

Quarterly Issues Programs List for Station KHCM-AM 880
April 1st – June 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. Homelessness:** One of the most high profile issues facing the state, we reported on the growing homeless problem, ongoing “homeless sweeps” and local efforts to address homelessness in Hawaii.
- 3. Coronavirus Pandemic:** How the pandemic is affecting Hawaii.
- 4. 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:

4/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii Senator Mazie Hirono's hate crime bill is expected to receive a Senate vote this week. The bill, recently introduced by Hirono, comes amid a spike in hate crimes and violence against Asian-Americans during the pandemic. The bill is designed to bolster how state and local governments report hate crimes, and to speed up the federal government's response to them. It's unclear if the bill has bipartisan support.

A 32-year-old woman is in custody after Honolulu Police raided an illegal game room in Waikiki Tuesday night. Police say they took possession of eight gambling machines and cash. The woman was arrested for possessing and promoting gambling devices. Police say if you know of illegal gambling, report it to Honolulu Police.

4/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) - A man accused of making terrorist threats is behind bars after a manhunt in Windward Oahu. The man, who was wanted on a 50-thousand-dollar warrant, was arrested in Kahaluu shortly after eleven o'clock Thursday night. The hunt for the same man attracted a similarly heavy police presence in Kaneohe the previous night. Police were tipped off by a 911 caller who said he was in the area.

4/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) After an hours-long manhunt Wednesday morning, police pulled a man from the Ala Wai Canal who had jumped into the waterway to evade officers. The man spent nearly six hours in the water, prompting an extensive search of the canal and drainage system under Paoakalani Avenue. Police sources told Hawaii News Now the man is believed to be a wanted fugitive — Jerry Andrade. He is wanted on a \$25,000 warrant for second-degree burglary, according to Honolulu CrimeStoppers.

He also has at least three other warrants out for his arrest.

4/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's unemployment office is warning of a new scam that is targeting people trying to claim benefits. Scammers are sending text messages and emails notifying recipients about unclaimed funds. But the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations says clicking on the link could compromise your account and put you at risk. Authorities say the scammers are simply trying to defraud the system. They are urging people to be wary of opening unsolicited messages that look like official notifications, but in fact are not.

4/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The older brother of the teen shot and killed by Honolulu police earlier this month has been charged with robbery. Eighteen-year-old Mark Sykap is accused of robbing a woman in McCully last Saturday morning, at the same intersection where a makeshift memorial has been set up for his late 16-year-old brother. He is out on bail, and is due in court tomorrow. Sykap and a 21-year-old man are accused of robbing a woman by force, and with a weapon, then fleeing the area.

4/29/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A Honolulu city bus driver is being praised for intervening in a sexual assault. The bus driver witnessed a 17-year-old girl being assaulted on Monday afternoon,

then pulled over and kicked the suspect out on Farrington Highway. The girl was alone, headed to a friend's house in Waianae. She was shaken, but took pictures of the man before he was thrown off the bus. Police arrested him an hour later, about two miles up the road. He remains behind bars and has a court hearing today.

5/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi promises to clean up Chinatown, which has been dealing with a spike in homelessness, drug use, vandalism, and crime lately. Thursday night marked the first time Blangiardi spoke at a Downtown-Chinatown Neighborhood Board meeting. The mayor discussed some recent social media posts where residents and business owners paint a bleak outlook about what he's doing to improve the situation. Blangiardi apologized, and said for the homeless crisis, he plans to provide outreach, services, and "tough love." He also handed out a to-do list at the meeting. It includes plans to install more security cameras, improve parks, and organize more community walks. The mayor's office is also negotiating with the River of Life Mission to move its homeless feeding services away from Chinatown.

5/11/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) An arson investigation is underway after fires were set at three government buildings in Downtown Honolulu. Between late Sunday night and early Monday morning, fires were set at the Hawaii Supreme Court, the State Attorney General's Office and the Department of Taxation. The first fire damaged an outside door and windowsill at the Judiciary History Center Office. Smoke poured into the building, which suffered an estimated 40-thousand-dollars in damage. Another doorway, at the Attorney General's Office, was also damaged by flames. Honolulu firefighters put each fire out within minutes before they spread. No injuries have been reported.

5/12/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A business in Kaimuki has been reunited with 20-thousand-dollars' worth of stolen merchandise. Honolulu police officers brought it back, after finding it all in a stolen car last weekend. Investigators say the vehicle was not only stolen, but was connected with a series of recent crimes. All three people inside the car were arrested following a late-night traffic stop. They're each facing charges of first-degree theft.

5/13/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Police are on the hunt for the person who doused a homeless man with gasoline and lit him on fire in Downtown Honolulu. The man, who is clinging to life with second and third-degree burns, was attacked while sleeping on the sidewalk on Pali Highway Wednesday morning. Witnesses say the attacker set the man on fire with a blowtorch, then hopped into a waiting car, which sped off. Another witness also reports there was an attempted attack on the same victim two hours prior, when someone set an object on fire and threw it at him. It's unclear if the same suspect was responsible. The owner of the building the attack happened in front of has turned security footage over to the HPD.

There have been nearly 20 assaults reported in and near Hawaii's busiest shopping mall during the past four weeks. On Sunday, a woman was punched by a random man inside a bathroom at Ala Moana Center. She has a broken nose, while the suspect was caught and remains behind bars. It happened in the middle of the day, as have more than half of the area's recent assaults. The number of assaults has increased since January, and the Honolulu Police Department relates that to the reopening of more businesses, which is bringing more traffic back to the mall.

5/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Police have finally arrested the man accused of setting more than a dozen brush fires on Lanai. He was caught Friday morning, shortly after another brush fire was reported near Paliमानo Gulch. Police and witnesses saw a gray truck near where the flames first broke out, the same gray truck spotted near two brush fires last Wednesday. Since September 5th of last year, there have been 15 fires reported in the rural hunting areas of the Pulama Lanai property. He's facing six counts of third-degree arson and posted six-thousand-dollars' bail after his arrest.

5/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu Police are launching a murder investigation after a shooting in Nanakuli overnight. Police say a man in his 30s apparently died of a gunshot wound on Hakimo and Paakea Roads. They have not identified the man or any possible suspect. The investigation is ongoing.

5/25/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Results of a new study indicate Hawaii tops the nation in arrests of public-school students. The study, released by the University of Hawaii on Wednesday, is compiled of data from the Honolulu Police Department, Department of Education and U.S. Office of Civil Rights. According to data, more than one-thousand public school students were arrested between 2013 and 2016, and the numbers disproportionately affected certain groups. Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, black students, and those with disabilities were arrested more than anyone else. Most of the arrests were for truancy or running away from school. The study does not mention specific schools, locations, grade levels, or include a gender breakdown.

6/8/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) An accountant is now facing charges on suspicion of helping suspected Oahu crime boss Mike Miske cover up his so-called "enterprise." The CPA is the first licensed professional to be charged on suspicion of being involved with Miske's dozens of alleged criminal ventures. According to court documents, she prepared and filed false tax returns on Miske's behalf, and advised the businessman to prepare phony documents, so he would deceive lenders awarding him bank loans. The false tax returns allegedly concealed hidden income Miske was raking in between 2010 and 2018. Miske and ten co-defendants were indicted last year, on charges of drug trafficking, weapons offenses, armed robbery, kidnapping, and murder for hire.

6/18/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The man responsible for one of Oahu's deadliest traffic crashes in history has been sentenced to 30 years behind bars. Alins Sumang killed three people and injured six more while driving at high speeds in Kakaako. On Thursday, Sumang pleaded guilty to charges stemming from the January 2019 crash, after reaching a plea agreement. He was drunk when he drove up onto a pedestrian island on Ala Moana Boulevard. Sumang, who read an apology letter to the victims' families before his sentencing, could be eligible for parole in less than seven years. Prosecutors will ask the parole board to make it mandatory that he serves the full 30-year sentence.

6/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Big Island police have released body camera footage of last Friday's officer-involved shooting that left a machete-wielding man dead in Hilo. The man was spotted inside a vacant home, after officers responded to reports of a burglary alarm going off. He allegedly lunged at the officers with the machete, injuring one, and prompting two other officers to open fire. The injured officer was taken to Hilo Medical Center with a wound to his

forearm, and is now in stable condition. It was the second deadly officer-involving shooting on the Big Island in five days.

6/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) New information is coming to light in last Friday's shooting in Kalihi that left one man dead. Court documents say the suspect, 37-year-old Eddieson Reyes, reported that his vehicle had been stolen about a half hour before he allegedly shot 19-year-old Triston Billimon around 11 p.m. near the Kalihi-Palama Library. According to Billimon's wife, she and her husband were driving on the H-1 near the Likelike Highway, when Reyes cut them off, exited his vehicle and allegedly shot the victim. An unidentified witness says both men had been racing on the highway just before the fatal confrontation. Police say Reyes remains in custody. Bail is set at one million dollars.

2. Homeless:

4/1/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Meth overdoses are now the leading cause of death among Oahu's homeless population. Last year, 33-percent of deaths among Oahu's homeless were attributed to drug overdoses, most of which stemmed from methamphetamine toxicity. By comparison, drug overdoses are attributed to five-percent of the deaths among the rest of the population. Deaths are also increasing in general. Last year, 120 homeless people died on Oahu, which is a 30-percent increase from five years ago. On average, a homeless person dies every three days on Oahu streets.

