

Shop Talk: NHSN Updates & Technical Assistance

Welcome!

- All lines are muted, so please ask your questions in Q&A
- For technical issues, chat to the 'Technical Support' Panelist
- Please actively participate in polling questions that will pop up on the lower right-hand side of your screen

*We will get
started shortly!*

NHSN COVID-19 Data Submission Updates



September 16, 2021

Presented By:

Marilee Johnson, MBA, MT (ASCP)

Infection Prevention Technical Advisor



Marilee Johnson, MBA, MT (ASCP)

INFECTION PREVENTION TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Marilee is a health professional with experience in public health epidemiology, infection prevention, and clinical microbiology. Recently, she worked with nursing homes through a national CDC project to reduce *C. difficile* infections. She continues to support nursing homes with reporting infections into the National Healthcare Safety Network and reducing health acquired infections.

Marilee loves gardening, hiking, reading, yoga, and spending time with her family.

Contact: marilee.johnson@allianthealth.org



Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN, CIC

INFECTION PREVENTION SPECIALIST

Amy is a registered nurse with a diverse background in acute care nursing, microbiology, epidemiology and infection control. She is passionate about leading and mentoring new and future infection preventionists in their career paths and assisting them in reducing healthcare associated infections across the continuum of care.

Amy enjoys spending time with family. She loves all the time she can get outdoors camping, bicycling and running.

Contact: Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org



Objectives

At the end of this session, the participant will be able to:

- Review the new CDC guidance for Nursing Homes
- Submit COVID-19 vaccine data for staff and residents into NHSN accurately & timely.
- Review your facility NHSN data on Data.cms.gov
- Review the CMS requirements and timeline for submitting data into NHSN.
- Join the Alliant Quality NHSN Data group.

COVID-19 New Cases General Population & Nursing Homes

State

All

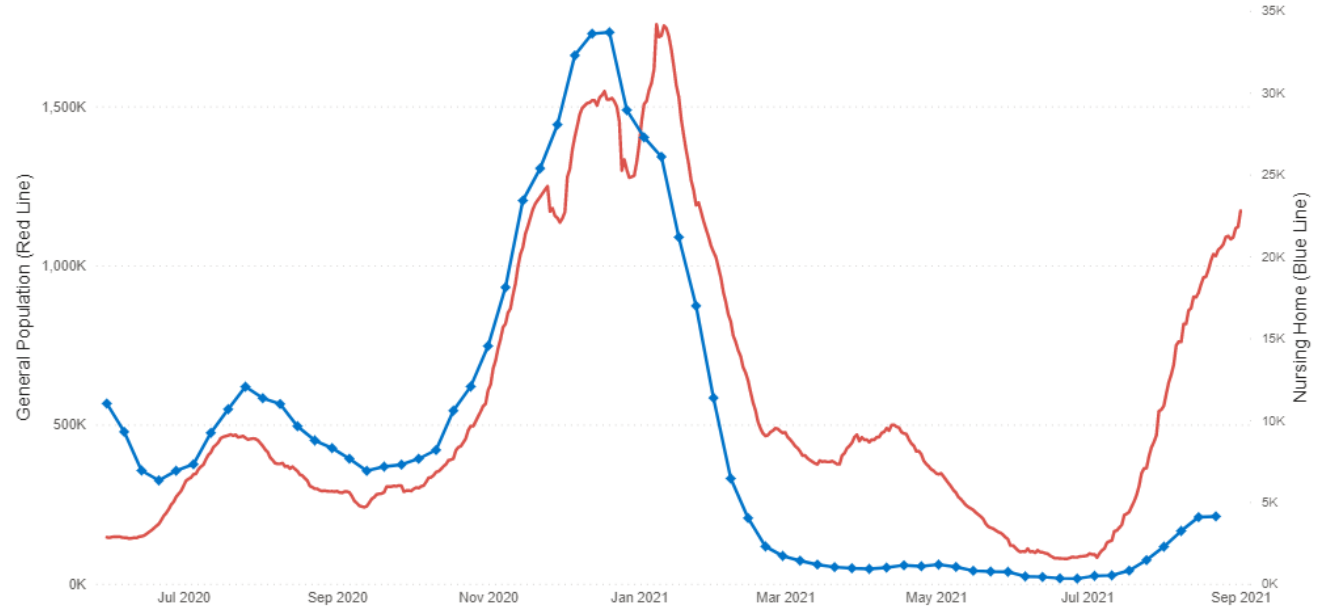
Time Frame

☒ Before Vaccines

☒ After LTC Vaccine Clinics Began (12/18/20)

New Case Trends: General Population & Nursing Homes Residents (7-day)

