
CLACKAMAS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

WEEKLY REPORT ON COVID-19 FOR 12/15/2021

Oregon confirms three Omicron-variant cases of COVID-19

Oregon's [first three cases of Omicron](#)-variant COVID-19 have been confirmed in Washington and Multnomah counties. Oregon Health & Science University Laboratory conducted the sequencing that detected the variant December 13th.

According to the [Oregon Health Authority](#), the samples the laboratory tested were from:

- A Multnomah County resident in their 20s, tested on Dec. 7. The individual traveled internationally to Canada prior to the onset of symptoms.
- A Washington County resident in their 20s, tested on Dec. 9.
- A Washington County resident in their 30s, tested on Dec. 9. The individual traveled internationally to Mexico prior to symptom onset.

OHA and its laboratory partners will continue to monitor the spread of Omicron in Oregon with robust individual-level and community-level variant surveillance. Delta remains the [dominant variant](#) statewide, making up close to 100% of the case samples sequenced in the past three months. Even if a vaccine doesn't target a specific variant, the strong immune response you get from being fully vaccinated can still be highly protective against severe disease from all COVID-19 variants.

Rapid Omicron spread in UK

In the U.K., it appears to be outpacing the Delta variant and triggering a new sudden wave of infections in a population with a comparatively high vaccination rate. Scientists collaborating with the UK's Health Security Agency (HAS) [analyzed Omicron's growth](#) and transmission characteristics, as well as vaccine effectiveness against the virus. The HSA said the variant is spreading rapidly across all of England's regions and suggested that Omicron is transmitting more easily than Delta. Evidence suggests Omicron cases are doubling every two to three days. So far, ten people have been hospitalized with Omicron infections and the first known death from Omicron was reported by UK officials on December 13th.

COVID-19 patterns in the United Kingdom are often an indicator for how events might unfold in other countries, including the United States.

CDC chief says Omicron mostly mild so far

More than 40 people in the U.S. have been found to be infected with the Omicron variant so far, and more than three-quarters of them had been vaccinated, nearly all of them were only [mildly ill](#). In most of the cases seen so far, the disease is mild with reported symptoms mainly cough, congestion and fatigue. Less than 1% of the U.S. COVID-19 cases genetically sequenced last week were the Omicron variant; the Delta variant accounted for more than 99%.

Pfizer's antiviral drug should work against Omicron

Preliminary laboratory tests gave encouraging signs that Pfizer Inc.'s experimental Covid-19 pill for the newly infected could work against Omicron, the company said. Pfizer released [additional data](#) about its pill, named Paxlovid, to treat COVID-19 that shows it was effective in preventing hospitalization and death when taken by people with mild to moderate illness within a few days of first symptoms. Pfizer said it has submitted the results to the Food and Drug Administration.

Vaccination and getting a booster when eligible, along with other preventive measures like masking and avoiding large crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, remain our most effective methods for preventing COVID-19. It is critical to get vaccinated when you can, since continued transmission leads to more virus evolution and more variants.

U.S. OKs new COVID-19 antibody drug for high-risk patients

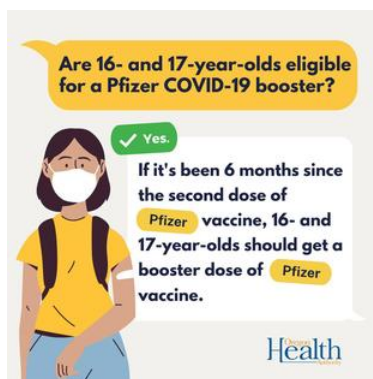
Federal health officials on Wednesday authorized a new COVID-19 antibody drug for people with serious health problems or allergies who can't get adequate protection from vaccination. The AstraZeneca antibody drug called [Evusheld for adults and children 12 and older](#) whose immune systems haven't responded adequately to COVID-19 vaccines or have a history of severe allergic reactions to the shots cleared December 8th by the Food and Drug Administration. It's the first authorized for long-term prevention against COVID-19 infection, rather than a short-term treatment.

Antibody drugs are not a substitute for vaccines, which are the most effective, long-lasting and economical form of virus protection.

Pfizer says COVID booster offers protection against Omicron

Pfizer said that while two doses may not be protective enough to prevent infection, lab tests showed a booster [increased levels of virus-fighting antibodies](#) by 25-fold. Blood samples taken a month after a booster showed people harbored levels of Omicron-neutralizing antibodies that were similar to amounts proven protective against earlier variants after two doses, the company said.

COVID-19 booster doses authorized for 16- and 17-year-olds



December 9th the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) authorized the use of booster doses of Pfizer-BioNtech COVID-19 [vaccines for persons 16 and 17 years](#) of age who have already completed their vaccination series. The Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup supports the CDC's recommendation. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has since released [updated guidance](#) for providers so that Oregonians aged 16 and 17 who have completed their initial Pfizer vaccination series at least six months earlier can immediately begin receiving a booster dose.

There are an estimated 100,000 Oregonians ages 16 and 17. Of this group, approximately 25,000 are now eligible for boosters following today's approvals. Another 25,000 persons in this age group will be eligible by the end of this month, and up to 7,000 persons who are 16 and 17 years of age will become eligible for boosters through first part of 2022.

Oregon's SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Monitoring

OHA has been working with Oregon State University to collect and test wastewater for traces of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19. The wastewater sampling and sequencing of positive samples allow public health officials to ramp up individual testing and contact tracing efforts in specific communities and neighborhoods, even when people are asymptomatic or haven't yet been tested for COVID-19. Over 40 wastewater treatment plants across the state participating in the surveillance network. All positive wastewater samples are sequenced to determine trends (increasing, decreasing, and plateau) and which variants are circulating in communities. The wastewater monitoring [dashboard](#) is updated every Wednesday.

Indoor masking in Oregon

OHA's Rules Advisory Committee worked with stakeholders (restaurant industry, business association, etc.) on December 2nd to begin the process of drafting a permanent set of rules for the state's [indoor mask requirement](#). The purpose of the Rules Advisory Committee's meeting is to seek input from committee members on the rules, including the projected burden & fiscal impact of the rules & suggestions for alternative language.

The current indoor mask mandate is a temporary rule and is set to expire in February, so Oregon health leaders would like to switch to a permanent rule before then. The permanent rule can still be ended once the COVID-19 pandemic recedes to a safe level, but it can remain in place indefinitely in the meantime and won't expire prematurely while case numbers are still dangerously high. The draft permanent rule will be released publicly by mid-December, according to OHA and there will be a public comment period starting in late December leading up to a public hearing in mid-January.

U.S. travel requirements change

Starting December 6, all air passengers, regardless of vaccination status, must show a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than one day before travel to the United States. Travelers must show a negative result to the airline before boarding an international flight. If the traveler recently recovered from COVID-19, they may instead travel with [documentation of recovery](#) from COVID-19.

COVID-19 Vaccinations in Clackamas County

[Vaccination data](#) for Clackamas County.

