

# WHATCOM UNIFIED SITUATION REPORT



<b>REPORT #:</b> 20210115.1	<b>DATE:</b> 01/15/2021	<b>TIME:</b> 16:00
<b>INCIDENT NAME:</b> COVID-2019	<b>OPERATIONAL PERIOD:</b> 28	<b>MISSION NUMBER:</b> 20-0265

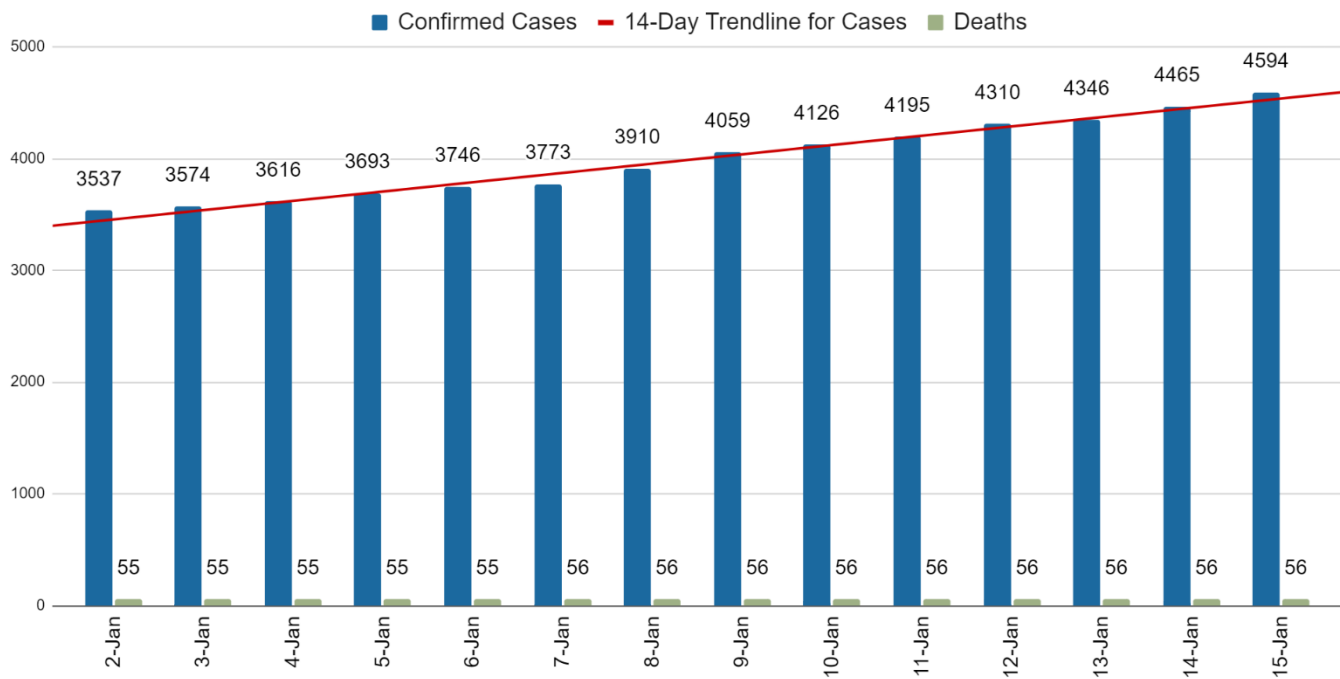
## WHATCOM UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND STATUS

