

COVID-19 Update on Omicron Surge

Board of Supervisors

January 25, 2022



SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Current State of COVID



- **What we know:**
 - Omicron is far more infectious but causes less severe disease
 - **Vaccines with boosters are very effective in preventing severe illness and death**
 - Our robust efforts have saved lives and helped maintain hospital capacity
 - COVID is here to stay – it has adapted to us and we need to adapt to it
 - Continue to show compassion and grace to those with COVID-19
- **What is likely in the near future:**
 - **Surge in cases peaked and will be followed by a peak in hospitalizations**
 - Supplies of test kits and treatments should improve
- **Ongoing response/planning at the local, state, and federal level must be flexible and elastic to respond:**
 - **Our goal is not to prevent every case**
 - **Focus on equity and maintaining hospital capacity and preventing deaths**
 - Shared responsibility for all health care providers for vaccines and testing
 - Balance COVID response with multiple competing health issues (e.g., Behavioral Health)
 - Take lessons learned from COVID and strengthen our community health partnerships

National, State, and County Comparisons



City	County	State	Deaths/ 100,000 population	% of Population Completed Initial Series
San Francisco	San Francisco	CA	80.7	82%
Seattle	King	WA	101.0	78%
Denver	Denver	CO	179.4	73%
DC	DC	DC	179.0	66%
Atlanta	Fulton	GA	182.4	Not reported
Boston	Suffolk	MA	261.1	68%
Baltimore City	Baltimore	MD	265.9	69%
Los Angeles	Los Angeles	CA	283.7	69%
Philadelphia	Philadelphia	PA	286.0	64%
Miami	Miami-Dade	FL	346.5	82%
New York City	New York City	NY	450.0	75%

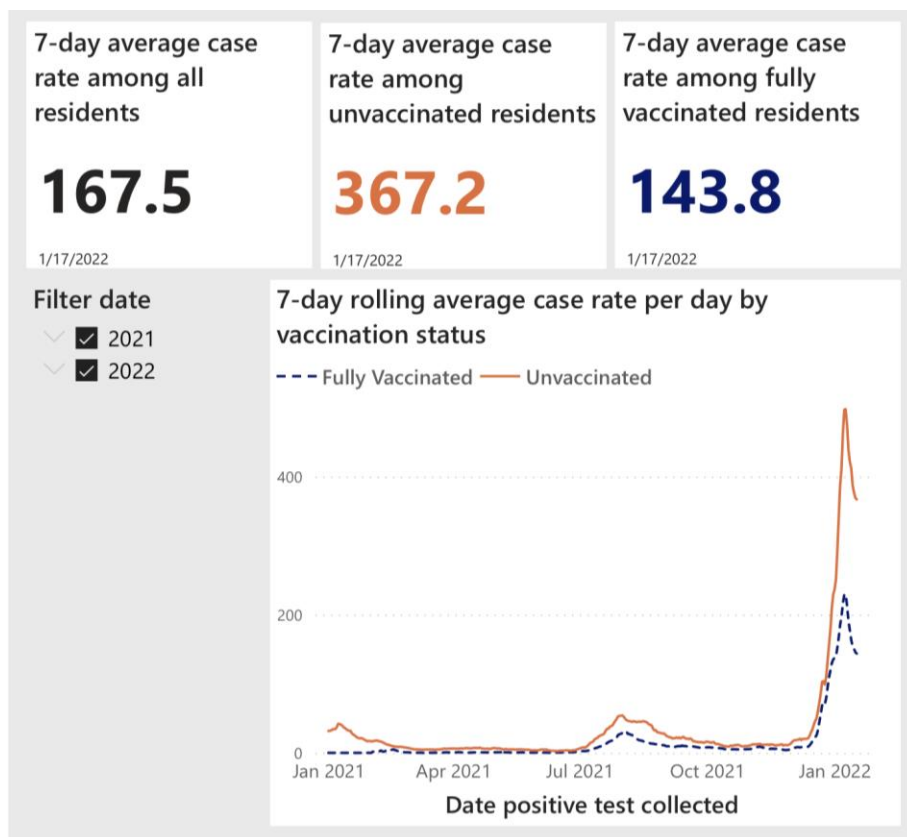
	Booster Rate
San Francisco	63%
California	37%
U.S.	25%

