

# HAI/AR Monthly Digest

Utah Department of Health Healthcare Associated Infections/Antimicrobial Resistance Program

Issue 1 | August 2021

*"Do your best until you know better and then when you know better, do better."*

*~ Maya Angelou*

## Utah LTCF Situational Update

Figure 1. Overall LTCF COVID-19 outbreaks since March 2021 in Utah.

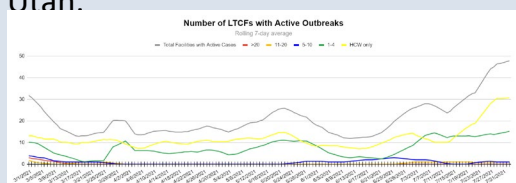


Figure 2. Number of positive cases among LTCF staff before and after introduction of the COVID-19 vaccine in Utah.

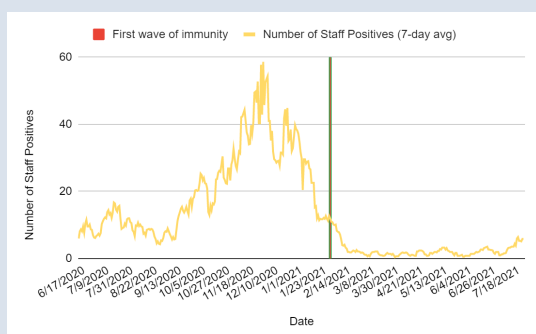


Figure 3. Daily count of LTC resident and staff cases.

## Welcome!

introducing the first issue of the Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance (HAI/AR) Monthly Digest. The HAI/AR Monthly Digest is intended to share resources, education, and highlight healthcare facilities across Utah.

Over the past year, Utah healthcare facilities have provided outstanding care to residents and patients during an unprecedented pandemic. This section is dedicated to sharing healthcare facilities' stories and pictures.

The HAI/AR team is honored to partner with and provide support to healthcare facilities across Utah. Please contact [HAI@utah.gov](mailto:HAI@utah.gov) for assistance.

Sincerely,

April Clements  
HAI/AR Program Manager

## Updates

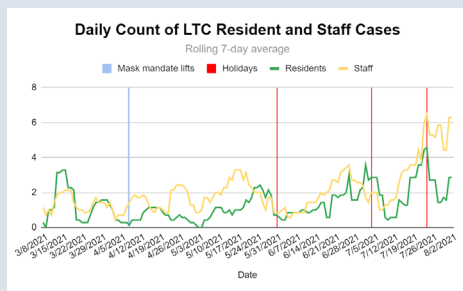
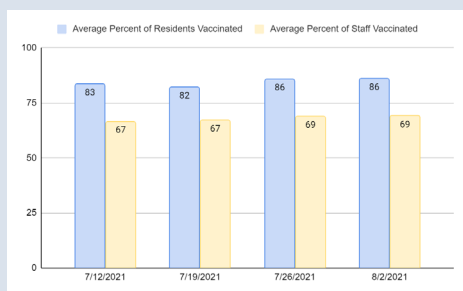


Figure 4. Average percentage of fully vaccinated LTCF residents and staff in Utah based on NHSN data.

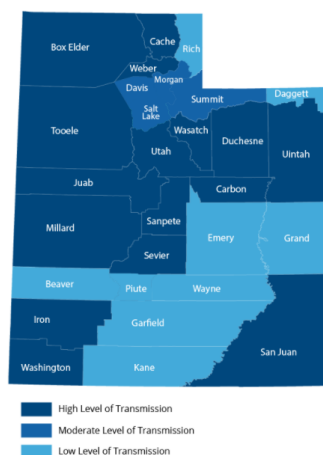


## New UDOH COVID-19 Guidance Documents for LTCFs

- Optimizing PPE in Long-Term Care Facilities
- Establishing an Isolation Unit to Care for Residents with Confirmed COVID-19
- COVID-19 Guidance for State Education and In-Reach Staff when Resuming In Person ICF Visits

New guidance documents can be found on the Long-Term Care Facilities webpage, under the [For](#)

## HAI/AR Update



### Counties in High Level of Transmission

Box Elder	Millard	Utah
Cache	San Juan	Wasatch
Carbon	Sanpete	Washington
Duchesne	Sevier	Weber
Iron	Tooele	
Juab	Uintah	

### Counties in Moderate Level of Transmission

Davis	Salt Lake
Morgan	Summit

### Counties in Low Level of Transmission

Beaver	Garfield	Piute
Daggett	Grand	Rich
Emery	Kane	Wayne

\*Retrieved from <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/utah-health-guidance-levels/> on July 30, 2021. If you are interested in seeing how county transmission levels in Utah compare to other states, click [here](#).

### Personal Protective Equipment Requirements in LTCF

- Facemasks are still required for healthcare workers in the facility, regardless of vaccination status. Visitors are still required to wear facemasks while in common areas of the facility.
- For more information on required personal protective equipment for LTCF staff, click [here](#).

### COVID-19 Vaccination

- Vaccination is the best tool to prevent COVID-19 infection, severe illness, hospitalization, and death.
- Attached to this email are four posters outlining reasons to become fully vaccinated. Please feel free to hang posters around the facility and distribute them to your staff, residents, and visitors.
- To become a COVID-19 vaccine provider, click [here](#).
- To request pharmacy partners to vaccinate staff and residents, then click [here](#):
- Find a vaccination location near you, click [here](#).

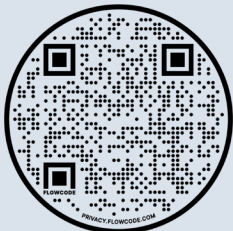
[Long-Term Care Facility Providers](#) section.

## Mental Health Resources

To find out more about mental health resources offered in Utah, click [here](#).

## Questions?

For questions, visit our [Long-Term Care Facilities webpage](#) or email us at [hai@utah.gov](mailto:hai@utah.gov).



## CDC Update

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a Health Alert Network Health Advisory to notify public health practitioners and clinicians about the **urgent need to increase COVID-19 vaccination** coverage across the United States to prevent surges in new infections that could increase COVID-19 related morbidity and mortality, overwhelm healthcare capacity, and widen existing COVID-19-related health disparities. To view the advisory, click [here](#).

## Education/Resources

### Project ECHO

Upcoming topics from the UDOH HAI/AR team are as follows:

- Aug. 4 – COVID-19 Testing and Case Scenarios
- Aug. 11 – Antibiotic Stewardship
- Aug. 18 – Project Firstline
- Aug. 25 – How to Keep COVID Out of Your Facility

**Sessions are held via Zoom weekly on Wednesdays from 11:00 am–noon. Office Hours are noon–12:30 pm through August 25, 2021. To register, click [here](#).**

Supported by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and in collaboration with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), University of Utah Health partnered with the Utah Department of Health to hold COVID-19 ECHO for Nursing Homes series. Jason Spaulding, MD, Adrienne Butterwick MPH CHES, and members of the western Department of Health HAI teams will be the team of experts.

To stop receiving the HAI/AR Monthly Digest, please reply to this email or email [janellekammerman@utah.gov](mailto:janellekammerman@utah.gov) directly. Thank you.