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

## GENERAL SITUATION

ICS 202

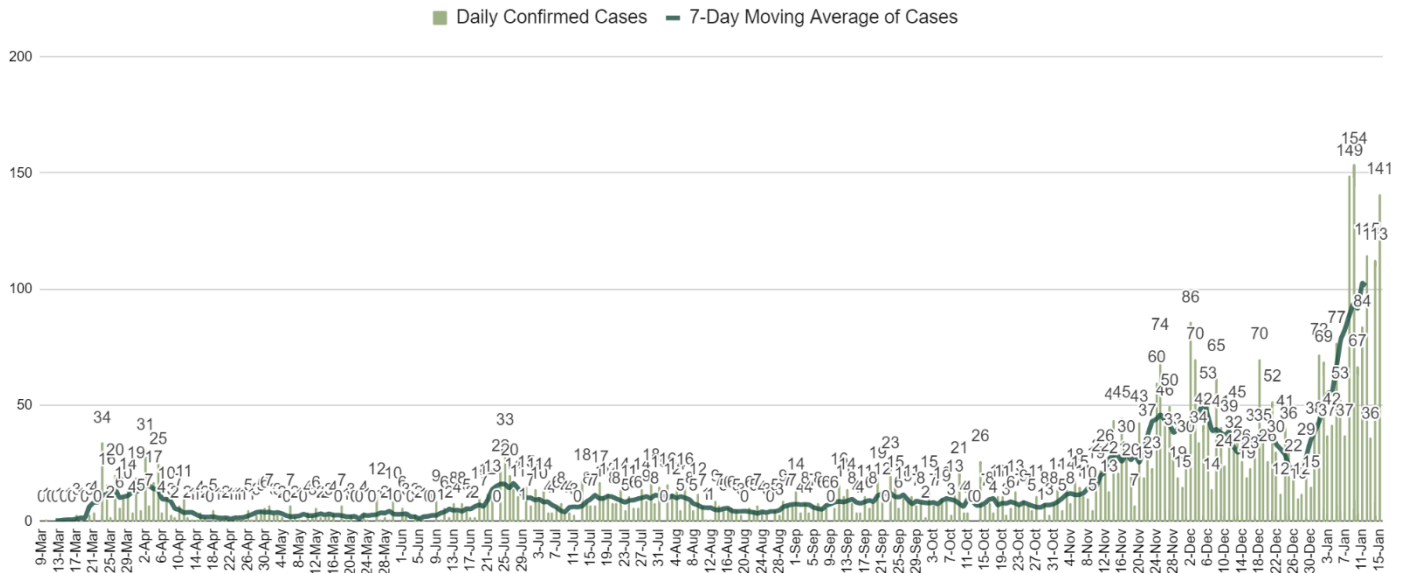
**14-Day COVID-19 Confirmed Total Cases and Deaths, Whatcom County**



DATE	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
1/15/2021*	4594	56
1/14/2021*	4465	56
1/13/2021	4357	56
1/12/2021	4310	56
1/11/2021	4195	56

\*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 1/13/2021.

