

WHATCOM UNIFIED SITUATION REPORT



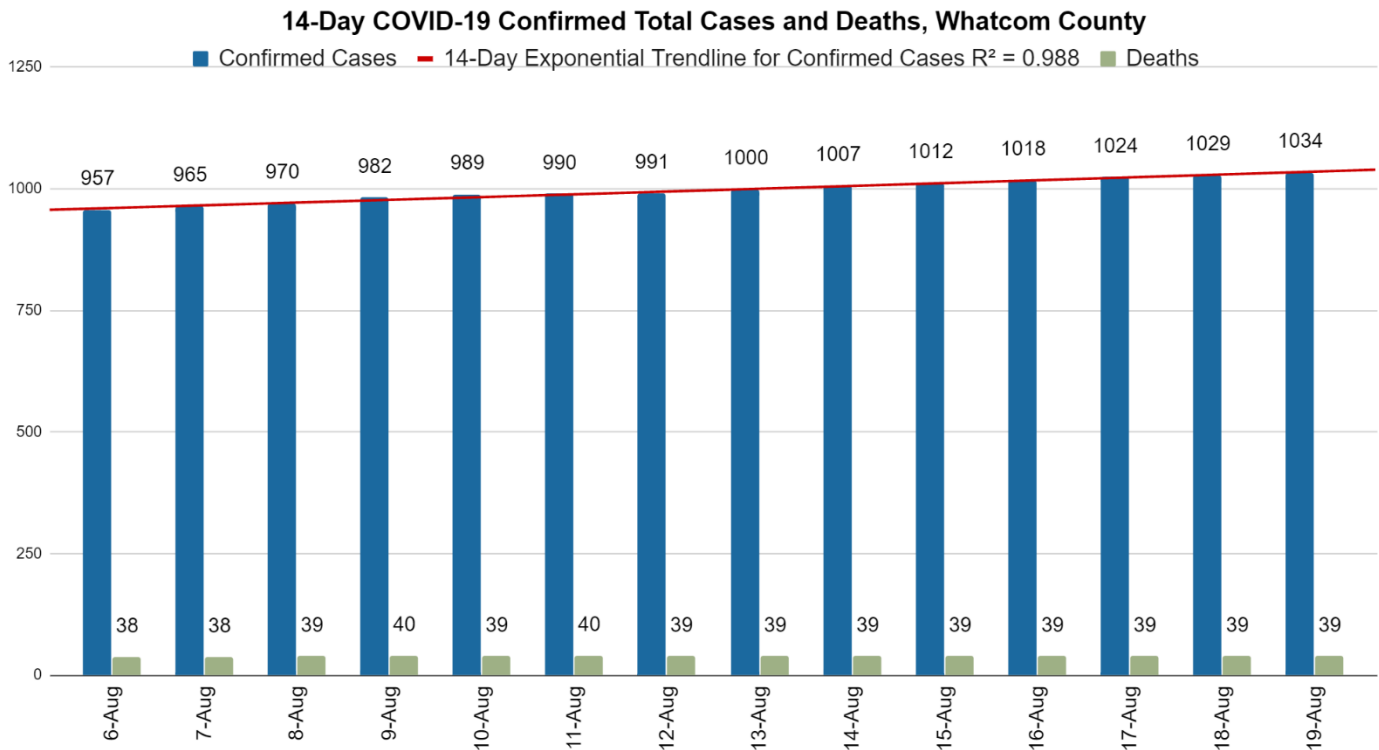
REPORT #: 20200819.1	DATE: 8/19/2020	TIME: 16:00
INCIDENT NAME: COVID-2019	OPERATIONAL PERIOD: 18	MISSION NUMBER: 20-0265

WHATCOM UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND STATUS

ACTIVATION: Whatcom Unified Emergency Command Center	ACTIVATION STATUS: Partial	HOURS OF OPERATION: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
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GENERAL SITUATION

