

Situation Report

Situation Report Number: 08.14.2020		
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 Joseph Valtierra, Department of County Human Services	
Date: 8/14/20	Time: 10:00 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, 9:00 am - 3:45 pm **[NOTE: Due to expected extreme weather, testing hours on Monday, August 17 will be 9:00 am -11:45 am.]**
- **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.

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.

Multnomah County [Novel Coronavirus COVID-19](#) website

- Added [If You Have Been Exposed to COVID-19](#) page
- Updated [If You Test Positive for COVID-19](#)
- Updated [Symptoms, Testing & Care](#)
- Updated [Faith Based and Community Groups COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- Updated [Face Coverings, Masks, and COVID-19](#) in [Somali](#)
- Updated [When to Seek Care](#)

Multnomah County Health Department (MCHD)

- Uploaded [Breastfeeding During COVID](#) to MCHD YouTube
- Uploaded [#FeedNourishLove](#) to MCHD YouTube

EOC Section: [Operations](#)

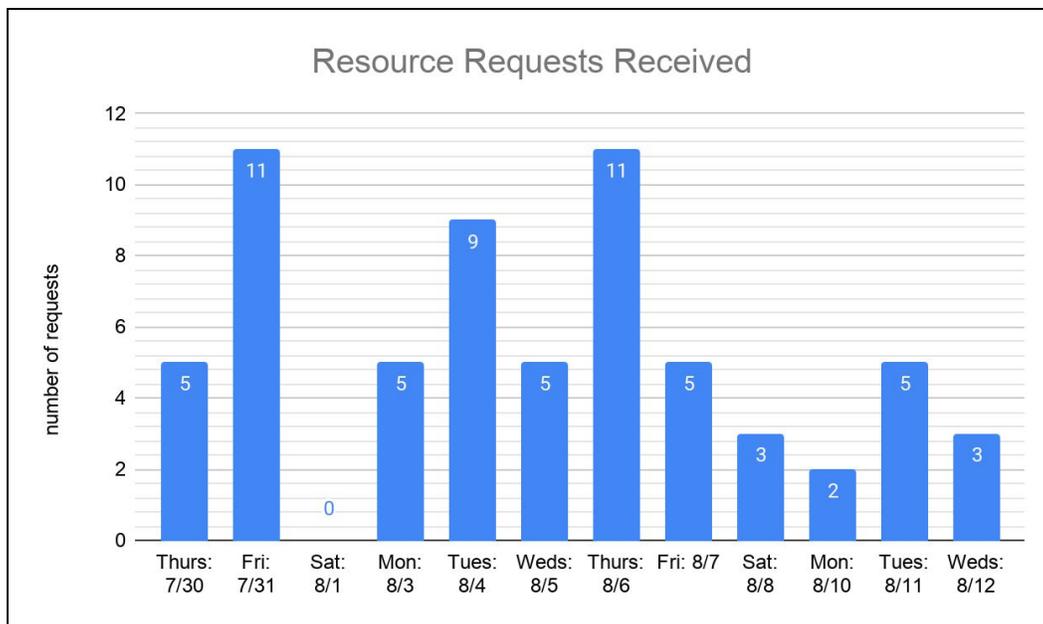
The Operations section has several operational areas, each of which report on daily metrics. Weekly metrics are reported each Wednesday.

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.



