



CITY OF CARSON COVID-19 UPDATE

Thursday, March 25, 2021

[COVID-19 GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CARSON RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES](#)

To help keep the community informed, the City of Carson is providing COVID-19 (coronavirus) news updates related to health, safety recommendations, and informational links to meet the needs of the community and protect public health.

The coronavirus outbreak began in China and has since spread across the globe with the first case reported in the U.S. by the CDC in January 2020. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the etiologic agent of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19), is commonly spread among people who are in contact with an infected person. Some people who are infected may not exhibit symptoms but can still spread the virus according to public health experts. Although less common, COVID-19 can also spread through a person's contact with coronavirus contaminated objects and surfaces where respiratory droplets have landed and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes.

Transmissions can overall be significantly reduced if everyone wears a face covering always securely over their nose and mouth, maintains six feet distance from anyone outside of their household, washes their hands regularly, and stays home as much as possible. People are also urged to avoid public gatherings where people are in close proximity, unable to remain six feet apart, cheering and shouting, especially without face coverings. If you are even mildly sick or think you were exposed to someone with COVID-19, stay home and away from others, and consider being tested for the virus.

The above recommendations are essential to prevent you from unintentionally spreading COVID-19 to other people.

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID-19 Self-Checker Interactive Clinical Assessment Tool](#)

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CITY OF CARSON MUST ADHERE TO ANY AND ALL ORDERS SET FORTH BY THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

COVID-19 CASES

(Numbers May Vary Depending on Time of Day)

03/25/2021	CASES	DEATHS
CARSON	9,406	241
West Carson/Unincorp.	2,107	117
County of Los Angeles	1,215,776	22,871
California	3,649,909	57,975
United States	30,223,587	550,726
Global	124,985,317	2,746,581

John Hopkins University & Medicine

[Coronavirus Resource Center](#)

State of California

[Tracking COVID-19 In California](#)

County of Los Angeles Public Health

[Tracking COVID-19 in Los Angeles County](#)

FREE COVID-19 TESTING AND VACCINATION IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

- Testing - [Carson Community Center](#)
- Testing - [City of Los Angeles](#)
- Testing - [County of Los Angeles](#)
- Vaccine - [California Department of Public Health](#)
- Vaccine - [County of Los Angeles Public Health](#)
- Vaccine - [City of Los Angeles](#)
- Vaccine/Testing - [Rite Aid Pharmacy](#)
- Vaccine/Testing - [CVS Pharmacy](#)
- Vaccine/Testing - [Ralphs Pharmacies](#)
- Vaccine/Testing - [Albertsons Companies Pharmacy](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine is FREE TO EVERYONE Regardless of Financial Status, Immigration Status or Insurance Coverage. **Vaccine Distribution in Los Angeles County** is being rolled out to different groups in phases. **COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment** preparation for appointment and post-vaccination information is available.

CURRENTLY VACCINATING				Upcoming Groups
Phase 1A	Phase 1B – Tier 1			
Healthcare Workers	LA County Residents Ages 65 and older	Ages 16 – 64 With Underlying Health Conditions / High Risk Disability	Janitorial, Custodial, and Maintenance Services	April 1, 2021 Ages 50 – 64
Staff & Residents at Skilled Nursing Facilities			Transportation and Logistics	April 15, 2021 Ages 16 and Above
Staff & Residents at Long-Term Care Facilities	Education and Childcare	People Who Live Or Work In Congregate Living Spaces		COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Volunteers
	Emergency Services Food and Agriculture		VA LOCATIONS	

- **Los Angeles County Department Of Public Health Guidance For COVID-19 Vaccinations:**
 - Public Health: [Return to Work Guidelines for Employees Who Develop Systemic Symptoms Post-Vaccination](#)
 - Public Health: [After You Are Fully Vaccinated](#)

