

Situation Report

Situation Report Number: 08.03.2020		
Incident Name: COVID-19 MultCo Coordination		
OERS Number: 2020-0279		
EOC: Activated	Incident Commanders: Kim Toevs, Multnomah County Health Department Alice Busch, Multnomah County Emergency Management Casey Layton, Department of County Management Jessica Guernsey, Multnomah County Health Department	
Date: 8/3/2020	Time: 11:10 hours	Situation Reports are released on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at approximately 10:00 am. All posted Situation Reports are archived on the County's website.

To submit updates/actions to this report, email the Multnomah County EOC Situation Unit at eoc.situationunit@multco.us with the subject line: Update for COVID-19 Situation Report.

Need testing?

- **Call your doctor or clinic:** If you have insurance or a regular care provider, contact your doctor's office or clinic to discuss whether you should be tested.
- **If you don't have a doctor:** Call 211 for help finding a clinic. They can help you even if you don't have insurance. You can also call the Health Department's [Primary Care Clinics](#) at 503-988-5558 to enroll as a new patient.
- **Multnomah County community testing:** no-cost testing by appointment only, for anyone with [symptoms](#). You don't need to be a clinic or Multnomah County patient to get tested. Limited testing may be available for people without symptoms. We focus on reaching Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color communities, people without health insurance, and people without a regular health care provider. **Call 503-988-8939 for an appointment.**

Location and hours:

- East County Health Center (parking lot), 600 NE 8th St., Gresham, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm
- **Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) community testing:** [drive-through/walk up testing sites in Portland and Hillsboro](#). OHSU offers testing for people with symptoms ages 2 months and older, and for people in specific risk groups. [See who can be tested on OHSU's website](#). Testing is walk-in or drive-through only; no appointments. There may be a long wait if demand is high. For more information, call the OHSU Coronavirus Hotline: 833-647-8222.

Locations and hours:

- Portland Expo Center, 2060 N Marine Dr., Portland, Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Gordon Faber Recreation Center, Hillsboro Stadium, 4450 NE Century Blvd., Hillsboro, Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- For more information about testing sites, who should get tested, and what to expect from your COVID-19 test, see Multnomah County's [COVID-19 Testing](#) page.

Multnomah County Emergency Operations Section Updates

The Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is a temporary network that works within the [Mission, Vision and Values of Multnomah County](#). The EOC develops objectives based on guidance from the Chair and Chief Operating Officer. The EOC provides wrap around services to support County departments that are operating beyond their normal capacity. The EOC provides a framework that incorporates staff from across all County departments, as well as community volunteers and representatives from partner agencies and organizations to direct the full complement of this combined effort toward accomplishing the County's objectives.

Announcements and Featured Media

- On July 29, a federal judge in New York issued a nationwide injunction, stopping the Trump administration from enforcing its “public charge” rule, which links immigrants’ legal status to their use of public benefits. The [Oregon Health Authority issued a press release about the ruling on July 31, noting that it “will allow immigrant communities across Oregon and the rest of the country to access critical health care and public benefits during the current health crisis.”](#) The news about the judge’s ruling was reported by [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), and [NPR](#).
- On July 30, [Oregon Governor Kate Brown announced that “Umatilla County will be moved from Phase 2 back to a Baseline Stay Home status.” and “Morrow County will be moved to Phase 1 status.”](#) due to rapid spread of COVID-19 in both counties over the last month. The changes went into effect July 31. This story was reported by [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#) and [Willamette Week](#). The *East Oregonian* ran two articles summarizing the news: one about [Umatilla County](#), and one about [Morrow County](#).
- On July 31, the Oregon Health Authority released a special [Pediatric COVID-19 Report](#). The report notes that while pediatric case counts have increased sharply, patients under 18 years old are still far less likely than adults to develop severe COVID-19, with 1.5% of pediatric patients having been hospitalized at some point during their COVID-19 illness, as compared to 9.7% percent of adult COVID-19 patients. [Willamette Week](#) covered this story.

EOC Section: [Public Information](#)

The Public Information Section provides accurate, coordinated, timely and accessible information with the goal of reducing the spread of COVID-19. This information is disseminated to local governments; media; the private sector; and the community through the Multnomah County COVID-19 website, social media, media outlets, call centers, and direct efforts with culturally specific communities. Particular attention is paid to the communities most affected by COVID-19 and people who may not receive information through mainstream means. Content and materials are developed for individuals with disabilities and/or access and functional needs, differing levels of literacy, and with particular care being taken to effectively meet the needs of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities. The Public Information Section uses an equity lens to create material which is culturally specific to the needs of the many communities represented within the county.

Social media highlights - Please share widely

- [Multnomah County Facebook](#)
 - [If you're a tenant in Oregon unable to pay rent](#), remember that you are currently protected by the statewide eviction moratorium from being evicted from your home for nonpayment of rent. You can also visit the [COVID-19 Eviction Moratorium Information](#) page for more about Oregon's moratorium. Information is available in Spanish, Amharic, Arabic, Burmese, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Chuukese, Farsi, French, Japanese, Marshallese, Swahili, Karen, Korean, Nepalese, Russian, Somali, Thai, Tigrinya and Vietnamese.
 - [With time of the essence as cases increase in Multnomah County and Oregon](#), the Joint Office of Homeless Services is delivering on a promise to expand its use of motels to provide separation for people in shelters who are most likely to die or become seriously ill from COVID-19.
 - [Follow the three W's to slow #COVID19](#): Wear a face covering, Wash your hands, Watch your distance.
- [Multnomah County Twitter](#)
 - [If you need legal advice or support regarding the eviction moratorium, or have concerns about eviction, contact an attorney or a community advocate like @catoregon or Legal Aid Services of Oregon](#). Visit the [COVID-19 Eviction Moratorium Information](#) page for more about Oregon's moratorium.
 - [The state's eviction moratorium is in place until Sept. 30, 2020](#). For most renters, October rent will be due on Oct. 1, 2020. Renters will have until March 31, 2021 to pay back rent that was deferred during the moratorium. Visit the [COVID-19 Eviction Moratorium Information](#) page for more about Oregon's moratorium.
- [Multnomah County Health Department Facebook](#)
 - [AVISO DE SALUD - La U.S. Food and Drug Administration esta advirtiendole a todos consumidores y trabajadores de salud, de no usar determinados desinfectantes para manos](#). Ciertos productos han dado positivos en las pruebas de contaminación por metanol. El metanol puede ser sumamente tóxica cuando se absorbe a través de la piel o si llega a ingerirse por vía oral.
 - [ICYMI: U.S. Food and Drug Administration has recalled 87 brands of hand sanitizer for containing methanol, which can be highly toxic](#). Check to see if your hand sanitizer is on the FDA recall list—DO NOT USE or buy [these brands](#).
 - [Face coverings work by stopping the droplets we release when we talk, cough, sing or sneeze](#). It protects you and it protects others from #COVID19. Take one with you whenever you leave the house. #WearingIsCaring.
 - [Our current #COVID19 case rates are too high for schools to reopen for in-person learning this fall](#). Working together, we can lower the case rate to help kids return to school.
- [Multnomah County Health Department Twitter](#)
 - [We know people are tired of being cooped up and are eager to get out and enjoy the beautiful Oregon summer](#). But #COVID19 is still in our communities, and we each have a role to play in reducing its spread. As you plan your weekend, consider the risks of the activities you choose.

