

# WHATCOM UNIFIED SITUATION REPORT



<b>REPORT #:</b> 20210316.1	<b>DATE:</b> 03/16/2021	<b>TIME:</b> 16:00
<b>INCIDENT NAME:</b> COVID-2019	<b>OPERATIONAL PERIOD:</b> 30	<b>MISSION NUMBER:</b> 20-0265

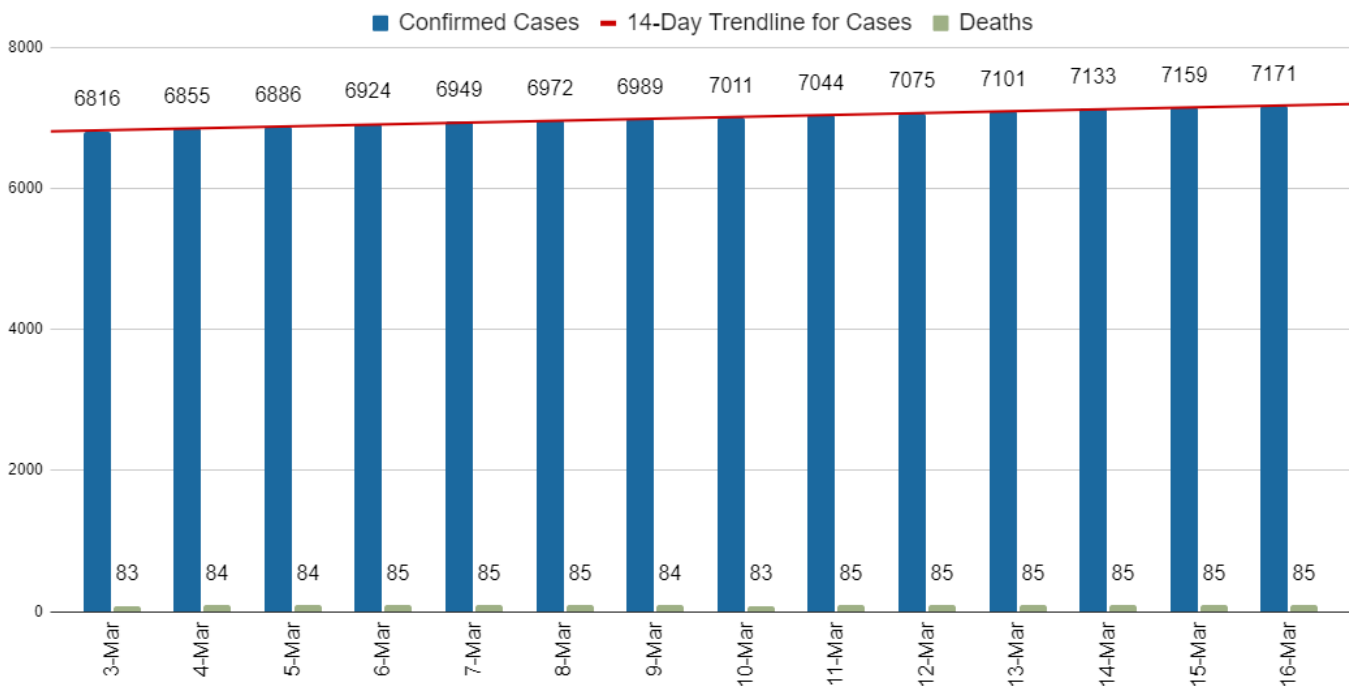
## WHATCOM UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND STATUS

