

**Quarterly Issues Programs List for Station KHCM-AM 880
July 1 – September 30, 2021
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Section 1. Issues.

The station has identified the following as significant issues and concerns to our listeners and community during this quarter:

- 1. Increase in Crime:** Provided coverage of escalating crime in Hawaii.
- 2. Coronavirus Pandemic:** How the pandemic is affecting Hawaii.
- 3. Police Actions:** How local police have been under investigation for their use of force.

Section II. Responsive Programs

This station broadcast programming dealing with the above-referenced issues as follows:

1. Increase in Crime:

7/9/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Authorities on Maui are working to figure out who vandalized an important cultural site. Sometime recently, someone shot paintballs at a cliffside in Olowalu Valley, called Pu'u Kilea. It contains one-hundred ancient Hawaiian petroglyphs estimated to be close to 300-years-old. There are now several hundred white and yellow paint spots dotted around the historic artwork.

7/20/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu police are still searching for the person who shot and killed a man sitting in a vehicle in Wahiawa early Sunday morning. Investigators say a witness saw someone shoot the man multiple times, then drive off in a dark colored car before police got there. They add that the shooting was "not random," and the man appeared to be targeted by someone who knew him. Neighbors tell Hawaii News Now the victim was a military veteran and father of two young children. The motive is still under investigation.

7/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The older brother of the 16-year-old boy shot and killed by Honolulu police earlier this year will go on trial in September. On Thursday, 21-year-old Maruo Sykap pleaded not guilty to first-degree robbery and second-degree assault charges. Skyap is accused of using a weapon to rob a man in Moiliili on April 22nd and doing the same to a woman two days later. The second alleged incident happened just steps away from where his younger brother Iremamber was shot and killed by Honolulu police on April 5th. Police say Maruo and his 18-year-old brother, Mark Sykap, worked together to rob the woman. Maruo allegedly stabbed her before Mark took her valuables.

8/2/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A death investigation is underway after a body was discovered in a burned-out minibus in Waianae. Crews found the bus fully engulfed in flames late Friday night. Upon putting the fire out, they discovered a body burned beyond recognition. The cause of the fire is unclear. To keep possible evidence intact, the bus will not be salvaged at this time.

8/10/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu police are on the hunt for a man who randomly attacked an 80-year-old woman in broad daylight. On Saturday morning, the woman was walking on the sidewalk on South Beretania Street, when a man pushed her off the curb and into the street as she passed by. The woman was shaken up, but not seriously injured. The man has not been identified but the video can be seen on Hawaii news now dot com.

8/11/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A 37-year-old man is behind bars on suspicion of randomly attacking an elderly woman walking on a sidewalk in Honolulu. Police believe he's the man seen on surveillance video from Saturday, pushing an 80-year-old woman off the curb and into South Beretania Street. The woman fell and hit her head, while the man kept walking down the sidewalk afterwards. She was left with bruises on her wrists and is dealing with back pain. For now, the HPD isn't classifying it as a hate crime, but as a second-degree assault. The motive had nothing to do with robbery, and remains a mystery.

Police are investigating an officer-involved shooting in Kalihi that left a suspect dead early Wednesday morning. The incident happened at around 2:30 a.m. when officers opened fire on a man with a machete. Sources said police responded to an attack at home in the 1300 block of School Street in which the suspect apparently cut the victim's pinky off. Officers then confronted the suspect, who had a machete in hand. When he refused police commands to drop the knife and approached officers, he was shot by police. The suspect was taken to Queen's Medical Center where he was pronounced dead. He has not yet been identified.

8/31/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Two people are dead following a shooting at a Waikiki assisted living facility. According to Hawaii News Now, The scene of the shooting was reported as the Plaza of Waikiki. The two who died were a man and a woman, and both suffered gunshot wounds. It was not immediately known what led up to the shooting, or if it was a murder-suicide. The ages of the victims and additional details on the incident were not immediately available.

9/1/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu police now believe an elderly couple found shot to death outside an assisted living facility may have taken their own lives. Investigators say a note was left near the bodies of a 92-year-old man and his 86-year-old wife. They were found dead in a seating area in the parking garage of the Plaza Waikiki Assisted Living Facility yesterday morning. The case was initially a suspected murder-suicide, but police now say the note indicates they instead each committed suicide. Police say the woman lived at the facility, but not her husband.

9/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Students inspired by a TikTok challenge are stealing items from East Oahu's Kaiser High School. They're doing the "Devious Lick" challenge, which promotes students stealing random items from school campuses. During the past few weeks, students have taken school supplies, soap, and sanitizer dispensers, then posting the thefts on social media.

9/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Unruly passengers forced the diversion of two Hawaiian Airlines flights in a matter of 12 hours. Yesterday afternoon, a flight from Honolulu to Seattle turned around and went back to Honolulu after a passenger refused to follow the federal mask mandate on the plane, and caused a disturbance to other passengers. Flight attendants and an off-duty pilot managed to de-escalate the confrontation before the plane landed. Yesterday morning, a flight from Honolulu to Hilo had to return to the tarmac 15 minutes after takeoff, because a passenger punched a flight attendant. This year, Hawaiian Airlines has banned or denied boarding to nearly 100 passengers who were misbehaving.

9/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The passenger accused of punching a Hawaiian Airlines flight attendant shortly after takeoff is due in court today. He spent the weekend in jail, after missing his first court date on Friday morning. His public defender said she was not able to speak with him because he was having an "episode." Court documents say the man punched the flight attendant in the chest with a closed fist while the attendant was walking the aisles picking up

passengers' trash last Thursday. Then the aggressor hit the flight attendant again on the side of the head. The flight attendant says no words were exchanged before the "unprovoked" attack.

9/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Oahu saw fewer violent crimes and property crimes last year. The FBI's annual report on crime shows there were about 22-hundred violent crimes on Oahu in 2020, which is 300 fewer than in 2019. The report also shows Hawaii's violent crime rate per capita is two-thirds the national rate, making it one of the safer states. Property crime numbers also declined statewide. There were more than 900 fewer residential burglaries than in 2019. Hawaii's statewide crime report, which may provide more detailed statistics, will be released later this year.

2. Coronavirus Pandemic:

7/1/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii on Thursday reported 49 new COVID-19 infections and one additional fatality. The state's death toll stands at 518. Of the new cases, 35 were on Oahu, seven were on Kauai, and two were on Hawaii Island. There were also five residents diagnosed out-of-state. The total number of infections since the start of the pandemic has now risen to 37,807. Meanwhile, the state said that 58% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 63% have gotten at least one dose.

The state is investigating several COVID clusters across the state. In their weekly cluster report, the Hawaii Department of Health tracked down a number of cases at a place of worship in every county except Hawaii County. Between Oahu, Maui and Kauai counties, there were 31 cases total linked to a place of worship. On Oahu, there were also three clusters tied to social gatherings with 31 cases reported. However, the largest active cluster in the state remains the one at the Hilo jail. So far, its been linked to more than 270 infections. The state has not reported any new cases at the jail since Tuesday.

7/2/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) More than 98-percent of the most recent coronavirus cases confirmed on the islands have been among unvaccinated people. State Health Department Director Dr. Libby Char says the numbers are reflective of the effectiveness of vaccines. They prove some vaccinated people can still get infected, but the odds are slim to none. None of the fully vaccinated people infected in Hawaii, in what's considered a "breakthrough case," have died.

Hawaii reported 79 new COVID-19 infections Friday. The uptick in cases comes as the state braces for the possibility of the virus spreading among the unvaccinated during July Fourth gatherings. Meanwhile, the state's death toll stands at 518. Of the new cases Friday, 52 were on Oahu, nine were on Kauai, seven were on Hawaii Island, and five were on Maui. There were also six residents diagnosed out-of-state. The total number of infections since the start of the pandemic has now risen to 37,886.

7/6/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) We're now two days away from tourism reopening to fully vaccinated travelers from the mainland. Those who can prove they've had their full run of COVID-19 shots can fly to the islands without having to take a pre-travel test, or quarantine after landing. People will be able to upload a picture of their vaccination cards to the state's Safe Travels website, which will be accepted as a form of official documentation.

The islands were a popular destination for visitors during Fourth of July weekend. According to newly released Safe Travels data, approx. 140-thousand people landed at Hawaii's airports between Thursday and Sunday. More than 102-thousand of them were, and maybe still are, on vacation. Such a weekend number is expected to become the norm starting this coming weekend, as fully vaccinated travelers from the mainland are allowed to skip all pre-travel testing and quarantine requirements starting Thursday.

Hawaii is reporting 39 new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday and no new deaths. The new cases bring the total number since the start of the pandemic to 38,082. With no new fatalities, the death toll from the virus remains at 518. Of the new cases Monday, 34 were on Oahu, six on Hawaii Island, one on Maui, one on Kauai and six out of state. Over the last 14 days, the state Health Department says there have been 615 new cases statewide. Meanwhile, the state said that 58.3% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 63% have gotten at least one dose.

