required 1,280 tests per day. Testing capacity would need to reach 1,700 tests per day to meet the recommended capacity of 2 per 1000 residents. Testing volume has not matched testing capacity because the stay well at home order has kept the numbers of symptomatic persons needing testing low. As CDPH’s testing criteria have expanded to include mildly symptomatic and asymptomatic persons, Ventura County has encouraged providers to test more widely, encouraged residents to seek testing, and is implementing surveillance testing for vulnerable populations. Providers in the County have received the County Public Health communication tool Hot Tips which urges them to test anyone they think could have COVID-19 and any close contacts of known cases. Residents have been encouraged and are encouraged on a daily basis through a robust public information campaign to seek testing. These messages are in English, Spanish and sign language. Three additional drive-through sites open May 20 with no appointment necessary and no need for a provider referral. The County of Ventura has used social media (Facebook, twitter, Instagram and next-door), daily e-updates, resource information on www.vcemergency.com, video, print ads, news spots, daily radio messaging, weekly press conferences and targeted outreach to specific industries to promote testing. Printed materials have also been distributed with farmworker paychecks and at school sites for distribution with school lunches. This has been provided in both English and Spanish. The information has also been provided via WhatsApp in Mixteco. The County has also worked with City public information officers to promote the information on all City platforms throughout the County of Ventura.

As demonstrated by testing capacity and its plans to increase testing volume, Ventura County will be able to meet our community’s needs during Stage 2 of reopening.

We estimate Ventura County’s testing capacity as follows:

- OptumServe test sites in Oxnard and Newbury Park: 260 tests/day
- Public Health Laboratory: 200 tests/day
- Hospitals Testing Capacity: 80 tests/day
- Ambulatory care sites using commercial laboratories: 100 tests/day
- Drive thru self-testing sites: 720 tests/day
(Three locations: Ventura College, Moorpark College, and Santa Paula opened on Wednesday May 20th)

Total Testing Capacity:

1,360 tests/day

If testing volume were to exceed the capacity of 1,360 tests/day, Ventura County would stand up more drive thru self-testing sites.

The highest volume of tests run per day in the 2 weeks prior to attestation submission has been 679 on May 1st (with an average of 314 tests per day over 14 days). We are currently tracking testing volume at www.vcemergency.com.

- **Is the average percentage of positive tests over the past 7 days <8% and stable or declining?**

- **Ventura County Response:** Testing positivity is 3.5% (99 positives in the past 7 days 2,827 PCR tests per CDPH reporting (May 6-12). Ventura County has been tracking percentage of positive tests since late March and has always ranged between 4-6% percent positivity. We are currently tracking percentage of positive tests at www.vcemergency.com.

- **Have specimen collection locations been identified that ensure access for all residents?**

- **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County maintains a list of area health systems that are providing COVID testing on www.vcemergency.com. The direct link to these screening locations can be found at https://vcportal.ventura.org/covid19/docs/Consolidated_List_of_Health_Systems_for_COVID_FInal_v04.pdf.

Ventura County also mapped all county and state sponsored testing locations and found that 85% of residents are within 5 miles (or 10 to 20 minutes) of a testing location. As new locations are added, access will only increase.

- **Have contracts/relationships been established with specimen processing labs?**

- **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County has established contracts for 3 additional testing sites in Moorpark, Oxnard, and Santa Paula.

- **Is there a plan for community surveillance?**

- **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County Public Health plans to implement the community sentinel surveillance system and has already reached out to California Department of Public Health for guidance on implementing the protocol. In addition, VCPH plans to increase the number of sentinel providers in our jurisdiction that will report ILI and COVID-like illness in five age categories (0-4 years, 5-24 years, 25-49 years, 50-64 years, >64 years) and the total number of patients seen for any reason. These providers will submit specimens for both influenza and COVID-19 testing to our public health laboratory throughout the

year to provide VCPH with more information on transmission within the community. Providers will be recruited throughout the county so that all geographic areas are being monitored.

Contact Tracing

- **How many staff are currently trained and available to do contact tracing? Are these staff reflective of community racial, ethnic and linguistic diversity?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Currently, we have 6 contact tracing teams led by a Public Health Nurse (PHN) which includes 10 contact tracers for each team, thus 60 tracers. This is sufficient for our current need. We will have an additional 70 contact tracers trained and CDPH certified ready for deployment and added to the existing workforce. As these reserves begin to exhaust, we will train additional numbers. Social worker consultation and support staff is also available to the teams. Each contact tracer will have approximately 10-15 contacts to monitor. Staff have been recruited from all county departments and reflect community racial, ethnic and linguistic diversity. Contact tracers will also have access to a language interpretation services for uncommon languages.

