

# WHATCOM UNIFIED SITUATION REPORT



<b>REPORT #:</b> 20201209.1	<b>DATE:</b> 12/09/2020	<b>TIME:</b> 16:00
<b>INCIDENT NAME:</b> COVID-2019	<b>OPERATIONAL PERIOD:</b> 26	<b>MISSION NUMBER:</b> 20-0265

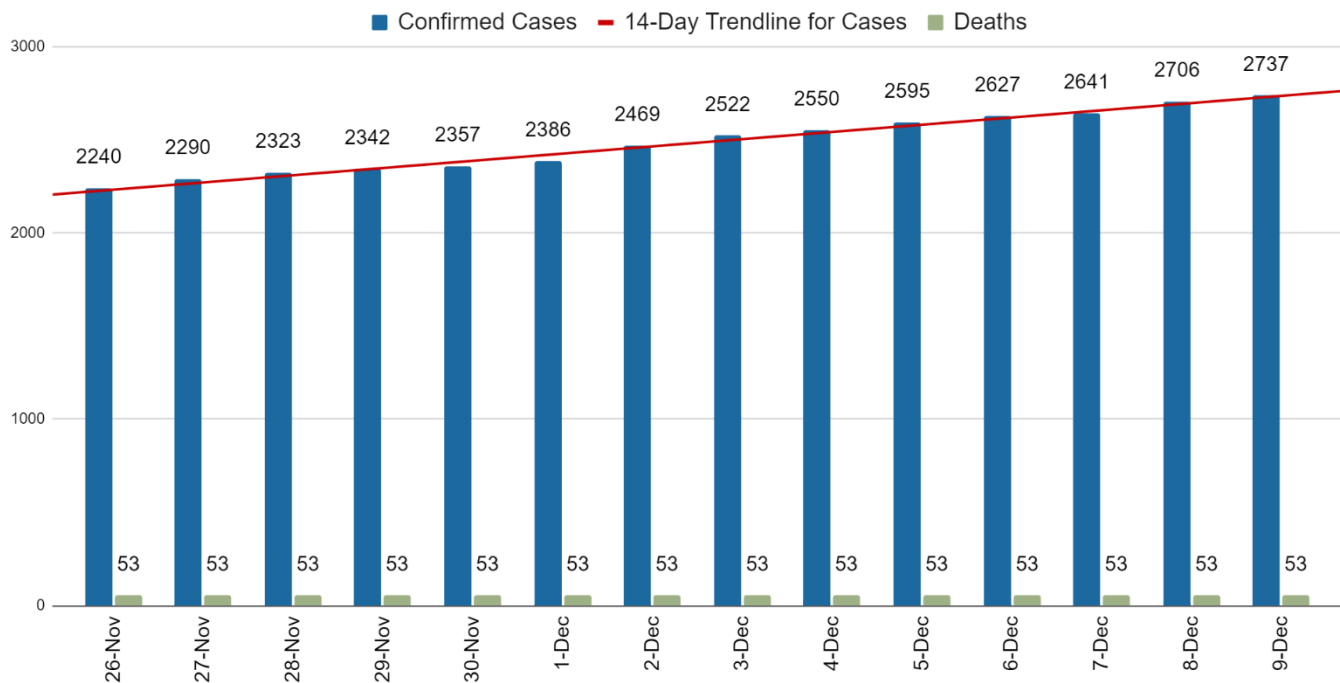
## WHATCOM UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND STATUS

