

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2022



Media Release-24 (PSA220030)

Data as reported by the American Samoa Department of Health by 4:00 pm on March 20, 2022

Situational Summary

On March 19, 2022, 532 tests were conducted, of these, 159 individuals tested positive. In the past 24 hours, 61 previous positive cases recovered and there were 0 deaths due to COVID-19. A total of 8 individuals are currently hospitalized. The cumulative COVID-19 case count is now 1,495, of which a total of 216 individuals have recovered. There are currently 1,282 active cases. In addition, 531 COVID-19 vaccines were administered of which 458 were boosters.

We are still in the early stages of the outbreak, and there are going to be more cases moving forward. This is expected. Although the rising case count may be alarming, you *can* live safely with the surge in cases.

Before getting tested, have a home isolation plan ready in case you test positive. If you test positive, you will be assessed by a doctor to see if you are eligible for therapeutic treatment. The treatment is to be given within 5 days of feeling sick. Treatment should lessen your symptoms and may prevent you from getting admitted to the hospital. *Not everyone testing positive will feel sick or will need treatment.* If you are positive, please stay at home for 14 days and avoid contact with people while you are infectious to others.

Getting vaccinated prevents severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people age 65 and older who received both doses of the Pfizer vaccines showed a 94% reduced risk of COVID-19 related hospitalization. Unvaccinated people should get vaccinated and continue masking until they are fully vaccinated. Getting a booster enhances or restores protection against COVID-19, which may have decreased over time.

Schedule

COVID-19 tests are available, Monday through Friday, at the health centers in Amouli, Tafuna, and Leone from 8AM-4PM. Tests are also available on Saturday at the Tafuna ACF facility from 8AM-2PM.

COVID-19 vaccines are also available, Monday through Friday, at Pago Pago and Tafuna DYWA from 8AM-4PM. The Catholic halls in Iliili and Leone are closed this week.

Teams are being deployed Wednesday through Saturday to administer COVID-19 vaccines to homebound patients. Homebound individuals are people with physical limitations, those who are bedridden, wheelchair-bound, and the elderly who may have difficulty coming into the regular vaccine clinic sites. Please call 219 or contact your pulenuu if you or a loved one need this service.