



South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): EOC@DDSN.SC.GOV; 803-898-9754

SITUATION REPORT NO. 56, DATE: JULY 21, 2022

EVENT: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

I. SOUTH CAROLINA SEES A SLIGHT INCREASE IN COVID-19 CASES

South Carolina has seen a slight increase in COVID-19 cases over the past month. This increase is much smaller than the spike in Omicron cases at the end of 2021 and beginning of 2022. The dominant variant is still Omicron, but two sub variants, b.4 and b.5 appear to be the cause of most of the infections.

Vaccines and boosters are still effective against these variants, and Pfizer and Moderna are working on vaccines and boosters that they hope will be available this fall to improve defense against infection from the sub-variants. Learn more about the sub-variants [here](#).

See current case counts and view county level positivity numbers for the state [here](#).

II. REPORTING OF POSITIVE CASES TO DHEC STILL REQUIRED

All providers are reminded that ALL POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES need to be reported to DHEC. You can report via phone to the regional DHEC office or you can report using the SCION or an ELR system. If you have any questions about reporting of positive cases, please refer to the [DHEC Compendium of Reporting Positive COVID-19 Cases](#).

Also please remember that ICF and CRCF facilities, licensed by DHEC, are still required to follow the CDC guidance for Long Term Care facilities, not the guidance for the general public.

III. TESTING MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM DHEC

If you are having trouble acquiring rapid or POC tests, Please contact Robb McBurney at robert.mcburney@ddsn.sc.gov to get tests. The EOC can arrange for you to get tests from the DHEC warehouse.

IV. SAVE THE DATE-INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING JULY 29, 2022

DDSN has partnered with DHEC to present infection control training on prevention of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) infections in a health care or long term care setting. The Training will be held via Webex on July 29, 2022 at 1:00 pm. A link will be sent out to providers soon to access the training.