- **All U.S. Veterans, Spouses And Their Caregivers Can Now Receive COVID-19 Vaccines** through the SAVE LIVES ACT that increases the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) vaccination numbers by 24 million to 33, currently at 9.5 million, at all VA centers. Pilot tests of COVID-19 vaccination sites will be conducted at select VAs in March and April. VA currently receives 200,000 doses weekly which will need to be increased to around 600,000 weekly, to fully vaccinated more than 9.5 million individuals. At this time, there still have a limited amount of vaccines and the VA is working to determine how quickly vaccines will be available to these other groups. To view the Stars and Stripes News March 24, 2021 News Report, please go to: [VA Must Offer COVID-19 Vaccines To 24 Million More People through the Save Lives Act](#)
 - **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:** [COVID-19 Vaccines at VA](#)
 - **The White House:** [H.R. 1276 “Strengthening and Amplifying Vaccination Efforts to Locally Immunize All Veterans and Every Spouse Act or the SAVE LIVES Act,”](#) which expands VA’s authority to provide COVID-19 vaccinations.



- **California Expands COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility To Ages 50 And Over Starting April 1 And 16 And Over On April 15**, based on expected supply to state supporting trusted providers and counties in hard-to-reach communities. California currently receives about 1.8 million doses per week and based on the current estimates, approximately 2.5 million first and second doses will be administered per week in the first half of April and more than 3 million doses in the second half. COVID-19 cases and deaths have occurred in 40% of the lowest quartile of the HPI, developed by the Public Health Alliance of Southern California. California's wealthiest populations have received 50 percent more vaccinations when compared to the rate of our most vulnerable populations. This approach recognizes that the pandemic did not affect California communities equally and that the state is committed to doing better so along with the expanded eligibility, and to align with upcoming federal guidance, California has embarked on a series of initiatives and efforts will update its vaccine allocation methodology. To view the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom, March 25, 2021 Press Release, please go to: [State Expands Vaccine Eligibility to ages 50 and over on April 1 and 16 and over on April 15](#)
- **U.S. COVID-19 Cases Top 30 Million On Wednesday As States Lower Vaccination Age Limits** at 50 years old (some to age 16) to accelerate the process in the face of the first uptick in new cases in 30 out of 50 states while more infectious variants spread across the nation. To date, the United States has lost 544,000 lives to the virus. Nearly one-fourth of Americans have received at least one dose while about 13% of the population is fully vaccinated. Against the advice of health experts, several states have lifted mask mandates. To view the Reuters via MSN March 24, 2021 News Report, please go to: [U.S. Covid-19 Cases Top 30 Million On Wednesday, March 24, 2021](#)
- **California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program Begins Thursday, March 25th** through Wednesday, March 31st for Round 5 with grant awards from \$5,000 to \$25,000 for current waitlisted small businesses and nonprofits not selected in Rounds 1, 2, or 3 and new applicants that meet eligibility criteria. For more information, please go to: [California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program](#)
- **Financial Assistance For Funeral Expenses Of COVID-19 Deaths Will Be Available At \$9,000 Per Funeral And A Maximum Of \$35,500 Per Application Beginning In April** by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The death must have occurred after Jan. 20, 2020 in the United States, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. Additional guidance is being finalized and will be released to potential applicants and community partners as soon as possible but in the meantime, people are encouraged to keep and gather documentation. To view the FEMA March 24, 2021 Press Release, please go to: [FEMA to Help Pay Funeral Costs for COVID-19-Related Deaths](#)
 - FEMA: [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance](#)
 - FEMA: [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Individuals and Households Program Interim Policy](#)
- **The White House To Spend \$10 Billion To Expand COVID-19 Vaccination Awareness, Trust, Access, Testing And Treatment** in the hardest-hit, highest-risk communities to better serve communities of color, rural areas, low-income populations, and other underserved communities, including modifying and improving physical infrastructure and adding mobile units. Federally-run community vaccination sites administered 60% of doses to people of color, with 45% of sites located in zip codes with high social vulnerability score with plans to expand vaccine eligibility to populations in the ACIP's 1C eligibility tier. This effort will benefit populations with increased prevalence of COVID-19 and disproportionately impacted by long-standing health disparities related to sociodemographic characteristics, geographic regions, and economic strata.
 - **The White House** March 25, 2021 Press Release: [Biden Administration Announces Historic \\$10 Billion Investment to Expand Access to COVID-19 Vaccines and Build Vaccine Confidence in Hardest-Hit and Highest-Risk Communities](#)
 - **Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress:** [H.R.1319 - American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#)