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

ICS 202

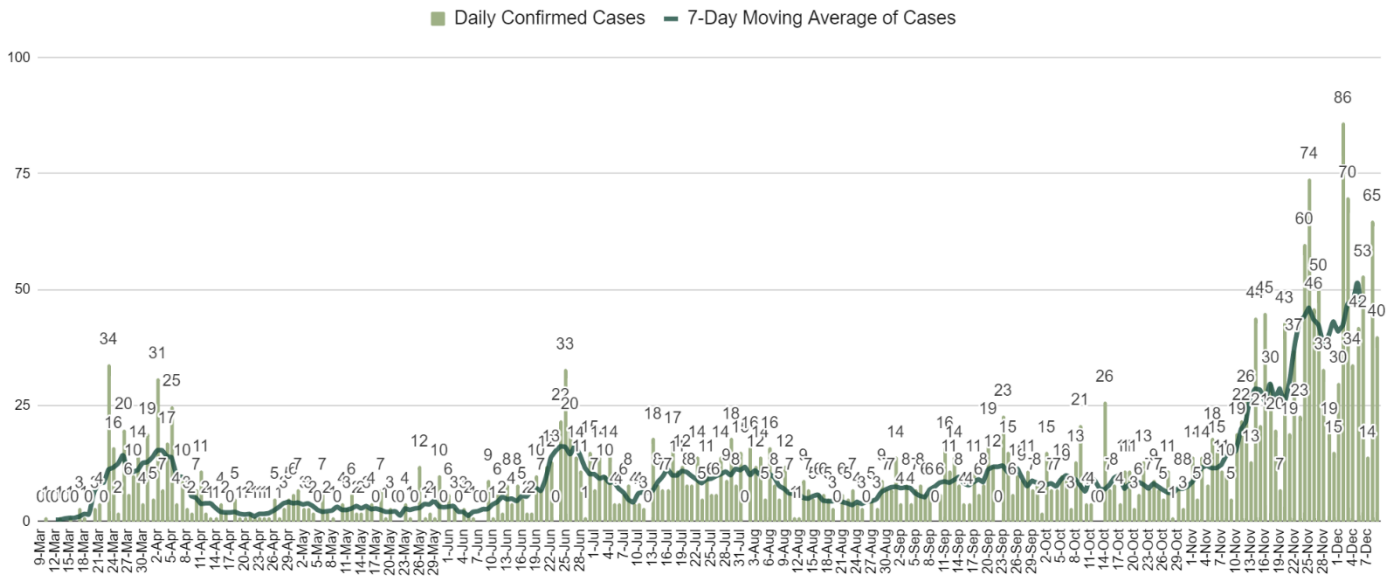
**14-Day COVID-19 Confirmed Total Cases and Deaths, Whatcom County**



DATE	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
<b>12/09/2020*</b>	2737	53
<b>12/08/2020*</b>	2706	53
<b>12/07/2020</b>	2641	53
<b>12/06/2020</b>	2627	53
<b>12/05/2020</b>	2595	53