4/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) State land crews are clearing more than 30 homeless encampments from both sides of Diamond Head this week. The Department of Land and Natural Resources is cracking down on violators of its "no camping" rule. The DLNR also says the sweeps are the latest in a statewide initiative to manage threats to natural and cultural resources.

4/29/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii lawmakers have approved a new state budget of more than 31-billion-dollars for the next two fiscal years. Much of the budget was able to avoid major cuts to key programs, thanks to an infusion of more than one-point-three-billion-dollars in federal COVID-19 relief funds. The extra cash helped lawmakers ultimately decide not to take 80-million-dollars away from social services, including support for low-income families, homeless services, HIV and TB prevention, and senior citizen support. Lawmakers have also officially agreed to suspend pay raises for themselves and other government leaders, which would have gone into effect this summer. And, a bill that would have banned the use of no-knock warrants by police department on the islands was killed this week as well.

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situation. Blangiardi apologized, and said for the homeless crisis, he plans to provide outreach, services, and "tough love." He also handed out a to-do list at the meeting. It includes plans to install more security cameras, improve parks, and organize more community walks. The mayor's office is also negotiating with the River of Life Mission to move its homeless feeding services away from Chinatown.

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5/20/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) One organization is going "tent-to-tent" to make sure the homeless on Oahu are vaccinated. KITV reports Project Vision Hawaii has administered about 500 doses in the last month as they work to reach the homeless population. The organization says about 10 percent of the state's homeless have tested positive for COVID, compared to one or two percent of the general population.

6/15/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A church and preschool on Maui are still standing after a homeless encampment went up in flames just 25-feet away. Firefighters defended the Kahului Union Church and Preschool from the fire just before 6:00 Monday morning. No one was injured

3. Coronavirus Pandemic:

4/1/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii Governor David Ige warns Oahu residents could again face tougher restrictions if coronavirus case rates keep going up. Ige says there's been an uptick of illegal large gatherings across the state, which is leading to more community spread. On Wednesday, he told KHON he's not planning to tighten restrictions just yet, but warns Oahu is regressing toward Tier Two after making significant progress for most of the year. Ige also says vaccines remain the answer. The state is administering an estimated 80-thousand more shots this week, but the governor is still pushing the federal government to ship more doses across the Pacific.

Thirty-million-dollars' worth of coronavirus testing kits have likely gone to waste in Hawaii. About 672-thousand kits reached their expiration date while sitting in state storage facilities last Friday. The Hawaii Department of Health is working on securing an extension with the federal government, but the process may take several weeks, and must involve an FDA review. The state bought the antigen test kits last summer as case levels on the islands reached their peak.

4/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 76 new COVID cases on Wednesday, and no additional fatalities. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 30,363 cases. The death toll stands at 467. Of the new cases, 51 were on Oahu, 15 on Maui, five on the Big Island, and two on Kauai. There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state. In the last 14 days, there have been 1,345 new cases in Hawaii. As of Tuesday, the state said 871,595 COVID vaccine doses have been administered in Hawaii.

Hawaii plans to follow President Biden's new directive and open coronavirus vaccination eligibility to all adults on April 19th. Currently, residents aged 16 and older are eligible for shots on all islands but Oahu. Officials say the state would need to receive 300-thousand new doses by April 19th to comfortably meet the deadline. The Department of Health doesn't think that many will arrive, but still plans to meet the president's goal and expand eligibility for Oahu residents by then. The DOH says hundreds of thousands more residents will be eligible then, but most will likely have to wait for appointments for a few weeks until the supply grows.

4/8/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 122 COVID infections on Thursday and three additional fatalities, pushing the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 470. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 30,485 infections. Of the new cases, 70 were on Oahu, 40 on Maui, 10 on the Big Island, and one on Kauai. There were also two residents diagnosed out-of-state. In the last 14 days, there have been 1,350 new cases in Hawaii. Meanwhile, the state said at least 871,595 COVID vaccine doses have been administered in Hawaii.

Vaccine eligibility is expanding again for Oahu residents. Starting Monday, the state Health Department says residents age 50 and higher will be eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine at sites around the island. Health Director Dr. Elizabeth Char said “This is a great opportunity for residents 50 and older on Oahu to register before vaccine eligibility opens to everyone 16 and older on April 19,” Vaccination options and appointments [can be found by clicking here.](#) Services for older adults who may need additional assistance including signing up online or transportation can call Aloha United Way at 211. Appointments are also available at local pharmacies.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green says Hawaii can reach herd immunity by July 1st. Green says that means one-point-seven million COVID shots will be in arms by that time. He adds that all adults will be able to get the vaccine by April 19th. The state expects to get a shipment of 200-thousand doses this coming week and had a surplus of another 100-thousand. The Lieutenant Governor is encouraging people to be patient, but says Hawaii is ahead of schedule with vaccine rollout.

4/9/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 87 new COVID cases on Friday and no additional fatalities. The total number of infections in the islands stands at 30,571. There have been 470 COVID fatalities in Hawaii since the pandemic began. Meanwhile, Hawaii surpassed a big milestone Friday, surpassing 900,000 vaccine doses administered. The state put the numbers of shots in arms at 906,777. Of the new COVID cases Friday, 67 were on Oahu, 11 were on Maui, four on the Big Island, and five residents were diagnosed out-of-state.

4/12/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) All Oahu residents aged 50 and older are now eligible for the coronavirus vaccine. That went into effect at midnight, and next Monday, all residents aged 16 and older are allowed to get their shots. That means hundreds of thousands more residents will have the green light, but the state cautions not everyone will be able to go right away. Hawaii is forecasting a shortage of shipments of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine during the next two weeks, which means there will be less appointments for more eligible people. The allocation of the one-shot vaccine is dropping by 85-percent, and the Department of Health says there also won't be a major boost in Pfizer and Moderna arrivals for a while either.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green wants to launch a vaccine passport program by May 1st, at least for inter-island travelers. Fully-vaccinated travelers would be allowed to avoid quarantine and pre or post-arrival testing by proving they have their shots. Governor David Ige included a plan for such a program in his latest emergency proclamation, but didn't provide a start date. Ige has been wary of people submitting phony vaccination cards, but Lieutenant Governor Green thinks people submitting their vaccination card, both physically and digitally, along with an ID, will be enough. Dr. Green also says the state is looking to create a verification system, and would impose harsh penalties for people caught trying to cheat their way by restrictions.

4/13/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii officials are expected to announce exemptions for travelers who are fully vaccinated against coronavirus later this week. Governor David Ige's newest emergency proclamation says fully-vaccinated travelers can bypass the state's pre-travel testing and post-arrival quarantine rules. But, the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency must approve the concept first. State Adjunct General Kenneth Hara plans to meet with Governor Ige to discuss the details tomorrow, and an announcement could follow. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes interisland travelers with a vaccination card could be granted exemptions by May 1st, then the program would open to trans-Pacific travelers on June 1st.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green says inter-island travel restrictions could be loosened by May 1st. He told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser that leaders have been meeting to discuss the "Safe Travels Card," also known as a vaccine passport. He added that Governor David Ige could make a decision on loosening the restrictions as early as Wednesday. For now, unvaccinated kids must take a COVID-19 pre-test as defined by the Safe Travels Hawaii program. Green does hope that in the future, an antigen test can be offered.

Hawaii reported 64 new COVID cases on Tuesday, pushing the statewide total since the pandemic began to 30,909. There were no additional fatalities reported. The death toll from COVID in Hawaii stands at 471.

4/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii health officials are following the FDA's recommendation and will suspend all use of the one-shot Johnson and Johnson vaccine. But, they don't expect it to have a major impact on the state's vaccination efforts. The J and J vaccine was pulled after at least six women on the mainland recently experienced severe blood clotting issues less than two weeks after taking the shot. One of them has died. Multiple county health officers are planning to substitute J and J vaccine appointments with those for the Pfizer or Moderna shots, until the federal government deems the single-dose vaccine safe to use again. Nearly 18-thousand people on the islands have opted for the one and done vaccine, and there are no reports of anyone having adverse reactions.

Hawaii reported two additional COVID fatalities on Wednesday and 72 new infections. The death toll from the virus in the islands now stands at 473. Both of the new deaths are on Maui. Since the pandemic began, the state has seen 30,980 cases. In the last 14 days, there have been 1,255 new cases in Hawaii. Of the new cases Wednesday, 36 were on Oahu, 17 on Maui, and 15 on Hawaii Island. There were also four residents diagnosed out-of-state. Meanwhile, Hawaii has administered 991,624 doses of the vaccine as of Tuesday.

Travelers headed to Hawaii from Taiwan will be allowed to use the state's pre-travel testing program beginning Saturday. And, people flying out of the Ontario International Airport near Los Angeles will also have the opportunity to skip quarantine if they test negative for coronavirus before their flight. To qualify, travelers will have to test negative no more than 72-hours before departure, and must submit their test results before takeoff. They also must test through one of Hawaii's several approved partners, many of which are now available in Taiwan. Before the pandemic, Taiwanese tourists spent some of the most money while in Hawaii among any international group.

4/15/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) There were 98 new cases of coronavirus in Hawaii on Thursday. No new fatalities were reported. Of the new cases, 57 were on Oahu, 23 on Maui, 14 on Hawaii Island and one on Molokai. Meanwhile, three cases total were removed from Oahu and Maui's counts. Since the pandemic began, the state has seen 31,075 cases. In the last 14 days, there have been 1,242 new cases in Hawaii. In another major milestone Thursday, the state surpassed the 1 million mark for doses administered.

