

# COVID-19 update

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Public Health Advisory Council

Feb. 9, 2021



# Clark County

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- Case numbers increased during the holiday season but are now declining.
  - In the last week, we've averaged 60 cases per day, down from an average of 95 cases per day the previous week.
- COVID-19 activity rate is declining.
  - COVID-19 activity rate reached its highest point in mid-January: 473.7 cases per 100,000.
  - Rate dropped into the moderate range the first week of February and decreased again this week.
  - The rate decreased to 262.2 cases per 100,000 this week.
- Hospitalizations for COVID-19 cases have started to decrease.



# Clark County

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as of Feb. 9

Number of positive cases	17,610
Number of active cases	402
Number of total deaths	203
Number of confirmed deaths	182
Number of suspect deaths	21
Rate per 100,000	262.2

- **Confirmed death:** COVID is listed as cause of death or contributing factor on the death certificate and the case has a positive COVID test.
- **Suspect death:** COVID is not listed as a contributing factor on the death certificate (but wasn't ruled out as cause of death) and the person died after testing positive for COVID within 28 days.



# Clark County hospitalizations

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as of Feb. 9

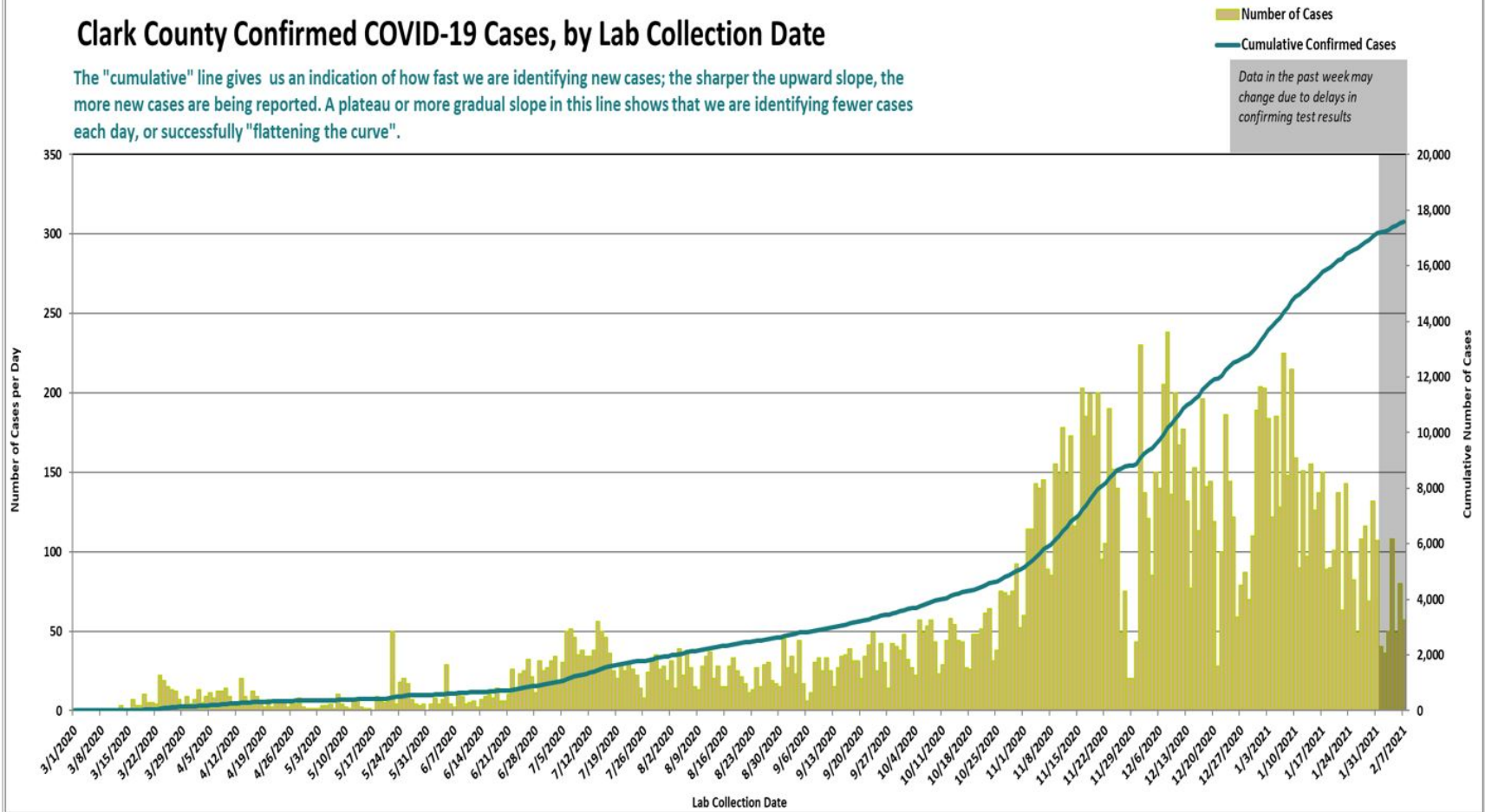
Percent hospital beds occupied	75.6%
Percent ICU beds occupied	75.0%
Percent acute care beds occupied	74.0%
Percent hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 cases, PUIs	11.2%
COVID-19 cases hospitalized	57
PUIs hospitalized	8