- Los Angeles And Orange Counties Are On Pace To The Less-Restrictive Business Re-opening Orange Tier** of the state’s economic-reopening Blueprint as local COVID-19 case rates drop again on Tuesday. Assuming there’s no reversal in COVID-19 case trends, moving to the Orange Tier will authorize the counties to lift all capacity restrictions on retail and personal care businesses, while raising the capacity limit from 25% to 50% for many business sectors including movie theaters, churches, museums, zoos, aquariums and restaurants; concerts and live sporting events will be allowed to reopen outdoors at 20% capacity; and fitness center capacity could be increased from 10% to 25%. The average daily new infections rate in Los Angeles fell to 3.7 per 100,000 but it must remain in the same tier for a minimum of three weeks before being able to advance to the less restrictive Orange Tier which six Northern California counties already qualified for. Counties can opt to maintain stricter rules than the state. To view the Deadline News March 23, 2021 News Report, please go to: [L.A. and Orange Counties Closer To Orange Tier Re-openings](#)

 - County of Los Angeles Public Health: [L.A. County Begins to Meet Metric Threshold for Less Restrictive Orange Tier](#)**
- Pregnant Women And Skilled Nursing Facility Cases Decline But Variants Of Concern Are Detected** at 34% of the California variant, 29% were the U.K. variant although the County has yet to identify the South African and Brazilian variants. To date, Public Health identified 1,215,736 cases and 22,960 deaths, across all areas of L.A. County. COVID-19 positive cases of pregnant women are at 78% Latina/Latinx, 10% are White, 5% are African American/Black, and 4% are Asian. Cases among children sharply increased in January and can sometimes result in the very serious MIS-C illness, currently at 138 cases and one death, 74% are Latino/Latinx and 11% Black and 10% White. Skilled nursing facility residents have a dramatic drop 97%, with a similar trend in health care workers. To view the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health March 24, 2021 Press Release, please go to: [Additional Variant Cases Detected, Pregnant Women and Skilled Nursing Facility Cases Decline](#)
- Benzene, A Known Human Carcinogen, Is Detected In Multiple Brands Of Hand Sanitizer Products Considered To Be FDA Regulated.** Benzene is an industrial chemical known to cause cancer and carry other serious health risks according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and other regulatory agencies. VALISURE (pharmaceuticals product testing company) stated that of 260 hand sanitizer products tested, 44 (17%) contained benzene with the highest level at 16.1ppm, which is over eight times the 2 ppm interim limit approved for liquid hand sanitizers by the FDA to meet the high demand for hand sanitizers during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Valisure is asking FDA to request an immediate recall of the contaminated batches and to update its guidance to include an exposure limit for benzene in addition to a concentration. Valisure March 24, 2021 News Report [Valisure Detects Benzene in Hand Sanitizers](#)

 - The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health/CDC: [Benzene](#)**
- The Los Angeles County Office Of Education (LACOE) Provides Guidance, Expertise And Support To The Region's 80 K-12 Districts** during the COVID-19 pandemic. To view the latest updates and status of reopening of schools, please go to: [LACOE COVID-19 Resource Page](#)
- [Housing Is Key COVID-19 Rent Relief Program](#)** Financial assistance to help income-eligible [renters](#) the payment of unpaid and future rent to [landlords](#), as well as unpaid and future utilities, through federal rental assistance funds.
- [Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#)** Small Business Administration (SBA) loans to businesses with 20 or less employees, to help keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis. **Deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 31, 2021.**