- [#COVID19 contact tracers will never ask for your Social Security #, credit card or financial info.](#) Think you're being scammed? Hang up and call @MultcoHealth at 503-988-3406. Learn more about [Contact Tracing for COVID-19](#).
- [Multnomah County Emergency Management Facebook](#)
 - [Support our community's emergency response to #COVID19 as a volunteer!](#) Multnomah County's Emergency Operations Center is looking for volunteers available for at least two, 8-hour shifts a week on an ongoing basis. Multnomah County is leading with race in our response, and we need you on our team. Help with administrative, logistics, data management, driver, personnel management, call center, shelter attendant and other roles. Details [here](#).
- [Multnomah County Library Facebook \(English\)](#)
 - [Unsure of how to manage your student loans during COVID19?](#) Librarian Kyra Hahn hosts a workshop, Wednesday, August 5, 2020 5:30-6:30 p.m. Learn how to figure out what kinds of student loans you have and strategies for potentially lowering payments on your federal student loans, using available government programs and resources. Invest an hour of time online to gain some personal finance self-care tips for your wallet. [Register via Zoom](#).

EOC Section: [Operations](#)

The Operations section has several operational areas, each of which report on daily metrics. Weekly metrics are reported each Wednesday.

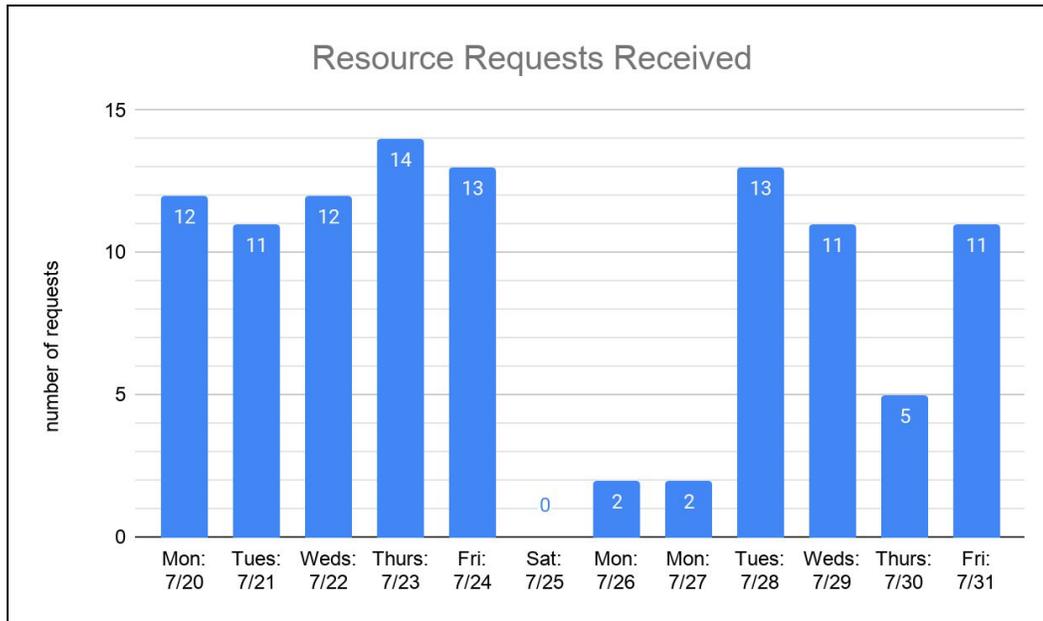
Resource Request Unit

The Resource Request Unit is a group of diverse subject matter experts that represent and advocate for the needs of the communities Multnomah County serves. The team allocates critical supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to health and community organizations in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When allocating PPE, the Resource Request Unit prioritizes the needs of people living in congregate (group) settings, organizations experiencing an outbreak, organizations that perform life saving operations (hospitals, clinics, etc), and organizations that serve communities of color, people ages 65 and older, and people with underlying health conditions. These priorities are part of Multnomah County's commitment to dedicate resources to the populations most impacted by COVID-19.

Within the Resource Request Unit, the Community Resources team helps community groups such as social service organizations, food pantries, faith organizations, businesses, and many others navigate the EOC resource request and allocation process. In addition, they provide information and answer questions about availability of supplies and which PPE is indicated for particular circumstances. The team addresses the needs of the community with a strong equity lens and trauma-informed communication, and prioritizes service to those most at risk. You can reach the Community Resources team at communityresources@multco.us, or by calling 503-988-8940.

Daily Metrics: The Resource Request Unit tracks how many requests for resources it receives over a 24-hour period ending at 12:00 pm each day. The chart below shows the number of daily requests over the past two weeks.

(chart on next page)



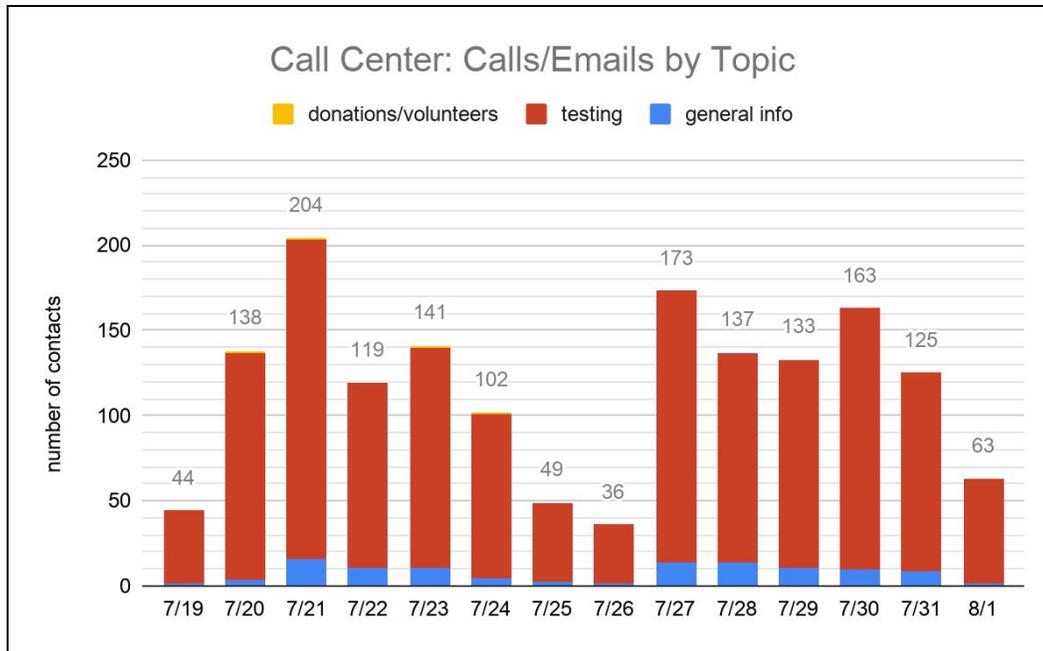
Note: the Resource Request Unit operates Mondays-Saturdays.

Call Center

The EOC Call Center answers a range of questions and concerns from community members related to COVID-19. Callers are connected directly from the Multnomah County Health Department and occasionally from 211. The Multnomah County emergency response team at the EOC continually updates the Call Center script content based on questions received. The Call Center also helps provide information regarding the many questions related to testing and assists by supporting Multnomah County Health with contact tracing, and scheduling appointments for the County’s low-barrier COVID-19 testing.

