

Public Health COVID-19 update

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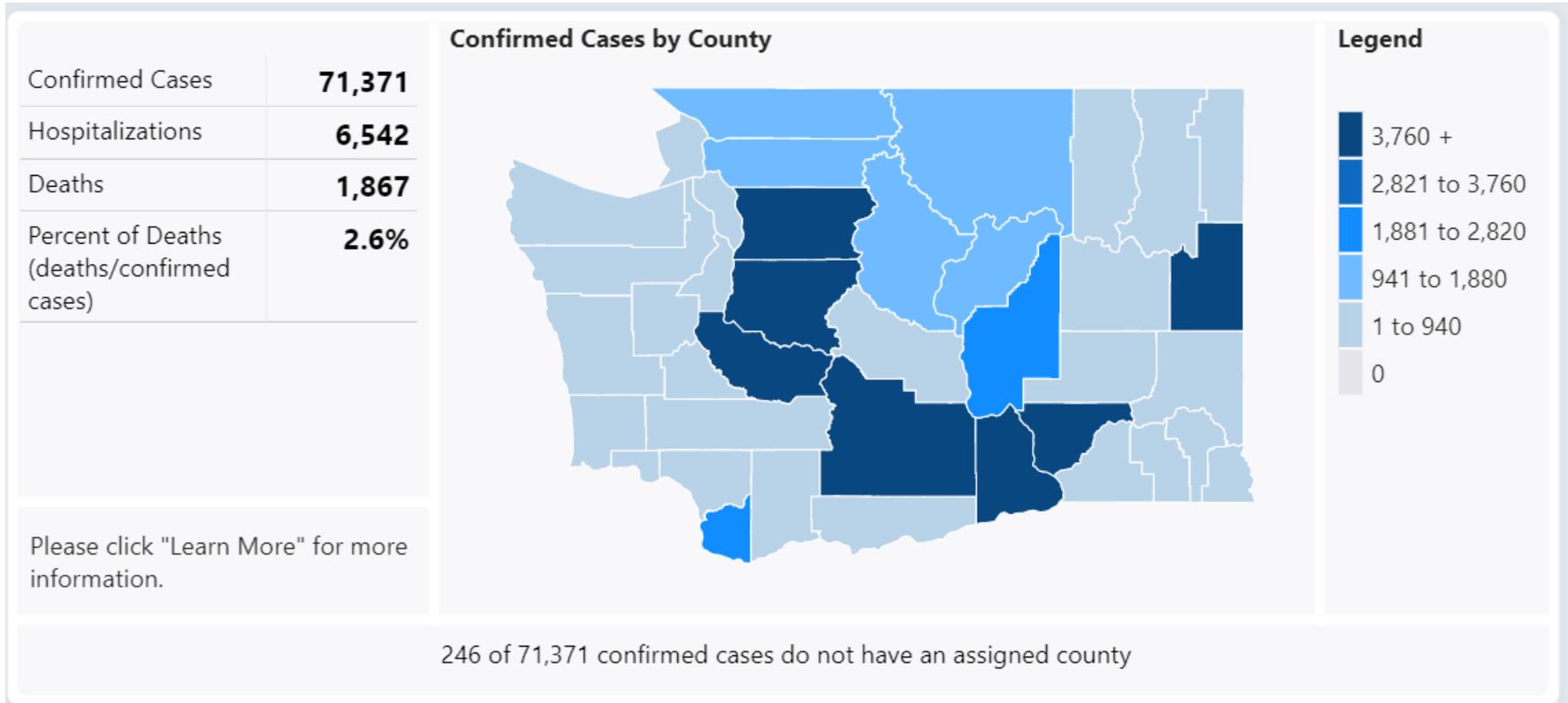
Board of Health