Age Groups of people in Clackamas County who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in Oregon (per OHA)		
AGE	NUMBER VACCINATED	% SERIES COMPLETE
5 to 11	10,494	18.8%
12 to 17	22,206	67.5%
18 to 19	6,754	69.3%
20 to 49	116,277	71.1%
50 to 64	67,696	67.9%
65+	72,130	81.0%

COVID-19 cases among people under age 18

The population of ages 0-17 in Clackamas County is 86,962. The number of pediatric cases in Clackamas County the week of November 28 is 107. The pediatric case rate in Clackamas County the week of November 28 is 123.0 per 100,000.

For more information on pediatrics, visit the [OHA Pediatric Dashboards](#).

COVID-19 hospitalizations

The number of [hospitalized patients](#) with COVID-19 across Oregon is 408, which is two fewer than yesterday. There are 106 COVID-19 patients in intensive care unit (ICU) beds, which is unchanged from yesterday. There are 78 available adult ICU beds out of 679 total (11% availability) and 292 available adult non-ICU beds out of 4,142 (7% availability).

COVID-19 Cases in Clackamas County

The number of [new confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases reported](#) for Clackamas County.

Week of Date	Case Count	Cases per 100k	Test Positivity
December 5 th	445	104.3	4.8%
November 28 th	539	126.4	5.6%
November 21 st	416	97.5	6.3%
November 14 th	552	129.4	6.7%
November 7 th	539	126.4	7.8%

Disease Response

The case investigation team interviewed 146 of the 445 cases identified. The majority, 211, were unable to be reached. Good contact tracing requires the community to respond to the case investigator when they call, to cooperate, and provide accurate information. The outbreak team is managing 77 open outbreaks. The majority continue to be in long term care facilities or associated with a school. Disease spread in school remains low.

The vaccine team is providing or assisting with 15 or more community facing clinics a week and include standing clinics in Molalla, Canby, Oregon City, Sandy and the Clackamas Town Center, clinics at schools or reserved for schools and culturally specific events and some worksite events. The FEMA van was in Estacada and provided over 677 vaccines in the week it was there. The van is now in Sandy and has vaccinated over 130/day at the Sandy site. Plans are underway to bring the van to Wilsonville.

The home vaccination team is working with OHA to complete arrangement of vaccine for adult foster homes and other small long term care facilities.

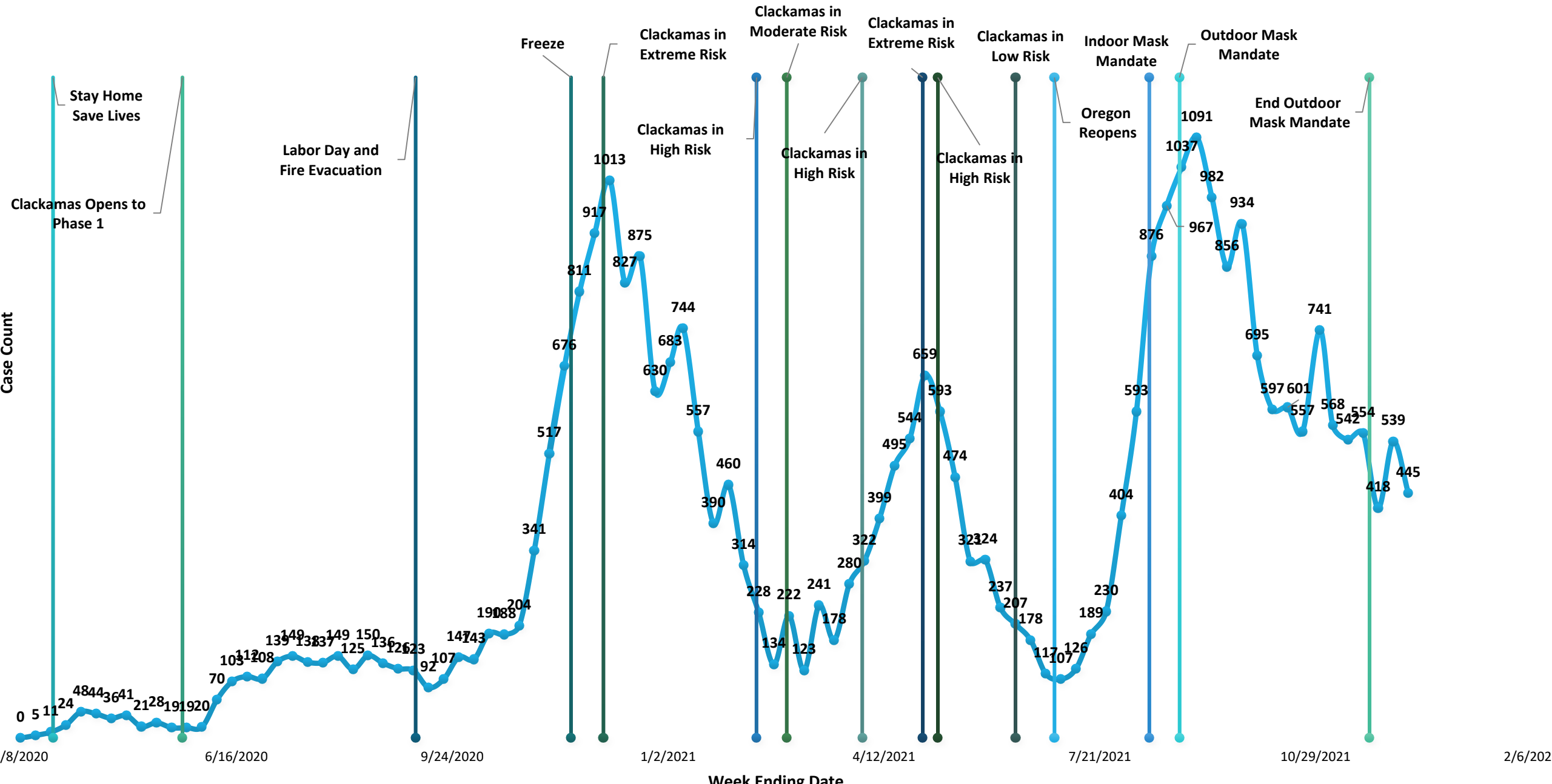
COVID-19 Update 12/15/21



COVID current case/death data

as of 12/13/2021	Total cases	Total deaths	Change since prior week
Clackamas County	33,689	404	Cases: +433 Deaths: +16
Multnomah County	61,838	876	Cases: +772 Deaths: +26
Washington County	43,185	418	Cases: +554 Deaths: +12

