



JACKSON COUNTY

Health & Human Services

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Public Health Division

140 S. Holly St.
Medford, OR 97501

COVID-19 Update February 23, 2021

	CASES	FATALITIES
WORLD (2/23/21, per Johns Hopkins)	111,845,517	2,477,062
USA (2/23/21, per Johns Hopkins)	28,194,534	500,585
OREGON (2/22/21, Per OHA)	153,134	2,155
JACKSON COUNTY (2/23/21, per JCHHS)	8,198	108

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

PRESS RELEASE ON BEHALF OF JACKSON COUNTY

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 23, 2021

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

Chad Petersen will be available to answer media questions about Jackson County being in the high-risk category.

Chad Petersen, REHS
Environmental Health Program Manager
(541) 774-7824 - petersca@jacksoncounty.org

Jackson County COVID-19 Daily Press Release

[Medford, Oregon] —Jackson County Public Health reports 46 new COVID-19 cases as of 12:01 am on February 23, 2021. Additionally, 9 cases were removed from the total COVID-19 cases, and 1 was added, all with previous reporting dates. These updates bring the total COVID-19 cases to 8,198.

COVID-19 Hospitalizations

The number of hospitalized patients with COVID-19 in Region 5 (Jackson and Josephine Counties) is 27, increased by 1 from the previous day. There are 9 patients in the intensive care unit (ICU), increased by 1 from the previous day.

The total number of patients in hospital beds may fluctuate between report times. The numbers do not reflect admissions per day nor the length of hospital stay. Staffing limitations are not captured in this data and may further limit bed capacity.

For additional local COVID-19 data, visit the COVID-19 Data Dashboard at [Situation in Jackson County, Oregon](#) webpage. More information on hospitalizations and other COVID-19 can be found on the [OHA COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).

County Risk Level Update

This week is a movement week for Oregon Counties. Jackson County will be moving into the High-Risk category from the Extreme-Risk category. This change will go into effect on Friday, February 26, 2021. Jackson County is moving to a lower risk level as the case rate has decreased to below 200 cases per 100,000 population. For weeks 2/7/2021 – 2/20/2021, Jackson County had a case rate of 174.9 cases per 100,000 population.

“This is hopeful news that Jackson County has a decrease in cases and able to move to a lower risk category,” states Dr. Jim Shames, Jackson County Health Officer. “Even though we are seeing a decrease in cases and moving to a lower risk category, it remains critical that we continue to wear a mask, wash our hands, watch our distance, stay home when we are

sick, and get vaccinated against COVID-19 when it's our turn.”

What is open under the High-Risk level?

- Eating and Drinking Establishments: Indoor dining is allowed. Indoor not to exceed 25% maximum capacity occupancy or 50 people, whichever is smaller. Outdoor dining not to exceed 75 people maximum. Indoor and outdoor seating: 6 people per party and per table maximum, limit 2 households. 11:00 pm closing time.
- Indoor Entertainment Establishments: Maximum 25% occupancy or 50 people total, whichever is smaller. 11:00 pm closing time.
- Indoor Recreation & Fitness: Maximum 25% occupancy or 50 people total, whichever is smaller. Indoor full-contact sports prohibited.
- Social and At-Home Gathering Size (Indoor): Maximum 6 people. Recommended limited: 2 household
- Social and At-Home Gathering Size (Outdoor): Maximum 8 people.

For a complete of what is open in Jackson County, please visit the Governor's COVID-19 website:

<https://coronavirus.oregon.gov/Pages/living-with-covid-19.aspx>

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Individuals 70 and older are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Currently, the federal COVID-19 vaccine supply chain is scarce, impacting the vaccine supply in Jackson County. With the short supply and high demand, we know more seniors will want to get vaccinated than there will be vaccines available to them in the coming weeks. This means that every older adult will not be able to get an appointment as soon as they want one, even if they are currently eligible per the state's prioritization.

Jackson County Public Health received the vaccine allotment from the week of February 15, 2021, on Monday. This allotment of vaccine was delayed due to severe winter weather. In addition, the allotment for the week of February 22, 2021, was also received on Monday; this allotment had 2,600 prime doses.

Jackson County Public Health and our healthcare partners are encouraged by the number of people wanting to be vaccinated, and we are all eager to provide the vaccine. We appreciate the community's patience; we are all doing the best we can – as fast as we can – with the available resources we have.

Resources on vaccine eligibility and where to access the vaccine:

- Jackson County Health and Human Services COVID-19 Vaccine website: <https://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/General/News-Information/covid-19-vaccine-1>
 - This website will provide information on where people can access the vaccine, how to make an appointment, and list additional resources if people need assistance with scheduling appointments.
- Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 Vaccine: <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/>
- Register on the [Get Vaccinated Oregon](#) tool and check for country-specific information.
- 211 Information is also available to answer questions about vaccine eligibility and access.
 - Text ORCOVID to 898211 to get text/SMS updates (English and Spanish only)
 - Email ORCOVID@211info.org (All languages)
 - Call 211 or 1-866-698-6155 from 6 am – 7 pm daily, including holidays

For more information:

- The public can call 211-information with general questions
- OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus
- CDC COVID-19 page: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- OHA COVID-19 Vaccine: <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-vaccine>
- CDC COVID-19 Vaccine: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- Jackson County HHS Vaccine: <https://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/COVID-19/COVID-19-News/covid-19-vaccine>
- 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>
- Review the [Statewide Mask, Face Covering, Face Shield Guidance](#) for detailed information

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