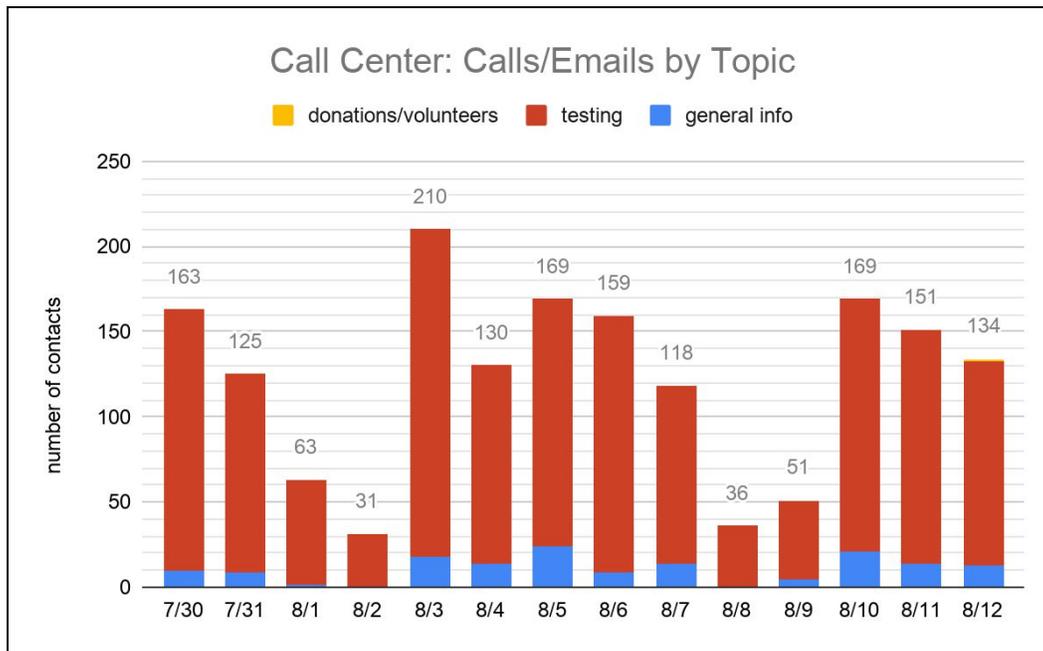
Note: the Resource Request Unit operates Mondays-Saturdays.

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 chart below shows the number of calls and emails per day for the past two weeks, broken down by three topic categories.



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. Human Solutions, Inc. 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 have transitioned to non-profit management, they will no longer be reported in this Situation Report.

Section Updates

The Mass Care and Shelter section of the EOC is currently helping support the operation of one Physical Distancing Shelter (PDS) with a total capacity of **120 beds**, and two Voluntary Isolation Motels (VIMos) with a total capacity of **120 beds**. The people working in this section include all of our on-site shelter staff who continue to respond with compassionate action as increasing numbers of guests are referred into the County’s PDS site from partner shelters. Staffing and response plans that take into consideration COVID-19’s extended duration are being finalized.

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 in close collaboration with the Multnomah Education Service District is supporting local school districts and 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 communicable disease response plans including things like symptom screening, isolation space, cleaning, and other safety protocols are in place. By August 17, 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. As deadlines approach for schools -- both K-12 and higher education -- to submit their plans for reopening, a multi-disciplinary team of reviewers has been assembled to meet the state requirement for local public health review. Currently, this team is laying out frameworks to evaluate both types of plans while overlaying equity considerations into review criteria.

The Schools Liaison is working with various partners including Public Health, Youth Liaisons, and the Public Information section to develop a public health "Back to School" communications plan and toolkit, as well as continuing to support schools and districts as they work toward welcoming students back virtually or in person for the 2020-2021 school year.

On August 11, Oregon Department of Education released updated guidance for schools in the [Ready Schools, Safe Learners, Guidance for School Year 2020-21](#).