Daily Metrics: The Call Center tracks how many calls and emails it responds to each day. The Call Center began as a Monday-Friday operation, but on June 18, due to high demand, it shifted to a seven day per week operation. The chart below shows the number of calls and emails per day for the past two weeks, broken down by three topic categories.

(chart on next page)



EOC Section: Mass Care and Shelter ([Emergency Support Function 6](#))

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Multnomah County has opened several temporary shelters and motels designed with physical distancing measures to help slow the spread of COVID-19 among people who are experiencing houselessness. Starting July 1, the County began a process of transitioning its Physical Distancing Motels to non-profit providers for long-term operations. Human Solutions, Inc. now operates a 53-room Physical Distancing Motel, Transition Projects, Inc. operates a 53-room motel, and Do Good Multnomah operates two motels, one with 40 rooms and one with 42. As these four properties transition to non-profit management, they will no longer be reported in this Situation Report.

EOC Section: Public Health and Medical ([Emergency Support Function 8](#))

The Public Health and Medical Section works to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Multnomah County, and to minimize the impacts of the disease on individuals and our community. This Section contains Units that support Fatality Management, Region 1 Hospital and Health Systems, Emergency Medical Services, COVID Testing, and Communicable Disease Investigations which includes Epidemiology, Case Investigation and Contact Tracing.

Schools Blueprint

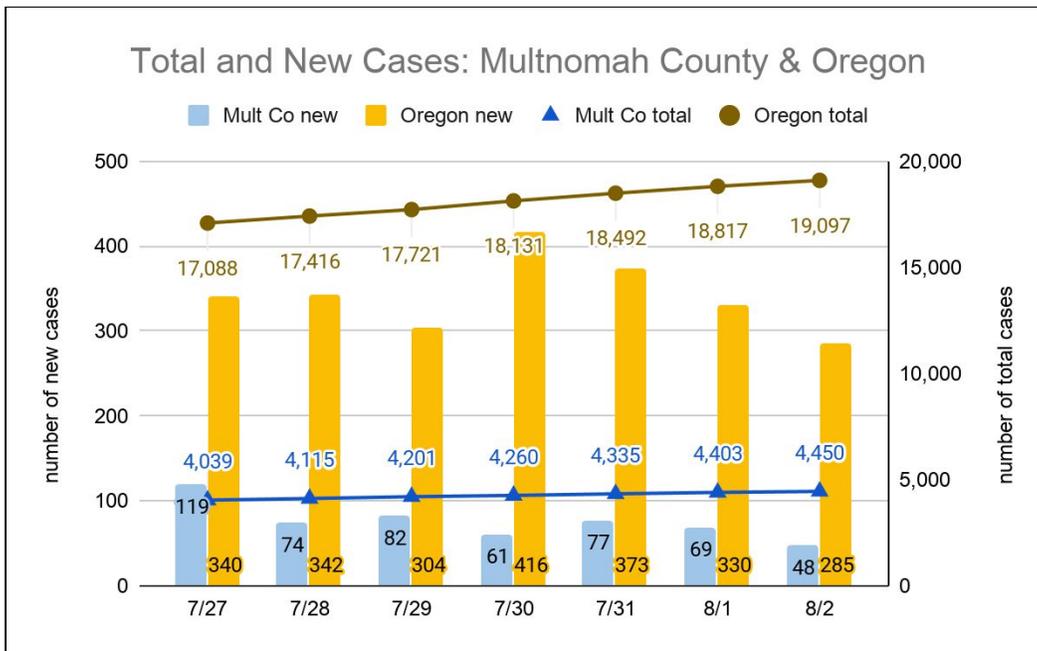
The County is supporting local school partners — Multnomah Education Service District, local school districts, and individual schools — in their development of Operational Blueprints and other tools to guide their safe reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic. The County’s Emergency Operations Center is supporting schools as they develop these blueprints, helping to ensure that OHA-mandated cleaning, distancing, and other safety protocols are in place. By August 15, schools will publish their blueprints on their websites, and will submit them to the local Public Health review team and to the Oregon Department of Education for approval.

Epidemiology Data

This is a dynamic situation. Information and case counts are changing rapidly and the incident is ongoing.

COVID-19 cases and deaths in Multnomah County and in Oregon

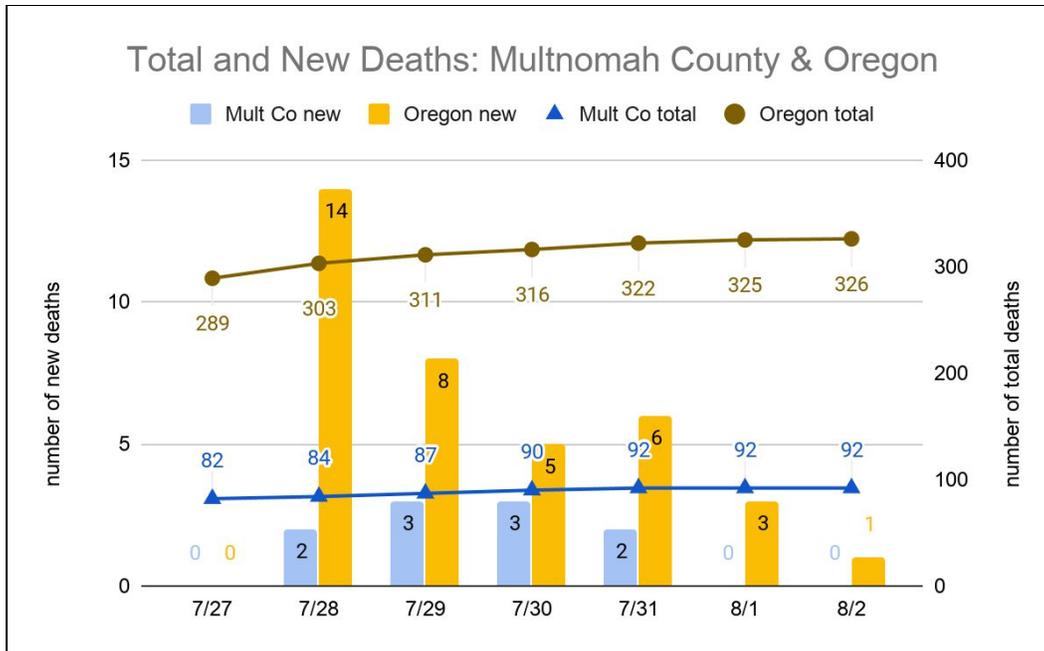
There were **285 new confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases** reported in Oregon on August 2. **Forty-eight** of these new cases are in Multnomah County. Since the pandemic began, there have been a total of **4,450** confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases in Multnomah County and **19,097** cases in Oregon. Multnomah County cases make up **23%** of the state's total. The chart below shows cases over the past week.



(Source: [Oregon Health Authority](#))

There was **one new COVID-19 death in Oregon** reported on August 2. **No** deaths were reported in Multnomah County on August 2. A total of **92** people are known to have died of COVID-19 in Multnomah County since the pandemic started, and there have been **326** known COVID-19 deaths in Oregon, statewide. Multnomah County deaths make up **28%** of the state's total. The chart below shows deaths over the past week.