- **Is there a plan to expand contact tracing staff to the recommended levels to accommodate a three-fold increase in COVID-19 cases, presuming that each case has ten close contacts?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Based on current Ventura County population of approximately 850,000, we plan to have 130 contact tracers trained and available by May 31, 2020.

- **Is there a plan for supportive isolation for low income individuals who may not have a safe way to isolate or who may have significant economic challenges as a result of isolation?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County has established hotel capacity supporting isolation of other vulnerable populations who are unable to safely isolate in their residences and need assistance.

Living and Working in Congregate Settings

- **How many congregate care facilities, of what types, are in the county?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County based congregate care facilities are addressed in the following chart:

CDPH Facility Type	Total Number of Sites in VC
Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)	19
Intermediate Care Facility for the Developmentally Disabled – Nursing (ICF/DD-N)	11
Intermediate Care Facility for the Developmentally Disabled – Home (ICF/DD-H)	21
Congregate Living Health Facility (CLHF)	20
Total	71

CDSS Facility Type	Total Number of Sites in VC
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) – licensed	216
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) – pending	22
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) – on probation	1
RCFE Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) – licensed	2
Adult Residential Facility (ARF) – licensed	80
Adult Residential Facility (ARF) – pending	3
Adult Residential Facility (ARF) – on probation	0
Social Rehabilitation Facility (SRF) – licensed	5
Total	329

- **How many correctional facilities, of what size, are in the county?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** There are three correctional facilities in Ventura County, all three are medium size.

- **How many homelessness shelters are in the county and what is their capacity?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** There are seven homeless shelters in Ventura County. Average of 200 beds available.

- **What is the COVID-19 case rate at each of these facilities?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** No COVID cases are housed at the homeless shelters. Any positive homeless individual will be housed and cared for at an alternate housing site if hospitalization not required.

- **Is there a plan to track and notify local public health of COVID-19 case rate within local correctional facilities, and to notify any receiving facilities upon the transfer of individuals?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County Correctional facilities routinely report to VCPH all Title 17 reportable diseases and conditions. With this process in place, monitoring case rates in the correctional facilities will be achieved.

- **Do facilities have the ability to adequately and safely isolate COVID-19 positive individuals?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes, each of the facilities are working closely with VCPH and have plans in place to safely isolate COVID positive individuals in the facility. Trained staff and resources to include adequate PPE supplies are in place.

- **Do facilities have the ability to safely quarantine individuals who have been exposed?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes, each of the facilities are working closely with VCPH and have plans in place to safely quarantine individuals exposed to COVID. Trained staff and resources to include adequate PPE supplies are in place.

- **Is there sufficient testing capacity to conduct a thorough outbreak investigation at each of these facilities?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes, VCPH staff and VCPH lab are providing testing and support for all outbreaks.
- **Do long-term care facilities have sufficient PPE for staff, and do these facilities have access to suppliers for ongoing PPE needs?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes.
- **Do facilities have policies and protocols to appropriately train the workforce in infection prevention and control procedures?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes, VCPH with CDPH and DSS staff have visited or called on each facility in the County to work with staff on infection control and correct use of PPE.
- **Does the workforce have access to locations to safely isolate?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes, hotels are available to individuals needing to isolate and unable to do so safely in their home.
- **Do these facilities (particularly skilled nursing facilities) have access to staffing agencies if and when staff shortages related to COVID-19 occur?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Yes, part of the outreach by VCPH includes review of staffing plans in the event of an outbreak leading to any staffing shortage.

Protecting the Vulnerable

- **Do resources and interventions intentionally address inequities within these populations being prioritized (i.e. deployment of PPE, testing, etc.)?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** VCPH provides routine outreach to vulnerable populations to assess needs and to ensure appropriate resources are available. Additionally, a scarce resource annex of the MHOAC plan was developed to ensure prioritization of resources to facilities that serve the most vulnerable populations of the county.