*\*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 12/07/2020.*

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

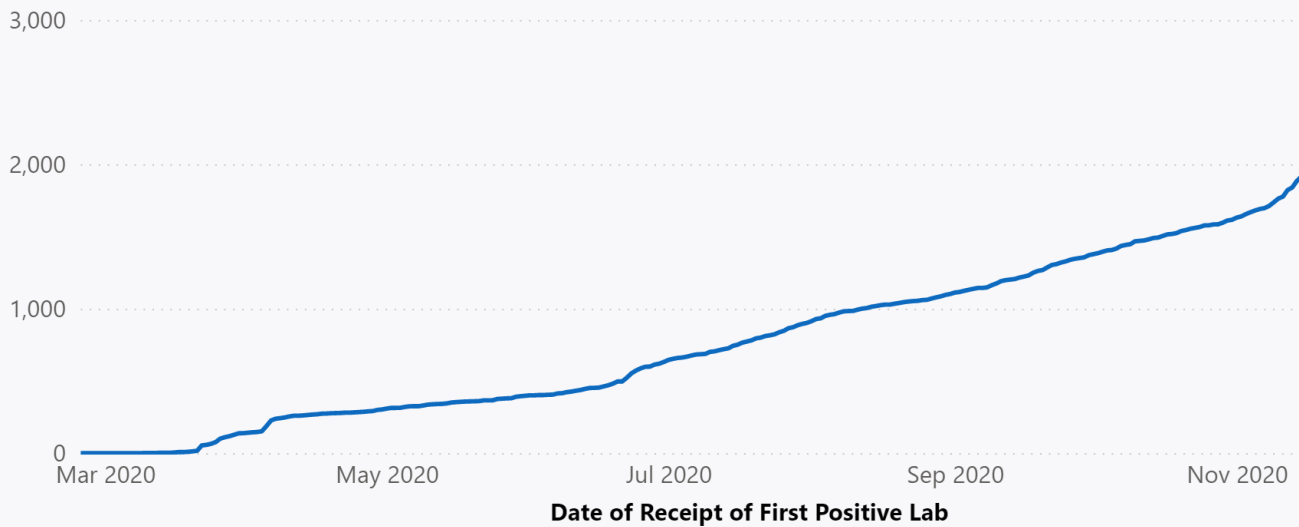


### COVID-19 in Whatcom County

#### Cumulative Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths

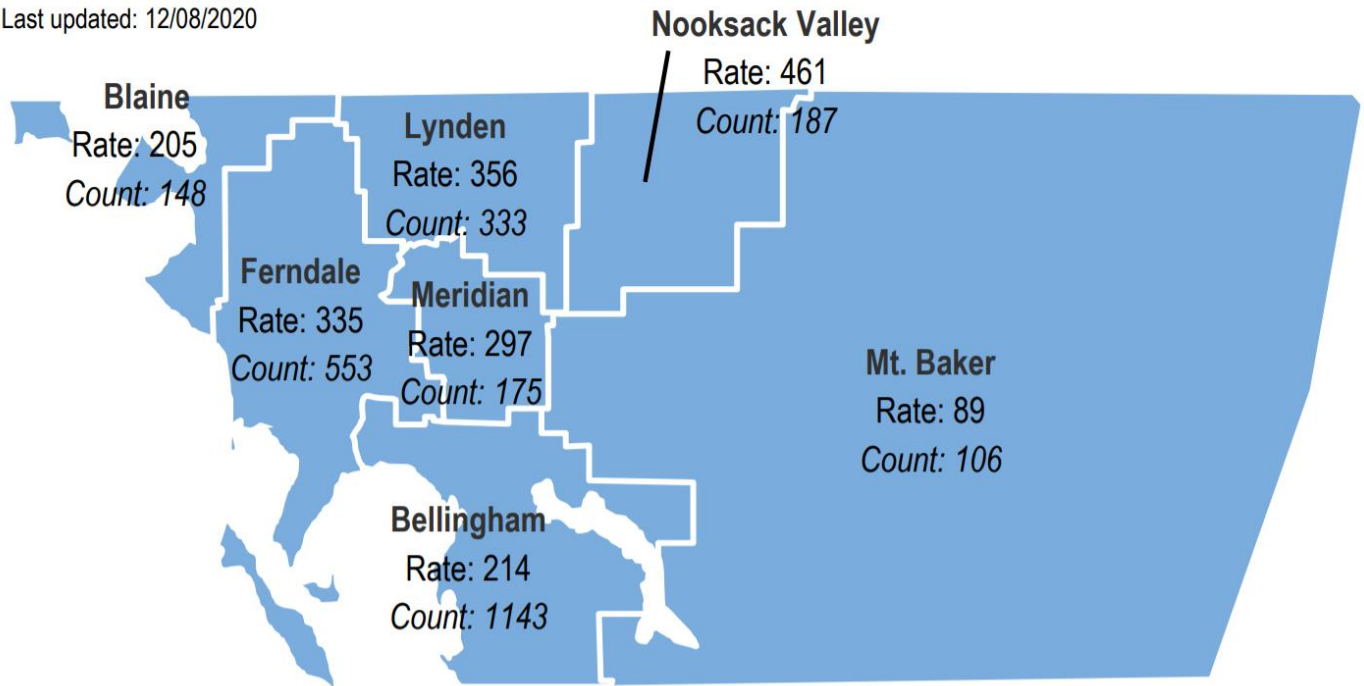
This chart includes the total number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 since January 21, 2020. The chart begins on February 28, which is when community transmission was first reported in Washington State.

#### Cumulative Case Counts



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

Last updated: 12/08/2020



**Rate:** Number of confirmed cases per 100,000 people for the past two weeks (11/22-12/05/20) \*See [Data Explorer](#) for info