- [California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program](#) (Round 4) for Nonprofit Cultural Institutions Only with grant awards from \$5,000 to \$25,000 with any revenue size that meets eligibility criteria. **Deadline to apply is Friday, March 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**
- [AARP Foundation Tax-Aide](#) Free Tax Preparation Assistance To Carson Residents ages 50+or have low to moderate income *by Appointment Only* (310) 835-0212 ext. 1475
 - [City of Carson Flyer](#)
- [Department Of Public Social Services \(DPSS\)](#) Offers social service assistance to families and individuals with Medi-Cal (health insurance), CalFresh (food assistance), CalWORKs (cash assistance) as well as other programs for those who are experiencing homelessness, domestic violence, substance use disorders among others. (866) 613-3777
- **Meal Programs And Assistance For Carson Residents - Including for seniors and the homebound.**
 - **Carson Essentials to Go 2.0** – Free Groceries Package Delivered Service for Seniors and Low Income Families: (310) 952-1765
 - **Free Meal Pick-Up** for those in need, Mon. - Thurs. at 11:00 a.m. : (310) 952-1750
 - **Meals on Wheels YMCA Program** for seniors age 60 and up: (310) 602-4909
 - **Grab & Go City on the Hill Church** for children and seniors (310) 740-9363
 - **Everytable:** Homemade meals delivery subscription: COVID-19 Hotline: (323) 458-6487 Mainline: (424) 296-1619
 - [Grab & Go Food Centers](#) Los Angeles County Unified School District (LAUSD)
 - [COVID-19 Food Resources](#) County of Los Angeles
 - [Los Angeles Regional Food Bank](#) Food distribution to families and other individuals in need. (323) 234-3030
 - [WIC \(Women, Infants and Children\)](#) Health/Food Program for low income families with children ages 5 and under. (888) WIC-WORKS
 - [CalFresh \(SNAP\) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) provides financial assistance to low-income families. (877) 847-3663
- [Southern California Edison](#) (800) 655-4555 (SCE) Utility Programs For Residents:
 - [EAF | SCE](#) Energy Assistance Fund Payment Grant Program
 - [ESA | SCE](#) Energy-Efficient Appliance Replacement Assistance Program
 - [CARE/FERA | SCE](#) Reduced Monthly Bill Program
 - [Medical Baseline Allowance | SCE](#) Baseline Rate Program For Individuals With A Serious Health Condition
- [SoCalGas](#) (877) 238-0092 **The Gas Company** Utility Programs For Residents
 - [GAF | SoCalGas](#) Gas Assistance Fund Grant
 - [LIHEAP | SoCalGas](#) Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
 - [Forgiveness | SoCalGas](#) Past Due Bill Forgiveness Program
 - [CARE Program | SoCalGas](#) California Alternate Rates for Energy Financial Relief Program
 - [Medical Baseline Allowance | SoCalGas](#) Baseline Rate Program For Individuals With A Serious Health Condition
 - [Energy Savings Assistance Program | SoCalGas](#) No Cost Home Improvements
 - [RES DI | SoCalGas](#) FREE Home Weatherization Program Authorized Contractor ACS Group (562) 464-0880



If You Feel Anxious, Stressed, Worried, Sad, Bored, Depressed, Lonely or Frustrated

due to your current circumstance possibly caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak as it is changing life for all of us, please use these valuable resources below for emotional support and well-being to help yourself and to help others by going to:

[Resources for Emotional Support and Well-Being](#)

- **24-hour Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** [800-273-8255](tel:800-273-8255) or text [838255](text:838255)
- **24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline:** [800-799-7233](tel:800-799-7233) or click [Chat Now](#)
- **Call 911** if you or the person you are helping is in immediate danger.

If You Are Experiencing High Fever, Along With Dry Cough And Fatigue, Call Your Health Provider Immediately for professional advice and recommendations, especially those with underlying health conditions, the elderly and pregnant women.

Please continue to follow the recommendations of public health experts to avoid the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a face mask, washing your hands often; clean and disinfect surfaces regularly; stay a safe distance from one another; stay home if you are ill; avoid others who are or if you are ill; and cover coughs and sneezes.

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