
CLACKAMAS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

WEEKLY REPORT ON COVID-19 FOR 3/31/2022

Omicron update

Reports of new coronavirus cases in the United States are still declining, though the pace of improvement has recently slowed. Several states in the Northeast and the South have seen cases increase over the past two weeks as the BA.2 subvariant has emerged. In New York, Connecticut and Arkansas, cases are up by more than 20 percent. Still, most states continue to see sustained declines, and cases remain at their lowest levels nationally since last July. Coronavirus hospitalizations and deaths also continue to fall. In the past two weeks, hospitalizations have decreased by 39 percent and fewer than 1,000 deaths are currently being reported each day.

On Monday, Oregon officials reported a [21 percent drop in weekly COVID-19 cases](#), marking the ninth-straight week of declining case numbers. Oregon is now averaging about 200 cases a day over the past week, the lowest daily average since July. The rapid decline in cases and hospitalizations in Oregon likely reflects that the Omicron variant quickly infected much of the population, leaving an ever-shrinking pool of people susceptible to severe illness.

Some experts continue to warn of a potential rise in cases and hospitalizations due to the Omicron subvariant BA.2. The subvariant has already become dominant in multiple countries, though not yet the United States. In Oregon, the subvariant's high transmissibility could combine with the state's lifting of public indoor mask requirements to create a small increase in hospitalizations, according to an [Oregon Health & Science University forecast](#). The increase would peak in early May at around 300 occupied beds, the university predicts. For now, hospitalizations remain on the decline, with a 39 percent drop in occupied beds since March 21.

Is COVID-19 an endemic yet?

COVID-19 is not yet endemic in Oregon or the United States. The word "endemic" refers to a fairly predictable disease that is usually present in a community and doesn't cause large-scale disruption to society. For example, the seasonal flu is endemic because public health experts can generally predict its behavior and the illness doesn't usually overwhelm our lives, society and health care system.

While the Omicron surge has largely dissipated, low vaccination rates and higher case counts in certain geographic pockets as well as the unpredictability of COVID-19's patterns stand in the way of endemicity. Still, once endemicity is attained, it doesn't necessarily mean that new COVID-19 variants would be more mild. COVID-19, even as an endemic disease, could still cause severe illness in some people. The flu, for example, kills between 12,000 and 52,000 people every year.

Our actions drive COVID-19 towards endemicity: get vaccinated and boosted and wear a mask when surges occur. As society's immunity level increases (from vaccinations, infections or both), so does society's protection from large surges.

FDA approves second booster shot for people 50+

The Food and Drug Administration has authorized a second booster dose of either the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine for people aged 50 and older and certain immunocompromised individuals. The second booster may be administered at least four months after an eligible individual has received their first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID vaccine. Immunocompromised people must be at least 12 to receive the 2nd Pfizer booster, and at least 18 to get the Moderna.

Data came from a [newly released Israeli study](#) found that the mortality rate was significantly lower among those who had received an additional booster. Second booster doses are now available at all CCPH vaccine clinics.

COVID-19 hospitalizations

The number of hospitalized patients with COVID-19 across Oregon is 118, which is 15 fewer than yesterday. There are 19 COVID-19 patients in intensive care unit (ICU) beds, which is three more than yesterday. There are 140 available adult ICU beds out of 672 total (21% availability) and 444 available adult non-ICU beds out of 4,251 (10% availability).

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	16,034	42.7%
12 to 17	23,464	71.8%
18 to 19	7,080	72.0%
20 to 49	122,437	73.9%
50 to 64	69,679	69.4%
65+	73,263	82.0%

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
March 26 th	116	26	2.2%
March 19 th	143	25	1.3%
March 12 th	198	53	2.9%
March 3 rd	302	81	3.7%

Testing Response

K-12 Schools in Clackamas County Now Eligible to Request At-Home COVID-19 Test Kits

Clackamas County Public Health (CCPH) is making test kits available for request via the [online portal](#). The available tests are iHealth rapid antigen tests are appropriate for use in those ages 2+. Schools are welcome to keep a supply of tests on hand to distribute to students and families as needed. Distribution should focus on those that have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and/or have had difficulty accessing testing.