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

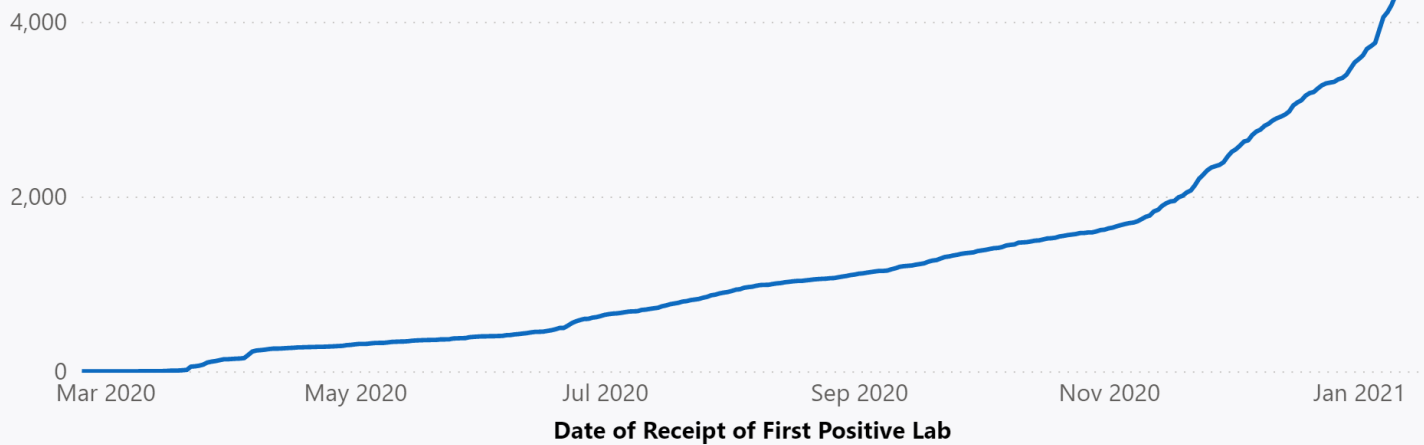


### COVID-19 in Whatcom County

#### Cumulative Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths

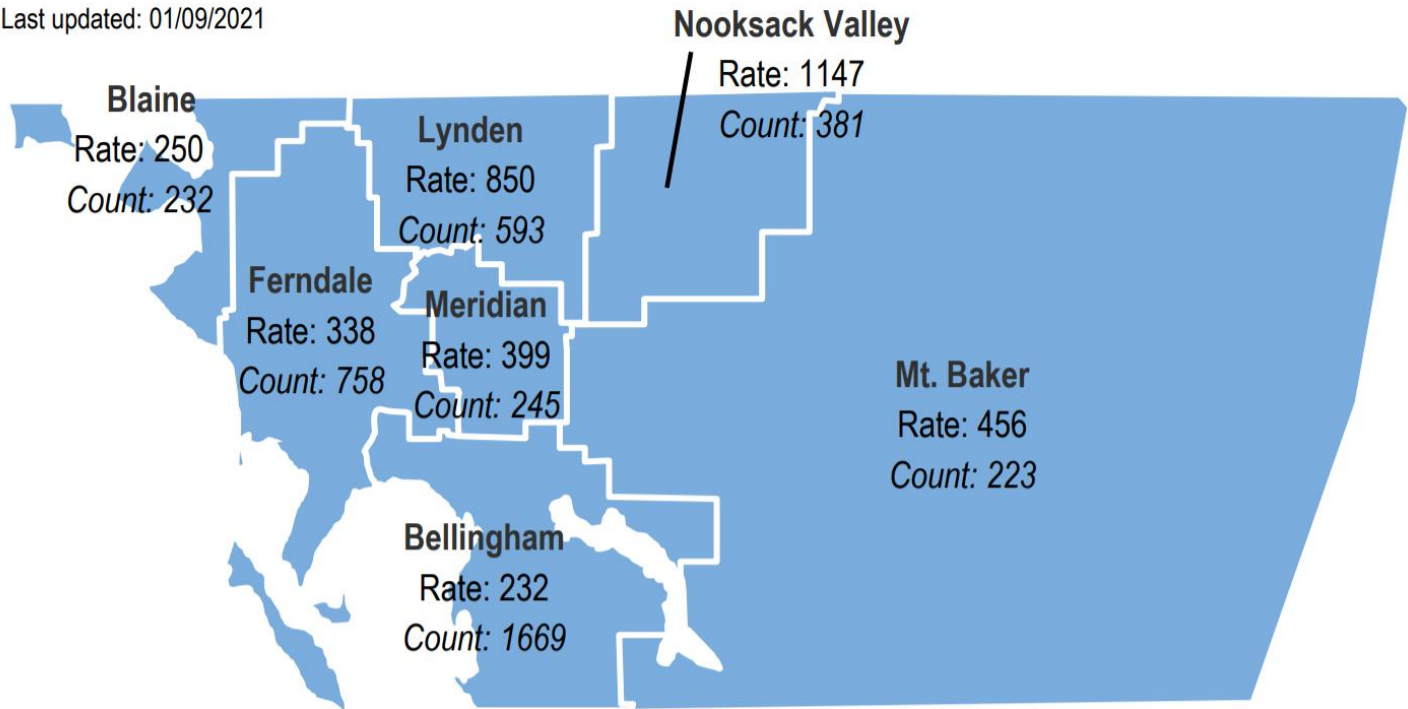
This chart includes the total number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 since January 21, 2020. The chart begins on February 28, which is when community transmission was first reported in Washington State.

