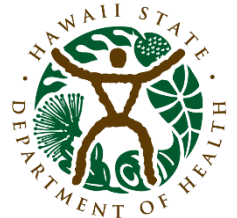




State of Hawai'i

Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report

August 5, 2021



During the summer, many Hawai'i residents resumed travel to the U.S. mainland, including to athletic competitions and events. Clusters related to **volleyball tournaments** have been reported in Hawai'i over the last 2 months. According to CDC, individuals are most likely to be exposed to COVID-19 during **travel** and in **crowded, poorly ventilated indoor events** ([CDC Travel Recommendations](#)). Holding large athletic events outdoors, implementing social distancing (at least 6 feet) between people at events, wearing a mask indoors and in high-transmission areas, and getting vaccinated lowers the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, which helps prevent COVID-19 cases and clusters. ([CDC Activities Recommendations](#))

In June 2021, the Hawai'i State Department of Health investigated a **cluster of 16 COVID-19 cases associated with a volleyball tournament** held in Las Vegas, NV. Of the 48 Hawai'i residents who participated or attended the event, 9 tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, upon return to Hawai'i (attack rate: 18%). The Hawai'i volleyball team had 13 players; 3 (23%) players tested positive and 4 (31%) were vaccinated. **No vaccinated players tested positive.** Seven secondary cases were also identified in one household; all were unvaccinated. Three of the cases were fully vaccinated and are considered COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough cases. Of these three cases, one person was hospitalized, and two people did not experience any symptoms.

In July 2021, the Hawai'i State Department of Health investigated a **cluster of 14 COVID-19 cases associated with a volleyball tournament** held in Kansas City, Mo. Four club volleyball teams from Hawai'i competed in the 16–18 age group. Based on the investigation, 14 of the 58 Hawai'i residents who attended the event tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (attack rate: 24%). Two secondary cases were also identified. Five (36%) people who tested positive were fully vaccinated and considered COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough cases; all reported mild symptoms. No cases were hospitalized. Vaccination coverage for all four teams could not be determined. One team reported 11 (85%) of 13 players were fully vaccinated. Two players on that team tested positive; **both were unvaccinated.**

Both tournaments were held in **indoor stadiums** with **thousands of attendees.** Neither teams nor observers in the stands were physically distanced. Neither Missouri nor Nevada have indoor mask mandates, and **masks were not required** at the tournaments or practices. The Hawai'i State Department of Health recommends testing for all players, family members, and coaches who attend large events following their return to Hawai'i, regardless of symptoms, previously negative travel testing, or vaccination status. People who are fully vaccinated, have a known COVID-19 exposure, and are asymptomatic, do not need to quarantine but should get tested 3-5 days after the exposure. The recommendation for testing after COVID-19 exposure for fully vaccinated people is new and based on the CDC's updated guidance to address the highly contagious delta variant ([CDC Updated Fully Vaccinated Guidance](#)).

As the number of COVID-19 cases surge in Hawai'i and across the country, hospitalizations and deaths have increased, primarily among **unvaccinated individuals.** The risk of COVID-19 transmission is increased in indoor settings and large indoor events without layered mitigation strategies in place. People can protect themselves from exposure to COVID-19 by using personal prevention measures. Everyone should **wear a mask in indoor public places, physically distance** (at least 6 feet), **avoid crowds**, and all people aged 12 years and older should **get vaccinated.** Vaccination is the most effective way to stop the spread COVID-19, prevent SARS-CoV-2 variants, and best defense against severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. [#HIGotVaccinated](#)

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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting clinical criteria AND epidemiologic linkage with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for SARS-CoV-2 <li style="text-align: center;">OR • Meeting presumptive laboratory evidence <li style="text-align: center;">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
<i>Congregate Settings</i>	
Correctional Facilities	Jails, prisons, detention centers, correctional treatment centers / “sober living” centers, transitional correctional facilities or homes / “halfway houses” for adults and adolescents
Educational Settings	Preschools, K-12, and institutes of higher education, school-based athletics, after school programs
Shelters	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
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>	
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
<i>Occupational Settings</i>	
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
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>	
Social Gatherings	Parties, group gatherings, weddings, funerals, other social functions
Places of Worship	Religious services and other events / activities at places of worship
<p>^a 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 Disease Outbreak Control Division COVID-19 Operations Report weekly on Wednesdays.</p> <p>^b 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

August 5, 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
Educational Settings	2	8	7	1
Shelters	1	4	4	0
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
Bars & Nightclubs	1	5	5	0
<i>Food Suppliers</i>	0	0	0	0
Restaurants	4	35	26	9
<i>Occupational Settings</i>				
Construction & Industrial	2	24	14	10
Other Occupational Settings	2	31	25	6
<i>Travel, Lodging & Tourism</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
Social Gatherings	2	34	19	15
<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***August 5, 2021*

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<i>Congregate Settings</i>				
Correctional Facilities	1	18	16	2
Educational Settings	2	17	11	6
Shelters	1	17	14	3
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars & Nightclubs</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Food Suppliers	1	5	3	2
Restaurants	1	16	10	6
<i>Occupational Settings</i>				
Construction & Industrial	1	6	4	2
Other Occupational Settings	3	17	13	4
Travel, Lodging & Tourism	2	8	7	1
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
Social Gatherings	3	23	18	5
<i>Places of Worship</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Gyms</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Other</i>				
<i>Other</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

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

August 5, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<i>Congregate Settings</i>				
Correctional Facilities	1	291	284	7
Educational Settings	2	12	11	1
<i>Shelters</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars & 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>
Restaurants	1	17	7	10
<i>Occupational Settings</i>				
<i>Construction & 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 & 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>
Places of Worship	1	33	33	0
<i>Gyms</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Other</i>				
Other	2	18	18	0

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

August 5, 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
Educational Settings	1	8	8	0
Shelters	1	6	4	2
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars & 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 & Industrial</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other Occupational Settings</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Travel, Lodging & 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