

KRISTOPHER LYON, MD HEALTH OFFICER

1800 MT. VERNON AVENUE

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93306-3302 661-321-3000 WWW.KERNPUBLICHEALTH.COM

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NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact: Michelle Corson, 661-868-0288

Kern County Remains in Red Tier (Tier 2) on State's COVID-19 Framework

Today the State announced that Kern County remains in the Red Tier (Tier 2) of the COVID-19 Blueprint for a Safer Economy. The State also announced that 4 million doses have been administered to people living in the lowest quartile statewide and therefore has triggered new case rate thresholds within the Blueprint Tier Framework.

Kern County meets the Orange (Tier 3) metrics as of today, April 6, and if Kern's metrics continue to meet Orange Tier thresholds next week, we could progress into the Orange Tier as early as April 14.

Every county is assigned to one of four tiers based on the adjusted case rate, testing positivity rate, and health equity metric. Below is a summary of Kern County's current metrics and a comparison of Kern's metrics last week:

	As of 4/6/21	As of 3/30/21	Orange Tier Trigger
Countywide Adjusted Case Rate	5.3/100,000	5.0/100,000	5.9/100,000
Countywide Testing Positivity	2.3%	2.6%	4.9%
Health Equity Quartile Testing Positivity	3.4%	3.8%	5.2%

Public Health encourages everyone to continue to practice healthy habits and to get vaccinated to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and move our county forward in the Blueprint framework, opening more businesses and activities.

To learn more about the State framework, visit <u>www.covid19.ca.gov</u> or <u>www.kernpublichealth.com/2019-novel-</u> <u>coronavirus/</u>.

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