

Renegade Roundup



COVID Advisory

December 13, 2020

Good evening Colleagues:

Pfizer Vaccine Receives Approval in US

On Sunday, December 13, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention President Dr. Robert Redfield gave the final approval for a coronavirus vaccine to be distributed in the US, [according to a report by CNN](#). First shipments of the vaccine left a facility in Michigan on Sunday morning, and White House staffers will be among the first to receive the treatment, and frontline hospital workers will be prioritized as the vaccine is rolled out nationwide, [according to the New York Times](#).

Kern County Passes 50,000 Total Cases

As of Sunday, December 13, Kern County has surpassed 50,000 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic, [according to the latest data from Kern County Public Health](#). There were 685 additional cases confirmed on Sunday, and there have been 469 deaths in Kern County since the start of the pandemic.

Last week, [1,055 cases were confirmed in one day on Tuesday, December 8](#), and [990 cases were confirmed in one day on Thursday, December 10](#), according to KGET.

Adjusted ICU Capacity for San Joaquin Region at 0 Percent

The adjusted ICU capacity at hospitals in the San Joaquin region is now at 0 percent, [according to data released by the California Department of Public Health and covered by Joseph Luiz for KGET](#). The unadjusted ICU capacity in Kern County is at 7.9 percent. Capacity across the San Joaquin region must reach above 15 percent to exit the current stay-at-home order and return to the county-by-county tiered reopening structure established by the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#).

Some K-12 Schools Allowed to Stay Open, Struggling to Retain Staff

Under state guidelines, school campuses are allowed to stay open as long as they have approval to open through a county waiver process or opened while case rates were in the red tier. However, [an article by Emma Gallegos in the Bakersfield Californian](#) describes the struggles that campuses in the Rosedale Union School District faced with finding the necessary staff to accommodate safely reopening. Rosedale Union coordinated a gradual rollout of its reopening plans for all students over six weeks but quickly went back to online learning, primarily because of the rise in cases over the last few weeks, but also due to not having the employees needed to safely sustain in-person learning.

CA Notify App

The state launched a new smartphone tool to help California residents with contact tracing on Thursday, December 10. [Brittany Martin of Los Angeles Magazine breaks down the CA Notify app](#), which state residents can voluntarily opt in to use through their iPhone or Android device. With the device's Bluetooth turned on, the CA Notify app will keep a log of other devices that came within a six-foot radius of your phone for 15 minutes or more. If a user in the CA Notify system anonymously reports that they've tested positive for COVID-19, the app will then text the owners of devices that have come into high-risk contact with the user and notify them to get tested.

Blueprint For a Safer Economy Dashboard

[The State of California's Blueprint For a Safer Economy dashboard](#) has been modified to fit the new guidelines announced in August. A table with the comparison of test positivity rates from several counties on the monitoring list is below. The dashboard starting including

	December 6, 2020		December 13, 2020*	
	New cases per 100k	Test positivity rate	New cases per 100k	Test positivity rate
California	30.2	6.4%	34	8.4%
Kern County	36.6	13.4%	37.0**	15.3%**
Kings County	32.6	7.6%	31.8	9.7%
Fresno County	14.7	6.4%	22.2	11.3%
San Bernardino	46.1	11.3%	61.1	16.9%
LA County	40.3	7.0%	41.8	8.7%

*Dashboard data updated on December 8

**Kern County is under a regional stay-at-home based on ICU capacity

Johns Hopkins Dashboard

As of 5:00 p.m. on December 13, the [Johns Hopkins University Dashboard](#) shows that there are more than 72 million confirmed COVID-19 cases worldwide since the start of the pandemic. Here is the table that captures the difference in the numbers since Dec. 6.

	Dec. 6, 2020	Dec. 13, 2020	Difference	Percentage
World	66,974,627	72,168,829	5,194,202	7.8%
U.S.	14,747,102	16,226,561	1,479,459	10.0%
California	1,341,700	1,551,766	210,066	15.7%
Kern	45,078	50,624	5,546	12.3%

Stay safe, stay healthy, wear a mask, keep the 6ft distance separation, wash your hands to slow down the spread and reduce the strain on our healthcare systems and providers.

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
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