



# 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 17, 2020 DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results: Focus continues on our local COVID-19 response. As of 12:00 pm today, Thursday, September 17, 2020, there are **FIVE** people with 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 is now at 200\*. There are six hospitalized Douglas County COVID patients. One Douglas County patient is being hospitalized out-of-the-area, and the remaining five are being hospitalized locally. *Please note: While we had the correct information in our update header yesterday, we did have an error in our case update chart. The numbers have been corrected and now reflect the correct data. Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

**NOTICE:** While our local numbers have been low over the last 5 weeks, we are now seeing an unfortunate spike in cases. In addition to dealing with COVID-19, we recognize that our residents, neighbors and friends are incredibly distracted, displaced and reeling from the devastating local wildfires, we are too. **But, we cannot lose sight of the fact that we are still in the midst of a global pandemic.** We continue to encourage you to stay vigilant in protecting you and your family from contracting or spreading this virus. Please continue to curb your travel, limit attending social gatherings, stay home if you are sick, wash your hands, stay six feet apart and wear a mask where recommended. Stopping the increase of COVID-19 cases in our county is really up to YOU, our residents.

Douglas County, OR - COVID-19 - Case Update					
Date	Sunday, September 13, 2020	Monday, September 14, 2020	Tuesday, September 15, 2020	Wednesday, September 16, 2020	Today, Thursday, September 17, 2020
Total COVID-19 Cases	189	191	193	195	200
People with Positive PCR or Antigen Test Results	169	171	173	174	179
Presumptive	20	20	20	21	21
Total Currently Hospitalized	0	2	5	5	6
Total Currently in Isolation	8	10	11	13	18
Total COVID-19 Related Deaths	3	3	3	3	3
Total Negative Test Results	11,817	11,834	11,905	11,959	12,074

### LOCAL WILDFIRE INFORMATION

Local wildfire information is available directly from the links listed here. Please log onto their sites for the most up to date information. The Archie Creek Fire [Website](#), [Facebook page](#), phone number: (971) 334-767 and email: [2020.archiecreek@firenet.gov](mailto:2020.archiecreek@firenet.gov). The Thielsen Fire [Website](#), [Facebook page](#), phone number: (541) 595-8227 and email: [2020.Thielsen@firenet.gov](mailto:2020.Thielsen@firenet.gov). Please continue to monitor the Douglas Forest Protective Association's [Website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for additional local wildfire updates. Regional fire information is available on [Inciweb](#). For current evacuation information please continue to monitor the Douglas County Sheriff's Office [website](#) or [Facebook page](#). Please call 911 to report any signs of new fires.

### AIR QUALITY ALERT: AIR POLLUTION ADVISORY

Douglas County continues to experience fluctuations in air quality due to the local wildfires. However, current [Air Quality Index](#) (AQI) is now at 76 (PM2.5), which is at a moderate level. If you are unusually sensitive to particle pollution, consider reducing your activity level or shorten the amount of time you are active outdoors. These are the best ways to reduce the amount of particle pollution from wildfire smoke you breathe into your lungs. We know that poor air quality can affect your overall health. It can cause chest pain, irregular heartbeat, shortness of breath, headaches, sore throat, coughing, runny nose and burning and eye irritation. DPHN put together a graphic ([click here to view graphic](#)) that will help residents understand



the impact of wildfire smoke, poor air quality and COVID-19.

- Frequently check current air quality conditions in your area. Stay informed on air quality ratings and more by visiting the Oregon Smoke Blog at <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>.
- Learn how to stay safe from wildfire smoke at <https://www.cdc.gov/air/wildfire-smoke/default.htm>.
- Download the #OregonAir phone app to stay up-to-date on the current air quality.
- For more information about Wildfire Smoke and Your Health [click here](#).

Everyone should take necessary steps to protect themselves and their family's health by reducing their exposure when particle pollution levels are in this range. [Click here](#) for more information and safety tips from airnow.gov. Please breathe safe!

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*\*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.*

### **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 17 cases in isolation.**

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

**The next drive-through testing clinic is scheduled for Friday, September 18, 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 1480 people tested in 71 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](#).

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

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.

### **Reminder: Limit Travel, Social Gatherings and Visitors**

We will continue to encourage residents to be cautious about traveling or inviting people from outside our county, and instead encourage our residents to delay travel, consider stay-cations and reschedule visits from out-of-the-area friends and family to a later date. We continue to identify people with positive test results that have chosen to travel out of Oregon to visit relatives or to take vacations. While traveling those individuals and families have come in contact with someone with COVID-19 and brought it back to Douglas County. We have expanded our list of states directly related to our cases though travel, they include Alaska, Washington, California, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee, Michigan, Ohio, Massachusetts and Wyoming. A few other cases were the result of a family member coming to Douglas County to visit, brought the virus with them and infected their host family. In addition to limiting travel, we are asking that you also limit attending social gatherings, stay home if you are sick, wash your hands, stay six feet apart and wear a mask where recommended. Reversing the increase of COVID-19 cases in our county is really up to YOU, our residents.

### **Do you have to quarantine or isolate because of COVID-19, but don't have paid time off?**

Shared from the [Oregon Division of Consumer and Business Services](#). The [COVID-19 Temporary Paid Leave Program](#) is available to people who need to quarantine or isolate because of COVID-19 exposure or are experiencing symptoms and need a medical diagnosis, but do not qualify for COVID-19-related paid sick leave (or do not have access to COVID-19-related paid time off). **If you meet all of the eligibility requirements, you will get a \$120 per-day payment, up to 10 working days (\$1,200 total) for the time you need to quarantine or isolate.** To see if you are eligible, [take this quiz](#) or see the requirements listed below. Please read the [instructions](#) for help completing the application.

### **COVID-19-Related Paid Sick Leave Eligibility Requirements:**

To be eligible for the program, you must meet all the following requirements:

- Work in Oregon and required to file an Oregon personal income tax return.
- Directed to quarantine by a local or tribal public health authority or health care provider because of exposure to someone infected or have COVID-19-related symptoms and are seeking a medical diagnosis.
- Not able to work (including telework) because you need to quarantine or isolate.
- Do not expect to earn more than \$60,000 individually or \$120,000 jointly in 2020.
- Your employer does not provide COVID-19-related paid sick leave or you have exhausted your available COVID-19-related paid sick leave.
- Are not applying for unemployment insurance benefits for the time off due to quarantine or isolation.
- Are not applying for workers' compensation benefits for the time off due to quarantine or isolation or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Are not seeking or using benefits from similar COVID-19 quarantine relief programs in Oregon or another state.
- Are not applying for or receiving other forms of paid leave from your employer during your quarantine or isolation, such as banked sick leave or vacation leave.
- Are not laid off or furloughed by your employer.
- Must have notified your employer that you need to quarantine or isolate.
- Can claim only one quarantine period.

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

Join us **tonight, Friday, September 18, 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, DPHN 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.

### **Douglas County Resource Hotline: (541) 464-6550:**

Douglas County Commissioners and Douglas Public Health Network have added a resource and referral service to the current COVID-19 hotline for Douglas County residents. The added service will help residents get connected to resources and services due to the local wildfires. Referral and resource information will be available about local emergency shelters, livestock and animal boarding options, donation locations, volunteer opportunities, welfare check referrals, food and water resources and help with health and wellness questions. This is **NOT** the hotline for Fire Updates or Evacuation information. Please contact or follow DFPA and DCSO for the most up-to-date wildfire information. **The Resource/COVID-19 Hotline is (541) 464-6550. It is staffed from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, 7 days a week until further notice.**

**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)