Aug. 26, 2020



Washington state

as of Aug. 25

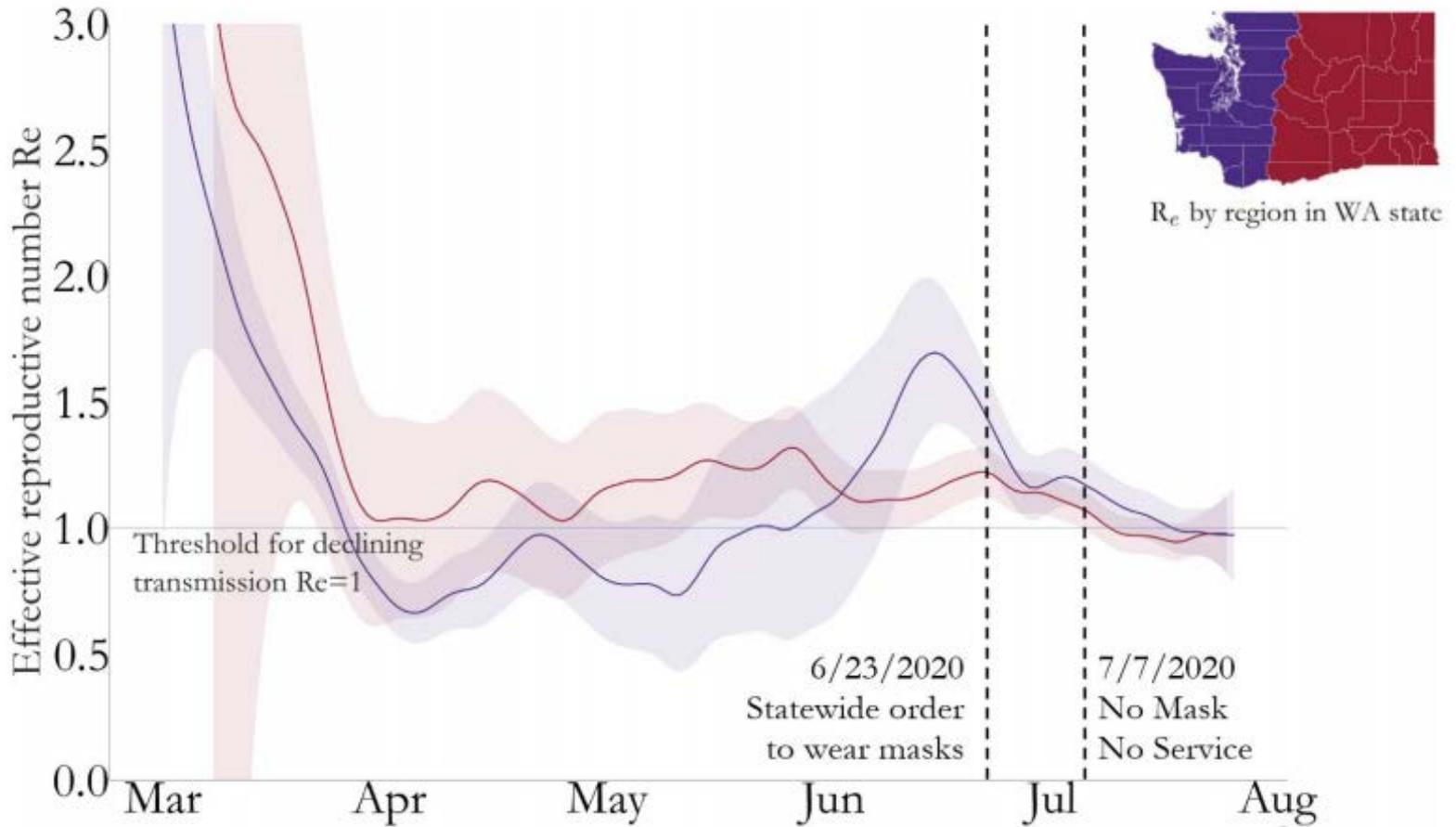


Washington state

- Latest state situation report issued Aug. 14 shows new cases are plateauing across the state.
 - R_e (reproductive number) estimates:
 - Western Washington: 0.97 (last report: 1.12)
 - Eastern Washington: 0.98 (last report: 0.78)
- Plateauing of cases is generally occurring across age groups in both western and eastern Washington (Spokane excepted).
- Transmission modeling suggests that the attenuation in R_e is attributable to statewide policy changes like the June 23 and July 7 mask mandates and restrictions pausing Safe Start.
 - Too soon to assess the changes implemented at the end of July, such as bar closures
- Must remain compliant with masking and distancing policies that helped control outbreak three weeks ago.



