



# 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 – December 2, 2020 DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) **Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results:** As of 12:00 pm Today, Wednesday, December 2, 2020, there are **THIRTEEN (13)** people with new positive test results and **THREE (3)** new presumptives since our noon case update yesterday. The total number of cases (people with positive test results and presumptive) in Douglas County is now at **992\***. Currently, there are **NINETEEN (19)** Douglas County COVID-19 patients that are being hospitalized, 17 locally and 2 out-of-the-area. 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	Saturday, November 28, 2020	Sunday, November 29, 2020	Monday, November 30, 2020	Tuesday, December 1, 2020	Today, Wednesday, December 2, 2020
<b>Total COVID-19 Cases</b>	922	930	963	976	<b>992</b>
<i>People with Positive PCR or Antigen Test Results</i>	854	861	895	908	<b>921</b>
<i>Presumptive</i>	68	69	68	68	<b>71</b>
<b>Total Currently Hospitalized</b>	14	17	16	20	<b>19</b>
<b>Total Currently in Isolation</b>	226	186	193	183	<b>180</b>
<b>Total COVID-19 Related Deaths</b>	18	19	19	19	<b>19</b>
<b>Total Negative Test Results</b>	18,576	18,584	18,584**	18,584**	<b>19,299**</b>

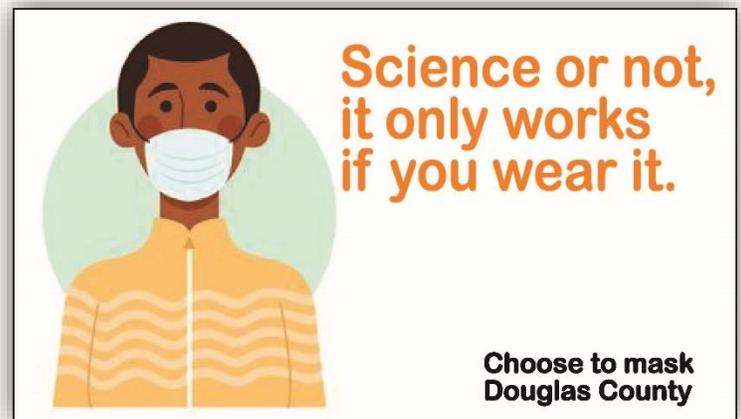
*\*Our daily update includes the total number of cases in Douglas County, which combines people with positive test results and presumptives. We provide a breakout of the people with positive test results and presumptives in the chart above. Please note there will be times when a presumptive will move 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. \*\*Please note: OHA is changing how they track and report negative test results, and they are still working out all the details of the new tracking and reporting system.*

#### Weekly COVID Series:

#### Week 2, Day 3: Why Wear a Mask?

On day three of our COVID series on why you should consider wearing a mask, let's look at the science behind mask use. Using a face covering is all about preventing the spread of germs, not only if you are sick, but also to help protect yourself and others while you are at work, traveling, shopping or visiting with others. **What evidence do we have that wearing a mask is effective in preventing COVID-19?** There are several [strands of evidence](#)

supporting the efficacy of masks. One category of evidence comes from laboratory studies of respiratory droplets and the ability of various masks to block them. [An experiment](#) using high-speed video found that hundreds of droplets ranging from 20 to 500 micrometers were generated when saying a simple phrase, but that nearly all these droplets were blocked when the mouth was covered by a damp washcloth. [Another study](#) of people who had influenza or the common cold found that wearing a surgical mask significantly reduced the amount of these respiratory viruses emitted in droplets and aerosols. Check out the [Mask Myth Busters Video](#) with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, our Douglas County Public Health Officer from April 6, 2020. His spray paint myth buster test on droplets and mask use is still relevant today. Dr. Dannenhoffer illustrates what social distancing does both with and without masks.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
Rossburg VA Health Care System



Information for this article shared in part from UCSF. The U.S. Center for Disease Control, the Oregon Health Authority, and your Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, all recommend that everyone wear a mask over their nose and mouth when in public or around others. Masks have been shown to slow the spread of COVID-19, because they help keep people who are infected from spreading respiratory droplets to others when they cough, sneeze, or talk. Health experts across the globe say the evidence is clear that masks can help prevent the spread of COVID-19, and that the more people wearing masks, the better. The wearing of masks is also a sign of caring for the health and safety of others. **Science or not, it only works if you wear it!**

### **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. Please celebrate safely this holiday season. 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 **180 cases** in isolation, as well as another **342 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 **522 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 Friday, December 4, 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 2045 people tested in 95 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](http://Oregon Health Authority), [Centers for Disease Control](http://Centers for Disease Control), and [211Info](http://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 on **Friday, December 4, 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](mailto: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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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)