

Local Snapshot

Pacific County Positive Cases: 86

Pacific County Residents Tested: 2602

Probable Cases (Not Confirmed): 1

Pacific County Active Cases: 7

Pacific County Hospitalizations: 8

Pacific County Deaths 3

All counties in WA State have reported confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The Pacific County Emergency Operations Center is open Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm

Please give us a call with any COVID-19 related questions or concerns.

North County: (360) 875-9407 / South County: (360) 642-9407

If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please contact 9-1-1 immediately.

Washington 211 COVID-19 Call Center

Call for general information related to COVID-19. If you need information or have a general question, call 1-800-525-0127 or text 211-211 for help. You can also text the word "Coronavirus" to 211-211 to receive information and updates on your phone wherever you are. You will receive links to the latest information on COVID-19, including county-level updates, and resources for families, businesses, students, and more.

For the latest Washington State COVID-19 data please click on the link below:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

For the latest PACIFIC COUNTY COVID-19 DATA please click on the link below. The page is very informative and illustrates how we are trying to disseminate information and resources:

<https://www.pacificcountycovid19.com/>

Next Weekly Community Forum: Wednesday, August 5th at 11:30 (re-occurring) via Zoom or Facebook Live

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84282447783>

1-253-215-8782 meeting id: 84282447783#

Statewide Snapshot

WA State Total Positive/Confirmed Cases as of 8/18/2020: 87,042. WA Total Deaths: 2,124

Neighboring Counties: Wahkiakum County 6 cases, Grays Harbor 501 cases, Lewis County 537 cases, Clatsop County 230 cases.

COVID-19 transmission at a crossroads in Washington state going into fall.

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) released the latest [statewide situation report](#). The report shows COVID-19 case counts continue to decrease overall in both eastern and western Washington, though some counties are experiencing plateaus or increases in disease activity. Read the full news release [here](#).

Winter is coming

COVID-19 spreads easily from person to person in crowded indoor spaces—especially if we hang out for a long period of time and talk. We have learned this summer that small outdoor gatherings are much safer than indoor gatherings.

But we are about to get chilly. We need to start thinking about how we will see our friends and family, stay warm and dry, and protect ourselves from COVID-19.

Every bit of risk reduction matters. When our risk goes up in one way, like because the kids return to school, or we gather with some friends indoors, we need to do everything we can to reduce our risk in other ways.

- **Get your flu shot.** In the fall and winter we spend more time in crowded indoor places, and that's why fall and winter are traditionally cold and flu season. With flu, at least we have a vaccination to help reduce our risk. Get your flu shot and take one thing off your worry list. There's no vaccine for the common cold, but all that hand washing and physical distancing we are doing will help protect us from colds as well as from COVID-19.
- **Get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms.** Not sure if you have a cold or the flu or COVID-19? Don't let cold and flu season discourage you from getting tested for COVID-19. If you have a new cough or fever or other COVID-19 symptoms, contact your health care provider and see how you can get tested for COVID-19. Oh, and if you are really unlucky, you can have flu and COVID-19 at the same time. Doesn't that sound miserable? (Get your flu shot!)
- **Stay outdoors as much as possible.** Consider how you and a few of your friends can get together outdoors even in cold or rainy weather. Maybe you can meet at a park with a large covered area like a gazebo. Do you or your friends have a large porch or outdoor area you can protect with a tarp? Brainstorm outdoor activities you can do with a good raincoat and a thermos full of a hot beverage. Apple picking? Pumpkin patch? Watch the salmon spawn?
- **Keep the air fresh and moving.** When you do come inside with others who are not typically part of your household, open the windows and make sure you keep outdoor air coming inside and moving around. This helps dilute and disperse any virus that anyone may be exhaling. Wear cozy sweaters, wrap yourself in a blanket, and keep the air fresh.
- **Keep your distance.** As you think of areas to stay warm with a friend or two, be sure that these areas allow you to stay at least six feet away from people who are not a part of your household. How big is that gazebo at the park? How many people can you fit on your deck and still be six feet apart and out of the rain? How many people can reasonably sit six feet apart in your living room?

- **Cover your face.** If you are going to bring people into your home, insist on cloth face coverings as much as possible. There is ever increasing evidence that a combination of physical distancing and wearing cloth face coverings protects us and our loved ones.

State health experts: Flu vaccine should be considered “essential” this year. While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our daily lives, autumn brings with it another unwanted visitor – the flu. The presence of both viruses could put more people in the hospital and strain Washington’s health care system. While we don’t yet have a vaccine to prevent COVID-19, we do have one to prevent flu.

For help finding a health care provider or vaccine location, and to learn more about flu, visit www.KnockOutFlu.org. Read the full news release [here](#).

County Data and Case Update	9/9/2020	9/16/2020	9/23/2020	9/30/2020
Confirmed Cases (Total)	74	77	80	86
<i>Confirmed Cases that resided in Pacific County</i>	70	74	77	83
<i>Active Cases (monitored by Public Health)</i>	16	4	2	7
<i>Probable Cases (monitored by Public Health)</i>	2	2	0	1
<i>Closed Cases (no longer monitored by Public Health)</i>	60	64	78	80
Hospitalizations	8	8	8	8
Deaths	3	3	3	3
Percent Deaths (deaths/confirmed cases)	5.0%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%
Total Tests: Pacific County Residents (Pacific County Healthcare/Public Health)	2137 (3447)	2344 (3724)	2439 (4008)	2602 (4229)
Percent Positive (confirmed cases/total tests)	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%
Percent Positive (7 Day Average):	15.6%	1.4%	3.2%	3.7%
Cases per 100k per 14 days (rolling)	63.5	59	18.5	27.7

Updates highlighted

State Generated Dashboard (<https://www.pacificcountycovid19.com/>). Time lag/Correction.