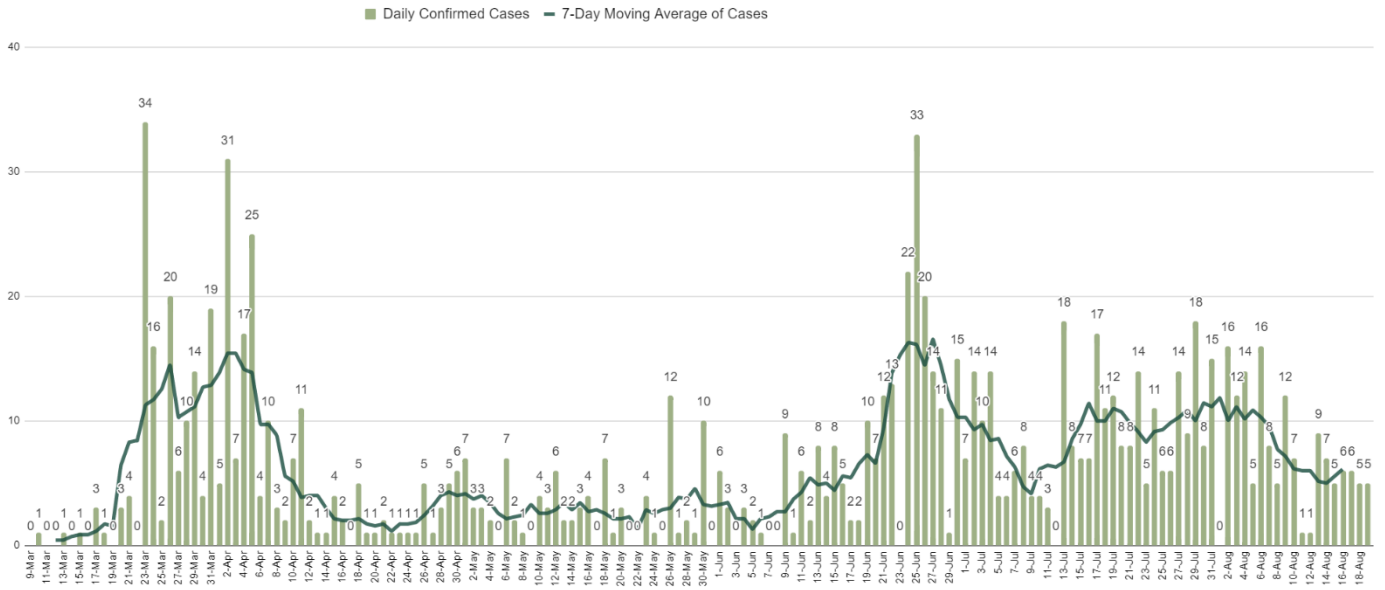
ICS 202



DATE	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
08/19/2020*	1034	39
08/18/2020*	1029	39
08/17/2020	1024	39
08/16/2020	1018	39
08/15/2020	1012	39

*Data provided by the Whatcom County Health Dept is considered preliminary. As they verify cases, we can expect delays and fluctuations in data reported. Data was last updated 8/17/2020.

