



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Daily Press Bulletin for 7-21-2020

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, provided updates on the ongoing COVID-19 response 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.healthresponse.nv.gov) website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

SUMMARY:

- As of today, Nevada has logged 37,528 cases, an increase of 815 cases since yesterday. Of these new cases, 713 or 87.5% were in Clark County, with 65 (7%) in Washoe County. The other 37 (4.5%) were spread throughout the State.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 503,464 PCR tests since the beginning of COVID-19, an increase of 4,725 since yesterday.
- This is an unusually low number. Nevada has been averaging higher daily tests lately. All of our labs reported data through the online reporting system, but we do know the Electronic Laboratory Reporting system has been experiencing processing issues due to volume. We are working on an update that should go live this week.

- The cumulative test positivity rate is 9.5%. The daily positivity rate is 26.4%.
- For the 7-day period ending on July 19, cases are growing at a rate of 3.4%, or 1,130 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.
- Nevada has 1,095 hospitalized COVID-19 patients as of yesterday, July 20, 2020. Statewide hospital occupancy rates are 70% while intensive care units (ICU) are at an occupancy rate of 69%. About 39% of the ventilators statewide are in use right now, again for all patients.
- The Nevada Hospital Association has recently made changes in how they calculate hospital occupancy, which are in line with new federal definitions. By making this change, the Nevada Hospital Association reports that emergency managers can calculate the percentages of staffed beds to licensed beds for both ICU and the hospital as a whole. This equation can help quantify staffing shortfalls.
- This results in a relative decrease in overall percentage of occupancy, however this makes it easier to quantify which facilities are experiencing both surges in hospital capacity and ICU capacity as well as which facilities aren't staffing to levels equal to their licensed bed counts.
- The State is reporting 28 new deaths today. It is important to note that not all deaths occurred in one day. As usual, we see low numbers reported on Sunday and Monday and an increase on Tuesday to

account for this. As the date of death is reported to the State, the graphs on the NV Health Response website are updated to reflect the date.

- Since the State's first case of COVID-19 through yesterday, we have identified 6,160 new COVID-19 cases (37,528) as a result of contact tracing. This represents 17% of the total to date.
- Contact tracers through the State's contract with Deloitte are working 12 hours a day, seven days a week, to complement state and county efforts.
 - Deloitte agents logged a total of 833 calls as of 8 PM PST on 7/20. Of these calls, there were 119 inbound calls and 714 outbound calls.
 - Deloitte's SMS (text) campaign resulted in 934 total SMS messages sent, with 505 unique outbound communications and a 77% response rate from unique contacts.
- Given the increase in numbers it is extremely important to social distance, wear a mask, not socialize in big groups, and maintain general hygiene and cleanliness.

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