[Curative](#) testing site at Harmony Campus in Milwaukie operates 7 days a week with expanded afternoon hours on weekdays. The site also now offers no-cost rapid molecular testing with results available in about an hour. Appointments are not required.

[PCR Testing](#) (Results usually within 48-72 hours)

Monday - Friday, 8:00a - 5:00p

Saturday & Sunday, 8:00a - 12:00p

[Rapid Molecular Testing](#) (Results usually within an hour)

Monday - Friday, 9:00a - 4:30p

Saturday & Sunday, 9:00a - 11:30a

Disease Response

All regularly scheduled vaccine clinics remain open. Staff are seeing early requests for administering of the 4th dose booster based on the announcements of FDA recommendations in the media, but we will hold off on administering 4th dose boosters until our Standing Orders are updated in the coming days. The mobile vaccine team conducted an onsite business vaccine clinic at Imperfect Foods with 38 employees receiving boosters. The mobile vaccine team will conduct a culturally-specific clinic at St. James Church for their Hispanic population and community members on April 1.

Last week, the COVID Investigation & Outreach unit opened 116 cases and managed 18 active outbreaks. The Education and Referral team within the unit connected with 36 individuals and/or families to offer the Social Services Rent Assistance Program (SSRA). This program is for individuals who lost income due to COVID-19 and may be at risk of missing a rent payment, being late on a rent payment, or being evicted. Of the 36 applications, 19 are pending final approval. Once approved, they will receive 2 months of rent assistance. During this stage of our response, we are focused on recovery and connection to support. The leadership team continues to align our operational strategy with that of the Region so that we can continue to support individuals in our community in reducing the spread of COVID-19.