4/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) At least 38 Hawaii residents have now tested positive for coronavirus despite being fully vaccinated. That's slightly above the national average. On Thursday, the CDC announced there are 58-hundred of these so-called "breakthrough cases," and 74 of those infections have resulted in death. None of Hawaii's breakthrough cases have been deadly, but one required hospitalization. The CDC says these cases are rare, but expected, since the current vaccines are proven to not be 100-percent effective in protecting against infections.

The University of Hawaii may not allow students and employees back on its campuses unless they're fully vaccinated against COVID-19. On Thursday, U.H. President David Lassner confirmed he's exploring the possibility of requiring that people be vaccinated, and is looking into the legality of issuing a mandate. He told the U.H. Board of Regents that at least 50 American colleges are planning to require everyone returning to campus be vaccinated before the

fall semester. Right now, all local university employees are eligible for shots, and all students become eligible Monday, when Oahu expands eligibility to all residents aged 16 and older.

All hotel industry workers on Oahu are now welcome to take a free COVID-19 test, paid for by the city of Honolulu. As of Thursday, hotel industry workers can walk into the Honolulu airport and the Hawaiian Monarch Hotel in Waikiki and receive a free rapid PCR test. The test results will be available within six hours. Employees must bring a valid government ID and recent pay stub, for proof of occupation. People are encouraged to pre-register for their tests online.

4/19/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) All Oahu residents aged 16 and older are officially eligible for the coronavirus vaccine, as of midnight. That means all adults in the state of Hawaii are now allowed to get their shots, meeting President Biden's April 19th eligibility directive. Hawaii, Maui and Kauai Counties have already been vaccinating people aged 16 and older for several weeks. More than one-million vaccine doses have now been administered statewide.

Some Hawaii residents feel a vaccine passport program would violate their privacy rights. Members of the Aloha Freedom Coalition took to the streets of Honolulu to voice their displeasure with the plan during the weekend. They believe offering quarantine and testing exemptions to fully vaccinated people is a form of coercion, segregating people who are vaccinated from those who aren't. They also feel the verification system proposed by government leaders like Lieutenant Governor Josh Green could lead to privacy issues.

Hawaii reported 65 new COVID cases on Monday and no additional fatalities. Of the new cases, 52 were on Oahu, 10 were on Maui, and two were on the Big Island. One resident was diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 31,446 cases of COVID-19. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 474.

In the last 14 days, there have been 1,180 new infections in Hawaii. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,064,942 vaccine doses so far.

4/20/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor David Ige is expected to make a significant announcement regarding Hawaii's interisland travel rules today. Ige hasn't offered any details, other than calling the announcement "important," and saying it'll make it "easier for people to travel." Lieutenant Governor Josh Green wants to launch a vaccine passport program for interisland travel by May 1st, but it's unclear if this announcement will be about that.

Oahu is now offering COVID-19 vaccinations to all residents aged 16 and older, but not everyone is rushing to get a shot. Appointments for Monday, today and tomorrow filled up quickly, but beyond that, many clinics have wide open slots. Hawaii Pacific Health, The Queen's Health, and Longs Drugs pharmacies each say they still have hundreds of appointments up for the taking this week. But, this doesn't necessarily mean younger people aren't interested in getting vaccinated. Thousands of people between the ages of 16 and 50 have already received their shots as essential workers. More than a third of all Hawaii residents are now at least partially vaccinated.

Hawaii reported 48 new COVID cases on Tuesday and no additional fatalities.

Of the new cases, there were 26 on Oahu, 14 on Maui, and one on Hawaii Island. There were also seven residents diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 31,490 cases of COVID-19. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 474. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,076,512 vaccine doses so far.

4/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 73 new COVID cases on Wednesday and no additional fatalities. Of the new cases, 45 were on Oahu, 16 in Maui County, six on Hawaii Island and three on Kauai. There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 31,561 cases of COVID-19. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 474. In the last 14 days, there have been 1,166 new infections in Hawaii. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,087,674 vaccine doses so far.

A Honolulu resident has now received three doses of the coronavirus vaccine. He's volunteering in a study organized by Pfizer, and took a booster shot on Tuesday. The man is part of a limited two-year study, and is no stranger to being a test subject. He was one of the first Hawaii residents to receive two doses of the Pfizer vaccine as part of clinical trials back in September. He was tested for COVID-19 prior to getting the most recent shot, and researchers will also analyze his blood samples. Pfizer will study the safety and immunity effects among volunteers who take a third dose. The company's CEO recently said fully-vaccinated people will probably need a booster shot between six months to a year after getting their first dose.

4/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The large coronavirus cluster linked with Maui's King's Cathedral church appears to be ending. On Thursday, the state Department of Health released its weekly cluster report, and it shows there have been no active cases at churches in Maui County within the past two weeks. That's very different from last week's cluster report, which showed one cluster connected with 90 cases. The 90 cases spread far away from churchgoers in Kahului. Infections in that cluster were identified in 24 different locations on three different islands in Maui County. The state health department asked King's Cathedral to stop holding services right before Easter Sunday, but they held gatherings anyway, despite the dozens of infections.

Hawaii reported 94 new COVID cases on Friday and one additional fatality. The new fatality was on Maui and brings the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 477. Of the new cases, 73 were on Oahu, 13 in Maui County and four on Hawaii Island. There were also four residents diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 31,751 cases of COVID-19.

4/26/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 70 new COVID cases on Monday and no additional fatalities. Hawaii's death toll stands at 478. Of the new cases, 42 were on Oahu, 14 on Kauai, nine on Maui, and three on Hawaii Island. There were also two cases diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 31,991 cases of COVID-19. In the last 14 days, meanwhile, there have been 1,110 new infections in Hawaii. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,161,471 vaccine doses so far.

The state Health Department will resume use of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine on Thursday at a special vaccination clinic in Windward Oahu. The clinic runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will also be offered on May 4, 6 and 11. To register for the vaccine clinic, [click here](#). Officials said additional opportunities to get the vaccine will be announced in the coming days.

and posted on the registration page at hawaiicovid19.com. Use of the Johnson & Johnson COVID was paused for 11 days nationwide as health experts investigated instances of a rare side effect — the development of blood clots.

4/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported one additional COVID fatality on Tuesday and 54 new infections. The new fatality, which was on Oahu, pushes the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 479. Of the new cases, 37 were on Oahu, eight on Maui, five in Hawaii County, and two on Kauai. There were also two were residents diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 32,041 cases of COVID-19. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,172,923 vaccine doses so far.

4/28/21 – 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.

4/29/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii health officials reported an additional COVID-19 death on Thursday along with 122 new cases. Thursday's new fatalities bring the state's death toll from the virus to 483. Of the new cases, 79 were on Oahu, 26 on Maui, six on Kauai and four on Hawaii Island. Seven additional cases were also diagnosed out-of-state. Since the pandemic began, Hawaii has seen 32,232 cases of COVID-19. In the last 14 days, meanwhile, there have been 1,116 new infections in Hawaii. At last check, the state said it has administered 1,172,923 vaccine doses so far.

4/30/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) People will soon have more time to drop in and get their coronavirus shots at the Pier Two mass-vaccination site. Hawaii Pacific Health, which runs the site, will expand walk-in hours starting Monday. Walk-ins will now be taken between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., every Monday through Saturday. Those who still prefer going the appointment route should easily be able to schedule one as well. Pier Two has two-thousand appointment slots available each day.

Hawaii Department of Health teams are going to start making coronavirus vaccination house calls. On Thursday, the DOH announced it's launching a door-to-door effort, aimed at educating more people about the benefits of the vaccine. Workers will hit underserved communities, and visit people whose first language may not be English. The DOH is also encouraging residents who prefer not to go to a mass-vaccination site to visit their local pharmacy. They remind folks that many Longs Drugs and Walgreens locations statewide are now offering shots.

Hawaii reported 118 new COVID infections on Friday, pushing the total number of cases in the state since the pandemic began to 32,349. Meanwhile, no additional fatalities were reported. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 483.

Of the new cases, 84 were on Oahu, 14 in Maui County, 12 on Kauai, and five in Hawaii County. There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state. In the last 14 days, meanwhile, there have been 1,145 new infections in Hawaii. At last check, the state said it has administered 1,202,060 vaccine doses so far.

5/3/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Law enforcement agents conducted a massive sweep of Oahu's hotel rooms to check for quarantine violators. On Friday, special agents with the state Attorney General's Office visited 32-hundred hotel rooms to make sure everyone who was supposed to be isolating for ten days was doing so. They checked through ten different hotels, mostly in Waikiki. Some hotels, like the Hilton Hawaiian Village, have assigned guests required to quarantine to the same floor to make it easier to monitor them. Fifty-five people have been arrested for breaking quarantine since the order went into effect last year.

Much of Kauai's recent coronavirus case uptick can be traced back to a pair of restaurants in Lihue. On Saturday, Kauai County officials identified Rob's Good Times Grill and Troy's Bar as the sources of multiple recent clusters each. Investigators believe people were exposed to infection between April 16th and 29th. Recently there were also people who attended other venues while infected with COVID-19. Those locations include the Ekolu Mea Nui drive-in concert at Vidinha Stadium in Lihue on April 24th, and the Sheraton Kauai Coconut Beach Resort Brunch Babes show in Kapaa, which was held on April 17th and 18th. Anyone who was at any of these places during the named time periods is urged to get tested. There are now 75 active cases on Kauai.