(chart on next page)



(Source: [Oregon Health Authority](#))

National and global data about COVID-19 cases and deaths are tracked in the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#), available through Johns Hopkins University’s [Coronavirus Resource Center](#).

Race and Ethnicity Impact in Multnomah County

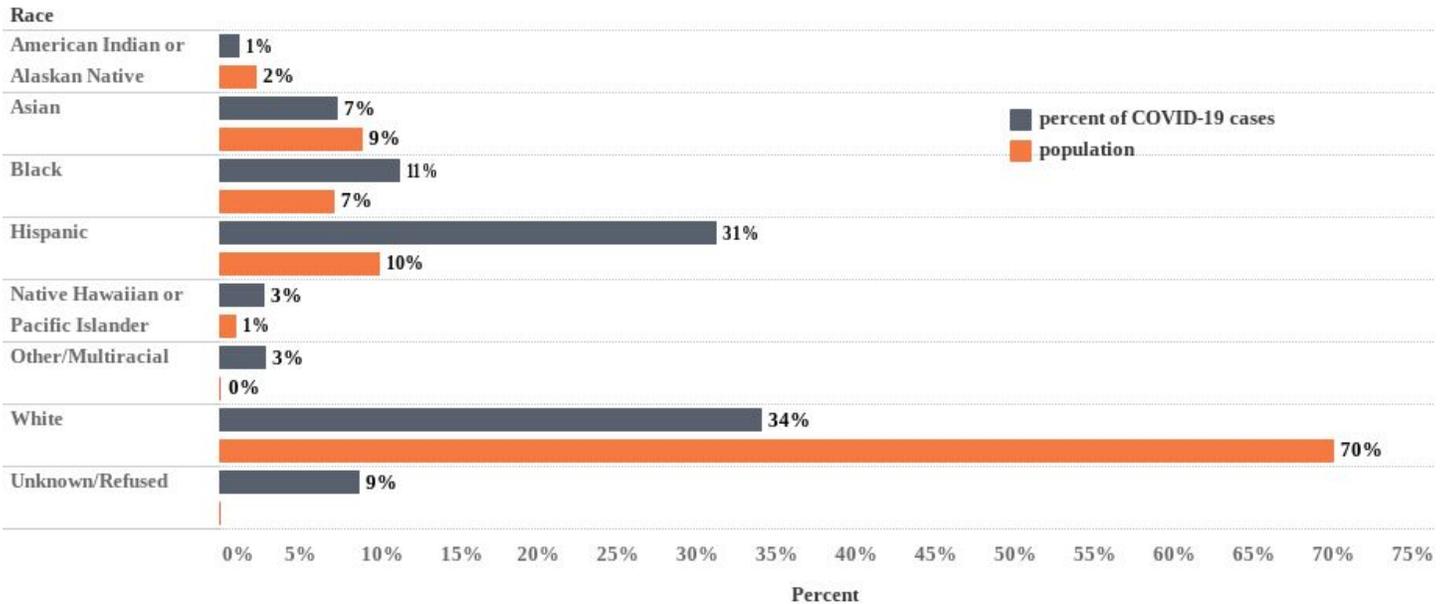
Detailed local data, including demographics (race, sex, age, and housing status) are available in the [Regional COVID-19 data dashboard](#) hosted by Multnomah County. The dashboard also contains data on case counts, hospitalizations, symptoms and coexisting conditions, and testing. For statewide data on COVID-19 cases in Oregon by sex, age group, race, and ethnicity, consult the Oregon Health Authority’s [Demographics and Disease Severity dashboard](#). National data on racial disparities in the COVID-19 pandemic is updated daily in the [COVID Racial Data Tracker](#), which is a joint project of the COVID Tracking Project at *The Atlantic* and the [Center for Antiracist Research](#).

The charts below show **the percentage of total cases, deaths, and hospitalizations by race and ethnicity (in gray)**, as of August 1. Each chart also shows **the proportion of Multnomah County’s total population by race/ethnicity (in orange)**. Instances where the percentage of cases, deaths, and hospitalizations exceeds the proportion of Multnomah County’s total population by race/ethnicity indicate the communities that are most impacted by health inequity from COVID-19. These differences may reflect the inequitable distribution of the risks of being exposed to COVID-19 and the opportunities to access medical care and COVID-19 testing.

(charts on the following pages)

Cases by race/ethnicity and population proportions

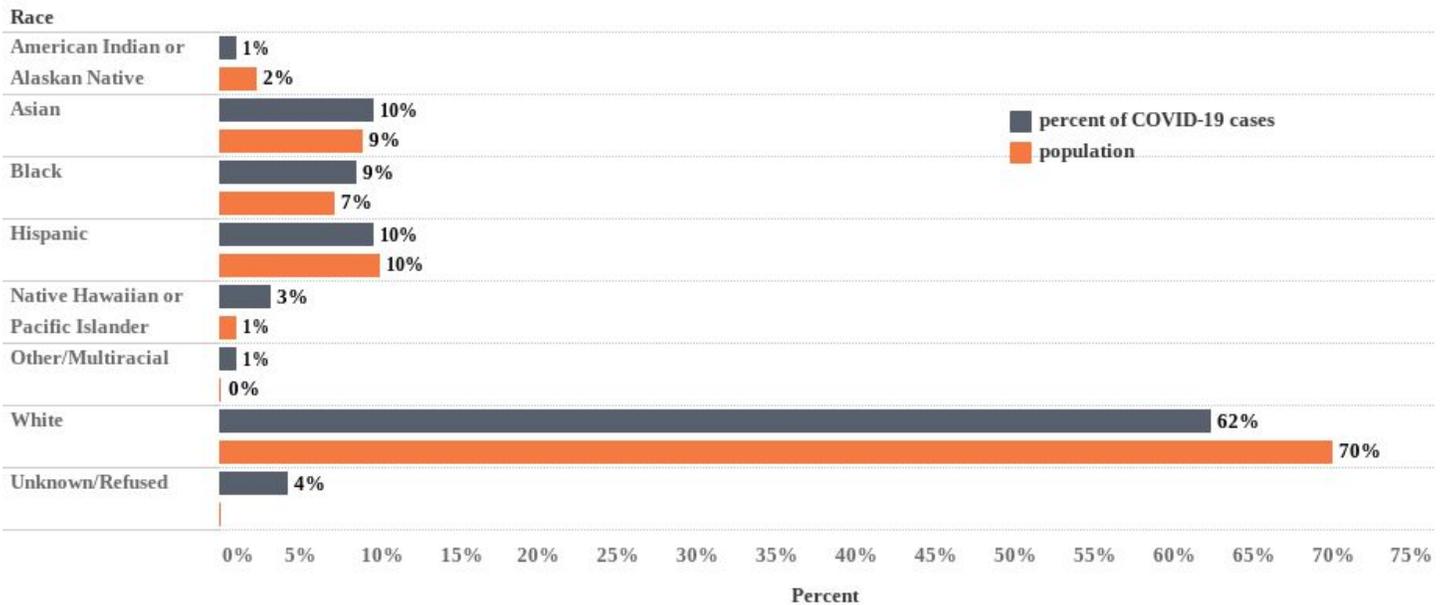
Percent of COVID-19 Cases Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions



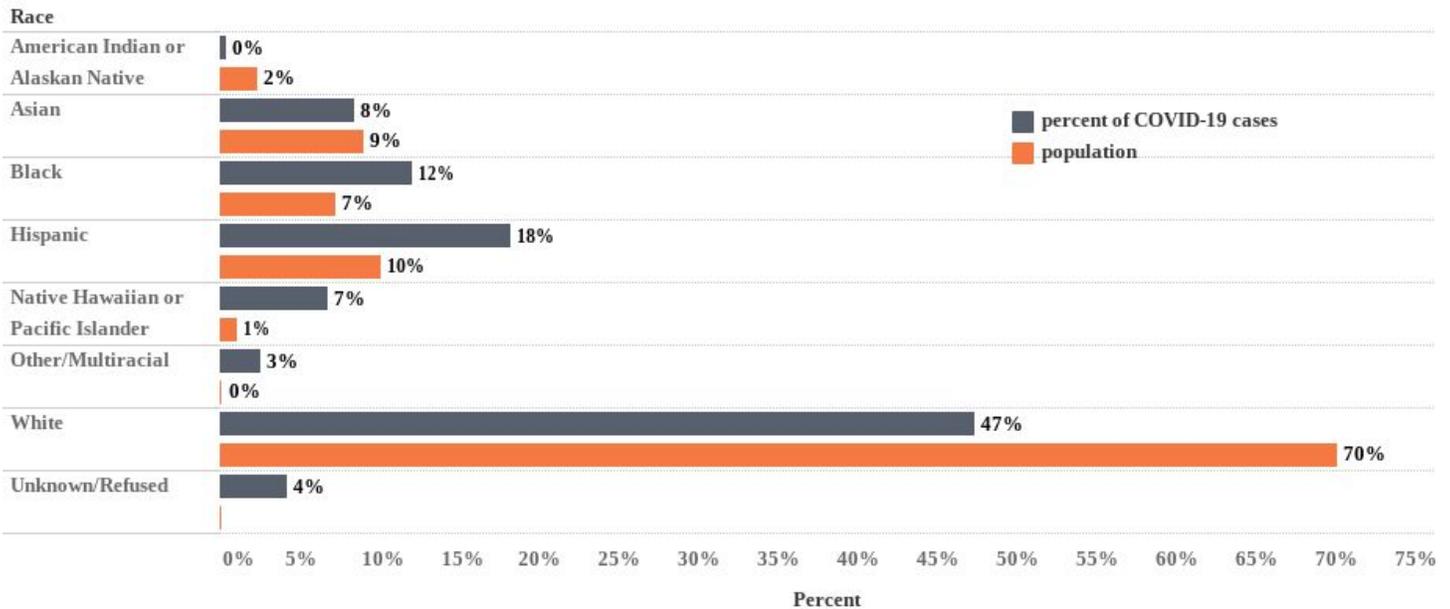
Data current as of August 1, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)).

Deaths by race/ethnicity and population proportions

Percent of COVID-19 Deaths Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions



Data current as of August 1, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)).

Hospitalized cases by race/ethnicity and population proportions
Percent of COVID-19 Hospitalized cases Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions


Data current as of August 1, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#))

EOC Section: [Logistics](#)

The Logistics Section supports the response actions of all other EOC sections. Logistics focuses on procedures for activating, dispatching, distributing, allocating, tracking, and deactivating resources needed for emergency and disaster operations from government, private, or volunteer sources. For Multnomah County’s COVID-19 response, important Logistics functions include coordinating the donation of supplies, delivering resources to community partners, and coordinating volunteers.

Donations Unit

Multnomah County is seeking **home-made face covers** and **home-made cloth face coverings**, which should be unused and in good condition. Multnomah County is dedicated to ensuring that these scarce resources are distributed to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities. Across the country, these communities are statistically more likely to suffer grave outcomes of COVID-19 and are therefore, our donation priority. A multidisciplinary team of local municipal, county, and non-profit partners are working with community partners across the county to distribute these, and other supplies. [Learn more about how you can donate or volunteer to slow the spread of COVID-19.](#)

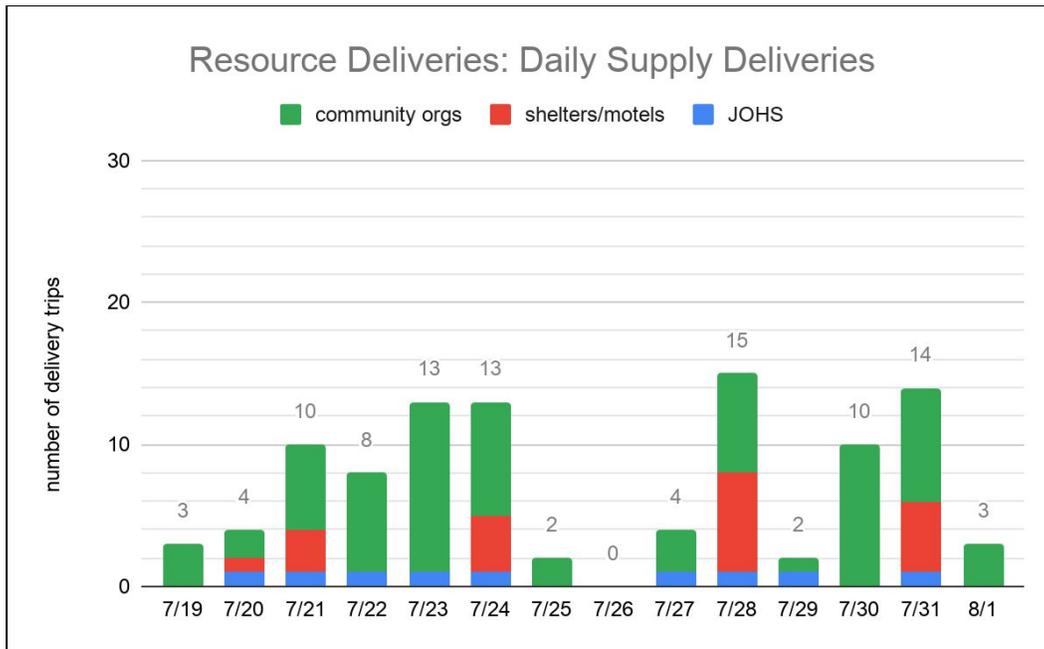
Food Unit

The Food Unit supports guests at Physical Distancing Shelters and Voluntary Isolation Motels, as well as volunteers and staff contributing to emergency response operations. This team supports a 24 hour, 7 day a week operation and organizes, sources, and delivers more than 1,400 meals each week. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to place increased pressure on the local restaurant industry, the Food Unit prioritizes agreements with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)-owned businesses. This is one example of

the many ways County resources are being leveraged to mitigate the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on BIPOC communities.

Resource Deliveries

The Logistics Section provides transportation for numerous response functions, including delivering supplies to community partners. The chart below shows the number of daily trips delivering resources to community organizations, County-run physical distancing shelters and voluntary isolation motels, and emergency outdoor shelters run by the City of Portland and Multnomah County’s Joint Office of Homeless Services. The chart does not represent the quantity of supplies included in these deliveries, so a single delivery could include small or large quantities of resources.