COVID-19 Daily Confirmed Cases with 7-Day Moving Average, Whatcom County

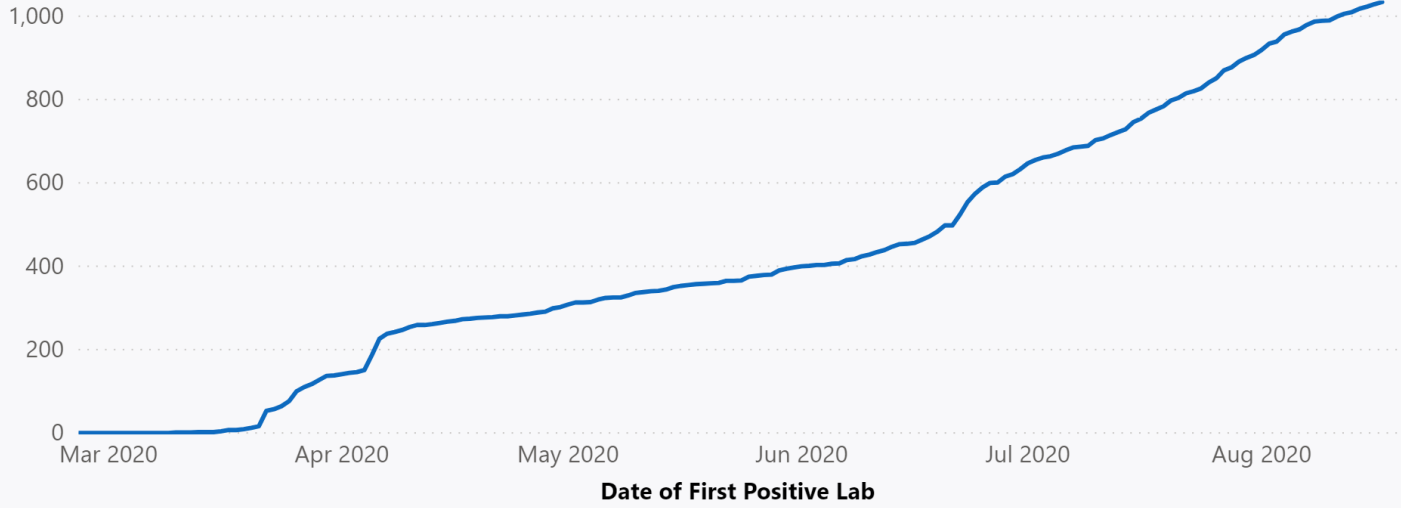


COVID-19 in Whatcom County
 Cumulative Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths

This chart includes the total number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 since January 21, 2020. The chart begins on February 28, which is when community transmission was first reported in Washington State.

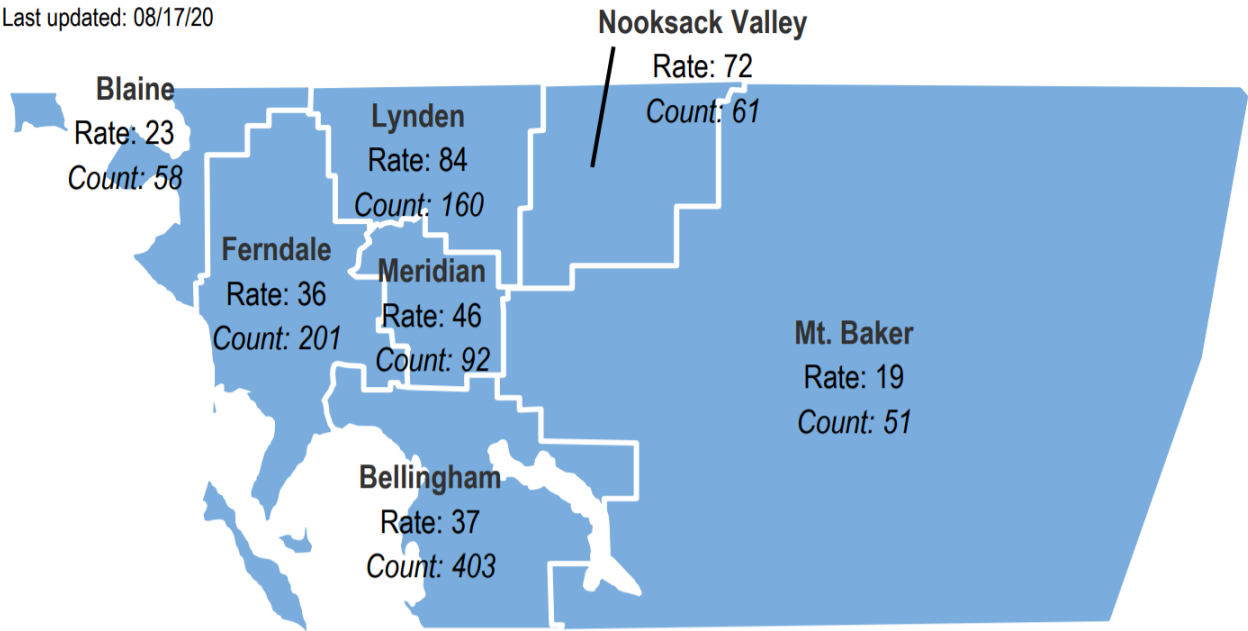
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Cumulative Case Counts



COVID-19 in Whatcom County, by School District Recent Two Week Case Rates & Cumulative Counts

Last updated: 08/17/20



Rate: Number of confirmed cases per 100,000 people for the past two weeks (8/2/20-8/15/20) *See [Data Explorer](#) for info

