



FLASH REPORT

November 2020

A Brief Report of Public Health Activity Within Jackson County

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Jackson County COVID-19 Updates

COVID-19 continues to spread in Jackson County. Over the past month, Jackson County Public Health has seen COVID-19 cases increase dramatically, continually announcing new daily and weekly record numbers since the beginning of the pandemic.

Jackson County Public Health reports 84 new COVID-19 cases as of 12:01 am on November 6, 2020. Today's daily case report marks another new record for the number of daily cases reported in a day. This update brings the total reported COVID-19 cases in Jackson County to 2,198.

Jackson County set yet another weekly record number of COVID-19 cases for week 44 (October 25 – October 31) and has since surpassed this total during week 45 (November 1 – November 7). For week 44, Jackson County reported 246 new COVID-19 cases; this is a 41% increase from the previous week (week 43, October 18 – October 24). During week 44, the test positivity rate was 10.8%.

Jackson County is mirroring a trend seen statewide. Social gatherings of various sizes (often multi-generational) continue to play a significant role in our sharply increasing case counts. Reports of birthday parties, get-togethers with friends, weddings, etc. continue to occur. Attendees at these events then spread the virus to their homes, workplaces, schools, places of worship, etc.

New COVID-19 Data Dashboard

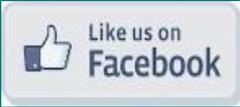
Jackson County Public Health has a new COVID-19 data dashboard. The dashboard provides data on:

- Total number of cases
- Current number of active infections
- Total number of cases ever hospitalized
- COVID-19 related deaths
- Case data for the past 7 days
- COVID-19 data by age and gender
- Race and Ethnicity data
- Number and rate of cases per zip code
- Testing data

To access additional data on the total COVID-19 cases, visit the [Situation in Jackson County, Oregon](#) webpage. The Oregon Health Authority provides additional data including regional hospital data, this additional data can be found on the [Oregon Health Authorities COVID-19 Data Dashboards](#).

Visit the [Jackson County Provider Resources](#) webpage for additional information.

Please print the
Reporting
Guidelines



Look for the
December edition in
the first week of the
month!



Provider Guidance on Patient's Concerns to Return to Work After COVID Disease

Dear provider;

Thanks to you all for working with Public Health to reduce the impact of COVID -19 in our community. We would like to provide guidance concerning when patients come to you requesting advice, testing, or a letter, concerning returning to work after COVID disease.

First, there is the science. We know that the vast majority of individuals are no longer contagious 10 days after the onset of symptoms (CDC)¹. Those sick enough to be hospitalized are usually told to isolate for 20 days out of an abundance of caution, with some evidence that severe illness may prolong viral shedding.

The second factor is what our tests do and do not tell us. A PCR test detects fragments of SARS CoV-2 virus, but does not indicate whether the RNA is infectious or not. The PCR is generally more sensitive than an antigen test, but as stated above, that increased sensitivity does not correlate with infectivity. An individual 10 days following symptom onset could have a positive COVID test yet is unlikely to be infectious.

Finally, what we are learning is that the symptoms of COVID can persist much longer than the period of viral infection. Some individuals may be affected for months after onset of disease (so-called "long haulers").

The following is our guidance for managing recovered COVID patients:

- The CDC recommends symptom-based release from isolation rather than testing-based criteria¹. Earlier CDC guidance did recommend negative testing for return to work, but that is currently only recommended for COVID + hospital release to a congregate setting. For the vast majority of individuals who test positive for COVID, however, **there is no test of cure.**
- The quarantine period for a contact of a positive case is 14 days. A negative test during those 14 days does not rule early incubation of disease. **There is no way a person can "test out of quarantine."**
- The County provides a letter to employers explaining when isolation or quarantine is over. **Removal from quarantine restrictions, discontinuation of isolation, and safe return to public engagement following CCOVID-19 are decisions for Public Health to make based upon the Centers for Disease Control and the Oregon Health Authority guidance.**

Thank you for all you do. Do not hesitate to contact our staff or us with questions.

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Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

Two-Week Pause on Social Activities to Help Stop the Rapid Spread of COVID for Jackson County

Governor Kate Brown today announced new measures pausing social activities to help stop the rapid spread of COVID-19 in counties where community transmission is on the rise. These pause measures will be in effect for two weeks, from Nov. 11 through Nov. 25, for Malheur, Marion, Multnomah, Jackson, and Umatilla Counties. Based on increasing statewide case counts, as well as increased sporadic case rates in these five counties, the new public health measures to reduce spread are an effort to save lives in Oregon.

A two-week pause will be instituted in counties with a case rate of 200 per 100,000 population over a two-week period or 60 cases over a two-week period for counties with less than 30,000 people. Jackson County has a two-week case rate of 224.6 cases per 100,000 population.

The Two-Week Pause measures include:

- Urging all businesses to mandate work from home to the greatest extent possible.
- Pausing long-term care facility visits that take place indoors to protect staff and residents.
- Reducing maximum restaurant capacity to 50 people (including customers and staff) for indoor dining, with a maximum party size of six. Continuing to encourage outdoor dining and take out.
- Reducing the maximum capacity of other indoor activities to 50 people (includes gyms, fitness organizations/studios, bowling alleys, ice rinks, indoor sports, pools, and museums).
- Limiting social gatherings to your household, or no more than six people if the gathering includes those from outside your household, reducing the frequency of those social gatherings (significantly in a two-week period), and keeping the same six people in your social gathering circle.

Training and Events

1. **Boozing, Doping, and Other Trends:** This is a webinar training by Jermaine Galloway, "Tall Cop." To prevent substance misuse and abuse, you must know what is going on in your community. This training will address the latest substance use trends with a specific focus on alcohol, marijuana, synthetics, opioids, heroin, inhalants, and more.

Audience: This workshop is for prevention providers, treatment providers, medical providers, mental health and public health professionals, counselors, law enforcement, probation officers, prevention coalition members, educators, and school administrators.

Date and Time: November 9, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Cost: FREE

Registration: [Please click here to register](#)

2. **Tackling HIV Stigma: Solutions from Patients and Providers** – Stigma associated with HIV or preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) remains one of the most stubborn barriers to seeking HIV testing, prevention, and treatment and a roadblock to achieving the national initiative to end the HIV epidemic. This accredited activity is designed to guide healthcare professionals in developing action plans to alleviate stigma in their own practice settings in order to improve engagement and retention in HIV treatment and prevention services.

Audience: HIV Clinical Teams, including Infection Disease Physicians, Primary Care Physicians, NPs, Pas, Pharmacists, and Case Managers.

Cost: FREE

Training Link: [Please click here to register](#)

“The mission of Jackson County Health and Human Services is to plan, coordinate and provide public services that protect and promote the health and well-being of county residents.”