EOC Section: [Community Liaisons](#)

Liaisons with subject-matter expertise have been identified to support community organizations, businesses, and agencies and are meeting weekly. Liaisons are listed below and are available to members of their respective sectors. Requests for additional sectors to be created that are not covered by the established liaisons can be sent to the Liaison Group Supervisor. If you are interested in serving as a liaison, please contact the Liaison Unit Leader. Please note that the cost for non-County staff interested and able to fill vacant roles will be the responsibility of their organization.

Culturally Specific

- Applications are open for Oregon’s [Food Security & Farmworker Safety Program](#). Oregon’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OR-OSHA) has issued [temporary rules](#) requiring increased field sanitation measures, and more stringent labor housing and transportation regulations due to COVID-19. The Food Security & Farmworker Safety Program provides assistance to Oregon’s agricultural producers to help secure the food supply chain and protect essential workers from

COVID-19 exposure and illness. Learn more and apply at the [Food Security & Farmworker Safety Program](#)

Community Liaison Team

The liaison unit comprises 47 liaisons who work in 27 sectors. These liaisons support community members by providing education and resources. They also listen to their members and elevate creative ideas and any questions to the EOC. **More than 8,100 people participate in the liaison program** and help spread accurate information throughout our community and beyond.

Sector Contact Information and Conference Call Schedule

If you have specific questions, or to attend a regularly scheduled sector conference call, please [contact the sector liaison](#) via email.

Local Updates

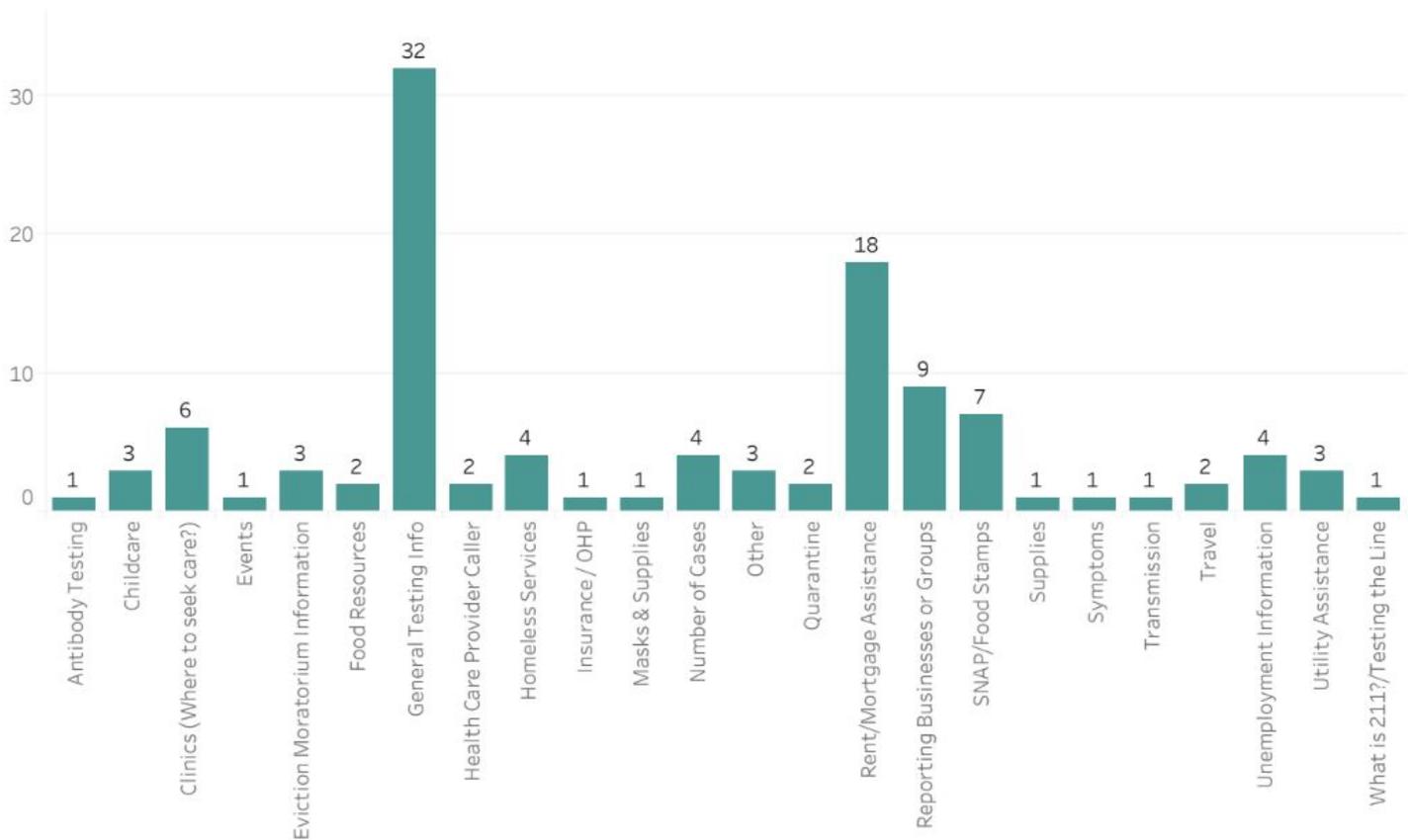
Media and Announcements

- On July 30, [The Skanner reported](#) that “When the Portland City Council voted last week on how to allocate \$114 million of federal relief funding, commissioners vowed that priority would be given to local communities of color, which have suffered disproportionately poor health and economic impacts during the pandemic.”
- On July 31, [the Portland Mercury reported](#) that “It’s been six weeks since Multnomah County made it mandatory for all county jail staff to wear face coverings to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Yet jail employees, medical staff, public defenders, and incarcerated people say that the majority of corrections officers working at the county’s central jail—the Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC)—have consistently ignored this rule.”

211 Calls

- There were 91 calls to 211 on Sunday, August 2.
- The most common reason people called was to ask about general testing information. Other frequent inquiries were about rent/mortgage assistance and reopening.

(chart on next page)

Reason for Contact


Data for August 2, 2020.

State of Oregon and Regional Updates

Media and Announcements

- On July 31, [Oregon State University announced](#) that “Preliminary results from random door-to-door TRACE-COVID-19 sampling by Oregon State University last weekend suggest that 17% of the Hermiston community had the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 on July 25-26.” Hermiston is in Umatilla County; Governor Kate Brown moved the county back to baseline Stay Home status on July 31. [TRACE](#) (Team-based Rapid Assessment of Community-Level Coronavirus Epidemics) is an OSU public health project that is attempting to assess the scope of COVID-19 infections in Oregon communities. To date, they have worked in Corvallis, Bend, Newport, and Hermiston. This story was reported by the [East Oregonian](#), [OPB](#), [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#), and [Willamette Week](#).
- On July 31, Oregon [Governor Kate Brown announced that she will call a special session of the legislature to begin August 10](#), “to rebalance the state budget by addressing the state revenue shortfall created by the COVID-19 pandemic.” This story was covered by [OPB](#).
- On July 31, [OPB reported that “Rural Republicans are pushing back on the health requirements Gov. Kate Brown has put in place for school districts to bring students back to campus.”](#)

