

# CURRENT CONDITIONS BOARD UPDATE



February 9, 2022

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## State to ease mask order Feb. 16

The mandate will be relaxed for vaccinated people. L.A. and other counties can retain stricter local rules.

With the **Omicron coronavirus surge rapidly receding**, California will lift its universal mask mandate for indoor public places next week, state officials announced Monday.

The lifting of the mandate will apply to counties without local mask orders of their own, such as San Diego, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, as well as swaths of the San Joaquin Valley. **Counties can still opt to retain local mask orders, as Los Angeles County will do.**



The logo consists of the letters 'P' and 'T' in a white, serif font, set against a blue background. Behind the letters, there is a faint, stylized graphic of a person's hands being held or supported.

## Ferrer: LA County mask rules to begin loosening when hospitalizations fall below 2,500 for 7 days

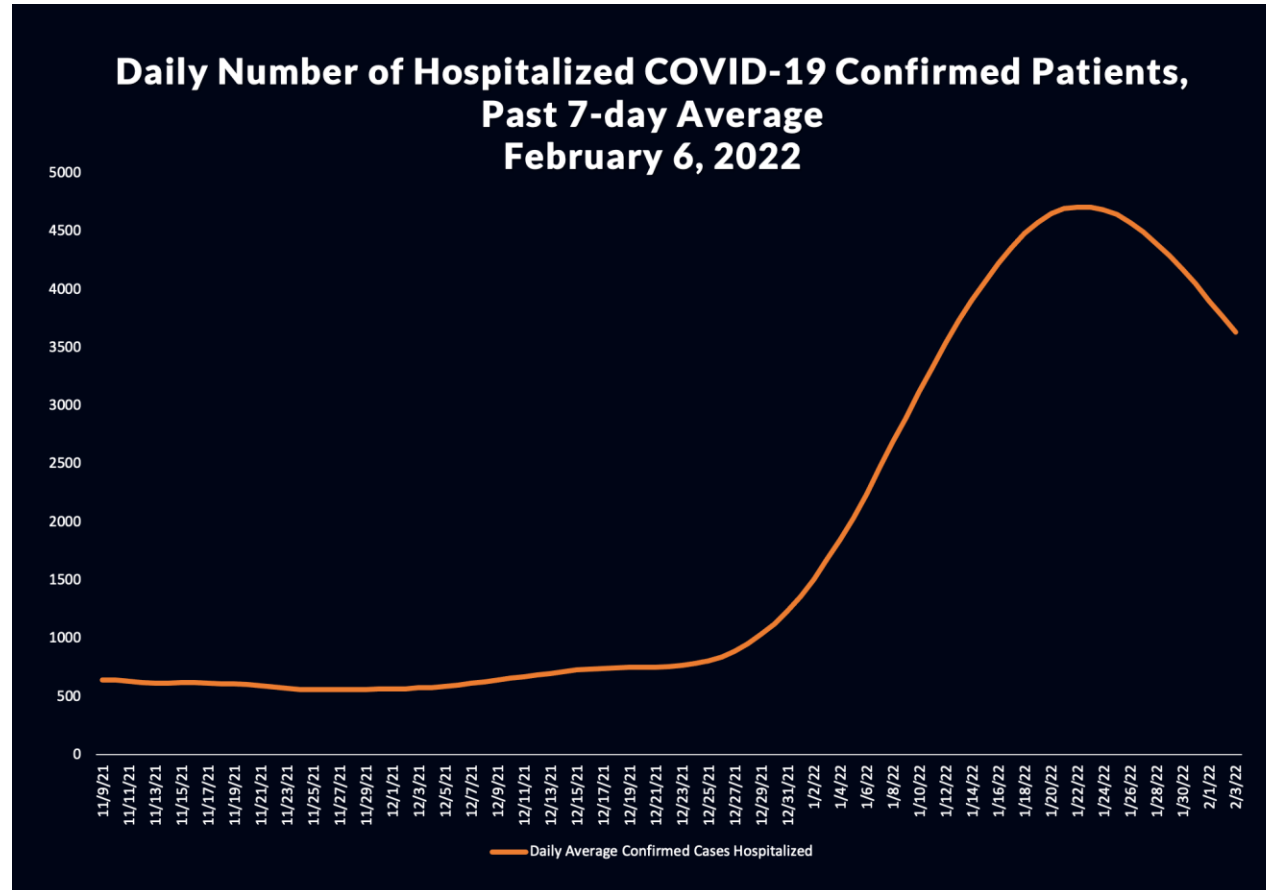
The omicron-fueled surge that exploded through Los Angeles County during the winter weeks will be declared over when the number of hospitalizations in the region falls below 2,500 for seven straight days, county Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Once that mark is reached, the county will no longer require masks at outdoor mega-events, such as football games, or in outdoor spaces at schools and child-care facilities, county Public Health Director said during a live-cast update on the pandemic.



# Current Hospitalizations in LA County

Date	Thurs 2/3	Fri 2/4	Sat 2/5	Sun 2/6	Mon 2/7	Tues 2/8	Wed 2/9
Hospitalizations	3,398	3,233	3,012	2,841	2773	2702	2,597





## Mask Mandate Affirmed in LA County

Lifting the indoor masking requirement in the county will require a more stringent standard. According to Ferrer, that requirement **will not be lifted until the county's level of transmission falls** to the "moderate" level as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and stays there for two straight weeks.

Reaching the "moderate" designation **requires the county to have a cumulative**, seven-day new case rate of less than 50 per 100,000 residents. According to the CDC's website, the county's rate was 1,098 per 100,000 residents as of Monday.

In addition to maintaining the "moderate" rate for two weeks, indoor mask-wearing requirements **will only be lifted if there aren't any newly** circulating "variants of concern" of the COVID virus, Ferrer said.



# County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health Order of the Health Officer (Revised 1/17/2022)

## Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: Appendix T1

All staff are also required to wear masks outdoors on school campuses, except when eating or drinking, when in crowded outdoor settings where distancing cannot be easily and reliably maintained.

It is strongly recommended but not required that students wear upgraded masks which at a minimum are well-fitting, non-cloth mask of multiple layers of non-woven material with a nose wire. Nothing in this protocol requires that the school provide upgraded masks to its general student population.

However, universal masking with some appropriate type of face covering is still currently required for both indoor and outdoor settings on the school campus. Exceptions would include when actively eating or drinking and in outdoor settings where physical distancing can be reliably maintained.





## State lawmakers approve new COVID sick pay for workers

Renewed mandate allows time off for illness, getting shots, caring for loved ones.

California lawmakers passed legislation on Monday to provide most workers with up to two weeks of COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave, a move policymakers hope will slow the spread of the coronavirus across the state.

The sick leave policy allows all workers at businesses of 26 or more employees to take paid time off to recover from COVID-19, care for a sick family member, attend a vaccination appointment, recover from immunization or take care of a child who cannot attend school because of virus-related closures or quarantines.

Business interests negotiated to allow companies to require employees to submit proof of a positive test to qualify for more time off after their first 40 hours are exhausted. In addition, the new policy limits workers to three days, or 24 work hours, to attend a vaccine appointment or recover from vaccine-related side effects, another request of business interests. (Note: Sick leave is retro to January 1st, 2022)





# QUESTIONS

