Reopening: A Local Perspective

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Placer County

Placer Statistics
Total Population: 400,434

- **392** New Cases (Last 14 Days)
  - 97.9 Per 100K
  - 904 Total Cases

- **2** New Deaths (Last 14 Days)
  - 0.5 Per 100K
  - 11 Total Deaths

- **8,973** Tests Reported (Last 14 Days)
  - 4.4% Test Positivity
  - 1.6 Daily per 1,000 Residents

Hospitals
Total vs Last 14 day change
3 Hospitals Reporting (732 Hospital Beds)

- **41** Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients (Suspected + Positive)
  - 21 Patients
  - 105.0% Increase

- **10** ICU Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients (Suspected + Positive)
  - 0 Patients
  - 400.0% Increase
Reopening Timeline

February
- 2/4: 1st resident tested

March
- 3/1: 1st case
- 3/3: Local health emergency declared
- 3/4: 1st death
- 3/19: Local directive to shelter in place & State stay at home order

April
- 4/10: Local order to clarify original directive
- 4/16: Local health officer order amended (golf, landscaping)

May
- 5/2: Local health officer order expires
- 5/8: Early Stage 2 (curbside retail)
- 5/13: Late Stage 2 (dine-in, malls, in-store retail)
- 5/26: Stage 3A (haircuts, church)

June
- 6/12: Stage 3B (gyms, pools, day camp)
- 6/15: Distanced drills/conditioning
- 6/18: Statewide face covering mandate
- 6/19: Stage 3C (tattoo, waxing, nails)
What was the goal of sheltering in place?

• Flatten the curve.

![Graph showing the impact of intervention on the number of cases over time. The curve is flattened, indicating reduced strain on the healthcare system.](attachment:graph.png)
What is the goal of reopening?

• Keep the curve flat while resuming economic activity.
There are many factors to consider before reopening

**WHO**
- ...makes decision?

**WHAT**
- ...is the goal of a phased reopening?
- ...sectors should reopen first?
- ...is it safe to reopen?
- ...is it safe to keep reopening?
- ...do we need to go backward?

**WHEN**
- ...should reopening happen?

**WHERE**
- ...should we reopen?

**WHY**
- ...do sectors reopen safely?

**HOW**
- State variance process. Local attestation by HO with BOS support.
- Don’t overwhelm health care system. Protect vulnerable. State Reopening Roadmap. Essential based → Risk based
- Attestation triggers. State’s County Data Monitoring Metrics.
- County-wide, not sub-county.
- Balance health and economy (interdependent).
- State provides guidance.
Decision making is a team sport

• My brain trust
  • HHS Director
  • HHS Strategy Manager
  • HHS Public Information Officer
  • PH Emergency Preparedness Manager
  • PH Epidemiologist/Communicable Disease Supervisor

• Strategy sessions 1-2x/week

• Regular meetings with stakeholders: BOS Chair, city leaders, school superintendents, health care partners
Reopening is complicated

**Assets**
- Brain trust
- Access to additional staff
- Real-time data
- Regular calls with regional health officers
- Regular calls with CDPH and statewide health officers
- Published resources

**Challenges**
- Limited evidence base
- Essential-based vs risk-based
- Urgency
- Competing interests
- Reluctance to go backward
- Guidance addresses mostly businesses
- Lack of alignment at federal, state, and local level re: strategy
- Tension between local control and need for coordination
We closely monitor data regarding reopening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placer Triggers</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Current Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doubling time of cases</td>
<td>&lt;5 days for 5 straight days</td>
<td>~14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital census</td>
<td>&gt;135% licensed capacity</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care worker infections</td>
<td>Increasing for 5 days</td>
<td>12 active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE for HCW</td>
<td>&lt;7-day supply</td>
<td>&gt;7-day supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of cases with contacts elicited</td>
<td>&lt;80% of cases</td>
<td>&gt;80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% symptomatic contacts tested within 48 hours of symptoms</td>
<td>&lt;90%</td>
<td>&gt;90%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Indicators</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Current Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case rate per 100k (14-day)</td>
<td>&gt;25 (or &gt;100 alone)</td>
<td>101.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing positivity rate (7-day)</td>
<td>&gt;8%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in 3-day average</td>
<td>&gt;10% (only if n&gt;20)</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% ICU beds available</td>
<td>&lt;20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Ventilators available</td>
<td>&lt;25%</td>
<td>92%</td>
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Have we achieved our goal?

- Goal: Keep the curve flat while resuming economic activity.
Communicating about reopening is complex

• “Businesses are open…but you should stay home.”
• “Masks aren’t recommended…oh wait, face coverings are now recommended…oh wait, face coverings are now required.”
• “You cannot gather with non-household members, even if it is outdoors and you are 6 feet apart and wearing face coverings. But you can go to church indoors with 99 other people, and you can go to a group fitness class indoors without face coverings.”

* Gym guidance was changed on 7/1 to require face coverings
Risk reduction messaging could help

Instead of:

SEX ED:
1. Do not have sex
2. See number 1
3. See number 2
4. See number 3

Try this:

PLAY IT SAFE
USE A CONDOM
Risk reduction messaging could help

Instead of:
Do not gather in groups
Stay out of crowded places
and avoid mass gatherings

Try this:

REDUCE THE RISK OF COVID-19 TRANSMISSION

For accurate COVID-19 information and updates:
placer.ca.gov/coronavirus
Summary

• Reopening decisions need to be made in context of larger goal
  • Keep the curve flat
• Reopening decisions are not easy
• Communicating about reopening is not easy