



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 – November 27, 2020 CORRECTION DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) **Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results:** As we officially kick off the Christmas Season, it's a reminder to take care of the ones you love by doing everything you can to protect them from getting COVID-19. As of 12:00 pm today, Friday, November 27, 2020, there are **SIX (6) people with new positive test results and ONE (1) new presumptive since our noon case update yesterday***. The total number of cases (people with positive test results and presumptive) in Douglas County is now at **914***. Currently, there are **FIFTEEN (15) Douglas County COVID-19 patients** that are being hospitalized locally. Our Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, under the direction of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, our Public Health Officer and Douglas Public Health Network continue to devote all resources available to our local COVID efforts.

Douglas County, OR - COVID-19 - Case Update

Date	Monday, November 23, 2020	Tuesday, November 24, 2020	Wednesday, November 25, 2020	Thursday, November 26, 2020	Today, Friday, November 27, 2020
Total COVID-19 Cases	822	858	887	907	914
People with Positive PCR or Antigen Test Results	756	792	820	840	846
Presumptive	66	66	67	67	68
Total Currently Hospitalized	20	19	15	13	15
Total Currently in Isolation	251	237	255	234	223
Total COVID-19 Related Deaths	17	17	17	17	17
Total Negative Test Results	18,356	18,479	18,526	18,540	18,544

*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.

Series: Reason #5 Why COVID-19 Is Spreading Locally

**DURING THIS TIME,
PLEASE LIMIT TRAVEL TO
ESSENTIAL TRIPS ONLY.**

This is day five of our series on the reasons behind our local outbreaks. As a reminder, our reason series announcements are in no particular order. Over the last four days we have talked about reasons for our local outbreaks, they included unsafe or unprotected birthday parties, church gatherings, people going to work or to social events when they are sick and social group gatherings like in-person poker game nights, club meetings, professional association luncheons, committee planning sessions and holiday gift exchanges. **Today, we want to talk about Reason #5: Travel.** We have had numerous cases, and sadly,

local deaths directly linked to residents who have chosen to travel out of the area and out of the state, especially to hot spots (high COVID case areas) and have subsequently brought the COVID virus back with them. They visited relatives or friends that were sick, did not follow COVID guidelines to protect themselves and did not quarantine for the 14-day period upon return. As a result of their travel they spread the virus to people in our county. We have mentioned these types of actions on numerous occasions in our updates, but people are still not taking our advice and limiting or cancelling travel. If you still do not think the coronavirus can spread like wildfire from travel, here is a case in point. Recently, a local outbreak spiraled out of control, in a matter of days. This outbreak is riddled with poor choices that allowed the virus to spread and a lot of people sick. A local resident decided to travel to another state that had a high level of COVID cases, simply to visit family. There was not an emergency or pressing need to travel. Either at the destination or during their journey the resident



unknowingly contracted coronavirus. The resident did not self-quarantine for 14 days after returning home from the visit, thus unknowingly exposed and infected their family with the COVID virus, upon their return. One member of that family then attended a large social event with 60+ people, who were not wearing face coverings or practicing social distancing, and unknowingly exposed and infected several guests at the event. A guest at the event then had a different family gathering that exposed and infected a few others. Several of those people then went to work and unknowingly exposed and infected their coworkers. The result of this domino effect of spreading the virus was a massive COVID outbreak in our county that involved several sick families, numerous residents in quarantine, a school outbreak and several businesses adversely affected...and they were all related to one residents' so-called 'innocent' choice travel. Please, if you have to travel, follow the guidelines, keep your distance, mask-up and quarantine for 14 days upon your return.

Because COVID-19 is spread through person-to-person contact, we continue to stress the importance of protecting yourself and others you care about. Right now we need everyone to think about the risk factors associated with these types of activities. How would you feel if you were responsible for passing this virus onto someone that you love, that might not be able to fight off the disease? Please limit or cancel your travel plans, limit interactions with others, opt for virtual visits with family and friends and stay home if you are sick. Please be safe in all you do, not just for yourself, but for the health and safety of others, especially those that already have a compromised immune system.

How Do We Stop the Spread of COVID-19 In Douglas County?

On August 4, 2020, we released a special COVID report on COVID-RISK and we wanted to reiterate that message again. [Click here to read the entire report.](#) How do we stop the spread of COVID-19 in Douglas County? The answer is actually quite simple; we need everyone to make good choices and really stop and think about their activities and the **COVID-RISK** associated with those activities.

If we want to turn the tables on spread of this virus in our communities, we need residents to:

- 1) **Evaluate the risk before you travel**
 - a. Is it necessary that I travel right now or that people travel to see me right now?
 - b. Am I sure that I am not sick? Or that I might make someone in my family sick?
 - c. Am I traveling to a known COVID hot spot? Am I visiting family that could be sick?
 - d. How will I get there? Car, Plane, Train? What safety measures do they have in place?
 - e. How many people will I come in contact with? Will I be in confined spaces with strangers?
 - f. Am I able to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival to my destination?
 - g. Am I able to quarantine for 14 days upon my return home?
 - h. What restrictions are in place at my proposed destination? Do I have to take a test before I go?
 - i. Is it safe to travel right now?

- 2) **Limit who you see or visit**
 - a. Has the person I'm visiting been exposed to the coronavirus
 - b. Did they recently travel out of the area?
 - c. Did they self-quarantine going and upon their return?
 - d. Are they sick?
 - e. Could I unknowingly expose them to the virus?

- 3) **Ask your family and friends to stay home**
 - a. We know it is tough right now, but please ask visitors to stay home.
 - b. Find non-contact ways to visit with each other like Facetime, Zoom meetings, texting, sending or posting photos, writing letters and making phone calls.