<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

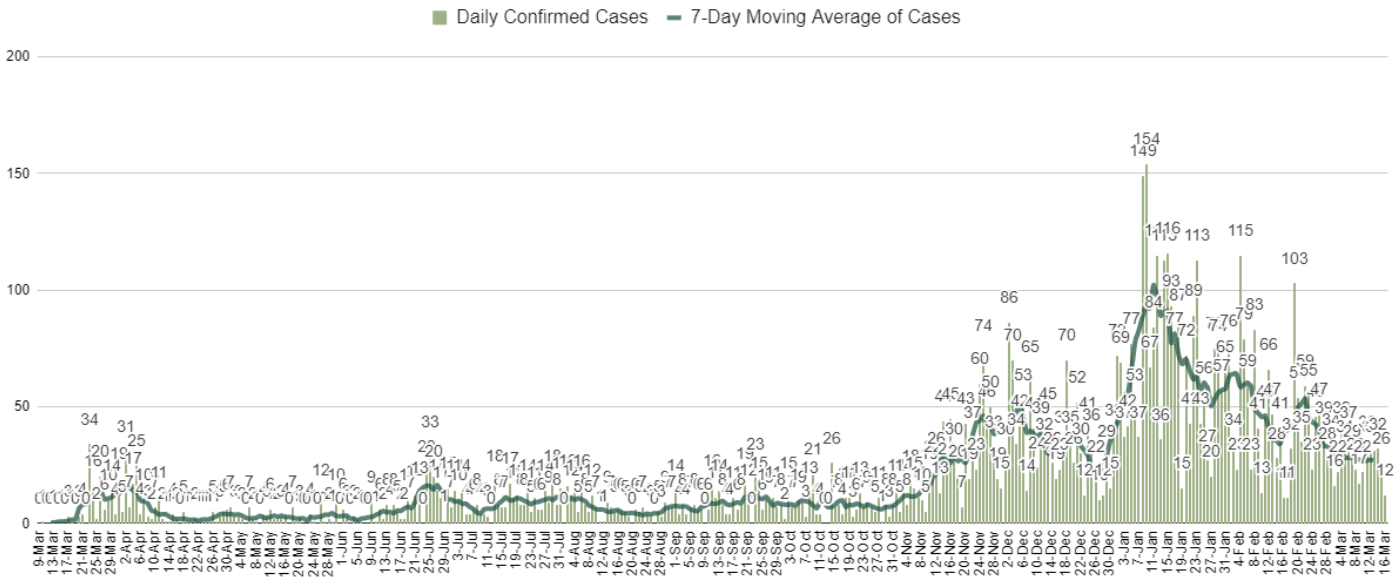
**14-Day COVID-19 Confirmed Total Cases and Deaths, Whatcom County**



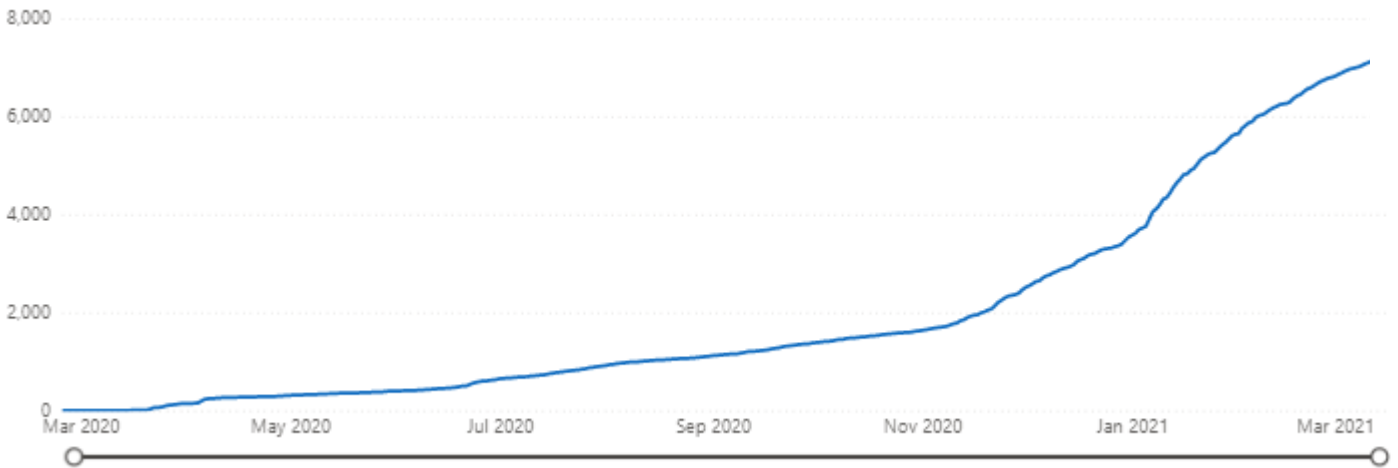
DATE	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
<b>3/16/2021*</b>	7171	85
<b>3/15/2021*</b>	7159	85
<b>3/14/2021</b>	7133	85
<b>3/13/2021</b>	7101	85
<b>3/12/2021</b>	7075	85

\*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 3/14/2021.

