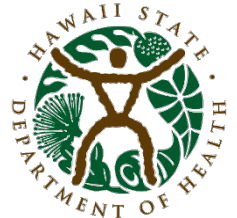




# State of Hawai'i

## Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report

March 18, 2021



### Key Updates: The Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19 Outreach & Investigations Team

- In October 2020, the Hawai'i State Department of Health established a **Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19 Outreach and Investigations Team**. This team is made up of case investigators, contact tracers, case and contact monitoring specialists, as well as Hawai'i National Guard service members with extensive language skills and cultural knowledge. Team members are multilingual and trained to conduct full case investigation and contact tracing as well as community outreach activities in multiple Pacific Islands languages, including **Marshallese, Chuukese, Kosraean, Tongan, Samoan**, and **Hawaiian**, as well as **Filipino** languages including **Tagalog, Ilokano, Cebuano**, and **Visayan**. In addition to the full range of case investigation and contact tracing activities, the team provides the following services:
    - Interpreting, translating materials, and linkage to language accessibility services
    - Educational outreach presentations provided via a variety of venues and media types
    - Assistance with referrals to social support services and other community resources
    - Technical assistance regarding data collection best practices
    - A team emphasis on cultural humility and community engagement
  - The Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19 Outreach and Investigations Team has been successful in **engaging with community leaders and partners, interpreting and sharing prevention messages**, using **social media and other multimedia platforms**, and facilitating a **bidirectional information flow** between the Hawai'i Department of Health and the community at large. The team has also created and implemented **best practices for eliciting race and ethnicity information** that are both **respectful** and **comprehensive**.
  - The team was created by the Hawai'i State Department of Health in collaboration with community partners. The team itself is made up of individuals from within Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities that were **nominated by community groups and stakeholders** and then **trained in COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing protocols and procedures** by Disease Investigation Branch and Hawai'i National Guard disease investigators, contact tracers, and training specialists. The Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19 Outreach and Investigations Team then paired the training they received with knowledge of and experience with cultural practices and values to produce innovative approaches that were both **effective** and **respectful** for the communities they serve.
  - While the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19 Outreach and Investigations Team is currently unique to Hawai'i, it has **received national recognition** for their creative approaches in response to COVID-19's impact on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations in Hawai'i, other states, territories, and Pacific Island nations have reached out to express interest in creating similar teams for their jurisdictions.
- A new report, *"COVID-19 in Hawai'i: Addressing Health Equity in Diverse Populations,"* details racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 infections and deaths in the state of Hawai'i, documents the actions taken to reduce transmission across the state, and provides recommendations based on lessons learned from the COVID-19 response, including contributions from the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19 Outreach and Investigations Team. The full report can be found at the following link:  
<https://hawaiicovid19.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/COVID-19-Race-Ethnicity-Equity-Report.pdf>
- For more information on **investigating COVID-19 cases and clusters in multiple languages**:  
[https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/files/2021/02/Hawai'i\\_COVID-19\\_Weekly\\_Cluster\\_Report\\_18Feb21-1.pdf](https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/files/2021/02/Hawai'i_COVID-19_Weekly_Cluster_Report_18Feb21-1.pdf)

## Introduction to the State of Hawai'i Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report

A disease cluster refers to multiple cases of a disease occurring at one time, in one geographic location, or among people with the same or similar shared exposures. Public health officials investigate and study disease clusters because they can provide important information about how diseases are transmitted between individuals and among groups of people; information which can then be used to identify risk factors, inform official recommendations, design interventions, and implement policies to prevent, mitigate, and stop the spread of that disease in communities.

In Hawai'i, COVID-19 clusters associated with community events, social gatherings, workplaces, and other settings have helped public health officials understand the specific settings where disease transmission is most likely to occur. As our state looks to modify current restrictions on businesses and activities implemented in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Hawai'i State Department of Health is prioritizing not only investigating and analyzing local COVID-19 clusters, but also sharing current cluster information and disseminating key lessons learned to date.

It is important to note that most COVID-19 cases cannot be linked to a specific setting or cluster. Therefore, the total number of cases identified as associated with COVID-19 clusters in Hawai'i will be significantly lower than the overall total number of cases of COVID-19 identified within the State of Hawai'i. The tables below summarize COVID-19 clusters that have been identified through statewide case investigation and contact tracing efforts and are actively under investigation within the State of Hawai'i during the specified reporting week. The same cluster may be included in multiple reports from week to week if a new case has been identified within 14 days of the date the report was finalized.

## Definitions for Terms Used in this Report

Because this weekly report focuses on clusters associated with non-household exposures, the definition of a **COVID-19 cluster** employed within this report is as follows:

**Three (3)** or more confirmed or probable cases of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) linked to a particular site or event within one incubation period (14 days) *as long as those cases do not have outside exposure to each other* (i.e. they are not household members or close contacts outside the selected location).