7/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Kauai advances into its less restrictive Tier Five for coronavirus regulations tomorrow. With it brings the end of the first of its kind resort bubble program. Since last fall, it's allowed visitors to play around at a resort while they waited for their ten-day quarantine period to end. In Tier Five, outdoor gatherings on the Garden Isle can have up to 75 people, while indoor gatherings can max out at 25. And, restaurants, gyms, buses, and other attractions will be free to increase capacity to 75-percent. Mayor Derek Kawakami says Tier Six will come once the state reaches a 70-percent full vaccination rate. Tier Six is finally the end of the road, as all restrictions will be lifted.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 39 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 38,121 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 518. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 24 new cases on Oahu, one on Maui, nine on Hawaii island and five Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

7/8/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) After months of planning, the day Hawaii's vaccine passport program expands to the mainland is finally here. Travelers from the mainland can now skip pre-travel testing and post-arrival quarantine, if they can prove they're fully vaccinated against COVID-19. State officials remind travelers they won't be counted as fully vaccinated unless it's been at least 15 days since they've received their final dose. Hawaii has seen a tourism boom since summer started, averaging 30-thousand Trans-Pacific arrivals per day. That number is expected to rise significantly starting today.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes Governor Ige's 70-percent coronavirus vaccination rate benchmark is too high, and will be "super hard" to achieve this summer as hoped. Governor Ige has said all coronavirus restrictions will be lifted once 70-percent of all residents are fully vaccinated. Earlier this week, Doctor Green suggested a different approach in an interview with Hawaii News Now. He feels it would be more practical for the state to track its vaccination rate by the percentage of residents eligible. Since keiki younger than 12-years-old aren't eligible, that population is currently counting against the state's vaccination goals.

Hawaii is relaxing its capacity limits for social gatherings and restaurants starting today. Restaurants are now free to boost capacity to 75-percent, but must have the space, because six-foot social distancing guidelines remain. Indoor gathering sizes can increase to 25 people, while outdoor gatherings can have a maximum of 75. Governor Ige has said he'd ease these restrictions when the state reached or neared a 60-percent full vaccination rate. Right now, the rate is hovering just above 58-percent. The statewide indoor mask mandate remains in place.

7/9/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Restaurants and bars on Oahu can now fully reopen without social distancing and capacity limits, if all patrons are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Customers can also get in by presenting a negative test, taken within 48 hours of dining. The rule change, which wasn't previously announced, was included within Oahu's move to the less-restrictive Tier Five on Thursday. It's unclear how many restaurants and bars will take advantage of the new opportunity. Those that don't will have to maintain six-foot social distancing practices.

The first day of Hawaii's expanded vaccine passport program for mainland travelers was marked by long lines at airports. There were 39-thousand arrivals registered in the state's Safe Travels database on Thursday. By four in the afternoon, nearly 15-thousand people coming in from the mainland had used the new vaccination exemption. Nearly eleven-thousand had instead shown proof of a negative pre-travel test to skip quarantine requirements. Some fully vaccinated people did both, and took a pre-travel test anyway.

Hawaii is reporting 69 new cases of COVID-19 on Friday, pushing the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 38,265. Of the new cases, 37 were on Oahu, nine on Hawaii Island, seven on Kauai, and four on Maui. There were also 12 residents diagnosed out-of-state. Meanwhile, there were no additional COVID deaths reported in the state. The death toll from the virus stands at 519. Over the last 14 days, the state Health Department says there have been 632 new cases statewide.

7/12/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) COVID-19 has claimed the life of a fully vaccinated Hawaii resident for the first time. According to the Department of Health, the man from Oahu was in his 80's and had multiple underlying conditions. Health officials say the man died several weeks ago, but they only found out about his vaccination status a few days ago. There have been more than 100 coronavirus deaths in Hawaii since the state first started giving shots in January.

Hawaii has reported more than one-hundred new coronavirus cases for two straight days. There were 114 new cases on Saturday and 102 on Sunday. Fifty-eight of yesterday's confirmed infections were among Oahu residents. Health officials believe the Delta variant is responsible for the recent uptick in cases. Meanwhile, the rate of fully vaccinated residents on the islands remains at 58-percent, while 65-percent now have at least their first dose.

7/13/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The Rainbow Warriors might not have full capacity crowds cheering them on at football games this fall after all. With the statewide coronavirus vaccination rate slowing, and the highly contagious Delta variant spreading, Governor Ige is suggesting there may be capacity limits. Ige is concerned fans socializing before and after the games could lead to more super spreader events. Right now, under Oahu's Tier Five restrictions, sporting events can host a 50-percent capacity crowd.

The state health department has detected 53 cases of the Delta variant of coronavirus during the past two weeks. Officials with the state testing lab say the rate of cases testing positive for the Delta variant has increased from 20 to 40-percent during those two weeks. Ten of the cases detected most recently contain a specific, concerning mutation, of the variant. Eight of those cases are in Maui County, and two are on Oahu. Also in the past two weeks, the Big Island has jumped from one Delta case to 14. Most of these infections have been the result of community spread.

As the rate of coronavirus cases containing the Delta variant increases on the islands, so does the rate of hospitalizations. Kaiser Permanente Hawaii says it's been treating more patients with pneumonia caused by coronavirus in recent weeks. Almost all are unvaccinated, and many had just returned from the mainland. Doctors say these people are traveling to places where the Delta variant is now endemic, and bringing it back home. This past weekend, two Hawaii residents in their 40's died from the virus, and both were not vaccinated.

7/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The highly contagious Delta Variant is now responsible for 40-percent of all new coronavirus cases in Hawaii. Almost all of the infections are among unvaccinated people. Since the start of July, the state's testing positivity rate has grown from one-point-four to two-point-four-percent. And, the infection rate has climbed by 20-percent. And, hospitalization figures are starting to reflect the case increase. At the end of June about 20 patients were hospitalized with the virus across the islands. Now, that number is up to 52. Public health officials blame the Delta Variant, Fourth of July gatherings, increased travel, and looser restrictions.

Hawaii reported 48 new COVID cases Wednesday and no additional fatalities. Of the new infections, 25 were on Oahu, seven on Maui, six Hawaii Island, two on Kauai. There

were also eight residents diagnosed out-of-state. The state's death toll remains at 521. The total number of cases in Hawaii since the start of the pandemic now stands at 38,653. Over the last 14 days, the state Health Department said there have been 764 new cases statewide. Meanwhile, the state also reported that 58.8% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 65.2% have gotten at least one dose.

7/15/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A class-action lawsuit that blames the state for coronavirus outbreaks in prisons will be allowed to proceed. On Wednesday, a federal judge allowed the suit, and ordered the Hawaii Department of Public Safety to immediately implement its COVID-19 response plan. The judge also says the DPS may need to appoint a "special master" to oversee the plan going into action. Since the pandemic started, there have been more than two-thousand coronavirus cases and nine deaths reported at Hawaii's correctional facilities.

The Aloha Freedom Festival begins outside Aloha Stadium tomorrow. It'll be EK Fernandez Shows' first event in a year-and-a-half, since before the pandemic started. There will be no capacity limits on rides, but there's an entry limit due to public health protocols. There can only be 56-hundred visitors there at once, but masks won't be required because it's outdoors. Guests will also have to undergo a wellness screening before being allowed entry, and rides will be sanitized after each use. The Aloha Freedom Festival runs for three weekends, starting tomorrow night.

Hawaii reported 166 new COVID infections Thursday and one additional fatality, bringing the state's death toll from the virus to 522. It's the highest single-day increase in cases since January, and comes amid concerns that July Fourth gatherings is driving up cases. Hawaii also saw triple-digit rises in infections over the weekend. Lt. Gov. Josh Green told HNN that some 99% of those testing positive in Hawaii are unvaccinated. Of the new infections, 91 were on Oahu, 17 on Hawaii Island, 22 on Maui, and 14 on Kauai. There were also 22 cases of residents diagnosed out-of-state.

7/16/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 147 new COVID cases on Friday and one additional fatality. It's the second day in a row the state has seen a triple-digit rise in new COVID infections. On Thursday, there were 166 new cases reported. Meanwhile, the death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 523. Health Department officials have said the new infections are primarily among unvaccinated people: Adults who traveled to the mainland and children in households with unvaccinated adults. Of the new infections, 93 were on Oahu, 27 on Hawaii Island, nine on Kauai, seven on Maui, and one on Molokai. There were also 10 residents diagnosed out-of-state.

7/20/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Twenty-percent of the newest coronavirus cases in Hawaii are among residents aged 18 and younger. The state Department of Health says 27 of the 132 new cases reported Monday are among keiki. DOH Spokesperson Brooks Baehr says unvaccinated people have been traveling to the mainland, getting infected, then returning home and infecting

those who are still too young for the vaccine. The DOH worries about the implications of the case increase among keiki, especially with the new school year starting in just two weeks.

A new policy is forcing state workers to quarantine after returning from the mainland, even if they're fully vaccinated against coronavirus. On July 8th, the same day the state started allowing fully vaccinated travelers from the mainland to skip quarantine upon arrival, things changed for the state's 55-thousand government workers. They received a memo, saying if they traveled for any reason, they needed to gain approval from a supervisor before returning to the workplace, regardless of vaccination status. If their department directors don't let them back, the government employees must quarantine for up to ten days.

Honolulu EMS is dealing with a serious influx of 911 calls. Officials say paramedics are responding to more emergency calls now than they did before the pandemic started. They're responding to all sorts of calls, but report an increase in those related to COVID-19. About a month ago, crews would go several days without transporting a coronavirus patient to the hospital, and now, treating and transporting people who have tested positive is becoming the norm again. On June 15th, Oahu had a total of 19 hospitalized coronavirus patients. On Monday, there were 43.

