



# DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

Our local COVID-19 updates represent the coordinated effort of the agencies that make up the DCCRT

## JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 7, 2020 DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) **Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results: Happy Labor Day!** It's a good day in Douglas County. As of 12:00 pm today, Monday, September 7, 2020, there are **NO** new positive test results since our noon case update yesterday. The total number of cases (people with positive test results and presumptive) in Douglas County remains at 182\*.

Douglas County, OR - COVID-19 - Case Update					
Date	Thursday, September 3, 2020	Friday, September 4, 2020	Saturday, September 5, 2020	Sunday, September 6, 2020	Labor Day Monday, September 7, 2020
Total COVID-19 Cases	180	180	180	182	182
People with Positive PCR or Antigen Test Results	163	163	163	164	164
Presumptive	17	17	17	18	18
Total Currently Hospitalized	0	0	0	0	0
Total Currently in Isolation	8	8	7	9	5
Total COVID-19 Related Deaths	3	3	3	3	3
Total Negative Test Results	10,717	10,955	10,986	11,144	11,346

\*Our daily update includes the total number of cases in Douglas County, which combines people with positive test results and presumptives. We provide a breakout of the people with positive test results and presumptives in the chart above. Please note there will be times when a presumptive will move to a positive test result, and our total case number will not change because the case has already been counted, instead you will see an adjustment to our breakout numbers for positive test results and presumptives.

### Happy Labor Day, Please Celebrate Safely

On behalf of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners and the DCCRT Team we wish you a safe and happy Labor Day. As a reminder, the safest way to celebrate during the pandemic is to limit groups and gatherings, limit travel, stay six feet apart and to wear face coverings were recommended. Past holiday weekends have led to outbreaks in our state with people celebrating in an unsafe manner that resulted in an uptick in cases. With case numbers finally declining, it's more important than ever for our citizens to rethink and limit holiday gatherings, and find safe ways to celebrate so we can continue to make progress against COVID-19. The bottom line is please use common sense, follow the current guidelines and don't let COVID-19 be an unwanted party crasher this year. [Click here to check out our Tips to Help Keep Your Labor Day Celebrations COVID-19 Safe.](#)

### EXCESSIVE HEAT, RED FLAG AND FIRE WEATHER WATCH WARNING CONTINUES

Shared from the [National Weather Service – Medford, Oregon \(NWS\)](#). The NWS has predicted excessive heat, red flag and fire weather watch warnings for southern Oregon and northern California including the Umpqua Basin and the Umpqua National Forest beginning today, Labor Day. All three weather events are predicted to be in effect from 11:00 pm, Monday, September 7 through the morning of Wednesday, September 9, 2020. What this means for residents is higher than normal temperatures, possibly reaching in triple digits; strong, gusty winds with low relative humidity; poor overnight recoveries with temperatures in the upper 60's; areas of smoke and haze from wildfires to the south; and high fire danger which could contribute to a significant spread of new and existing fires.

**DFPA: One Less Spark, One Less Wildfire:** Remember to be fire safe if traveling or venturing out into the wilderness. View the NWS hazard area in detail at: <https://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mfr/HAZARD>. For more information about restrictions and fire danger in our area log onto Douglas Forest Protective Services website at: <https://www.dfpa.net/>



### **USFS: Remember Industrial Fire Precaution at to Level IV**

Shared from the [US Forest Service – Umpqua National Forest](#). As a reminder, due to increased fire danger levels, the Umpqua National Forest entered Industrial Fire Precaution Level IV on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 Under IFPL IV industrial operators are prohibited operating on Umpqua National Forest lands. **Fire Wood Cutting** – All firewood cutting on the Umpqua National Forest is prohibited. **Mining Permits and Commercial Permit Holders** – All operations are to cease. The forest remains at an EXTREME fire danger rating and Public Use Restrictions Level 2 which prohibits all campfires on all Umpqua National Forest lands. For more information about the Umpqua National Forest call the Forest at (541) 957-3200 or [www.fs.usda.gov/umpqua](http://www.fs.usda.gov/umpqua).

### **Excessive Heat Expected: Stay Safe and Stay Cool:**

There is an excessive heat warning in effect through Wednesday, September 9, 2020. Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, your Douglas County Public Health Officer and DPHN staff encourage you to take care of you and your family during this heat advisory and remember to:

- Stay hydrated and drink plenty of fluids, especially water.
- Try to stay in an air-conditioned room or building.
- Try to limit your exposure to the sun and heat.
- Take extra precautions if you work or spend time outside; like wearing a hat, sunglasses, applying sunscreen, taking frequent breaks in the shade or in air-conditioning and always have plenty of water and fluids with you.
- Please check up on relatives, pets, livestock and neighbors.
- Young children and pets should never be left unattended in vehicles under any circumstances.
- Take precautions if venturing into cold or rushing waters by wearing a life jacket.
- Take extra precautions if you work or spend time outside.
- When possible reschedule strenuous activities to early morning or evening.
- Know the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
- Wear lightweight and loose fitting clothing when possible.
- Anyone overcome by heat should be moved to a cool and shaded location.
- Watch for signs of heat stroke or exhaustion. [Click here for the list of heat related symptoms](#).
- Remember heat stroke is an emergency! Call 911, if symptoms do not subside.