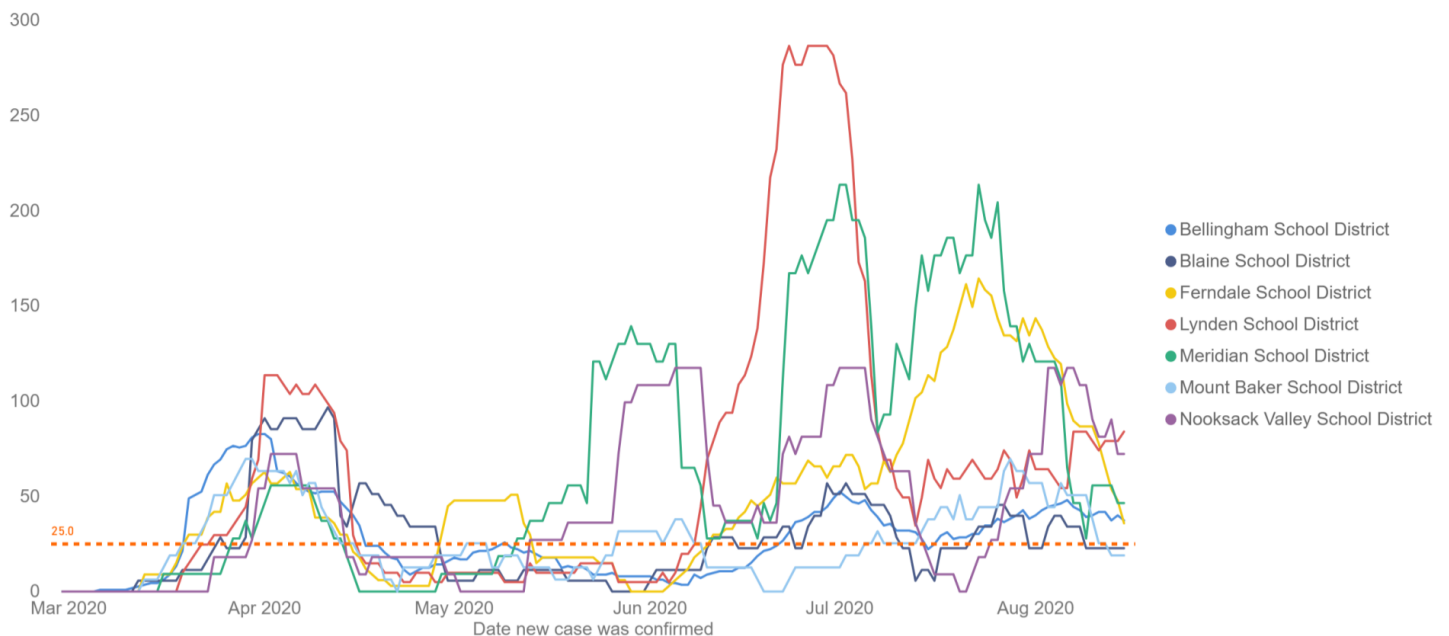
State Goal: Fewer than 25 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks

Count: Cumulative cases of COVID-19

- Limited testing may cause mapping to misrepresent the geographic impact of COVID-19 illness in Whatcom County.
- When analyzing data geographically, school districts are used as community boundaries because people often identify their community in connection to schools and school districts.

Newly diagnosed cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks, by Whatcom County School District Geography *see [Data Explorer](#) or [FAQs](#)

Goal: Fewer than 25 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks



Confirmed Cases and Deaths by Illness Onset Date, and Hospitalizations by Admission Date

Learn More

This chart shows the progression of the COVID-19 outbreak in Washington by cases, hospitalizations and deaths over time and is known as an epidemiologic curve. The epidemiologic curve is the curve referred to in the phrase, "flatten the curve."



The table includes cases, hospitalizations and deaths by County and Age Group. Given the sensitivity of the data, counties with 5 or fewer cases have been removed.