Case Count by Week for 3/1/20 - 12/11/21



Statewide Numbers from 12/10/2021 to 12/12/2021

New Cases

1,387 ▼*

7 Day Daily Average
of Cases

699.1

Cases Per 100k in
Previous 7 Days

114.7

COVID-19 Patients
Hospitalized†

408 ▼

Tests Reported

42,522

Test Positivity

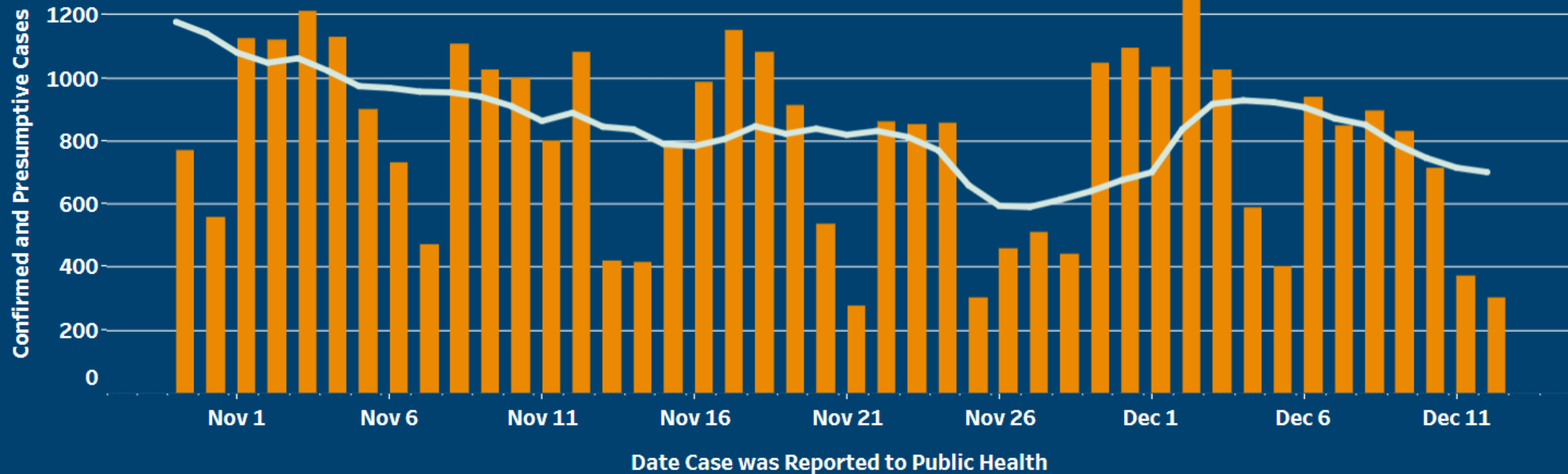
4.1%

New Deaths

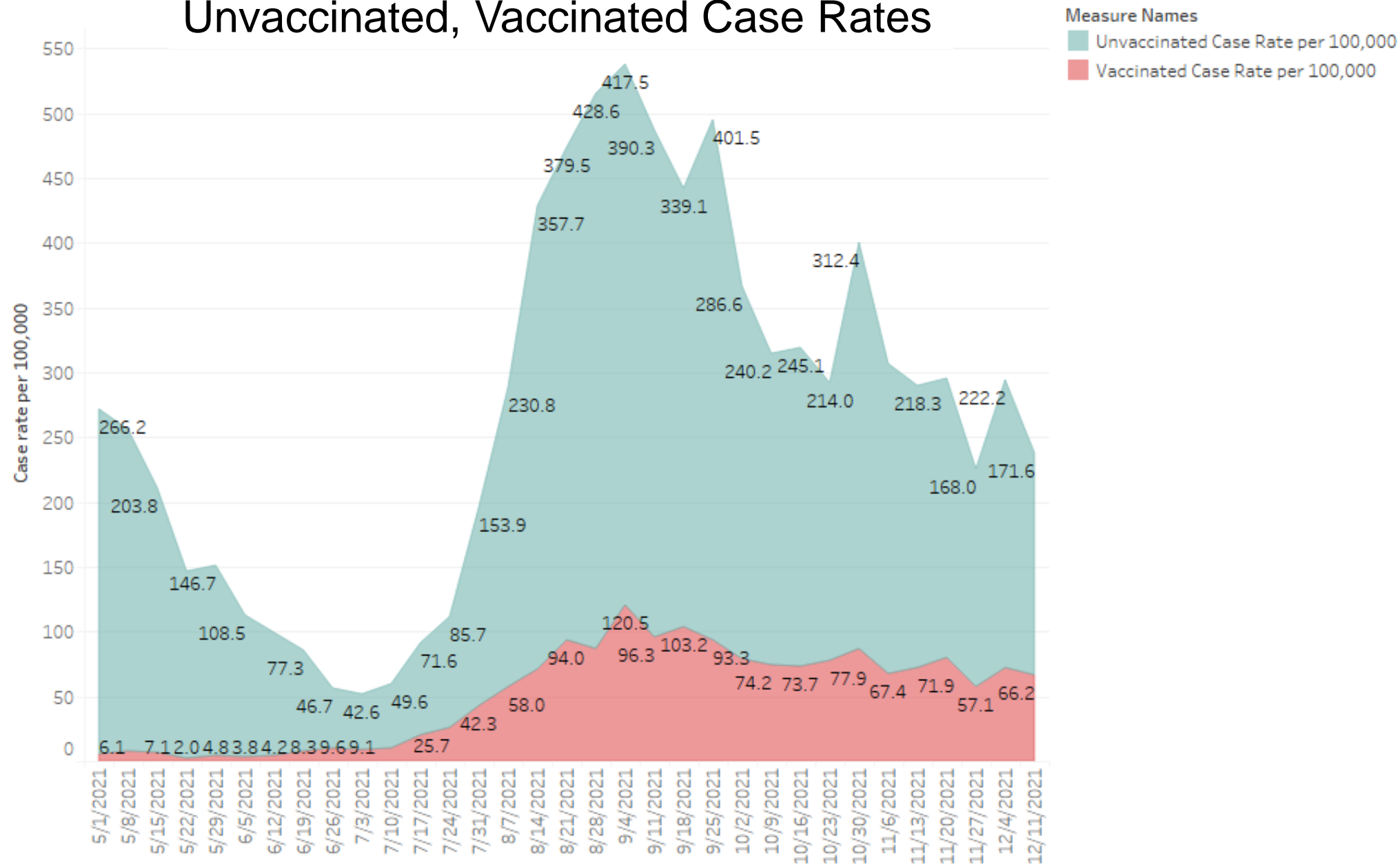
39

* Arrows indicate an increase or decrease from the previous day. †Hospitalization data from Oregon's Hospital Capacity Web System (HOSCAP).