- On July 31, [The Oregonian/OregonLive reported](#) that “an administrative change will enable the state to offer early prepayments to ‘tens of thousands’ of unemployed workers who are waiting to have their claims adjudicated.”
- On July 31, [The Oregonian/OregonLive ran a story profiling seven Oregon workers who have applied for unemployment benefits](#), but are still waiting for their claims to be processed.
- On August 1, Oregon Governor Kate Brown announced a new program that offers financial assistance to agricultural workers affected by COVID-19. The [Oregon Worker Quarantine Fund](#) offers financial assistance to agricultural workers who must self-quarantine due to a COVID-19 exposure or a COVID-19 diagnosis. Assistance is available to agricultural workers age 18 and older, regardless of immigration status. This story was reported by [KGW](#) and [OPB](#).
- On August 1, [The Oregonian/Oregonlive published an article about the roll-back of reopening in Umatilla and Morrow counties, and asked the question, which counties might be next?](#)

Health System Capacity

As of July 31, 2020

Hospital Capacity and Usage in Oregon as reported to HOSCAP*		
Overall Capacity	Available	Total Staffed
Adult ICU Beds	117	764
Adult non-ICU Beds	687	4,340
NICU/PICU Beds	65	327
Pediatric non-ICU Beds	94	328

COVID-19 Details	Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19	Only Patients with Confirmed COVID-19
Current Hospitalized Patients	208	153
Current Patients in ICU Beds	65	51
Current Patients on Ventilators	32	28

Available Ventilators	770
-----------------------	-----

Note: hospital capacity and usage data is published on weekdays only (source: [Oregon COVID-19 Update](#)).

*Note from OHA: *Every hospital in Oregon is asked to submit data twice daily to Oregon’s Hospital Capacity Web System (HOSCAP). Data are based on the most recent report from the hospitals, available as of 9:00 am. Hospital staff are asked to enter bed capacity information, by type, as well as the number of patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 illness who are currently hospitalized at the time of data entry. These data may conflict with hospitalization status in Orpheus due to case reporting and investigation lags and temporary discrepancies in case classifications.*

National and International Updates

Media and Announcements

- On July 29, [The Washington Post published an article about discussions among federal health officials and outside experts about a prioritization process for a coronavirus vaccine.](#) The [Associated Press](#) reported on this story on August 2.
- On July 29, [Time magazine ran a story examining recent scientific research about children’s risk of contracting COVID-19,](#) the likelihood that they will spread the virus, and their risk of becoming seriously ill.
- On July 31, [the Associated Press reported that “Dr. Anthony Fauci said Friday that he remains confident that a coronavirus vaccine will be ready by early next year,](#) telling lawmakers that a quarter-million Americans already have volunteered to take part in clinical trials.”
- On July 31, [the Associated Press reported on a trial underway at New York University, to assess whether hyperbaric oxygen therapy,](#) best known for treating divers with the bends, can help COVID-19 patients avoid the need for ventilators, and perhaps reduce deaths.
- On July 31, [OPB ran a story about how “for people with hearing problems,” asserting that masks “make lip-reading almost impossible.”](#)
- On July 31, [NPR reported that the new hospital capacity reporting system created by the Trump administration “is updated erratically and is rife with inconsistencies and errors,”](#) according to data analysts.
- On July 31, [NPR reported that the National Institutes of Health has “announced the first seven winners of a competition to produce next-generation coronavirus tests to help battle the spread of COVID-19.”](#)
- On July 31, [NPR reported that “The federal government has reached a deal worth up to \\$2.1 billion with drugmakers Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline](#) as part of Operation Warp Speed, the Trump administration’s push to have a coronavirus vaccine widely available by early 2021.”
- On July 31, [the Associated Press reported on disparities in COVID-19 testing, and in the time it takes patients to get results.](#)
- On August 2, the [Associated Press reported](#) that “As the academic year begins in many places across the country this week, parents are faced with the difficult choice of whether to send their children to school or keep them home for remote learning because of the coronavirus pandemic. Many are unhappy with either option.”

Stay Informed, Get Involved

COVID-19 Response

- **Local response:** the [Multnomah County COVID-19 website](#) is regularly updated with new information and guidance. Topics covered include:

- [Daily Living](#)
- [Reopening & Guidance](#)
- [Symptoms, Testing & Care](#)
- [Outbreak Summary](#), including the [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)
- [Get or Give Help During COVID-19](#)
- [What's open — and what is closed — at MultCo during COVID-19](#)
- [Discrimination, stigma and COVID-19](#)
- **State response:** [Oregon Health Authority COVID-19 website](#)
- **National response:** [CDC website](#)

Media

For media inquiries related to COVID-19 please **contact Julie Sullivan-Springhetti**, Multnomah County Public Information Media Coordinator at: **503-502-2741**.

Check out our [list of trusted sources](#) for current national and regional COVID-19 information.

Volunteers

- Are you interested in assisting during this incident? Please complete a [volunteer interest form](#).

Activated Call Centers

Call Center	Phone Number	Email	Hours
211 Call Center	211	help@211info.org	seven days a week, 8:00 am - 11:00 pm
Mental Health Call Center	503-988-4888 Toll-free: 800-716-9769 TTY: 711		open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
Aging & Disabilities Resource Connection	503-988-3646	adrc@multco.us	information and assistance to older people, people with disabilities, and caregivers, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
City County Information and Referral	503-823-4000		Mondays-Fridays, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Help and Resources

- **Having symptoms?**
 - [C19Oregon.com](#) is an online triage tool that helps public health officials track COVID-19 cases and allows community members to check their symptoms and receive guidance.

More questions?

- Consult the [Multnomah County COVID-19 FAQs](#).

- [Call 211](#).
- Still can't find the answer you're looking for? Submit [questions about the novel coronavirus](#) to Multnomah County.

Document Development Information	
Prepared By (Name & Position)	Emily-Jane Dawson, Amy Honisett, and Melissa Walker, Situation Unit
Approved By (Name & Position)	Alice Busch, Unified Command
Date; Time Approved	8/2/20; 22:37 hours
Date of Next Situation Report	Wednesday, 8/05/20

Articles & reports cited

Announcements & Featured Media

- "Judge blocks administration from implementing 'public charge' rule for immigrants during pandemic," by Priscilla Alvarez, CNN, 29 July 2020, <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/29/politics/public-charge-coronavirus/index.html>
- "Federal judge blocks Trump immigration 'public charge' rule due to pandemic," by Nathan Weixel, The Hill, 29 July 2020, <https://thehill.com/latino/509706-federal-judge-blocks-trump-immigration-public-charge-rule-due-to-pandemic>
- "Twin Rulings By Federal Judge Block 'Public Charge' Rules For Immigrants," by David Welna, NPR, 31 July 2020, <https://www.npr.org/2020/07/31/897429845/twin-rulings-by-federal-judge-block-public-charge-rules-for-immigrants>
- "Coronavirus Stay-at-Home Order Reinstated for Oregon's Umatilla County, Governor Says," by Brad Schmidt, *The Oregonian*/OregonLive, 30 July 2020 <https://www.oregonlive.com/coronavirus/2020/07/coronavirus-stay-at-home-order-reinstated-for-oregons-umatilla-county-governor-says.html>
- "Oregon Gov. Kate Brown Reinstates Stay-at-Home Order for Umatilla County," by Rachel Monahan, *Willamette Week*, 30 July 2020, <https://www.wweek.com/news/state/2020/07/30/oregon-gov-kate-brown-reinstates-stay-at-home-order-for-umatilla-county/>
- "Umatilla County hopes new business closures stem the local spread of COVID-19," by Alex Castle, *East Oregonian*, 1 August 2020, https://www.eastoregonian.com/coronavirus/umatilla-county-hopes-new-business-closures-stem-the-local-spread-of-covid-19/article_3f06df14-d361-11ea-80d6-1f7d45b47255.html
- "Morrow County plans to take extra precautions under Phase 1," by Nada Sewidan, *East Oregonian*, 1 August 2020, https://www.eastoregonian.com/coronavirus/morrow-county-plans-to-take-extra-precautions-under-phase-1/article_a1f91b14-d36b-11ea-ab8f-037c3e1b45c1.html
- Pediatric COVID-19 Report, OHA 3222, Oregon Health Authority, dated 27 July 2020, released 31 July 2020, <https://sharesystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le3222.pdf>
- "Ten Percent of Oregon's COVID-19 Cases Are Children Under 18," by Rachel Monahan, *Willamette Week*, 1 August 2020,