**Thank you to
residents of
San Francisco and
especially our
community partners
and leaders!**

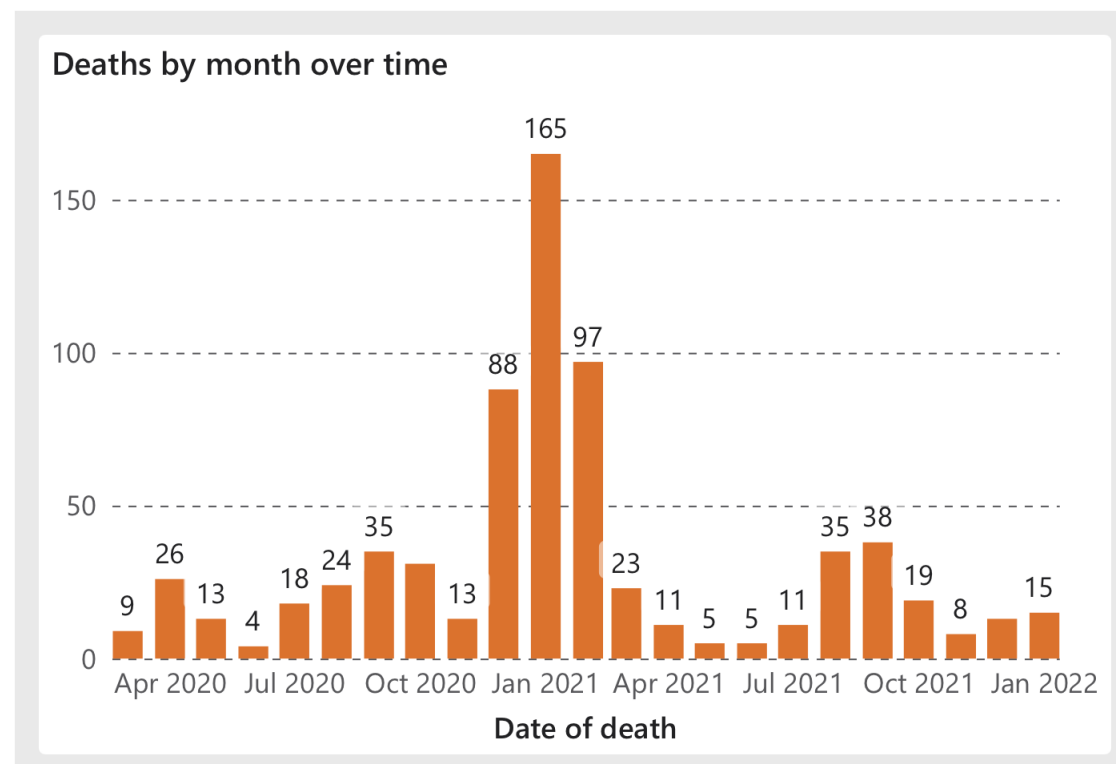


Cases and Deaths

- **Cases have peaked** and started to decline
- **Deaths expected to be lower** than previous surges



Data through 1/17/22



Data accessed through sf.gov

Data through 1/20/22

Hospitalizations



- **Peak in hospitalizations will follow peak in cases**
- More patients in acute care than in ICU
- Hospitals also treating patients for other medical conditions
- Focus is to ensure capacity throughout hospital systems

