



Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management



Community Situation Report

2021 COVID-19 Pandemic

May 24, 2021

State proclamation extension covers workers and mask guidance

Gov. Inslee issued an extension of Healthy Washington Proclamation 20-25.13 last week that safeguards employees who wish to get vaccinated or are in isolation or quarantine from adverse action from their employer. The proclamation also includes the new CDC face covering guidance that provides fully vaccinated individuals are not required to wear a face mask inside or outside except in certain locations to include health care settings, correctional facilities, homeless shelter, schools and public transportation. Business owners and local authorities have the option to require that customers wear a facemask. Read the proclamation at https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/proc_20-25.13.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Local directive requires face masks be worn in Jefferson County

Jefferson County Health Officer, Dr. Tom Locke has issued a directive requiring people to wear face masks when indoors in public places “including all businesses and other publicly accessible indoor locations.” Face coverings are not required for outdoor events however, unvaccinated and immunosuppressed individuals should maintain social distance from non-household individuals and masking is recommended if distancing cannot be maintained. The directive can be read in full at https://jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/DocumentCenter/View/9969/20200528_Jefferson-County-Mask-Directive.

Part of the masking confusion is that there is no practical way for businesses to verify the vaccination status of people and that would be the only way to have masked and unmasked people sharing the same space. Masking is not meant to focus on businesses or offices with limited access. Masking in businesses without public access is something Locke said he would be considering next week.

Dr. Locke reported that for those in the 16 and older age group, 71% of those individuals have received their first dose of vaccine and 64% are fully vaccinated. “We have met the Governor’s metric here.” Locally, we are dealing with vaccine hesitancy. Some people will likely be persuaded to get vaccinated over time. About seven percent fall into an access situation being either homebound or because of the hours they work, they are unable to get to a clinic. The COVID skeptics won’t likely get vaccinated, said Locke.

Locke said there has been some discussion at the state level about using incentives to encourage people to get vaccinated. The best incentive is for business owners to offer staff time off for one or two days if they feel any side effects after getting vaccinated. Dr. Locke said he has not seen any public programs that support that, however.

Responding to a question about breakthrough cases here in Jefferson County, Locke said there have been five cases in individuals over the age of 60 but no one was seriously ill. Statewide, there have been 832 known breakthrough cases. Ten percent were hospitalized.

Department of Emergency Management Director Willie Bence told the Board of Commissioners that Jefferson Healthcare had their final clinic for 12-15 age group this past weekend. Also, 22 students were vaccinated at the Quilcene Student Pfizer clinic on Friday May 21 and 23 were vaccinated at the Chimacum Student Pfizer clinic the same day. There were 54 vaccinated at the Janssen Clinic on Saturday May 22 and 20 were walk-ins; 141 vaccinated at the second dose Moderna Clinic on Saturday May 22.

Bence encouraged people to contact the call center at 360-344-9791 with questions or to make appointments for a vaccination.

Cases by Age

0-19	80
20-29	45
30-39	61
40-49	42
50-59	56
60-69	73
70-79	38
80+	20

Cases by Sex

Cases by Sex	N (%)
Female	199 (48.0%)
Male	216 (52.0%)

Cases by Location

Port Townsend	173
Mid-County	197
South County (Quilcene, Brinnon, West Jefferson)	45

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Jefferson County, WA

Total Positives (confirmed cases reported since 3/2/2020)	415
Active Cases in Isolation	3
Negative	23,509
Percent Positive	1.73%
Test Results Pending	52
Total Tests Administered	23,976
Total Patients Recovered*	389
Cases Ever Hospitalized	27
Deaths	3
Two Week COVID-19 Case Rate per 100,000 (May 9 - May 22)**	28.21

Last results received 5/24/2021. We are working with Jefferson Healthcare and other labs to provide the test result data. *WA State DOH: people are considered recovered at 28 days from the onset of symptoms if they are alive and not hospitalized.

This table will be updated Monday through Friday. **This rate will be updated every Monday. Last Updated: 5/24/2021 at 1:47 P.M.

Case Rate in Last 4 weeks

Week of:	Case Rate
04/18/21-05/01/21	62.70
04/25/21-05/08/21	62.70
05/02/21-05/15/21	50.16
05/09/21-05/22/21	28.21

% Positive in Past 4 Weeks

Week of:	Tests Completed	Cases	% Positive
04/26/21-05/02/21	416	12	2.88%
05/03/21-05/09/21	343	10	2.92%
05/10/21-05/16/21	347	5	1.44%
05/17/21-05/23/21	389	3	0.77%

For details on the timeline for reported cases see the Epidemiologic Curves tab for Jefferson County on the [WA DOH COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).

Due to our growing workload, moving forward, we are no longer able to provide individual information about each case.