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COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force meeting summary

CARSON CITY, NV — The Nevada COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force heard presentations from the Nevada State Public Health Lab, Nevada System of Higher Education and the Nevada Department of Corrections during its weekly meeting Thursday.

As of Monday, all counties in Nevada, with the exception of Eureka and Storey counties, were flagged for elevated disease transmission this week. All flagged counties met the criteria of a high case rate per 100,000 and had a high test positivity rate. Lincoln County was the only county flagged for a low average number of tests per day per 100,000.

Due to the State’s current “pause” status, the Task Force’s meeting was focused on ongoing informational updates and briefings rather than through individual county plans.

Dr. Mark Pandori with the Nevada State Public Health Lab provided an overview on cycle threshold values in general, as well as the values being used in testing at the Nevada State Public Health Lab.

The Nevada System of Higher Education had representatives from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas
(UNLV) provide the Task Force with the mitigation efforts within university athletic programs. Representatives discussed testing protocols for high-risk sports, weekly test positivity rates and overall average test positivity rates for athletics which is currently 1.2% and 1.3% for UNR and UNLV, respectively. Additionally, procedures for a positive case within the athletic community as well as quarantine protocols were also presented.

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) presented an overview of current mitigation efforts for staff and inmates in Nevada. NDOC discussed their implementation of firewall and sanitation protocols, the process for quarantine and isolation, testing, PPE and overall institution operations.

The meetings are always steamed live on YouTube and the replay is available. More information about the task force can be found online on the Nevada Health Response page.

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