7/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The coronavirus infection rate among Hawaii's unvaccinated residents is now as high as the entire state's infection rate was when the pandemic peaked last year. That was before vaccines were available, but now, even though they're readily available, more than 40-percent of the state's population still isn't fully vaccinated. There are now 70 people hospitalized with coronavirus across the islands, which is about a quarter of the number seen during the pandemic's peak. Public health officials believe fewer people are hospitalized during this case surge, because the majority of newest infections are among younger, healthier people. The newest infections are connected with the Delta variant, which is 225-percent more contagious than the virus strain that created the global pandemic.

About a third of Hawaii's hotel industry jobs that were lost to the pandemic may not be coming back for a long time. According to a new report from the American Hotel and Lodging Association, 29-percent of the state's hotel jobs won't be returning by the end of this year. Hawaii has an estimated 31-thousand-500 hotel jobs right now, down from more than 44-thousand in 2019, before the pandemic hit. But, recovery has started. Statewide, there were only about 24-thousand hotel jobs in 2020.

7/22/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Distance learning will still be an option for Hawaii's public-school students, but not on all campuses. More than 100 schools will offer a form of distance learning when the new school year starts on August 3rd. The online setup for most schools involves very little teacher interaction. Teachers will only be responsible for grading their off-campus students, and parents would handle mostly everything else. Some parents have criticized the Department of Education, saying the plan was rushed and is incomplete.

Hawaii reported 243 new COVID cases Thursday, in the highest single-day rise in infections since January. The increase comes after a week of triple-digit increases in cases and amid growing concern locally and nationally about the rapid spread delta

variant — especially among the unvaccinated. Gov. David Ige said almost all of those contracting COVID in the islands have not been vaccinated. “If you haven’t already, please get vaccinated,” he wrote, on Twitter. “We know it’s one of the safest ways to protect you and your family”.

7/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi has no plans to issue tougher coronavirus restrictions, even as case numbers continue to rise. On Thursday, the state reported 243 new cases, which marked the highest single-day increase since early January. Almost 150 of those cases were on Oahu. Despite the situation, the mayor isn't interested in reverting the island back to the more restrictive Tier Four. Instead, he continues to push vaccinations as the answer. Right now, 61-percent of Oahu's population is fully vaccinated.

New data released by scientists at the University of Hawaii suggests the coronavirus case spike affecting Oahu is only going to get worse. Forecasting models show case and hospitalization numbers continuing to increase into the fall. According to the models, Oahu alone will reach an average of 252 new cases per day in mid-September. Two-thirds of those cases would be among unvaccinated people. But, the trend could be reversed if vaccination rates pick up and if restrictions get tighter.

Hawaii public health officials are strongly advising unvaccinated residents to avoid traveling to the ninth island. Las Vegas is dealing with its own coronavirus case surge. And, as of Thursday, employees at casinos and other indoor businesses are required to wear masks again, regardless of vaccination status. Las Vegas is now averaging more than 750 new cases each day, and the testing positivity rate is at 14-percent. Kauai Mayor Derek Kawakami and Lieutenant Governor Josh Green have each warned of the dangers of venturing to Vegas right now.

7/26/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Fully-vaccinated people will soon be able to lose the mask when walking around outdoors on the islands. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green says the state agrees with the CDC's new guidance, and will align itself with the relaxed mask rule soon. On Tuesday, the CDC announced it's safe for fully-vaccinated people to keep their faces uncovered outside, unless they're in a crowded setting, where maintaining six-feet of social distancing isn't possible. Doctor Green feels the risk of transmission in open air spaces is very low, and says he's asked Governor Ige to make a policy change.

Kauai is seeing another uptick in coronavirus cases, and the United Kingdom variant may be to blame. Public health officials identified the Garden Isle's first known case of the U.K. variant on Monday. It was in a visitor who tested positive for COVID-19 earlier this month. That person was allowed to walk around without quarantining after receiving a negative pre-travel test result. Six new cases were confirmed on Kauai on Tuesday, and most of the people are close contacts of one another.

Hawaii health officials reported three new COVID-19 deaths on Wednesday along with 69 new cases. Wednesday's new fatalities bring the state's death toll from the virus to 482. Two deaths were on Oahu, the third was on Maui. Of the new cases, 55 were on Oahu, 10 on Maui, two on Kauai and one on Hawaii Island. One additional case was also diagnosed out-of-state. Since the

pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 32,110 cases of COVID-19. At last check, the state said it has administered 1,172,923 vaccine doses so far.

7/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii now has as many coronavirus hospitalizations as it did during the winter surge in January. As of Monday, there are 92 people battling the virus in the state's hospitals, and all but three of them are unvaccinated. The total climbed by 30-percent over just this past weekend. Sixty-eight of those hospitalized are on Oahu, with 15 on Maui, and nine on the Big Island. Twenty of the hospitalized patients are in intensive care. The number of active cases has also grown from 600 to two-thousand in about three weeks. Yesterday also marked Hawaii's 12th straight day with a case increase in the triple digits.

Hawaii saw 162 new COVID cases on Tuesday, bringing the total number of confirmed infections in the islands over the last 14 days to 2,143. It's the 13th consecutive day Hawaii has seen a triple-digit rise in new case. Of the new cases Tuesday, 106 were on Oahu, 27 on Hawaii Island, 11 on Maui, and four on Kauai. There were also 14 residents diagnosed out-of-state. The state does not provide details on how many cases were in vaccinated vs. unvaccinated individuals.

7/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor Ige isn't ready to mandate coronavirus vaccinations for state workers. Though the state can legally issue a requirement, he'd rather wait until the vaccine receives full FDA approval. The three options are currently only authorized for emergency use, and it's unclear when full approval would come. California, Los Angeles, and New York City are now requiring all government employees to have their shots, and if not, they'll be tested on a regular basis. Ige also admits his office is concerned about negative employee reaction if the mandate were to be issued.

The mass vaccination site at Pier Two is closing Saturday. It opened as Hawaii's first coronavirus vaccination center in January, and has administered roughly 184-thousand shots since then. Hawaii Pacific Health, which runs the site, is opening a new, smaller clinic this coming Monday. It'll be at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children, and walk-ins will be taken on weekdays. Hawaii Pacific Health says it's shifting venues before the vaccine becomes available to keiki younger than 12.

A team with the CDC is on its way to investigate the recent coronavirus case surge in Leeward Oahu. The Hawaii Department of Health has reported 129 new cases in Waianae during the past two weeks, making it the biggest virus hot spot on the island right now. Officials with Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center say the facility is now treating a record number of COVID-19 patients, and has a record-high positivity rate. The hospital's Director of Infection Control estimates there's far more than one-thousand active cases within the Waianae zip code.

8/2/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Pregnant women are beginning to account for a larger number of Hawaii's coronavirus hospitalizations. Maternity doctors say three to five-percent of the state's hundred-plus hospitalizations right now are unvaccinated pregnant women. CDC data shows, nationally, 16-point-three percent of pregnant women have taken the vaccine. Studies show

vaccinated mothers can pass COVID-19 antibodies on to their child through breastfeeding or umbilical cord blood.

Hilo Medical Center's emergency department has brought back its no visitor policy after its number of coronavirus patients doubled overnight. Between Friday and Saturday, the hospital went from treating six patients infected with the virus to a dozen. And, not one of the 12 patients is vaccinated. But, none are in intensive care. Until further notice, HMC's emergency room is only allowing visitors for patients younger than 18, and for highly critical or end of life situations.

Hawaii reported 365 new COVID cases on Monday, pushing the statewide total for confirmed infections over the past 14 days to 3,535.

Of the new cases Monday:

- 222 were on Oahu
- 76 on Hawaii Island
- 514 on Kauai
- 44 on Maui

There were also nine residents diagnosed out-of-state.

8/3/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) There are now 150 people battling coronavirus in Hawaii's hospitals, and all but 15 of them are unvaccinated. Thirty-three more people have been admitted to hospitals with the virus since Friday. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green blames the hospitalization surge on the highly contagious Delta variant, and Fourth of July weekend gatherings. He says there are now more than three-thousand active cases, and most of them are the result of community spread. Doctor Green says Hawaii has enough hospital capacity right now, but some hospitals have already started postponing elective surgeries and procedures, in anticipation of getting a higher number of COVID-19 patients in the coming weeks.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes Hawaii might need to start limiting gathering sizes to ten people or less, as the Delta variant causes coronavirus case and hospitalization numbers to surge across the islands. On Monday, he also said it might be time to reinstate a post-arrival testing requirement for visitors and returning residents. He cites numerous new infections originating from unvaccinated residents who traveled to high-risk parts of the mainland like Las Vegas and Texas. Doctor Green thinks many of them infected family members, by opting to quarantine at home instead of taking a pre-travel test.

8/4/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Each of Hawaii's four county mayors is moving closer to making the COVID-19 vaccine mandatory for workers in their respective jurisdictions. In a statement from Honolulu Hale, a spokesperson for Mayor Rick Blangiardi said yesterday that the administration is "considering requiring city employees be vaccinated, attesting to fully vaccinated status or be subject to regular testing" for the virus. If fully enacted, such a mandatory vaccination policy would affect 13 thousand workers statewide.

