



Public Health Brief

Richard O. Johnson, M.D., MPH
Public Health Officer
Office: 530-694-2146, Ext 249
e-mail: rjohnson@alpinecountyca.gov

Nichole Williamson
HHS Director
Office: 530-694-2235

24/7/365 Emergency Contact Number
Dispatch: 530-694-2231, Ext 330



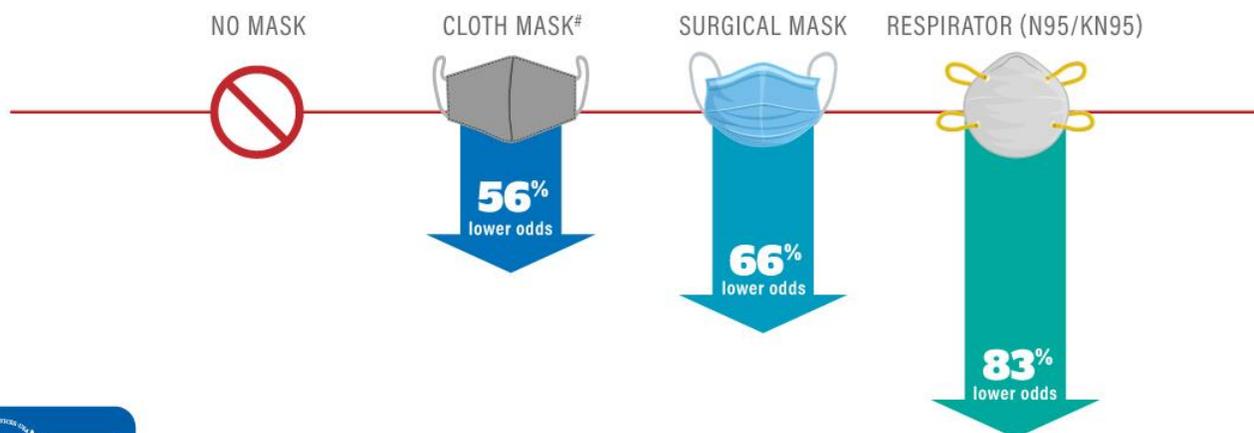
Tuesday February 8, 2022

Comparative Value of Masks and Respirators

People who reported always wearing a mask in indoor public settings were less likely to test positive for COVID-19 than people who didn't*

WEARING A MASK LOWERED THE ODDS OF TESTING POSITIVE

Among 534 participants reporting mask type†



bit.ly/MMWR7106

* Matched case-control study, 1,828 people, Feb 10–Dec 1, 2021

† Compared people with similar characteristics (e.g., vaccination)

Not statistically significant



Face masks or respirators (N95/KN95s) effectively filter virus-sized particles in laboratory settings. The real-world effectiveness of face coverings to prevent acquisition of SARS-CoV-2 infection has not been widely studied.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Alpine County Health Department, 75-B Diamond Valley Rd., Markleeville, CA 96120
Alpine County Board of Supervisors, Phone: (530) 694-2281
District 1: January Riddle, District 2: Ron Hames, District 3: Irvin Jim,
District 4: Terry Woodrow, District 5: David Griffith

In this California study, consistent use of a face mask or respirator in indoor public settings was associated with lower odds of a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result. Use of respirators with higher filtration capacity was associated with the most protection, compared with no mask use.

The implication?

In addition to being up to date with recommended COVID-19 vaccinations, consistently wearing a comfortable, well-fitting face mask or respirator in indoor public settings protects against acquisition of SARS-CoV-2 infection; a respirator offers the best protection.

Suggested citation for this article: Andrejko KL, Pry JM, Myers JF, et al. Effectiveness of Face Mask or Respirator Use in Indoor Public Settings for Prevention of SARS-CoV-2 Infection — California, February–December 2021. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. ePub: 4 February 2022. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7106e1> external icon.

[Masks and Respirators \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/masks/)

[How to Use Your N95 Respirator | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory/n95/)

[Free N95 Respirator Manufacturers | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory/n95/manufacturers/)

To subscribe to “Public Health Brief”, go to: <https://www.alpinecountyca.gov/list.aspx>
All Public Health Briefs are archived at <https://www.alpinecountyca.gov/516/COVID-19>



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Alpine County Health Department, 75-B Diamond Valley Rd., Markleeville, CA 96120
Alpine County Board of Supervisors, Phone: (530) 694-2281
District 1: January Riddle, District 2: Ron Hames, District 3: Irvin Jim,
District 4: Terry Woodrow, District 5: David Griffith