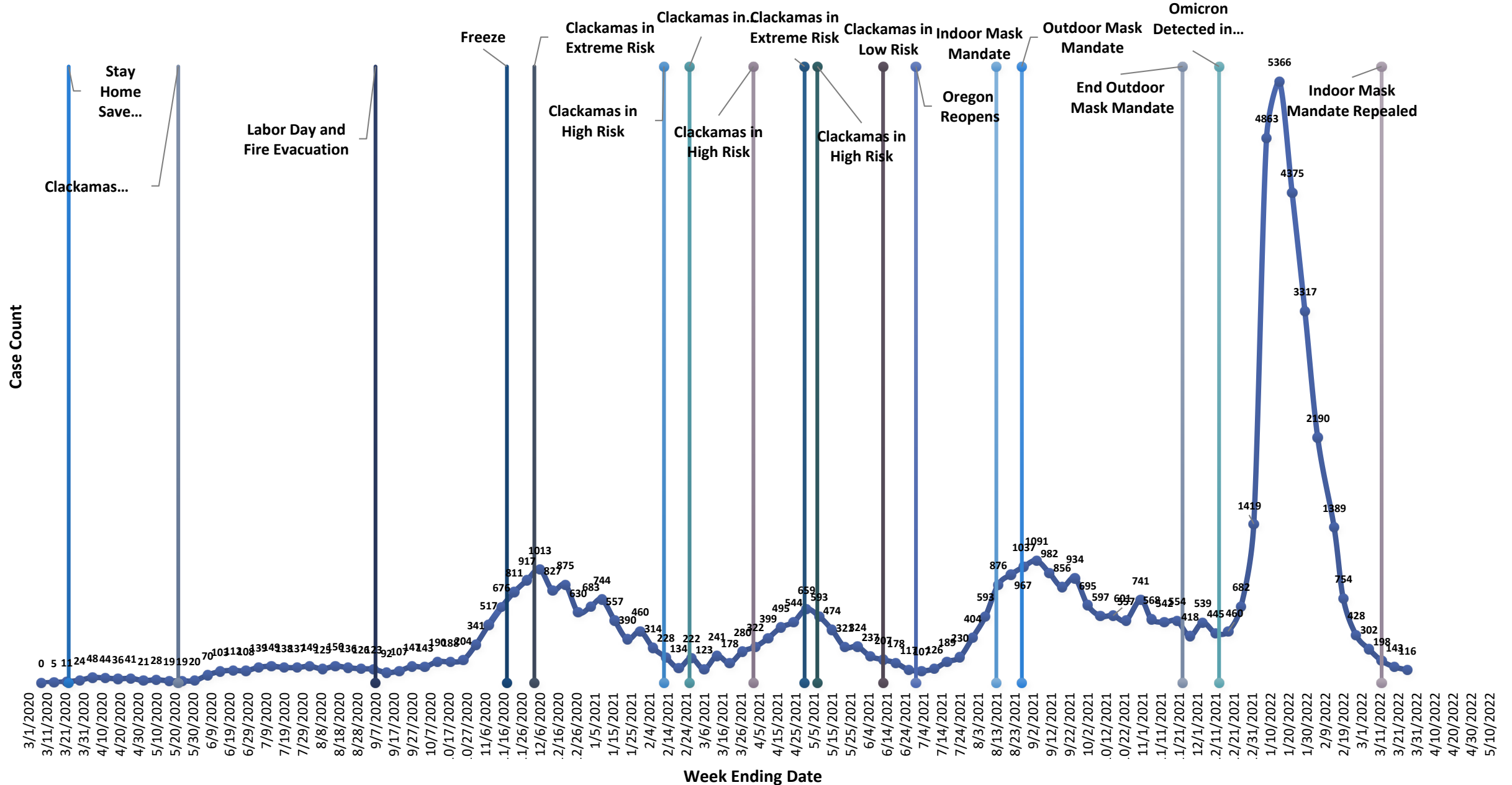
COVID-19 Update

3/31/2022

COVID Current Case and Death Data

as of 3/28/2022	Total cases	Total deaths	Change since 3/22/2022
Clackamas County	59,825	574	Cases: +198 Deaths: +22
Multnomah County	112,771	1,122	Cases: +787 Deaths: +20
Washington County	84,928	549	Cases: +107 Deaths: +11

