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# CLACKAMAS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

## WEEKLY REPORT ON COVID-19 FOR 9/8/2021

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### School Health Advisory for Continuity of Instruction

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) are partnering to prioritize the safety protocols needed to reliably return to full-time, in-person school for all students. School Health Advisories may be regional or statewide. The School Health Advisories may name actions that individuals, families and communities can take to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and help schools stay open.

To maintain the continuity of instruction during the first month of school this year, OHA and ODE issued the [first School Health Advisory](#), to remain in effect statewide September 7 – October 1, unless otherwise updated.

Families should check the school's website or [ODE's Ready Schools, Safe Learners website](#) to review your school's Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

### Vaccine 3<sup>rd</sup> dose and boosters doses are coming

People with compromised immune systems are eligible for third doses of mRNA vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer) to provide greater protection. A third dose of vaccine is recommended 28 days after second dose because the immunocompromised may not build up enough of a protective response after the first two doses.

Booster doses of Pfizer vaccine is expected to be authorized after September 20 and for Moderna sometime in October. Guidance on booster shots is pending, but will likely be recommended 6-8 months after the second dose. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Western States Scientific Safety Review Work Group and the Oregon Health Authority recommend these vaccine boosters to bolster protection against COVID-19. Booster vaccine doses are given because immunity may wane over time particularly in the elderly.

Scientists are still studying the need for Johnson & Johnson vaccine boosters.

## Newest COVID-19 modeling report projects slight slowing in daily cases and hospitalizations

September 3rd, OHA released its latest [COVID-19 forecast](#).

Vaccinations remain the most effective tool for slowing the spread of COVID-19. Oregonians are also encouraged to wear masks when in indoor public spaces and when outdoors among crowds and to reconsider their activities in the coming weeks as COVID-19 cases hover at or near the highest levels seen during the pandemic in Oregon.

If the trend of Oregonians complying with the protective measure were to increase from 65% to 80% among the susceptible population, the growth of new daily cases would be somewhat slower — at an estimated 870 per 100,000 people. That translates to 2,600 new cases and 140 hospitalizations daily by Sept. 21.

## COVID-19 cases in vaccinated and unvaccinated people Weekly summary

In Oregon, during the week of Aug. 22-28, there were 16,265 cases of COVID-19. 13,673 (84.1%) were unvaccinated and 2,592 (15.9%) were vaccine breakthrough cases. The median age of breakthrough cases was 49 years. 51 breakthrough cases were residents of care facilities, senior living communities or other congregate living settings. Six hundred forty seven (25.0%) of breakthrough cases were 65 or older. There were 58 (2.2%) cases aged 12-17 years. OHA publishes the most up-to-date information about cases from the most recently completed MMWR week. However, not all information about a case's vaccination status may be available at the time of publication.

## COVID-19 hospitalizations

As of September 7<sup>th</sup>, the number of hospitalized patients with COVID-19 across Oregon is 1,140. There are 300 COVID-19 patients in intensive care unit (ICU) beds.

There are 57 available adult ICU beds out of 641 total (9% availability) and 409 available adult non-ICU beds out of 4,317 (9% availability).

## The latest about COVID-19 testing

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized more than 400 COVID-19 tests and sample collection devices for use in laboratories, health care settings, and at home. These include:

- **At-home antigen tests:** You collect the sample and do the testing yourself. Results are available within minutes. If you test positive for COVID-19 with an at-home test, please report the test to your primary care provider. If you don't have a primary care provider, contact your local public health authority. Follow public health instructions regarding isolation.

- **At-home collection kits:** You collect the sample at-home and send it to a certified laboratory.
- **Point-of-care tests:** The health care provider collects the sample. Antigen tests can provide results in minutes. Molecular tests are sent to a certified laboratory.
- **Oregon Testing in K-12 schools:** There are two student and one staff [opt-in COVID-19 testing](#) programs available to all public and private schools in Oregon.
- **OHSU Free Testing at Expo Center:** OHSU Health is offering free COVID-19 testing by appointment at the Expo Center. Testing is available to ages 2 months and older – with or without symptoms. Hours will be M-W, 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., and Th.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Appointments can be made at <https://www.ohsu.edu/health/covid-testing-portland-expo-center>

To learn more about COVID-19 tests, [visit the Oregon Vaccine News blog.](#)

## COVID-19 Cases in Clackamas County

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

Week of Date	Case Count	Cases per 100k	Test Positivity
<b>August 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1024</b>	<b>240.1</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1,040	243.8	10.7%
August 15 <sup>th</sup>	964	226	9.9%
August 8 <sup>th</sup>	877	205.6	8.6%
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	588	137.9	8%

## COVID-19 Vaccinations in Clackamas County

Weekly Vaccinations in Clackamas County (per OHA)	
<b>8/31-9/6</b>	4,374
<b>8/24-8/30</b>	4,796
<b>8/17-8/23</b>	4,348
<b>8/10-8/16</b>	3,334
<b>8/3-8/9</b>	3,157

## Disease Response

The contact tracing unit remains in surge status, using a shortened interview and opening only high consequence outbreaks. They are able to interview about 20% of all cases. The outbreak team is investigating 79 outbreaks, the majority are in long term care facilities.

The school liaison is communicating with schools regarding requirements for controlling disease spread in the school setting including preparing communications this week to clarify quarantine requirements.

The immunization team is planning for fall. Current predictions are that Pfizer will be approved for a booster dose by the end of September and Moderna and Johnson and Johnson booster approval may happen in October. There are no plans to re-open mass vaccination sites like the Oregon Convention Center or Portland Airport again. Pfizer is expected to be approved for kids 5 through 11 years old in October or November. Meanwhile the immunization team continues to offer regular community clinics, worksite clinics and school based vaccine opportunities.

## Stories from the Front Line

*Clackamas County Public Health partnered with Clackamas Community College to offer a back to school vaccination clinic. 50 students and community members attended the first clinic on the Oregon City campus on September 7<sup>th</sup>. See the news coverage here: <https://www.kgw.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/ccv-vaccine-clinic/283-cbed9573-642f-49e9-aebd-4d664fbdba15>*

*[The Public Health Covid testing coordinator, immunization team and outbreak team partnered with Lake Oswego Fire to provide testing and vaccinations at a local business experiencing a Covid outbreak of over 20 cases.](#)*

*While doing language interpretation services at a COVID vaccine clinic a patient shared that their employer is paying employees up to 4 hours paid staff time to get vaccinated. The patient was also happy to receive a \$50 vaccine incentive card from Clackamas County. The patient was going to refer three friends to get vaccinated.*