Testing Taskforce: New California COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths



7 day Average Deaths



Average test positivity past 7 days 10%, Down 1.4% from last week

Cases have fallen from the peak although test positivity remains high

14 day average hospitalizations seem to have plateaued and have started to decline but are 4. times the previous level

7 day average deaths remain at low levels.

8/19, 89% of molecular tests were turned around within 24 hours and 97% of tests resulted in less than 48 hours.

August 23, 2022 with data as of August 22, 2022. <u>https://covid19.ca.gov/state-dashboard/__https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/</u> <u>COVID-19 Cases Dashboard v2.0 - CA OpeNn Data | Tableau Pub</u>

Variant update

- BA.5: US 89%, California 93%
- In the US and worldwide including Europe and Japan it has resulted in a surge of cases and hospitalizations
 - In Europe and in the US cases and hospitalizations and deaths are beginning to plateau and start to decline
 - Japan cases are beginning to plateau, but hospitalizations and deaths continue to rise
 - Prior exposure to different variants and immunization status may explain variation amongst countries
- In the US there has been a rise in deaths to ~450/day up from a prior baseline of ~350/day.
- In Japan and in Europe deaths increased by multiple times.
- The FDA has not reported any new failures to testing for antigen tests or molecular tests with BA.4/ BA.5.

BA.4.6

- Defining spike mutation = S:R346T
- Mutation at this position within spike previously associated with immune escape
- growth advantage approximately 16-21% over BA.5
- Most of BA4.6 cases are in the Midwest and Northeast
- Currently 6.3% of cases in the US and 2.4% of cases in California, this has increased somewhat from last week.
- Resistant to Evusheld, Bebtelovimab remains potent.

BA.2.75

- First detected in India, cases are rising there
- BA.2.75 has multiple mutations in the spike protein of the virus which may increase infectivity and may evade the immune system.
- 3219 cases BA2.75 detected worldwide, and most cases are in India
- 185 cases in US and 34 are those are in California
- Evusheld and Bebtelovimab remain effective against BA.2.75
- We are watching this closely

Paxlovid Resistance Currently Not Seen

- Currently we are **NOT** seeing signs Paxlovid of mutations in SARS-CoV-2 likely to impact the effectiveness of Paxlovid on an ongoing basis
- We will be monitoring the genomic sequencing data to determine if this starts to occur
- Some scientists have concern that this could occur in the future