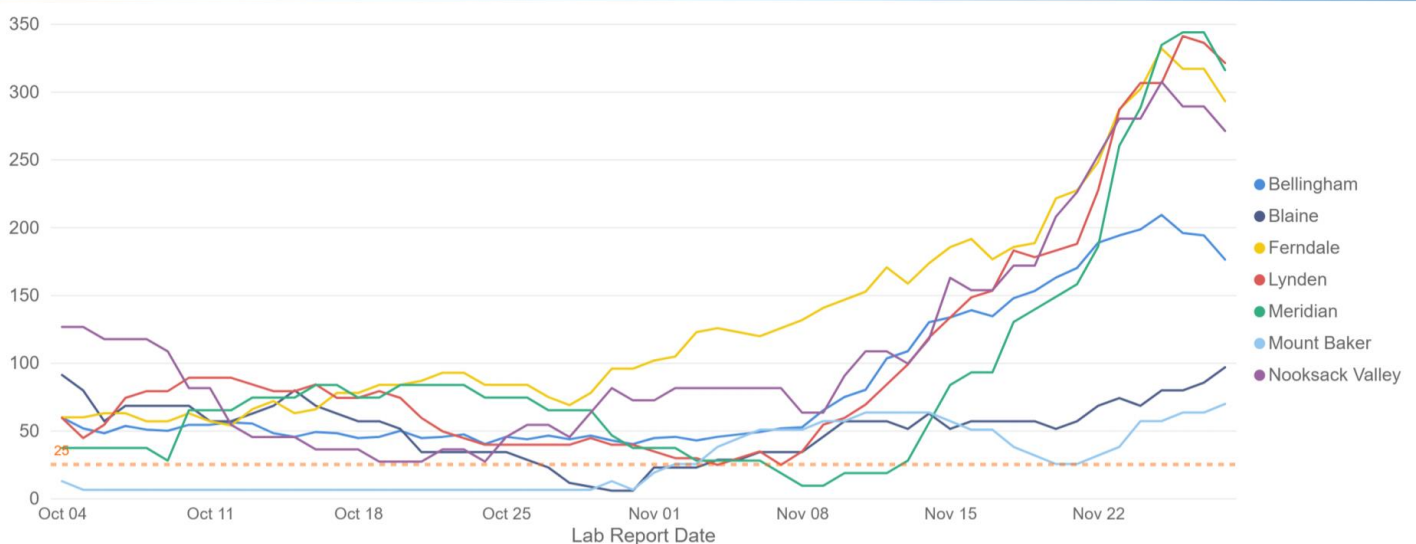
**State Goal:** Fewer than 25 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks

**Count:** Cumulative cases of COVID-19

## Newly confirmed COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks, by Whatcom County School District Boundaries \*see [Data Explorer](#) or [FAQs](#)

**Data for the previous 8 weeks, 10/11/2020 - 12/05/2020**

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



School district boundaries are used as geographical sub-units and are not indicators of transmission within schools.

County	Cases	Hospitalizations	Deaths
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whatcom County			
Age 20-39	1,009	21	0
Age 40-59	649	44	2
Age 0-19	493	3	0
Age 60-79	359	58	9
Age 80+	131	30	45
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 12/09/2020:

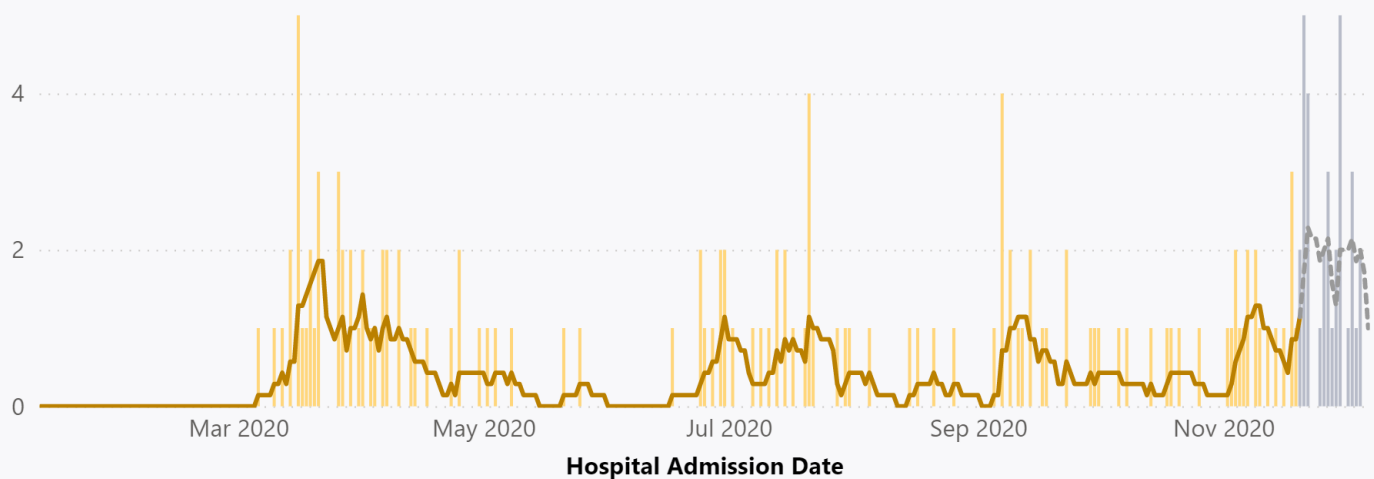
- 15 confirmed positive COVID-19 patients
- 0 suspected COVID-19 patients
- 2 ventilators in use for COVID-19 positive patients
- 41 ventilators available
- 42 surge/overflow beds available
- 0% surge/overflow beds occupied