County	Cases	Hospitalizations	Deaths
Whatcom County			
Age 20-39	362	10	0
Age 40-59	243	22	1
Age 0-19	190	2	0
Age 60-79	145	27	7
Age 80+	84	18	31
Unknown Age	0	0	0

*Source: Whatcom County Health Department: <https://www.whatcomcounty.us/3329/Novel-Coronavirus-COVID-19>

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Data for PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center

Updated as of 8/19/2020:

- 0 confirmed positive COVID-19 patients
- 0 suspected COVID-19 patients
- 0 ventilators in use for COVID-19 positive patients
- 40 ventilators available
- 42 surge/overflow beds available
- 0% surge/overflow beds occupied

* The data reported is the most current information provided from PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center. Information is updated as soon as it is available.

WHATCOM COUNTY-HOSPITALIZATION COUNTS

COVID-19 in Whatcom County

Confirmed Cases and Deaths by Illness Onset Date, and Hospitalizations by Admission Date

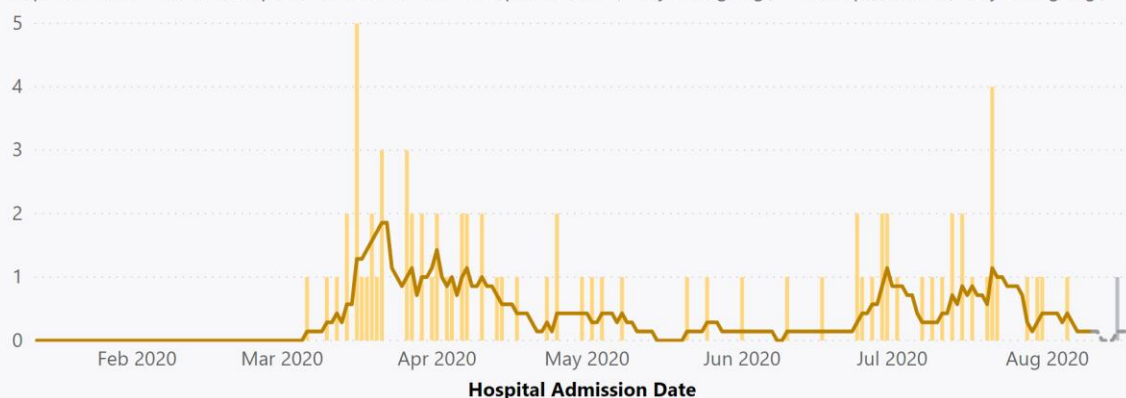
Learn More

This chart shows the progression of the COVID-19 outbreak in Washington by cases, hospitalizations and deaths over time and is known as an epidemiologic curve. The epidemiologic curve is the curve referred to in the phrase, "flatten the curve."



Hospitalizations Counts

● Hospitalizations ● Data incomplete for recent dates — Hospitalizations (7 day rolling avg.) — Incomplete data (7 day rolling avg.)



****Source: Washington State Department of Health**
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/DataDashboard>

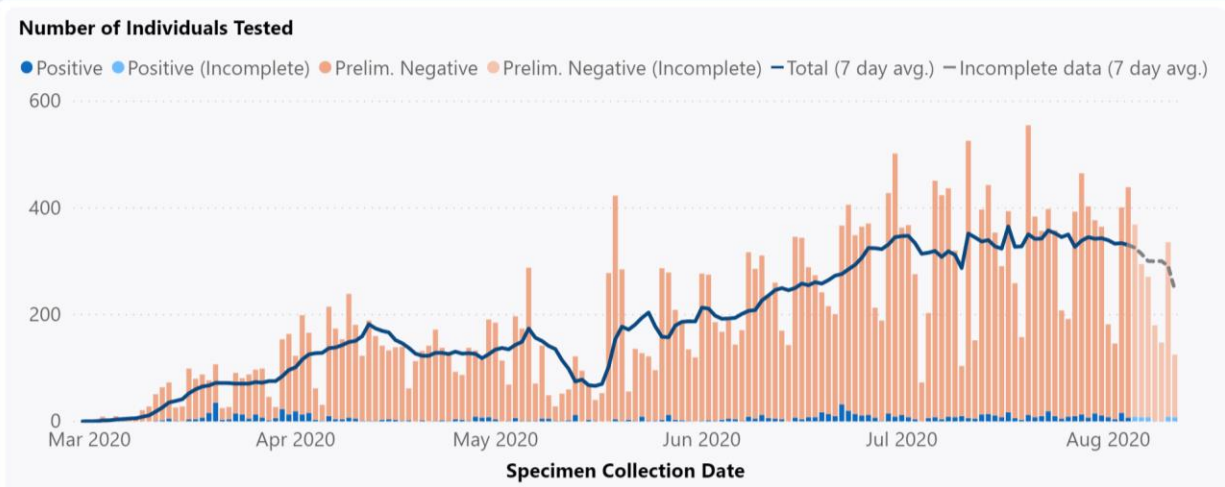
WHATCOM COUNTY-NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS TESTED

