



**NEVADA  
HEALTH  
RESPONSE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 11-02-2020**

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, provided updates on Nevada's ongoing COVID-19 response, testing and reporting during a 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:**

- The County Criteria Tracker is released every Monday and can be found on the NV Health Response dashboard. The following counties have been flagged for elevated transmission for COVID-19:
  - Washoe County for six consecutive weeks.
  - Lyon for four consecutive weeks.
  - Clark, Elko and Lincoln have been flagged for the past 3 weeks.
  - Carson City, Humboldt and Nye have been flagged for the past two weeks in a row.
  - Douglas County has been newly added and it is their first week.
  - All of the flagged counties have met the same two of three criteria. Those being, high case rates per 100,000 and high test-positivity rates.

- As of today, Nevada has logged 102,114 cases, an increase of 635 new cases since yesterday.
  - 453 or approx. 71.3% were in Clark County.
  - 115 or approx. 18.1% were in Washoe County.
  - 67 or approx. 10.6% were spread throughout the rest of the State.
- For the most recent 7-day period, cases are growing at a rate of 0.9%, or 848 new cases per day.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 1,270,643 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 11%.
- Nationwide, the all-cause hospital occupancy rate is 67%, while Nevada is at 72%. ICU occupancy nationwide is 70% and Nevada is at 60%. Nationwide ventilator usage is 24% compared to Nevada at 23%.
- Nevada continues to see a resurgence in COVID-19. Hospitalizations are now at 678 (550 confirmed; 128 suspected) which is comparable to our numbers on Sept. 1.
  - Northern Nevada is experiencing a sharp increase in hospitalizations and ICU admissions. Record highs have been set in recent days with 147 hospitalized on October 31st and 55 COVID-19 ICU admissions on Nov. 1.
  - Clark County is experiencing a resurgence, similar to the rest of Nevada. Currently, 512 patients are hospitalized with COVID-19 (415 confirmed and 97 suspected). This represent the highest number of confirmed cases since Sept. 4.

- Even with these high rates of COVID-19 demand, the hospital infrastructure currently remains in good condition. Some individual facilities are experiencing higher occupancy rates, but with all-cause occupancy rates below the national averages.
- Statewide traditional case investigation and contact tracing efforts are ongoing, and Nevadans are encouraged to download the COVID Trace app to their smartphone to supplement those efforts.
  - Since the beginning of COVID in the state through today, a total of 25,739 cases have been identified as a result of contact tracing efforts. This now represents 25.2% of the total cases reported to date.
  - Since June 18, 2020 surge staff have logged a total of 155,983 calls to close contacts.
  - From Oct. 26 through Nov. 1, there were a total of 4,846 unique individuals identified as close contacts and followed up on by surge staff. All of these individual exposures were contacted within 24 hours of the record ingestion.
  - Related to surge staffing efforts from last week (Oct. 26 – Nov 1), the agents logged a total of 13,624 calls.
  - Related to the text messaging of close contacts, the campaign resulted in 24,213, a 65% increase since last week, of total texts messages exchanged, with 9,143 unique outbound communications and a peak response rate of 85% from unique contacts on 10/29.
  - There are now 65,056 downloads of the COVID Trace app, as of last night. There are 12 cases that had the app downloaded at the time of their diagnosis and 15 exposure notifications as a result.
  - Over the past week, the COVID-19 Response, Relief & Recovery Task Force (aka public/private partnership task force) paid for,

and executed a statewide COVID Trace awareness campaign that resulted in days with more than 5 times the average number of downloads. There were also donations of goods and services to support the event from an incredible amount of organizations.

- A brief update on where Nevada stands related to influenza.
  - The State's office of Public Health Investigations and Epidemiology post a weekly influenza report online under their publications link. While influenza viruses circulate year-round, most of the time flu activity peaks between December and February, but activity can last as late as May.
  - For the period of Oct. 11 - 17 (known as MMWR week 42 by the CDC), the percent of patients with Influenza-like Illness (ILI) at Nevada sentinel providers is 0.5%, which is below the Nevada baseline of 1.3%.
    - Nationally, the percent of patients with ILI is 1.1% which is below baseline.
    - Regionally, patients with ILI is 1.1%, which is below baseline.
  - 0 influenza hospitalizations have been reported in Nevada in week 42.
  - 0 influenza-associated deaths have been reported in Nevada in week 42.
  
- Open Enrollment for Nevada Health Link runs from Nov. 1, 2020 through Jan. 15, 2021.
  - NevadaHealthLink.com is the only place eligible Nevadans can get access to financial assistance to purchase comprehensive health insurance.

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