



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Daily Press Bulletin for 7-30-2020

Carson City, NV — Today, Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, was joined by Dr. Mark Pandori, Nevada's Chief of Testing, to provide updates on the ongoing COVID-19 response, testing and reporting in Nevada during a daily teleconference with members of the media.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the [Nevada Health Response](https://www.nvhealthresponse.nv.gov) website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

SUMMARY:

- As of today, Nevada has logged 46,824 cases, an increase of 1,018 cases since yesterday. Of these new cases, 848 or 83.3% were in Clark County, with 104 (10.2%) in Washoe County. The other 66 (6.5%) were spread throughout the State.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 607,288 PCR tests since the beginning of COVID-19, an increase of 10,493 since yesterday.
- The cumulative test positivity rate is 10.1%. The daily positivity rate is 16.2%.

- For the most recent 7-day period ending July 29th, cases are growing at a rate of 2.3%, or 986 new cases per day. For comparison, the growth rate for the 7-day period ending June 30 was 3.9%, or 644 new cases per day. The growth rate for the 7-day period ending May 31 was 1.4%, or 116 new cases per day.
- Data continues to suggest a slowing of growth rates related to both new cases and hospitalizations.
- Nevada recorded an additional 21 deaths today. Please keep in mind that the death rates we are seeing correspond to cases diagnosed up to 5 weeks ago.
- Nevada has 1,145 hospitalized COVID-19 patients as of yesterday, July 29, 2020. This number is up 100 patients from July 18, 2020. Statewide hospital occupancy rates are 76% while intensive care units (ICU) are at an occupancy rate of 61%. About 41% of the ventilators statewide are in use right now for all patients.
- It should be noted that the number of people hospitalized continues to rise, although at a rate slower than experienced in late June. Regionally, hospitals continue to have both adequate bed availability and intensive care availability. However, some individual facilities within regions are being stressed with high all cause occupancy rates.
- Ventilator availability remains good throughout the state.
- Since the State's first case of COVID-19 through yesterday, we have identified 7,135 new COVID-19 cases (46,824) as a result of contact tracing. This represents 15.2% of the total to date.

- Contact tracers through the State's contract with Deloitte are working 12 hours a day, seven days a week in Clark County, to complement state and county efforts.
 - Deloitte agents logged a total of 752 calls as of 8 PM PST on July 29. Of these calls, 47 were inbound and 705 were outbound.
 - Deloitte's SMS (text) campaign resulted in 872 total SMS messages sent, with 467 unique outbound communications and a 84% response rate from unique contacts.
- Yesterday the Legislative Interim Finance Committee met and approved some DHHS requests.
- The CARES request for funds for the WIC program that provides food, health information and support for women, infants and children was approved for home delivery of WIC foods to participants across the state. This is especially important during the pandemic as participants may be hesitant to go shopping in person. The availability of healthy foods and nutrition education helps promote health and wellness for families.
- Also, at yesterday's IFC meeting, \$85 million in CARES funding was approved to support COVID-19 testing, disease investigation and contact tracing. This funding will be divided between contracts and subgrants with our partners as well as statewide efforts.
- The Nevada testing team will be meeting with the CDC next week and with other PH labs to discuss usage of the new Influenza/SARSCOV2 test.
- The CDC has indicated that additional reagents necessary for a new test will go out.

- The new test is essentially a “combo” test that will enable the labs to identify and differentiate flu cases from COVID as summer gives way to Fall, and the flu becomes more prevalent.
- Throughout the State, testing volume remains high, affecting turnaround times. Demand for lab services is extremely high. This is true nationwide, for both private and public testing labs.
- Expansion of testing capacity is anticipated to occur next week, as additional equipment comes online.
- Nevada remains on strict rations/allocations of tests for the fast, High throughput equipment.
- Given the increase in numbers it is extremely important to social distance, wear a face covering, not socialize in big groups, and maintain general hygiene and cleanliness.

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