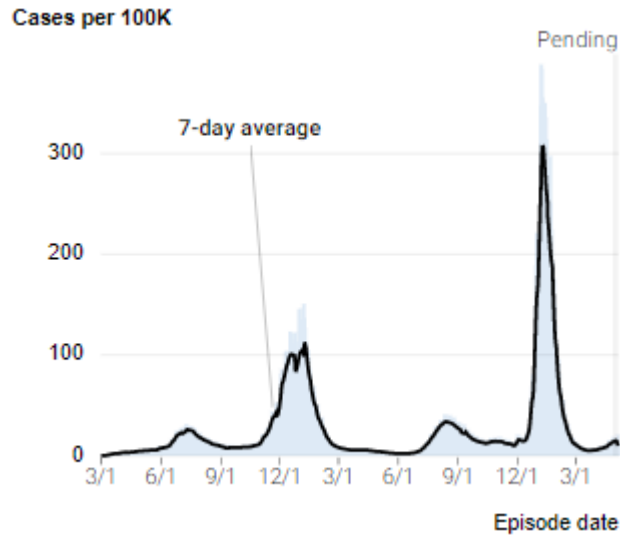
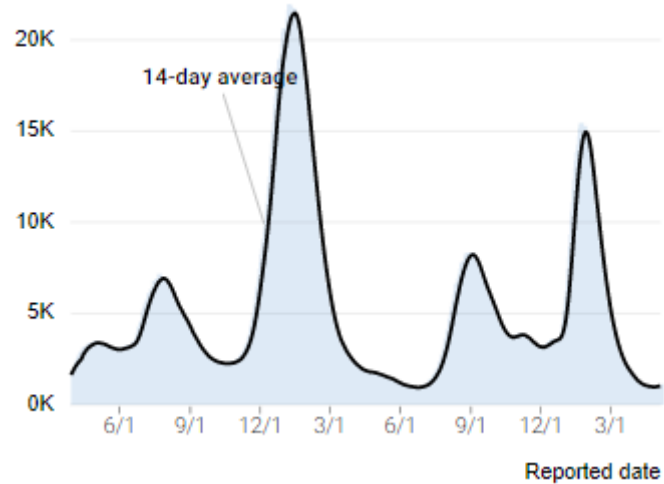


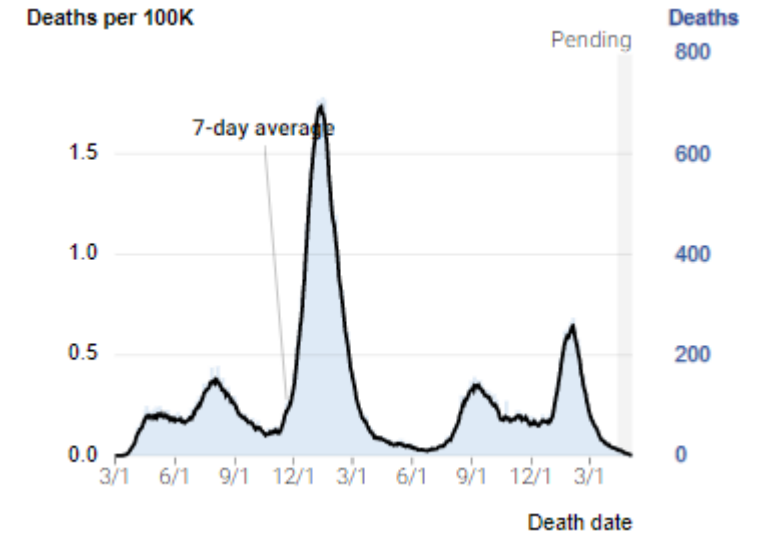
Testing Taskforce: New California COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths



14 day average Hospitalizations



7 day Average Deaths



Avg. test positivity past 7 days 4.1%, Up 1.0% from last week

Daily New case numbers have tripled since 1.5 months ago.

14 day average Hospitalizations are about the same as previous low levels

7 day average Deaths remain at low levels.

May 10, 2022 with data as of May 9, 2022.

<https://covid19.ca.gov/state-dashboard/> <https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/>
COVID-19 Cases Dashboard v2.0 - CA OpenNn Data | Tableau Public

Closing of Valencia Branch Laboratory

- **The [California SMARTER plan](#) outlines a new phase of COVID-19 response that prepares for new surges and variants.**
- The state continues to adjust our approach to testing to meet changing needs.
- Moving forward, PCR testing capacity will be provided through a network of commercial partners rather than the state's Valencia Branch Lab.
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- **PCR test processing will be provided through a network of commercial partners that will be coordinated through a contract with Color Health.**
- The state will continue to offer testing capacity to organizations and local health jurisdictions in the same manner that it has prior to this transition.
- This system helps the state testing program to be flexible and leverage multiple laboratories.
- The consumer experience will remain the same with no disruptions, including no changes to who can utilize the program, costs, or the testing services the state will be providing.
- **We believe a networked approach provides redundancy and resiliency to handle surges in testing volumes that come along with surges in cases.**
- At this point in the pandemic, we must prioritize flexible, low risk, and cost-effective infrastructure that allows the state's testing system to be dynamic in the face of surges and declines in demand.
- Labs across the state that meet network criteria have the opportunity to be involved, as this network approach can rapidly integrate additional cost-effective, high quality lab partners that follow industry best practices.
- **Why did CDPH select Color for this work?**
- Contracting with Color ensured a seamless/transparent transition from the Valencia Branch Lab (VBL) to the Lab Network because 1) They already provided the "front end" interface used by collection sites to accept specimens for testing and contained all existing user consents and information; and 2) Color had an already established Laboratory Network that could handle the State's projected testing volumes.
- This process will complete by the middle to end of May