



# Los Angeles County

## WHEN YOU NEED TO WEAR A MASK

Community transmission of COVID-19 has increased in LA County. The risk for COVID-19 exposure and infection will continue until more people are vaccinated. It is important for everyone\* to help slow the spread of the virus by wearing masks indoors. When people wear a mask correctly, they protect others as well as themselves.

<b>EVERYONE*, regardless of vaccination status, <u>must</u> wear a mask:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>In all indoor public settings, venues, gatherings, and public and private businesses in Los Angeles County</b></li><li>• On planes, trains, buses, ferries, taxis and ride-shares, and all other forms of public transport</li><li>• In transportation hubs like airports, bus terminals, train stations, marinas, seaports or other ports, subway stations, or any other area that provides transportation.</li><li>• In healthcare settings (including long-term care facilities)</li><li>• In state and local correctional facilities and detention centers</li><li>• Shelters and cooling centers</li><li>• Indoors at any youth-serving facility (such as TK-12 schools, childcare, day camps, etc.)</li><li>• At outdoor Mega Events (events with over 10,000 attendees like concerts, sports games, and parades)</li><li>• In any other outdoor location where it is the policy of the business or venue</li></ul>
<b>Recommendations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is strongly recommended that you wear a mask at private indoor social gatherings with people outside your household unless everyone at the gathering is fully vaccinated and has recently tested negative.</li><li>• It is <i>strongly recommended</i> that you wear a mask at crowded outdoor events (that are smaller than Mega Events). Wear a mask while in line to enter, exit, use the bathroom, or buy food or drinks.</li><li>• It is strongly recommended that children wear a mask on playgrounds and in other outdoor spaces where they gather if distancing is not possible or practical. If you are not fully vaccinated, it is strongly recommended that you wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings.</li><li>• If you are in a setting where you are in sustained close contact with other people who may not be fully vaccinated, consider wearing a higher level of protection, such as wearing two masks (double masking) or an N95 respirator. This is especially important if you are not fully vaccinated and are in an indoor or crowded outdoor setting.</li></ul>

Note: You are allowed to take off your mask while you are:

- Actively eating or drinking as long as you are sitting or standing in a specific place such as a table, counter, or ticketed seat. This means that you can briefly remove your mask when you are actually eating or drinking but you must put it back on immediately afterwards. You must also wear a mask when you are waiting to be served, between courses or drinks, and while seated after finishing your food or drink.
- Alone in a separate room or space.
- Showering or swimming.
- Receiving personal hygiene or personal care services (like a facial or shave) that cannot be done without removing your mask.





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**\*There are some people who should not wear a mask**, such as children younger than 2, people with certain medical conditions or disabilities, and people instructed by their medical provider not to wear a mask. Children ages 2 to 8 should wear a mask only when under adult supervision. See [Who should not wear a mask](#) and [Special considerations for persons with communication difficulties or certain disabilities](#) for details and information on alternative types of face coverings.

**\*In the workplace**, workers must follow the most protective mask requirements as stated by Cal/OSHA and the County Health Officer Order. Certain employees may be exempt from wearing a mask in specific situations provided alternative safety measures are in place. See the [Health Officer Order](#) and [Best Practices for Businesses](#) webpage for more details.

To learn more about mask wearing, visit <http://ph.lacounty.gov/masks>.