# Clark County cases

## Clark County Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, by Lab Collection 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".



# COVID-19 variants

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- Viruses constantly change through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time.
- Multiple variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been documented in the United States and globally during this pandemic.
- One variant gaining a lot of media attention is the B.1.1.7 variant in the United Kingdom.
  - This variant spreads more easily and quickly than other variants.
  - Currently, there is no evidence that it causes more severe illness or increased risk of death.
  - This variant was first detected in September 2020 and is now highly prevalent in London and southeast England.
  - This variant has been detected in Oregon and Washington.



# COVID-19 variants

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- Data collected so far suggests a low prevalence of the B.1.1.7 variant in western Washington.
  - Likely that other cases exist and will come to light through ongoing surveillance.
- CDC estimates this strain will become the dominant strain in the U.S. within a few months.
- CDC is studying this variant and others to understand how widely they have spread and how the variants affect existing therapies and vaccines.
- Prevention measures for COVID-19 also work against variants: face coverings, physical distancing, frequent handwashing, avoid gatherings.



# Roadmap to Recovery

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# Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery

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- On Jan. 5, Gov. Inslee announced a new phased COVID-19 reopening plan called Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery.
  - Plan went into effect Monday, Jan. 11.
- The state is divided into eight regions; all regions started in Phase 1.
  - Clark, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Skamania and Wahkiakum counties make up the Southwest Region.
- Regions advance to Phase 2 when they meet metrics set by the Washington State Department of Health.
  - Metrics are related to COVID-19 rate and hospitalization trends, hospital ICU occupancy and COVID-19 test positivity.
  - Metrics are calculated for the region as a whole; and counties will advance as a region, not individually.
- Metrics are calculated every other Friday.
  - Next update, Friday, Feb. 12.



# Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery

- Regions must meet 3 of 4 metrics to advance to Phase 2.
- Two regions moved to Phase 2 last week: Puget Sound and West regions.
  - All other regions remain in Phase 1.
- Southwest region metrics, as of Jan. 28:

Metric	Trend in 14-day rate of COVID-19 cases per 100k	Trend in 14-day rate of new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100k	Average 7-day % of ICU staffed bed occupancy	7-day % of positive COVID-19 tests
Metric for moving to Phase 2	decrease >10%	decrease >10%	< 90%	< 10%
Metrics as of Jan. 28	+13%	+17%	66%	21%
Meeting/Not meeting metric	Not meeting	Not meeting	<b>Meeting</b>	Not meeting



# COVID-19 vaccine

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# COVID-19 vaccine allocation process

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- Each week, the federal government allocates vaccine to the state for the following week.
- Health care facilities, pharmacies request the amount of vaccine they would like to receive for the following week.
  - Public Health can provide input on which facilities are priority.
- The state Department of Health looks at requests and amount of vaccine coming from the federal government and decides how to divide vaccine across the state.
  - Requests are always greater than the amount of vaccine available.
  - Last week, DOH received requests for 358,000 first doses and will receive 107,000 doses.
- Facilities find out a few days later how much vaccine they can expect – it may be less than requested or not filled at all.
- Couple days later, the facility receives vaccine.



