



# Update on School Reopening

Berkeley Unified School District  
September 2, 2020

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# TOPICS

1. State and County Public Health Updates
2. Prospects for School Reopening
3. Other Items

# State and County Public Health Updates

# Guidance to Schools in the Time of Coronavirus/COVID-19

## **State & Federal**

[Blueprint for a Stronger Economy](#): August 28, 2020

[CA Department of Public Health, Guidance on Small Cohorts](#): August 25, 2020

[CA Department of Public Health, FAQ on Targeted, Specialized Support](#): August 25, 2020

[CDC, Schools and Child Care Programs](#): August 18, 2020

[CDPH, COVID-19 Industry Guidance, Schools](#): Updated August 8, 2020

## **Regional (Six County + 1 City)**

[Alameda County School Reopening Plan, v.7](#): August 27, 2020

[City of Berkeley](#): EOC and Public Health meetings with BUSD (weekly)

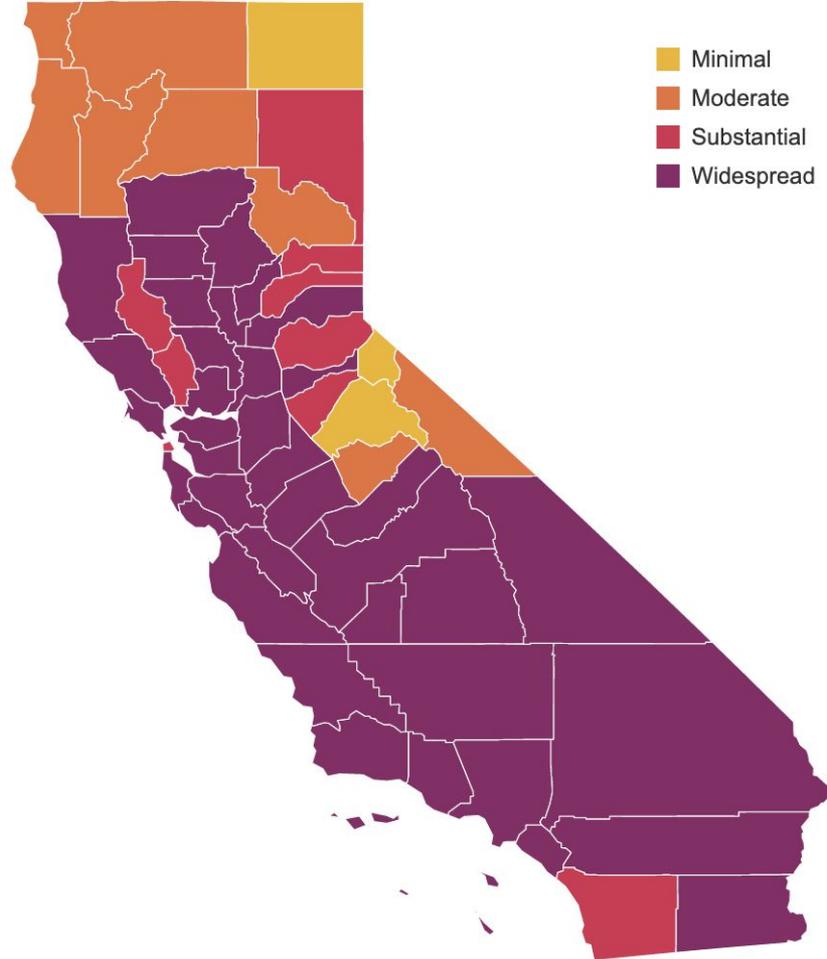
## Statewide Metrics

**10.9**

New COVID-19  
positive cases  
per 100K

**6.0%**

Positivity Rate



Every county in California is assigned to a tier based on its rate of new cases and positivity. At a minimum, counties must remain in a tier for at least 3 weeks before moving forward. Data is reviewed weekly and tiers are updated on Tuesdays. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks. If a county's metrics worsen for two consecutive weeks, it will be assigned a more restrictive tier.

Schools in the Widespread (purple) tier aren't permitted to reopen for in-person instruction, unless they receive a waiver from their local health department for TK-6 grades.

Schools can reopen for in-person instruction once their county has been in the Substantial (red) tier for at least two weeks. Schools must follow [these guidelines](#) when they reopen or if they have to close again.

