



# JACKSON COUNTY

Health & Human Services

## Health & Human Services Public Health Division

140 S. Holly St.  
Medford, OR 97501

### COVID-19 Update October 17, 2020

	CASES	FATALITIES
WORLD (10/17/20, per Johns Hopkins)	39,485,409	1,106,519
USA (10/17/20, per Johns Hopkins)	8,076,103	218,869
OREGON (10/16/20, Per OHA)	38,935	617
JACKSON COUNTY(10/17/20, per JC HHS)	1,471	6
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE/INFECTIOUS CASES – JACKSON COUNTY (10/17/20, per JC HHS) - 203</b>		

(Note: The above numbers are current at the time of release but continue to change constantly.)

#### PRESS RELEASE ON BEHALF OF JACKSON COUNTY

If you have any questions, please reach out to the contact listed below.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 17, 2020

For media interview requests, please contact Tanya Phillips. Interviews will be scheduled with Dr. Jim Shames, Jackson County Medical Director.

Tanya Phillips  
Health Promotion Program Manager  
Jackson County Public Health  
(541) 770-7708 - [phillitf@jacksoncounty.org](mailto:phillitf@jacksoncounty.org)

#### New COVID-19 Cases Reported in Jackson County & Fall Gatherings

**[Medford, Oregon]** —Jackson County Public Health reports 24 new COVID-19 cases as of 12:01 am on October 17, 2020. Through the quality assurance process, a previously reported case has been reclassified to a suspect case and removed from the total reported cases. These updates bring the total reported COVID-19 cases in Jackson County to 1,471. To access additional data on the total COVID-19 cases, visit the [Situation in Jackson County, Oregon](#) webpage, or the [Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) website.

Jackson County Public Health continues to see clusters and outbreaks associated with social get-togethers and gatherings. Overall, the more people someone is in contact with, and for extended periods, not wearing a mask or keeping 6 feet distance, increases the likelihood of COVID-19 spreading.

Under the Governor's executive orders NO. 20-27, a gathering has a maximum capacity of 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors for counties under Phase 2. A gathering is defined as a group of individuals meeting for a common purpose, including faith-based, civic, cultural, and other purposes, indoors or outdoors. A gathering does not include an indoor social get-together.

An indoor social get-together is defined as a group of individuals meeting for a common social or recreational purpose indoors. Indoor social get-togethers include but are not limited to indoor dinner parties, birthday parties, graduation parties, celebrations of any kind, potlucks, book clubs, game nights, and other similar indoor gatherings. Indoor social get-togethers do not include gatherings. Under the

Governor's executive orders, the maximum capacity for an indoor social get-together is 10 people, no matter what phase a county is under.

### **Fall Holiday Gatherings**

Halloween and other fall holiday activities can be high-risk for spreading COVID-19 and flu. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters.

It is best to engage in lower-risk activities and limit or avoid activities that carry a higher risk of spreading and contracting COVID-19. During the fall celebrations, it remains critical that everyone **wear a mask, maintain a physical distancing and limit close contact, wash your hands frequently, and get your flu vaccination.**

**Take these everyday preventative actions to stop the spread of germs like the flu and COVID-19:**

- Get vaccinated for flu
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Limit your contact with others if you are sick
- Wear a mask
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Wash your hands
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched
- Watch your distance (stay at least 6 ft. away from others)

For more information on how to celebrate Halloween safely, visit the [CDC COVID-19 Holiday Celebrations](#) webpage.

For more information:

The public can call 211-information with general questions

OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: [www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus](http://www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus)

CDC COVID-19 page: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

CDC Travel within the U.S.: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>

Jackson County Health and Human Services: <http://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/COVID-19>

Oregon COVID-19 Testing Location Finder: <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-19-testing>

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