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

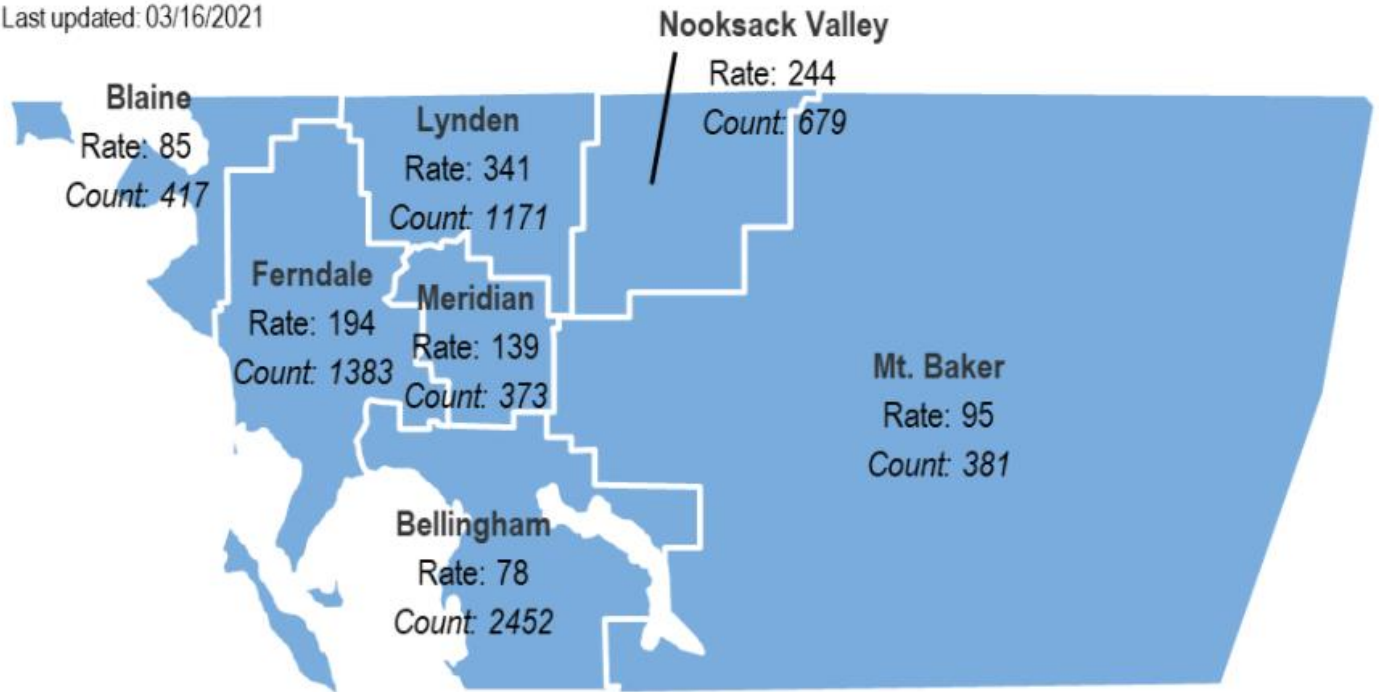


### CUMULATIVE CASE COUNTS



## COVID-19 in Whatcom County, by Sub-County Area: Recent Two Week Case Rates & Cumulative Counts

Last updated: 03/16/2021

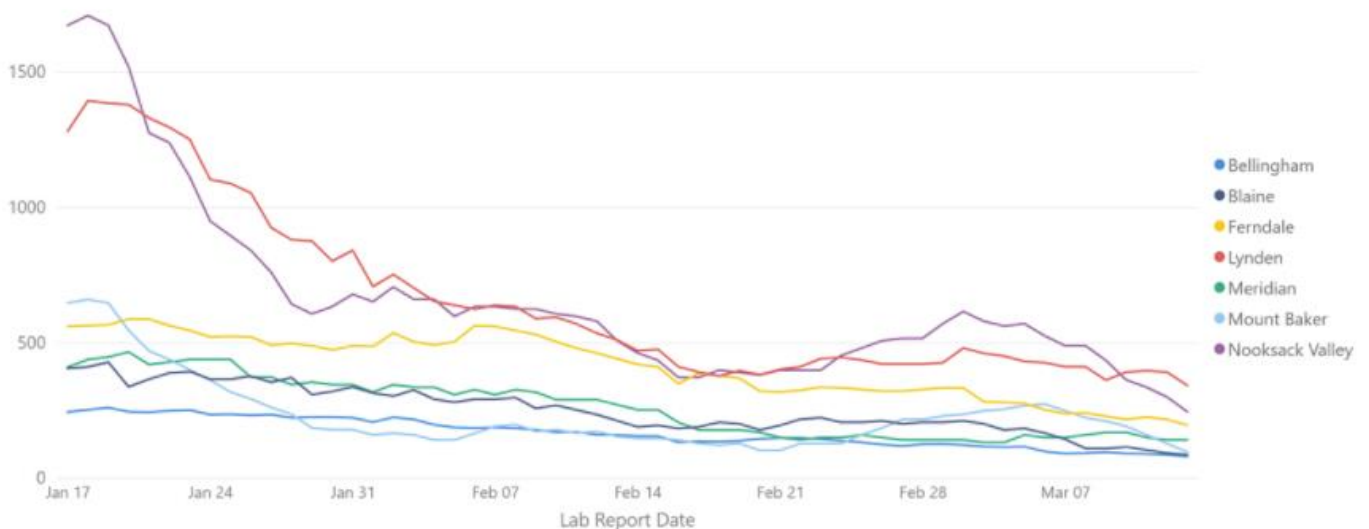


**Rate:** Number of confirmed cases per 100,000 people for the past two weeks (2/28/21-3/13/21) \*See [Data Explainer](#) for info  
**State Goal:** Fewer than 25 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks  
**Count:** Cumulative cases of COVID-19

## Newly confirmed COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks, by Whatcom County Sub-County Areas

\*see [Data Explainer](#) or [FAQs](#)

Data for the previous 8 weeks, 01/17/2021 - 03/13/2021



COUNTY	CASES	HOSPITALIZATIONS	DEATHS
Whatcom County			
Age 20-34	2,056	27	0
Age 0-19	1,626	12	0
Age 35-49	1,504	47	1
Age 50-64	1,171	78	9
Age 65-79	567	87	17
Age 80+	247	69	58
UnknownAge	0	0	0

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

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

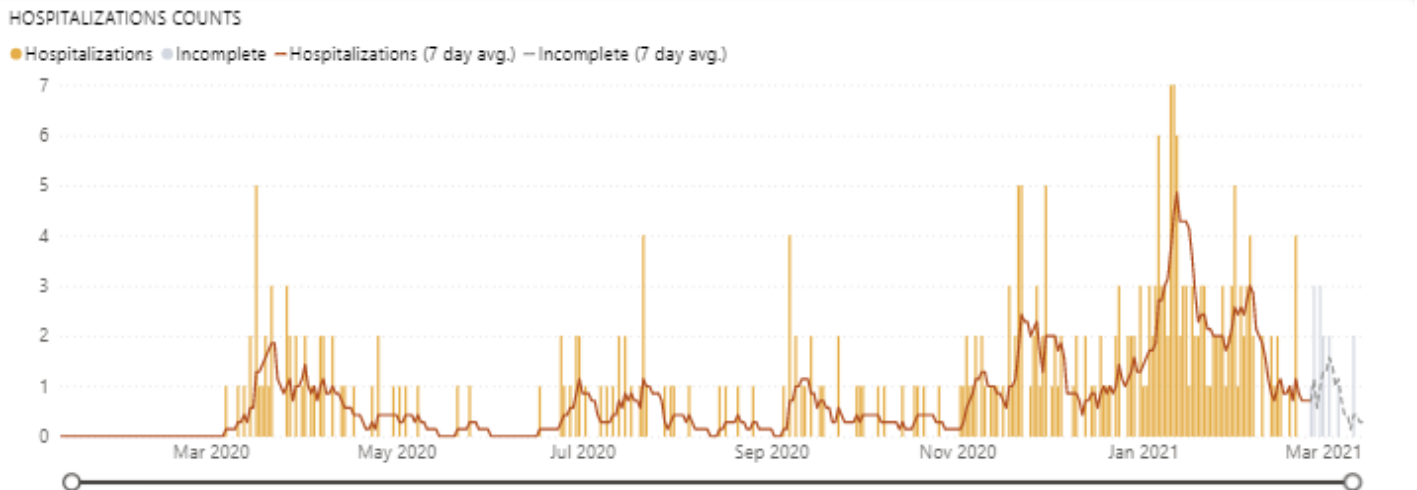
### Data for PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center

