

HAWAI'I COVID-19 JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2020

DAILY HAWAI'I COVID-19 CASES EXCEEDS 200 FOR THE FIRST TIME Death Toll Rises to 31 After Passing of Two O'ahu Men

HONOLULU – All but one (1) of the 201 newly diagnosed COVID-19 cases, reported by the Dept. of Health (DOH) today, is from Oʻahu. Maui has a single new case.

Health Director Bruce Anderson said, "Unfortunately, projections for increases in COVID case and ICU bed utilization are being realized." Many of the Intensive Care Units on Oʻahu are full or close to full and hospitals are surging, transferring patients, and opening new units to handle new patients. ICU bed use on the Neighbor Islands has not changed significantly to date.

Yesterday, Governor Ige and Mayor Caldwell announced restrictions on large group gatherings, the closure of beaches and parks, and the reinstitution of a mandatory 14-day quarantine for any travel other than arrival on Oʻahu. "These actions are targeted toward what we know to be high risk activities," said Anderson.

"Given the incubation period of COVID can be as long as 14 days, we are seeing the result of exposures a week or two ago and it will probably be at least a couple of weeks before we can expect to see the benefit of the restrictions on these activities and events on Oʻahu," said Anderson. "We all need to act now. Avoid crowded places, closed spaces and close contact. Your life and the lives of your loved ones and friends will depend on it."

For a second day in a row, DOH is reporting two deaths, as a result of the COVID-19 infection. Anderson said, "We send our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of the latest victims of this terrible disease. Their passing's are a stark reminder of the realities today. Unfortunately, we are going to see more and more casualties as the surge of cases over the last few weeks continues and, sadly, more and more families and neighborhoods will experience the loss of loved ones."

Both of the latest victims are men, and both are from O'ahu. One was older than 60-years-old and had been in the hospital. He died on August 4. He was exposed to a positive household member.

The second man passed away on Wednesday and was in the 40 to 59-year-old age group. His death was reported by the Honolulu Medical Examiner because he died at home, unattended. His family reported he had symptoms but did not seek medical care. Both men are said to have had underlying medical conditions and the health investigations into their deaths continue. Since the beginning of the pandemic, there have now been 31 reported deaths in Hawai'i associated with COVID-19.

Public health officials, including State Epidemiologist Dr. Sarah Park, have warned that people getting together in social settings, whether it be on the beach, in a park, in a home, or anywhere else have let down their guard down and fail to maintain safe practices, which will inevitably lead to further spread of this virus.

On Thursday, State and County leaders issued a renewed plea for everyone to take personal responsibility and to maintain safe practices to stop the surge. They are also stepping up enforcement of emergency rules, by putting more police officers into the field to aggressively enforce the renewed restrictions in Honolulu, which include the closure of all county and state beaches and public parks. People are encouraged to report violations: COVID Enforcement Hotline at 723-3900 begins Sunday at 10 a.m. or email hpdcovidenforce@honolulu.gov

Hawai'i COVID-19 Counts as of 12:00 noon, August 7, 2020

Island of Diagnosis	New Cases	Reported since 2/28/2020 (including new cases)	
Oʻahu	200	2,741	
Hawai'i	0	123	
Maui	1	179	
Kauai	0	47	
Molokaʻi	0	2	
Lanaʻi	0	0	
HI residents diagnosed outside of HI	0	23	
Total Cases	201	3,115	
Deaths	2	31	

Laboratory* Testing Data

There were 3,962 additional COVID-19 tests reported via electronic laboratory reporting. Note: On August 6 there were issues with Electronic Lab Reporting.

Total Number of Individuals Tested by Clinical and State Laboratories	Positive	Negative
139,246**	3,115	136,114

^{*}Electronic Laboratory Reporting **17 test results were inconclusive HawaiiCOVID19.com