PACIFIC COUNTY

Total Number of Residents Confirmed with Covid-19 by Zip Code



March - September 30, 2020

"Case location is based on permanent residence. This map does not show where exposure or transmission of COVID-19 occurred"



State to provide \$300K in emergency grants to Washington shellfish growers.

The departments of Commerce and Agriculture are partnering with Impact Washington to create Shellfish Seed Bank, offering up to \$5,000 to shellfish growers severely impacted by COVID-19. Read the full news release [here](#).

DCYF announces additional COVID-19 relief funds for child care stabilization.

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) announces a second round of child care funding to help strengthen the existing child care market for working families and providers. The Governor and Legislature approved over \$70 million for the child care industry to address the ongoing economic impacts of COVID-19. These additional relief funds build on the investments made in the spring. Read more [here](#).

Kreidler Extends Emergency Orders on Coronavirus Testing and Surprise Billing

Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler has extended two emergency orders. His order requiring health insurers to waive copays and deductibles for any consumer requiring testing for coronavirus (COVID-19) and his order protecting consumers from receiving surprise bills for lab fees related to medically-necessary diagnostic testing for COVID-19 are both extended until Oct. 25. Kreidler's order waiving cost-sharing applies to all state-regulated health insurance plans and short-term limited duration medical plans. The order on surprise billing applies to both in-state and out-of-state laboratories, when a provider orders diagnostic testing for COVID-19.

Also, insurers must continue:

Allowing a one-time early refill for prescription drugs.

Suspending any prior authorization requirement for treatment or testing of COVID-19.

In addition, if an insurer does not have enough medical providers in its network to provide testing or treatment for COVID-19, it must allow enrollees to be treated by another provider within a reasonable distance at no additional cost.

“Consumers are rightly concerned about prevention, testing and possible treatment,” Kreidler said. “My emergency order provides guidance to health insurers and should help reassure the public that we will take all necessary steps to protect them.”

Kreidler is using powers granted to him following the statewide emergency that Gov. Jay Inslee declared to protect Washington residents against the spread of the coronavirus.

When the governor issues an emergency proclamation, the commissioner can issue an emergency order related to health care coverage to ensure access to care. The order lasts 60 days and can be extended by the commissioner for an additional 30 days, as long as the governor's emergency proclamation remains in effect.

Kreidler urged state residents without health insurance to contact Washington's exchange, Washington Healthplanfinder to see if they qualify for free health coverage or a special enrollment for individual health insurance.

Inslee Announces New Standards for Airports in Washington

Gov. Jay Inslee announced today that Washington is setting new requirements for commercial airports and recommendations for airlines. This is a statewide approach to the COVID-19 pandemic to help protect the health and safety of workers, passengers and crew in the aviation sector.

“The steps we’re taking will help protect those who need to fly,” Inslee said. “This guidance isn’t just about SeaTac — these requirements apply to airports across the state — Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities and Everett too.”

In addition to the new baseline guidance from the state, Delta Air Lines, Alaska Airlines and the Port of Seattle announced additional steps to protect the health and safety of airline passengers and staff.

The news was announced Thursday in a press conference. The governor was joined by Max Tidwell, vice president of safety and security for Alaska Airlines, regional vice president Tony Gonchar of Delta Air Lines and Lance Lyttle of the Port of Seattle, which manages SeaTac Airport.

Inslee has called for a uniform national standard around air travel in his letter to HHS and DOT. Although states’ authority is more limited than the federal government’s, Washington state’s new guidance sets a baseline standard for airports throughout the state.

The new Commercial Service Airport Requirements are a statewide approach to the COVID pandemic to ensure the health and safety of employees, passengers and crewmembers working and traveling to and from the state’s aviation sector. This approach encompasses setting baseline requirements at each commercial passenger service airport and encourages airlines to adopt certain health screening questionnaires.

The guidance will require face coverings in the airport; signage and spacing for physical distancing; protective barriers between travelers and workers; sanitizer and disinfectant protocols; and that airport vendors and businesses follow state and county health agency requirements.

It also strongly encourages airlines to establish health screening questionnaires for passengers regarding potential COVID-19 exposure or symptoms, and to require passengers abide by face covering and physical distancing requirements in order to be issued a boarding pass.

Read the full story on the governor’s Medium site.

Halloween is not cancelled . . . BUT

1. Phase 3 Safe Start: Social gatherings are limited to 10 or less
2. Assess RISK: Traditional vs. Alternative Activities
3. Follow Safety Precautions:
 - Wear a cloth face covering
 - Avoid confined spaces
 - Avoid close contact with people outside of your household
 - Wash or sanitize your hands often
 - Stay home if you are sick or were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19



DOH guidance: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/HalloweenTips.pdf>

CDC guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#halloween>

END OF STATUS REPORT