\* 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

#### Hospitalizations Counts

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



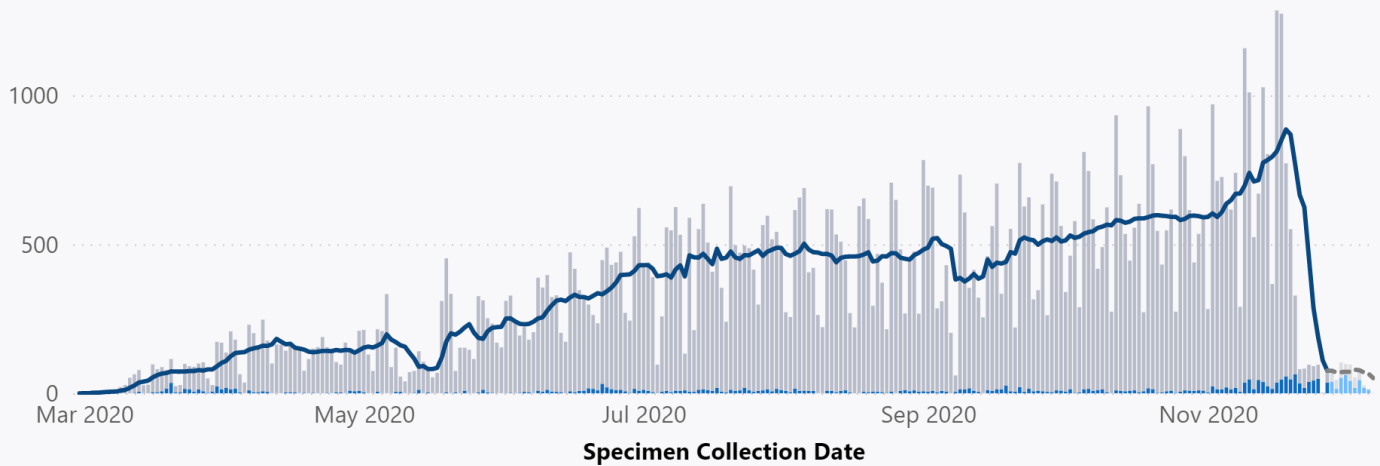
\*\*Source: Washington State Department of Health

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/DataDashboard>

## WHATCOM COUNTY-NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS TESTED

### Number of Tested

● Positive ● Positive (Incomplete) ● Negative ● Negative (Incomplete) — Total (7 day rolling avg.) — Incomplete data (7 day rolling avg.)