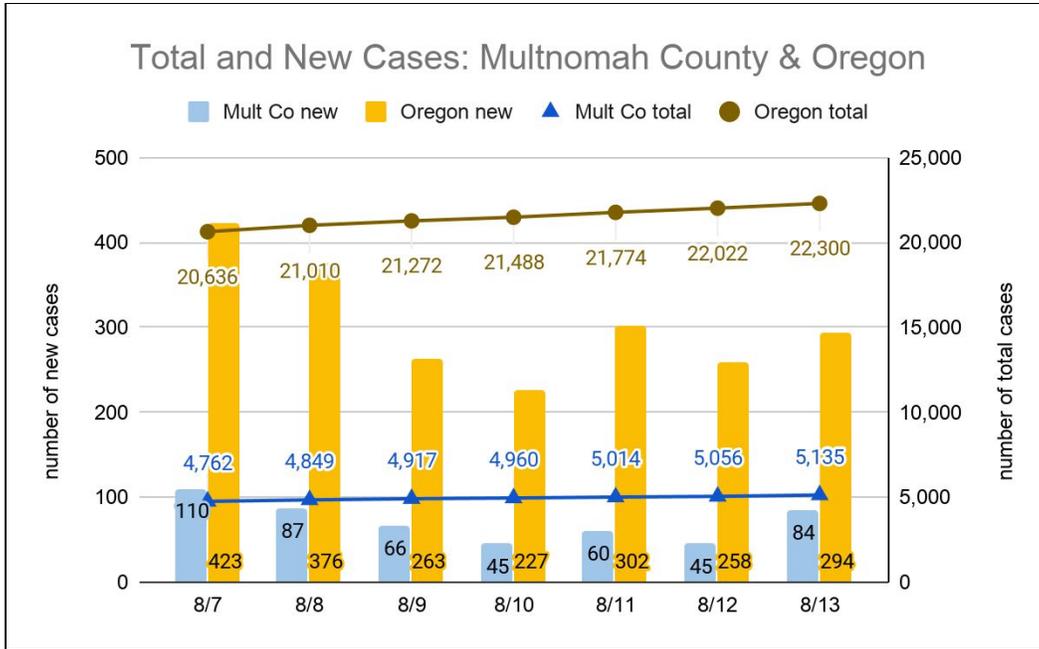
Epidemiology Data

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

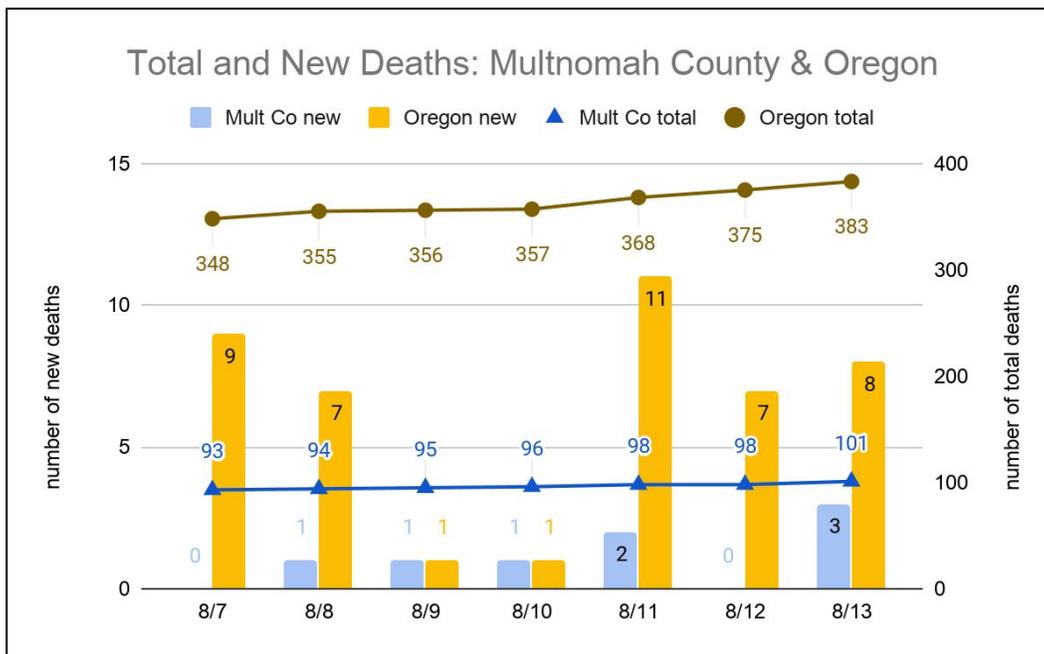
There were **294 new confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases** reported in Oregon on August 13. **Eighty-four** of these new cases are in Multnomah County. Since the pandemic began, there have been a total of **5,135** confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases in Multnomah County and **22,300** cases in Oregon. Multnomah County cases make up **23%** of the state's total. The chart below shows cases over the past week.

(chart on next page)



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

There were **eight new COVID-19 deaths in Oregon** reported on August 13. **Three** of these deaths occurred in Multnomah County. A total of **101** people are known to have died of COVID-19 in Multnomah County since the pandemic started. There have been **383** known COVID-19 deaths in Oregon, statewide. Multnomah County deaths make up **26%** of the state’s total. The chart below shows deaths over the past week.



(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](#).