- **Are older Californians, people with disabilities, and people with underlying health conditions at greater risk of serious illness, who are living in their own homes, supported so they can continue appropriate physical distancing and maintain wellbeing (i.e. food supports, telehealth, social connections, in home services, etc.)?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County Area Agency on Aging is offering Ventura County residents the following food service options at no cost:
 - Food Delivery Box- 28-day meal box with a combination of shelf stable options and produce. Boxes are delivered twice monthly; full-service delivery or door-to-car pick-up option available,
 - Senior Nutrition Meals- Daily single meal pick-up or home delivered option. Offered Monday through Friday. Includes a frozen or fresh cooked meal (varies by cities).
 - Restaurant Meal Delivery- Three meals daily from local restaurants.

Information on how to apply for these food service options can be found at:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BOzgvPHRWk-gUKS16RgWg2vrtYwflqNOpoVPCUfCqwpUN0ZOMFgwTjhZRVNDN1VaWldZMTZKUkwzSi4u>.

Acute Care Surge

- **Is there daily tracking of hospital capacity including COVID-19 cases, hospital census, ICU census, ventilator availability, staffing and surge capacity?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** There are currently two polls that acute care hospitals are required to submit: One is a daily COVID-specific poll that hospitals submit to VCEMS through the Reddinet online communications tool. The other is a daily survey that was developed as a joint venture between the California Hospital Association and the California Department of Public Health. VCPH/EMS has access to the results of this survey through an online application called SnowFlake. These polls provide data for all of the criteria listed above and help the VCPH and VCEMS assess ongoing situation in the county's eight acute care hospitals, as it relates to COVID-19 and the potential for surge activity.
- **Are hospitals relying on county MHOAC for PPE, or are supply chains sufficient?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Acute Care Hospitals in Ventura County have established relationships with well-recognized vendors. Hospitals have been working with these vendors since the onset of the pandemic to ensure adequate PPE supply for healthcare providers and ancillary staff. For the five hospitals systems representing eight acute care hospitals in the county, Medline, Cardinal Health, 3M Corporation and Kimberly Clark comprise the primary vendors for sourcing personal protective equipment.

For those situations where the vendors have not been able to meet the PPE demand of the hospitals, facilities submit a resource request with the Ventura County MHOAC to request additional supplies.

- **Are hospitals testing all patients prior to admission to the hospital?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Hospitals test all symptomatic patients that are admitted to determine their COVID status and placed in an appropriate ward/floor based on the results of the test. Select patients, such as OB and pre-operative patients are tested prior to admission. Additionally, as acute care hospitals begin to conduct elective procedures, they are requiring two negative COVID test results prior to the procedure.

- **Do hospitals have a plan for tracking and addressing occupational exposure?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** All eight acute care hospitals have staff screening procedures in place to identify potentially infected staff, and to limit exposure potential to other staff and patients. Additionally, each hospital has exposure protocols in place in the event a staff member is exposed to any infectious disease. These protocols are exercised regularly, and exposures are tracked/reported through an established process that includes the facility's infection control personnel and hospital leadership.

Essential Workers

- **How many essential workplaces are in the county?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** There are 23,104 essential businesses and 179,225 essential workers.

- **What guidance have you provided to your essential workplaces to ensure employees and customers are safe in accordance with state/county guidance for modifications?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Every individual business that opens will be required to complete a written Prevention Plan customizing their strategy to address:
 - Required contents of the written plan
 - Employee training
 - Individual control measures and screening
 - Cleaning and disinfecting protocols
 - Physical distancing guidelines

The County of Ventura Public Health Officer recognizes the critical importance of

compliance with each aspect of the Prevention Plan. In addition to posting the plan at the workplace, every business is required to post the Ventura County COVID Compliance Hotline number in a prominent location. This will ensure that every employee and customer can report non-compliance easily, quickly, and anonymously. Ventura County businesses are also required to identify a specific person on duty who is responsible for ensuring the prevention practices are being followed.

Above and beyond state requirements, all County of Ventura businesses are required to register at <https://www.vcemergency.com/vc-reopens> and attest to their readiness. This includes all businesses that can open in Stage 2 and beyond. Critical infrastructure businesses that have already been open are also required to register and attest as well. This will ensure they avail themselves of the guidance and prevention best practices that have been published.

The registration process accomplishes several key elements of our strategy to ensure safety of all employees and customers.

1. Identification of every business operating in Ventura County.
2. Updated contact information, allowing us to provide direct ongoing information, resources, and the opportunity for surveys and other feedback tools.
3. A mobile application with GIS mapping and business contact information utilized as a tool for County and City Verification Ambassadors to visit each business, verify protocols are being implemented, and update compliance status in real time.
4. Prevention Plan templates have been created and published for each industry type along with the associated state guidance and checklist.