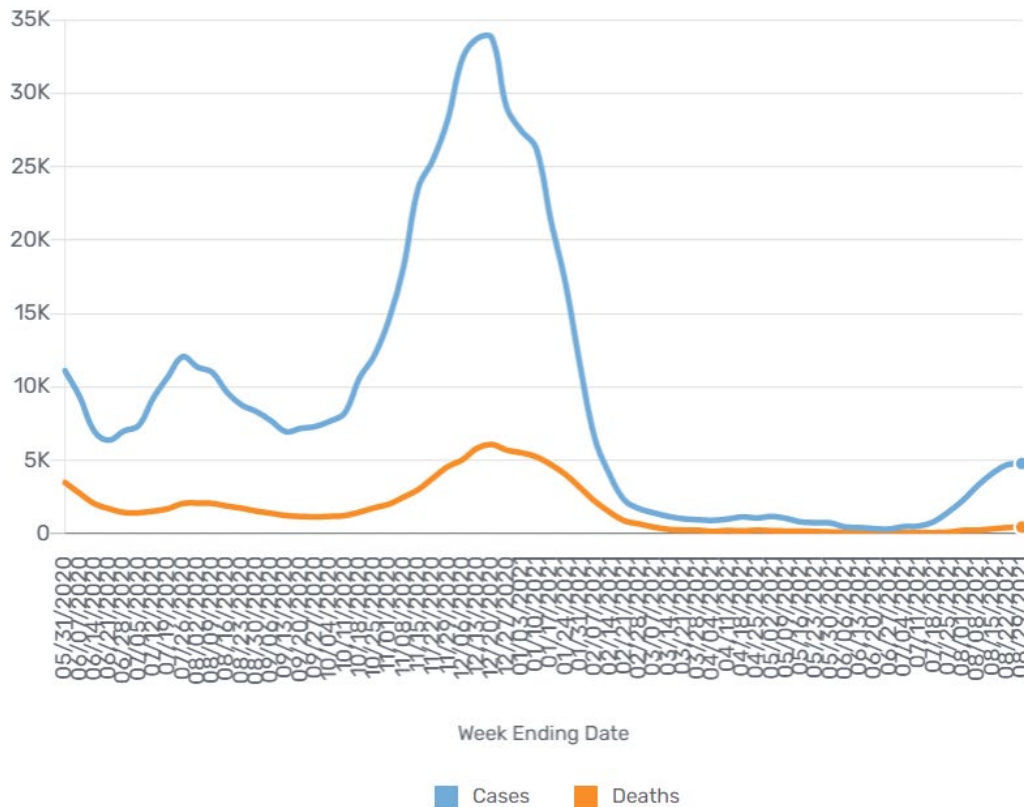
● General Population ● Nursing Home Residents



Data Through: Nursing Home - Aug 22, 2021 (*Latest week's data is preliminary); Community - Sep 1, 2021 Sources: NHSN and Johns Hopkins University

<https://www.ahcancal.org/Data-and-Research/Pages/default.aspx>

Weekly Resident COVID-19 Confirmed Cases and Deaths



Week ending 08/29/2021

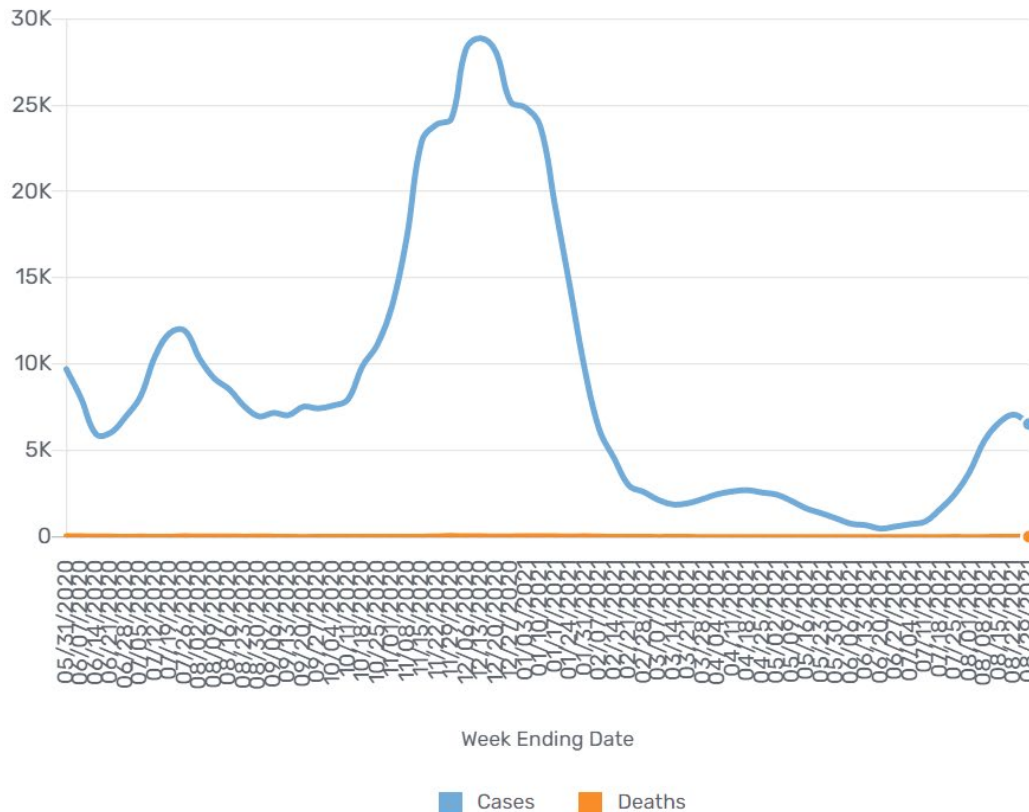
Residents Weekly Confirmed COVID-19

4,782 cases

Residents Weekly COVID-19 Deaths

452 deaths

Weekly Staff COVID-19 Confirmed Cases and Deaths



Week ending 08/29/2021

Staff Weekly Confirmed COVID-19

6,547 cases

Staff Weekly COVID-19 Deaths

26 deaths

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By the NHSN Numbers, % Fully Vaccinated