The state is reporting 74 new cases of COVID today. There is also an additional fatality related to the coronavirus being reported. The death toll has risen to 484. Of the new cases, 49 are on the island of Oahu, 11 are on Maui, seven are on Kauai, four are on the Big Island, and three are being reported out of state.

5/4/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes Hawaii's Safe Travels program is sticking around for a while, because mainland states aren't close to achieving herd immunity from COVID-19. Vaccination rates are slipping across the Pacific, and Dr. Green thinks that means pre-travel testing will remain for most of 2021. He doesn't think the program will start winding down until sometime in the late fall because the mainland likely won't hit herd immunity before then. Green also says the vaccine passport program for trans-Pacific travelers is still scheduled to launch in the summer, which is expected to give the local tourism industry a shot in the arm.

Coronavirus testing on Kauai has swelled to an all time high amid a sudden surge of infections. There are now 73 active cases on Kauai, after another was reported on Monday. They've been linked to four different businesses and venues, including two restaurants in Lihue. Kauai District Health Officer Dr. Janet Berreman says, in one week, some testing sites have gone from administering 50 tests a day, to 350.

Dozens of Oahu's high schools have announced official graduation dates and safety protocols for the coming weeks. There will be strict limits on crowd sizes, guests will be socially distanced, masks will be required, and temperatures will be taken. Some schools that didn't already hold ceremonies outdoors are also switching locations to be safer. Many ceremonies will be limited to only graduates, their parents and essential staff members. Other schools will stick with a drive-through diploma pickup, as they did last year.

Hawaii reported 80 new COVID infections Tuesday and no additional fatalities, pushing the total number of cases in the islands to 32,732. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 484. Of the new cases, 60 were on Oahu, 11 on Maui, two on Hawaii Island and one on Kauai. There were also six residents diagnosed out-of-state.

5/7/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Fully-vaccinated Hawaii residents are welcome to upload their information to the Safe Travels portal beginning today. Photos of vaccination cards and other details should make it easier to travel come Tuesday. That's when fully-vaccinated people will be able to fly between all islands without having to quarantine or take a pre-travel test. People who complete every step of the Safe Travels online registration process will get a QR code via email. They can show that to TSA officers to get through airport security. For now, people are advised to fly with their vaccination cards, to make this whole process go a bit smoother.

Kauai's coronavirus situation is starting to take a turn toward the right direction. There was just one new case reported Thursday, when last week, each day featured a double-digit case count. Between April 5th and May 2nd, Kauai went from zero active cases and the lowest positivity rate of any island, to 91 cases and the highest positivity rate. There have been 32 cases between a bar and a restaurant, each responsible for a large cluster, after infected people showed up to dine and work.

Hawaii reported 115 new COVID cases on Friday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 33,036. There were no new fatalities. Hawaii's death toll from the virus stands at 486. Of the new cases, 82 were on Oahu, 14 on Maui, eight on Kauai, four in Hawaii County and one on Lanai. There were also six residents diagnosed out-of-state. JUST A REMINDER, Everyone 16 and up in Hawaii is eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine. So far, the state said has administered 1,274,050 vaccine doses. Some 40% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

5/10/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) As Hawaii's coronavirus vaccination numbers go up, so does its visitor count. About 24-thousand visitors landed on the islands on Friday, compared to 600 on that same date a year ago. And, 24-thousand people is 75-percent of peak visitor arrival figures from 2019, before the pandemic hit. This comes as Hawaii has one of the highest vaccination

rates in the nation. The goal, which health officials say is still very reachable, is to have one-million residents vaccinated against COVID-19 by June or July. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes there will be more economic recovery locally when Japan lifts its 14-day travel quarantine.

Hawaii saw 61 new COVID cases on Monday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 33,267. Hawaii's death toll from the virus stands at 488. Of the new cases, 36 were on Oahu, 11 on Maui and six on Kauai. There were also eight residents diagnosed out-of-state. Everyone 16 and up in Hawaii is eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine. So far, the state said has administered 1,306,293 vaccine doses. Some 40% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

5/11/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The state plans to open coronavirus vaccinations to keiki between the ages of 12 and 15 by next week. On Monday, the FDA granted the Pfizer vaccine emergency use authorization for people as young as 12. The expansion means nearly 68-thousand more of Hawaii's residents are likely about to become eligible to get vaccinated. Hilo Medical Center has also already booked hundreds of keiki for a vaccination clinic happening this Saturday. This comes as the state health department and department of education are coordinating a plan to fully reopen public schools in the fall.

Hawaii saw 64 new COVID cases on Tuesday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 33,329. Hawaii's death toll from the virus stands at 488. Of the new cases, 50 were on Oahu, six were on Maui, three were in Hawaii County, and one was on Kauai. There were also four residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said has administered 1,344,089 vaccine doses. Some 40% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

5/12/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's coronavirus infection rate could experience a significant decline before the end of the month. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green expects the average number of new cases to sharply fall within the next couple weeks, now that 58-percent of the adult population is at least half-vaccinated. About 41-percent of residents are now fully-vaccinated, which accounts for the third-best vaccination rate in the country. Doctor Green thinks the islands can still reach herd immunity later this year, especially now that younger children will soon become eligible for the Pfizer vaccine.

Hawaii saw 47 new COVID cases on Wednesday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 33,376. There was also a new death reported, bringing the total number of COVID fatalities to 489. The death was an elderly woman over 80 on Oahu with underlying medical conditions. Of the new cases, 30 were on Oahu, eight were on Maui, one was on Hawaii County, and eight residents diagnosed out-of-state.

5/13/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 76 new COVID cases on Thursday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 33,450. There were no new fatalities reported. The death toll from the virus stands at 489. Of the new cases, 49 were on Oahu, 17 on Maui, seven on the Big Island and one on Molokai. There were also two residents diagnosed out-of-state. There have been 1,157 cases in the last 14 days. So far, the state said has

administered 1,368,474 vaccine doses. Some 40% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

US Sen. Brian Schatz is calling on the governor to lift COVID restrictions that prevent parents from watching their children's outdoor sports games and to immediately allow youth surf competitions and regattas to resume. Schatz said he sent a letter to the governor making the appeal.

5/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's mask mandate isn't going anywhere after the CDC made major changes to its guidelines. On Thursday, the CDC announced fully-vaccinated people no longer need to mask up outdoors or indoors, unless they're in crowded indoor spaces like a plane or bus. Ige says the state is reviewing the updated guidelines, and will make "appropriate adjustments" in the future, but nothing will change at this time. Ige mentioned he may relax the mask mandate once 70 or 80-percent of the state's residents are fully vaccinated.

Hawaii's chief epidemiologist believes herd immunity from COVID-19 is in the near future. On Thursday, Dr. Sarah Kemble said the state is "close" to herd immunity, but says that's as far as it'll get, if people don't keep getting vaccinated. The state health department has estimated herd immunity will come when between 70 and 90-percent of the population is fully vaccinated, but Kemble says it's tough to know what the magic number really is. Right now, about 41-percent of the population is fully-vaccinated.

Hawaii reported 83 new COVID infections on Friday and one additional fatality on Maui, bringing the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 490. The total number of cases Hawaii has seen since the pandemic began is now at 33,533. Of the new cases, 64 were on Oahu, 12 on Maui, two on Kauai, one on the Big Island, and one on Molokai. There were also three Hawaii residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said has administered 1,378,606 vaccine doses. Some 45% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

5/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's coronavirus vaccination clinics saw a high turnout on the first weekend of eligibility for keiki between the ages of 12 and 15. The Queen's Health System held a clinic at McKinley High School on Saturday. Officials say 400 people as young as 12 scheduled an appointment, while about another 200 walked in. A spokesman for Queen's says the walk-in line was longer than the appointment line at times, adding that people haven't been this eager to get vaccinated since shots first became available in the winter.

Hawaii reported 83 new COVID cases on Monday, pushing the total number of cases in the state since the pandemic began to 33,834. There were no additional deaths. The death toll from the virus on Oahu stands at 492. Of the new cases, 62 were on Oahu, eight on Maui and seven on the Big Island. There were also six residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said has administered 1,398,499 vaccine doses. Some 45% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

The University of Hawaii will mandate all students who want to be on campus this fall to get their COVID-19 shots. University leaders made the announcement Monday. Hawaii News Now reports the requirement will go into place once the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson

vaccine receives full FDA authorization. Students will be able to request health or religious exemptions, and the requirement applies to all of the UH campuses.

5/18/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Fully-vaccinated employees of Hawaii's Department of Defense facilities no longer have to wear masks at work. The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command updated its mask policy Monday, aligning itself with national DoD guidelines. Employees are still required to follow the state's mask mandate when away from DoD property.

One week in, and the interisland vaccine passport program has already been a big hit. According to Safe Travels data on Hawaii's COVID-19 website, more than 94-hundred fully-vaccinated travelers have already used the program. It allows them to skip coronavirus testing and mandatory ten-day quarantine, after proving they're fully-vaccinated. Overall travel was also up last week. More than 204-thousand people flew either interisland or across the Pacific, compared with 179-thousand the previous week.

Hawaii reported 56 new COVID cases Tuesday, pushing the total number of cases in the state since the pandemic began to 33,889. There were no additional deaths. The death toll from the virus on Oahu stands at 492. Of the new cases, 49 were on Oahu, three were on Kauai, one was on Maui, and one was on Molokai. There were also two residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said has administered 1,398,499 vaccine doses. Some 46% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 51% have gotten at least one dose.

