



PRESS RELEASE
March 16, 2021

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY MOVES TO THE RED TIER ALLOWING FOR MORE BUSINESSES TO OPEN INDOORS WITH MODIFICATIONS

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) –Santa Barbara County has met the State’s Red Tier case rate and positivity rate allowing movement into the less restrictive Red Tier, effective Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 8 a.m. A new Health Officer Order will be issued which includes guidance on business operations in the Red Tier. The new Health Officer Order allows more businesses to reopen indoors with modifications and capacity limits, in accordance with the rules and framework of the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#).

“Thankfully we have moved past the winter surge of the past few months and are now experiencing a much welcomed and needed decrease in deaths, cases, and positivity rate. Many factors contribute to these decreases including wearing of face coverings, social distancing measures, and vaccinations,” states Dr. Henning Ansorg, Public Health Officer for the County of Santa Barbara. “As we move into the red tier, we must remain diligent in order to continue forward.”

The State’s Blueprint allows counties in the Red Tier to reopen indoor operations for some additional business sectors and allows for certain activities to resume. All businesses in Santa Barbara County, which are open or will be reopening, must follow all State guidance for their industry and self-certify that they are ready to reopen through completing the online self-attestation. Some additional businesses, which may reopen indoors in the red tier with modifications include indoor dining in restaurants, gyms and fitness centers, movie theaters, and museums, zoos, and aquariums. For more information about changes in the red tier, visit the public health website [here](http://www.publichealthsb.org/red-tier-2021/). www.publichealthsb.org/red-tier-2021/

For more information about the COVID-19 response locally, please visit <https://publichealthsb.org> or call 2-1-1.

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County of Santa Barbara: www.CountyofSB.org, [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#)
2-1-1 Call Center: Dial 211 or outside the area, call (800) 400-1572
Community Wellness Team Information and Referral Line: (805) 364-2750