Total COVID-19 hospitalizations

271

1/21/2022

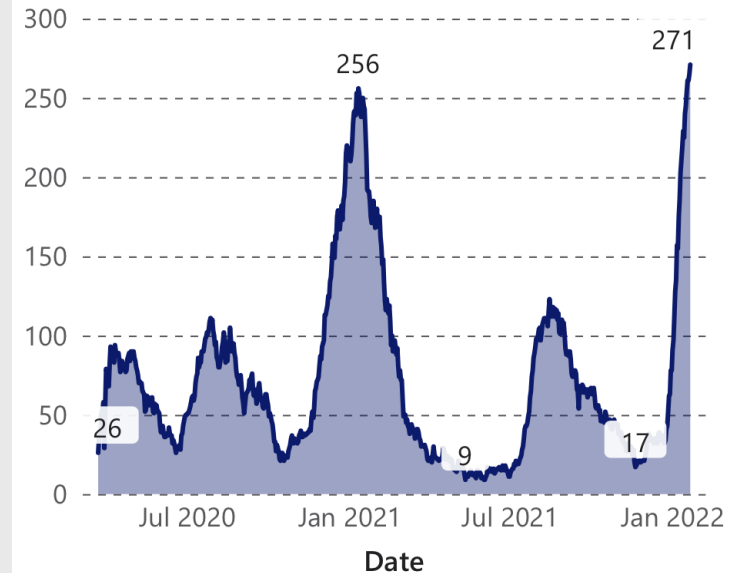
Filter bed type

- Acute Care
 Intensive Care

Filter date

- ∨ 2020
∨ 2021
∨ 2022

Total COVID-19 patients in acute care and intensive care



Date	Acute Care	Intensive Care	Total COVID-19 Hospitalizations
1/21/2022	238	33	271
1/20/2022	228	37	265
1/19/2022	225	36	261
1/18/2022	224	37	261
1/17/2022	218	36	254

Data accessed through sf.gov; Data through 1/21/22



Up-To-Date on Vaccinations

- **Up-To-Date on Vaccinations** include primary series of vaccines AND boosters
- Recommended for ALL that are eligible to maintain immunity
 - Adolescents ages 12-15 recently eligible for boosters
 - Children under 5 currently not eligible for vaccinations
 - FDA/CDC approval for Pfizer vaccines expected in Spring 2022
- Required for those that work in high-risk settings (i.e., hospitals, SNFs, shelters, jails)
- Robust network of nearly 100 vaccination sites in San Francisco

VACCINES

Residents all ages Residents 5 and older Residents 65 and older

Total residents vaccinated

776,886

All residents with at least one dose

89%

All residents completed series

82%

BOOSTERS

Residents all ages Residents 12 and older Residents 65 and older

All residents with a vaccine booster

448,337

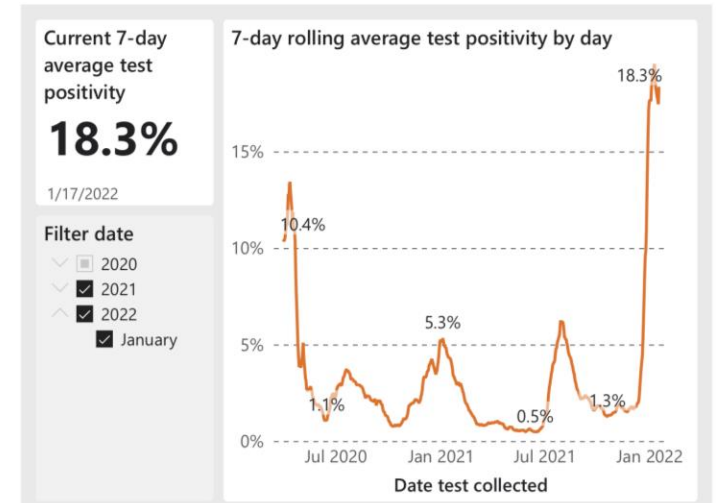
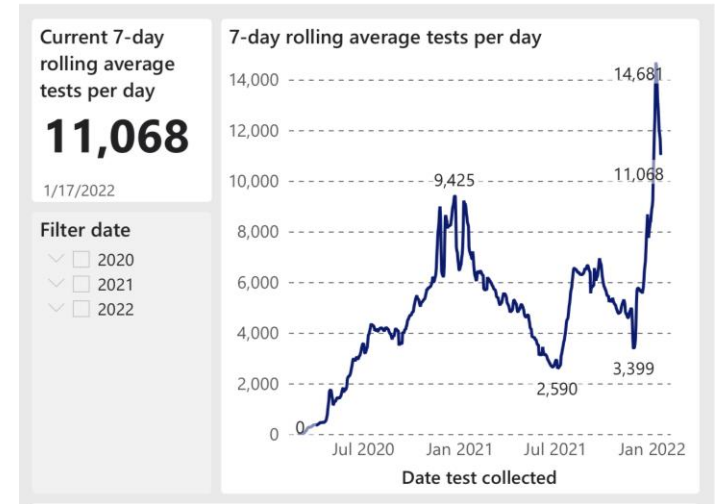
Vaccinated residents all ages with a booster dose