5/19/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's total coronavirus case count is going up by another 16-hundred infections, but they date back more than a year. The state health department is going to start adding "probable cases" that were found beginning in March of 2020. Probable cases will be added to the daily case count moving forward. People who test positive after taking an antigen test, but don't confirm the infection with a follow-up PCR test, will be considered to have a probable case. Those showing symptoms after being determined a close contact of an already infected person will also be considered to have a probable case.

Hawaii reported 73 new COVID cases Wednesday, pushing the total number of cases in the state since the pandemic began to 35,585. Starting Wednesday, the state also started reporting "probable" cases in its daily case count. Probable cases represent people who test positive with an antigen test and those who have been exposed to COVID and are experiencing symptoms. Of Wednesday's new cases, 15 were "probable." The inclusion led to a big jump in the total number of cases since the beginning of the pandemic.

Despite a recent cluster of COVID-19 cases on Molokai, it appears Maui County does not have plans to change travel rules on the island. Mayor Michael Victorino says he doesn't plan to change the measures although he does expect more cases to be reported.

5/20/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported 80 new COVID cases Thursday, pushing the total number of cases in the state since the pandemic began to 35,665. There were no additional deaths Thursday. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 492. Of the new cases, 59 were confirmed and 21 were categorized as "probable." The state Health Department has started to include probable cases in its daily case counts in hopes of better reflecting the scope of COVID's impact on the community. Of the

80 new cases Thursday, 61 were on Oahu, nine were on Molokai, seven were on Maui, and two were on Hawaii Island. There was also one case diagnosed out-of-state.

5/21/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The four dogs being trained to detect COVID-19 on Maui have been 100-percent accurate so far. For the past several months, Assistance Dogs of Hawaii has been studying three Labradors and a Golden Retriever to see if dogs can pick up the scent of the virus in human sweat. The non-profit has teamed up with Queen's Medical Center to allow the dogs to work with patients, and they've detected infections each time.

Lieutenant Governor Josh Green hopes a new study that links COVID-19 infections to male impotence will make more men want to get vaccinated. In a recent report in the World Journal of Men's Health, researchers say coronavirus can attack blood vessels in male reproductive organs. Green agrees with the results of the studies, and warns erectile dysfunction can be a long-term side effect of coronavirus.

The state Department of Health on Thursday confirmed several construction-related clusters. In its weekly cluster report, the state said 26 cases dating back to April were tied to a construction site on Oahu. Masks were required on the job, but workers said they removed them because it was hot. The state also noted a cluster of 16 COVID-19 cases associated with construction at Molokai General Hospital. Five construction workers, one hospital employee and 10 close contacts were infected.

5/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's statewide mask mandate could become a thing of the past in mid June. Late last week, Governor Ige told KHON that's the timeframe he has his eyes on, as coronavirus case numbers decrease, and vaccination numbers increase. Ige also says the CDC's big announcement earlier this month blindsided him. He says none of his weekly calls with the White House indicated there was going to be the recommendation that says fully-vaccinated people no longer have to wear masks outdoors, and in most indoor settings.

There are less than one-thousand active coronavirus cases across the islands for the first time in a couple months. And, after several recent outbreaks, all of Oahu's neighbor islands are back to having single-digit case numbers. An optimistic Lieutenant Governor Josh Green believes the state can start using the phrase "herd immunity" by this time next month. More than 75-percent of all adult residents have now had at least one shot. As of Sunday, one-point-five-million shots have been administered.

Hawaii reported 34 new COVID cases Monday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 35,901. There were no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 496. Of the new cases, 23 were on Oahu, five on Hawaii Island and six on Maui. In the last 14 days, the state Health Department has reported 978 cases. So far, the state said has administered 1,463,440 vaccine doses. Some 48% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 56% have gotten at least one dose.

5/25/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii will soon become one of the latest states to offer prizes and incentives to people who take the coronavirus vaccine. There have been one-point-five-million shots administered on the islands so far, and health officials think two-million is the

magic number to reach herd immunity. On Monday, state health department spokesperson Brooks Baehr confirmed there are active talks with businesses planning to offer perks to motivate another 500-thousand residents to get the vaccine. The Hawaii Restaurant Association and Retail Merchants of Hawaii have also both been asked to find businesses willing to donate gifts.

Hawaii's tourism economy is being dealt a blow, after the CDC and the State Department warned Americans against all travel to Japan. Japan is Hawaii's number one international travel partner, and it accounts for the state's largest percentage of international visitors. But, with coronavirus spreading rapidly and several variants circulating in the country, visitor numbers might be slim to none for a while. On Monday, the State Department raised its travel alert for Japan from a level three to a level four.

Hawaii reported 23 new COVID cases Tuesday, pushing the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 35,924. There were no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 496. Of the new cases, 16 were on Oahu, two on Hawaii Island, one on Kauai, and one on Molokai. There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said has administered 1,473,716 vaccine doses. Some 48% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 56% have gotten at least one dose.

5/26/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor David Ige is announcing a change to the statewide mask mandate. The governor says masks are no longer required outdoors, effective immediately on Tuesday. Indoor rules will remain the same. Governor Ige lifted restrictions on outdoor water sports, but will wait to lift restrictions on youth water sports competitions. The governor aims to allow Trans-Pacific travel for those who are vaccinated, without needing to be tested, by the Fourth Of July. Reports say 70-percent of Hawaii's residents have received at least one shot of the vaccine.

Memorial Day weekend travel will be up 60-percent over last year, when the coronavirus pandemic had much of the nation locked down. Triple-A predicts more than 37-million Americans will travel more than 50 miles from home this holiday weekend, up from 23-million a year ago. The travel group ranks Las Vegas as the top road trip destination, followed by Orlando, Florida, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Denver, and Nashville. Orlando is the top destination for air travel bookings, Vegas is second, then Honolulu, Anchorage, Alaska, and Colorado Springs, Colorado.

5/27/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Oahu is primed to reach the least restrictive Tier Four of its coronavirus reopening plan in just a matter of days. Mayor Rick Blangiardi is now putting the finishing touches on the Tier Four proposal he'll send to Governor Ige's office. As it's currently written, Tier Four would allow up to 25 people to gather in the same place, and night clubs may reopen under special health protocols. Blangiardi also wants to change the metrics that dictate what tier Oahu falls in. He wants it to depend on the percentage of the population vaccinated, rather than weekly case and positivity rates.

Hawaii reported two new COVID fatalities on Thursday, pushing the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 498. Meanwhile, there were 58 new cases reported. Of the new cases, 38 were on Oahu, nine were on Maui, and six were on Hawaii Island. There were also five residents

diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said has administered 1,505,110 vaccine doses. Some 50% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 57% have gotten at least one dose.

5/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) More people being vaccinated might soon mean more people hanging out together on the Big Island. Mayor Mitch Roth has asked Governor Ige to approve his request to expand the indoor gathering limit from ten to 25 people. But, that would only be if the event host or business can verify at least 75-percent of attendees are fully-vaccinated against coronavirus. Roth is hoping his idea is approved today. If so, it will be the first of its kind on the islands.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 44 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 36,076 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 498. there were 24 new infection cases on Oahu, seven on Maui, five on Hawaii island, one on Molokai, and seven Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

6/1/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported no additional fatalities and 56 new COVID cases Tuesday, pushing the statewide total for infections since the pandemic began to 36,332. Of the new cases, 30 were on Oahu, 19 on Hawaii Island, three on Maui, and three on Kauai. There was one case diagnosed out-of-state. Meanwhile, the death toll from the virus in Hawaii remains at 500. There have been 757 cases in the last 14 days.

Experts believe Hawaii's hotel room prices are going to skyrocket as tourism numbers get back closer to pre-pandemic levels. Right now, an average three-star hotel stay in Waikiki still costs less than 150-dollars per night. But, a hospitality expert tells KHON-2 the average price is going to soar above 200 bucks, once demand increases during the peak of the summer travel season.

6/3/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii is getting smaller shipments of the coronavirus vaccine as demand keeps declining. The state health department turned away more than 60-percent of its federal allotment of the Pfizer vaccine this week. Over-ordering doses would put officials at risk of having to throw hundreds or thousands away once they expire. And, neighbor island hospitals won't be getting any new doses at all for a while, because just using what they already have is becoming more of a challenge.

The coronavirus outbreak at Hawaii Community Correctional Center has ballooned to 88 cases. There are 77 infected inmates and eleven infected employees, as of Wednesday. The two cases added yesterday were among staff members. There are 340 people doing time at the facility, which is far above capacity. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green says most of the inmates have refused opportunities to get vaccinated, because they don't trust the government and science to keep them safe. Green says only a quarter of the inmates are vaccinated, and believes outbreaks will be a regular occurrence until the percentage goes up.

Hawaii reported 45 new COVID cases Thursday and one additional fatality, bringing the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 501. Since the pandemic began, there have been 36,402 COVID infections in the islands. Of the 45 new cases, 36 were on Oahu, three on Hawaii Island, one on

Kauai, and one on Maui. There were also four residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said it has administered 1,546,754 vaccine doses. Some 52% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 59% have gotten at least one dose.

6/4/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Kapolei and Wahiawa are bringing up the rear in Oahu's coronavirus vaccination effort. New maps released by the state health department this week show those area's zip codes stand out with the lowest vaccination rates on the island. Only about 35-percent of Kapolei residents have been fully vaccinated. The highest vaccination rates on the island belong to Hauula, the Kuilouou area, and most of the area from Aiea to Downtown Honolulu. More than 70-percent of residents in those locations are fully vaccinated.