Daily Cases and 7 Day Moving Average over the Previous Six Weeks



Unvaccinated, Vaccinated Case Rates

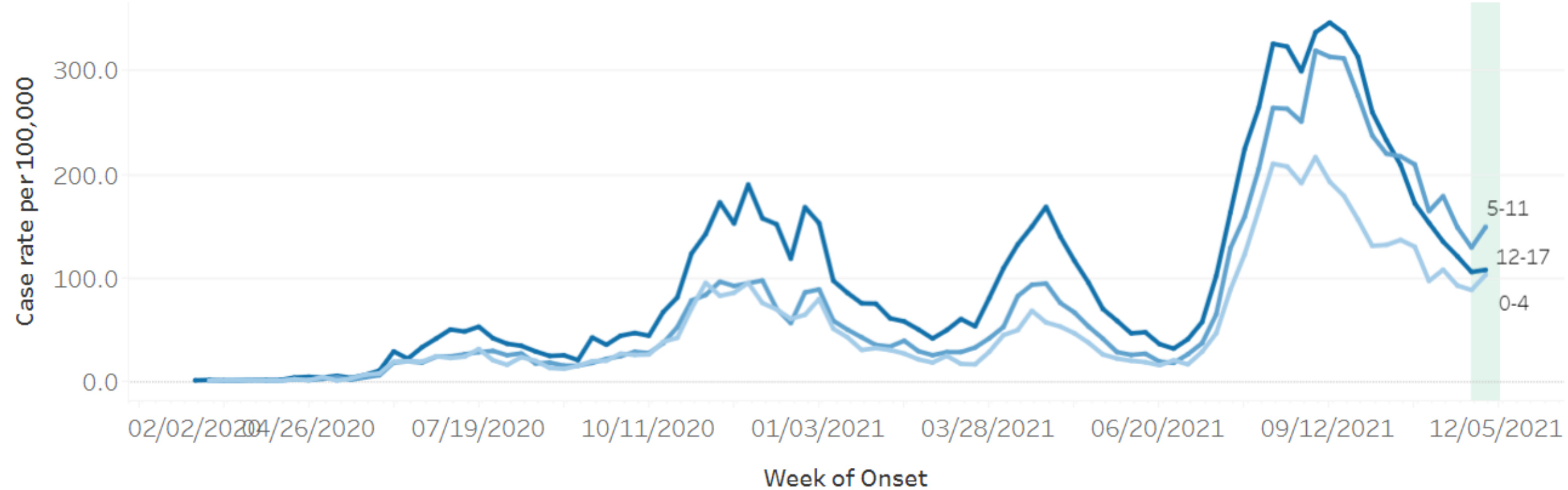


Unvaccinated Case Rate per 100,000 and Vaccinated Case Rate per 100,000 for each Date (Breakthrough rates). Colour shows details about Unvaccinated Case Rate per 100,000 and Vaccinated Case Rate per 100,000. The view is filtered on Date (Breakthrough rates), which keeps 33 of 33 members.

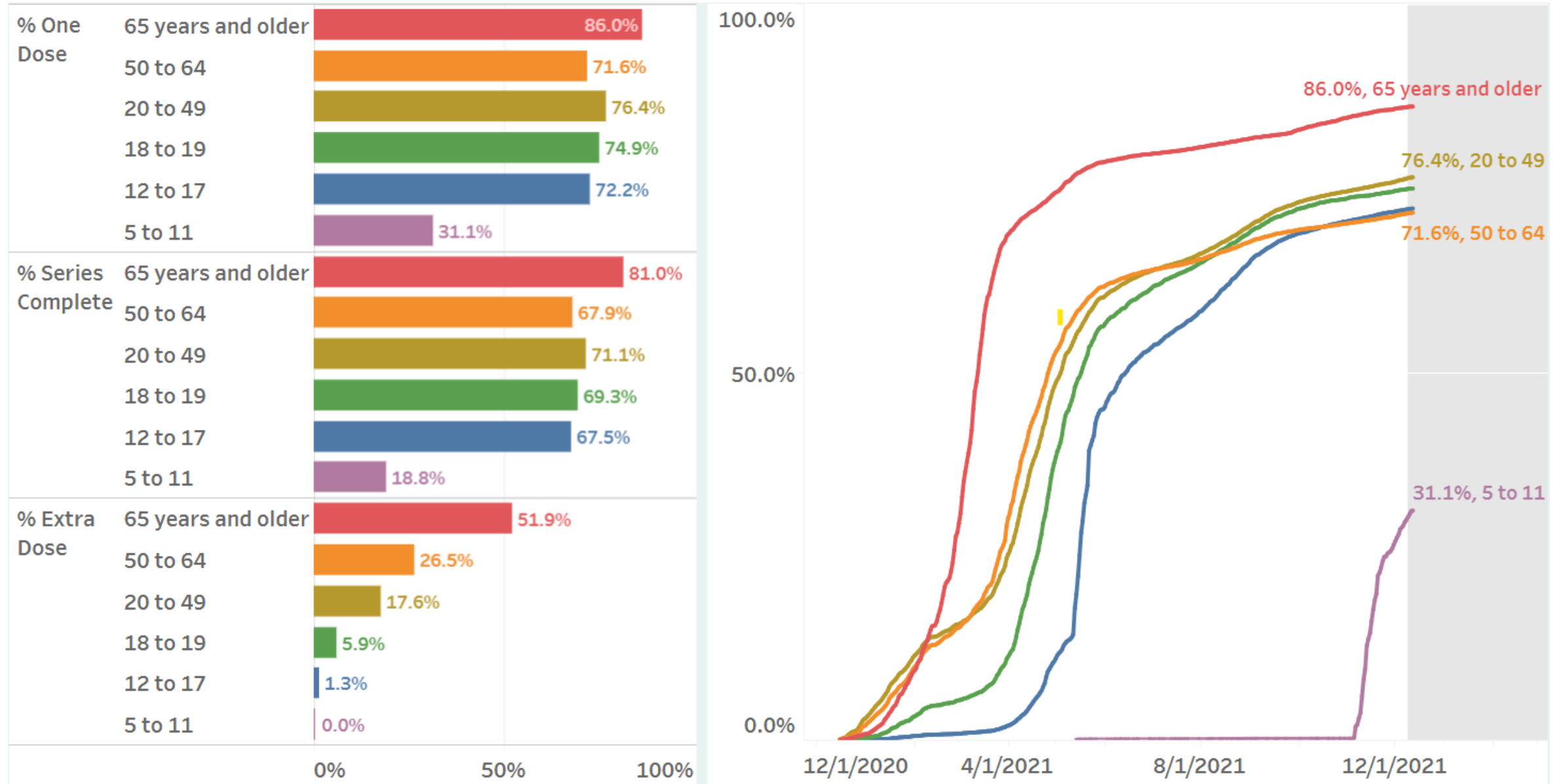
Oregon Pediatric COVID-19 cases by age range

