



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2020

Meghin Delaney

Communications Director

CONTACT: pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov

COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 11-16-2020

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services were joined by Heather Korbulic, Executive Director of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange to provide updates on Nevada’s ongoing COVID-19 response and Nevada Health Link open enrollment 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 and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

SUMMARY:

- The County Criteria Tracker is released every Monday and can be found on the NV Health Response dashboard.

The following 13 counties have been flagged for elevated transmission for COVID-19:

- Washoe County for eight consecutive weeks
- Lyon for six consecutive weeks
- Clark, Elko and Lincoln for five weeks
- Carson City and Nye for four weeks
- Douglas County for three weeks.
- Churchill and Eureka counties for two weeks

- Esmeralda and Lander counties have been newly added, and Humboldt County is flagged again after dropping off last week.
 - All the flagged counties met the criteria of a high case rate per 100,000.
 - All counties with the exception of Esmeralda had a high test positivity rate.
 - Esmeralda and Lincoln had a low average number of tests per day per 100,000.
- The COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force will hear action plans at the next meeting this Thursday from the following counties: Carson City, Clark, Elko, Douglas, Humboldt, Lincoln, Lyon, Nye and Washoe.
- As of today, Nevada has logged 122,097 cases, an increase of 1,913 new cases since yesterday.
 - Of this total, 351 were from Carson City, which accounts for 18.3% all new cases identified.
 - This number includes cases from the Warm Springs Correctional Facility.
- The state has completed a total of 1,435,791 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- For the most recent 7-day period, cases are growing at a rate of 1.4% or 1,588 new cases per day.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 15.4%.
- COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to climb with 1,157 people hospitalized with the virus, nearing the high of 1,165 recorded on July 31, 2020.

- More information on hospitalization trends can be found on the [Nevada Hospital Association website](#)

Heather Korbolic, Executive Director of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange, discussed [Nevada Health Link](#) and open enrollment.

- Silver State Health Insurance Exchange is the state agency that runs and operates the online health insurance marketplace known as Nevada Health Link.
 - Nevada Health Link is the only place that offers Nevadans comprehensive Affordable Care Act certified qualified health insurance and dental plans. This year the agency has partnered with a vision company to offer affordable vision coverage too.
- 4 out of 5 Nevada Health Link enrollees receive financial assistance, or subsidies, to help offset their monthly premium costs for insurance, in fact many Nevadans have zero-dollar monthly plans.
- Nevada Health Link is available to individuals who don't qualify for Medicaid and who don't have employee-sponsored health plans, contractors and freelancers, and small businesses.
- Pre-COVID, Nevada had a relatively high uninsured rate which has likely increased throughout the pandemic, making our state more vulnerable to the public health crisis and the economic consequences therein.
- Insurance can be confusing and that's why there are over 600 certified professionals across the state standing by and ready to assist with enrollment – by phone or virtual appointment to help Nevadans connect to a plan that's right for their individual or family's needs.

- This enrollment season, there are more carriers, more plans and a longer enrollment period (Nov. 1 – Jan 15)
 - Enroll by Dec. 31, 2020 to receive coverage effective Jan. 1; enroll by Jan. 15 to receive coverage by Feb. 1, 2021.
- All plans are ACA compliant and cover pre-existing conditions and ten essential health benefits, including COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment.
- Nevada Health Link will continue to offer qualified health plans during Open Enrollment for 2021 coverage.
- Pandemics are a very bad time to be uninsured. Now is not the time to go without coverage – if you know someone who has lost their job and therefore, their health insurance, have them visit <https://www.nevadahealthlink.com/> and get connected today.

###