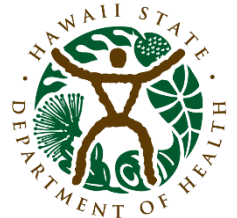




State of Hawai'i

Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report

November 11, 2021



As the holiday season approaches, more and more people are considering traveling to reunite with loved ones this year. Air travel during the pandemic has been relatively safe with increased air exchange rates and **HEPA filtration system** on commercial airplanes and **mask requirements** during air travel. However, airports and travel destinations where there is crowding and lack of consistent mask use increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission. CDC recommends that individuals **delay travel plans** until **fully vaccinated**, wear **a mask** in areas with high COVID-19 case counts and in crowded outdoor setting, and **monitor for symptoms** after travel. [CDC Domestic Travel Recommendations](#)

In October 2021 the Hawai'i State Department of Health investigated a **cluster of 11 COVID-19 cases associated with a family vacation at a recreational park in California**. Upon returning to Hawai'i, eight of the 23 travelers in the group tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and three of the travelers with COVID-19 symptoms were epidemiologically linked (attack rate: 48%). No secondary cases were identified. All travelers who were eligible for vaccination were fully vaccinated; six were breakthrough cases. No cases were hospitalized. Three of the family members **travelled while symptomatic**. Individuals should not travel if they are sick with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (even if fully vaccinated), have **suspected or diagnosed COVID-19**, or have been around people with suspected or diagnosed COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

The California theme park does not require mandatory social distancing within the park, and face masks are optional outdoors for all guests. Recommended COVID-19 mitigation measures including social distancing and masking are suggested in **crowded areas**, such as theme parks. The travelers did not practice **preventative mitigation strategies** while at the park increasing the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission among the group.

Hawai'i has a **10-day mandatory self-quarantine** requirement for all trans-Pacific passengers. Since October 2020, travelers entering Hawai'i from the mainland have the option to participate in the [Safe Travels](#) program to bypass quarantine. Passengers may upload their **COVID-19 vaccination** record or a **pre-travel test** result to Safe Travels prior to departure. Starting November 8th, in accordance with new federal requirements, the Safe Travels program will be expanded to allow **international travelers** flying directly to Hawai'i to bypass quarantine with certain stipulations. Passengers who are flying to Hawai'i from an **international destination** must show proof of vaccination and have a negative test within three days of boarding. US citizens who are unvaccinated must show proof of a negative COVID-19 test result within one day of boarding their return flight to the US from international travel.

The best way to safely travel and celebrate the holiday season is to be **fully vaccinated**. All travel plans should be delayed until you are fully vaccinated. If you are not fully vaccinated but must travel, it is important to follow [CDC's Recommendation](#) for unvaccinated people. **Maintaining high vaccination rates** across the state is vital to the safety of our communities. **Children 5-11 years old can now start getting vaccinated**. Vaccination is **safe** and **effective** for all eligible age groups. Everyone planning to travel should do their part to protect their selves and others by getting **vaccinated, wearing a mask** for the duration of your trip, maintaining **physical distancing** in crowded areas, and **delaying travel** if you are 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: <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 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.</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

November 11, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)
<i>Congregate Settings</i>				
Correctional Facilities	1	26	25	1
Educational Settings	1	5	5	0
<i>Shelters</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Food Service, Production, and Distribution</i>				
<i>Bars & Nightclubs</i>	0	0	0	0
Food Suppliers	1	10	6	4
<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

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

November 11, 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 & Nightclubs</i>	0	0	0	0
Food Suppliers	1	4	3	1
<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

Hawai'i County

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

November 11, 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	22	22	0
<i>Shelters</i>	0	0	0	0
<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

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

November 11, 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 & 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
Other Occupational Settings	3	24	15	9
<i>Travel, Lodging & Tourism</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Social and Recreational Activities</i>				
Social Gatherings	1	13	11	2
Places of Worship	1	10	10	0
<i>Gyms</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other</i>				
<i>Other</i>	0	0	0	0