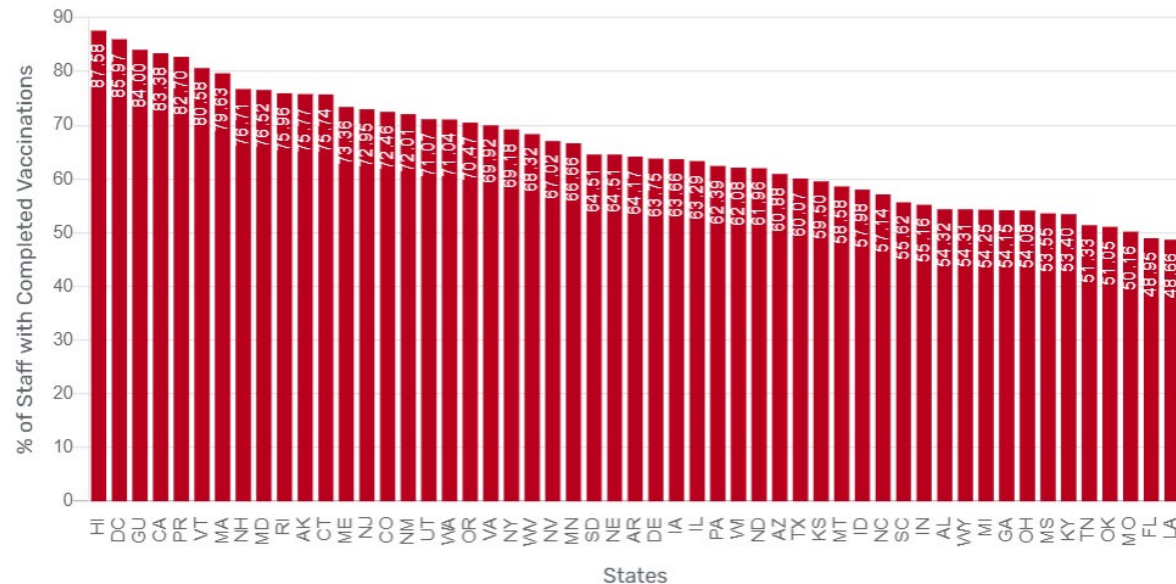
- 83.9% of residents per facility in the US.
- 62.7% of staff per facility in the US.
- Do you know your facility's rate?

<https://data.cms.gov/covid-19/covid-19-nursing-home-data>

Vaccination Rate of Nursing Home Staff by State

Percent of Current Staff (Healthcare Personnel) with Completed COVID-19 Vaccinations per Facility

Note: This shows the average percentage among facilities who have reported vaccination data in the current or prior week.



NC 57%

AL 54%

GA 54%

TN 51%

KY 53%

FL 49%

LA 48%


Changes in CDC Guidelines 9/10/21

1. [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes](#)
2. [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)
3. [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\) | CDC](#)

Interim Guidance for **Managing HCP with SARS-CoV-2** Infection or Exposure 9-10-21

- Combine information from previously posted CDC guidance addressing when healthcare personnel (HCP) with SARS-CoV-2 infection could return to work and risk assessment and work restriction for HCP with higher-risk exposure to SARS-CoV-2
- Clarify the recommended intervals for testing asymptomatic HCP with a [higher-risk exposure](#).

Asymptomatic with Higher Risk Exposure

- Asymptomatic HCP with a higher-risk exposure and patients with close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection, regardless of vaccination status, should have a series of two viral tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection. In these situations, testing is recommended immediately (but not earlier than 2 days after the exposure) and, if negative, again 5–7 days after the exposure. However, testing is not recommended for people who have had SARS-CoV-2 infection in the last 90 days if they remain asymptomatic; this is because some people may have detectable virus from their prior infection during this period (additional information is available [here](#)). Criteria for use of post-exposure prophylaxis are described [elsewhere](#) .

Please reach out to your State Department of Public Health HAI Coordinator for Guidance changes.

Search here for contact info:

<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/state-based/index.html>

Summary of Changes for **All HCP** 9-10-21

- CDC continues to recommend having a process to identify healthcare personnel, patients, and visitors with symptoms or exposure to SARS-CoV-2 prior to entering a facility.
- CDC continues to recommend source control for everyone in a healthcare setting, and has clarified recommendations for healthcare personnel, patients, and visitors, to better align with community guidance. This includes a few limited circumstances where fully vaccinated individuals in counties with low to moderate community transmission could choose not to wear source control.
- **There are no changes to the PPE recommended for the care of patients with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection.**
- **Quarantine is no longer recommended for fully vaccinated patients with exposure to SARS-CoV-2 or those patients who have had SARS-CoV-2 infection in the prior 90 days.**
- The timing of SARS-CoV-2 testing after higher-risk exposure for healthcare personnel and close contact for patients has been clarified.

Infection Prevention in **Nursing Home** 9-10-21

- Screening testing for healthcare personnel in nursing homes is now associated with **community transmission** level instead of test positivity.
- During an outbreak response in nursing homes, options for more targeted contact tracing have been added.
- In general, assisted living communities should follow the guidance for [Retirement Communities and Independent Living | CDC](#). However, in circumstances when healthcare is being delivered (e.g., by home health agency, staff providing care for a resident with SARS-CoV-2 infection), assisted living communities should follow the IPC recommendations in this guidance.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>

Long Term Care Infection Prevention Changes 9-10-21

Read the Infection Prevention & Control Program

- Risk Assessment
- [Online Training course](#) Just do it!