# COVID-19 vaccine allocation process

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- Because facilities don't always know how much vaccine they're getting, they may not book appointments too far in advance.
- If they book appointments but the expected vaccine order isn't filled, facilities may have to cancel or reschedule appointments.
- Limited vaccine supply and unpredictable nature of the shipments make it challenging for facilities to plan and administer vaccine.
- As supply increases and the amount of vaccine distributed to facilities becomes more predictable, vaccine appointments will become more readily available.
- Second doses: Each week, second-dose vaccine is allocated to facilities to match the number of doses given the prior three (for Pfizer) or four (for Moderna) weeks.
  - This ensures facilities have adequate supply for second doses.



# COVID-19 vaccine

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- COVID-19 vaccine allocation:
  - **50,975** total doses allocated to Clark County facilities through Week 8 (last week)
    - **32,375** first doses and **18,600** booster doses
  - This week (Week 9): **4,700** first doses and **4,950** second doses allocated.
- COVID-19 vaccine administered, as of Saturday, Feb. 6:
  - **31,419** doses administered in Clark County
  - **29,539** people have received their first dose
  - **8,428** people are fully vaccinated

\*doses and people vaccinated may not align because people may be vaccinated in a county other than where they live
- Data on doses administered is delayed.
- Data doesn't reflect the doses facilities have allocated to people (appointments scheduled for first and second doses).



# Incident management team

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- Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 3 – one of 16 Type 1 IMTs in the country – arrived in Clark County on Tuesday, Jan. 19.
  - The team was requested by Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania counties, with support from the state.
  - FEMA approved the request.
- The three counties continue to work with Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 3 to develop plans for opening vaccination sites throughout the three-county region.
- Plans include fixed-location and mobile vaccination sites.
- The intent is to position sites in locations where residents have not been able to easily access vaccine and among communities and populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.
  - Such as communities of color and critical workers in congregate settings.



# Incident management team

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- First fixed-location site opened at Skamania County Fairgrounds Jan. 28
  - One-day event vaccinated more than 250 people.
- Clark County Public Health deployed mobile teams last Thursday and Friday to vaccinate residents and staff at adult family homes and other long-term care facilities.
  - More than 930 people vaccinated.
  - Reached about 130 adult family homes, several other long-term care facilities.
  - About 50 volunteers from Medical Reserve Corps and Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue.
- Continue to work on plans for additional sites, to open as vaccine supply increases.
  - Future sites could include fixed-location sites in more accessible areas of the county and mobile sites at food processing facilities, schools or other facilities with critical workers.





# Fairgrounds vaccination site

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- Washington Department of Health is operating the COVID-19 vaccination site at the Clark County Fairgrounds.
  - By appointment only. Registration for appointments opens at noon on Sundays.
    - Appointments fill up very quickly.
  - Appointments scheduled for 9 am to 5 pm Tuesday to Friday and 9 am to 3 pm Saturday.
- Site opened Tuesday, Jan. 26.
  - In first two weeks, 6,702 doses administered.
- Public Health does not have access to the scheduling system and cannot refer people to the fairgrounds site for vaccination.



# Public Health referral process

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- Public Health has been accepting requests from people who are eligible for vaccination and need help accessing vaccine.
  - Public Health is referring those individuals to local health care facilities with vaccine.
  - To date, Public Health has referred more than 7,500 people through this process.
  - Currently, about 35,000 pending referrals.
- Local health facilities have received limited or no vaccine the last several weeks.
  - This has limited Public Health's ability to refer people eligible for vaccination to local facilities.



# Tower Mall testing site

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# Tower Mall COVID-19 Community Testing Site

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- Public Health partnered with city of Vancouver, CRESA and Department of Health to open a free testing site in the Tower Mall parking lot in central Vancouver.
  - Testing at the site is recommended for anyone 4 years and older who has symptoms of COVID-19 or was exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
- Open 9 am to 3:30 pm Tuesday-Saturday
- Drive-thru and walk-up testing
- Self-administered oral saliva PCR test
- Testing process takes about 20 minutes
- Results within 3 days
- Free for everyone, regardless of insurance coverage or immigration status.
- Pre-registration encouraged: [www.ClarkCountyCOVIDtesting.org](http://www.ClarkCountyCOVIDtesting.org)



# Tower Mall COVID-19 Community Testing Site

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Site opened to the public Tuesday, Jan. 12

- **4,197** tests administered in the first four weeks of operations
  - Average of 1,049 tests per week
- **482** people have tested positive, to date
- **12%** positivity, to date
- **375** tests administered on the first day (Jan. 12)
  - Highest single-day so far



Thank you!