<https://www.wweek.com/news/state/2020/08/01/ten-percent-of-oregons-covid-19-cases-are-children-under-age-18/>

Local Updates

- “Portland Approves \$114 M Relief Budget with Focus on Communities of Color,” by Sandra Sorenson, *The Skanner*, 30 July 2020, <https://www.theskanner.com/news/northwest/30305-portland-approves-114-relief-budget-with-focus-on-communities-of-color>
- “Multnomah County Jail Staff Still Aren't Wearing Masks, Despite County Orders,” by Alex Zielinski, *Portland Mercury*, 31 July 2020, <https://www.portlandmercury.com/blogtown/2020/07/31/28693326/multnomah-county-jail-staff-still-arent-wearing-masks-despite-county-orders>

State of Oregon and Regional Updates

- “OSU study estimates 17% of Hermiston residents were positive for COVID-19 on July 25-26,” by Jade McDowell, *East Oregonian*, 31 July 2020, https://www.eastoregonian.com/coronavirus/osu-study-estimates-17-of-hermiston-residents-were-positive-for-covid-19-on-july-25/article_25f77214-d34c-11ea-b511-e3b58da9743c.html
- “Close to 17% of Hermiston residents could have COVID-19,” by Jes Burns, OPB, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/07/31/umatilla-county-stay-home-order-covid-19-coronavirus/>
- “OSU estimates 17% of Hermiston residents infected with coronavirus,” by Brad Schmidt, *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, 31 July 2020, <https://www.oregonlive.com/coronavirus/2020/07/osu-estimates-17-of-hermiston-residents-infected-with-coronavirus.html>
- “Study Says 17% Percent of Hermiston Has COVID-19,” by Aaron Mesh, *Willamette Week*, 31 July 2020, <https://www.wweek.com/news/2020/07/31/study-says-17-percent-of-hermiston-has-covid-19/>
- “Oregon Legislature to convene Aug. 10 to close budget hole,” by Dirk VanderHart, OPB, 31 July 2020, updated 1 August 2020, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/07/31/special-session-oregon-legislature-covid-19/>
- “Rural lawmakers push back on Oregon school reopening plan,” by Emily Cureton, OPB, 31 July 2020, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/07/31/rural-lawmakers-push-back-on-oregon-school-reopening-plan/>
- “Oregon says it will offer quicker benefits to ‘tens of thousands’ of unemployed workers waiting for claims adjudication,” by Mike Rogoway, *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, 31 July 2020, <https://www.oregonlive.com/business/2020/07/oregon-says-it-will-offer-quicker-benefits-to-tens-of-thousands-of-unemployed-workers-waiting-for-claims-adjudication.html>
- “Faces of the unemployed: Stories from 7 Oregonians waiting on unemployment benefits,” by Jamie Goldberg, *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, 31 July 2020, <https://www.oregonlive.com/coronavirus/2020/07/faces-of-the-unemployed-stories-from-7-oregonians-waiting-on-unemployment-benefits.html>
- “Oregon launches coronavirus-related assistance program for agricultural workers,” by Meerah Powell, OPB, 1 August 2020, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/08/01/immigrant-farmworker-relief-oregon/>
- “Worker Quarantine Fund to offer financial assistance to agricultural workers who are self-quarantining,” KGW, 2 August 2020, <https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/worker-quarantine-fund-will-help-slow-the-spread-of-covid-19-by-supporting-the-workers-who-keep-oregon-fed/283-a7ea91b3-9c69-40f3-9a66-823ffa72c246>
- “Umatilla County is the 1st in Oregon to return to stay-home orders, drawing bitter responses. Which counties might be next?,” by Aimee Green, *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, 1 August 2020, <https://www.oregonlive.com/coronavirus/2020/08/governors-order-making-umatilla-county-1st-to-return-to-stay-home-status-has-drawn-bitter-responses-will-multnomah-county-be-next.html>

National and International Updates

- “Who should get a coronavirus vaccine first?” by Lena H. Sun, *The Washington Post*, 29 July 2020, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/07/29/covid-vaccine-essential-workers-high-risk-populations/>
- “Debate begins for who’s first in line for COVID-19 vaccine,” by Lauran Neergaard, AP News, Associated Press, 2 August 2020, <https://apnews.com/6515204e97bea1799db223b2c694d48d>
- “Here’s What the Science Actually Says about Kids and COVID-19,” by Tara Law, *Time*, 29 July 2020, <https://time.com/5872418/kids-children-covid-19-schools/>
- “Fauci confident virus vaccine will get to Americans in 2021,” by Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar and Matthew Perrone, *AP News*, Associated Press, 31 July 2020, <https://apnews.com/2a4c1d64f8cb8efbadfd581594db8819>
- “Doctors Try Pressurized Oxygen Chambers in COVID Fight,” by Margie Mason and Robin McDowell, *AP News*, Associated Press, 31 July 2020, <https://apnews.com/fba6565c101c2aaac3d44cc49623aa7b>
- “Masks Slow Coronavirus Spread, But Make Communication Harder For Some People,” by Kristian Foden-Vencil, OPB, 31 July 2020, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/07/29/masks-covid-19-lip-reading-oregon/>
- “COVID-19 Hospital Data System That Bypasses CDC Plagued By Delays, Inaccuracies,” by Pien Huang and Selena Simmons-Duffin, *Morning Edition*, NPR, 31 July 2020, <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/07/31/897429054/covid-19-hospital-data-system-that-bypasses-cdc-plagued-by-delays-inaccuracies>
- “Federal Push For Faster, Cheaper Coronavirus Tests Focuses On 7 New Technologies,” by Rob Stein, NPR, 31 July 2020, <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/07/31/897320468/next-generation-coronavirus-tests-advance-toward-production>
- “U.S. Reaches \$2.1 Billion Deal With Sanofi, GlaxoSmithKline For COVID-19 Vaccine Push,” by Sydney Lupkin, NPR, 31 July 2020, <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/31/897701128/u-s-reaches-2-1-billion-deal-with-sanofi-and-glaxosmithkline-for-coronavirus-vac>
- “Virus testing turnaround times reveal wide disparity,” by Tamara Lush, AP News, Associated Press, 31 July 2020, <https://apnews.com/4510d7cf7c77e10b38e1fcd94462de22>
- “As school begins amid virus, parents see few good options,” by Jeff Amy, AP News, Associated Press, 2 August 2020, <https://apnews.com/85061e04498443d82cfa364dba00b0f8>