ClackCo Case Count by Week for 3/1/20 - 03/26/22

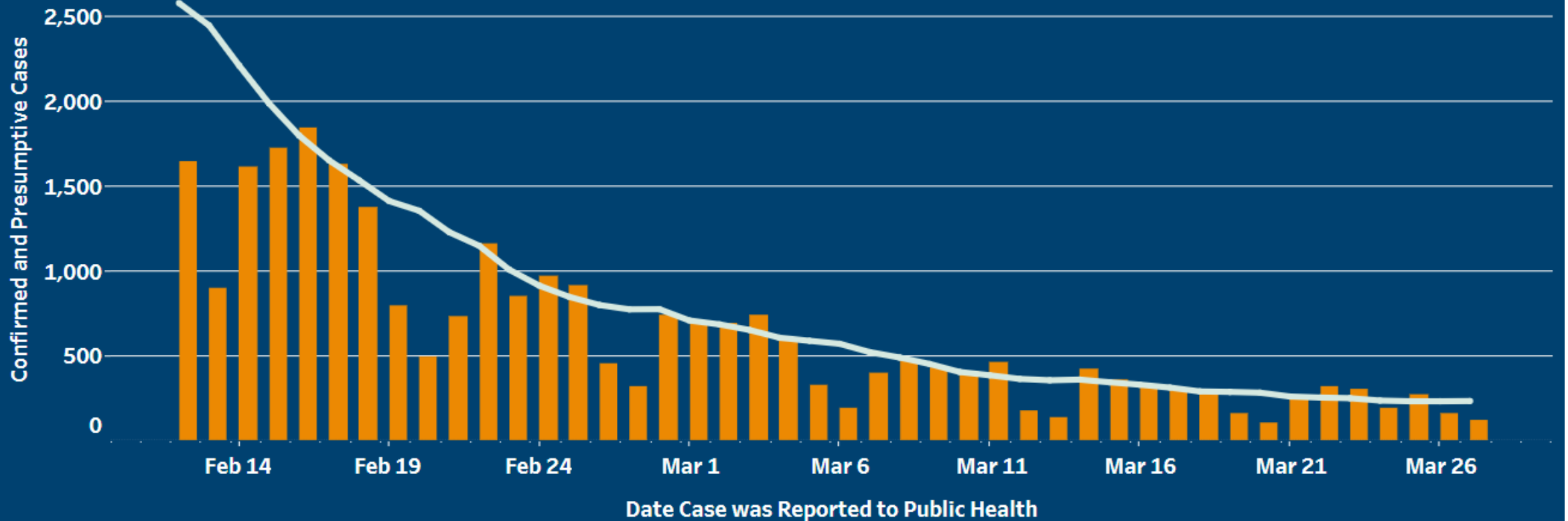


Statewide Numbers from March 28, 2022

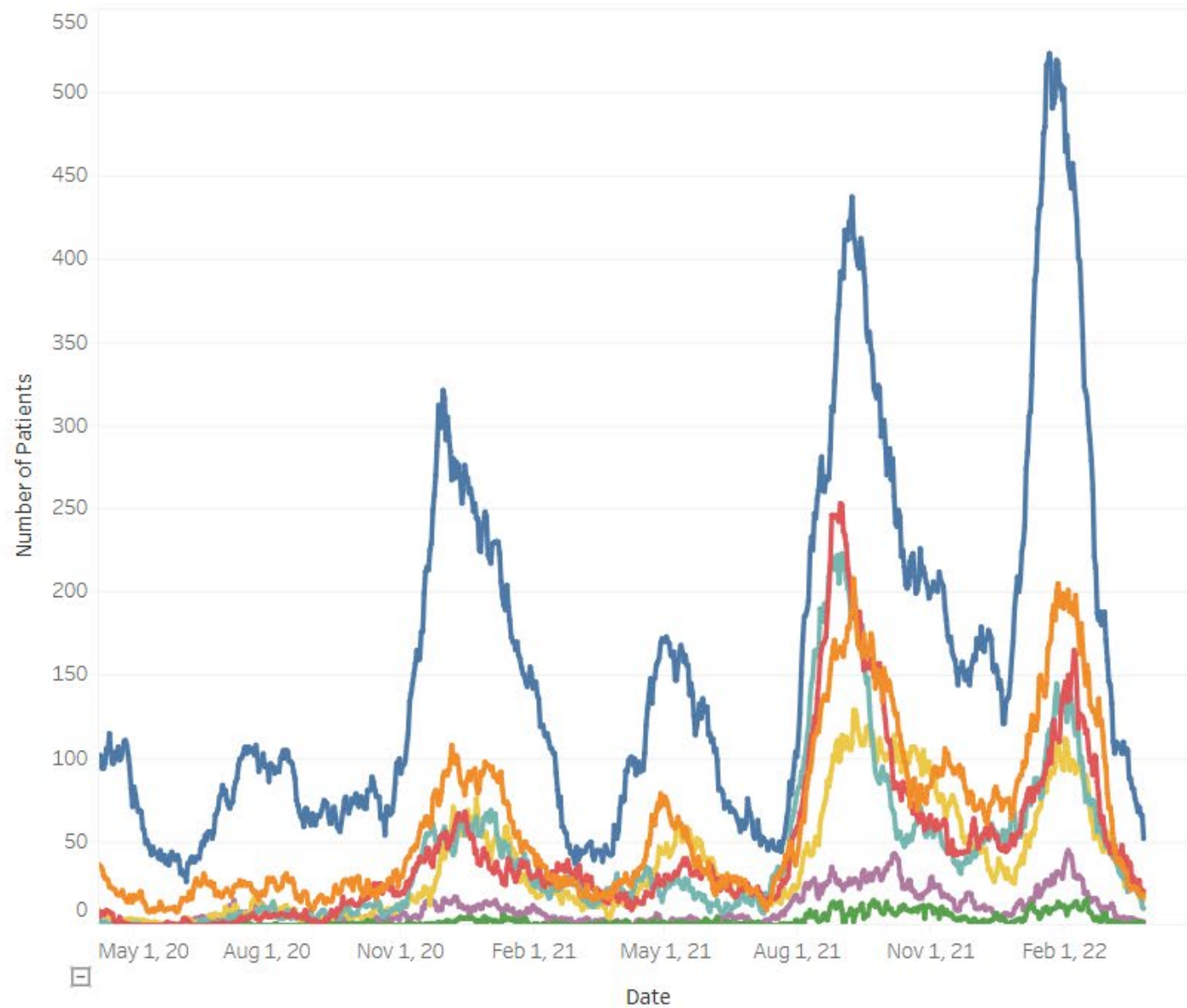
New Cases	7 Day Daily Average of Cases	Cases Per 100k in Previous 7 Days	COVID-19 Patients Hospitalized†	Tests Reported	Test Positivity	New Deaths
541 ▼	229.9	37.70	118 ▼	23,038	2.8%	39

