



# CALIFORNIA'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

December 30, 2020

**While California continues to address the COVID-19 surge, it's never too soon to get more students back in the classroom.**

# California's Bottom Line

**Learning is non-negotiable.**

**Neither is safety.**

# In-School Transmission

**Safety and mitigation measures can help prevent transmission in schools.**

**Transmission among, or from, younger students is not common.**

# In-School Transmission

**In a CDC study of kids with positive and negative COVID tests across two states, going to school was not associated with a higher risk of getting COVID-19.**

# Lowering Transmission: Safety and Mitigation

**Extensive evidence shows safety & mitigation measures lead to lower risk of transmission:**

- **Masks, physical distancing, small & stable groups, washing hands, ventilation, screenings**
- **Each layer provides additional protection and, when used together, can reduce transmission**
- **Schools that have not required these measures have seen 2.5x more outbreaks than those that do**

# Health Benefits of In-Person Learning

**In-person instruction can help the well-being of our students and can lead to:**

- **Decreased anxiety and depression**
- **Lower rates of undetected child abuse and neglect**
- **Higher rates of immunizations**
- **Other positive indicators of public health and wellbeing**

# State Measures Currently in Place

## Current Guidance

- **State safety guidance (first issued in May) requires schools to develop & implement plans with key precautions**
- **Schools apply for waivers to resume in-person learning in elementary grades when in the purple tier (Widespread)**
  - **Schools create a safety plan, post online, work with parent & labor groups, submit plan to local health department for approval, and reopen 14 days later**



# State Measures Currently in Place

## Current State Supports

- Each school received an average of \$645,000 for COVID-related expenses (with more funding based on equity)
- Schools have received 2 months of PPE to ensure safe in-person instruction

# Phased In-Person Learning

**Our youngest & most disproportionately impacted students will be prioritized.**

**California's phased approach will:**

- Begin with in-person learning for K-6, special education, and populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19**
- Support all communities to be on track for safe in-person instruction by early Spring 2021**
- Distance learning will remain an option for parents & students**

# New State Measures in Place

- **Elementary schools may reopen if they submit a COVID-19 Safety Plan to both local and state officials**
  - **Local health department can disapprove within 5 days**
  - **Once opened, local and state officials will monitor, provide supports and enforce guidance**
- **County must have 7-day avg. case rate of less than 28 cases/100,000 people per day to implement plan**

# California's Safe Schools For All Plan

- 1. Funding to support safe reopening**
- 2. Safety & mitigation measures for classrooms**
- 3. Hands-on oversight & assistance for schools**
- 4. Transparency & accountability for families & school staff**

# Funding To Support Safe Reopening

**Schools use these funds to implement COVID-19 Safety Plans:**

- **Proposing early action legislative package to provide \$2B to support schools that safely open in February & March**
- **Funds will be weighted for schools serving students from low-income families, English learners, foster youth & others disproportionately impacted**
- **Working with federal partners to cover costs for testing of 58% of students through Medicaid**
- **Schools may continue to leverage \$1.47B from the federal government & \$5.3 billion received from the State**

# Safety & Mitigation Measures for Classrooms

**Testing: State will support implementation of testing of all school staff & students**

	Yellow	Orange	Red	Purple	>14/100k case rate
Staff & TK-12	Symptomatic & response testing	Symptomatic & response testing	Symptomatic & response testing Every 2 weeks asymptomatic testing	Symptomatic & response testing Every 2 weeks asymptomatic testing	Symptomatic & response testing Weekly asymptomatic testing

# Safety & Mitigation Measures for Classrooms

**PPE**: All students are required to wear masks. All staff should wear surgical masks. Schools will receive more surgical masks from the State at no cost.

**Contact Tracing**: State contact tracers will be deployed to focus on improving coordination between schools & health departments.

**Vaccines**: As vaccines become more widely available, school staff will be prioritized. Today, the Drafting Guidelines Workgroup meets to finalize Phase 1B.