New Guidance for Staff Point of Care Testing

- **Community Transmission REPLACED Positivity rate**

COVID-19 Testing

Please see the [Testing Requirements memorandum](#) and the [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#) to find your county's level of community transmission for testing nursing home staff. Please see additional instructions for [Finding Community Transmission Levels](#) using the CDC COVID Data Tracker.

Routine Testing of Staff for COVID-19 (POCT)






***Ditch** the positivity rate and **USE** the Facility's **County Level of COVID-19 Transmission**

Table 2: Routine Testing Intervals by *County COVID-19 Level of Community Transmission*

<i>Level of COVID-19 Community Transmission</i>	Minimum Testing Frequency of Unvaccinated Staff⁺
<i>Low (blue)</i>	<i>Not recommended</i>
<i>Moderate (yellow)</i>	<i>Once a week*</i>
<i>Substantial (orange)</i>	<i>Twice a week*</i>
<i>High (red)</i>	<i>Twice a week*</i>

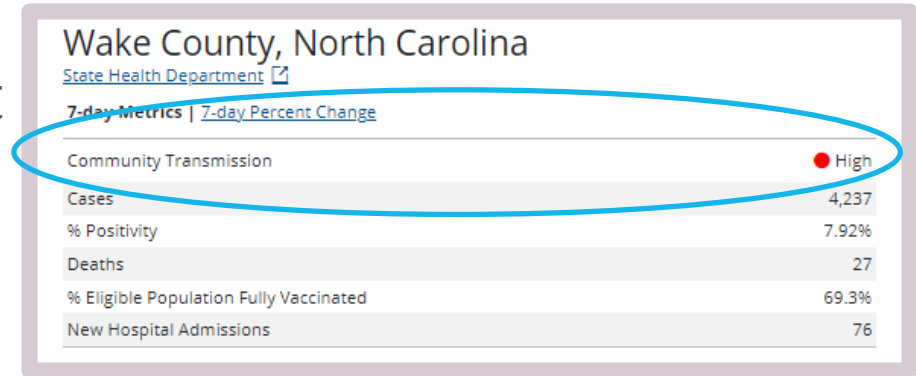
⁺Vaccinated staff do not need *to* be routinely tested.

*This frequency presumes availability of Point of Care testing on-site at the nursing home or where off-site testing turnaround time is <48 hours.

 High  Substantial  Moderate  Low  No Data

For Routine Testing of Staff for COVID-19

Example: Facility's in Wake County, NC will test twice a week because the level of community transmission is **HIGH**.



High Substantial Moderate Low No Data

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> [INSTRUCTIONS](#)

***The Fine Print

Monitor level of community transmission every other week (first & third Monday of the month)

- If the community transmission goes **up**, immediately change testing frequency to higher
- If the community transmission goes **down**, wait for 2 weeks before reducing testing frequency

Vaccinated staff do **NOT** need to be routinely tested.

***Please READ the new [QSO-20-38](#).

Who is Eligible For the COVID-19 Booster?



As of 9/10/21:

[Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#)

Answer - Moderately to severely immunocompromised people after they completed an initial 2-dose mRNA vaccine series.

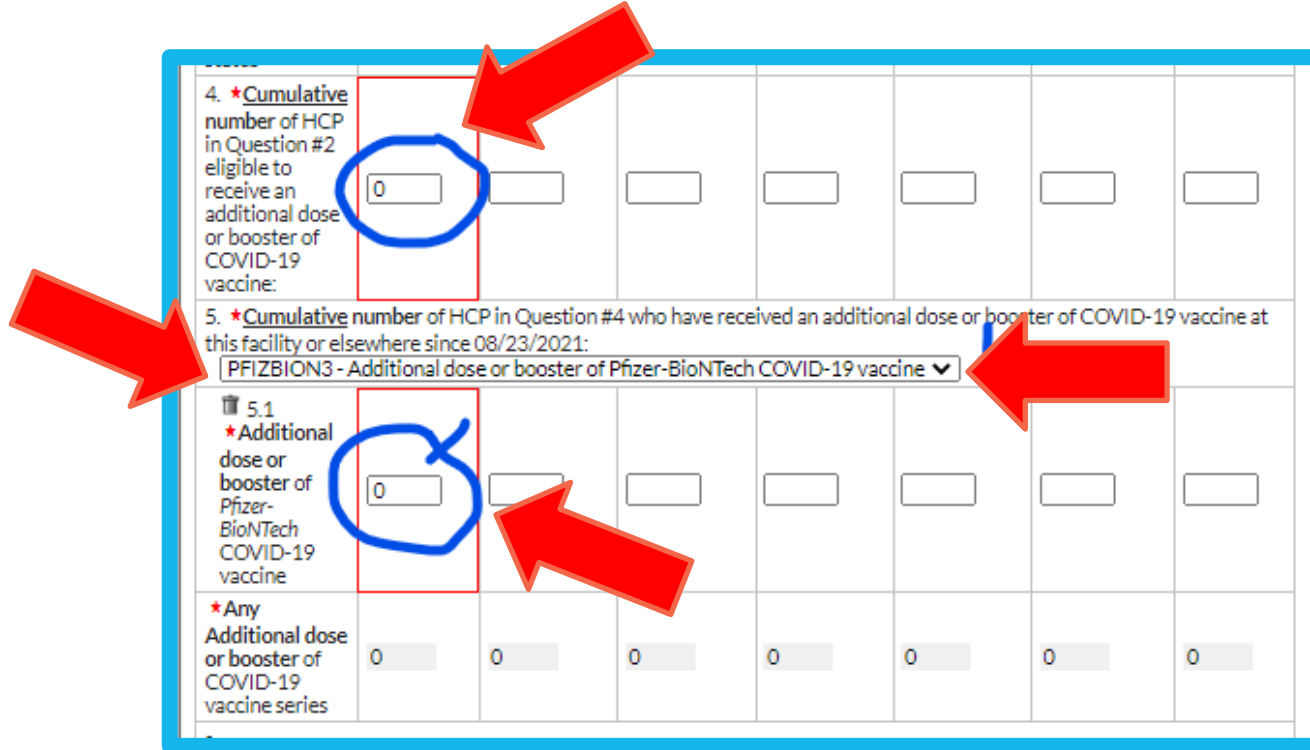
Disclaimer: You do not need to ask HCP whether they are eligible for booster. Submit zeros unless HCP voluntary share updated vaccine card.