**Updated as of 3/16/2021:**

- 5 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
- 0.0% surge/overflow beds occupied

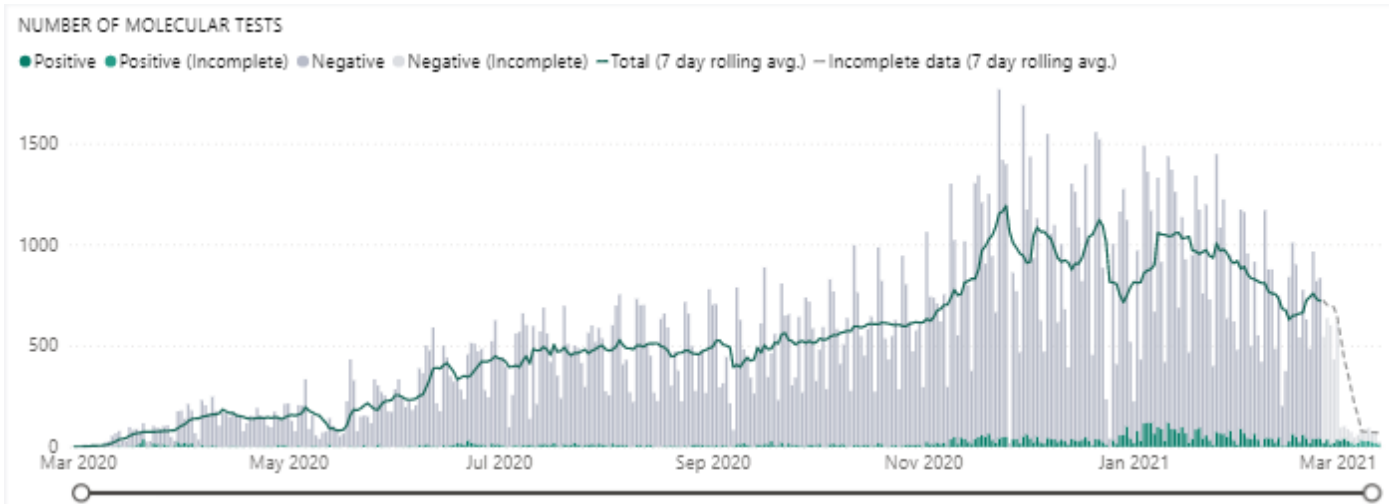
\* The data reported is the most current information provided from PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center.