COVID-19 in Whatcom County

Number of Individuals Tested by Specimen Collection Date

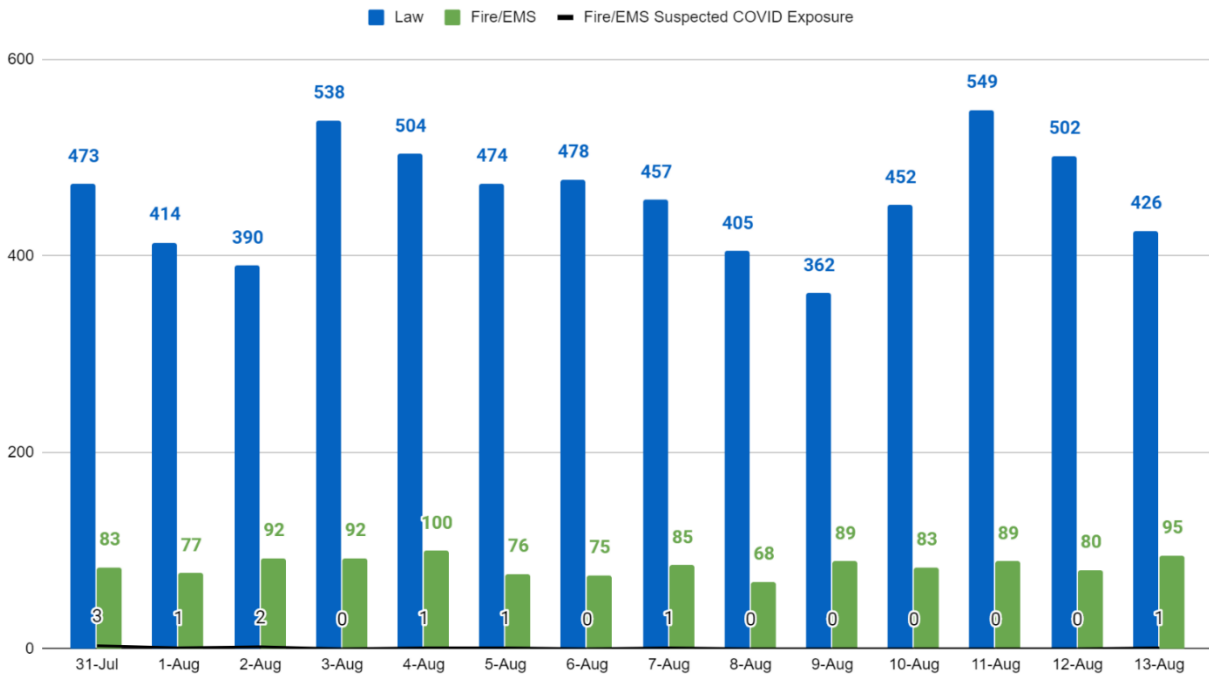
Testing for COVID-19 has been steadily increasing in Washington. Beginning in late March, drive-through testing became available in some communities, which increased testing availability.

Learn More



****Source: Washington State Department of Health**
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/DataDashboard>

14-Day 911 Calls for Law and Fire/EMS with Fire/EMS Suspected COVID Exposure, Whatcom County



*Note: A single incident can generate multiple 911 calls and incidents can occur without a 911 call.

**Source: Whatcom County EMS

COMMUNICATIONS

Incident Objective 6: Keep the public, stakeholders, and the media informed of response activities

The Whatcom Unified Command **Joint Information Center (JIC)** updates and maintains the Whatcom COVID-19 website as the central repository for the most up to date information regarding COVID-19 for Whatcom County residents. Updates are continually made to report on current health data, government recommendations and orders, and media coverage. All information has been verified to come from reputable sources. The JIC coordinates with partner agencies throughout the State to maintain consistency when reporting information.

