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To promote and protect the health and well-being of Kings County residents through education, prevention, and intervention.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: November 11, 2020

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Blueprint for a Safer Economy Tier Update for Kings County

Hanford, CA – On August 31, 2020, the State of California adjusted the framework for reopening activities and businesses into a tiered system called Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Under this model, industries may open based on their county's current risk tier status. The framework lays out the measures that each county must meet, based on indicators that capture disease burden, testing, and health equity. On Tuesday October 13, 2020 Kings County was reassigned from the Widespread Purple Tier to the less restrictive, Substantial Red Tier.

After four weeks in the Red Tier cases have begun to climb and on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 it was announced that Kings County has fallen back to meeting the metrics for the more restrictive Purple Tier. Should this trend continue, Kings County will be formally reassigned to the Purple Tier as early as November 17, 2020, triggering partial re-closure of certain sectors. The adjusted case rate for the current reporting period in Kings County is 8.4 per 100,000 people. Testing positivity in the general population is 3.2%, and testing positivity in the Health Equity census tracts is 4.0%.

Testing positivity continues to remain low, meeting metrics for the Moderate Orange Tier, due to high rates of community testing in Kings. Accelerated movement into lower tiers is possible if testing positivity remains low and the case rate remains stable or rises less than 5% between reporting periods. Regular testing also helps to lower the adjusted case rate used for tier assignment. Because the Kings County adjusted case rate has risen more than 5% since the prior reporting period and meets criteria for the more restrictive Purple Tier, the county risks reassignment.

The following sectors would be impacted by movement back into the Purple Tier:

- **Gyms and Fitness Centers** – Outdoors only
- **Hotels and Lodging** – Open with modifications, fitness centers closed
- **Movie Theaters** – Outdoors only
- **Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums** – Outdoors only
- **Places of Worship** – Outdoors only
- **Restaurants** – Outdoors only

- **Retail** – Open indoors, 25% capacity
- **Shopping Centers** – Open indoors, 25% capacity, closed common areas & food-courts
- **Bars, Breweries, Distilleries (where no meal provided)** – Closed. For bars providing food, follow restaurant status limitations.
- **Cardrooms, Satellite Wagering** – Outdoors only
- **Family Entertainment Centers** – Outdoors only

The reopening status of following sectors *will not change* with Tier reassignment:

- **Schools** in Kings County will *not* be required to close for in-person learning with Purple Tier reassignment. All Kings County schools have begun phased reopening under State guidance and will be allowed to continue reopening regardless of Tier status.
- **Hair Salons, Barber Shops and Nail Salons & Personal Care Services** – Open indoors with modifications

Avoiding gatherings with people outside your household is vital to decreasing the spread of COVID-19 and keeping case rates low. It is also critical that the community continue testing, isolate when sick, and quarantine when identified as a close contact. Additional ongoing prevention measures include:

- Wearing a mask or face covering in public and with people outside your household
- Staying home if you are sick
- Practicing frequent and thorough hand hygiene
- Covering your coughs and sneezes
- Getting a flu shot

Assistance for certain populations in isolation or quarantine is available, including free delivery of healthy food, cleaning supplies, toiletries and more. For more information, Contact Kings Cares at (559) 799-8107.

For a detailed description of the required modifications in each sector, visit <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/>. For detailed information about Kings County’s current status and what businesses can open, visit <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/> type “Kings” in the County field and click “Get Latest Status.” To determine the current phase of reopening for your school district, please contact your school or district directly.

Free testing services are available throughout Kings County 7 days a week. For the current schedule and locations visit www.kingscovidinfo.com And click on Kings County: [Free Mobile Testing Site Schedule](#).