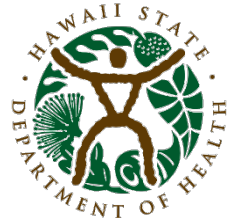




# State of Hawai'i

## Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report

### July 1, 2021



Vaccines are an important tool to help stop the spread of COVID-19. **Childcare and early education providers** hold critical service jobs and are at potential occupational risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2. As **frontline essential workers**, childcare and early education providers were **prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination**. CDC recommends layering prevention strategies to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread in childcare and early education settings including staff vaccination, staying home when sick for both children and staff, correctly and consistently wearing a mask by staff and children older than 2 years of age, frequent handwashing, regular and consistent cleaning and disinfecting, and improving ventilation. [CDC's Guidance for Operating Child Care Programs during COVID-19](#).

In June 2021, the Hawai'i State Department of Health investigated **three clusters of COVID-19 associated with childcare settings** on Maui. The **first cluster of 10 COVID-19 cases** was associated with a **home-based setting** with one caregiver and eight children; the children ranged in age from 8 months to 5 years of age (average age: 2 years). One child tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The caregiver and four more children had COVID-19 symptoms and were epidemiologically linked to the case (attack rate: 67%). In addition, four secondary cases were identified in close contacts. No one was hospitalized. The caregiver and one secondary case were vaccinated; the secondary case was asymptomatic. There was no policy or protocol for sick children to stay home, and **masks were not worn** by the caregiver or children older than 2 years of age. Symptoms in children were initially attributed to teething rather than COVID-19, which prolonged exposure. The **childcare business was closed** until the caregiver and all children were cleared from isolation and quarantine.

The **second cluster of five COVID-19 cases** was also associated with a **home-based setting** with one caregiver and six children. The children ranged in age from 1–9 years old (average age: 4.5 years). The caregiver and two children tested positive for SARS CoV-2 (attack rate: 43%). Two secondary household cases were also identified. No one was hospitalized. **The three adult cases were not vaccinated.**

The **third cluster of nine COVID-19 cases** was associated with a **childcare program** within a congregate setting. Four (57%) of seven children (average age: 8 months; range: 2–20 months), four (33%) of 12 adult residents, and one (5%) of 21 staff members tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. No secondary cases were identified, and no one was hospitalized. **None of the residents and only half of the staff were fully vaccinated** when the cases were reported. Vaccination of parents, guardians, and caregivers can help protect young children who are not eligible for vaccination and can't wear masks. (Masks are not recommended for children younger than 2 years of age.)

After long closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many businesses and organizations are starting to return to normal operations. **Childcare is an essential service**, which allows adults to return to the workforce. Childcare providers should implement layered preventive strategies to provide safe and healthy environments for children and prevent the spread of COVID-19. In addition to vaccination, **encouraging sick children and staff to stay home**, requiring all children older than 2 years of age and staff to **wear masks correctly and consistently indoors**, and **improving ventilation** (e.g., opening windows), can help prevent COVID-19 cases and clusters in childcare settings. To protect children younger than 12 years of age who are not eligible for COVID-19 vaccine, **everyone who works with children should get vaccinated.**

## 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> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting presumptive laboratory evidence</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>
<b><i>Congregate Settings</i></b>	
<b>Correctional Facilities</b>	Jails, prisons, detention centers, correctional treatment centers / “sober living” centers, transitional correctional facilities or homes / “halfway houses” for adults and adolescents
<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 and other social services for individuals and families and groups without access to permanent housing due to homelessness, disaster, emergency, violence, or other circumstances
<b><i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i></b>	
<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
<b><i>Occupational Settings</i></b>	
<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
<b><i>Social and Recreational Activities</i></b>	
<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 <b>State of Hawai'i Weekly COVID-19 Clusters in Healthcare Settings Report</b>. Additionally, a long-term care table is included in the Disease Outbreak Control Division COVID-19 Operations Report 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

July 1, 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
<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>23</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Places of Worship</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Gyms</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>				
<b>Other</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>

**Maui County****COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days by Exposure Setting***July 1, 2021*

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<b>Congregate Settings</b>				
<i>Correctional Facilities</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Educational Settings</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>Shelters</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</b>				
<i>Bars &amp; Nightclubs</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Food Suppliers</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Restaurants</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Occupational Settings</b>				
<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
<b>Social and Recreational Activities</b>				
<i>Social Gatherings</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Places of Worship</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>Gyms</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Other</b>				
<i>Other</i>	0	0	0	0

## Hawai'i County

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

July 1, 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>271</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>7</b>
<i>Educational Settings</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Shelters</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars &amp; Nightclubs</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Food Suppliers</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Restaurants</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<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>
<i>Travel, Lodging &amp; Tourism</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
<i>Social Gatherings</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Places of Worship</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<b>Gyms</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Other</i>				
<i>Other</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

**Kauai County****COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days by Exposure Setting***July 1, 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>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</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>				
<i>Social Gatherings</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>Places of Worship</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
<i>Gyms</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>				
<i>Other</i>	0	0	0	0