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

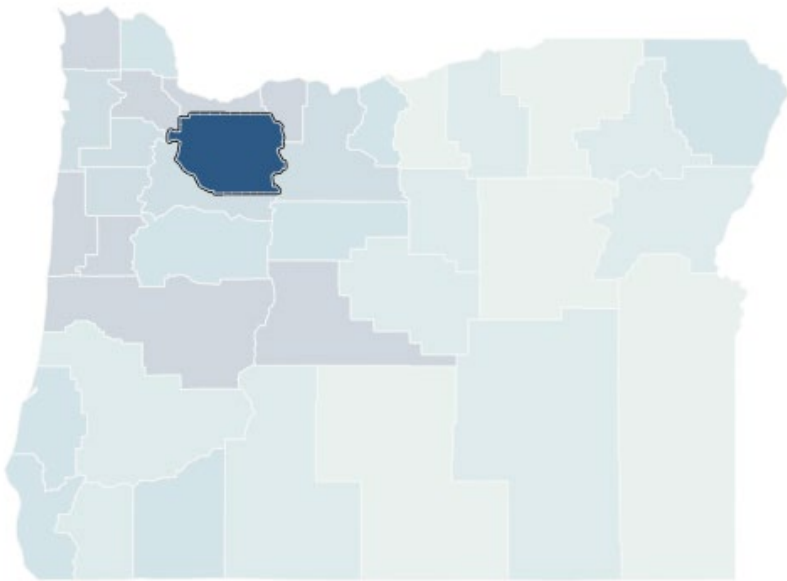


COVID-19 Positive Patients in Oregon Hospitals



Clackamas County Vaccinations

as of 3/29/2022



People ages 18 years and older living in ClackCo

80.2% have received at least one dose.

74.6% have completed their primary series.