Local Information (Coordinated through the JIC):

- WUC Whatcom COVID-19 website: <https://whatcomcovid.com/>
- Whatcom County Health Department website: <https://www.whatcomcounty.us/covid>
- Whatcom County News Flash: www.co.whatcom.wa.us
- [WUC Facebook](#)
- [WUC Twitter](#)
- [Whatcom County Health Department Facebook](#)

State and Federal Information

- [Governor Inslee's Proclamations:](#)
- [Washington State Department of Health provides guidance on wearing cloth face coverings](#)
- [Governor's phased approach](#)
- [Washington State face covering directive](#)
- [Washington State COVID-19 risk assessment dashboard](#)

JIC Updates

- WCHD Website (www.whatcomcounty.us/covid)
 - News flashes
 - [The Importance of Contact Tracing](#)
 - Updated [Resources for Businesses and Community Organizations](#) page
 - Press conference recording
 - [Whatcom County Health Department COVID-19 Press Briefing, August 18, 2020](#)
- Whatcom Unified Command website (www.whatcomcovid.com)
 - Responded to inquiries and posted daily Status Report
- Social Media Posts
 - WCHD Facebook Updates
 - [Contact Tracing: Why it's so important](#)
 - [Survey alert: Challenges and adjustments to COVID-19](#)
 - WUC Facebook Updates
- Other

Update from Whatcom County Health Department: Communicable Disease & Epidemiology update (includes disease investigation, contact tracing, testing, surveillance, etc)

- Most new cases are linked to existing cases.
- The [Provider Resources](#) website has helped get health information, such as health alerts or advisories, into the hands of health care providers quickly.

- It's important to continue to communicate about the need to immunize against vaccine-preventable communicable diseases. This includes vaccines for children, older adults, and influenza vaccine for the general public.

8-19-20

Local and State

- Bellingham Herald: [Which Whatcom age groups are being impacted by COVID the most this summer?](#) 8-19-20
- Bellingham Herald: [Here's how testing, tracing, masks and social distancing are paying off for Whatcom](#) 8-18-20
- Seattle Times: [Seattle fishing boat outbreak suggests antibodies protect against coronavirus infection](#) 8-18-20
- Seattle Times: [Smattering of COVID cases pop up on campuses as Washington colleges prepare for fall term](#) 8-19-20
- Seattle Times: [FHA mortgage delinquencies reach a record as borrowers lose their jobs in pandemic](#) 8-17-20
- Seattle Times: [COVID-19 plus measles? Kids aren't getting their vaccines, and doctors are worried](#) 8-19-20
- Spokesman Review: [As cases plateau in the Inland Northwest, older residents are hospitalized and die from the virus at higher rates](#) 8-18-20
- Tacoma News Tribune: [Nurse at Coyote Ridge in Connell describes 'petri dish' of 'inhumane conditions'](#) 8-18-20
- Tacoma News Tribune: [So a worker at a Pierce County business tests positive for COVID. What happens next?](#) 8-19-20

National

- The Guardian: [Female-led countries handled coronavirus better, study suggests](#) 8-18-20
- The Conversation: [Kids are bigger coronavirus spreaders than many doctors realized – here's how schools can lower the risk](#) 8-18-20
- NPR: [Yep, Masks And Protective Gear Are Still Hard To Get — Especially For Small Buyers](#) 8-19-20
- Route Fifty: [Cellphone Data Shows How Las Vegas Is 'Gambling With Lives' Across the Country](#) 8-18-20
- New York Times: [F.D.A.'s Emergency Approval of Blood Plasma Is Now on Hold](#) 8-19-20
- New York Times: [A relief proposal by Republicans would provide less money than their previous offers](#) 8-19-20
- New York Times: [Why Pooled Testing for the Coronavirus Isn't Working in America](#) 8-18-20
- New York Times: ['All In, All the Time': Reopening Florida Schools Is Likened to Military Operation](#) 8-19-20
- CBS News: [Large coronavirus outbreak linked to wedding reception in Maine](#) 8-19-20
- CNN: [A person with Covid-19 may have exposed others at a bar during Sturgis motorcycle rally](#) 8-19-20
- The Guardian: [Louisiana's Covid test proposal would exclude 'thousands' from mail-in voting: Election official wants to require a positive diagnosis for mail-in voters despite lags in testing](#) 8-19-20