#### Cumulative Case Counts



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

Last updated: 01/09/2021



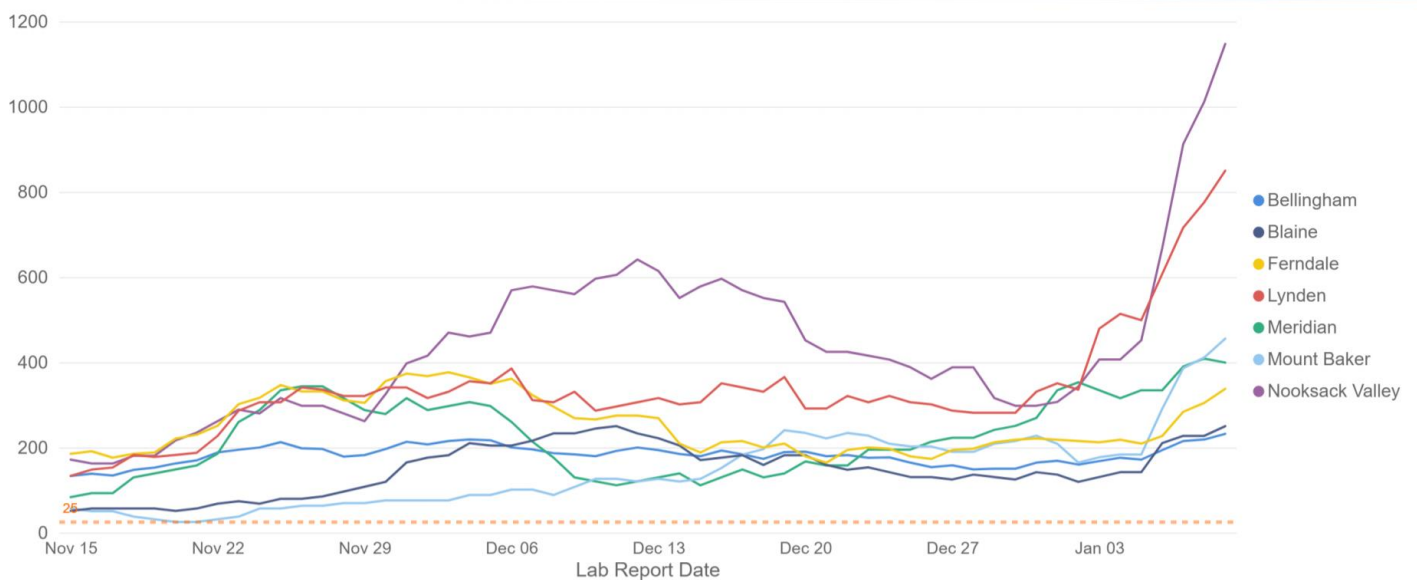
**Rate:** Number of confirmed cases per 100,000 people for the past two weeks (12/27/20-1/9/21) \*See [Data Explorer](#) for info

**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, 11/15/2020 - 01/09/2021



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	1,633	27	0
Age 40-59	1,076	55	2
Age 0-19	919	6	0
Age 60-79	572	78	12
Age 80+	173	46	42
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 1/15/2021:

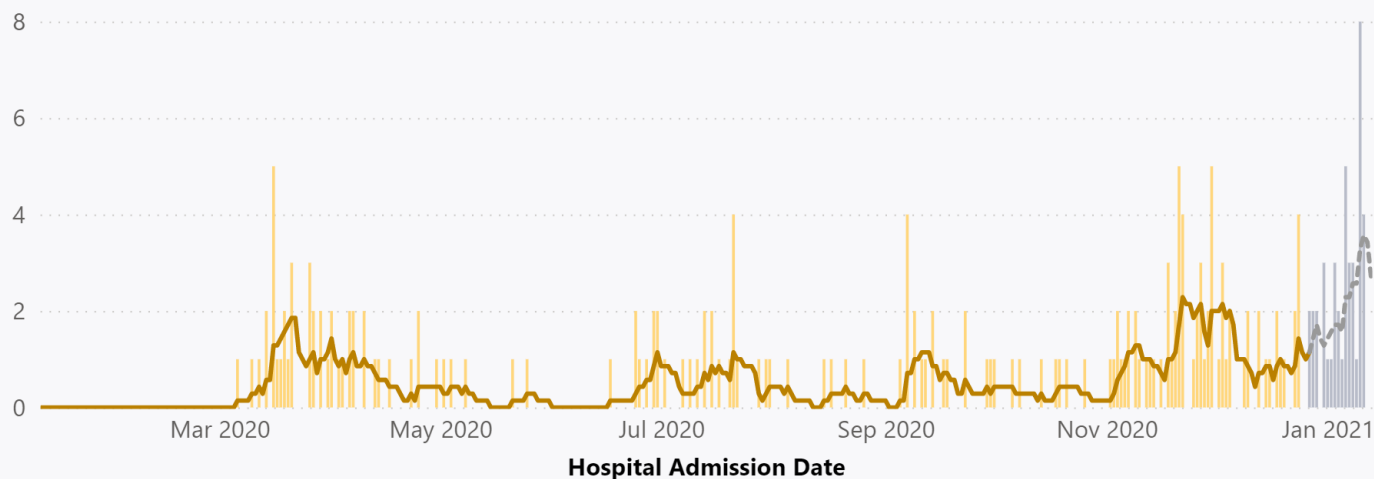
- 22 confirmed positive COVID-19 patients
- 0 suspected COVID-19 patients
- 0 ventilators in use for COVID-19 positive patients
- 40 ventilators available
- 42 surge/overflow beds available
- 0% surge/overflow beds occupied

