



**NEVADA  
HEALTH  
RESPONSE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 9-28-2020**

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, provided 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.

Additionally, as announced last week, the Weekly County Criteria Tracker will be released every Monday going forward. This new release date will provide the public with additional real-time updates on data trends within their community.

This week's County Criteria Tracker is attached. A summary of the report released today can be found below.

**SUMMARY:**

- As of today, Nevada has logged 79,191 cases, an increase of 463 new cases. 358 or 77.3% were in Clark County, 81 or 17.5% were in Washoe County, and 24 or 5.2% were spread throughout the State.
- Nevada has now completed a total of 1,040,432 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19, an increase of 6,913 since yesterday.

- Cumulative test positivity rate is at 9.9%, daily positivity rate is 7.9%.
- For the most recent 7-day period, cases are growing at a rate of 0.6%, or 451 new cases per day. For comparison, the growth rate for the 7-day period ending July 31 was 2.3%, or 1,037 new cases per day.
- Nevada has 451 hospitalized COVID-19 patients as of yesterday. This includes 341 confirmed patients and 110 suspected patients. Statewide hospital occupancy rates are at 70%, ICU occupancy rate is at 58% and ventilator use is at 31% statewide again for all patients.
- Since the beginning of COVID in the State to today, a total of 19,723 case have been identified as a result of contact tracing efforts statewide. This now represents 24.9% of the total cases reported to date.
- From September 21<sup>st</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup>, Nevada's surge staffing agents have logged a total of 7,599 calls.
- Related to the State's texting of close contacts, last week there were a total of 10,955 SMS messages sent, with 4,088 unique outbound communications and a peak response rate of 83% from unique contacts on both the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Since June 18<sup>th</sup>, the surge staff has logged a total of 100,174 calls to close contacts.
- It should be noted that case investigation and contact tracing interviews are voluntary and some individuals answer certain questions and not others. For context of the State's contact tracing data – 22% did not provide their gender, 38% did not provide their

sexual orientation, 31% would not provide their ethnicity, and 35% did not provide their race. This data it reflects the challenge in generalizing this data to all cases or contacts when there is a huge reliance on voluntary participation.

- The COVID Trace app has been downloaded a total of 39,681 times as of September 27.

### **Weekly County Criteria Tracker Updates as of Monday, Sept. 28, 2020**

- As of today, Sept. 28, two counties are meeting two or more of the criteria, meaning they are seen as having an increased risk of transmission spread. Lyon County continues to be flagged and Washoe County is back on the list after dropping off last week.
  - **Lyon County** has been flagged for having insufficient testing (95.1 tests per day per 100,000) and high test positivity (7.9%).
  - After dropping off the list last week with a test positivity rate of 6.9% (9/21/20 report), **Washoe County** is being flagged this week due to high case rate (397.2 per 100,000) and high test positivity (7.8%).
- **Clark County** has dropped off the list of elevated risk of transmission for this first time due to high average number of tests (199.2 tests per day per 100,000) and a decrease in test positivity (6.7%).
- The COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force is charged with working with counties that are flagged for having an elevated transmission risk. The Task Force will meet on Thursday.

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