### **OHA Definition for Recovered**

Previously, we used the OHA definition for recovered that considered people recovered if they were 10 days from onset and symptoms were improving. As more is learned about COVID, the clinical definition of recovery is evolving. Due to the evolving nature of this definition, we have removed the column in our chart listing our recovered cases. We added the number of those in isolation that roughly correlates with the number of active cases. The DCCRT noon case and daily update will report the Total Number of COVID-19 Cases, the number of positive test results (as of 12:00 pm that day), the number of presumptive, total currently hospitalized, total currently in isolation, total COVID-19 deaths and total negative test results in Douglas County. **Currently, DPHN is supporting 5 cases in isolation.**

### **Getting Tested & Testing Clinics**

**The next drive-through testing clinic will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020, in Roseburg.** As a reminder, if you are having symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches and pains, diarrhea, sore throat or decreased sense of smell and taste, talk to your health care provider about being tested for COVID-19. Patients without a Primary Care Provider, that are looking for a COVID-19 test should contact the Sutherlin Aviva Health Clinic at (541) 459-3788. The first drive-through testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 1455 people tested in 68 drive-through clinics, while additional testing continues in hospitals, urgent cares and clinics. The drive-through clinics are led by DPHN, in conjunction with partner agencies including; Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Douglas County Public Works, local volunteers and local health professionals.

### **Oregon COVID-19 Case Update**

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) reports new cases once a day on their website at [www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus](http://www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus). OHA also releases a daily situation status report and a weekly report that details the overall picture of the COVID-19 outbreak within our state. The daily report details positive and presumptive cases, as well as deaths by county and statewide, while the weekly report is more in depth and includes statistical data related the severity of cases by age, gender, zip codes, ethnicity, as well as information on workplace and senior care facility outbreaks in Oregon. Find additional information on the state or Federal COVID-19 response go to [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), and [211Info](#). OHA expanded their reporting for COVID-19 case management to now include presumptive COVID-19 cases in their total case number. DPHN is reporting the number of people with new positive test results and any new presumptives and uses the OHA's definition of presumptive as having had close contact with a known, confirmed COVID-19 case, showing symptoms and not yet having a positive nasal swab/PCR or antigen test for COVID-19. Testing continues, as DPHN has been holding 2-3 clinics a week and hospitals, urgent cares and clinics continue to test. DPHN continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, advising and supporting quarantine and isolation.

### **ODVA: REMINDER: Veterans Should Check Their VA Billing Before the End of the Year**

Shared from the [Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs](#). The ODVA wants to remind Oregon veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Care System that they may still be accruing copays and other regular expenses even though they are not receiving bills. The U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs has suspended billing to veterans as of April 1, in accordance with the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. However, veterans should be aware that **any copays or other expenses they normally pay are continuing to accrue**. No interest or late fees are being charged. When billing resumes, which is anticipated in January 2021, the full amount will come due unless the veteran has opted to pay in advance. By calling the VA toll-free at 1-888-827-4817, veterans may receive information about any current balance due and

pay their VA medical bills. When billing resumes, veterans will have the option of requesting financial hardship assistance to establish a repayment plan if needed. The VA will not withhold treatment or medication from any veteran because of inability to pay their bills, but it can impose late fees or take other action that may affect your other veterans' benefits or your credit score once billing resumes. For personalized services in your area, find the closest Veteran Services Office on ODVA's online directory at <https://www.oregon.gov/odva/services/pages/county-services.aspx>. Veterans are encouraged to stay connected with the latest veteran information #oregonvet.

### **Facebook Live with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer**

Join us **Tuesday, September 8, 2020** for the next virtual town hall Q&A with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, your Douglas County Public Health Officer at 6:00 pm, hosted by DPHN and found on the [DPHN Facebook page](#).

## **LOCAL COVID-19 INFORMATION**

### **Stay Informed with Accurate Local Information**

Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the [Douglas County Government website](#) or the [DPHN website](#). Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Robert Dannenhoffer and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team (DCCRT) have been working hard to cooperatively provide accurate and timely information to Douglas County residents since March 8, 2020. Our local COVID-19 updates represent the coordinated effort of the agencies that make up the DCCRT.

**Local COVID-19 Hotline** If you have questions about COVID-19 or need access to available local resources, call the Douglas County COVID-19 Hotline at (541) 464-6550. It is staffed from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, 7 days a week.

**Questions about Governor's Reopening or Statewide Rules?** If you have questions or need more information about the Governor's Phased Reopening Plans, Sector Specific Guidelines or her latest Statewide Orders go to the Governor's COVID-19 website at <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19/> or call Business Oregon's Navigator Hotline at **(833) 604-0880**.

**Who Do You Contact to Report Compliance Issues with the Governor's Statewide Rules?** **Please do not call 911, Douglas County Sheriff's Office or Douglas County Offices to report compliance issues with the Governor's orders.** The Governor has directed the State of Oregon offices for Oregon Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) to be the enforcement agencies responsible for ensuring restaurants, bars, and other businesses comply with COVID-related rules.

[Click here](#) to read the Governor's official press release on COVID-19 rules compliance.

[Click here](#) for the Governor's latest statewide rules, effective Friday, July 24, 2020.

**For more information or to report compliance issues concerning the Governor's COVID-19 orders contact:**  
OSHA: (800) 922-2689 or [OSHA website](#) or **OLCC** (503) 872-5000 or [OLCC website](#)

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Contact **Tamara Howell**, Public Information Officer, Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, (541) 670-2804 cell/(541) 957-4896 [tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us](mailto:tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us)

Contact **Vanessa Becker**, Public Information Officer, Douglas Public Health Network, (541) 817-6552 cell (541) 440-3571 [vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org](mailto:vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org)