*\* 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

#### Hospitalizations Counts

● Hospitalizations ● Incomplete — Hospitalizations (7 day avg.) — Incomplete (7 day avg.)



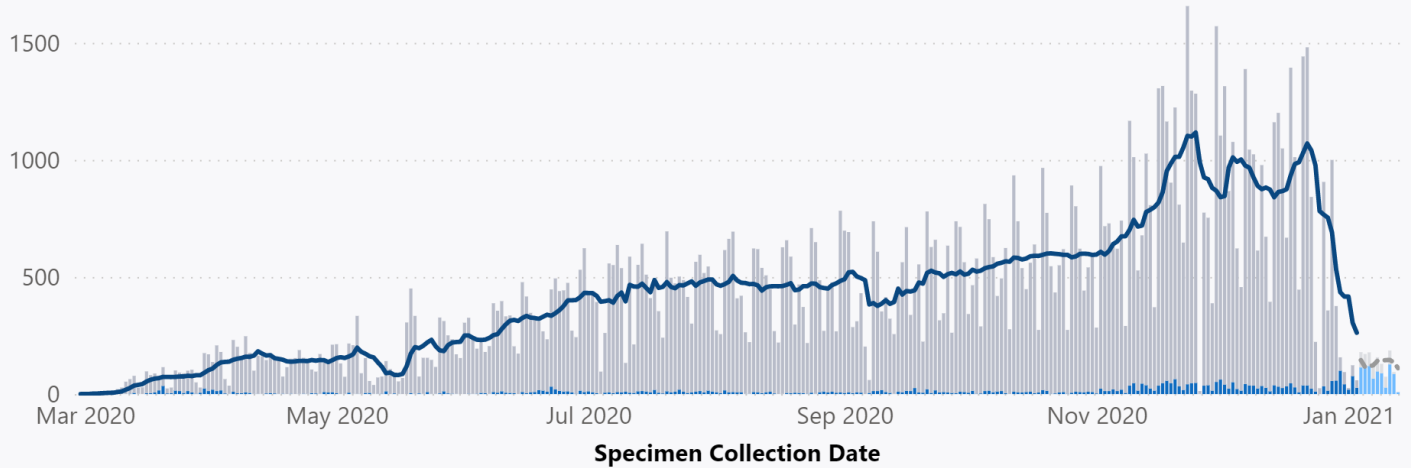
*\*\*Source: Washington State Department of Health*

