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HAWAI'I COVID-19 JOINT INFORMATION CENTER
DAILY NEWS DIGEST
September 21, 2020

Hawai'i COVID-19 Joint Information Center:

Two of Three Reports Released On COVID-19 Cluster & Deaths at State Veterans Home

Two reports detailing in-depth assessments of conditions and protocols at the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home (YOSVH) in Hilo, have been developed. The assessments were conducted separately by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA). The VA and HI-EMA assessment reports are attached with this release.

The Dept. of Health's (DOH) Office of Health Care Assurance (OHCA) is preparing a report on its inspection of infection control measures based on State and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services standards and requirements. The OHCA inspection report is still undergoing internal review and will be shared soon after YOSVH receives it. The home is operated by Avalon Health Group, under contract to the State of Hawai'i.

Each of the two assessments highlights different observations, and in some cases places more emphasis on certain factors over others. Dr. K. Albert Yazawa, conducted the HI-EMA assessment and wrote, "I believe the nursing home culture at YOSVH was one that remained entrenched in pre-COVID norms of respecting individual resident rights over the health of the general population." HI-EMA's involvement was requested by the Hawai'i Health Systems Corp. and Dr. Yazawa collaborated closely with the VA assessment team.

The VA report noted "There was very little proactive preparation/planning for COVID. Many practices observed seemed as if they were a result of recent changes. Even though these are improvements, these are things that should have been in place from the pandemic onset and a major contributing factor towards the rapid spread. A basic understanding of segregation and workflow seemed to be lacking even approximately 3 weeks after first positive."

"Staff were in-serviced on facility policies and procedures, but it appears there was no follow-up to ensure appropriate behaviors or enforcement," according to the OHCA report; further noting, "The staff received education on COVID-19 Infection and Control during a meeting on June 10 to June 15, 2020." That meeting included the Resident Screening Tool – keeping COVID out by detecting cases quickly and stopping transmission." The HI-EMA assessment indicates in June full facility staff and resident mass testing was conducted and all tests came back negative.

The VA team sent seven medical and health care experts to visit YOSVH on Sept. 11. At that time the team reported ten (10) residents had died from coronavirus and another 35 were positive.

The Veterans Administration formed a 20-person “Tiger Team” to help implement recommendations, provide training and oversight, and to provide needed staffing support and respite, at YOSVH. Read the full news release here:

<https://hawaii-covid19.com/two-of-three-reports-released-on-covid-19-cluster-and-deaths-at-yukio-okutsu-state-veterans-home/>

Department of Health:

56 Cases Reported Today

DOH is reporting 56 additional new cases of COVID-19, with the majority on O’ahu. This is a second day of double-digit counts. No additional deaths were reported; however, more than 20 deaths are pending verification and classification. DOH is awaiting medical records and reports to verify these deaths prior to official reporting.

Hawai’i COVID-19 Counts as of 12:00 noon, Sept. 21, 2020

Island of Diagnosis	New Cases	Reported since 2/28/2020 (including new cases)
O’ahu	49	10,338
Hawai’i	7	651
Maui	0	370
Kaua’i	0	57
Moloka’i	0	15
Lāna’i	0	0
HI residents diagnosed outside of HI	0	28
Total Cases	56	11,459
Deaths	0	120

Hospitalization count as of 9/18/20 at 3:37 pm: 16-Hawai’i, 2-Maui, 174-O’ahu, 0-Kaua’i

Laboratory* Testing Data

There were 8,692 additional COVID-19 tests reported via electronic laboratory reporting from the last report on Friday, Sept. 18, 2020

Total Number of Individuals Tested by Clinical and State Laboratories	Positive	Negative
282,580**	11,459	271,097
Total Number of Surge Tests++		
56,257	342	55,915

**Electronic Laboratory Reporting **24 test results were inconclusive*

++ Tests results from unique individuals. Total numbers may be higher due to repeat tests on single individuals.

[HawaiiCOVID19.com](https://hawaii-covid19.com)

Hawai'i COVID-19 Counts as of 12:00 noon, Sept. 20, 2020

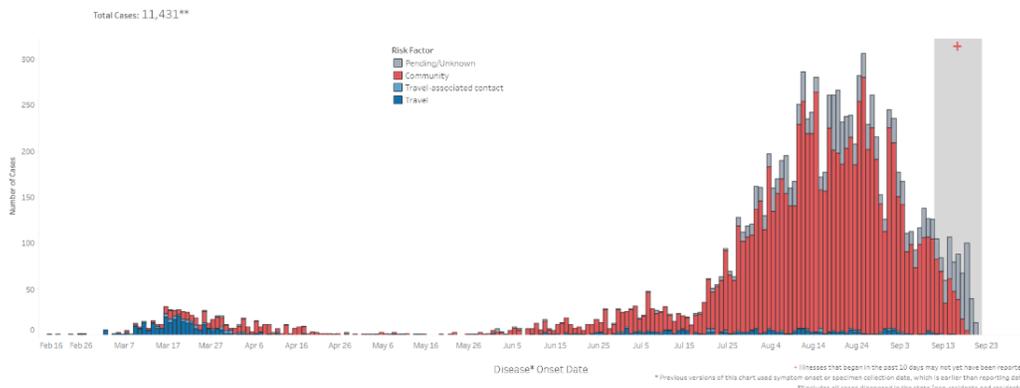
Island of Diagnosis	New Cases	Reported since 2/28/2020 (including new cases)
O'ahu	71	10,289
Hawai'i	5	644
Maui	1	370
Kaua'i	0	57
Moloka'i	0	15
Lāna'i	0	0
HI residents diagnosed outside of HI	0	28
Total Cases	77	11,403
Deaths	0	120

Hawai'i COVID-19 Counts as of 12:00 noon, Sept. 19, 2020

Island of Diagnosis	New Cases	Reported since 2/28/2020 (including new cases)
O'ahu	100	10,218
Hawai'i	7	639
Maui	3	369
Kaua'i	0	57
Moloka'i	0	15
Lāna'i	0	0
HI residents diagnosed outside of HI	0	28
Total Cases	110	11,326++
Deaths	0	120

++As a result of updated information, one case from Honolulu was removed from the counts and one case from O'ahu was re-categorized to Maui.

COVID-19 Epidemic Curve, Hawaii 2020
Updated September 21, 2020



For more tables, charts & visualizations visit the DOH Disease Outbreak Control Division:
<https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/what-you-should-know/current-situation-in-hawaii>

Helpful Resources

- **Safe Travels Information (Frequently Asked Questions)**
<https://hawaiicovid19.com/travel/#travel-FAQs>
 - **Kaua'i County**
Kaua'i COVID-19 webpage: <https://www.kauai.gov/COVID-19>
To report violators: <https://www.kauai.gov/KPD-Online-Reporting>
 - **Maui County**
Maui County mandatory travel declaration form and request for limited quarantine form:
<https://www.mauicounty.gov>
To report violators: (808) 244-6400 or mpdquarantine@mpd.net
 - **Hawai'i County**
Hawai'i County COVID-19 webpage:
<https://coronavirus-response-county-of-hawaii-hawaiiicountygis.hub.arcgis.com/>
Critical infrastructure and medical travel
request: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/e2f4ce19aa854964a8fd60bec7fbe78c>
To report violators: 808-935-3311
 - **City & County of Honolulu**
Honolulu COVID-19 webpage: oneoahu.org
Interisland passengers arriving on O'ahu are not subject to the mandatory quarantine.
To report violators: 808-723-3900 or HPDcovidenforce@honolulu.gov
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