Parker Elementary School is mandating COVID vaccinations for all employees and eligible students by October 1st. School officials say all students and employees will be tested for the virus at the start of the school year. Weekly testing reportedly will continue as long as Big Island infection rates remain at high levels. According to a spokesperson, exemptions to the policy will be reviewed for medical reasons or objections based on faith.

Family, friends and fans are mourning the death of widely regarded Hawaii chef Grant Kawasaki. Family members announced last night that the former host of 'Hawaiian Grown Kitchen' passed away due to complications related to COVID-19 on July 25th. Grant, who reportedly spent his last days in quarantine, was described by family as kind, thoughtful and generous. He was 45.

8/5/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor David Ige is expected to announce a state plan today that would mandate COVID-19 vaccinations for state workers. According to multiple sources, the program could go into action as early next week. State authorities say the plan is moving forward without the support of the state's powerful public-worker unions. One source said, under the as-yet-unannounced plan, state employees would have an option of getting weekly testing, all at their expense.

the delta variant is currently responsible for roughly 80 percent of all COVID cases in the islands. This according to state health officials, who say that number marks a big jump from mid-July, at which point the delta variant reportedly accounted for only half of new cases. According to a health department spokesperson, Oahu and Hawaii County lead the state in delta-variant cases, followed by Maui and Kauai counties.

The COVID-19 vaccination site at the Blaisdell is now in a different part of the facility. Effective today, walk-in vaccinations will no longer be administered at the Blaisdell Concert Hall. Instead, vaccinations will now be offered in the Blaisdell's Pikake Room. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily, except Tuesdays. Appointments are recommended, but you can still just walk in to get your vaccine.

8/9/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii has now reported more than 600 coronavirus cases for four straight days. There were another 643 infections confirmed on Sunday, and the number of people battling the virus in a hospital bed is up to 213. There have now been more than 46-thousand confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hawaii since the pandemic started. Sixty-point-six percent of the state's population is fully vaccinated, while 67-point-eight-percent of residents have received at least their first dose.

the filming of the "Love Island" reality show is accounting for at least five coronavirus cases on the Big Island. On Sunday, Hawaii State Film Commissioner Donne Dawson confirmed members of the CBS reality show's production crew recently became infected. Dawson says the state health department is aware of the situation, and contact tracing has been done. Close contacts of the infected people are also in quarantine, and will continue to be tested.

With coronavirus case numbers growing on Oahu, so does the want to get tested for infection. On Saturday, people at the city's free testing site at the Honolulu Airport had to wait hours for their turn. Some people told KHON-2 they waited more than three hours just to get tested. Nine-hundred tests were given as of Saturday afternoon alone. The free testing site at the Honolulu Airport will be open through next Saturday. Everyone going needs to pre-register and bring an ID for proof of their Oahu address and zip code.

8/10/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) All Hawaiian Airlines employees based in the United States will have to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by November 1st. Employees will have the option to apply for medical and religious exemptions, but if they're granted, those employees will still have to regularly test for the virus. Hawaiian Airlines plans to develop a vaccination program for its international employees at a later date. It'll depend on access to vaccines in their countries.

Major staffing shortages are forcing corrections officers at Hawaii's largest prison to work 24 to 36-hour shifts. The shortages, some of which are caused by COVID-19 outbreaks, have left critical positions unmanned at Halawa Correctional Facility. Officers in some parts of the prison have been moved to cover absences, leaving the guard tower along Moanalua Road and the one in Halawa Valley mostly empty during the past few days. HCF has 332 corrections officers to handle about 840 inmates, but right now, 64 positions are vacant. And, 60 more officers are out for various reasons, including workers' compensation, sick leave, military leave, or because they have coronavirus. The Department of Public Safety is now in the process of contacting retirees to see if they'd be interested in working part-time shifts at the prison.

Hawaii on Tuesday reported 436 new COVID-19 cases amid a concerning surge in hospitalizations across the state. There were no new fatalities reported. The death toll stands at 543. Lt. Gov. Josh Green says 246 people infected with the virus are now hospitalized, which is up by 20 compared to Monday. Of those hospitalized, 50% of patients in the COVID ward are under 50 years old, Green added. This comes as the state's positivity rate is at 7.25%.

8/11/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) One-hundred-five coronavirus cases were linked with Hawaii's public schools during the first week of in-person classes. Governor Ige says schools are prepared to close classrooms, buildings, or an entire campus in the event of an outbreak. Students and staff have tested positive since classes started last Tuesday. Ige says the high number was expected, given the high case rate across the islands right now. The Department of Education says there's no evidence of direct transmission happening on campuses, and believes its current health and safety measures are still strong enough to slow the spread of the virus in schools.

Hawaii is going to press charges against a traveler who forged their coronavirus vaccination card in an attempt to avoid quarantine rules. Governor David Ige says the person will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, and that could mean time in a jail cell. A conviction could lead to a fine of up to five-thousand-dollars, and a year in prison. The Honolulu Police Department also says passing off a phony vaccination card as the real thing could be considered tampering with a government record.

Hawaii reports 472 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday amid a concerning surge in hospitalizations across the state. Lt. Gov. Josh Green says 263 people infected with the virus are now hospitalized, which is up by 17 compared to Tuesday. Of those hospitalized, 23 are vaccinated. Green added that hospitals are also seeing an increase in younger COVID patients. This comes as the state's positivity rate is at 7.45%.

8/12/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hilo Medical Center is close to reaching full capacity as coronavirus case and hospitalization rates keep surging across Hawaii. Hilo Medical Center opened a 16-bed coronavirus unit last Friday, and six of those beds are already filled. Five more patients have been moved to intensive care. A spokesperson for the facility says, if a stroke patient were to walk into the emergency room right now, they'd have to be sent to Oahu or Maui for treatment. There are now 257 people hospitalized with the virus statewide. On Oahu, facilities like the Queen's Medical Center are starting to cancel elective procedures in anticipation of needing more space for COVID-19 patients.

the pandemic means no Duke's Oceanfest for the second straight year. The week-long event was supposed to start at the end of the month in Waikiki. Dozens of hopefuls had already registered for surfing, foiling and paddling competitions, but then Governor Ige announced new rules clamping down on gathering sizes this week. Organizers say they'll start planning for a bigger and better Duke's Oceanfest in 2022.

Those with a compromised immune system may be able to get a third COVID-19 vaccine dose soon. That's because the FDA is expected to sign off on it by the end of the week. The shots that would reportedly be used are from Pfizer and Moderna.

Hawaii reports 549 new COVID-19 infections and one additional fatality on Thursday. The state said the additional death was a man in his 30s who was hospitalized and had underlying conditions. The death toll from the virus now stands at 546.

8/13/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii is on the brink of setting a new record for coronavirus hospitalizations at one time. There were 282 people hospitalized Thursday, and the all-time high is 291. Hilton Raethel, head of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, expects the new record to be set today. All but 25 of the people currently hospitalized are unvaccinated. The state health department also reported 546 new cases yesterday, but officials say a data lag means a true case number hasn't been reported since Monday. There are still several cases from this week that haven't been counted yet.

Hawaii's new coronavirus vaccination mandate for government employees is seeing its first legal challenge. On Thursday, a group of attorneys announced they're filing a lawsuit on behalf of 12-hundred first responders now required to get their shots. The suit argues the mandate is violating workers' constitutional rights, and argues employers shouldn't be allowed to decide what qualifies as a religious exemption because religion is a personal belief. The legal team challenging Governor Ige also says labor unions should have been given the chance to negotiate before the policy was announced earlier this week

Hawaii reports 1,167 new COVID-19 infections and one additional fatality on Friday. The state said the additional death was an Oahu man in his 70s who was hospitalized and had underlying conditions. The death toll from the virus now stands at 547.

Of the new cases Friday:

- 837 were on Oahu
- 151 on Hawaii Island
- 109 on Maui
- six on Molokai
- 46 on Kauai

8/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) There are now 300 people hospitalized with coronavirus in Hawaii. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green says all but 26 of the patients are unvaccinated, and all of those who have their shots are "very old" with weak immune systems. There are now eight-thousand active cases statewide, and health officials expect the hospitalization figure to more than double within the next few weeks. Lieutenant Governor Green says, if the surge continues at this rate, Governor Ige and the county mayors will have to consider issuing curfews, and consider limiting the number of places that allow people inside without a vaccination card.

Hawaii Pacific Health has started administering third doses of the coronavirus vaccine to immunocompromised residents. On Friday, the CDC allowed clinics to give third shots of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine to people who are at high risk of severe illness or death from the virus. Cancer patients, and people who have recently received organ or stem cell transplants are eligible. Over the weekend, hundreds of people got their third doses at Hawaii Pacific Health clinics, like the ones at Kapolei and Kalani High Schools.

Hawaii reported 539 new COVID-19 infections on Monday and no additional fatalities. Hawaii's COVID death toll stands at 552. Of Monday's new cases:

- 376 were on Oahu
- 80 on Hawaii Island
- 49 on Maui
- 14 on Kauai reported by the state
- three on Molokai

8/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A new study suggests about two-thirds of Hawaii's teachers feel unsafe at school. The Hawaii State Teachers Association says survey results indicate 60-percent of teachers feel unsafe personally, and 70-percent think students aren't safe, as coronavirus infections continue to surge on the islands. Teachers blamed mask-wearing policies, poor ventilation, overcrowding, and students with COVID-19 symptoms going into their classrooms anyway. The Department of Education reported 325 coronavirus cases at schools and school offices last week alone.