Press release:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0818-covid-19-booster-shots.html>

Let's Talk About NHSN & The Booster

New NHSN Vaccine Questions-8/23/21



4. *Cumulative number of HCP in Question #2 eligible to receive an additional dose or booster of COVID-19 vaccine:

0							
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

5. *Cumulative number of HCP in Question #4 who have received an additional dose or booster of COVID-19 vaccine at this facility or elsewhere since 08/23/2021:

(PFIZBION3 - Additional dose or booster of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine ▼)

5.1 *Additional dose or booster of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine

0							
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*Any Additional dose or booster of COVID-19 vaccine series

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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*Check Main Website weekly: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/weekly-covid-vac/index.html> Table of Instructions for [resident](#) and [HCP](#) has been updated. Tracking sheets have **not** as of 9/2/21.

Training link: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ltc/covidvax/weekly-covid-reporting-508.pdf>

Let's Review the HCP Vaccine Denominator

(the total eligible to get vaccinated at your facility)

Disclaimer: *If you have specific questions, please email nhsn@cdc.gov with the subject line, "Weekly COVID-19 Vaccination"*

Lamentations on #1

Calculate the denominator for HCP Vaccination rate (number of HCP eligible to work)

- All HCP definition: *HCP who are eligible to have worked include employees, contractors, or students, trainees, and volunteers who are scheduled to work in the facility at least one day every week.*
- <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/instr/57.219-toi-508.pdf>
- Lets take a quiz

	*All HCP (Total)
1. * Number of HCP that were eligible to have worked at this healthcare facility for at least 1 day during the week of data collection	

Who are HCP Considered “Eligible to Work?”

	*All HCP (Total)
1. * Number of HCP that were eligible to have worked at this healthcare facility for at least 1 day during the week of data collection	

- Milkman who delivers milk to dining room every Thursday? **YES**
- An EMS worker who transports residents to dialysis. **YES**

Who are HCP Considered “Eligible to Work?”

- PRN nurse who works once a month -**NO**
- Agency staff who are contracted but not scheduled to work -**NO**
- Pharmacists, dietitians, therapists, and mental health staff who come occasionally. -**NO**

	*All HCP (Total)
1. * Number of HCP that were eligible to have worked at this healthcare facility for at least 1 day during the week of data collection	

???

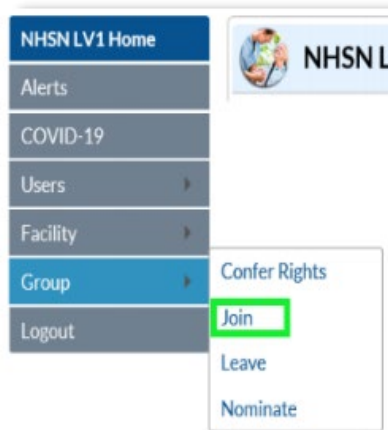
Need Assistance with NHSN Reporting?

Join Our NHSN Data Group So We Can Help You!

Group Name: Alliant Quality-LTC

Group ID: 83378

Joining Password: Alliant20!



NHSN LV1 Home

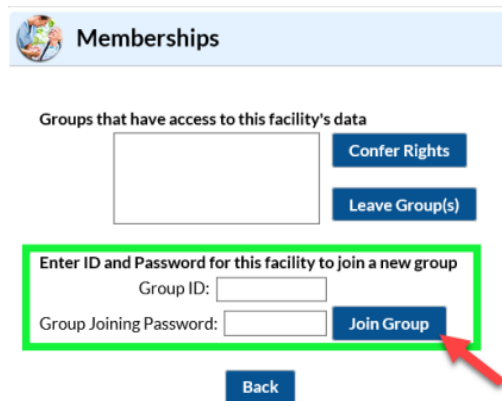
- Alerts
- COVID-19
- Users
- Facility
- Group
- Logout

Confer Rights

Join

Leave

Nominate



Memberships

Groups that have access to this facility's data

Confer Rights

Leave Group(s)