Recent pediatric COVID-19 case rates are highest among people age 5 through 11

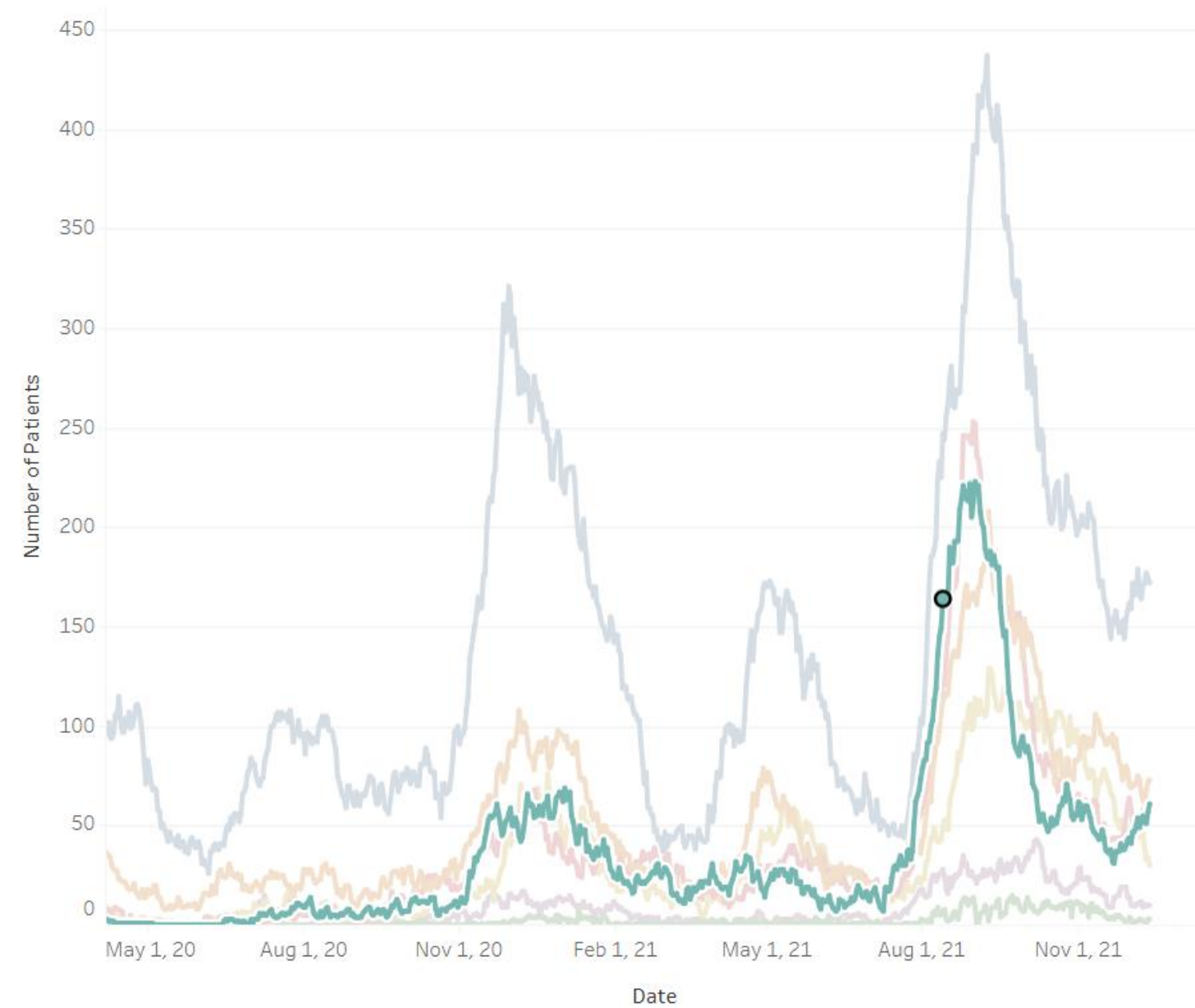
The chart below shows the rate of pediatric cases per 100,000 by week of onset and age group, in years.



Clackamas County Vaccination Rates by Age Group



COVID-19 positive patients in Oregon hospitals



Clackamas County Vaccinations

as of 12/13/2021

Adults age 18+

79.7% of Clackamas County residents initiated vaccination and have received at least one dose.

73.4% of Clackamas County Residents have completed their primary series.

26.4% of Clackamas County residents have received an extra dose (3rd dose or booster)