*\*\*Source: Washington State Department of Health2*

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/DataDashboard>

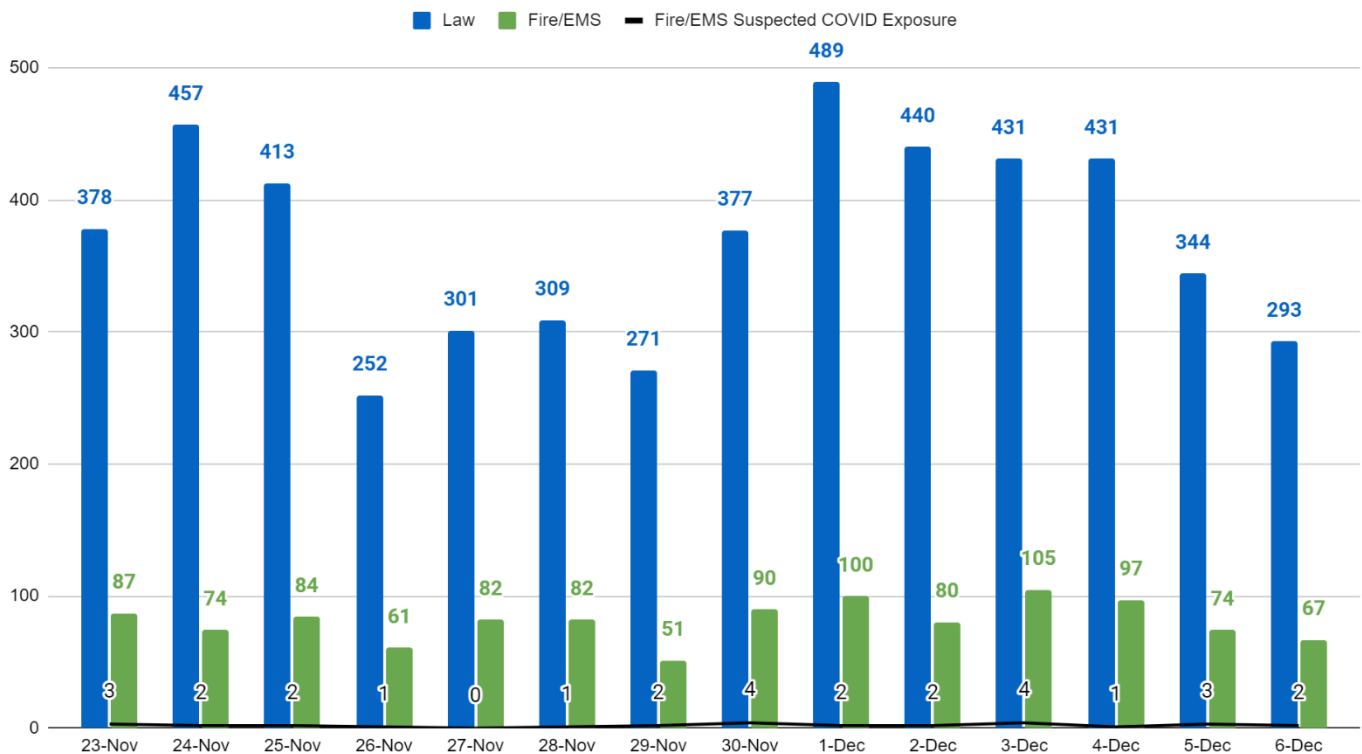
## Whatcom County Community Mobile COVID-19 Testing Results

Data updated through 12/05/2020

Test Collection Week (Week Ending Date)	Negative Result	Positive Result	Total Tests	Percent Positive
2020-12-05	2027	103	2130	4.8 %
2020-11-28	2095	68	2163	3.1 %
2020-11-21	2357	69	2426	2.8 %
2020-11-14	1707	77	1784	4.3 %
2020-11-07	1481	29	1510	1.9 %
2020-10-31	1278	22	1300	1.7 %
2020-10-24	1230	27	1257	2.1 %
2020-10-17	1321	20	1341	1.5 %
2020-10-10	1212	20	1232	1.6 %
2020-10-03	1070	8	1078	0.7 %
2020-09-26	1033	14	1047	1.3 %
2020-09-19	620	10	630	1.6 %
2020-09-12	448	14	462	3.0 %
2020-09-05	1068	20	1088	1.8 %
2020-08-29	831	13	844	1.5 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>19778</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>20292</b>	<b>2.5 %</b>

<https://www.whatcomcounty.us/3486/COVID-19-Mobile-Testing-Data>

## 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](http://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](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/covid)
  - [Weekly data charts updated](#)
  - [Updated mobile testing data](#)
  - [12.8.20 Media Briefing](#)
- Whatcom Unified Command website [www.whatcomcovid.com](http://www.whatcomcovid.com)
  - Responded to inquiries and posted daily Status Report
- Social Media Posts
  - WCHD & WUC
    - [Current restrictions extended until January 4](#)
    - [SARA Alert info](#)

**12-9-2020**

## Local and State

- Bellingham Herald: [Whatcom sees 31 more COVID-19 cases Tuesday, high transmission rate at Thanksgiving](#) - 12-8-20
- Bellingham Herald: [Here's how Bellingham's hospital will handle a surge in serious COVID-19 patients](#) - 12-9-20
- KGMI: [State extends COVID-19 restrictions on dining, gyms](#) - 12-8-20
- Lynden Tribune: [Here's the plan, for now, on the vaccine in WA](#) - 12-9-20
- Skagit Valley Herald: [COVID-19 restrictions extended as new cases continue to climb](#) - 12-9-20
- Seattle Times: [Gov. Inslee extends Washington's COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, restaurants, gyms](#) - 12-8-20
- Spokesman Review: [More than 1,100 new COVID-19 cases reported in Inland NW on Tuesday](#) - 12-8-20
- Crosscut: [WA inmates say they're retaliated against for getting COVID-19](#) - 12-9-20
- Walla Walla Union-Bulletin: [Washington state report notes virus impact on child welfare](#) - 12-9-20

