

State of Hawai'i Weekly COVID-19 Cluster Report



February 25, 2021

Key Updates: COVID-19 Clusters in Cleaning Service Industry

- Professional cleaning services play an important role in reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 by cleaning and disinfecting public and private spaces, including workplaces, homes, schools, healthcare facilities, and recreational areas. However, procuring and providing janitorial and other environmental services while also practicing physical distancing can pose challenges. All parties involved must take precautions to protect cleaning industry workers, clients, employers, and household members.
- Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) Disease Investigators are currently investigating two clusters associated with residential and commercial cleaning service companies involving a total of twenty-three (23) cases to date. All cases identified have been among cleaning service company employees and household members of employees; no cases have been identified among cleaning service clients. Coworkers carpooling together and employees working while they or their household members are sick with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 are risk factors identified so far in the cleaning service clusters currently under investigation. Multiple cleaning service employees in the current clusters were also family members that lived together, which increased the opportunities for COVID-19 transmission.
- The Hawai'i DOH recommends that cleaning industry companies screen employees for symptoms of illness daily and send any employees that screen positive home from work. Employers should also provide all cleaning service employees with adequate personal protective equipment, including gloves and masks. Cleaning service workers should wear masks around people they don't live with, wash their hands frequently with soap and water and use EPA-approved disinfectants and cleaning chemicals. Additionally, all individuals carpooling together should wear masks for the entire trip and are encouraged to open car windows to improve ventilation during drives.
 - Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidance for cleaning service workers: https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/control-prevention/environmental-services
- ➤ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance on cleaning and disinfecting the home: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html

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: Meeting clinical criteria AND epidemiologic linkage with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for SARS-CoV-2 OR Meeting presumptive laboratory evidence 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						
Congregate Settings							
Correctional Facilities	Jails, prisons, detention centers, correctional treatment centers / "sober living" centers, transitional correctional facilities or homes / "halfway houses"						
Educational Settings	Preschools, K-12, and institutes of higher education, school-based athletics, after school programs						
Shelters	Facilities providing short or long-term sheltering services for individuals and groups without access to permanent housing due to homelessness, disaster, emergency, violence, or other circumstances						
Food Service, Production, and Distribution							
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						
	Occupational Settings						
Construction & Industrial	Construction and industrial settings, including residential and nor residential construction sites, landscaping companies, shipyards, nor food manufacturers, industrial warehouses, and related sales an distribution centers						
Other Occupational Settings	Offices, retail establishments, first responders						
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	Domestic / international / interisland travel, lodging, cruise ships, other tourism						
Social and Recreational Activities							
Social Gatherings	Parties, group gatherings, weddings, funerals, other social functions						
Places of Worship	Religious services and other events / activities at places of worship						
0							

^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.

^b Specific settings included in the reference table may not be exhaustive for the category.

COVID-19 Cluster Tables

City & County of Honolulu

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

February 25, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)				
Congregate Settings								
Correctional Facilities	0	0	0	0				
Educational Settings	0	0	0	0				
Shelters	0	0	0	0				
Food Service, Production, and Distribution								
Bars & Nightclubs	0	0	0	0				
Food Suppliers	0	0	0	0				
Restaurants	0	0	0	0				
Occupational Settings								
Construction & Industrial	0	0	0	0				
Other Occupational Settings	0	0	0	0				
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	0	0	0	0				
Social and Recreational Activities								
Social Gatherings	1	17	13	4				
Places of Worship	0	0	0	0				
Gyms	0	0	0	0				
Other								
Other: Cleaning Services	1	3	3	0				

Maui County

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

February 25, 2021

Exposure Category	Clusters (#)	Total Cases (#)	Cases Associated with Primary Setting (#)	Linked Cases Outside Primary Setting (#)				
Congregate Settings								
Correctional Facilities	1	33	33	0				
Educational Settings	0	0	0	0				
Shelters	0	0	0	0				
Food Service, Production, and Distribution								
Bars & Nightclubs	0	0	0	0				
Food Suppliers	0	0	0	0				
Restaurants	0	0	0	0				
	Occupational Settings							
Construction & Industrial	0	0	0	0				
Other Occupational Settings	0	0	0	0				
Travel, Lodging, & Tourism	1	3	3	0				
Social and Recreational Activities								
Social Gatherings	0	0	0	0				
Places of Worship	0	0	0	0				
Gyms	0	0	0	0				
Other								
Other: Cleaning Services	1	20	16	4				

Hawai'i County

- No COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days -

Kauai County

- No COVID-19 Clusters Under Investigation in Last 14 Days -