



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Press Bulletin for July 21, 2021

Carson City, NV — Today, DuAne Young from the Office of the Governor, Candice McDaniel, Deputy Director of Programs for the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services and Dr. Ellie Graeden of Talus Analytics provided updates on Nevada's ongoing COVID-19 response and vaccination efforts 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](#) website.

SUMMARY:

- The State of Nevada continues to work to increase vaccination statewide, with a specific focus on Southern Nevada.
- The State is partnering with the Nevada Resort Association, Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority and resort properties to offer vaccination.
- Last Saturday's "Viva Vax Vegas" event at the MGM was a great partnership where visitors and residents were able to get vaccinated and win some great prizes.
- At the event we heard from locals working in the area that the convenience was a key factor in deciding to get vaccinated.

- Other Strip resorts will also be part of this effort and this Saturday, July 24, vaccination will be available at Jimmy Kimmel's Comedy Club at the LINQ Promenade from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Hundreds of prizes will be given away with some great ones including tickets to sold out "Usher The Las Vegas Residency," deluxe suite packages, spa and entertainment packages.
- Thank you to Caesars Entertainment for stepping up to protect our communities and visitors.
- Viva Vax Vegas and pop up and community sites are intended to help make vaccination as convenient as possible.
- The partnerships, volunteers and advocates are instrumental in this response – if you've made the choice to be vaccinated tell your friends and family why – your encouragement and story may help them to make this choice.

Skilled Nursing Facilities:

- From early in Nevada's COVID-19 response the State has worked closely to protect those who live and work in residential facilities.
- This population is vulnerable to this virus and we continue to work to protect them using all available mitigation measures.
- Through Nevada's vaccination plan, vaccine was available to residents and staff early in the year and through many partnerships the State was able to work quickly to provide vaccination on site at facilities.
- The State is working with these facilities and the Nevada Health Care Association to identify any barriers and ensure the facilities and residents know the COVID-19 vaccines can be made available to them in convenient ways.
- Education is continuing for staff and residents and the Immunization Program is working to identify any issues.
- Mitigation measures continue to be in place for these facilities to protect residents, staff and visitors.

Case Information:

- This week the case rate per 100,000 in Pershing County has decreased from 14 last week to 0 this week. They are the only county to see this improvement.
- Eureka and Pershing have recorded no new cases based on specimens collected in the last 30 days.
- Nevada has seen increased testing in eight counties and encourages those who are feeling sick, or who may have been exposed to COVID-19 to seek testing.
- Test positivity decreased in Lander and Lyon. It is currently holding below the 5% threshold set by World Health Organization in 7 counties: Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Pershing, Storey, and White Pine.
- Today we are also able to report that 50% of Douglas County's population has now initiated vaccination.
- The COVID vaccine is free for everyone, no insurance is required and it is available at many locations for those 12 years of age and older.
- To help all those looking to find the most convenient vaccination location, an updated site schedule has been added under the Clark County tab an [NVCOVIDFighter.org](https://www.nvcovidfighter.org)
- It will be updated frequently with long-term sites, pharmacies and pop up vaccination and testing locations in Clark County.

State Employees:

- The State is currently working to implement a vaccination/testing program to begin in mid-August. State employees who are unvaccinated will be required to take weekly COVID-19 tests.
- The State already has mask requirements in place for employees who are not fully vaccinated and that will continue. State government workplaces that reach more than 70% vaccination of employees will no longer need to follow the weekly testing protocol, but the masking requirement for unvaccinated employees will remain in place.
- If state employees work in a county that has adopted more restrictive mitigation measures, employees must follow those requirements.

- Effective June 1, 2021, any state employee that contracts COVID-19 will be required to use their own sick leave and will not be eligible for paid administrative leave UNLESS they can furnish evidence of vaccination or a doctor's affirmation of having a medical condition that prevents vaccination.
- State employees are encouraged to initiate vaccination before the August requirement.
- In order to further assist with this effort, the State is mobilizing our own internal Medical Profession workforce to work with agencies to build vaccine confidence.
- On Wednesday the Clark County Commission mandated masks for employees working indoors in public spaces in Clark County. The Governor issued a statement in support of that decision, and State employees in Clark County have been directed to follow the mandates put forward as we continue our joint efforts to increase access and confidence in the COVID-19 vaccines.

Trends:

- Nevada continues to rise above national vaccine first dose trends and we know that Vax Nevada Days and other vaccine outreach strategies are working.
- Nearly 2.5% of eligible unvaccinated Nevadans got their first dose this week, a 25% increase from last week and 45% higher than the national average.
- Nevada administered nearly 841 first doses per 100,000 people last week, well above the national average of 580.3 first doses per 100,000.
- Despite rising cases nationwide due to the transmissibility of the Delta variant and increased travel, Nevada's vaccination efforts continue to help slow the rate of spread.
- Clark County has now fully vaccinated 45% of its eligible population, which is slightly below the state average of 46%.

- The State continues to remind individuals that are not vaccinated that they are at an elevated risk given the high population density.
- Washoe County has fully vaccinated 56% of its eligible population and is hosting new vaccine pop-up clinics at schools, churches, Aces games, and other events.
- Nevadans throughout the state must continue to be diligent as new cases of COVID are reported throughout the state.
- The risk of breakthrough infection or severe side effects is miniscule. Getting vaccinated is safe and the most effective thing an individual can do to protect against COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines are effective and are a critical tool to bring the pandemic under control, however, no vaccines are 100% effective at preventing illness in vaccinated people.
- There will be a small percentage of fully vaccinated people who still get sick, are hospitalized, or die from COVID-19. There is some evidence that vaccination may make illness less severe for those who are vaccinated and still get sick.
- Less than .01% of vaccinated Nevadans have been hospitalized due to a breakthrough case of COVID-19.
- Two doses of Pfizer or Moderna offer more than 96% protection from serious complications of COVID-19. People with Johnson & Johnson are about 85% protected from hospitalization and death.

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