### WHATCOM COUNTY HOSPITALIZATION COUNTS



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

## WHATCOM COUNTY-NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS TESTED



\*\*Source: Washington State Department of Health2

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

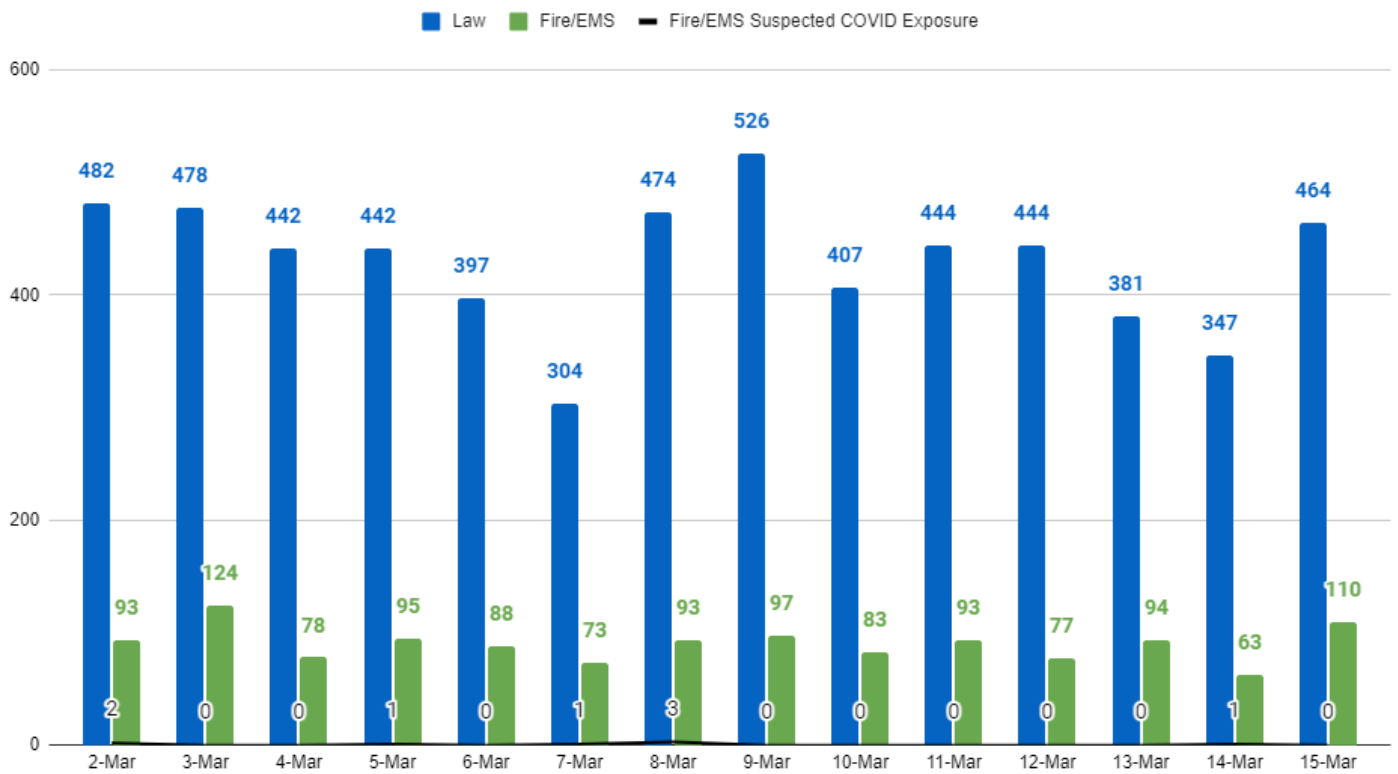
## Whatcom County Community Testing Program Results

### Data for testing weeks ending 12/12/2020 to 03/06/2021

Test Collection Week (Week Ending Date)	Negative Result	Positive Result	Total Tests	Percent Positive
2021-03-06	2190	118	2308	5.1 %
2021-02-27	2108	116	2224	5.2 %
2021-02-20	1913	129	2042	6.3 %
2021-02-13	1534	97	1631	5.9 %
2021-02-06	1851	144	1995	7.2 %
2021-01-30	2158	158	2316	6.8 %
2021-01-23	2436	189	2625	7.2 %
2021-01-16	2157	216	2373	9.0 %
2021-01-09	2452	277	2729	10.1 %
2021-01-02	1907	157	2064	7.6 %
2020-12-26	2150	78	2228	3.5 %
2020-12-19	2604	85	2689	3.2 %
2020-12-12	1902	64	1966	3.2 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>27362</b>	<b>1828</b>	<b>29190</b>	<b>6.2 %</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](#)
- [Whatcom County Health Department Facebook](#)

### State and Federal Information

- [Governor Inslee's Proclamations](#)
- [Governor's Healthy Washington phased approach](#)