Hawaii reported 647 new COVID-19 infections on Wednesday and two additional fatalities. The two deaths reported were both on Oahu — a man and woman in their 70s, both were hospitalized and had underlying conditions. The death toll from the virus has risen to 554.

Of Wednesday's new cases:

- 431 were on Oahu
- 87 on Hawaii Island
- 96 on Maui
- 26 on Kauai reported by the state
- one on Molokai

There were also six residents diagnosed out of state.

8/18/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 752 new COVID-19 infections on Thursday and four additional fatalities. Three of the deaths reported were on Oahu — a woman in her 60s, a man older than 80 years old and a woman older than 80. The other fatality was a Kauai man in his 60s. All of them had underlying conditions and were hospitalized. The death toll from the virus has risen to 558. 426 were on Oahu

- 163 on Hawaii Island
- 125 on Maui
- 25 on Kauai reported by the state
- four on Molokai
- one on Lanai

The state Department of Health on Thursday released a new report shedding light on two recent COVID cluster investigations in July, one of which involved an indoor concert and the other a wedding reception. The state said 23 COVID cases were associated with a concert at an Oahu bar. Sixteen of the cases were among employees, band members and concert attendees. Only four of those who tested positive were fully vaccinated. Seven other household members also tested positive. None of those individuals was vaccinated. The state said not only was the concert held indoors in a crowded setting, but the band members performed while sick — and none of them was vaccinated. Another cluster highlighted in the report was associated with a wedding reception at an indoor banquet hall on Oahu.

8/19/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's record number of patients hospitalized with coronavirus at once keeps climbing. There are now 352 people being treated for the virus in the state's hospitals. The previous high was 315 patients, which was reached nearly a year ago. Forty-three of those hospitalized are on the Big Island, where it's largest hospital, Hilo Medical Center, is just about at maximum capacity. Hospital officials predict all 128 of their beds could be filled within a few days.

The continued coronavirus spread might lead to beaches on the Big Island becoming off-limits again. Yesterday, Mayor Mitch Roth sent a letter to Governor Ige, officially proposing a closure

of beaches and parks until the surge stops. He also wants the return of the mandatory pre-travel test for all incoming travelers, vaccinated or not. Roth says the Big Island's hospitals are over capacity after taking on so many COVID-19 patients.

Hawaii reported 845 new COVID-19 infections on Friday and four additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus has risen to 562.

8/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The resurgence of coronavirus in Hawaii continues to worsen. The Department of Health reported 893 new cases yesterday, nearly 600 of which are on Oahu. Statewide there have been more than 92-hundred cases during the past two weeks. There was also another death, a woman from Maui in her 30's with underlying health conditions. Eight more hospitalizations would put the state at 400. All but about 50 of those currently hospitalized are unvaccinated. Nearly 62-percent of the population is now fully vaccinated.

The Blood Bank of Hawaii is putting out a call for donors. The facility has one to two days of universal blood left, and figures it needs 150 donors per day to replenish its supply to a comfortable level. Officials say getting the coronavirus vaccine doesn't affect someone's ability to give blood. However, those who've had COVID-19 can only donate COVID convalescent plasma if they haven't been vaccinated, or if they've waited six months to get vaccinated after last experiencing symptoms of the virus.

Hawaii reported 571 new COVID infections on Monday and no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 564.

Of Monday's new cases:

- 359 were on Oahu
- 107 on Hawaii Island
- 79 on Maui
- 23 on Kauai reported by the state
- two on Lanai
- There was also one resident diagnosed out of state.

8/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii was supposed to get 250 nurses and respiratory therapists from the mainland to assist at its overtaxed hospitals. Instead, 200 showed up over the weekend. Hilton Raethel, head of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, says another wave of medical professionals is supposed to land at the end of the week. He also admits they're hard to come by, because, as coronavirus resurges, the demand for traveling nurses is high across the entire country. Nine days ago, the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations across the islands reached 300.

Mayor Blangiardi's new order banning large gatherings means several events scheduled on Oahu won't be happening this month. Starting tomorrow and lasting for four weeks, indoor gatherings can't exceed ten people, and no more than 25 people can gather outdoors. That means no large

weddings and funerals, no conferences, and no professionally organized concerts and live events at venues like the Waikiki Shell and Blaisdell Center. Ticketed sporting events are also a no go. Church services are exempt from the gathering rules, but that's it.

Hawaii Department of Health officials today reported one new [coronavirus](#)-related death and 565 new confirmed and probable infections statewide, bringing the state's totals since the start of the pandemic to 565 fatalities and 57,235 cases. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 370 new cases on Oahu, 70 on Maui, 100 on Hawaii island, 17 on Kauai and eight Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

8/25/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Maui County officials are urging residents and tourists to steer clear of non-essential activities for 21 days to curb the spread of coronavirus. Mayor Mike Victorino says it's just a suggestion for now, but his administration is discussing possible new rules for the county with Governor Ige's office. The mayor wants all visitors to stay on their hotel properties and not gather outside of their "resort bubble." This means hotel and resort guests aren't discouraged from going to pools, beaches, shops and other amenities, as long as they're on the property.

Researchers at the University of Hawaii believe Oahu and the Big Island are in the eye of the storm for coronavirus cases and hospitalizations. And, the Hawaii Pandemic Applied Modeling Work Group also says Maui is two weeks away from reaching the same level, with daily infection numbers likely increasing by 15 to 20-percent within the next week. They also believe hospitalization numbers there will grow by 20 to 30-percent in a week. But, yesterday the pandemic forecasting team said the hospitalization spike on Oahu and the Big Island is starting to level out.

Hawaii reported 625 new COVID infections on Wednesday and eight additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii rose to 573.

Of Wednesday's new cases:

- 376 were on Oahu
- 100 on Hawaii Island
- 96 on Maui
- 39 on Kauai reported by the state
- two on Lanai
- two on Molokai

There were also 10 residents diagnosed out of state.

8/26/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hospitals are now tapping into Hawaii's emergency stockpile of ventilators as they continue to admit more coronavirus patients. Yesterday, there were 413 people hospitalized with the virus across the islands, and 87-percent of them aren't vaccinated. Hilton Raethel, head of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, says several hospitals are now running thin on their supply of ventilators, and have asked the state for a boost. Kuakini Medical

Center is one of those facilities, having received four extra ventilators from the state's supply on Tuesday.

Critics of Lieutenant Governor Josh Green keep holding protest rallies outside his condo in Downtown Honolulu. There was another protest Tuesday night, and Green says, while he supports free speech, some people have crossed the line. Yesterday, Green told the media people are following him, filming him through the windows, shining lights into his condo, and making death threats. Posters featuring Green's face with the word "fraud," and racist writing about his religion, were also placed on the sidewalk outside his condo.

During the past week, Hawaii has averaged 51-hundred coronavirus shots administered each day. That's a 40-percent jump from the previous week. More than 62-percent of the state's population is now fully vaccinated, and more than 70-percent of residents have at least their first dose. Hospitals are due for more relief soon too. Three-hundred more nurses and respiratory therapists are scheduled to fly in from the mainland this weekend. They'll join the 250 medical professionals who have already arrived during the past week and a half.

8/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor Ige warns "extreme measures" could be on the horizon if Hawaii doesn't reign in its coronavirus surge. In television interviews given this week, Ige said he doesn't want to hurt the economy, but could get to a point where he decides to issue lockdowns and shut down businesses again. Speaking with Hawaii News Now, he mentioned making those decisions if hospitals are pushed "across that line," but didn't give a definitive number stating what that line is.

On the Big Island, Mayor Mitch Roth is planning to make an announcement about COVID-19 rules today, and Maui Mayor Mike Victorino is waiting for approval on his newly proposed restrictions. Hawaii is nearing 16-thousand confirmed coronavirus cases this month alone, which accounts for about 27-percent of all cases recorded in the state since the pandemic began.

A mortuary trailer has been deployed outside the Honolulu Medical Examiner's Office as more people on Oahu lose their lives to coronavirus. The trailer was set up in a fenced-in parking lot on Tuesday, to increase the morgue's capacity. This is the first time one of these trailers has been deployed since the Honolulu Fire Department bought three during the early days of the pandemic last year.

Hawaii reported a stunning 1,035 new COVID infections Friday and nine additional fatalities — both new highs for single-day totals. It's the first time Hawaii has seen more than 1,000 new COVID cases in a single day. Earlier this month, the state reported 1,167 new cases, but said some were from previous days because of lab delays.

8/30/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor Ige isn't planning to issue another lockdown even though coronavirus cases are surging to new heights on the islands. Last night, he took to Facebook, to refute what he calls "rumors circulating" about a shut down. Ige says "there are currently no plans to shut down," and all social media posts suggesting otherwise "are not true." Ige also says any official announcements regarding restrictions will come from official channels.

