



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 2-22-2021

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Candice McDaniel, Health Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Child, Family, and Community Wellness, were joined by Ashleigh Faulstich, Epidemiologist with the Office of Public Health Investigations and Epidemiology, to provide updates on Nevada's ongoing COVID-19 response, testing, reporting, and vaccination efforts 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 <a href="Nevada Health Response">Nevada Health Response</a> website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

## **SUMMARY:**

- As of today, Nevada has logged 291,145 cases, with the 14-day rolling average of daily cases being 363.
- The Office of Analytics is reporting most rural county numbers did not change. This is because Nevada's local health partners are cycling off of weekend work and will not be updating numbers on weekends moving forward. It is anticipated Monday numbers will always lower from now on.

- Nevada has now completed a total of 2,667,800 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 9.6%. Nevada has not had a test positivity rate this low since Nov. 1, 2020.
- The Nevada Hospital Association (NHA) reports Nevada is continuing to see a downward trajectory in hospitalizations.
- The NHA is also reporting there are currently 580 COVID-19 hospitalizations (497 confirmed; 83 suspected).
- As of February 21, 556,556 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered and reported to NV WebIZ.
- The vaccines that were delayed last week due to the weather have started to be delivered to local partners, along with the regularly scheduled deliveries for the week.
- Due to last week's delay, State and local partners will be working overtime this week, delivering first and second doses as quickly as possible. As always, the team appreciates Nevadans patience while they work with a limited supply.
- Information on each county's plan and how to make an appointment can be found at <a href="NVCOVIDFighter.org">NVCOVIDFighter.org</a>
- The Division of Public and Behavioral Health implemented a test result notification system that uses text messaging to notify Nevadans of COVID-19 test results.

- It is important for people to have access to timely test results so they can take the appropriate action to protect their health and the health of others. This is more important than ever as we begin to see a decrease in cases and restrictions are lifted.
- Nevadans who provide a mobile number when tested for COVID-19
  will now receive an SMS text message from the Division of Public and
  Behavioral Health when their test results are available.
- The text message will include a link to the web portal. Once they tap the link, they will need to verify some personal information and then they will be able to view their test results.
- If the patient receives a positive test result, they will have the option to generate a verification code for Exposure Notifications on iOS or the COVID Trace app.
- Messages will come from 844-685-0020 and will provide a link to a
  web portal (covid.nv.gov) where individuals can verify information,
  view results, receive guidance on isolation in the case of a positive
  result, and provide information on support programs and resources
  available in Nevada.
- Automated text message notifications are available to residents of all Nevada counties except Clark. Test results for the Southern Nevada Health District are available through their portal. Additional functionality has also been added to the SNHD portal to verify a positive test result in the COVID Trace app and exposure notifications on iOS devices.
- Residents of counties other than Clark will receive a text message notification when their COVID-19 test results become available.

- Test results for Nevadans tested by Carson City Health and Human Services can also be found on the CCHHS website under COVID-19 Test Results on the Novel Coronavirus page. Results for COVID-19 tests conducted by Washoe County Health District will also continue to be distributed via email.
- Automated verification codes for exposure notifications are only available through the new DPBH portal for residents who do not reside in Clark County at this time.
- For more information on the new results portal and exposure notification verification code generator, go to <u>covid.nv.gov</u>.

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