



**NEVADA  
HEALTH  
RESPONSE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 11-23-2020**

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services were joined by Terry Reynolds, Director of the Department of Business and Industry (B&I) to provide updates on Nevada’s ongoing COVID-19 response and an overview of B&I, during a call 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 13 counties have been flagged for elevated transmission for COVID-19:
  - Washoe County for nine consecutive weeks
  - Lyon seven weeks
  - Clark, Elko and Lincoln six weeks
  - Carson City and Nye five weeks
  - Douglas County four weeks
  - Churchill and Eureka counties three weeks
  - Esmeralda, Humboldt and Lander counties two weeks

- All the flagged counties met the criteria of a high case rate per 100,000.
  - All counties had a high test positivity rate.
  - Lincoln had a low average number of tests per day per 100,000.
- As of today, Nevada has logged 136,227 cases, an increase of 2,339 new cases since yesterday.
  - The state has completed a total of 1,536,076 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
  - For the most recent 7-day period, cases are growing at a rate of 1.6% or 2,019 new cases per day.
  - The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 16.7%.
  - COVID-19 hospitalizations are currently at 1,274 (1174 confirmed; 100 suspected).
  - More information on hospitalization trends can be found on the [Nevada Hospital Association](#) website

Terry Reynolds, Director of the Department of Business and Industry provided an overview on business compliance and training.

- The Department of Business and Industry oversees 11 state agencies and 23 boards and commissions within the agencies, in addition to the Director's office.
  - There are 15 offices statewide located in Las Vegas, Carson City, Reno, Winnemucca, and Elko.
- The Department of Business and Industry through the Division of Industrial Relations consists of five sections: OSHA, Mine Safety,

Mechanical, Safety Consultation and Training (SCATS) and Worker's Comp.

- OSHA and SCATS sections have been very involved in the forefront of compliance and training during COVID-19.
  - OSHA investigates complaints from employees and private citizens. The review and determinations are in statute and must follow the process as outlined in NAC. OSHA has had approximately 5,000 complaints to date. In addition, they have completed over 10,000 business inspections.
  - Information on complaints can be found on the [OSHA Dashboard](#)
  - OSHA staff works closely with local governments (County and Cities) in Clark, Washoe, and Carson City as they perform their business checks
  - The Safety Consultation and Training section works with employers on safety training for their employees. They are available to assist on how to comply with state and federal COVID guidelines and have produced videos, posters, and checklists for events in both English and Spanish
  - SCATS also reviews events and safety protocols under the Governor's Directives in cooperation with the local health districts.
  
- Nevada never closed three major industries: construction, mining, and manufacturing. From the beginning of the pandemic, OSHA, SCATS and Mine Safety were involved in compliance efforts.
  - Although there were challenges, the industries worked with B&I to put in place protocols to protect their employees.

- The Department works with businesses, Chambers, and business organizations of the regulatory agencies to gain their compliance for their safety as well as their customers.
  - This includes Financial Institutions, Real Estate, Labor Commissioner, Taxi and the NTA (UBER and Lyft) it is important as many of these agencies are essential and need to stay open.
- Also, it is important that employers remind their employees not only at work, but off work to be cautious and proactive and adhere to the basic safety protocols. Wear a mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands.

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