Beginning Sept. 13, customers wishing to enter Oahu restaurants, bars, gyms and other establishments will need to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test. The city's Safe Access Oahu program will remain in effect for 60 days. Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi announced the program Monday amid an ongoing surge in new COVID cases in Hawaii that's strained health care facilities and triggered new restrictions on gatherings. Also Monday, the mayor said restaurants and bars would need to stop serving alcohol at 10 p.m.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 720 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 62,949 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 589. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 468 new cases on Oahu, 73 on Maui, 139 on Hawaii island, 34 on Kauai and six Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

8/31/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Starting September 13th, customers will have to prove they're fully vaccinated against coronavirus, or recently tested negative, before entering restaurants, bars, gyms, and other businesses on Oahu. Movie theaters, museums, zoos, bowling alleys, arcades, and indoor botanical gardens will also have to ask for proof of full vaccination or a recent negative test, taken within 48-hours. Employees at these businesses will also be required to be fully vaccinated, or test regularly. The "Safe Access Oahu" program will be in place for at least 60 days, meaning it's sticking around through mid-November.

With 418 people hospitalized with coronavirus, Hawaii's oxygen supply is starting to run low. During the past month, daily consumption of medical-grade oxygen has climbed by 250-percent. Yesterday, hospital officials from across the state held an emergency meeting to talk over strategies for conserving oxygen, and to make sure it isn't going to waste. Hilton Raethel, head of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, says demand is close to outweighing the amount of oxygen the state's two production facilities can supply.

Hawaii reported 553 new COVID infections on Tuesday and no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus remains at 589.

Of the new cases:

- 430 were on Oahu
- 65 on Hawaii Island
- 37 on Maui
- 13 on Kauai
- There were also eight residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/1/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Three-percent of the people who have died from coronavirus in Hawaii had no underlying medical conditions. The national rate is double that, at six-percent. Seventeen of the 589 people who have lost their lives to the virus on the islands were otherwise healthy. The death rate for Hawaii's coronavirus patients with no underlying conditions is 50-percent lower than the national average. Eight people who have died from the virus in Hawaii

were fully vaccinated. As of yesterday, 63-percent of the state's population is now fully vaccinated.

As coronavirus surges in Hawaii, so do hotel booking cancellations. Last week, Governor David Ige asked tourists not to come to Hawaii, and it appears they're listening. Mufi Hannemann, CEO of the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, says hotels and other tourism-related businesses have reported significant revenue losses during the past few weeks. Hannemann says businesses, attractions, and restaurants are also seeing a wave of cancellations. He also says he wishes Governor Ige's message was more targeted, and he instead would have asked only unvaccinated travelers to cancel their trips to the islands.

Hilo Medical Center is now operating at 20-percent over capacity as it takes in more patients infected with coronavirus. Yesterday, the largest hospital on the Big Island was caring for 38 coronavirus patients, with ten in the intensive care unit. The hospital has 17 ICU patients in all, when its normal ICU capacity is eleven. Last Friday, Hilo Medical Center opened a 16-bed overflow unit in its extended care facility to increase capacity. On the Fourth of July, the weekly case average on the Big Island was two-point-seven. Today, it's 138.

9/2/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii on Thursday reported 1,068 additional cases of COVID-19 and four more deaths. Over the past 14 days, the state has reported 11,225 new infections. Thursday's numbers included cases that were delayed because of a lab error. It's the [latest reporting issue](#) seen in recent days, in a situation officials have blamed on labs being pushed to their limits. Meanwhile, the state said two of Thursday's deaths were on Oahu — a woman in her 50s and a man in his 70s. The two remaining deaths were a Maui man in his 30s and a Hawaii Island man in his 60s. The state said all four had been hospitalized and had “underlying conditions.”

Starting today, Hawaii's inmates will have to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before they can be released on parole. The Hawaii Paroling Authority will allow exemptions for valid medical or religious reasons. Those granted exemptions will have to test negative for the virus each week before they're freed from custody. The paroling authority's chairman, Edmund Hyun, believes the new requirement will reduce the spread of the virus inside prisons, and protect the surrounding communities. The Department of Public Safety's Health Care Division staff will give the shots.

9/3/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Get caught breaking Oahu's gathering rules, pay a 250-dollar fine. That's what Mayor Blangiardi says is in store for people this Labor Day Weekend. Blangiardi says police will be out in full force, issuing citations to groups of more than 25 people gathered outdoors, and more than ten gathered indoors. The mayor is also making good on his promised crackdown against unvaccinated city employees. Yesterday, he said 400 employees haven't informed the city if they're vaccinated, or applied for an exemption, so most of them have now been placed on leave.

More fully vaccinated Hawaii residents are coming down with coronavirus. State Epidemiologist Dr. Sarah Kemble says there's been a jump in breakthrough cases since July, and blames it on the

highly contagious delta variant, and the widespread transmission of the virus across the islands. She urges vaccinated people to be more careful, but says the vaccine still protects against serious illness and death from the virus. Seven-percent of the state's COVID-19 cases since January have been among vaccinated people. There have been about 24-hundred breakthrough cases. Of them, 68 people were hospitalized and eight died.

Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi is urging residents to get vaccinated and avoid large gatherings this Labor Day Weekend. With dozens of demonstrators outside Honolulu Hale yesterday, he told the city council hospitals and the healthcare system are at a "breaking point." The mayor also says he's doing everything he can short of a full lockdown to curb the case and hospitalization spike. The protesters outside Honolulu Hale waved signs berating the mayor and listened to his speech without masks on, while 250 others called in to the meeting to bash vaccination passports and requirements.

9/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii still has the lowest overall coronavirus infection rate in the nation since the pandemic started. But, CDC data shows that wasn't the case when looking at last week alone. For every 100-thousand residents, there were 408 people infected with the virus. That was the 15th highest rate in the nation for the week. Two out of every 100-thousand Hawaii residents died from coronavirus last week, which ranks in about the middle among all states.

Today, Queen's West Oahu is opening an acute care module to expand its emergency room capacity. The tent is outside, and ready to take on overflow patients, should the hospital receive more coronavirus patients following Labor Day Weekend gatherings. Yesterday, 439 coronavirus patients were hospitalized across Hawaii. And, 24 more were in emergency rooms waiting for beds. Nearly 100 coronavirus patients are in intensive care units.

Hawaii on Tuesday reported 499 new COVID-19 cases statewide. The latest cases brought the total number of infections since the pandemic began to 68,764. Meanwhile, no new fatalities were reported. The death toll stands at 626. According to Lt. Gov. Josh Green, as of Tuesday, 443 people were hospitalized with COVID — 87% of them were unvaccinated.

9/8/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The demand for ambulances is soaring to new heights on Oahu. Honolulu EMS officials say, in recent weeks, the demand has grown so high, they can no longer immediately respond to every 911 call. Last week, paramedics treated a record number of coronavirus patients. A third of those calls came from the West Oahu District, which has one of the lowest vaccination rates on the island. Before the pandemic, EMS crews were responding to an average of 250 calls each day. During the past month, the call volume has grown by 32-percent, meaning crews are handling at least 80 extra calls each day. And, because hospitals are packed, patients have to keep waiting once they arrive at the emergency room. Ambulance crews often have to wait an average of 20 minutes for a bed to open up before they can offload a patient.

Coronavirus tests are getting harder to come by across the islands. Hawaii's leading epidemiologist Dr. Sarah Kemble says the demand is outpacing the supply of tests. And, that's in large part because of new workplace mandates that require many unvaccinated employees to undergo weekly testing. Kemble says she's worried people who actually feel sick are no longer

able to get tested. But, the vaccine-or-test rules may be increasing the statewide vaccination rate. More than 16-thousand doses of the vaccine were given during Labor Day Weekend.

Hawaii reported 380 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, bringing the total number of infections since the pandemic began to 69,144. Meanwhile, no new fatalities were reported. The death toll stands at 626. 203 were on Oahu, 95 on Hawaii Island, 54 on Maui, 19 on Kauai. There were also nine residents diagnosed out-of-state. Some 64% of the state's population is fully vaccinated, while 73.6% have received at least one dose.

9/9/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii on Thursday is reporting seven additional COVID-19 deaths and 429 new infections. The death toll from the virus now stands at 633. The state Department of Health said the fatalities were all on Oahu and included a woman in her 30s, two men in their 50s, one man in his 60s, two men in their 70s and one man in his 80s. All had underlying health conditions. The state also warned that while case counts have dropped slightly, "we are still in the middle of the deadliest surge of the pandemic" with 60 deaths reported over the past two weeks.

The Hawaii Department of Education has now reported nearly 25-hundred coronavirus cases since the semester started about a month ago. But, leaders still insist no case clusters have been identified on campuses. In last week's cluster report, the Department of Health identified four clusters in educational settings on Oahu, and ten in educational settings on Maui. But, those infections were not linked with DOE schools. Campbell High School, the largest school on the islands, has reported 83 cases, the most among any school in Hawaii.

Governor David Ige wants to make something clear: Hawaii State Hospital will not be used to treat COVID-19 patients. Governor Ige says he wants to remind everyone the hospital is a forensic mental health facility, explaining "it's a different kind of facility and it's not set up for medical care."

