



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force approves
Clark County and Elko County plans to reopen bars due to
improved data and mitigation efforts**

CARSON CITY, NV — Today, the COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force, chaired by Nevada COVID-19 Response Director Caleb Cage and created via Directive 030, met with six counties that have been flagged for having an elevated risk of transmission of COVID-19.

Based on data provided this morning by the Department of Health and Human Services, three counties are no longer meeting two of the three criteria for having an elevated risk of transmission: Eureka County, Churchill County, and Washoe County.

Clark County and Elko County remain on the list, and Lyon County and Mineral County have been added to the list. Lyon and Mineral will be required to submit an assessment and action plan to the Task Force next week. No changes were made today to the existing action plans for Churchill, Eureka, Lyon, and Washoe counties.

The Task Force took action on Clark and Elko's plans to reopen bars, pubs, taverns, breweries, distilleries, and wineries with additional measures in

place, including increased enforcement efforts throughout the counties. These new action plans will take effect at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20.

At a minimum, the reopened businesses must follow statewide standards and enforcement measures, which include required face coverings for employees and customers and a 50 percent capacity limit.

Due to increased restrictions being lifted on all bars statewide, following today's actions by the Task Force for Clark and Elko, owners and patrons are encouraged to reacquaint themselves with the statewide standards in the following guidance documents: [Bars, Pubs, Breweries, Distilleries, Wineries, Taverns & Bar Areas within Restaurants](#), and [Bar Mitigation Measures and Restrictions Updates](#).

The following is a summary of the information presented by Clark and Elko to the Task Force at today's public meeting and the actions taken by the Task Force.

CLARK COUNTY

Assessment Summary:

- Clark County continues to meet 2 of the 3 elevated disease transmission criteria.
- Clark's test positivity rate dropped 2.6% since last week (now at 8.6%), demonstrating positive returns on its comprehensive action plan previously approved by the Task Force. Clark's case rate continues to drop and is above the threshold for the average number of tests per day.
- Clark reports sufficient hospital capacity throughout the region.
- Clark County is currently conducting a testing program with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the State of Nevada to administer up to 60,000 additional drive-through

coronavirus tests over 14 days at three separate locations throughout the Las Vegas Valley at no cost to individuals. The additional testing runs through September 18.

Approved Action Plan:

- This week, the Task Force approved Clark County's plan to reopen bars, pubs, taverns, breweries, distilleries and wineries with certain restrictions in place, including increased enforcement measures. This measure will go into effect at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20 and will include input on increased enforcement and mitigation measures. At a minimum, the reopened businesses must follow statewide standards and enforcement measures, which include, but is not limited to required face coverings for employees and customers and a 50 percent capacity limit.
- State officials will continue to work with Clark on enforcement and mitigation efforts to help further reduce the county's positivity test rate and case rate.
- State officials have requested proactive mitigation plans in the event of increased positivity test rates and case rates going forward.

ELKO COUNTY

Assessment Summary:

- Elko continues to meet 2 of the 3 elevated disease transmission criteria.
- In the last week, Elko's positivity rate has dropped from 12.6% to 6.2%, demonstrating positive returns on its comprehensive action plan previously approved by the Task Force.
- Testing has increased in Elko through existing local resources, a private vendor, and additional resources requested from the State.

Approved Action Plan:

- This week, the Task Force approved Elko County's plan to reopen bars, pubs, taverns, breweries, distilleries and wineries with certain restrictions in place, including increased enforcement measures. This measure will go into effect at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20 and will include input on increased enforcement and mitigation measures. At a minimum, the reopened businesses must follow statewide standards and enforcement measures, which include, but is not limited to required face coverings for employees and customers and a 50 percent capacity limit.
- State officials will continue to work with Elko on enforcement and mitigation plans moving forward to continue to keep the test positivity rate down and to increase testing within the county.
- State officials have requested proactive mitigation plans in the event of increased positivity test rates and case rates going forward.

Based on [Directive 030](#), the COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force is authorized by the Governor to review and then accept or modify the plans proposed by the elevated risk counties.

All plans, and implementation dates, will not be considered finalized until action to approve is taken by the Task Force.

All counties -- regardless of risk level -- must maintain the statewide baseline mitigation measures, including wearing face coverings, limits on gathering sizes and capacity in businesses.

More information about the task force can be found online on the Nevada Health Response page at nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/, under "News and Information" and "COVID Task Force Assessment."