Upcoming and Continuing JIC Priorities

- Continue with [mask messaging and information](#)
- Update content for the [Resources for Businesses and Community Organizations page](#)
- Communication about [Phase 2 and Safe Start](#)
- Help set expectations for progression of phased reopening
- Continue to prioritize messaging based on current Incident Objectives
- Work with Liaison to develop a plan for distribution of communication materials for community groups.
- Increase messaging for Spanish-speakers
- Increase messaging for young adults including via social marketing
- Greater outreach to farming and farmworker communities
- Communicate about testing access
- Greater outreach to faith-based communities
- Support WUC partnership work, including Border Task Force, small cities mayors meetings, etc.

WHATCOM UNIFIED COMMAND INFORMATION

INCIDENT OBJECTIVES: Operational Period 18

1. Anticipate and develop plans to address additional waves of COVID-19 infections.
2. Prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
3. Provide for the most vulnerable members of the community.
4. Ensure adequacy of First Responder/Healthcare personnel and equipment/supplies.
5. Support maintenance of Phase 2 status for Whatcom County.
6. Keep the public, stakeholders, and the media informed of response activities.
7. Manage a coordinated interagency response effort that reflects the makeup of Unified Command.

SOURCES & RELEVANT SITES

IAP Software

WADOH Daily Epi Report

WADOH Map: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/3614241b1c2b4e519ae1cf52e2c3d560>

Whatcom County Health Department <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/3329/Novel-Coronavirus-COVID-19#case>

Whatcom County EMS

Washington State Hospital Association- Hospital Supply Tracker

Whatcom County Health Department Situation Reports

Washington: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus>

British Columbia: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

Alaska: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/monitoring.aspx>

California: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

Hawaii: <https://hawaii-covid19.com/>

Idaho: <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/>

Oregon: <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>

Global: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

SECTION UPDATES

LOGISTICS

1. Continuing to provide support and supplies to Byron Avenue I/Q facility.
2. Continuing to reconfirm and validate previously identified I/Q facilities for potential future needs.
3. Continuing to research and compile sourcing options for PPE and connecting customers directly to distributors on our supply list, when feasible.
4. Continuing to interact with the state for meeting PPE requirements.
5. Continuing to support staffing for ongoing, weekly food delivery efforts.
6. Providing resources, support, and volunteer staffing needed for the Whatcom County Health Department's mobile COVID-19 testing program.
7. Establishing a traffic flow plan and inventory checklist to enhance the setup, take down, and accessibility of the mobile testing site.
8. Working on providing cloth face masks to each school district within Whatcom County.

OPERATIONS

1. Supporting Wednesday's scheduled food stocking efforts and providing traffic control support during scheduled food distribution efforts.
2. Continuing operations of the Byron Avenue I/Q facility with the admittance of community members needing isolation/quarantine.
3. Working towards making rooms at Byron Avenue I/Q facility operable at double capacity to increase the number of beds available for individuals.
4. Working in coordination with the Whatcom County Health Department to support the mobile COVID-19 testing program.

PLANNING

1. Continue to meet with the Healthcare Coalition to monitor regional planning for COVID-19 medical surge and medical isolation/quarantine facilities.
2. Working with the Food Security Branch, the Bellingham Food Bank, and the Opportunity Council to transfer food distribution support for the home delivery program by the end of August to a sustainable model provided by other community agencies.
3. Working with Bellingham Food Bank and Bellingham School District on a potential school district location to be utilized for food distribution.
4. Working in collaboration with members of the Whatcom Health Department and local healthcare professionals on management and dissemination of COVID-19 data.
5. Working in collaboration with the Logistics section to expand the pool of volunteers being utilized for volunteer staffing.
6. Preparing the Incident Action Plan for upcoming Operational Period 19.

REPORT PREPARED BY:
Situation Unit

REPORT APPROVED BY:
Incident Command

DATE:
08/19/20

TIME:
16:00