- 4) **Don't attend that social gathering**
 - a. Again, we know it is hard, but resist the urge to attend that wedding, birthday party, holiday dinner, poker party, prayer group or professional association luncheon.

- 5) **Stay home if you are sick**
 - a. Going to work or to social events or shopping when you feel you are, "*only just a little sick*" could potentially expose others to your illness and cause an unnecessary outbreak.
 - b. Stay home if you are also awaiting test results or if you have been asked to isolate or quarantine.
 - c. Ask for help from friends and family to deliver meals and supplies, or utilize food or grocery delivery options near you.

Especially During the Holiday Season - You Are the Key to Controlling the Spread of COVID!

It is no secret that the key to stopping the continued spread of the coronavirus is, **YOU**, our residents, our families, our communities and our businesses. Prevention is the best medicine, and not just to help stop the spread of COVID, but for your overall health and wellbeing as well. If each and every individual in our county would make a real concerted effort to implement prevention measures into their daily routine, we could see a huge decrease in our COVID case numbers. We need each and everyone one of our residents to take the necessary steps to minimize the spread of germs and contagions. You can help by staying home this holiday season, keeping gatherings to just your household, maintaining healthier eating habits; incorporate exercise and cleaning routines; being cautious and keeping distance from others; making modifications to how you socialize with others; choosing no contact deliveries and services; and staying home if you are sick. The suggestions we make and the guidelines presented by public health are not just for your health and safety, but for the health and safety of everyone, including our kids, our grandparents, our coworkers, our first responders, our teachers and our businesses. We know we sound like a broken record, but our primary focus is to do everything we can to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our residents. Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, Douglas County Public Health Official, urges residents to stay home when they are sick to help protect others from getting sick and spreading disease. This means not only staying home from work and

school, but also staying home from all other activities and social events. Please, if you are sick, even if you just have a runny nose or stuffy head, do not go to work or attend gatherings, church, parties, events, weddings, game nights, prayer groups, or go work out at the gym and expose others to your illness.

Tips to Help Stop the Spread of COVID

- *Make a habit of washing and sanitizing your hands, regularly. That means washing after you eat, if you touch new surfaces, go to the bathroom, open a door, go to the store, go to the post office or after a meeting. Also try and avoid touching your face as much as possible.*
- *Please wear a mask when you are around others not from your household. Not just for your protection, but for the protection of others.*
- *Stay at least six feet apart from anyone that is not from your immediate household. This means paying attention to the distance stickers at the store, the bank, at restaurants and at businesses. Please be respectful, kind and polite, by giving people ample space.*
- *Stay home from work, school and play if you are sick. This includes not running errands or going shopping or inviting visitors to your home. If you need help, reach out to friends, family or utilize an app or businesses that offer no contact deliveries or services.*
- *Minimize travel, especially out of the state and limit visitors to your home.*
- *Minimize attending social gatherings or going places where there are large groups of people.*

The DCCRT team, under the direction of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, along with Dr. Dannenhoffer and Douglas Public Health Network encourage residents to make prevention measures a part of their everyday routines.

Local Cases Being Supported in Isolation and Quarantine

Currently, DPHN is supporting **223 cases** in isolation, as well as another **347 contacts** in quarantine in Douglas County. Isolation is recommended for confirmed and presumptive cases, quarantine is recommended for contacts of confirmed or presumptive cases. Currently, staff is supporting an astounding **570 total contacts** in isolation or quarantine. This number represents a snapshot of the significant amount of work being done by our county and Douglas Public Health Network to help control the spread of COVID-19.

Getting Tested & Testing Clinics

The next drive-through testing clinic will be Today, Friday, November 27, 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 1964 people tested in 92 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. 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 Presumptive

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.

OHA Reporting and Definition for Recovered

As per the Oregon Health Authority COVID-19 Investigative Guidelines, the number of recovered cases is no longer being assessed or reported by OHA. Up until May 1st, 2020 recovery from COVID-19 was defined as being afebrile (not feverish), without the use of antipyretics (medicine to reduce a fever), and having resolution of cough, shortness of breath and diarrhea for at least 72 hours. As more was learned about symptoms, recovery and contagious period, the definition of recovered changed. Beginning May 1st, OHA stopped reporting recovered cases while also separating recovery from contagious or isolation period. Many cases were no longer contagious, as they were outside of the contagious period, but still having lingering symptoms. To be consistent with OHA and to adapt as we learn more about this new virus, we removed the column in our chart listing recovered cases. At that point, we added the number of those in isolation, roughly indicating active or infectious cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County.

Facebook Live with Dr. Bob

Please join us **TONIGHT! Friday, November 27, 2020 at 4:00 pm** for the next Facebook Live event with Dr. Bob. hosted by DPHN on the DPHN Facebook page. Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, our Douglas County Public Health Officer will

continue their normal schedule of Facebook “Live Q&A Updates” next week with both his Tuesday night at 6:00 pm and Friday night at 4:00 pm on the DPHN Facebook page. Residents are still able to submit their COVID-19 questions to Dr. Bob during the live shows, but you can also email your questions to: Facebookquestions@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org. Dr. Bob and the DPHN team will do their best to respond to as many questions as they can during their weekly updates.

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/COVID-19 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 5:00 pm, 7 days a week until further notice.**

Questions about Governor’s New Statewide Metrics and Rules? If you have questions or need more information on statewide mandates, guidelines or rules, go to the Governor’s COVID-19 website at <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19/> or call the Business Oregon's Navigator Hotline at (833) 604-0880. **For information on COVID-19 in other counties and around Oregon, call 211 or visit [211info](#).**

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 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. **For more information or to report compliance issues contact:** OSHA: (800) 922-2689 or [OSHA website](#) or [OLCC](#) (503) 872-5000 or [OLCC website](#)

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