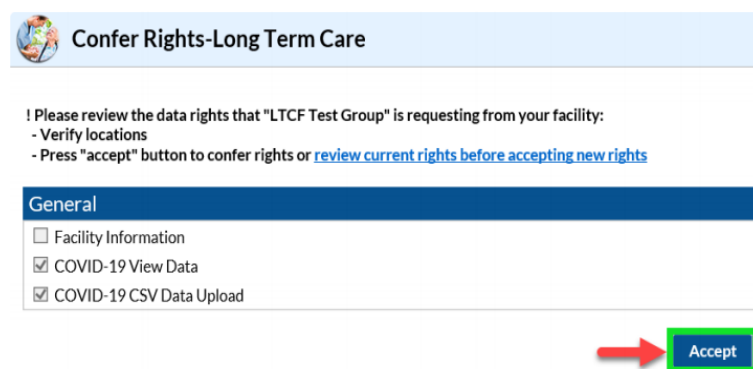
Enter ID and Password for this facility to join a new group

Group ID:

Group Joining Password:

Join Group

Back



Confer Rights-Long Term Care

! Please review the data rights that "LTCF Test Group" is requesting from your facility:

- Verify locations
- Press "accept" button to confer rights or [review current rights before accepting new rights](#)

General

- ☐ Facility Information
- ☒ COVID-19 View Data
- ☒ COVID-19 CSV Data Upload

Accept

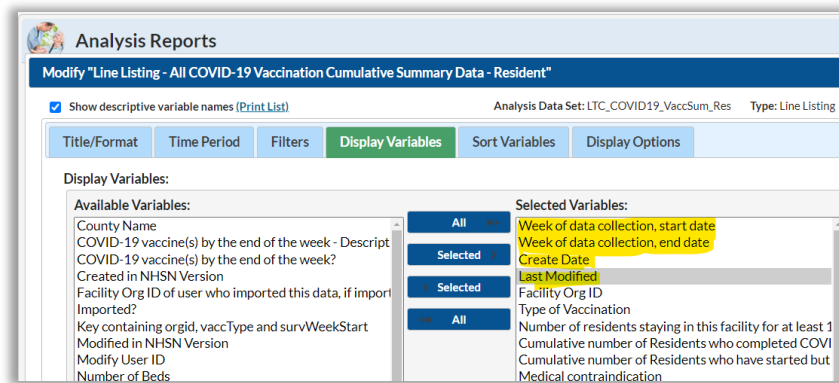
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCmh6oRJhoE&list=PLXWmxni-xNHspWHhLlIrrqCLGlzXZPljIF&index=1>

How do you know if your facility is reporting COVID-19 data into NHSN on time and complete?

CASPER



NHSN Summary Data



https://web.qiesnet.org/qiesmds/mds_home.html

<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ltc/covidvax/linelist-checkdates-508.pdf>

Best Practice

Create a Check-off Sheet That Works for YOU!

NHSN	Pathways (4)						Vaccination Rate Coverage							
For the "Week of" Monday- Sunday	Resident Impact & Facility Capacity	Staff & Personnel Impact	Supplies and PPE	Thera- peutics	Date Created	≤ 7 days from prior week?	Res Cum #	Res.%	Staff Cum #	Staff %	Date created	≤ 7 days from prior week?	County poor rate High	POCT completed /submitted
Example 5/31/2021- 6/6/2021	✓	✓	✓	✓	6/1		80	95%	60	72 %	6/8		20 High	✓✓
6/7/2021- 6/13/2021	✓	✓	✓	✓	6/8	Y	82	96%	62	74 %	6/15	Y	25 High	✓✓
6/14/21- 6/20/2021														
6/21/2021- 6/27/2021														
6/28/2021- 7/4/2021														

NEW!County
Level of
Community
Transmission

● High ● Substantial ● Moderate ● Low ● No Data

Verify the NHSN Data Reported to CMS Each Week

<https://data.cms.gov/covid-19/covid-19-nursing-home-data>

Scroll
down
to...

- **Listing of vaccination rates for individual nursing homes:** Click to see a list of every nursing home with recent resident and staff vaccination rates. There's also a separate tab for nursing homes with a staff vaccination rate of 75% or more.

Recent Facility Resident and Staff Vaccination Rates, as reported for week ending 08/01/21									
Recent in the title refers to the current week rate if present, otherwise the prior week rate if present									
Federal Provider Number	Provider Name	Provider Address	Provider City	Provider State	Provider Zip Code	Provider Phone Number	County	Recent Percentage of Current Residents who Received a Completed COVID-19 Vaccination at Any Time	Recent Percentage of Current Healthcare Personnel who Received a Completed COVID-19 Vaccination at Any Time
2000000000	St. Mary's Hospital	1234 Main St	Anytown	CA	90210	2000000000	Anytown	92.5	63.2
2000000000	St. Mary's Hospital	1234 Main St	Anytown	CA	90210	2000000000	Anytown	96.3	39.8

*Your rate should NOT be <25% and certainly NEVER 0%
If it is, review & edit your NHSN data ASAP*

Examples of Potential Data Errors

Recent Facility Resident and Staff Vaccination Rates and Other Data, as reported for week ending 08/29/21

Vaccination percentages are for the current week if present, otherwise the prior week if present