## National

- AP: [US virus deaths hit record levels with the holidays ahead](#) - 12-9-20
- NPR: [U.K. Regulators Tell People With Severe Allergies Not To Get Vaccine](#) - 12-9-20
- Washington Post: [For the first time, the U.S. will reward nursing homes for controlling the spread of infectious disease](#) - 12-9-20
- NY Times: [Data shows intensive care beds are nearing capacity across the U.S.](#) - 12-9-20
- USA Today: [Trading COVID-19 vaccines. Regular deliveries. Tracking doses. What we know about Operation Warp Speed distribution process.](#) - 12-8-20
- ABC News: [AP-NORC poll: Only half in US want shots as vaccine nears](#) - 12-9-20
- CBS News: [Four of the deadliest days in U.S. history were reported last week](#) - 12-9-20

## Upcoming and Continuing JIC Priorities

- Continue with [mask messaging and information](#).
- Communicate about flu vaccines.
- Communicate about upcoming holidays, staying home, and not gathering.
- Help set expectations for progression of phased reopening.
- Continue to prioritize messaging based on current Incident Objectives.
- Work to distribute communication materials for community groups.
- Increase messaging for Spanish-speakers.
- Increase messaging for young adults including via social marketing.
- Increase outreach to farming and farmworker communities.
- Communicate about testing access.



- Increase outreach to faith-based communities.
- Support WUC partnership work, including Border Task Force, small cities Mayor's meetings, etc.

## WHATCOM UNIFIED COMMAND INFORMATION

### INCIDENT OBJECTIVES: Operational Period 26

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 and recovery effort.

## 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://hawaiiicovid19.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. Support volunteer staffing needs for ongoing, weekly food distribution efforts.
2. Provide resources, support, and volunteer staffing needed for the community-wide low barrier COVID-19 mobile testing program.
3. Complete modification of the Byron Ave I/Q facility fencing and security.
4. Manage PPE and other response resource inventories to meet current and anticipated community needs.
5. Coordinate with Operations and Planning on I/Q surge.
6. Evaluate additional WUC staging area needs in anticipation of increased resource storage, handling and distribution activities.

### OPERATIONS

1. Support Wednesday's scheduled food stocking efforts and food distribution programs.
2. Continue operations of the Byron Avenue I/Q facility for community members needing isolation/quarantine. Currently, 10 rooms are occupied. Cumulatively, the I/Q facility has provided a total of 1,125 bed days of service for 141 community members.
3. Continue to implement the community low barrier COVID-19 testing program.
4. Identify and implement modifications of Byron Ave I/Q facility services to increase efficiency and security measures.
5. Continue daily operations supported by the communicable disease division at WCHD for case identification, interviewing, contact tracing, community mitigation, and isolation and quarantine work.
6. Refine process and identify resources to support outbreak assessment and testing in congregate settings.
7. Work in collaboration with North Sound Accountable Community of Health to provide care and food kits to vulnerable community members.

### PLANNING

1. Continue to plan for Whatcom County's coordinated, collaborative and community approach for COVID-19 medical surge response.
2. Ongoing review and update of the medical surge status report.
3. Coordinate with local and regional healthcare agencies to plan for future COVID-19 vaccination.
4. Prepare first draft of COVID Vaccination Plan.
5. Assist food security community partner agencies in transitioning their food distribution programs to self-supported, sustainable operations.
6. Coordinate with Logistics and Operations on staging area needs for PPE.
7. Conduct daily data entry, analyzation and reporting to support and inform Operations.
8. Collaborate with PeaceHealth on hospitalization data.
9. Coordinate with Operations and Logistics to plan for the potential need of additional I/Q beds.
10. Develop a transportation and safety plan for individuals that need to be transferred to the Byron Ave I/Q Facility.

**REPORT PREPARED BY:**  
Situation Unit

**REPORT APPROVED BY:**  
Incident Command

**DATE:**  
12/09/20

**TIME:**  
16:00