Reproductive number



Institute for Disease Modeling



Clark County

as of Aug. 25

Number of positive cases	2,455
Number of deaths	48
Rate per 100,000	71.6

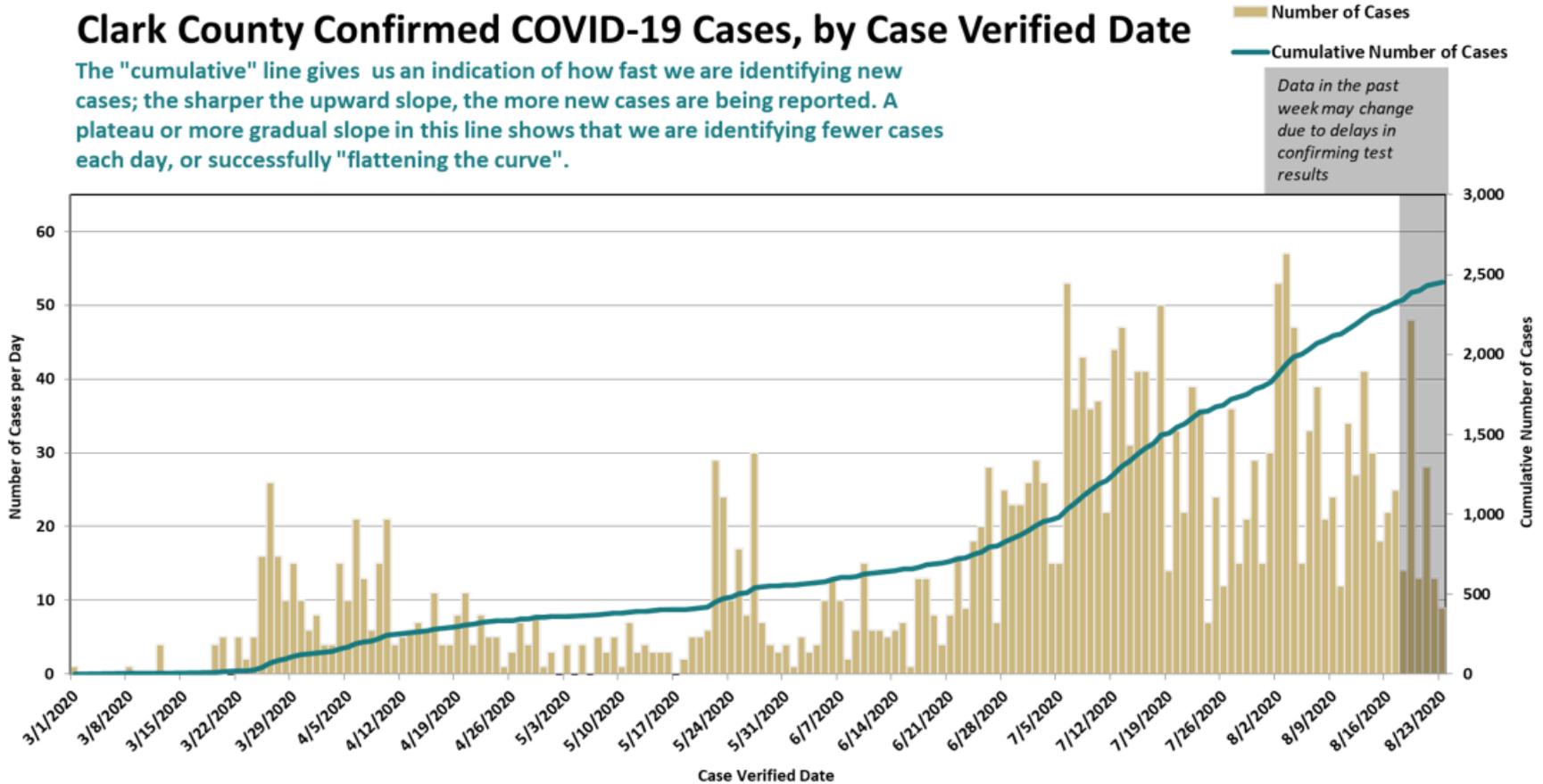
- Number of new cases appears to be plateauing, but still too high
- Averaging about 21 cases per day over the last week



