

State of Hawai'i Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report



April 14, 2021

Key Updates:

Out of four cases identified among salespersons working at a retail store, three were detected within a couple of days of each other after the index case tested positive for COVID-19 and two coworkers sought testing for symptoms. The **fourth case tested positive 10 days into the quarantine period** after developing fatigue and intermittent cough. The coworkers reported **close contact** with each other, **including hugging**, while at work. They did not provide details on consistency of mask wearing in the workplace. All were unvaccinated at the time of exposure.

A close contact who interacted socially with two positive cases **remained asymptomatic until day 10 from last exposure** to both cases. An initial molecular test for SARS-CoV-2 was negative, but the contact remained in quarantine as per Hawai'i State Department of Health guidance. On day 10, the patient experienced congestion and loss of taste and smell. The patient **tested on day 11 and received positive test results**. There was no further spread since the patient was already in quarantine before her onset of symptoms and remained isolated through her infectious period.

The incubation period of COVID-19, or time it takes to develop symptoms after an exposure, can extend up to 14 days. If a group of people is exposed at the same time, some individuals may go on to develop symptoms or test positive sooner or later than others. Most people who become infected will show symptoms or shed virus (resulting in a positive test) within 10 days of their exposure, but a few may take even longer than that. In Hawai'i, at least 10 days of quarantine are recommended for unvaccinated individuals after exposure to a person known to have COVID-19, in order to prevent transmission of disease to others. In residential congregate settings (such as group homes or shelters), 14 days of quarantine are recommended because the negative consequences of a missed infection can be profound. Testing is recommended for all close contacts of a confirmed case but does not change the duration of quarantine recommended by the Hawai'i State Department of Health. Knowing your test status can help guide decisions about how to best isolate or quarantine to avoid spreading the disease to others. However, testing only provides information at one point in time. A negative test performed a few days after exposure is reassuring but does not guarantee that an exposed person will remain negative for the 14 days after being exposed. Even if your quarantine requirement ends on Day 10 after an exposure, it is important to exercise caution and monitor yourself for any symptoms for a full 14 days. Quarantine may need to be prolonged and testing repeated if new symptoms develop during this time period.

Printable resources for home care, how to isolate, how to quarantine and more are available on the Hawai'i State Department of Health website at https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/what-you-can-do/if-you-become-sick/.

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.

Case	Both confirmed and probable cases of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19), including deaths.		
Confirmed case	A case with confirmatory laboratory evidence.		
Probable case	 Refers to a case: Meeting clinical criteria AND epidemiologic linkage with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for SARS-CoV-2 OR Meeting presumptive laboratory evidence OR Meeting vital records criteria with no confirmatory laboratory evidence for SARS-CoV-2. 		
Cases associated with the primary setting	Refers to cases linked to a COVID-19 cluster that were directly exposed to the primary site or event.		
Linked cases outside the primary setting	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 ^a	Specific Settings Included in Category b		
	Congregate Settings		
Correctional Facilities	Jails, prisons, detention centers, correctional treatment centers / "sober living" centers, transitional correctional facilities or homes / "halfway houses"		
Educational Settings	Preschools, K-12, and institutes of higher education, school-based athletics, after school programs		
Shelters	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		
F	ood Service, Production, and Distribution		
Bars & Nightclubs	Establishments that are principally engaged in the business of selling alcoholic beverages for onsite consumption		
Food Suppliers	Grocery stores, other food distributors, manufacturers, warehouses, processors, farms, food pantries		
Restaurants	Food service establishments offering either dine-in or take-out services, cafeterias, banquet facilities / private event facilities / private reception venues where food is served		
	Occupational Settings		
Construction & Industrial	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		
Other Occupational Settings	Offices, retail establishments, first responders		
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	Domestic / international / interisland travel, lodging, cruise ships, other tourism		
	Social and Recreational Activities		
Social Gatherings	Parties, group gatherings, weddings, funerals, other social functions		
Places of Worship	Religious services and other events / activities at places of worship		
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^a COVID-19 clusters in long term care and other healthcare settings are summarized in the **State of Hawai'i Weekly COVID-19 Clusters in Healthcare Settings Report.** Additionally, a long-term care table is included in the Disease Outbreak Control Division COVID-19 Operations Report weekly on Wednesdays.

^b Specific settings included in the reference table may not be exhaustive for the category.

COVID-19 Cluster Tables

City & County of Honolulu

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

April 15, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)			
		Congregate Set	tings				
Correctional Facilities	0	0	0	0			
Educational Settings	2	20	16	4			
Shelters	0	0	0	0			
	Food Service, Production, and Distribution						
Bars & Nightclubs	0	0	0	0			
Food Suppliers	0	0	0	0			
Restaurants	2	12	10	3			
Occupational Settings							
Construction & Industrial	0	0	0	0			
Other Occupational Settings	0	0	0	0			
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	0	0	0	0			
Social and Recreational Activities							
Social Gatherings	2	26	17	9			
Places of Worship	0	0	0	0			
Gyms	0	0	0	0			
Other							
Other:	1	4	4	0			

Maui County

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

April 15, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)		
Congregate Settings						
Correctional Facilities	1	100	100	0		
Educational Settings	6	48	48	0		
Shelters	0	0	0	0		
Food Service, Production, and Distribution						
Bars & Nightclubs	0	0	0	0		
Food Suppliers	2	34	18	16		
Restaurants	2	7	6	1		
Occupational Settings						
Construction & Industrial	0	0	0	0		
Other Occupational Settings	2	9	8	1		
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	7	93	78	15		
Social and Recreational Activities						
Social Gatherings	0	0	0	0		
Places of Worship	1	90	75	15		
Gyms	0	0	0	0		
Other						
Other	0	0	0	0		

Hawai'i County

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

April 15, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)		
Congregate Settings						
Correctional Facilities	0	0	0	0		
Educational Settings	1	37	37	0		
Shelters	0	0	0	0		
Food Service, Production, and Distribution						
Bars & Nightclubs	0	0	0	0		
Food Suppliers	0	0	0	0		
Restaurants	0	0	0	0		
Occupational Settings						
Construction & Industrial	0	0	0	0		
Other Occupational Settings	0	0	0	0		
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	0	0	0	0		
Social and Recreational Activities						
Social Gatherings	1	12	12	0		
Places of Worship	1	8	3	5		
Gyms	0	0	0	0		
Other						
Other	0	0	0	0		