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NV COVID-19 MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

MITIGATION MEASURES & RESTRICTIONS UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

Bars, pubs, breweries, distilleries, wineries, taverns & bar areas within restaurants

The Nevada COVID-19 Mitigation & Management Task Force meets on a weekly basis to review counties designated as “elevated risk” for COVID-19 transmission. The summary below is based on actions taken by the Task Force on bars, pubs, breweries, distilleries, wineries, taverns and bar areas within restaurants during their meetings on September 10, 2020 and September 17, 2020. **As of the September 17, 2020 meeting of the Task Force, all counties in Nevada may have bars, pubs, breweries, distilleries, wineries, taverns and bar areas within restaurants reopened under the Statewide Standards required in the Governor’s New Normal Plan** *(see list below for specific reopening dates for certain counties)*



WASHOE COUNTY

ACTION TAKEN: 9/10/20 Task Force meeting
REOPEN DATE & TIME: Wednesday, Sept. 16 @ 11:59pm

All bars, pubs, breweries, distilleries, wineries, taverns and bar areas within restaurants are required to follow all Statewide Standards, including but not limited to:



NYE COUNTY

ACTION TAKEN: 9/10/20 Task Force meeting
REOPEN DATE & TIME: Thursday, Sept. 10 @ 11:59pm

- Limit occupancy to **no more than 50% capacity**
- **Face coverings are required** for employees and patrons
- Parties should be limited to **no more than 6 individuals**
- Patrons and tables must be spaced **6 feet apart**
- **Bar top seating must be limited** such that barstools are spaced a min. of 6 ft. apart from customers not in the same party.
- **Congregation areas shall be closed**, including billiards, dancing, etc.



CLARK COUNTY

ACTION TAKEN: 9/17/20 Task Force meeting
REOPEN DATE & TIME: Sunday, Sept. 20 @ 11:59pm



ELKO COUNTY

ACTION TAKEN: 9/17/20 Task Force meeting
REOPEN DATE & TIME: Sunday, Sept. 20 @ 11:59pm

VISIT www.nvhealthresponse.nv.gov to review all Statewide Standards Operating Rules for Bars, Pubs, Breweries, Distilleries, Wineries, Taverns & Bar Areas within Restaurants.



BARS, PUBS, BREWERIES, DISTILLERIES, WINERIES, TAVERNS & BAR AREAS WITHIN RESTAURANTS

NOTE: Pursuant to the [Governor's New Normal Plan](#) and [Directive 030](#), certain counties with elevated COVID-19 risk may have additional and/or different restrictions on businesses and activities above and beyond the Statewide Standards, including but not limited to, the closure of bars and bar tops at restaurants. If you live, work, or own a business in an elevated COVID-19 risk county you will need to consult your county officials and visit NVHealthResponse.nv.gov to determine if bars are closed in your community.

***OPERATING RULES:**

- Only operate at 50% capacity. Capacity is further limited to the number of tables within the establishment that can be spaced 6 feet apart.
- Per [Directive 024](#), face coverings are required at all times for employees and for patrons except when they are actively eating, drinking, or smoking or under other exemptions established by Directive 024.
- Patrons in different parties must be a minimum of 6 feet apart. Businesses are encouraged to limit parties to no more than 6 individuals. The spacing of tables may need to be 6 feet or more to ensure proper physical distancing.
- Patrons may sit at and be served at bar tops only if bar top seating is limited such that barstools are spaced a minimum of 6 feet apart from other customers not in the same party. It is strongly encouraged that parties of no more than two people be allowed at bar tops.
- Patrons sitting at a table or booth must only be served via table service and may not order from the bar top areas.
- These requirements apply to all outdoor seating areas as well.
- All standing and open congregation areas in bars that are not necessary for the preparation and service of food or beverages shall be closed. This includes, but is not limited to, billiards, card playing, pinball games, video games, arcade games, darts, dancing, and standing.
- Require employees to stay home if they are symptomatic and conduct daily symptom assessments.**
- Provide PPE for staff to the extent practicable.
- Require frequent and thorough hand washing, including providing workers, customers, and worksite visitors with a place to wash their hands. If soap and running water are not immediately available, provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Customers waiting to be seated must wait outside and must practice social distancing from people not in their party.



Road to Recovery: Moving to a New Normal

- Daily deep disinfection of high contact surfaces (e.g. door handles, light switches, seats, railings, cabinetry handles, appliance handles, toilets, countertops, phones, tables, etc.).
- Establishments with restricted gaming licenses shall abide by the [Gaming Control Board's Health & Safety Policies for Restricted Licensees](#). This includes, without limitation, spacing slot machines at least 6 feet apart or complying with an alternate plan approved by the board, and the cleaning and disinfection of each machine and any partitions or barriers, if any, between machines after each use by a patron. The use of such partitions or barriers is highly encouraged.

***RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES:**

- Establish health screening protocols for workers at the start of each shift and vendors (e.g. health screening survey, taking temperature). Encourage customers to review a screening survey that checks for COVID-19 symptoms prior to arrival.
- Post informational signs regarding 50% occupancy limit, social distancing, facial coverings, and what to do if symptomatic.
- Stagger or limit arrivals of employees and patrons.
- Provide hand sanitizer stations.

CONFIRMED CASES:

- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who tests positive.
- Work with local health authority to identify potentially infected or exposed individuals to help facilitate effective contact tracing/notification. All suspected infections or exposures should be tested.
- Following testing, contact local health authority to initiate appropriate care and tracing.
- Shutdown any facility for deep cleaning and disinfection, if possible. Use disinfectants outlined on [EPA List N](#).

