



## COVID-19 INCIDENT UPDATE: April 16, 2021

Statistics from April 15, 2021

INCIDENT FACTS AND SUMMARY			
Total Confirmed Cases:	Hospitalized in Shasta County	In Isolation	Active Cases
<b>11,677</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>130 (estimate)</b>	<b>136 (estimate)</b>
Confirmed Cases Thursday	Currently in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU)	Available Regional ICU Capacity	Released from Isolation to Date
<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>11,324</b>
Newly Received Negative Tests	Number of Tests in the Past 14 Days (+ and -)	Total Tests	Deaths
<b>999</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>190,105</b>	<b>217</b>

### CURRENT SITUATION

- We had 26 cases Thursday, including 14 men and 12 women:
  - 1 child under age 13
  - 1 teenager
  - 4 people in their 20s
  - 8 people in their 30s
  - 6 people in their 40s
  - 4 people in their 60s
  - 1 person in their 70s
  - 1 person over age 89
- We are sorry to report a death today. He was a man in his 60s.
- We have now identified the B.1.351 variant in Shasta County, and have found 6 cases so far, all of which are connected. This is the fourth variant strain found in Shasta County, including the more common West Coast variants B.1.427 and B.1.429, which we expect to see regularly now, and UK variant B.1.1.7. All of these are more contagious than the original COVID-19 virus. B.1.351 emerged in South Africa in December and was detected in the United States in January. Some vaccines are less effective against this variant, though vaccine is still the best way to protect against COVID-19. The mutations help the virus latch on more tightly to human cells, and can help the virus evade antibodies. B.1.351 is one of the least common variants, making up just 0.7% of the variant cases circulating in the United States and 0.3% in California, [according to the CDC](#). This variant may not respond as well to antibody treatments, and it reinforces the importance of distancing, masking, getting tested and getting vaccinated.
- Reports show young adults generally consider themselves to be at less risk for COVID-19 and don't wish to get vaccinated. The reality is that young people do get COVID-19, and while people under 30 may be less likely to be hospitalized or die, evidence shows they are more likely to spread the virus to others and can develop severe and lasting symptoms. Please encourage young people you know to get vaccinated when they're eligible. The vaccine not only protects them from illness, but it helps to build community immunity and protect others, too.