- **Do essential workplaces have access to key supplies like hand sanitizer, disinfectant and cleaning supplies, as well as relevant protective equipment?**

- **Ventura County Response:** Yes, local businesses have access to key supplies. A coordinated effort of local cities, chambers, the county and other partners have been in regular communication with local businesses to connect them to PPE providers and respond if there is a shortage. The Ventura County Office of Emergency Services has purchased \$1 million dollars of PPE and is distributing it to select local industries as needed.

Ventura County maintains a section for businesses on www.vcemergency.com that includes resources for employers. Ventura County has also launched a Business Compliance and Enforcement Line for our citizens and businesses to ask questions or to report possible violations of the County's Stay Well at Home Orders as they relate to businesses.

The County's Health Officer order issued on May 7th, 2020 requires all essential businesses that were operating prior to the states issuance of stage 2 industry

guidance to register and attest to their preparedness for operations by May 18th, 2020. The attestation includes verification of their workplace plan and assessment of their implementation of COVID-19 mitigation efforts, including PPE to protect essential workers and customers.

Questions on business compliance or enforcement can be directed to either CovidCompliance@Ventura.org or by calling (805) 202-1805 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Spanish speakers will also be available to return calls.

- **Is there a testing plan for essential workers who are sick or symptomatic?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Essential workers can receive testing from OptumServe test sites in Oxnard and Newbury Park. First responders can receive testing at Las Islas Medical Group and healthcare workers can receive testing at Academic Family Medicine.

- **Is there a plan for supportive quarantine/isolation for essential workers?**
 - **Ventura County Response:** Ventura County has established hotel capacity supporting isolation of essential workers who are unable to safely isolate in their residences and need assistance.

Appendix C – Sector Risk Assessment

The assessment below is a measure of risk along three dimensions: 1) contact intensity, 2) number of contacts, and 3) the degree activities can be modified to allow for 6 feet of social distancing. Contact intensity is rated as low, medium or high. Low contact intensity activities are interactions that are brief and distant such as walking past someone. High contact intensity activities involve prolonged close contact such as congregant living. Medium contact intensity is between low and high such as densely populated areas with some measure of social distancing.

Business

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Restaurants	Medium	Medium	Medium
Bars	High	High	Medium
Salon, spas, and other personal care industries	Medium/High	Low	Medium
Gyms/fitness studios	Medium	Medium	Medium
Theaters, museums, and other indoor leisure spaces	Medium	Medium	Medium
Outdoor large venues (concerts, sports)	High	High	Medium
Indoor large venues (concerts, sports)	High	High	Medium
Retailers	Low	Medium	Medium
Shopping malls	Low	Medium	Medium

School and Childcare Facilities

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Childcare facilities (daycare, preschools)	High	Medium/High	Low/Medium
Schools (elementary, middle, and high)	High	High	Medium
Contact school sports	High	Medium/High	Low
Noncontact school sports	Low	Medium	High
Summer camps	High	Medium	Medium
Institutions of higher education	High	High	Medium
Residence halls and other overnight programs	High	Medium	Low

Outdoor Spaces

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Parks, walking paths/trails, dog parks	Low	Low	Medium
Athletic fields and other outdoor congregate settings	Medium	Medium	Low
Pools	Medium	Low	High
Beaches, piers	Low	High	Medium
Playgrounds, skate parks and other outdoor recreation spaces	Medium	Medium	Medium

Community Gathering Spaces

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Places of worship	High	High	Medium
Libraries	Low	Low	Medium

Community Centers	Medium	High	Medium

Transportation

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Buses	High	High	Medium
Metro/rail	High	High	Medium
Airplanes	High	High	Medium
Rideshare/Taxi	High	Low	Low

Mass Gatherings

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Sports related mass gatherings: Games tournaments, and championships	High	High	Medium
Sports related mass gatherings: trainings	High (sport dependent)	Medium	Medium
Religious related mass gatherings: Large celebrations, festivals, pilgrimages	High	High	Medium
Business related mass gatherings: trade shows, conferences, conventions, workshops, retreats	High	High	High
Entertainment related mass gatherings: large concerts, festivals, carnivals, conventions, shows	High	High	Medium
Politically related mass gatherings: election rallies, polling centers, parades, speeches, address	High	High	Medium

Interpersonal Gatherings

Category	Contact Intensity	Number of Contacts	Modification Potential
Small social gatherings (e.g. Birthday parties)	High	Medium	High
Large social gatherings (weddings, funerals with many attendees)	High	High	High

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