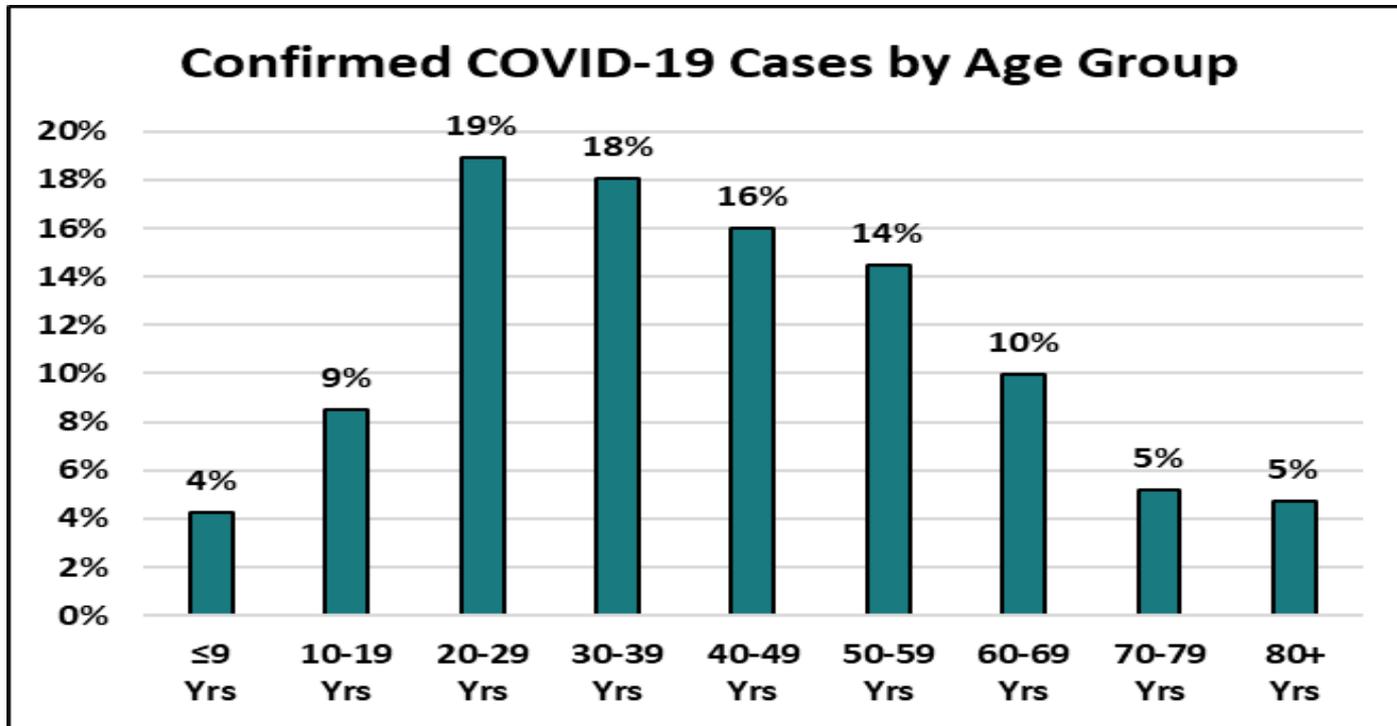
Clark County

Clark County Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, by Case Verified Date

The "cumulative" line gives us an indication of how fast we are identifying new cases; the sharper the upward slope, the more new cases are being reported. A plateau or more gradual slope in this line shows that we are identifying fewer cases each day, or successfully "flattening the curve".