Hawaii's first coronavirus vaccine incentive program gets underway today. State health department officials will reveal specific details about the perks people can get if they roll up their sleeves for the vaccine. DOH Spokesman Brooks Baehr says the numerous incentives are community-driven, and will be provided by local businesses and the private sector. Baehr says people who have already been vaccinated will also be eligible for the prizes.

Hawaii reported 69 new COVID infections Friday and no additional fatalities. Since the pandemic began, there have been 36,471 COVID infections in the islands. Meanwhile, the death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 501. Of the 69 new cases, 27 were on Oahu, 25 were on Hawaii Island, and 13 were on Maui. There were also four residents diagnosed out-of-state. There have been 694 cases in the last 14 days.

6/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's new coronavirus vaccination incentive program has proven successful after just three days. State health department officials say thousands of residents have already responded, getting their first shots in exchange for a chance to win several prizes. They include a free trip to Las Vegas for two, Zippy's meals for a year, one-million HawaiianMiles with Hawaiian Airlines, a year supply of Papa John's pizza, and a Wet n Wild family day pass for 20 people.

Hawaii Department of Public Safety officials still can't provide a definitive number of how many current prison inmates are vaccinated against COVID-19. The state keeps a cumulative total of the number of inmates who have gotten their shots at each correctional facility. But, the numbers aren't updated or categorized once prisoners are released. This makes it difficult to tell what percentage of the current inmate population is actually vaccinated.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 33 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 36,649 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 505. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 17 new cases on Oahu, 12 on Maui, three on Hawaii island and two Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state. One previous case from Kauai was removed from the state's count.

6/8/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) All interisland travel restrictions are officially gone one week from today. Governor Ige included the detail in his 21st emergency proclamation, issued Monday. This means people flying between the islands will no longer have to take a pre-travel coronavirus test, or prove their vaccination status, in order to skip mandatory ten-day quarantine. Ige plans to lift Trans-Pacific travel restrictions once 70-percent of Hawaii's population is fully-vaccinated against coronavirus.

The chance of winning prizes may be convincing thousands more Hawaii residents to take the coronavirus vaccine. The state health department says more than 100-thousand residents have now signed up for the vaccine incentive program since it launched on Friday. That's at least 20-thousand more people since the weekend. More than 16-thousand shots were administered across the islands during the weekend, but less than half were first doses.

the state Health Department reported 36 new COVID cases Tuesday and no additional fatalities. The new cases bring the total number of infections in Hawaii since the pandemic began to 36,685. Of the new cases, 15 were on Oahu, 13 on Maui, two on Hawaii Island, and one on Kauai. There were also five residents diagnosed out-of-state. The death toll from the virus in Hawaii stands at 505. So far, the state said it has administered 1,573,271 vaccine doses. Some 53% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 60% have gotten at least one dose.

6/9/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii residents younger than the age of 35 are least likely to get vaccinated against coronavirus. That's one of the many demographic disparities highlighted by a new Department of Public Health survey, which officials released Tuesday. Just 55-percent of that age group has had at least one dose of the vaccine, while kupuna have been vaccinated the most. Seniors lead all age groups, with 92-percent getting their shots. There's also an income disparity, with residents of households that make more than 100-thousand-dollars per year far more likely to get vaccinated than those who make less than 50-thousand-dollars per year. Native Hawaiians and Filipinos are least likely to be vaccinated, while Japanese and white residents are most likely to be vaccinated.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 46 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 36,731 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 505. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 17 new cases on Oahu, 17 on Maui, five on Hawaii island and seven Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

6/10/21– Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) People on Oahu will soon have the chance to get the coronavirus shot and play at a waterpark, all at the same place. Wet 'n Wild Hawaii, in West Oahu, will be offering the vaccine from this Saturday, June 12th, until June 26th between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Appointments won't be needed at the new pop-up clinic.

More big prizes are being offered to help Hawaii reach its goal of a 70-percent coronavirus vaccination rate. The University of Hawaii Maui is offering students a shot at free tuition for the fall. Get vaccinated at a Kaiser Permanente site, and you could win a family trip to Disneyland, or a national park prize pack. Queen's Health

Systems of the Big Island is offering an opportunity to win 500-dollars to those who get vaccinated at its sites, including those who already got their shots.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 62 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 36,793 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 505. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 32 new cases on Oahu, 17 on Maui, 10 on Hawaii island, two on Kauai, and one Hawaii resident diagnosed outside the state.

6/11/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Governor Ige says he has a "backup plan" if Hawaii can't reach his goal of getting 70-percent of the population fully vaccinated against coronavirus. Ige tells KHON-2 he'd be willing to go below the threshold, if certain conditions are met. Some of the factors include how much case counts and hospitalization rates slow down in the coming weeks. The governor says, if the seven-day average falls below ten new cases or less, then he'd feel comfortable lifting all restrictions. Ige thinks his goal of a 60-percent statewide vaccination rate can be met by next month. He's hoping the rate improves to 70-percent by August. Right now, about 54-percent of the population is fully vaccinated.

Hawaii reported one new COVID fatality on Friday, pushing the death toll from the virus in the islands to 506. Meanwhile, there were 78 new cases statewide. Of the new cases, 33 were on Oahu, 30 on Hawaii Island, and 10 on Maui. There were also five residents diagnosed out-of-state. So far, the state said it has administered 1,592,739 vaccine doses. Some 54% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 60% have gotten at least one dose.

Oahu is transitioning into "Tier 4" of its reopening plan effective immediately. City officials announced this morning they'll ease even more restrictions as vaccinations pick up. "Tier 4" allows social gatherings of up to 25 people at outdoor venues, including parks and beaches. The indoor gathering limit remains at a ten person maximum. "Tier 4" also brings back indoor sports with a 33-percent spectator capacity. Social establishments such as clubs and karaoke bars can open at 50-percent capacity if all guests are tested or show proof of vaccination. City and county gyms are still not open.

6/14/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii health officials reported the presence of the latest COVID variant in the islands Monday. The DOH said routine genome sequencing surveillance conducted by the State Laboratories Division discovered the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.617.2 — also known as the Delta variant — in an Oahu individual. Officials said the person was fully vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to traveling to Nevada in early May, around the time the variant was being reported in that state. When the person returned to Hawaii with a negative COVID test, DOH said the person began experiencing mild symptoms and later tested positive. That person along with their close contacts were put into quarantine.

6/15/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The less popular the Johnson and Johnson vaccine gets, the longer it may take Hawaii to achieve herd immunity from COVID-19. State health officials say the number of people opting for the single shot vaccine is falling far short of their original

calculations. The state initially projected ten-percent of residents would opt for J and J, but so far, only two-percent of vaccinated people have picked it. The new data prompted officials to adjust their estimates to reflect the trends. As of Monday, 408-thousand more doses would have to be administered for the state to reach Governor Ige's 70-percent vaccination threshold.

Coronavirus is canceling the Hawaii State Farm Fair for the second straight year. The Hawaii Farm Bureau called off the event again on Monday, citing ongoing safety concerns and public health restrictions. The event, which is usually held in Mid-July at Kualoa Ranch, attracts upwards of 15-thousand people, which exceeds gathering limits. The fair had been running annually since 1962 before the pandemic hit.

Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 37 new confirmed and probable [coronavirus](#) infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 37,104 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 506. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 20 new cases on Oahu, two on Maui, eight on Hawaii island, three on Kauai and four Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

6/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii on Wednesday reported one new COVID-19 fatality, pushing the death toll to 507. Meanwhile, the state also reported 30 new cases, bringing the total number since the start of the pandemic to 37,134. Of the new cases, 24 were on Oahu, three on Maui, one on Hawaii Island, one on Kauai, and one out of state. Over the last 14 days, DOH says there have been 699 new cases throughout the state. At last check, the state said it has administered 1,621,282 vaccine doses. Some 55% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 61% have gotten at least one dose.

The popular "Made In Hawaii" festival is back for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. The event is expected to be held in the Ala Moana parking lot instead of its usual place at Neal S. Blaisdell Center. Four-hundred exhibitors are scheduled to appear. The "Made In Hawaii" festival will run from November 11th through November 14th. Tickets go on sale for the event in August.

6/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii is now about 200-thousand coronavirus shots away from reaching Governor Ige's 70-percent vaccination rate goal. Ige says he'll do away with most public health restrictions once that magic number is reached. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green says along with the current estimation of 200-thousand doses needed, people who have recovered from COVID-19 should also be factored into the count. Doctor Green believes that will give the population about a four-percent buffer, if it falls short of 70-percent fully vaccinated. The Department of Health reports there's been a 38-percent increase in vaccinations during the past week.

The state reported 36 new COVID cases on Thursday and said the vaccination rate in the islands now stands at 56%. There were no additional deaths. The death toll in Hawaii from the virus is 507. Of the 36 new cases, 22 were on Oahu, four were on Kauai, three were on Maui, and two were on Hawaii Island. There were also five residents diagnosed out-of-state. Meanwhile, the

state said it has administered 1,627,801 vaccine doses. Some 56% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 61% have gotten at least one dose.

6/18/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The last day of the Kaiser Permanente mass vaccination site on Oahu is approaching. This Saturday will be the last day for the vaccine site at the Kapolei Consolidated Theatres. The health care provider has already administered nearly 40-thousand doses of the COVID vaccine. Starting June 21st, Kaiser Permanente will expand COVID-19 vaccination availability to the Mapunapuna Medical Office, and the new West Oahu Medical Office at Kapolei. Shots will be available Monday through Friday.