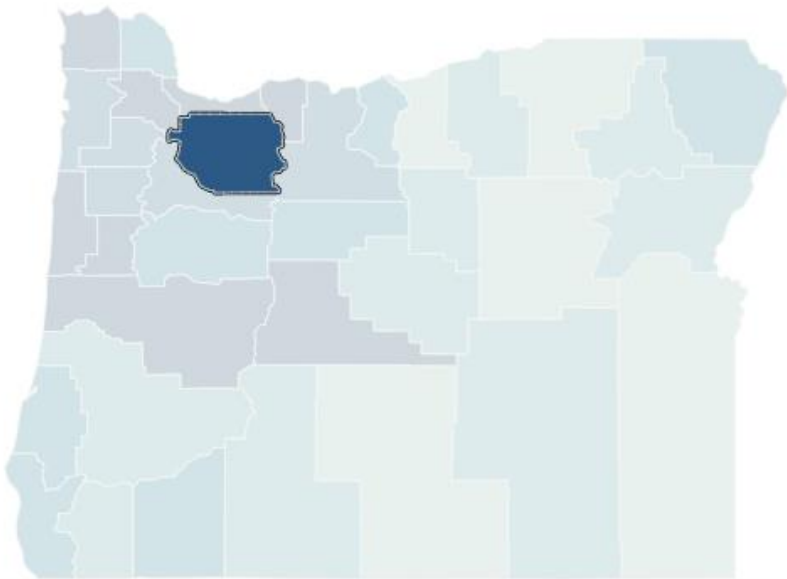
Entire Population

Primary Series In Progress: **21,977**

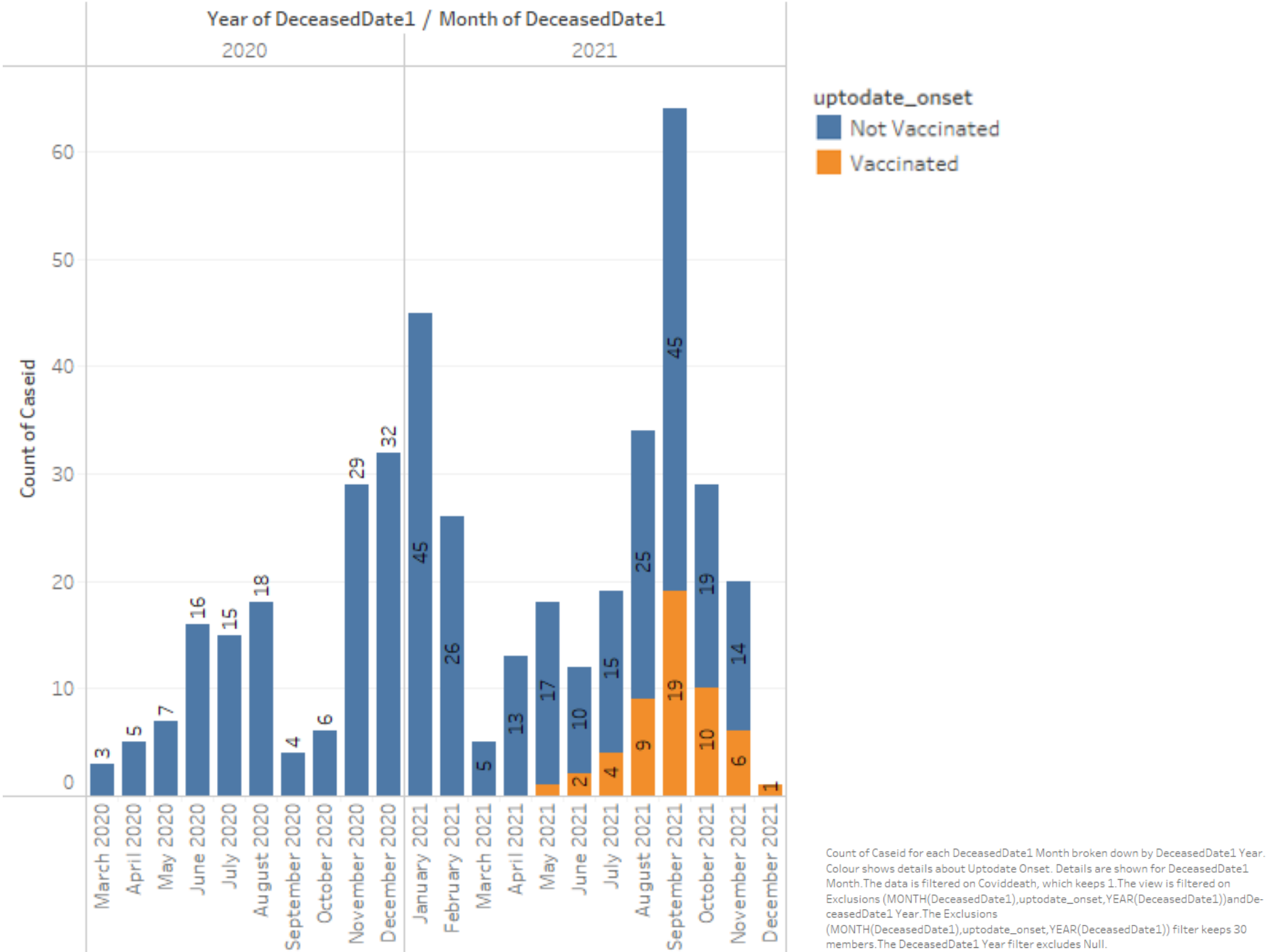
Primary Series Complete: **273,862**

644,855 doses administered in Clackamas

295,839 people vaccinated in Clackamas



Deaths by Month (Deceased Date) and Vaccination Status



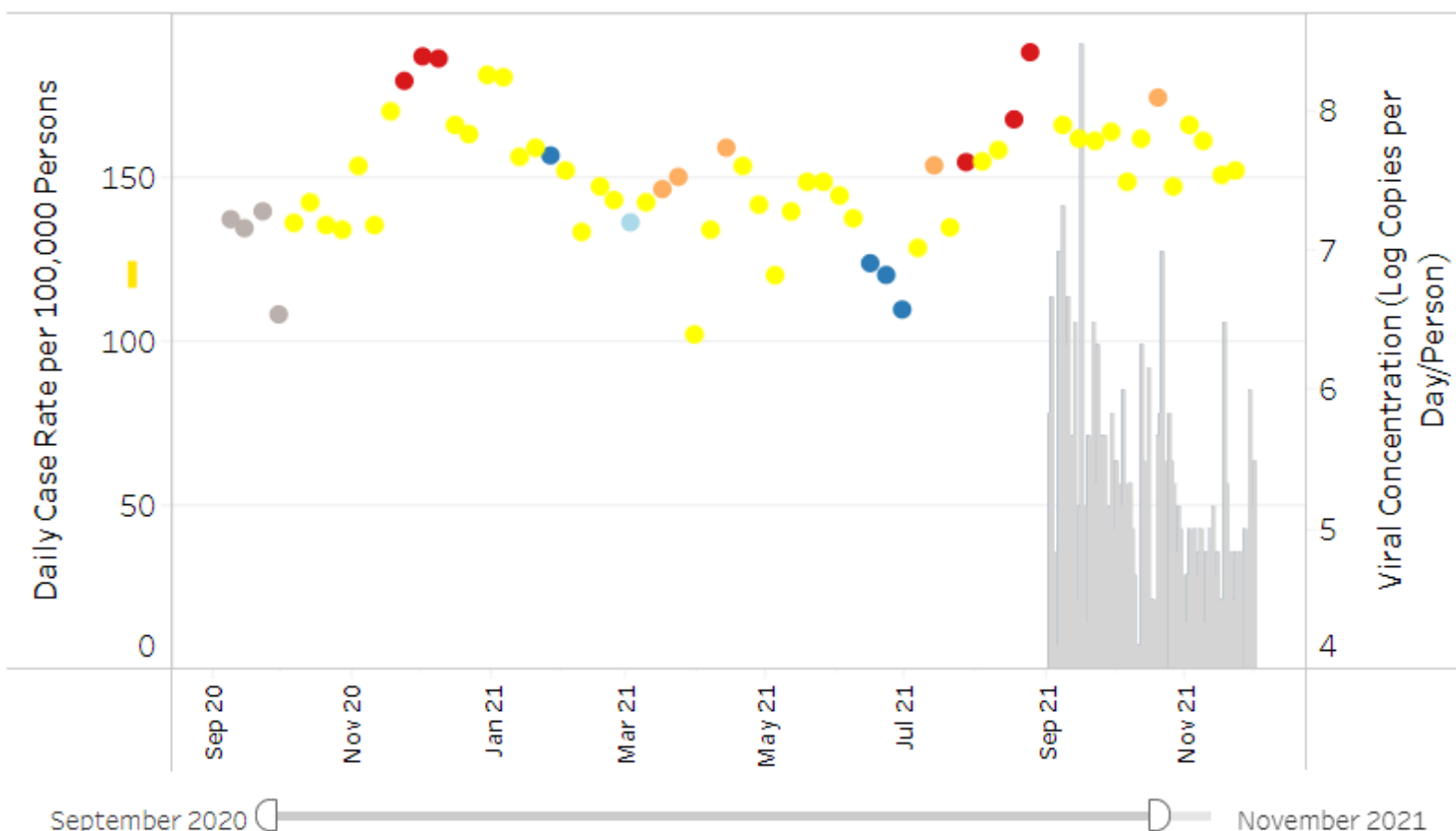
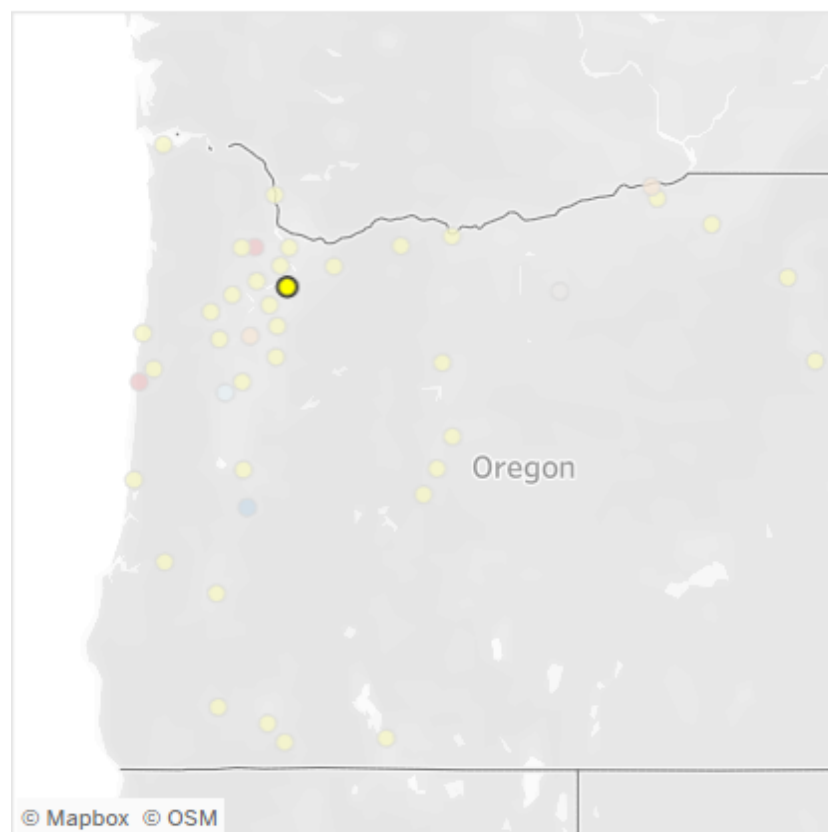
Oregon's SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Monitoring