Clark County



Phase 3 metrics

	Metric	Target	Clark County – Phase 3 application	Clark County - current
COVID-19 activity	Incidence of new cases reported during prior two weeks (measured by specimen collection date, and to account for the lag in reporting, the two week period starts 6 days prior to the current date)	Target: <25 cases / 100,000 / 14 days	19.45	76.1 (Aug.5-18) not meeting target
	Trends in hospitalizations for lab-confirmed COVID-19	Target: flat or decreasing	flat	flat meeting target
	Reproductive rate (if available)	Target: $Re < 1$	n/a	n/a



Closer look: hospitalization trends

Trends in hospitalizations for lab-confirmed COVID-19

- Target: flat or decreasing
- Clark County: flat

Date	COVID-19 confirmed hospitalizations	COVID-19 PUI hospitalized	Percent of beds occupied by COVID confirmed and PUI patients
Aug. 10	12	13	4.0%
Aug. 11	16	12	4.5%
Aug. 12	21	10	4.9%
Aug. 13	19	2	3.3%
Aug. 14	16	5	3.3%
Aug. 15	19	12	4.9%
Aug. 16	22	4	4.1%
Aug. 17	19	7	4.1%
Aug. 18	19	8	4.3%
Aug. 19	19	5	3.8%
Aug. 20	20	4	3.8%
Aug. 21	19	5	3.8%
Aug. 22	18	8	4.1%
Aug. 23	17	11	4.5%



Phase 3 metrics

	Metric	Target	Clark County – Phase 3 application	Clark County - current
Healthcare system readiness	% licensed beds occupied by patients (i.e., hospital census relative to licensed beds)	Target: Green: < 80% (Yellow: 81-90%; Red: >90%)	Green (64.9%)	Green (67.5%) meeting target
	% licensed beds occupied by suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases	Target: Green: < 10% (Yellow: 11-20%; Red: >20%)	Green (3.4%)	Green (4.5%) meeting target



Phase 3 metrics

	Metric	Target	Clark County – Phase 3 application	Clark County - current
Testing	Average number of tests performed per day during the past week (or average % tests positive for COVID-19 during the past week)	Target: 50 times the number of cases (or 2%)	Average 417 tests per day 1.85% positivity (June 14-20)	TBD <i>Awaiting test data from DOH</i>
	Median time from symptom onset to specimen collection among cases during the past week	Target: median <2 days	2 days (June 14-20); 3 days (June 21-25)	3 days (Aug. 16-22) not meeting target



Phase 3 metrics

	Metric	Target	Clark County – Phase 3 application	Clark County - current
Case and contact investigations	Percent of cases reached by phone or in person within 24 hours of receipt of positive lab test report	Target: 90%	63%	61% (Aug. 9-22) not meeting target
	Percent of contacts reached by phone or in person within 48 hours of receipt of positive lab test report on a case	Target: 80%	61%	34% (Aug. 8-21) not meeting target
	Percent of cases being contacted daily (by phone or electronically) during their isolation period	Target: 80%	88%	79% (Aug. 15-21) not meeting target
	Percent of contacts being contacted daily (by phone or electronically) during their quarantine period	Target: 80%	88%	69% (Aug. 15-21) not meeting target



Closer look: case investigations

Cases reached within 24 hours

- Began tracking unsuccessful attempts. Public Health makes three attempts, each more than four hours apart, before counting as an unsuccessful attempt.
- Another 42 cases had unsuccessful contact attempts within 24 hours of positive lab.
 - 73% of cases reached or contact attempts made within 24 hours.

