



**NEVADA  
HEALTH  
RESPONSE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 11-18-2020**

Carson City, NV — Today, Governor Sisolak joined Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, to provide updates on Nevada's ongoing COVID-19 response, testing and reporting during a 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.nvhealthresponse.nv.gov) website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

**SUMMARY:**

- The Governor continues to be in good spirits and has only experienced head congestion, which is considered a mild symptom.
- He has not received any oxygen treatment or any other medication or treatment by his doctor. He remains in isolation and is working remotely from the Governor's residence in Carson City.
- According to the CDC criteria, and guidance from public health professionals here in the State, individuals with a positive test may discontinue home isolation 10 days after diagnosis if the patient continues to be asymptomatic for a 24-hour period following 10 consecutive days of home isolation. Since the Governor's diagnosis

was on Friday, Nov. 13, he will be finished with his home isolation period early next week, assuming all the criteria is met, including being asymptomatic for 24 hours following his 10 day isolation.

- The Governor thanked everyone for their outpouring of support and well wishes.
- Last Tuesday, the Governor held a press conference and asked all Nevadans to operate in a "Stay at Home 2.0" mentality to get things under control so our public health response infrastructure can catch up. The goal was that a behavior change would result in a downward trajectory at the end of this 14-day period. He closed the press conference by letting Nevadans know that if we don't come together at this moment, he will be forced to take stronger action in 14 days.
- On today's call, the Governor confirmed that one week into the 2 week "Stay at Home 2.0" period, Nevada is not currently experiencing a significant downward trend.
- The Governor reiterated he is incredibly concerned about the severity of COVID-19 in our State, as demonstrated in the increase in numbers. The administration is exploring all mitigation options available to get this under control, while walking a tightrope to balance public health and economic impacts.
- That includes gathering information on mitigation options that consider the balancing act between our public health and economic realities. The goal is to have the most impact on mitigating the spread and the least impact on our fragile economy.
- Nevadans should expect to hear from the Governor on our status and next steps in the near future. The Governor said he is aware of how consequential these decisions are and he continues to work with state

health officials, emergency management and economic leaders to determine the best approach.

- As of today, Nevada has logged 125,459 cases, an increase of 1,665 new cases since yesterday.
- For the most recent 7-day period, cases are growing at a rate of 1.5%, or 1,712 new cases per day.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 1,454,741 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 15.6%.
- Hospitalizations related to COVID-19 are now at 1246 (1,105 confirmed; 141 suspected)
  - Nevada continues to see exponential growth in COVID-19 hospitalizations driven almost exclusively by Washoe and Clark Counties which currently account for 97% of all hospitalizations. Current strategies are not successfully minimizing the spread of serious disease
  - Meanwhile, hospitals are adapting to the influx of patients and continue to have capacity, therapeutics, and ventilators. Some individual facilities are experiencing significant occupancy rates, however, the overall burden being placed on facilities currently is 23% statewide.
- Statewide hospital occupancy rates are at 81%.
  - ICU occupancy rate is at 62%.
  - Ventilator use is at 34 % statewide, for all patients.

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