The state reported three additional COVID fatalities on Friday, pushing the death toll from the virus in Hawaii to 510. There were also 44 new COVID infections statewide. Of the new cases, 16 were on Oahu, 15 on Maui, nine on the Big Island, and one on Kauai. There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state. Over the last 14 days, DOH says there have been 660 new cases throughout the state. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,637,582 vaccine doses. Some 56% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 61% have gotten at least one dose.

More than two dozen inmates are being moved to Oahu amid a massive COVID outbreak. Hilo's Hawaii Community Correctional Center is trying to free up space as nearly 80 inmates and four staff are infected with coronavirus. Department of Public Safety officials say they are spread between Halawa Correctional Facility, Kulani Correctional Center and Women's Community Correctional Center. The transferred inmates have been medically cleared of covid.

6/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii is adding two more coronavirus deaths to its overall count, taking the total to 513. Sixty-nine new infections were also reported statewide on Sunday, pushing the case total past 37-thousand-300. The statewide vaccination rate stands at 56-percent of residents fully vaccinated, while 61-percent have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

The state saw just 14 new COVID cases on Monday and no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in the islands is 513. Meanwhile, the vaccination rate in Hawaii now stands at 57% of the population. The 14 new infections bring the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 37,367. Over the last 14 days, the state Health Department says there have been 513 new cases statewide. Meanwhile, the state said it has administered 1,651,129 vaccine doses at last check. Some 57% of all residents are fully vaccinated while 62% have gotten at least one dose.

6/22/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu's public transit is getting slapped with a big fine for breaking COVID-19 safety rules. On Monday, the state Occupational Safety and Health branch fined The-Bus 26-thousand-dollars for not properly training employees who used cleaning sprays meant to kill coronavirus germs. The agency also says the employees should have properly checked their busses for hazardous materials before spraying.

Hawaii is confirming the spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant in the state. The Department of Health is investigating to determine the extent of the Delta variant's transmission in households and the community after an Oahu resident, who has no history of travel, was found to have the variant. The first known case of the variant was confirmed on June 14th after an Oahu resident who recently traveled to Nevada tested positive.

Since the 14th, there has been three cases of the variant associated with travel, two of which are on Oahu and one on the Big Island.

Hawaii reported 20 new COVID cases on Tuesday and no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in the islands stands at 513. Meanwhile, the state says that at least 57% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 62% have gotten at least one dose. The 20 new infections bring the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 37,387. Of the new cases, nine were on Oahu, five on Hawaii Island, three on Maui, and one on Kauai. There were also two residents diagnosed out-of-state.

6/23/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The delta variant of the coronavirus, which has quickly become the dominant strain in other countries and can cause more severe illness, is now spreading in Hawaii, prompting state health officials Tuesday to once again urge Hawaii residents to get vaccinated not just to protect themselves, but the broader community, including young children who aren't yet eligible for the vaccine. Officials with the state Department of Health have identified only four cases of the highly contagious variant but told reporters during a news conference Tuesday that's likely an undercount.

Hawaii reported 42 new COVID cases on Wednesday and no additional fatalities. The death toll from the virus in the islands stands at 513. Meanwhile, the state says that at least 57% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 62% have gotten at least one dose. The 42 new infections bring the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 37,429. Of the new cases, 24 were on Oahu, 11 were on Hawaii Island, two were on Maui, and one was on Kauai. There were also four residents diagnosed out-of-state. Over the last 14 days, the state Health Department says there have been 513 new cases statewide.

6/24/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii Department of Health officials reported 55 new confirmed and probable coronavirus infections today, bringing the state's total since the start of the pandemic to 37,484 cases. No new virus-related fatalities were reported today so the statewide COVID-19 death toll remains 513. Today's new confirmed and probable infection count by island includes 29 new cases on Oahu, 10 on Maui, seven on Kauai, six on Hawaii island, one on Molokai and two Hawaii residents diagnosed outside the state.

Hawaii is making it easier for vaccinated travelers to visit. The Aloha State is ending a pre-travel COVID testing requirement for fully vaccinated U.S. visitors starting July 8th. The state has been enforcing those coming to the island to take a special test from a certified lab to make sure travelers are COVID-free. The governor said the state would lift restrictions for vaccinated visitors when 60-percent of the state's population is fully vaccinated, and didn't anticipate Hawaii reaching that number until after the July 4th holiday weekend. Visitors will need to show their vaccine card as well as upload it to Hawaii's Safe Travels website.

Despite loosened Tier 4 restrictions, many of Oahu's nightlife businesses are still struggling. Under the city's Tier 4 rules, social and nightlife establishments are still only allowed to operate at 50-percent capacity. Club owners say the regulations aren't ideal, but they are trying to do

what they can to comply with the restrictions. Other large concert venues like the Blaisdell are grappling as well.

6/25/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii reported one additional COVID fatality on Friday and 48 new infections. The death toll from the virus in the islands now stands at 514. The news comes as the state Health Department reports that the highly contagious Delta variant has now been detected in all four major counties and that community spread is ongoing. Meanwhile, the state said that 57.2% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 62% have gotten at least one dose. The 48 new cases bring the total number of infections since the start of the pandemic to 37,532. Of the new cases, 28 were on Oahu, nine on Maui, two on Hawaii Island and two on Kauai. There were also seven residents diagnosed out-of-state.

6/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's coronavirus vaccination rate still stands at just above 57-percent. Fifty-seven-point-two-percent of the population is fully vaccinated, and 62-percent have at least one dose in them. Governor Ige has said he'll lift most restrictions once the state achieves a 70-percent vaccination rate. Meanwhile, 51 new cases of the virus were confirmed statewide yesterday, but there were no additional deaths.

Hawaii reported 22 new COVID infections statewide Monday, and no new fatalities. The state's death toll remains at 516. Of the new cases, 13 were on Oahu, two on Hawaii Island, and two on Maui. There were also five residents diagnosed out-of-state. The total number of infections since the start of the pandemic has now risen to 37,669. Meanwhile, the state said that 57.6% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 63% have gotten at least one dose.

6/29/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Eighty-four-percent of employees at Hawaii's long-term care facilities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. That's according to a new survey conducted by the Healthcare Association of Hawaii. The high percentage of fully vaccinated employees at Hawaii's 50 long-term care facilities is 30-percentage points higher than the national average. A few of the state's facilities have reported all their staff and residents are fully vaccinated. Healthcare Association of Hawaii President and CEO Hilton Raethel expects 60-percent of the state's population to be fully vaccinated by the end of next week.

Hawaii on Tuesday reported 33 new COVID-19 infections and no new fatalities. The state's death toll remains at 516. Of the new cases, 19 were on Oahu, three on Hawaii Island, and eight on Maui. There were also three residents diagnosed out-of-state. The total number of infections since the start of the pandemic has now risen to 37,702. Meanwhile, the state said that 57.6% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 63% have gotten at least one dose.

6/30/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Hawaii's coronavirus case rate has been stable at about 40 cases per day for the past three weeks. And, Governor Ige says that's something to be worried about. On Tuesday, Ige told Hawaii News Now the case rate should be dropping, but unvaccinated people keep getting infected at an overwhelming rate. He thinks the numbers aren't improving because unvaccinated residents tend to socialize with each other. He's also concerned about the highly contagious Delta variant, which has now appeared in every county in the state.

New data indicates visitors still aren't nearly returning to the islands at pre-pandemic levels. Visitor arrival and spending numbers for May were more than 20-percent lower than in May of 2019. But, 2019 was a record year. According to the Hawaii Tourism Authority, nearly 630-thousand people visited the state in May, and spent a collective one-point-one-billion-dollars. While that's a plus for the economy, it doesn't quite compare to May of 2019. Then, more than 847-thousand visitors came in, and spent more than one-point-four-billion-dollars. The vast majority of visitors who came last month were from the mainland, with travel restrictions still impacting countries like Japan and Canada.

Hawaii on Wednesday reported 56 new COVID-19 infections and one additional fatality. The state's death toll stands at 517. Of the new cases, 34 were on Oahu, nine on Hawaii Island and four on Maui. There were also nine residents diagnosed out-of-state. The total number of infections since the start of the pandemic has now risen to 37,758. Meanwhile, the state said that 57.9% of Hawaii's population is now fully vaccinated while 63% have gotten at least one dose.

4. Police Actions:

4/7/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The Honolulu Police Department is going through body camera footage from the three officers involved in the fatal shooting Monday of a 16-year-old linked to several crimes. Police Chief Susan Ballard said last summer that body camera footage would be released to the public on a case-by-case basis, and only if it doesn't affect an ongoing investigation. Footage from Monday's incident has not been released. The teen was killed Monday by three officers who opened fire on him after the boy allegedly rammed a stolen car into patrol vehicles. Multiple people were in the car at the time of the shooting, and the vehicle has been linked to multiple crimes in the days prior to the shooting.

4/15/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A robbery suspect is dead after being shot by Honolulu police at a home in Nuuanu. The man died after being rushed to a hospital at about 8:30 Wednesday night. KITV reports he was the suspect in a home invasion robbery. A man was also treated by paramedics for a facial injury, and is listed in stable condition. It's unclear if he's the homeowner. The HPD plans to hold a news conference detailing the incident this morning.