Canby, OR

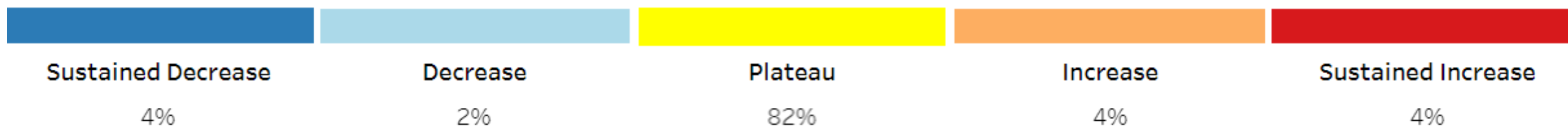
Population: 14,206

Last Sample: 11/23/2021

Hover over a dot to see more information about the wastewater sample, including detection of variants of concern. Use the date filter at the bottom to limit the data in the view. Click a blank area of the map to clear your city selection.

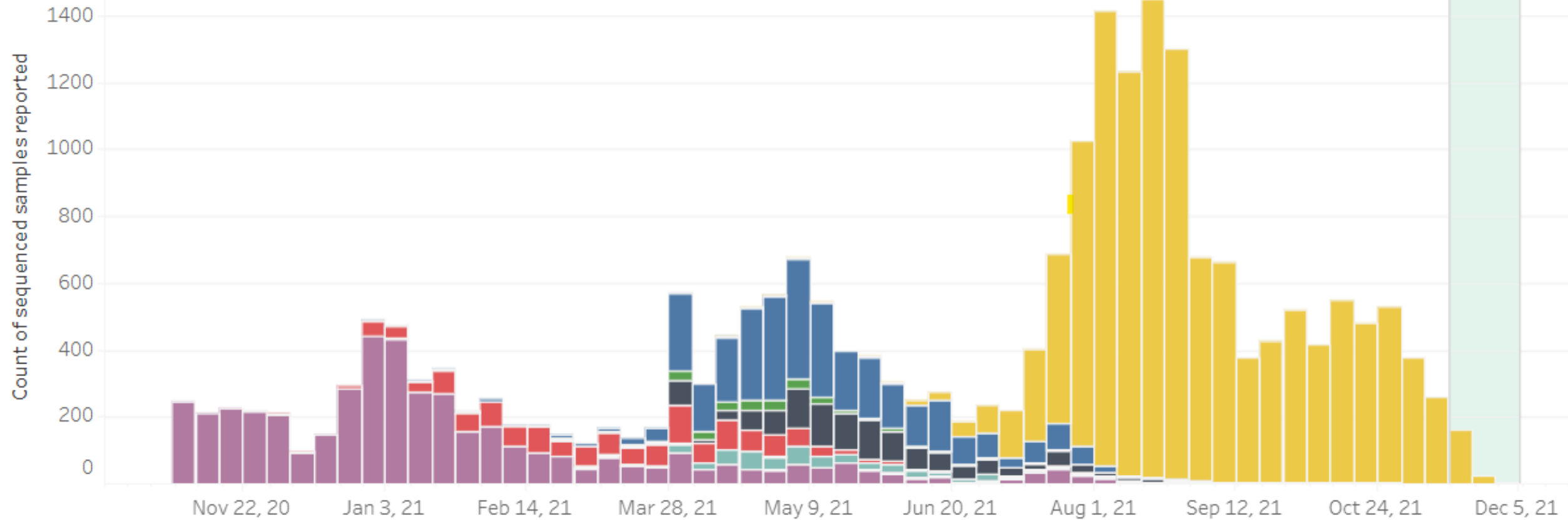


[Take me to the introduction page](#)



Count of Variant Sequenced Samples from Oregon over Time

*Samples collected and sequenced in this time period may not yet be reported.

