

SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS COVID-19
RESPONSE AND WILDFIRE EVACUATION AFTERACTION REPORT









COVID-19 RESPONSE

COVID-19 positives as of May 26, 2022

- Adults in custody (AICs) 5,348
- Staff 1,679
- AIC vaccination rate statewide approximately 70 percent vaccinated, and approximately 58 percent have accepted boosters.



COVID-19 RESPONSE (CONT.)

Following guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA), DOC has created a COVID-19 Response and Recovery Plan. This plan is based on a color-coded approach to risk and is based on five metrics.

The color codes applied are green, yellow, and red in order from no transmission to active transmission.

The five metrics are:

- Vaccine coverage
- Transmission in the facility
- Transmission in the community
- Demographic and health-related characteristics of the population
- Facility structural and operations characteristics



COVID-19 RESPONSE (CONT.)

Preventative strategies for everyday operations include:

- Provide vaccines and boosters
- Maintain standard infection control
- Maintain everyday operations' testing strategies
- Prevent introduction from the community
- Prepare for outbreaks
- Maintain temperature and symptom screening
- Maintain the COVID-19 Audit Team



COVID-19 RESPONSE (CONT.)

Enhanced preventative measures include:

- Mask policies
- In-person visitation
- In-person community contact court appearances, work release
- Core Services and group activities
- Physical distancing



WILDFIRES AND EVACUATIONS







SUMMARY OF EVENTS

- September 8, 2020
 - Mill Creek Correctional Facility (MCCF)
 - Oregon State Correctional Institution (OSCI)
 - Santiam Correctional Institution (SCI)
- September 10, 2020
 - Deer Ridge Correctional Institution (DRCI)
 - Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF) and Intake Center (CCIC)



CHALLENGES

- Housing conditions
- Health Services medication and limiting COVID exposure
- Conflicts and fights
- Meals and food delivery
- Transport and restrooms
- No electronic medical records system



SUCCESSES

- There was good communication and strong multidisciplinary team response.
- Return trips went smoothly with few incidents and quicker than planned.
- DOC transport team and vehicles mobilized quickly and arrived before the institutions were ready to use them.
- Hotel accommodations for staff were well organized.
- No escapes, and all AICs were safely returned to home institutions.



AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

- Access to medications and toiletries
- Load and leave rather than wait
- Quicker offloading at receiving facilities
- Access to ADA accessible portable restrooms
- Strain on institution utility services such as showers and restroom facilities
- Inspection of mothballed facilities
- Access to resources such as meals, water, and hygiene
- Additional emergency training



NEXT STEPS

- Institutions will improve evacuation plans.
- DOC will evaluate vehicles, equipment, and supply resources.
- DOC will develop community agreements.
- DOC will implement additional Incident Command System training.



QUESTIONS

