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# Oregon Health Authority and the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis

Presented to  
House Health Care Committee  
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The logo for the Oregon Health Authority. It features the word "Oregon" in a smaller, orange, serif font positioned above the "H" of the word "Health". The word "Health" is in a large, dark blue, serif font. Below "Health", the word "Authority" is written in a smaller, orange, serif font. A thin blue horizontal line is positioned below the "Health" text, extending from the left edge of the "H" to the right edge of the "t".

Oregon  
Health  
Authority

# COVID-19 Update in Oregon

- Cases in Oregon: 3,801
- Cases per 100,000 people: 93
  - 6<sup>th</sup> lowest state
- Deaths in Oregon: 144
- Deaths per 100,000 people: 4
  - 5<sup>th</sup> lowest state
- Positivity rate: 3.7%
  - 6<sup>th</sup> lowest state
  - Postivity rate in last week: 2.6%

As of May 20; confirmed plus presumptive cases; state rankings compiled by Washington Post.

# Reopening Oregon Dashboard



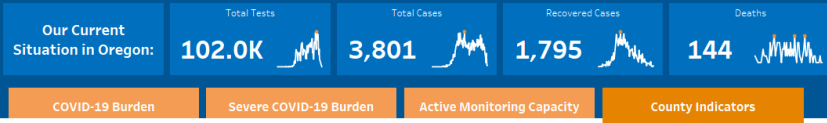
OHA is part of the statewide response working to address and reduce the effects of COVID-19 on the lives of Oregonians. Data presented here are from the OHA Public Health Division.

[OHA COVID-19 Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is monitoring six indicators to measure the health burden of COVID-19 in Oregon and our public health capacity to respond. The data shown in this dashboard are separate from Governor Brown's reopening criteria. These public health indicators help OHA understand the health impact of COVID-19 in communities across the state and make recommendations as appropriate.

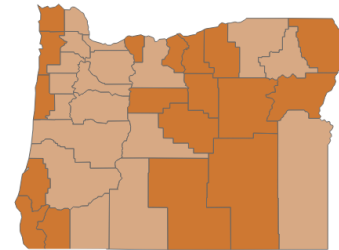
This dashboard will be updated on a weekly basis. Data current as of 08:00am on 05/20/2020



## Oregon's Public Health and COVID-19 Indicators by County

OHA is monitoring six indicators that measure the health burden of COVID-19 in each Oregon county and the capacity of the county to respond. Together, these are the health signs we consider when we make recommendations about counties reopening or stopping, watching, and redirecting. Although these indicators overlap with some of the Governor's Reopening Criteria, they are only one part of that larger framework.

These public health indicators help inform our recommendations, but do not reflect final decisions about a county's reopening status. We look at these indicators in context to one another and to other information. If a county does not meet any one indicator, this does not define final decisions for reopening this county. This page shows the status of Oregon counties for each public health indicator. Click on a county in the map to filter the table below.



© 2020 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap  
■ Does not meet one or more indicators ■ Meets all indicators

[View the Governor's Reopening Criteria](#)

### Public health indicators for monitoring COVID-19 in Oregon's counties

This table summarizes the indicators OHA is monitoring for making public health recommendations at the county level. A ✓ means the indicator is met by the county, a ✗ means the indicator is not met by the county, and a \* means the indicator is not applied to that county, due to small numbers of COVID-19 cases.

County	% ED visits for COVID-like illness is below 1.5%*	Percent of tests that result positive does not trend up in last 7 days	New cases do not increase more than 5% in last 7 days	New cases not traced to a known source is below 30% for last 7 days	COVID-19 hospital admissions decline over the last 14 days	Follow up initiated within 24 hours for 95% or more of cases in last 7 days
Oregon, statewide	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	Downtrend <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	-19% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	38% <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	Downtrend <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	94% <span style="color: red;">✗</span>
Baker	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	-100% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	•	•
Benton	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	Uptrend <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	-20% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	25% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	100% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>
Clackamas	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	Downtrend <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	-43% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	42% <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	No Trend <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	95% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>
Clatsop	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	Downtrend <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	-79% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	0% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	100% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>
Columbia	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	Downtrend <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	0% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	100% <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	•	100% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>
Coos	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	-100% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	•	•
Crook	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	•	•	•	•
Curry	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	•	•	•	•	•
Deschutes	0.5% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>	Uptrend <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	11% <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	50% <span style="color: red;">✗</span>	•	100% <span style="color: green;">✓</span>

#### Notes

\* This indicator is only evaluated at a statewide level. Individual counties or regions are not expected to meet this indicator independently.

COVID-19 data are provisional and subject to change.



# The Public Health Response

- Strategy shifting from containment to mitigation to suppression
- Test, trace, isolate
- Public communications
- Community resources
- Data and modeling
- Guidance and support for health care
- Guidance for reopening

# Lesson Learned #1

We must ensure that health equity is front and center in our response

- OHA's 10 year goal is to close health equity gaps
- Our first phase did not do that
- We are committed to correcting that for the next phase

# Lesson Learned #2

We need to work through the balance of centralized and decentralized public health response, to ensure clear actions and accountability

# Lesson Learned #3

We need to be more self-reliant as a state for PPE and other medical stockpiles than we originally thought and planned for

# Lesson Learned #4

We must be better prepared to address the secondary effects of the crisis

- Non-COVID-19 immunization rates
- Institutional bias
- Adversity, trauma, and toxic stress
- Economic drivers of health
- Access to equitable preventative health care
- Behavioral health



# Lesson Learned #5

We should sustain and strengthen successful innovations

- Telemedicine: We had mostly only talked about it before, but now we know it works in this state

# Lesson Learned #6

We should continue to strengthen collaboration and problem solving other agencies

- DHS: Response to outbreaks in long term care facilities
- Agriculture: Shared playbook for food processing facilities

# Lesson Learned #7

We are in the middle of the short-term emergency response, but we will also need a mid-term non-emergency COVID-19 response effort

# First responders and patient privacy

- Oregon law governing data on reportable diseases such as COVID-19 is more restrictive than HIPAA
- Most cases of COVID-19 in Oregon are not known or diagnosed, so the best protection is taking proper precautions in all interactions with the public
- Issued dispatch protocols to screen callers for symptoms of COVID-19
- Ensured that first responders are priority for receiving PPE

# OHA's Focus for the Next 30-90 Days

- Watch for and guard against a rebound of the virus
- Prepare for a second wave in the fall
- Address school issues
- Manage budget cuts
- Plan for the long-term

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**Thank You**

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