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

## WHATCOM COUNTY-NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS TESTED

### Number of Molecular Tests

● 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>

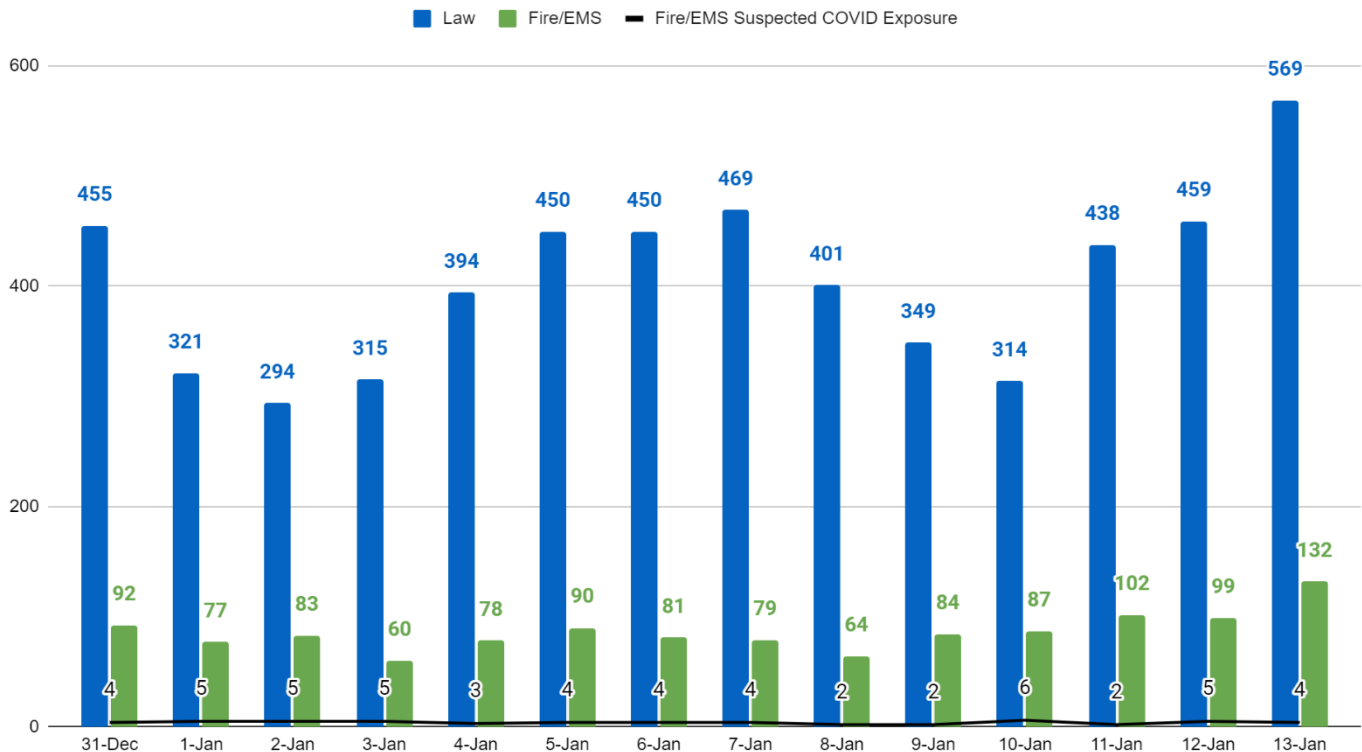
## Whatcom County Community Testing Program Results

Data updated through 01/09/2021

Test Collection Week (Week Ending Date)	Negative Result	Positive Result	Total Tests	Percent Positive
2021-01-09	2669	265	2934	8.8 %
2021-01-02	2045	159	2204	7.2 %
2020-12-26	2306	79	2385	3.3 %
2020-12-19	2862	86	2948	2.9 %
2020-12-12	2152	65	2217	2.9 %
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 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>29465</b>	<b>1121</b>	<b>30586</b>	<b>3.6 %</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)
- Whatcom Unified Command website [www.whatcomcovid.com](http://www.whatcomcovid.com)
  - Responded to inquiries and posted daily Status Report
- Social Media Posts: WCHD & WUC
  - [Vaccine plan update](#)
  - [Who is in your bubble?](#)

