



Public Health Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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TEN COVID-19 DEATHS ADDED TO DASHBOARD

Santa Cruz County, Calif. – Today the data dashboard on www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus was updated to show 10 new deaths as a result of COVID-19. Although updated today, the date of deaths occurred from January 16th – February 10th, which included the height of the omicron surge. Of the ten, 5 were male and 5 were female. Nine were vaccinated but only 5 had received boosters. All had other significant underlying conditions. One person was in his early 100s, three were in their 90s, two were in their 80s, three were in their 70s and the one unvaccinated individual was in his 50s.

“This is sobering information and a reminder that the pandemic still holds significant risks to many,” said Dr. Gail Newel, Santa Cruz County Health Officer.

Although the number of COVID-related deaths reported appears high, it does not exceed the one-week record of 22 COVID-related deaths on 1/17/2021 following the first winter surge at a time when the vaccine was not available to most individuals. The recent omicron surge had three times the daily case rates compared to the first winter surge. Vaccines are still highly effective in preventing death. Deaths are 30 times more likely in unvaccinated individuals than those vaccinated and boosted. Advanced age and underlying conditions increase risk despite vaccination and boosting. Prevention measures such as masking, staying home when sick and testing before gathering should continue to protect those most vulnerable.

For local information go to www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus or call (831) 454-4242 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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