63%

Testing



- Individuals should get tested if they are symptomatic, close contacts, and per isolation/quarantine guidelines
- **Testing at SFPDH-affiliated sites are at all time high**
- **DPH largest provider of testing throughout pandemic**
- More than quadrupled capacity since beginning of surge, peaked at 14,500 tests/day
- Distributed 1st shipment of 150,000 rapid test kits to emergency responders, testing sites, skilled nursing facilities, and CBO partners for highly impacted communities
- Health system partners now required to make tests available per Health Order



Data accessed through sf.gov; Data through 1/20/22

Summary of Health Order Changes

since December 14, 2021



- Alignment with State to **require workers in health care and high-risk settings get their booster** by Feb. 1
- **Temporary suspension of the indoor masking exemption** for “stable cohorts” of 100% fully vaccinated in select settings (offices, gyms, youth sports, etc.)
 - Recommendation to **upgrade mask** to N95, KN94, KN95, or double mask (surgical/cloth)
- Alignment with State to **redefine mega events** – indoor events defined as 500+ and outdoor events defined as 5,000+ and therefore must comply with rules for mega events. **For indoor events only:**
 - Beginning Feb 1, requirement that **staff and attendees 16 years and older to be up-to-date on their vaccination series** (includes boosters if eligible) and kids 5-11 be vaccinated or test negative
 - Beginning March 1, requirement that **attendees ages 12-15 to be up-to-date on their vaccination series**, includes boosters if eligible
- **Skilled nursing facilities** require on-site testing of visitors; residents limited to two visitors per day indoors
- Hospital-affiliated **healthcare facilities are required to provide Covid-19 tests** to those with symptoms or a close contact.
- **Isolation** and **Quarantine** updated to align with CDPH, typically allowing return to work/school after day 5 if asymptomatic or symptoms improving with a negative test.



City of SF continues to support SFUSD

- **SFDPH reaffirms support for in-person learning at schools**
- **Vaccine and boosters**
 - Community vaccine sites have high demand from SF families
 - Re-establish school vaccine/booster clinics at SFUSD
- **Face coverings**
 - Ordered 150,000 KN95 masks for staff
 - Ordered 500,000 surgical masks for youth
 - Delivered and distributed throughout SFUSD
- **Testing**
 - Delivered 2,500 rapid home tests to fill gaps
 - More tests arriving from Federal government dedicated to schools



Future State of Covid

- This virus will remain with us and there may be future variants and surges. We will continue to follow the data and science.
- We can learn to live with COVID in ways that do not upend lives. We must balance the benefits and harms in our approach.
- Many people are going to become infected with COVID. **Public health experts agree our goals are to:**
 - **Focus on equity**
 - **Prevent hospitalizations and deaths**
 - **Keep our economy and essential services open**
 - **Not to prevent every case**
- Our focus is to put the best protections in place to achieve these goals, including:
 - **Vaccinating and boosting everyone who is eligible**
 - **Layering strategies to reduce transmission** through masking, ventilation, reducing exposure, staying home when sick, testing, and other measures when needed
 - **Continue to work with community partners and leaders** to prevent and mitigate COVID-19
- **Some possible scenarios in the medium-long term:**
 - COVID response evolves similar to flu response
 - Disruptive variants may emerge

How you can help



- Continue to ensure **vaccination and booster efforts** are promoted
- Support **Covid risk reduction approach**
 - Focus on hospital capacity and preventing deaths
- Help communicate **layered approach to reduce transmission**
 - masking, ventilation, reducing exposure, staying home when sick, testing, and other measures when needed
- Assist in urging **private healthcare providers provide access to testing**
- Balance other public health and societal needs



Thank you! Any questions?