<b>WIDESPREAD</b> Most non-essential indoor business operations are closed.	<b>More than 7</b> Daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>More than 8%</b> Positive tests
<b>SUBSTANTIAL</b> Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed.	<b>4-7</b> Daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>5-8%</b> Positive tests
<b>MODERATE</b> Some business operations are open with modifications.	<b>1-3.9</b> Daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>2-4.9%</b> Positive tests
<b>MINIMAL</b> Most business operations are open with modifications.	<b>Less than 1</b> Daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>Less than 2%</b> Positive tests



# Alameda

**WIDESPREAD**

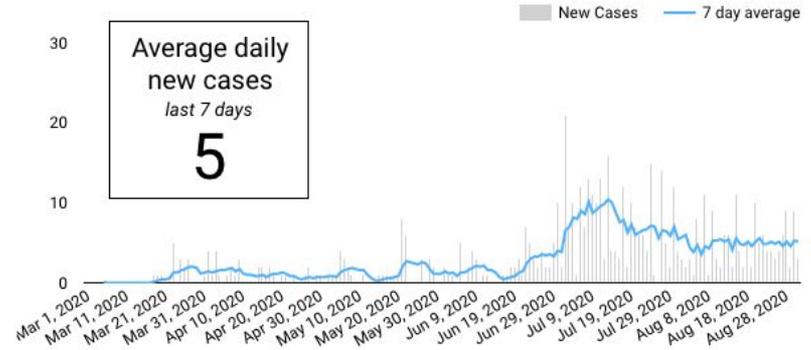
Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed [Understand the data.](#)

Counties can restrict further. Check your county website.

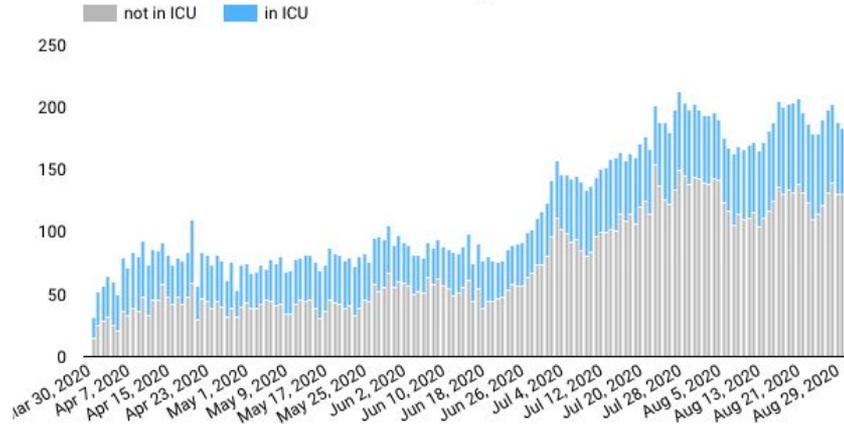
## Schools

Closed for in-person instruction.

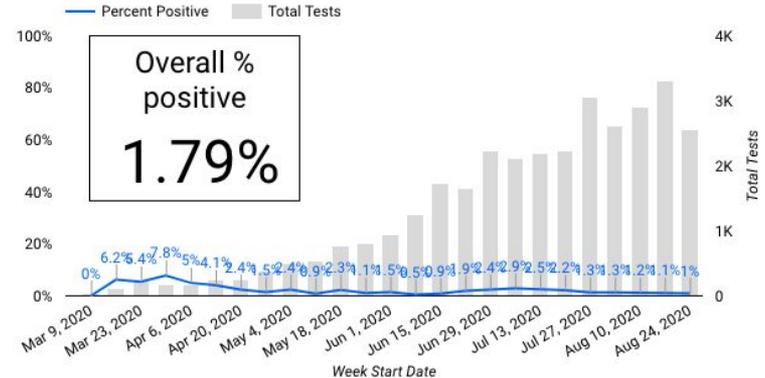
## New cases by date reported



## Confirmed COVID-19 patients hospitalized in Alameda County



## Tests reported to City of Berkeley and proportion of positive tests weekly



## What State Guidance Means for BUSD: School Reopening

Because of Alameda County's "Widespread" status, all school facilities remain closed for most in-person instruction.

In order for Alameda County schools to be permitted to open, county case rates will need to satisfy the criteria for "Substantial" for three weeks, and then remain at this level for another two weeks.

Elementary school waivers could soon become available in Alameda County but come with many requirements to fulfill.

## What This Means for BUSD: School Reopening

When permitted to reopen, districts are required to demonstrate risk reduction practices in place at school facilities, as well as capacity (including partnerships) for:

- Workplace and School Health Screening
- Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Protocols
- Regular Surveillance Testing for Staff

## Discussions with CoB Public Health for In-Person Services

1. Mandatory Assessments (Special Education, English Language Learners, Section 504 accommodations, interventions)
2. Targeted, Specialized Support (Special Education, intervention, and other vulnerable populations)
3. PreK and Elementary Child Care (staff and families)
4. Youth Activities - Sports Conditioning, Internships, Poll Workers

## How BUSD Will Move Forward in Each of These Areas

As state and local guidance is adjusted

1. Consultation with our Local Health Authority
2. Engagement with Labor Partners
3. Close Assessment of BUSD's Health Practices
4. Communication with Staff
5. Staff and Administrator Training
6. Small, Careful Pilot Efforts

We'll offer a more detailed update  
at the Board of Education meeting  
on September 16