Day	Cases verified	# cases reached w/in 24 hours	% cases reached w/in 24 hours
Aug. 17	25	15	60%
Aug. 18	14	10	71%
Aug. 19	48	32	67%
Aug. 20	13	9	69%
Aug. 21	28	15	54%
Aug. 22	13	9	69%
Aug. 23	8	6	75%



Closer look: case investigations

Close contacts reached within 48 hours

- Identified an error in how metric was being calculated. Metric asks how many close contacts were reached within 48 hours *of the positive lab result for the case*.
- Was being calculated using the date on which we learned of the close contact, not the date of the positive result. Error has been corrected.
- Began tracking unsuccessful attempts. Make three phone attempts, each more than four hours apart, followed by a text message, before counting as an unsuccessful attempt.
- Another 59 contacts had unsuccessful contact attempts within 24 hours of positive lab.
 - 46% of contacts reached or contact attempt made within 24 hours.



Closer look: case investigations

Daily monitoring – percent of cases and percent of close contacts reached every day during isolation/quarantine.

- Calculation includes all cases and contacts with daily contact attempt.
 - Database does not distinguish between successful and unsuccessful contacts.
- Adding a new field to the database so we can track attempts separately.
- Once in place, will remove attempts from the calculation.



Phase 3 metrics

	Metric	Target	Clark County – Phase 3 application	Clark County - current
Protecting high-risk populations	Number of outbreaks reported by week (defined as 2 or more non-household cases epidemiologically linked within 14 days in a workplace, congregate living, or institutional setting)	Target: 0 for small counties (<75,000); 1 for medium counties (75,000-300,000), 2 for large counties (>300,000) , 3 for very large counties (>1 million)	0-2 per week	5 (1 LTCF) (Aug. 16-22) not meeting target



DOH test totals

- Washington State Department of Health (DOH) began experiencing problems with reporting system for negative COVID-19 test results in early August.
 - DOH stopped updating its test total on Aug. 1.
- DOH announced Aug. 12 it was changing how it reports negative results.
 - Total reflected unique individuals tested, not the total number of tests administered.
 - Only counting the first negative test for each individual.
 - Changing reporting to reflect the total number of tests (not unique individuals).
- Updated data, reflecting total number of tests, expected this week.



DOH test totals

- DOH reporting change should not impact our numbers.
- **Public Health has been reporting total number of tests administered** (including multiple negatives for the same individual).
- Public Health collects test data from DOH and local providers to capture all negative test results.
 - Using this data to calculate our total number of tests administered each week and the positivity rate.
 - This data is on our website and used for phase applications.
- Once DOH provides updated data, Public Health will calculate test totals and positivity rates for more recent weeks.



Testing supplies

- Continue to hear about challenges with supplies locally and across the country.
 - Local providers having trouble acquiring supplies for rapid tests.
 - Test supplies still being diverted to other states.
- National labs still have long turnaround time.
- The Vancouver Clinic will have a new testing platform onboard in October.



Schools guidance

- Continue to work with Clark County school superintendents.
- Recommendations to begin expanding in-person learning will be made based on COVID-19 activity in the community and will align with DOH decision tree framework.
 - Other factors to consider: hospitalization trends and percent of tests coming back positive
- Public Health will consider recommending expanded in-person learning, beginning with the youngest students, after COVID-19 levels remain in the moderate range for at least three consecutive weeks.
 - Moderate range: 25-75 cases per 100,000 residents over 14 days
- Activity will need to remain in the moderate range for at least three more weeks before consider adding hybrid in-person learning for older students.
- Three-week waiting period gives time to see impact of decisions and identify any transmission occurring in schools.



Schools guidance

- Added a section to the Public Health COVID-19 website about school recommendations.
 - Includes the current and recent COVID-19 activity rates (updated weekly)

current covid-19 activity level

25-75 cases per 100k
people in 14 days

- Remote learning recommended
- Some modified in-person learning for younger grades and/or high-need students
- No sports or extra-curricular activities



Based on Washington State Department of Health guidelines released August 4, 2020.



Labor Day

- Public Health is urging people to wear face coverings, keep gatherings small and wear face coverings during Labor Day holiday weekend.
- Concern we will see an increase in cases after the holiday weekend.
- Actions now can impact the ability for schools to expand in-person learning.
 - Public Health and school superintendents will monitor the infection rate for three weeks following the holiday before making recommendations for expanding in-person learning.



Thank you!