- [Washington State COVID-19 risk assessment dashboard](#) (including vaccination progress)

### JIC Updates

- WCHD Website ([www.whatcomcounty.us/covid](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/covid))
  - No updates
- Whatcom Unified Command website ([www.whatcomcovid.com](http://www.whatcomcovid.com))
  - Responded to inquiries and posted daily Status Report
- Social Media Posts: WCHD & WUC
  - [Share of Ad Council Presidential PSA](#)
  - [First large-scale clinic](#)

### Local and State Headlines

- Bellingham Herald: [Whatcom sees 32 new COVID cases Monday, as area school districts report new incidents](#) - 3-16-21
- Bellingham Herald: [These 30,000 Whatcom County residents will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccines this week](#) - 3-16-21
- KGMI: [Community COVID vaccine clinic a success, organizers say](#) - 3-16-21
- KING 5: [Hospitality workers petition for COVID-19 vaccine eligibility in Washington](#) - 3-16-21
- Columbian: [Clark County prepares for next vaccination phase Wednesday](#) - 3-16-21
- Spokesman Review: [Vaccine appointments available at Spokane Arena; case counts plateau statewide](#) - 3-16-21

### National Headlines

- AP: [‘I don’t need the vaccine’: GOP worries threaten virus fight](#) - 3-15-21
- CNN: [A concerning variant is about to become dominant in the US, experts say, and how Americans act could help fuel or curb a surge](#) - 3-16-21
- Fox News: [Florida, California see similar COVID numbers despite vastly different lockdown policies](#) - 3-16-21
- USA Today: [Thousands of Latinos were sterilized in the 20th century. Amid COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, they remember](#) - 3-16-21
- Washington Post: [Some long-haul covid patients say their symptoms are subsiding after getting vaccines](#) - 3-16-21
- NPR: [Moderna Gives First Vaccine Shots To Young Kids As Part Of COVID-19 Study](#) - 3-16-21
- NY Times: [Plenty of Vaccines, but Not Enough Arms: A Warning Sign in Cherokee Nation](#) - 3-16-21

### Upcoming and Continuing JIC Priorities

- Communicate about COVID-19 vaccine distribution, allocation, eligibility, and safety.
- Communicate about testing access.
- 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 30

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://hawaiicovid19.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. Provide consumables to meet the needs at Byron Avenue I/Q facility.
5. Coordinate with Planning to secure resources and staffing to fill the needs of the community vaccination center.

### OPERATIONS

1. Support Tuesday'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, 2 rooms are occupied. Cumulatively, the I/Q facility has provided a total of 2,290 bed days of service for 253 community members.
3. Continue to implement the community low barrier COVID-19 testing program on a modified schedule at Lynden site and with partners at Bellingham airport site.
4. Mobilize outbreak testing team as needed to support outbreak assessment in congregate settings.
5. Scale up operations for large-scale vaccination clinic at Bellingham Technical College (BTC).
6. Mobilize mobile vaccination clinic as needed to vaccinate vulnerable populations- current focus, Adult Family Homes.
7. Continue daily operations supported by the communicable disease division at WCHD for case identification, interviewing, contact tracing, community mitigation, and isolation and quarantine work.
8. Work in collaboration with North Sound Accountable Community of Health to distribute care and food kits to vulnerable community members.
9. Work with the Incident Safety Officer to review safety plans for I/Q facility transportation, outbreak testing, mobile vaccination clinic, the community testing program, and the community vaccination center at BTC.

### 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 eligible populations as identified by Washington State Department of Health.
4. Coordinate with local and regional partners to plan for vaccination of vulnerable populations.
5. Plan for community vaccination clinics in cooperation with partner agencies.
6. Assist food security community partner agencies in transitioning their food distribution programs to self-supported, sustainable operations.
7. Conduct daily data entry, analysis, and reporting to support and inform Operations.
8. Coordinate with local partners to expand testing capacity.

**REPORT PREPARED BY:**  
Situation Unit

**REPORT APPROVED BY:**  
Incident Command

**DATE:**  
3/16/21

**TIME:**  
16:00