	Recent Percentage of Current Residents who Received a Completed COVID-19 Vaccination at Any Time	Recent Percentage of Current Healthcare Personnel who Received a Completed COVID-19 Vaccination at Any Time	Residents Weekly Confirmed COVID-19	Residents Total Confirmed COVID-19	Residents Weekly COVID-19 Deaths	Residents Total COVID- 19 Deaths	Staff Weekly Confirmed COVID-19	Staff Total Confirmed COVID-19	Staff Weekly COVID-19 Deaths	Staff Total COVID-19 Deaths
Facility 1			0	48	0	5	0	47	0	0
Facility 13	0.0	0.0	0	20	0	6	0	3	0	0
Facility 14	94.1	100.0	0	73	0	18	0	61	0	0
Facility 2										
facility 44	100.0	23.1	0	18	0	10	0	17	0	0
facility 55	2.2	0.8	0	67	0	20	1	94	0	0
Facility 7	0.0	100.0	0	12	0	7	0	29	0	0
Facility 8	100.0	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance the Facts

Follow the science:

- Go to the FDA website for updates on the booster, additional COVID vaccine doses, and timeline
- Attend the FDA [meeting](#) on Sept 17, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. EST

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines>

Important Links Recap



5-6-2021 <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-29-nh.pdf> Reporting COVID Cases/Focus Survey

5-11-2021 <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-21-19-nh.pdf> Vaccine Reporting Requirements

5-2021 Tracking sheet instructions <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ltc/covidvax/tracking-worksheet-qrg-508.pdf>

6-10-2021 Updated to include Vaccine rate data on CMS website <https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data/bkwz-xpvg> Link: https://data.cms.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/covid-19-nursing-home-resident-and-staff-vaccination-rates_1.xlsx

7-2021 FAQ: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/hps/weekly-covid-vac/faqs.html>

8-2021: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/nqf/covid-vax-hcpcoverage-508.pdf>

9-10-21 <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh-revised.pdf> -Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Testing Requirements

6-2021 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) COVID-19 NHSN Reporting Requirements for Nursing Homes : <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/cms-covid19-req-508.pdf>

6-21 State based best practices: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-toolkit-states-mitigate-covid-19-nursing-homes.pdf>

All CMS Regulatory Updates can be found here: <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>

CDC What's New & Updated: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html>

Required NHSN Reporting Pathways

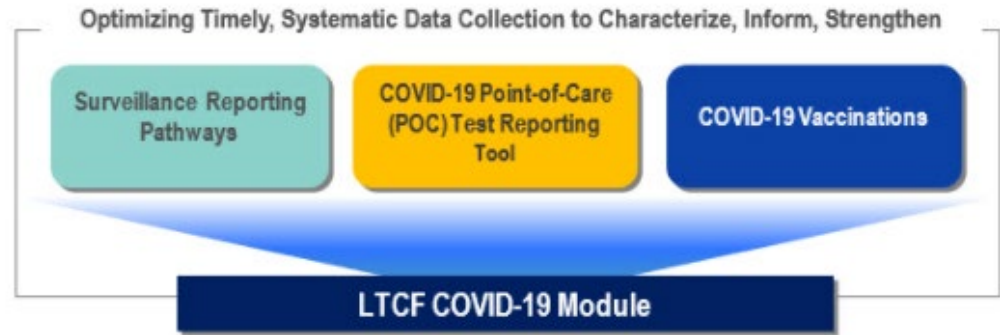
Weekly & within **7** days of prior submission

A. Surveillance Reporting Pathways

1. Staff and Personnel Impact
2. Resident Impact
3. Supplies& PPE
4. COVID-19 Therapeutics

B. COVID-19 Vaccine Module

1. Healthcare Personnel
2. Residents



***C. COVID-19 POC Test Reporting Tool – All Positive & Negative COVID-19 lab results for Residents & Staff must be reported within 24 hours.** NHSN (optional but strongly encouraged or Directly to State Health Dept

Journal Articles

- [Effectiveness of COVID-19 Vaccines in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Frontline Workers Before and During B.1.617.2 \(Delta\) Variant Predominance — Eight U.S. Locations, December 2020–August 2021 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [mm7034e5 SARS-CoV-2 Infections and Hospitalizations Among Persons Aged ≥16 Years, by Vaccination Status — Los Angeles County, California, May 1–July 25, 2021 \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [Interim Estimates of COVID-19 Vaccine Effectiveness Against COVID-19–Associated Emergency Department or Urgent Care Clinic Encounters and Hospitalizations Among Adults During SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 \(Delta\) Variant Predominance — Nine States, June–August 2021](#)

Bookmark this page for CDC updates:

[All What's New & Updated:](#)


<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html>

New to LTCF Infection Prevention & NHSN?

