



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

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COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 2-1-2021

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director was joined by Candice McDaniel, Health Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Child, Family, and Community Wellness and David Wuest, Executive Secretary of the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy, to provide updates on Nevada's ongoing COVID-19 response, testing, reporting and vaccination efforts 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:

- As of today, Nevada has logged 279,146 cases, with the 14-day rolling average of daily cases being 1,011.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 2,496,070 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 17.4%.
- The Nevada Hospital Association (NHA) reports Nevada is continuing to see a downward trajectory in hospitalizations.

- The NHA is also reporting there are currently 1,247 COVID-19 hospitalizations (1,057 confirmed; 190 suspected).
- There will not be a COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force meeting this week.

Vaccination Efforts

- As of January 31, 253,159 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered and reported to NV WebIZ.
- Over 37,000 second doses have been administered.
- The State of Nevada is receiving limited first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from the federal government each week – many vaccination sites are having to scale down because of the limited allocation that will be delivered next week.
- Doses of vaccine are allocated on a weekly basis and we encourage Nevadans to go to [NVCovidFighter.org](https://www.nvcovidfighter.org) for appointment availability.
- Second doses, for those who have received first doses, are available from the federal government based on the date of vaccination and the minimum intervals for both the Moderna and Pfizer products.
- Nevadans must continue to be patient while limited doses are available. All Nevadans are encouraged to think of the seniors they know and ensure they have a plan and understand how to make an appointment to be vaccinated.

Nevada State Board of Pharmacy

- The Board has a duty to carry out and enforce the provision of Nevada law to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- During the pandemic, the Board has adopted and modified regulations to meet the increased demand for pharmaceutical services. The goal is to expand the State's capacity to provide pharmaceutical care to Nevadans and improve the State's response to COVID-19.
- These changes can be found at the COVID-19 link on the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy website; [BOP.NV.GOV](https://www.bop.nv.gov)
- Until recently, the tools to fight against the spread of COVID infections have been social distancing, mask-wearing, handwashing, and most recently the COVID vaccines. There are now two medications that have received FDA approval to treat COVID patients in high-risk categories.
- These products should not be confused with the COVID vaccines. These are a class of drugs called Monoclonal Antibodies. Monoclonal Antibodies are lab created proteins that resemble the body's own immune system.
- The state and medical providers have begun administering monoclonal antibody therapeutic treatments to treat certain COVID-19 patients in order to prevent hospitalization and the severity of illness.
- These infusion treatments are most effective when symptoms are mild or moderate and they keep the virus from attacking

the human body. Monoclonal antibodies have been demonstrated as safe and effective in clinical trials.

- Treating these patients successfully will reduce the strain on the capacity of hospitals and free up resources for the more severe COVID-19 patients.
- When infused early in the course of infection to patients that are high risk to be admitted in the hospital, these medications reduce the hospitalization rate from 15% to 4% which translate to an approximate 70% reduction in admissions into the hospital. For every 10 people we treat with the medications, one person will not have to be admitted into the hospital, reducing the burden on our hospitals and potential saving lives.
- Treatment is a single dose. Patients receive the medication via an infusion. The 1-hour infusion is followed by a one-hour monitoring.
- These monoclonal antibody treatments have been provided and paid for by the federal government.
- Patients and practitioners can find a map of monoclonal providers at [Covid.infusionCenter.org](https://www.covidinfusioncenter.org). There is a link to the page at the State's [nvhealthresponse.nv.gov](https://www.nvhealthresponse.nv.gov) website.
- Southern Nevada has one of only three state and federal supported infusion centers in the country. Patients who meet the criteria can be referred by their medical provider to receive the infusion treatment.

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