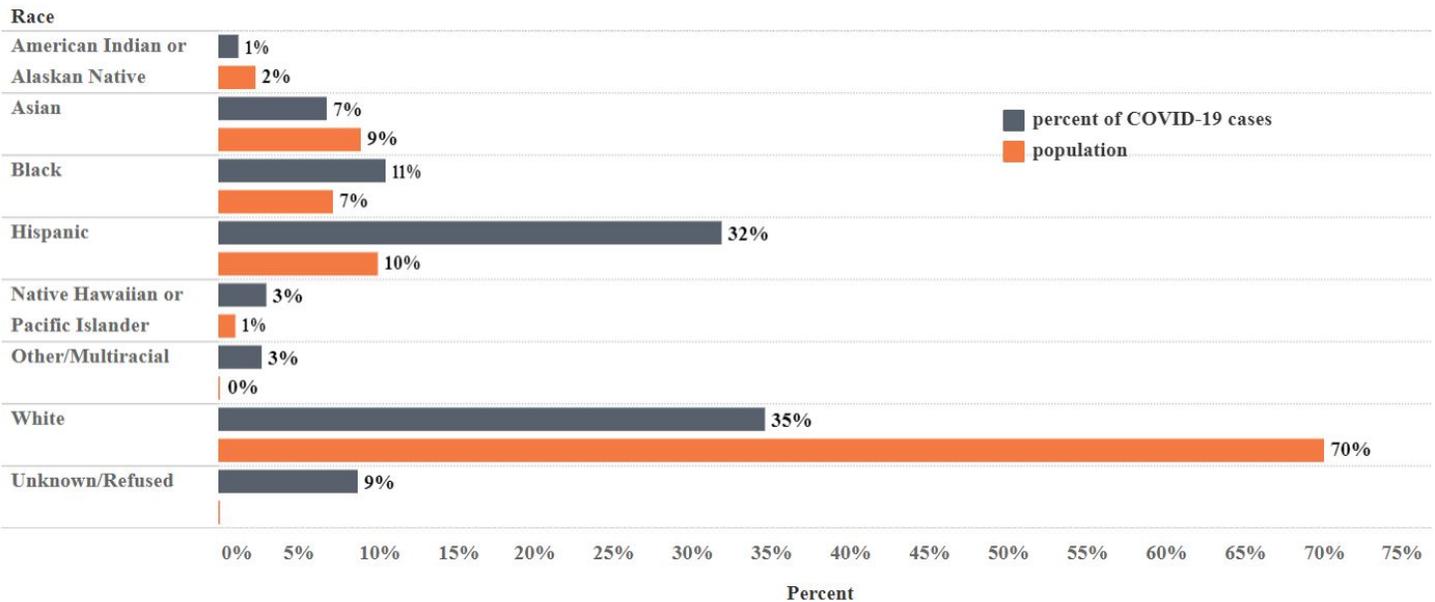
Race and Ethnicity Impact in Multnomah County

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 12. 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.