# Hands-On Oversight & Assistance for Schools

**All schools must post their COVID-19 Safety Plans online and report key data to the State, including in-school transmissions.**

**A cross-agency team of experts in occupational safety, epidemiology, & education led by Dr. Naomi Bardach will:**

- Monitor and respond to data in real time**
- Publish webinars and training materials**
- Answer questions from school leaders and staff**
- Conduct school walkthroughs as needed**



# Transparency & Accountability for Families & Staff

**Data & plans submitted to state will be publicly available:**

- **Reopening status**
- **School safety plans**
- **Level of available COVID funding**
- **In-school transmissions**

**A web-based “hotline” for school staff & parents to report concerns. Schools failing to implement safety precautions will be penalized.**

# California's Safe Schools For All Plan

**California's Safe Schools For All Plan will help ensure schools can provide safe in-person instruction.**

# Today's COVID-19 Case Numbers

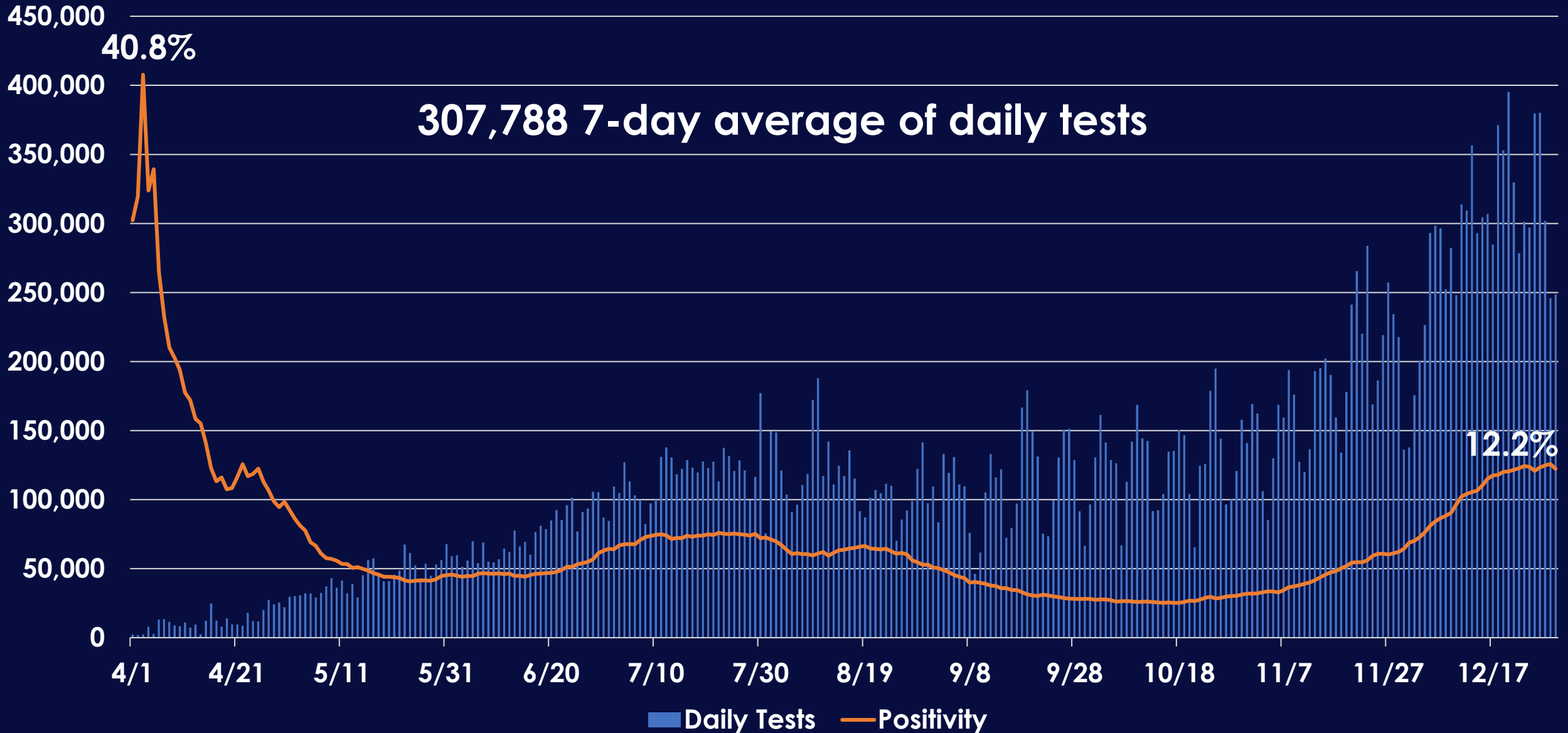
**30,921**

December 29

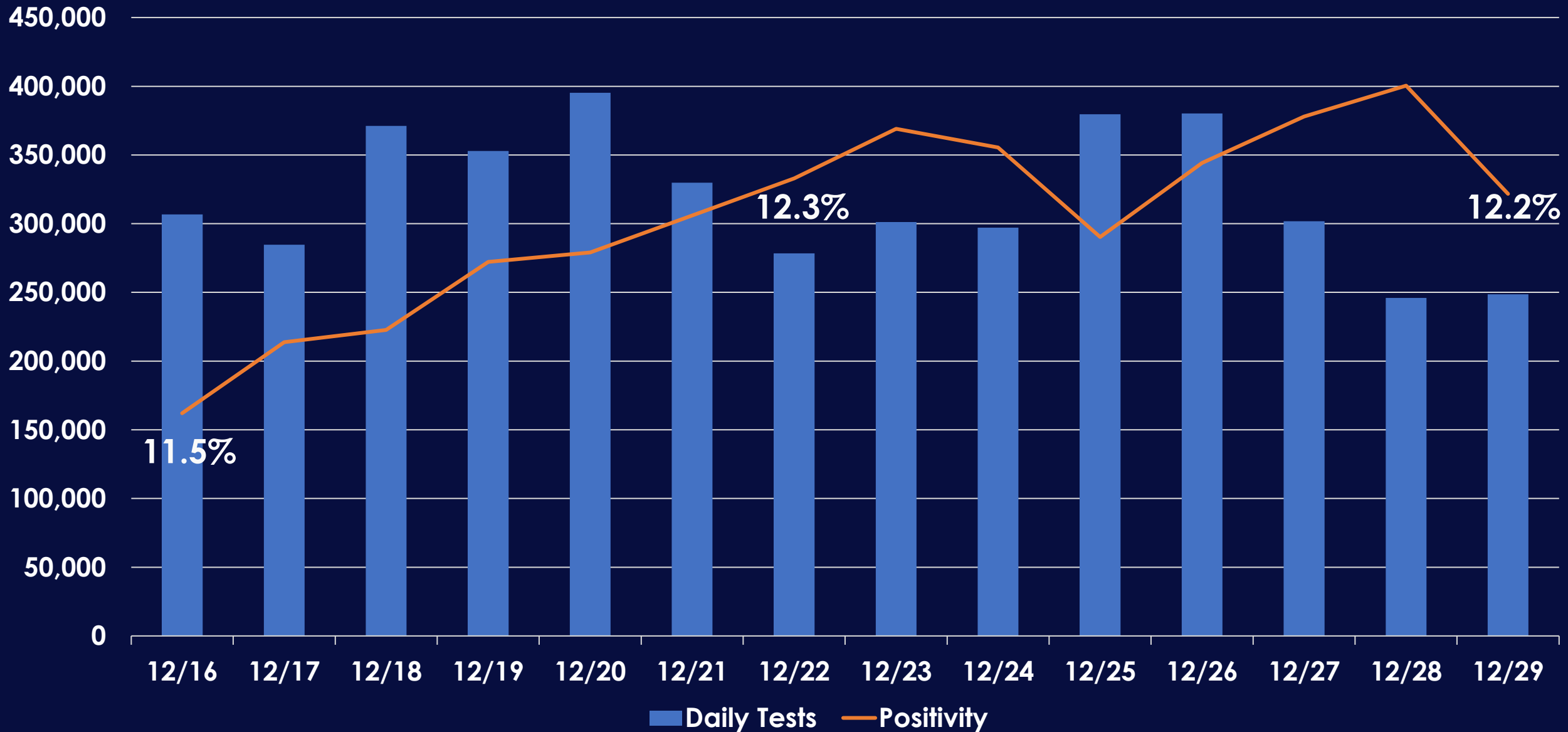
**36,295**

7-Day Average

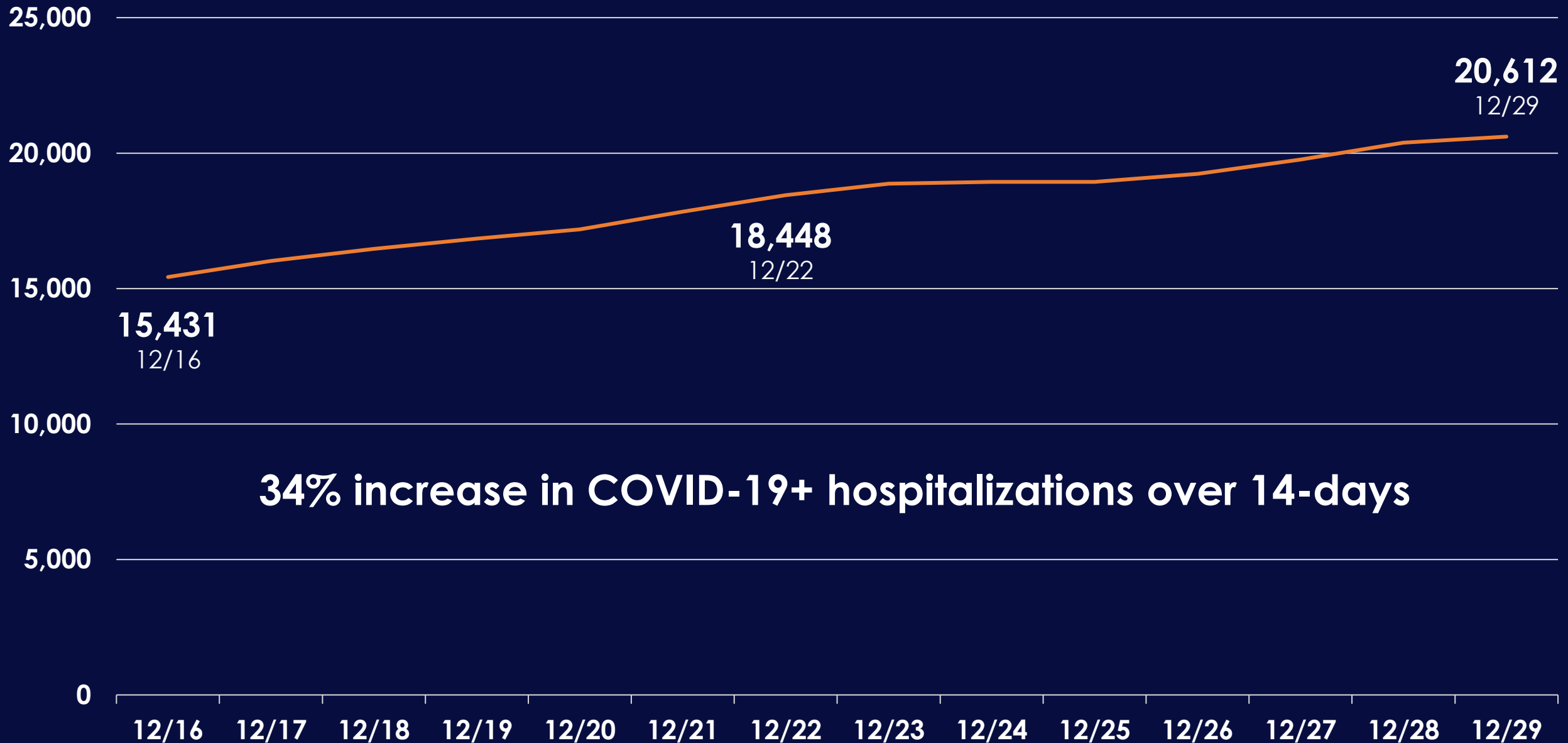
# Total Tests vs Positivity Rate



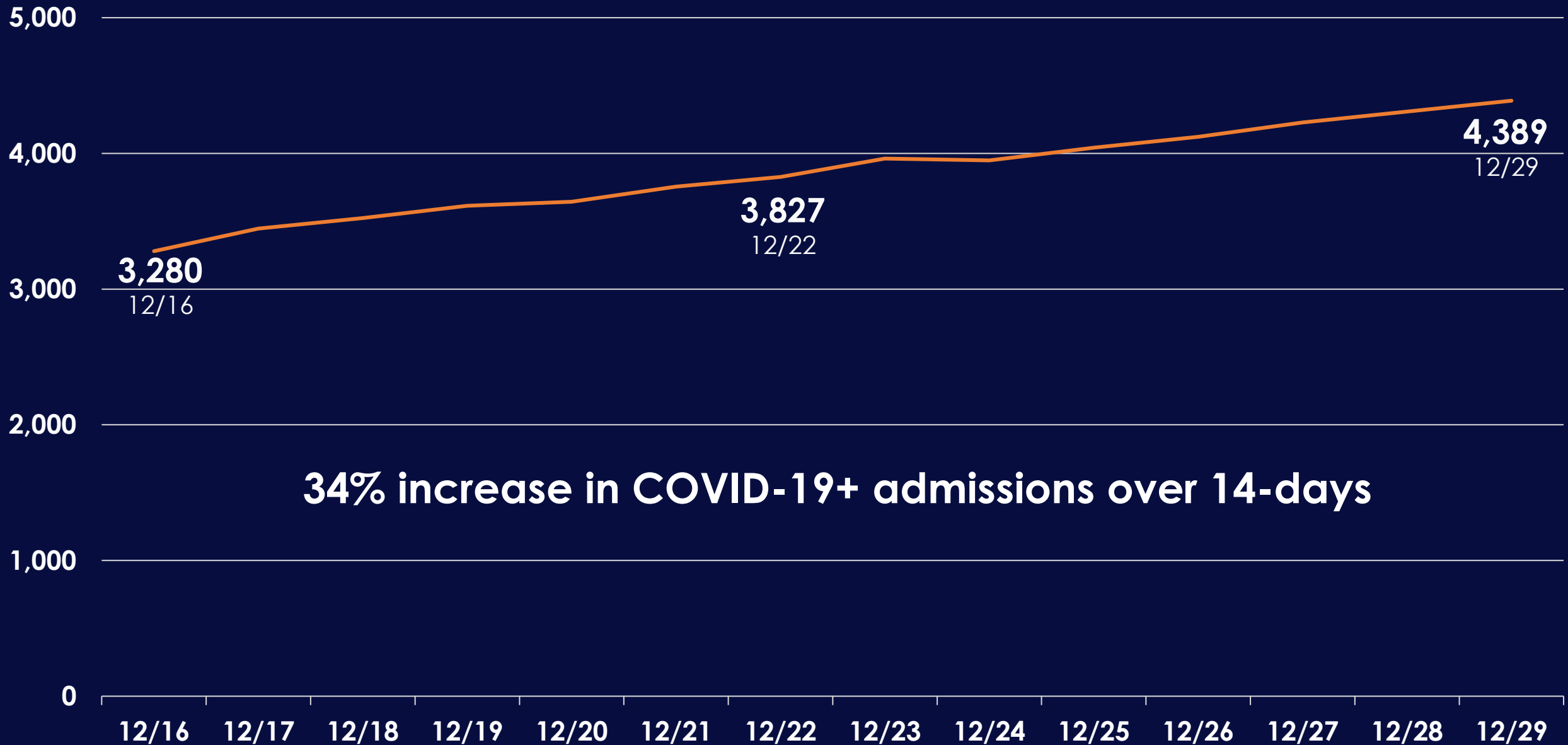
# 14-Day Positivity Rate



# COVID-19+ Hospitalizations



# COVID-19+ ICU Admissions



# Regions + ICU Capacity

Region	Current ICU Capacity
Southern California	0%
San Joaquin Valley	0%
Bay Area	7.5%
Greater Sacramento	17.4%
Northern California	31.5%



# COVID-19 Deaths

**432**

December 29

**239**

7-day average

14-Day Change

**3,477**

# Vaccinate All 58



**Vaccinate ALL 58**

Together we can end the pandemic.

**300,696 doses administered**

# Vaccinate All 58

**1,135,300 Moderna doses for CA**



- **672,600: First allocation**
- **232,300: Second allocation**
