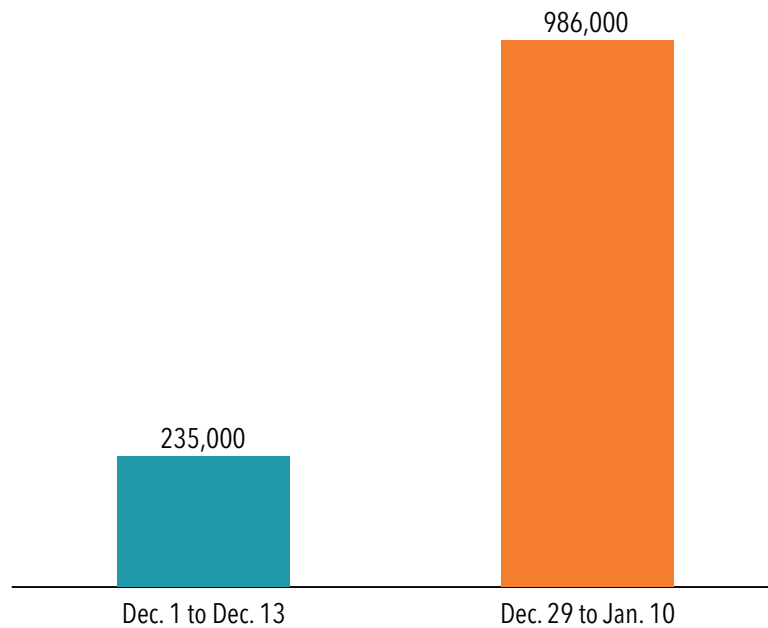




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The Number of Californians Not Working Due to Illness from COVID-19 Increased by 320% During the Latest Surge in Cases

Adults Not Working Because They Had Coronavirus Symptoms or Were Caring for Someone Who Did



Source: US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey

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- California workers deserve to be safe, healthy, and thrive. State leaders created COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave to ensure workers were able to take time off to care for themselves and loved ones while following public health guidelines. **This temporary policy lapsed on September 30, 2021.** Without it, many workers may have just three paid sick days a year.
- During the latest COVID-19 surge, the number of Californians who reported that they were **not working because they had coronavirus symptoms or were caring for someone who did increased by 320%** — soaring to nearly 1 million adults statewide.
- Without COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave, workers may have to choose between working while sick and losing pay or even their job. **Reinstating supplemental paid sick leave for the duration of the pandemic is critical** so workers can care for themselves or family. The state should also require employers to provide 10 paid sick days a year to support workers' health and safety beyond the pandemic.