Bookmark these pages:

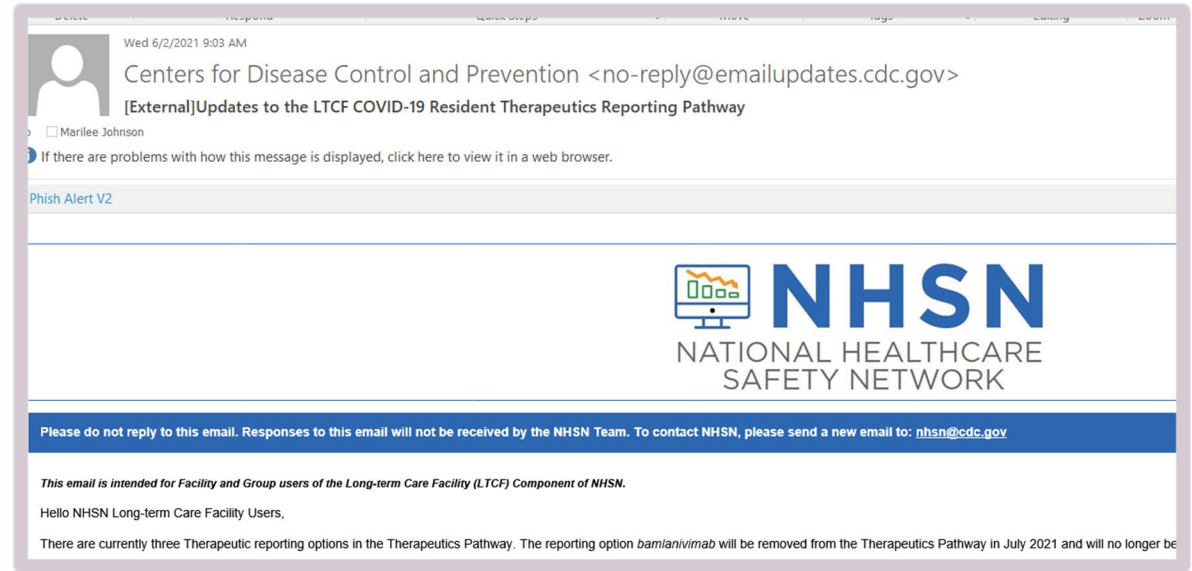
- Contact marilee.johnson@allianthealth.org to make sure you are on the Alliant Quality mailing list.
- CMS mandates for reporting into NHSN
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/cms-covid19-req-508.pdf>
- NHSN Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/index.html>
- LTCF COVID-19 Module: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/index.html>
- Point of Care Testing Reporting Tool FAQs:
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/ltcf-poc-faq-508.pdf>
- COVID -19: Vaccine Reporting: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/weekly-covid-vac/index.html>
- Need Access to NHSN? Contact the current NHSN administrator at your facility to add you as a user. If no one has administrative access at your facility [Review These Shop Talk Shorts](#) for FAQs and submit this form: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/facadmin/index.html>
Follow email prompts to complete SAMS application.

Have You Registered for NHSN Updates?

 **Get Email Updates**

To receive email updates about this page, enter your email address:

[What's this?](#)



<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/index.html>

Shop Talk Shorts YouTube Channel

[Help! I am new & no one has NHSN access](#)

[How do I find out who has access to my facility?](#)

[How do I add users and rights to our NHSN account?](#)

[My administrator added me as a user, but I can't login.](#)

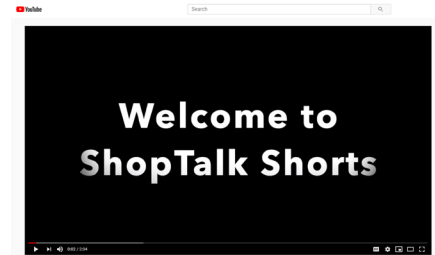
I got a new job. [Can I use my grid card to access my new facility?](#)

[How do I change my email address for NHSN & SAMS?](#)

[How do I get a SAMS card? I already have access to my facility.](#)

[I am leaving, how do I reassign another NHSN facility administrator?](#)

I want to receive technical assistance. [How do I join Alliant Quality's NHSN Data Group?](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXWmxni-xNHspWHhLLlrqcLGlzXZPljIF>

COVID-19 Vaccine Reporting Training Slides

- Review the NHSN [Website](#) *Often* for Updates

Shop Talk Webinars:

- April 2021 [VIDEO Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
- May 2021 [VIDEO Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
- June 2021 [VIDEO Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
- July 2021 [VIDEO Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
- August 2021 [VIDEO Recording](#) | [Slides](#)



POCT & Resident Pathway Module Update Training -

Changes will be released on September 18th

Reference changes here: [NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module website](#)

Please Join us for a Review of LTCF COVID-19 Module: Resident Impact and Facility Capacity Pathway Updates

Topic: LTCF COVID-19 Module: Resident Impact and Facility Capacity Pathway Updates

Date: Monday, Sep 20, 2021

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_LVIK4Kt-Q50-T2v2J6QydQ



New NHSN Training

Topic: 2021 Changes to the Weekly NHSN COVID-19 Vaccination Data Collection Forms for Long-Term Care Facilities

Date: Sep 23, 2021

Time: 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST



Register in advance for this webinar:

https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_wQWp_hrcdRvCy4ATVbJ6BpQ

Mark Your Calendar!



Shop Talk 3rd Thursdays at 2pm ET

Registration Links:

October – <https://bit.ly/Oct2021ShopTalks>

November – <https://bit.ly/Nov2021ShopTalks>

December – <https://bit.ly/Dec2021ShopTalks>

Visit our website for more info:

<https://www.alliantquality.org/topic/shop-talks/Recordings>

Questions?

Please put your
questions into the
Q&A.



Thank You for Your Time!

Contact the Patient Safety Team



Marilee H. Johnson, MBA, MT (ASCP)

Technical Advisor, Infection Prevention

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Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN, CIC

Infection Prevention Specialist

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Melody Brown, MSM

Aim Manager, Patient Safety

Melody.Brown@AlliantHealth.org | 678.527.3466

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