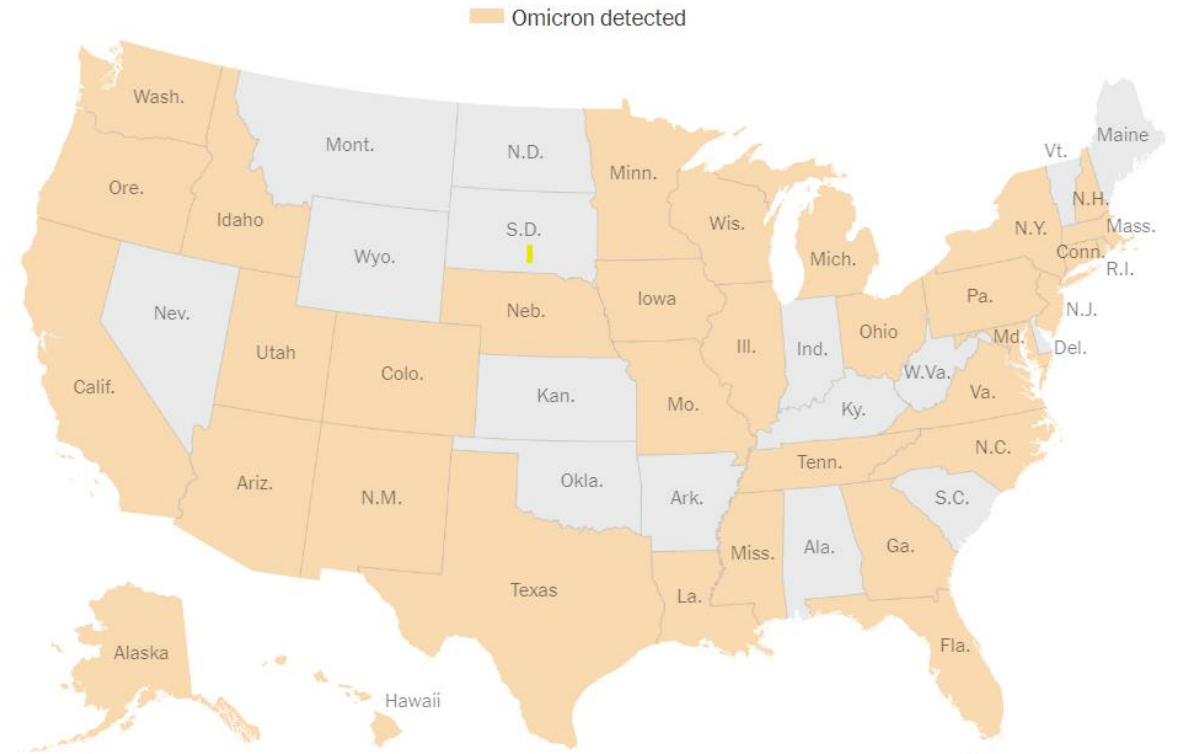


Lineage

Delta (B.1.617.2/AY s..	Alpha (B.1.1.7/ Q sublineages)	Beta (B.1.351 and sublineage..	Gamma (P.1 and sublineages)	Epsilon (B.1.427/B.1.429	Eta (B.1.525)	Iota (B.1.526)	Mu (B.1.621/B.1.621	Zeta (P.2)	All other variants
Yellow	Blue	Green	Dark Grey	Red	Orange	Teal	Pink	Brown	Purple

Omicron Updates

- Oregon's confirmed first 3 cases
- 77 countries have reported cases
- UK reported first death
- Evidence suggests Omicron is highly transmissible
- Surging in Washington State
 - Mirrors trends that emerged in South Africa, Britain, and Denmark





Why get a booster?

- Virus fighting antibodies generated from the vaccine wane over time
- A booster dose builds on the initial immune response.
- Results in higher antibody levels that help people maintain their immunity longer and protect against new variants.
- If you are re-exposed to something [via a booster shot, that follows the original exposure by vaccination] → the memory response is even more vigorous than the original.



HOW TO HAVE A SAFER HOLIDAY



Protect: Vaccination & booster dose

Plan: Small groups and few gatherings

Clean Air: Choose large, well-ventilated rooms

Contacts: Limit contacts for 10 days before the holidays

Test: 10 days before the event and immediately before

Communicate: Establish and agree on the rules

VACCINE SCHEDULING

Local opportunities in Clackamas County:

clackamas.us/coronavirus/vaccine

Schedule via Email:

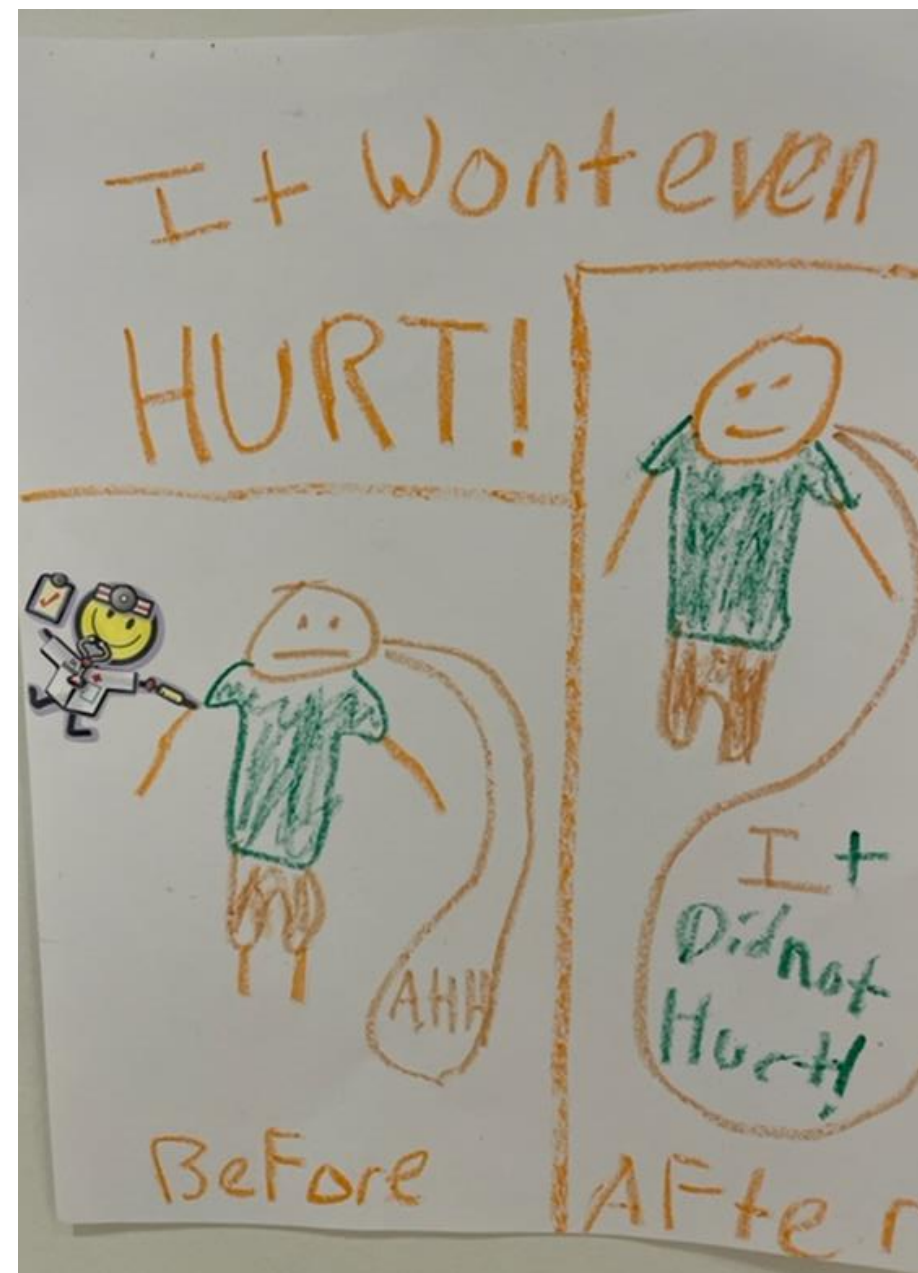
COVIDvaccine@clackamas.us

Schedule via Phone:

[\(503\) 655-8224](tel:5036558224) (Mon-Fri. from 8am-5pm)

Register to receive notification for when an appointment is available:

GetVaccinated.oregon.gov



FREE COVID-19 Testing

- Weekly at Clackamas County Fairgrounds!
- Thursday - Monday 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Drive-Through
- 140 appointment available each clinic day
- Schedule an appointment cur.tv/canby

Thank you to community partners Curative, Canby Fire Department, and Clackamas County Fairgrounds



COVID-19 Testing

No out of pocket costs

Self-collected, shallow nasal PCR test

Results within 1-2 days from
receipt of the sample at the lab

Schedule an appointment at cur.tv/canby

What can you do for vaccine safety?

- Report adverse events following vaccination to VAERS even if you aren't sure if the vaccination caused the adverse event
- Enroll yourself in v-safe
- Healthcare providers, encourage your patients to enroll in v-safe
- Parents and guardians, you can enroll your children in v-safe



VAERS

Vaccine Adverse Event
Reporting System

<http://vaers.hhs.gov>



vsafe.cdc.gov/en/

Please get involved, your participation matters