4/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The Honolulu Police Department has decided to not release the body camera footage showing officers shooting a 16-year-old boy to death. The department will keep the video and 911 call recordings sealed because the case involves minors. The boy was

allegedly driving several other suspects in a stolen car that had been involved in a crime spree earlier this month. The shooting happened as a police pursuit came to an end in the McCully area. Multiple reports say officers shot and killed the teen after he drove the car in their direction, putting their lives in danger.

A pair of Honolulu police officers remain on leave after suffering injuries during an altercation that led to the deadly shooting of a burglary suspect in Nuuanu. Body camera footage shows the suspect attacking an officer on the ground, as two other officers tried to restrain him one week ago. One of the officers fired a shot during the struggle, after his partner's taser had no effect on the man. Another officer then opened fire, hitting the man three times. A 23-year HPD veteran was hospitalized with facial fractures, a concussion, and other significant injuries. The two other officers had multiple cuts and various wounds, and one of them also had a concussion.

4/26/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A relative of the 16-year-old boy shot and killed by Honolulu police officers earlier this month has been arrested for robbery near the site of a makeshift memorial. According to investigators, early Saturday morning, the 18-year-old man and an accomplice used a weapon to rob a woman at the same intersection where the shooting took place. The robbery victim suffered minor injuries and was treated at the hospital. The man was found at the same intersection Saturday night, where he was arrested.

Some Oahu residents are showing their support for the police following this month's pair of deadly and controversial officer-involved shootings. A so-called "Back Da Blue" caravan drove through the streets of Oahu on Saturday, ending up in Waikiki. Trucks were carrying the American and Hawaii state flags in police black and blue police colors. Organizers say they wanted to show Honolulu police officers they still had the support of the community. They also argue some people are pushing a narrative lately that's too anti-police, and they wanted to change that.

4/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The older brother of the teen shot and killed by Honolulu police earlier this month has been charged with robbery. Eighteen-year-old Mark Sykap is accused of robbing a woman in McCully last Saturday morning, at the same intersection where a makeshift memorial has been set up for his late 16-year-old brother. He is out on bail, and is due in court tomorrow. Sykap and a 21-year-old man are accused of robbing a woman by force, and with a weapon, then fleeing the area.

5/18/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Honolulu Prosecutor Steve Alm is setting a timeline for when his office will make decisions on two recent fatal police shootings. Alm says he'll announce his decisions about whether the shootings were justified in the next two months. The office is looking into the shootings of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap and 29-year-old Lindani Myeni. Alm says if they were justified, a press conference will be held laying out a decision, but if not, an indictment will be secured.

5/20/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Sources within the Honolulu Police Department have leaked limited body camera footage of the April police shooting that killed a 16-year-old boy in McCully. The video, obtained by Hawaii News Now, shows one officer firing ten shots into the back windshield of a stolen car that had just left the scene of a home invasion robbery. As the car accelerates forward, another officer at the passenger side fires several more rounds. It's believed that's when a suspect in the passenger seat was shot in the arm. The car then goes forward, crashing through a fence and into a canal.

5/21/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The Honolulu City Council is considering action that would force the Honolulu Police Department to release the full body camera footage of last month's deadly shooting of a teen boy in McCully. Council Chair Tommy Waters says he'll discuss the possibility of passing legislation, or a resolution, that would prevent the HPD from keeping the footage and 911 call recordings under wraps. On Thursday, Waters referred to a statement on the HPD's own website, discussing its use of body cams. That statement says the department believes "transparency is critical in establishing public trust."

5/26/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A judge is ordering Honolulu to turn over unedited body camera footage from when police officers shot and killed an unarmed black man in Nuuanu. The body camera footage, 911 call recordings and other evidence must be provided to attorneys representing the family of the man who was shot last month. It's unclear if the attorneys will make the evidence public. The man, a South African citizen who had just moved to Honolulu, was shot during a fight with officers. He was suspected of breaking into a home, but the three officers involved are facing backlash for allegedly not identifying themselves before the altercation.

6/3/21 – Newscast (30 sec. 550am, 650am, 750am, 850am) The Honolulu Police Department doesn't plan on releasing any new information about the two deadly officer-involved shootings that happened in April. Interim Chief Rade Vanic says the department will continue to withhold the body camera footage, 911 call recordings, and identities of the officers involved. On Wednesday, Vanic had his first police commission meeting since becoming acting chief. He said he's working with city prosecutor Steve Alm on the investigations. Vanic also says the department is now investigating how some of the body camera footage from when a 16-year-old boy was shot and killed was leaked to the media.

6/10/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) A Hawaii grand jury will not file charges against the Honolulu police officers involved in killing 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap, even though Honolulu City Prosecutor Steve Alm has determined the shooting was not justified. Three officers fired into the stolen car Sykap was driving in the McCully area in April. He died after being shot in the back of the head and shoulders. The Honolulu City Prosecutor's Office says it presented evidence to an Oahu grand jury, and was seeking indictments of the officers. City Prosecutor Steve Alm says after reviewing the case, he's determined the shooting was not justified.

6/16/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) Murder and attempted murder charges have been filed against the three Honolulu police officers involved in the shooting death of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap in April. The Honolulu City Prosecutor's Office filed the charges on Tuesday, despite an Oahu grand jury declining to indict the officers earlier this month. This is the first time in history Honolulu police officers have been charged in a deadly shooting. If convicted, the officers could face life in prison, with the possibility of parole. One officer, a five-year veteran of the force, has been charged with one count of second-degree murder. The other officers, a ten-year and three-year veteran of the HPD, were each charged with one count of second-degree attempted murder.

Honolulu City Prosecutor Steve Alm's office reviewed more than 13-hundred pages of reports, 70 body camera videos, and 40 surveillance camera videos before deciding to charge three HPD officers in connection with the shooting death of Iremamber Sykap. Alm says the officer now charged with second-degree murder reported the 16-year-old suspect rammed a stolen car into his patrol car before he opened fire. But, the patrol car only had minor paint chips and scuff marks. Body camera video leaked to the media shows the officer firing at least ten rounds into the back of the car, several of which hit Sykap.

One of the two Honolulu police officers charged with attempted murder in the shooting death of teenager Iremamber Sykap allegedly mistook a square object for a gun, before opening fire. Sykap was driving a stolen car with five other people inside in April. According to prosecutors, the officer reported seeing a handgun on the front passenger's lap, but body camera footage only shows a thin square object. The other officer now facing an attempted murder charge is accused of firing into the driver's side door, where Sykap was sitting, without first confirming the shots he heard were coming from the boy.

Interim Honolulu Police Chief Rade Vanic says the murder and attempted murder charges filed against three of his officers are "highly unusual." On Tuesday, Vanic released a statement, saying he's "surprised" at Honolulu Prosecutor Steve Alm's decision. That's because, earlier this month, a grand jury made up of citizens decided not to indict the trio for the shooting of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap in April. Vanic also says the department isn't aware of a similar decision ever being made by the city prosecutor's office in the past. The State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers previously announced it supported the grand jury's decision not to indict.

6/17/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The Honolulu Prosecutor's Office does not believe lives were in danger when Honolulu police officers shot and killed 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap following a car chase in April. In the criminal complaint filed against the three officers charged with murder and attempted murder on Tuesday, the prosecutor's office says deadly force was not necessary. Detailed in the complaint, Deputy Prosecutor Christopher Van Marter states there were no pedestrians in front of the car when the officers started firing. The closest pedestrian was 40 to 50-feet behind the confrontation. The complaint also provides further details about statements the officers gave that conflicted with video from their body cameras.

6/22/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The three Honolulu police officers charged in connection with the shooting death of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap are hiring private attorneys to represent them. One officer has been charged with murder, and the other two have been charged with attempted murder, after allegedly firing into a stolen car driven by Sykap at the end of a chase in April. The officer charged with murder allegedly shot Sykap eight times from behind. The officers will have their first court hearing on Friday, and are expected to plead not guilty.

6/25/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The three Honolulu police officers charged for the shooting death of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap make their initial court appearances today. Officer Geoffrey Thom, who is accused of shooting Sykap eight times from behind, is charged with murder. Officers Sackary Ah Nee and Christopher Fredeluces, who also allegedly fired at the boy, are each charged with attempted murder. All three officers are expected to plead not guilty. The trio was never arrested after being charged. Sykap was shot and killed in the McCully area

on April 5th while behind the wheel of a stolen car. Officers were chasing he and several other suspects in the car, after they had allegedly just committed a home invasion robbery.

6/28/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) The older sister of 16-year-old Iremamber Sykap could be in trouble with the law after threatening the three Honolulu police officers accused in her brother's death. Nia Sykap made a post on her private Instagram account during the weekend, threatening the officers, their wives, and kids. Some legal experts believe she could be charged with terroristic threatening. But, Eric Seitz, the attorney for the Sykap family, says the post was made on a private account, and was not intended for the public.

6/30/21 – Newscast (5 min. – 5pm) City Prosecutor Steve Alm said Wednesday that a months-long investigation into the fatal police shooting of Lindani Myeni in April was justified. In a news conference, Alm also announced no charges against officers in the case would be filed. Alm said “The officers who responded to this ended up trying to use multiple non-lethal, non-deadly force methods before they used service firearms,” “Officer 1 was justified in shooting Mr. Myeni in self-defense. Officer 2 was justified in shooting Mr. Myeni in defense of another (officer). Alm added that he could not find any evidence that race played a role in the case.