46.9% have received an extra dose (*3rd dose or booster*)

Entire ClackCo Population

Primary Series In Progress: **22,178**

Primary Series Complete: **289,846**

750,230 doses administered in Clackamas

312,024 people vaccinated in Clackamas

Second Booster Dose

- FDA authorized a second booster dose of either the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for people aged 50+ and immunocompromised individuals
- Administered at least 4 months after the first booster dose
- Immunocompromised people must be at least 12 to receive the 2nd Pfizer booster, and at least 18 to receive the Moderna booster
- Available at all CCPH vaccine clinics

Omicron Updates

- Worldwide case count dropped 17.1%
- U.S. averaging 27,134 new cases a day
- U.S. case counts dropped 5.4%
- Oregon averaging 229 cases a day
- Oregon case counts dropped 21%
- ClackCo averaging 16 cases a day
- ClackCo case counts dropped 20%



Free Tests

Federal Free At-Home Tests

- Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order **4 more** free iHealth tests
- Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days
- Order your tests today at covidtests.gov



CCPH Free At-Home Tests

- Local governments and municipalities can request test kits
- Small businesses and a variety of organizations serving vulnerable populations can also request test kits
- Available at all vaccine clinics
- Organizations interested in requesting kits should visit


<https://www.clackamas.us/coronavirus/testkits>

Free Drive-Through Tests


- Weekly at Clackamas Community College Harmony Campus
- Now open 7 days a week
- PCR Testing:
M-F, 8:00a - 5:00p, Sat-Sun, 8:00a - 12:00p
- Rapid Molecular Testing:
M-F, 9:00a - 4:30p, Sat-Sun, 9:00a - 11:30a
- Schedule an appointment cur.tv/milwaukie

OHA COVID-19 Hotline and Website


COVID-19 Support Hotline
New Oregon Health Authority resource for those who have tested positive and for COVID-19 questions




General health information




Isolation and quarantine information




Advice on how to talk to close contacts



Resources to help with isolation



help with reporting of positive test result



Multiple languages available

Call: 866-917-8881 or visit Oregon.gov/positivecovidtest
Phone hours: 8am-6pm Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm Saturday

- Report positive at-home or testing provider COVID-19 tests
- Take a 20-45 minute online survey
- Get information about what to do if you test positive
- **Now supporting school-related questions**

Supporting Mental Health and Emotional Health

As masks start to come off, it is normal that we may experience some feeling of fear and anxiety. You might find that going mask-less in public and transitioning back to “normal” makes you feel out of place or worried. Here are a few tips you can use to manage your mental health during this time.

- Focus on things you can control; i.e. when you are comfortable taking your mask off in public
- Fuel your body by eating a healthy diet and drinking plenty of water
- Spend time outside
- Take deep breaths and stretch often
- Stay connected to your support systems
- Use kindness and support each other through this phase of recovery
- Connect with someone who will listen at safestrong@Clackamas.us or call 503-655-8585

Masks are Welcome Here

We support your choice
to wear a mask



Vaccine Clinics

Walk-ins available, while vaccine supplies last, and within 30-minutes of clinic closing time.

Date	Location
Monday 3pm – 7pm	Molalla United Methodist Church 111 S. Mathias Rd, Molalla
Tuesday 3pm – 7pm	Canby Foursquare Church 2350 SE Territorial Rd, Canby
Wednesday - Saturday 11am – 7pm	Clackamas Town Center 12000 SE 82 nd Ave, Happy Valley (2 nd floor next to LensCrafters)
Thursday 3pm – 7pm	Providence Willamette Falls Community Center 519 15 th St, Oregon City
Friday 2pm – 5pm	Sandy Community/Senior Center 38348 Pioneer Blvd, Sandy

VACCINE SCHEDULING



Local opportunities in ClackCo:
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

COVID-19 Wraparound Services

Available Resources

- Rent, Mortgage, Utilities, Food, Emergency Shelter, Financial Assistance

How to Refer Someone for Assistance

- Email EOCCBO_Coordinator@Clackamas.us with the client's full name, date of birth, address, and what their current needs are
- Direct them to call the PIC line to be connected with one of our referral coordinators: 503-655-8224

Eligibility

- Clients are eligible for wrap-around support if they have tested positive for COVID-19, meet presumptive criteria, or are a confirmed close contact

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



County Resources

Help protect yourself and others by staying home if you are sick. Visit our webpage for more resources:

www.clackamas.us/coronavirus