#### Local and State Headlines

- Bellingham Herald: [Whatcom surges past 1,000 confirmed COVID cases in 2021 with 128 reported Thursday](#) - 1-15-21
- Bellingham Herald: [As COVID vaccinations readied to move to the next phase, this is what Whatcom can expect](#) - 1-14-21
- KGMI: Interviews with Erika Lautenbach, [Major Post-Holiday COVID-19 Surge](#) and [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility](#) - 1-11-21
- Northern Light: [Covid-19 cases increasing at alarming rate, health officials say](#) - 1-12-21
- Northern Light: [Vaccines distribution continues in county with 9,200 doses delivered](#) - 1-13-21
- Lynden Tribune: [COVID cases soar in north county](#) - 1-14-21
- Skagit Valley Herald: [Skagit County plans move to next phase of COVID-19 vaccinations](#) - 1-15-21
- Skagit Valley Herald: [County ends talks about COVID-19 civil penalties](#) - 1-15-21
- Seattle Times: [Editorial: State must come clean about delayed COVID-19 vaccine rollout](#) - 1-15-21

#### National Headlines

- Washington Post: [Vaccine reserve was already exhausted when Trump administration vowed to release it, dashing hopes of expanded access](#) - 1-15-21
- AP: [Online sign-ups complicate vaccine rollout for older people](#) - 1-15-21
- CNN: [CVS and Walgreens under fire for slow pace of vaccination in nursing homes](#) - 1-15-21
- Fox News: [Coronavirus to cut US life expectancy by over a year, study estimates](#) - 1-15-21
- NPR: [Mask-Wearing, Social Distancing Improve, But Too Slowly, Survey Shows](#) - 1-15-21
- Bloomberg: [Do-It-Yourself States Have the Edge in Vaccinations](#) - 1-15-21
- New York Post: [Newly identified strain of COVID in US may be most contagious yet](#) - 1-14-21

#### Upcoming and Continuing JIC Priorities

- Communicate about COVID-19 vaccine distribution, allocation, and safety.
- Communicate about testing access.
- Communicate about flu vaccines.
- Continue with messaging around non-pharmaceutical interventions.
- Increase messaging for Spanish speakers.
- Increase messaging for young adults including via social marketing.
- Increase outreach to farming and farmworker communities.
- Increase outreach to faith-based communities.



## WHATCOM UNIFIED COMMAND INFORMATION

### INCIDENT OBJECTIVES: Operational Period 28

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 low barrier COVID-19 testing program and outbreak testing team.
3. Manage PPE and other response resource inventories to meet current and anticipated community needs.
4. Coordinate with Operations and Planning on potential need for additional I/Q surge facility.
5. Provide consumables to meet the needs at Byron Avenue I/Q facility.

### OPERATIONS

1. Support Friday'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, 4 rooms are occupied. Cumulatively, the I/Q facility has provided a total of 1,843 bed days of service for 210 community members.
3. Continue to implement the community low barrier COVID-19 testing program.
4. Implement process to identify resources to support outbreak assessment and testing in congregate settings.
5. Identify and implement modifications of Byron Ave I/Q facility services to increase efficiency and security measures.
6. Continue daily operations supported by the communicable disease division at WCHD for case identification, interviewing, contact tracing, community mitigation, and isolation and quarantine work.
7. Work in collaboration with North Sound Accountable Community of Health to distribute care and food kits to vulnerable community members.
8. Coordinate with Whatcom County Human Resources to create sustainable plan for transfer of persons to the I/Q facility.
9. Work with the Incident Safety Officer to review safety plans for I/Q facility transportation, outbreak testing, and the community testing program.

### PLANNING

1. Continue to monitor Whatcom County's coordinated, collaborative and community approach for COVID-19 medical surge response.
2. Review and update the medical surge status report on an ongoing basis.
3. Coordinate with local and regional healthcare agencies that are able to vaccinate Phase 1a populations.
4. Coordinate with local and regional healthcare agencies to plan for future phases of COVID-19 vaccination.
5. Assist food security community partner agencies in transitioning their food distribution programs to self-supported, sustainable operations.
6. Conduct daily data entry, analysis, and reporting to support and inform Operations.
7. Monitor PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center hospitalization data.
8. Coordinate with Whatcom County Health Department Contract Coordinator on the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Isolation/Quarantine facility needs.

**REPORT PREPARED BY:**  
Situation Unit

**REPORT APPROVED BY:**  
Incident Command

**DATE:**  
01/15/21

**TIME:**  
16:00