** These rules and recommendations were compiled based on the Governor's Emergency Directives, guidance from the CDC, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), [Nevada OSHA](#), and other relevant agencies for the industry and public health officials, including state licensing boards. The information provided is only intended as general information to the public. Following these guidelines does not constitute, and is not a substitute for, compliance with all laws and regulations applicable at any particular time. Individuals and businesses are responsible to ensure that they comply with all laws and regulations that apply to them, including, but not limited to, federal and state health and safety requirements. Additionally, compliance with these regulations does not ensure against the spread of infections from COVID-19 or any other cause.*

*** Daily symptom assessments should include monitoring for fever, cough, and trouble breathing.*

Possible Exposures Obtained Through Case Investigation

How does public health collect data related to possible COVID exposures?

During the case interview with an individual who has contracted COVID, the investigator asks questions related to how the individual may have contracted the illness and who they may have exposed after their infection. They also ask about sites such as the individual’s worksite, businesses the individual may have visited, or events attended. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided guidance to public health agencies on this process.

Appendix B

Potential Contacts and Exposure Locations*	
Type of Contacts	Locations
Household	Place of residence
Family, Friends and Social Acquaintances	Family gatherings, Social residential gatherings, exercise/workout buddies, hiking or camping, hunting or fishing trips, cooking class, yoga class, dance class, other enrichment classes, book club meeting, birthday party, baby shower, wedding, funeral, barbecue, weekend getaway, block party, holiday pot-luck, vacation, visited family or friends at nursing home/group home, etc.
Transportation and Travel	Lyft, Uber, carpool, bus, commuter van, light rail, train, airline travel, cruise, etc.
Workplace— Colleagues/Customers	Businesses, meetings, conferences, restaurants, shops, client’s homes (e.g., carpenter, electrician, plumber), animal shelter, factory, hair salon, etc.
Community	Schools, child care, grocery stores, drug stores, shops/shopping malls, restaurants, coffee shops, hardware store, bank, worship centers, movie theaters, sporting events, concerts, bars/brewhouse, night clubs, library, bowling alley, bingo hall, barber shop, hair salon, nail salon, brow or eyelash salon, day spa, tattoo shop, piercing shop, yoga studio, gym, street faire, festival, county/state fair, animal shelter, airport, etc.
Healthcare	Hospital, Emergency Room, physician offices, dialysis centers, laboratories, dentist offices, pharmacies, ambulance transport, physical therapy, etc.
Congregate (group) Living Settings	Medical: hospital (inpatient); acute care facility, skilled nursing facility, long-term medical care facility, etc. Non-Medical: long term care residential home, assisted living facility, hospice, retirement home, group home, correctional facility (prison/jail/juvenile hall), homeless shelters, multigenerational households, etc.

*Please note this list is not inclusive of all possible type of contacts or exposure locations.

Appendix C

Elicitation for Exposure Locations				
Exposure Site (facility name & location)	Exposure Area within Facility (e.g., specific rooms, location on production line)	Date(s) of Exposure	Duration of Time Spent in Setting	Close Contact(s) (e.g., number, category, names)
e.g., visited my son at his group home about a week after my cruise	potluck birthday celebration in the living room	Date (one time)	1.5 hours	5 group home residents, 2 staff
	Son's bedroom	Date	2 hours	1 son (group home resident)
e.g., Sunday church service at place of worship	Dressing Room	Date (every Sunday)	30mins (15 each prior/after)	8 choir members, 2 altar assistants
	Choir Section	Date (every Sunday)	1 hour	8 choir members
	Meeting Hall for coffee and doughnuts	Date (every Sunday)	1 hour	25 people overall, but lengthy conversation with 2 council members

Last Updated May 21, 2020

Content source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/keyinfo.html>

How is this data used?

Data collected during case investigation of any diseases is used to identify possible risks associated with exposure, contacts that may have also been exposed to the illness, opportunities to intervene or prevent further spread, and disparities related to those risks (i.e. occupational risk, racial/ethnic disparities, geographic disparities, etc.). This data is analyzed and released according to NRS and NAC 441A. This data may also be shared with the appropriate regulatory authorities for additional investigation. Any data released cannot allow an individual case or contact to be identified.

How should this data be interpreted?

All data obtained in case investigations and contact tracing is obtained voluntarily and is self-reported. This data is often incomplete due to memory or the case simply not wanting to share certain information. Lack of sharing of such information delays or impedes the ability for public health to identify and intervene when a risk is present.

If there is a specific activity or location identified through exposure data, this could mean a variety of things and requires additional follow up beyond the investigation. For example, a business that is identified at a high rate may be offering routine testing of employees, so cases are identified more timely and at a higher rate than a business that does not offer testing to their employees. Or, a business who is identified often may have areas that could be improved to lessen risk to employees and patrons and identification of that risk allows for future exposure to be minimized.

Identification of a business, event, or individual that the positive person was in contact with does not mean the person became infected from that encounter.