  - **Coming this week**
- **231,400: Third Allocation**

# Vaccinate All 58

**1,090,500 Pfizer doses for CA**



**Vaccinate ALL 58**

Together we can end the pandemic.

- **327,600: First allocation**
- **233,025: Second allocation**
- **297,375: Third allocation (coming this week)**
- **232,050: Fourth Allocation**

**2<sup>nd</sup> doses: 327,600 available to order for delivery next week**

# New COVID Strain

- **The California SARS-CoV-2 Whole Genome Sequencing Initiative monitors the COVID virus and looks for new mutations constantly and are monitoring the new strain closely.**
- **No evidence of this strain in CA, and first evidence in U.S. was yesterday in Colorado.**
- **Underscores importance of continued surveillance to detect such mutations**

# Small Business Grants

**Small businesses are the economic heart of California communities. We need to support them to get through the pandemic**

- **Applications for \$500M in grant funding for small business & nonprofits impacted by COVID-19 are open**
- **Grants range from \$5,000 to \$25,000**
- **The first application round will run through midnight of Jan 8 & details of a second round are forthcoming**

# So Long 2020

**We all want 2020 to end.**

**Celebrate its end safely.**

**Don't gather.**

**Hope is on the horizon.**



Learn more at  
**[covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov)**



# California Continues to Respond

## State Staff Deployed Currently:

**1,203 staff in 125 facilities statewide**

- **154 Cal MAT**
- **657 Contract staff**
- **154 Cal Guard**
- **19 Health Corps**
- **64 HHS**
- **75 DOD**
- **80 AMR Staff**

# California Continues to Respond

## Federal Resource Updates:

- 64 deployed US HHS staff
- 10 teams of 20 DOD staff (200 personnel)
  - 75 personnel are currently being coordinated for deployment; arriving Dec 29