9/10/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Starting Monday, visitors to many state facilities will have to prove they're vaccinated against coronavirus or present a negative test result to a state employee. The new rule includes all public schools and libraries. Staff at airports, beach parks, correctional facilities, courthouses, and state housing projects will not be required to check for vaccination cards or test results. Keiki younger than 12 are excluded from the rule, since they're not eligible for the vaccine yet. All contractors working at state facilities are also subject to the vaccination or test mandate, starting Monday.

Maui County's Safer Outside program has been approved by Governor Ige. Starting this coming Wednesday, people must show their coronavirus vaccination cards at the door before being allowed to dine inside. The unvaccinated will have to sit out on the patio, or order takeout. All indoor gatherings will be limited to five people, and all outdoor gatherings can't exceed ten people. Commercial events hosting 50 people or more must apply for an exemption with county officials.

Hawaii on Friday reported 747 new COVID-19 infections and eight additional deaths. The death toll from the virus now stands at 641. All had underlying health conditions. The new fatalities

come a day after the state Health Department warned that “we are still in the middle of the deadliest surge of the pandemic.” The new cases bring the total number of infections since the pandemic began to 70,320. 456 were on Oahu

- 140 on Hawaii Island
- 100 on Maui
- 43 on Kauai
- 2 on Molokai

There were also six residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/13/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Starting today, anyone who wants to go inside one of Oahu's restaurants, bars, gyms, or entertainment venues will have to show their coronavirus vaccination card or a negative test at the door. The new Safe Access Oahu program, meant to level out the ongoing coronavirus case spike, is now in effect. Restaurant employees must also be vaccinated against the virus, or test for it weekly, to keep working. Customers don't need to bring their physical vaccination cards to these businesses. They can upload their card on an app that's part of the state's Safe Travels program website.

First responders make up more than half of the Honolulu city employees seeking an exemption from taking the coronavirus vaccine. They're all claiming they can't get the shots because of health or religious reasons, similar to thousands of first responders on the mainland. Two-hundred-fifty-five Honolulu police officers have requested an exemption, more than any other group of first responders. One-hundred-one Honolulu Fire Department employees, 80 ocean safety employees, and 23 EMS employees have also filed for an exemption.

A drive-through coronavirus testing site opens at the Blaisdell Arena today. It will offer both rapid antigen tests, which produce results in an hour, and PCR nasal swab tests, which produce results between one and two days. Both tests are accepted under Safe Access Oahu requirements. Walk-ins won't be allowed, so people need to book an appointment online. The link can be found on [Hawaii news now .com](http://Hawaii.news.now.com)

Hawaii reported 461 new COVID-19 cases on Monday, pushing the total number of infections since the pandemic began 72,352. No new deaths were reported. The death toll from the virus stands at 660. In this month alone, Hawaii has recorded 71 deaths. This comes a day after seven deaths were reported across the islands.

9/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A pregnant Hawaii resident hospitalized with a severe coronavirus infection recently died after giving birth. State officials say this is a first for Hawaii since the pandemic began. The baby was delivered successfully and is doing fine. State officials are not revealing details about where the mother lived, where she died, or saying if she was vaccinated. The CDC says pregnant women and new mothers are highly likely to fall severely ill from the virus.

No major issues have been reported after day one of the Safe Access Oahu program. Customers entering restaurants, bars, gyms, and entertainment venues must prove they're fully vaccinated

against coronavirus, or present a negative test taken within 48 hours of their visit. Many restaurants are checking people's phones, if they've uploaded their vaccination cards or test results to the Smart Health Card app. But, not all restaurants are willing to deal with the check-in process. The Hawaii Restaurant Association says dozens of restaurants are reverting to only offering takeout because of Safe Access Oahu rules.

The new drive-through coronavirus testing site at the Blaisdell Arena had a busy first day. The site opened at 9:00 a.m. yesterday, and 300 people had been tested before noon. The Blaisdell Arena is offering antigen tests, which produce results in about an hour, and PCR tests, which produce results in a day or two. The appointment-only testing site will be open Mondays through Fridays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Unvaccinated people wanting to go inside many businesses will need to present a recent negative test result, now that the Safe Access Oahu program is in place.

Hawaii's Department of Health is reporting 423 new COVID cases across the islands today. Of the new cases: 338 were on Oahu, 41 on the Big Island, 14 on Kauai, 23 on Maui, five on Molokai and two were diagnosed out of state. No new deaths were reported. Over the last 14 days, there have been eight-thousand-887 cases reported and are considered "active" across the state. According to Lt. Governor Josh Green, there were 360 COVID patients hospitalized today, which is down from 396 the day before.

9/15/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The state on Wednesday reported 11 new COVID-19 fatalities and 493 new infections. The latest fatalities bring the death toll from the virus to 671. Meanwhile, the new infections pushed the total number of cases to 73,268. Over the last 14 days, there have been 8,967 cases reported, which are considered “active” across the state.

Of the cases reported Wednesday:

- 314 were on Oahu
- 89 on Hawaii Island
- 62 on Maui
- 19 on Kauai
- 3 on Molokai

There were also six residents diagnosed out-of-state.

Hawaii's teachers keep pushing for better coronavirus safety protocols in their classrooms. Yesterday, members of the Hawaii State Teachers Association held a protest rally near the Department of Education building in Kapolei. Among their demands is having the Department of Health handle daily contact tracing duties, rather than school administrators. The DOE has reported more than 600 coronavirus cases among students and staff so far this month. But, education leaders say almost all of those people haven't been infected at schools.

9/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Coronavirus hospitalizations are on the downswing across Hawaii. Two weeks ago, 448 people were battling the virus in the state's hospitals, and now, that number is down to 346. When hospitalization figures were climbing by the day, Lieutenant

Governor Josh Green warned the number reaching 500 would trigger an extreme lockdown situation. Also two weeks ago, the average daily case count across the islands was 858. Now it's 557. Governor Green says, come tomorrow, public health officials will start getting a clearer picture of how the virus spread during Labor Day Weekend.

On August 23rd, Governor David Ige told travelers not to come to Hawaii because of rising coronavirus numbers. Since then, it appears many have been listening. Mufi Hannemann, President and CEO of the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, says in the weeks since, the tourism industry has seen a spike in cancellations. And, occupancy has been cut by nearly half at many hotels, forcing them to offer major discounts. Hannemann adds this is happening during the late summer and early fall months, which are historically slow for travel, even in pre-pandemic years.

Hawaii on Thursday reported 588 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the total number of infections since the pandemic began to 73,856. The state also confirmed eight additional fatalities, pushing the death toll from the virus to 679. In this month alone, Hawaii has recorded 90 deaths. Of the new infections reported Thursday:

- 388 were on Oahu
- 96 on Hawaii Island
- 53 on Maui
- 38 on Kauai
- 4 on Molokai

There were also nine residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 15 additional COVID fatalities on Friday, the highest single-day total for COVID deaths since the pandemic began. The death toll from the virus now stands at 694. In this month alone, Hawaii has recorded more than 100 deaths. The state also reported 581 new COVID-19 cases on Friday, bringing the total number since the start of the pandemic to 74,437. Of the new infections reported Friday:

- 369 were on Oahu
- 89 on Hawaii Island
- 69 on Maui
- 39 on Kauai
- 1 on Molokai

There were also 14 residents diagnosed out-of-state.

Two schools on neighbor islands are getting over major coronavirus outbreaks. The Department of Health reports 27 students and teachers tested positive at an independent school on Kauai last month. Then, 18 close contacts were also infected. Health officials say the school, which hasn't been named, wasn't closely following mask mandates, and had to pause in-person learning for a while. On Maui, 26 people at a public elementary school recently tested positive as well.

9/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Oahu's ongoing coronavirus infection surge could be over soon. On Sunday, the Hawaii Pandemic Applied Modeling Work Group released a new model that predicts the number of new cases continuing to trend downward. The forecast, based on a dozen recent days of data, says Honolulu's daily case rate will continue to drop for the rest of the month. The revised numbers are partially due to new restrictions issued by the city, and because fewer travelers are arriving as we head into fall.

Honolulu will no longer use a tiered reopening system to dictate its level of coronavirus restrictions. The city will switch to a "flexible" response plan that still includes gathering size and capacity limits. But, the so-called "Safe Oahu Response Plan" will not dictate restrictions based on metrics like case counts and positivity rates. Changes will instead follow the advice of health experts. Mayor Blangiardi says this system will be more broad, and won't include any "hard triggers" like the old one.

The state on Tuesday reported 280 new COVID-19 infections and no additional fatalities. The new cases bring the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 76,191.

Of the new infections reported Tuesday:

- 197 were on Oahu
- 39 on Hawaii Island
- 21 on Maui
- 16 on Kauai
- 1 on Molokai
- There were also 6 residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/22/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii on Wednesday reported 12 new coronavirus-related fatalities, bringing the state's death toll to 726. So far this month, Hawaii has recorded 137 COVID-related deaths alone. The state also saw 330 new COVID-19 infections on Wednesday. The new cases bring the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 76,521.

Of the new infections reported Wednesday:

- 216 were on Oahu
- 38 on Hawaii Island
- 43 on Maui
- 29 on Kauai
- 2 on Molokai

There were also two residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hundreds of Honolulu city employees are still waiting to see if their requests for a vaccination exemption will be granted. The city is still determining if those who filed for medical or religious exemptions have valid excuses. Mayor Rick Blangiardi says no one has been turned down yet, but City Councilwoman Andria Tupola still fears dozens of

jobs will be lost. She's introduced a resolution, asking the city to pursue alternatives to firing noncompliant workers.