**\*\* This definition has been updated from two (2) or more confirmed or probable cases of SARS-CoV-2 to **three (3)** or more confirmed or probable cases of SARS-CoV-2 effective January 1, 2021. This change was made to reduce "noise" related to sporadic cases that may occur in the same setting, especially when community case rates are high, and is reflected in the county-specific tables beginning with the January 21, 2021 report. \*\***

**Note:** Identifying cases as part of a cluster does not necessarily imply that transmission has occurred in the site or at the event associated with the cluster.

Additional definitions for terms used within this report are outlined below.

<b>Case</b>	Both confirmed and probable cases of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19), including deaths.
<b>Confirmed case</b>	A case with confirmatory laboratory evidence.
<b>Probable case</b>	Refers to a case: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting clinical criteria AND epidemiologic linkage with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for SARS-CoV-2</li> <li style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></li> <li>• Meeting presumptive laboratory evidence</li> <li style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></li> <li>• Meeting vital records criteria with no confirmatory laboratory evidence for SARS-CoV-2.</li> </ul>
<b>Cases associated with the primary setting</b>	Refers to cases linked to a COVID-19 cluster that were directly exposed to the primary site or event.
<b>Linked cases outside the primary setting</b>	Refers to cases linked to a COVID-19 cluster that were NOT directly exposed to the primary site or event (for example, cases among household contacts of any cases associated with the primary setting).

## Exposure Setting Categories

Exposure Setting Category <sup>a</sup>	Specific Settings Included in Category <sup>b</sup>
<i>Congregate Settings</i>	
<b>Correctional Facilities</b>	Jails, prisons, detention centers, correctional treatment centers / “sober living” centers, transitional correctional facilities or homes / “halfway houses”
<b>Educational Settings</b>	Preschools, K-12, and institutes of higher education, school-based athletics, after school programs
<b>Shelters</b>	Facilities providing short or long-term sheltering services for individuals and groups without access to permanent housing due to homelessness, disaster, emergency, violence, or other circumstances
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>	
<b>Bars &amp; Nightclubs</b>	Establishments that are principally engaged in the business of selling alcoholic beverages for onsite consumption
<b>Food Suppliers</b>	Grocery stores, other food distributors, manufacturers, warehouses, processors, farms, food pantries
<b>Restaurants</b>	Food service establishments offering either dine-in or take-out services, cafeterias, banquet facilities / private event facilities / private reception venues where food is served
<i>Occupational Settings</i>	
<b>Construction &amp; Industrial</b>	Construction and industrial settings, including residential and non-residential construction sites, landscaping companies, shipyards, non-food manufacturers, industrial warehouses, and related sales and distribution centers
<b>Other Occupational Settings</b>	Offices, retail establishments, first responders
<b>Travel, Lodging, &amp; Tourism</b>	Domestic / international / interisland travel, lodging, cruise ships, other tourism
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>	
<b>Social Gatherings</b>	Parties, group gatherings, weddings, funerals, other social functions
<b>Places of Worship</b>	Religious services and other events / activities at places of worship
<p><sup>a</sup> COVID-19 clusters in long term care and other healthcare settings are summarized in the <i>State of Hawai'i Weekly COVID-19 Clusters in Healthcare Settings Report</i>. Additionally, a long-term care table is included in the <i>Disease Outbreak Control Division COVID-19 Operations Report</i> weekly on Wednesdays.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Specific settings included in the reference table may not be exhaustive for the category.</p>	

## COVID-19 Cluster Tables

### City & County of Honolulu

#### COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days by Exposure Setting

March 18, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<i>Congregate Settings</i>				
<i>Correctional Facilities</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Educational Settings</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Shelters</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars &amp; Nightclubs</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Food Suppliers</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Restaurants</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Occupational Settings</i>				
<i>Construction &amp; Industrial</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other Occupational Settings</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Travel, Lodging, &amp; Tourism</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
<b>Social Gatherings</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Places of Worship</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Gyms</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>				
<i>Other:</i>	0	0	0	0

**Maui County****COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days by Exposure Setting**

March 18, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<i>Congregate Settings</i>				
<b>Correctional Facilities</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Educational Settings</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>Shelters</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<b>Bars &amp; Nightclubs</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>
<i>Food Suppliers</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<b>Restaurants</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>Occupational Settings</i>				
<i>Construction &amp; Industrial</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Other Occupational Settings</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<b>Travel, Lodging, &amp; Tourism</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
<i>Social Gatherings</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<b>Places of Worship</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>Gyms</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Other</i>				
<b>Other: Cleaning Services</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>6</b>

**Hawai'i County****COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days by Exposure Setting**

March 18, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<i>Congregate Settings</i>				
<i>Correctional Facilities</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Educational Settings</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Shelters</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars &amp; Nightclubs</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Food Suppliers</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Restaurants</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Occupational Settings</i>				
<i>Construction &amp; Industrial</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Other Occupational Settings</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Travel, Lodging, &amp; Tourism</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
<i>Social Gatherings</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Places of Worship</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Gyms</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>				
<i>Other:</i>	0	0	0	0

**Kauai County****– No COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days –**