Hawaii on Friday reported 403 new COVID-19 infections, pushing the statewide total number of cases since the pandemic began to 77,369.

The state also reported nine new deaths. The death toll now stands at 747.

This month alone, the state has seen 158 COVID deaths.

- Of the new infections reported Friday: 248 were on Oahu
- 68 on Hawaii Island
- 45 on Maui
- 27 on Kauai
- 3 on Molokai

There were also 12 residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's rate of daily coronavirus cases and deaths is starting to trend downward. The hospitalization total has also dropped by half since the beginning of the month. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes the death rate will also drop by half during the next two to three weeks. He adds that, because hospitalization figures have improved to a more manageable level, Hawaii will not have to ration care like Alaska and Idaho have in recent weeks.

Hawaii on Monday reported 255 new COVID-19 infections, pushing the statewide total of cases since the pandemic began to 78,404. Meanwhile, no new deaths have been reported. The death toll stands at 757 — and this month alone, the state has seen 168 COVID deaths.

Of the new infections reported Monday:

- 162 were on Oahu
- 32 on Hawaii Island
- 17 on Maui
- 33 on Kauai
- 4 on Molokai

There were also seven residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) two-million doses of the coronavirus vaccine have now been given in Hawaii. That means 79-percent of the eligible population is now fully vaccinated. The state reached the milestone yesterday, but Governor Ige says he's not ready to ease any restrictions. He tells the Star Advertiser there are still too many new cases, and urged people to be patient for the next two to six weeks. Right now, there are close to 57-hundred active infections across the islands, which is half the number from three weeks ago.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes a "normal Halloween" is possible this year. He says Hawaii is on track, if coronavirus infection numbers continue to fall, and vaccination numbers continue to rise at a promising pace. More than 70-percent of keiki between the ages of 12 and 17 have received at least one dose of the vaccine, and 79-percent of all eligible residents are now fully vaccinated. Last year, former Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell banned large gatherings on Halloween, and advised against trick-or-treating in large groups to prevent the spread of the virus.

Hawaii on Tuesday reported 240 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the statewide total number of infections since the pandemic began to 78,644. That's the lowest daily case count since late July. Meanwhile, no new deaths have been reported. The death toll stands at 757 —

Of the new infections reported Tuesday:

- 193 were on Oahu
- 24 on Hawaii Island
- 12 on Maui
- 8 on Kauai

There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state.

9/30/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii has recorded more coronavirus deaths this September than during any other month of the pandemic. One-hundred-eighty-one people on the islands have lost their lives to the virus this month. The Department of Health blames the Delta variant, and believes many of those who died were infected during the surge in July and August. More than half of the cases Hawaii has recorded during the entire pandemic have been since July 1st. The DOH has yet to announce the number of fully vaccinated residents who have died from COVID-19 this month.

The state is seeing 332 new COVID cases on the islands today, and 12 more deaths. This month alone, the state has seen 193 COVID deaths. Of the new infections reported: 230 were on Oahu, 56 on Hawaii Island, 30 on Maui, 19 on Kauai, two on Molokai, and five residents were diagnosed out-of-state. There's been five-thousand-130 cases reported over the past 14 days. Almost 68-percent of the state's population is fully vaccinated.

3. Police Actions:

7/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Attorneys for the three Honolulu police officers charged in the killing of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap are asking for the charges to be dismissed. One officer, accused of shooting the boy eight times from behind following a high-speed car chase in April, has been charged with murder. The two other officers, also accused of firing into the

stolen car, have been charged with attempted murder. The attorneys say the charges should be dropped, because an Oahu grand jury declined to prosecute the case before Honolulu's prosecutor ultimately filed charges. In a motion, filed Tuesday, the attorneys say charging the officers anyway is "statutorily and constitutionally impermissible," and undermines the point of having a grand jury in the first place.

7/8/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii taxpayers will be fronting legal fees in the Iremamber Skyap case. The Honolulu Police Commission voted yesterday to approve the use of taxpayer funds to cover legal expenses for Officers Zackary Ah Nee, Christopher Fredeluces and Geoffrey Thom. The officers are paying for their attorneys right now, but the commission's vote sets up a process for public funds to be used to cover legal fees for the three.

7/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Next week, a judge will decide whether the cases against the three Honolulu police officers charged in the shooting death of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap should legally go to trial. A motion to dismiss the charges, filed on behalf of the officers' attorneys, will be argued next Wednesday. The attorneys claim state law prevents Class A felonies from being charged without first getting a grand jury indictment. A grand jury on Oahu decided the officers were not in the wrong when they opened fire at the end of a car chase in April. But, Honolulu Prosecutor Steve Alm decided to charge the officers anyway. If the judge grants the motion to dismiss, prosecutors could take the case to a different grand jury.

7/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The case against the three Honolulu police officers charged in the death of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap is still on. On Tuesday, a judge denied a motion to drop all charges. The officers' attorneys argued the charges should be dropped, because a grand jury on Oahu declined to indict them, before Honolulu prosecutor Steve Alm charged them anyway. After the motion was denied, the preliminary hearing started. Honolulu's Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Masahiko Kobayashi was called in as a witness. He conducted the autopsy on Sykap, and confirmed the boy was shot eight times, taking bullets to the head, neck, and heart on April 5th. The hearing will continue next Tuesday.

7/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The older brother of the 16-year-old boy shot and killed by Honolulu police earlier this year will go on trial in September. On Thursday, 21-year-old Maruo Sykap pleaded not guilty to first-degree robbery and second-degree assault charges. Skyap is accused of using a weapon to rob a man in Moiliili on April 22nd and doing the same to a woman two days later. The second alleged incident happened just steps away from where his younger brother Iremamber was shot and killed by Honolulu police on April 5th. Police say Maruo and his 18-year-old brother, Mark Sykap, worked together to rob the woman. Maruo allegedly stabbed her before Mark took her valuables.

7/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The three Honolulu police officers charged in the deadly shooting of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap are due back in court this afternoon. They're scheduled to appear at the Alakea District Courthouse for a preliminary hearing at 1:30 p.m. Last week, a judge denied a motion to drop the charges against all three officers. Their attorneys argued the city had no right to press charges after a grand jury decided against indicting them. One officer is charged with second-degree murder, after allegedly shooting Sykap eight times from behind at the end of a car chase on April 5th.

Dueling protests are planned to take place outside of the Alakea District Courthouse, where the three Honolulu police officers involved in the killing of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap are appearing in court today. Supporters of the officers have been promoting their appearance online with slogans like "back the blue" and "free the three." The Sykap family and Aloha Freedom Coalition have protests organized for the same time, in the same place. They're demanding the HPD officially release the body camera footage from the deadly shooting on April 5th.

7/29/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Body camera footage from the three officers involved in a deadly April 5 shooting of a teen were presented in court Wednesday, making it public for the first time. The Honolulu prosecutor's office is trying to establish probable cause, saying three HPD officers — Geoffrey Thom, Zackary Ah Nee and Christopher Fredeluces — should go on trial for second degree murder and attempted murder charges. So far, 13 witnesses have testified at the preliminary hearing over three days.

8/11/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Police are investigating an officer-involved shooting in Kalihi that left a suspect dead early Wednesday morning. The incident happened at around 2:30 a.m. when officers opened fire on a man with a machete. Sources said police responded to an attack at home in the 1300 block of School Street in which the suspect apparently cut the victim's pinky off. Officers then confronted the suspect, who had a machete in hand. When he refused police commands to drop the knife and approached officers, he was shot by police. The suspect was taken to Queen's Medical Center where he was pronounced dead. He has not yet been identified.

8/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The preliminary hearing for the trio of Honolulu police officers accused of murder and attempted murder in the shooting death of a 16-year-old boy is back underway. On Tuesday, surveillance video from an apartment complex near where Iremamber Sykap was shot and killed was shown in court for the first time. It shows the stolen car Sykap was driving on April 5th moving after being surrounded by officers. Lieutenant Brandon Nakasone of the HPD's Professional Standards Office testified yesterday. He says, after the initial stop, the car moved forward, reversed, then moved forward again, which aligns with what the defense has argued. The officers' attorneys say their clients fired because they thought their colleague's lives were in danger.

8/18/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The three Honolulu police officers involved in the shooting death of a 16-year-old boy will not stand trial. On Wednesday, a judge ruled there isn't enough evidence to find probable cause to send two officers to trial for attempted murder, and the other to trial for murder, after firing at Iremamber Sykap on April 5th. Those charges will be dismissed, though the prosecution can file an appeal, and there could be a future civil case. The judge agreed with the defense attorneys, saying the officers were in danger when the stolen car driven by Sykap started to move forward and reverse in an intersection in McCully.

The Sykap family is speaking out after murder and attempted murder charges were dropped against the three Honolulu police officers involved in the deadly shooting of their son. Through their attorney, the family says it's upset and doesn't understand why the officers won't go to trial after the 16-year-old boy was shot eight times from behind. The family also maintains that

Iremamber Sykap was not posing a direct threat to the officers or bystanders on April 5th. They still plan to pursue a wrongful death lawsuit against the officers and the city.