Cases by race/ethnicity and population proportions

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

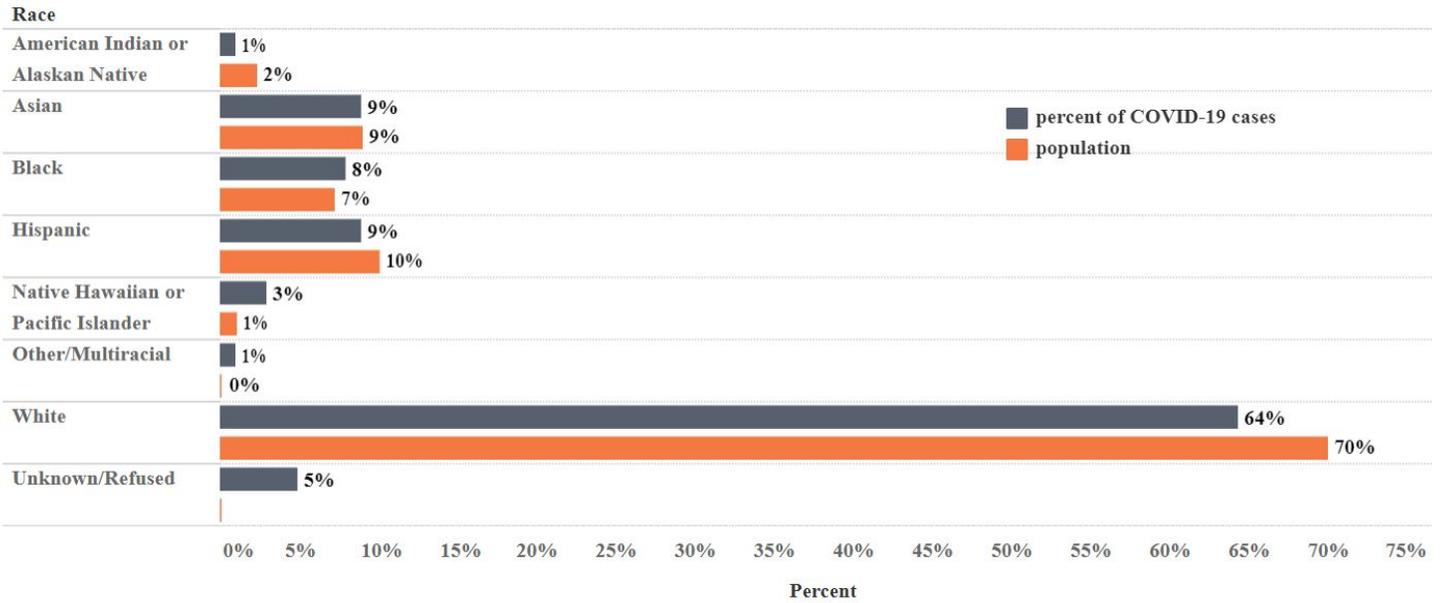


Data current as of August 12, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)).

(charts on next page)

Deaths by race/ethnicity and population proportions

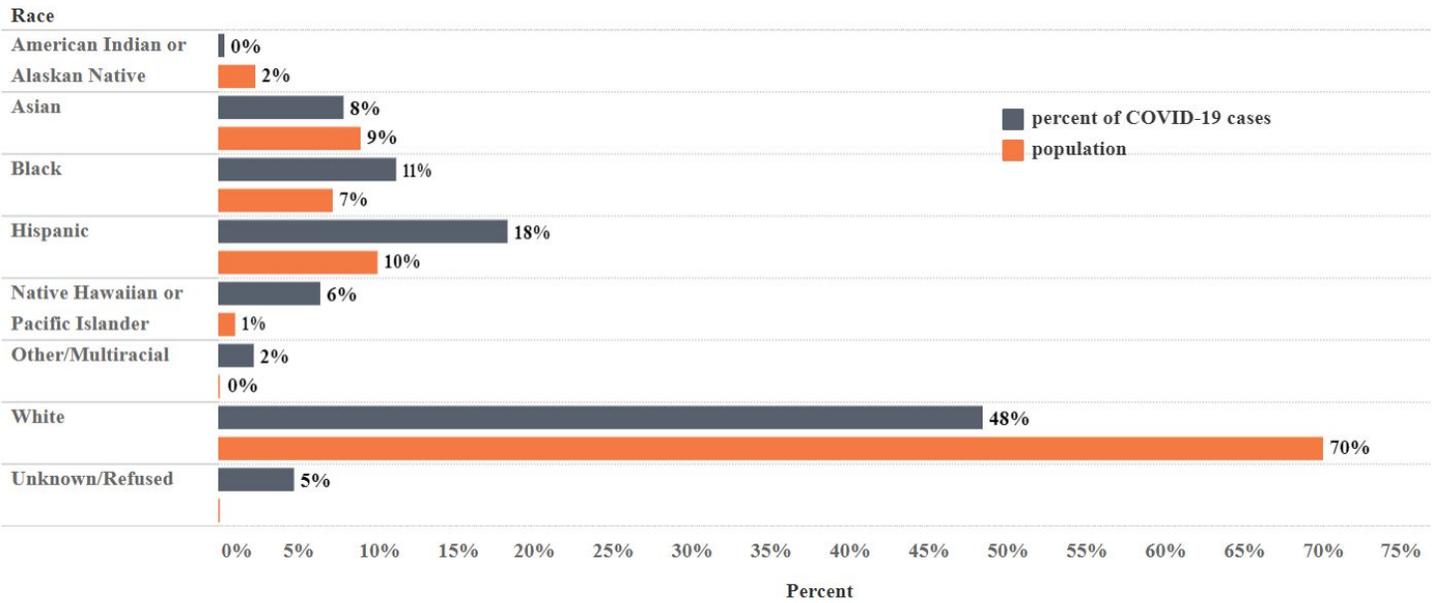
Percent of COVID-19 Deaths Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions



Data current as of August 12, 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 12, 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.](#)

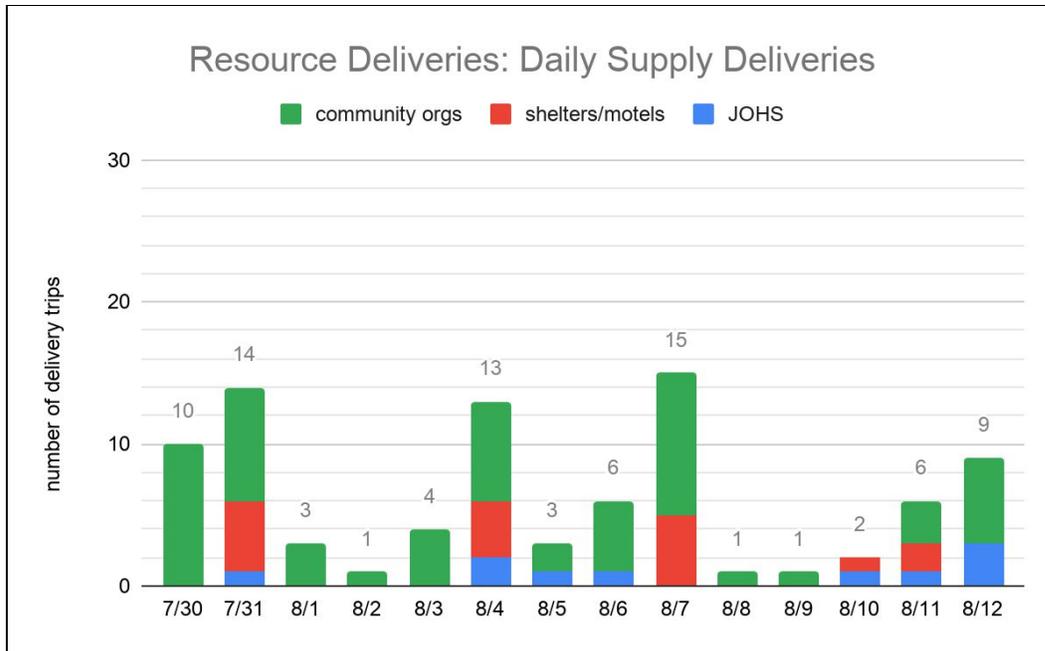
Food Unit

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.

(chart on next page)



EOC Section: [Administration](#)

The Administration Section provides targeted support to create an inclusive, positive, productive and healthy work environment across all response operations, that is responsive to the changing conditions of the COVID-19 incident. Functions include the recruitment, training and onboarding of staff and volunteers; equity and inclusion support; and human resources and labor relations consultation.

EOC Section: [Community Liaisons](#)

The Liaison Unit is made up of four Liaison Officers and five Deputies who support 47 community liaisons across 27 sectors. Liaison Officers and Deputies foster community connection and information sharing by creating spaces to problem solve, share resources, and discuss community experiences. In addition, they track and identify trends within the community and elevate them to response leadership to inform outreach and policy. Community Liaisons use their subject-matter expertise to act as a critical link between the COVID-19 response mission and the audience it affects. They answer sector specific questions, ensure understanding of local and State guidelines as it pertains to their sector, and manage communication and information sharing between sector organizations and the Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center.

Work of the Liaison Unit has included the following this week:

- As this incident progresses, the team regularly reassesses the liaison structure and staffing, looking for areas where greater representation could be developed and for possible improvements in outreach.
- Facilitating collaboration between liaisons in different sectors with a focus on sectors that directly interface with the community in culturally competent ways.
- Brainstorming ways to utilize trauma informed processes and offer additional behavioral health resources in liaison meetings and responses.
- Seeking mid-event feedback from liaisons about opportunities for increased community touch points.

Community Liaison Team

The liaison unit includes 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 8,500 people actively 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

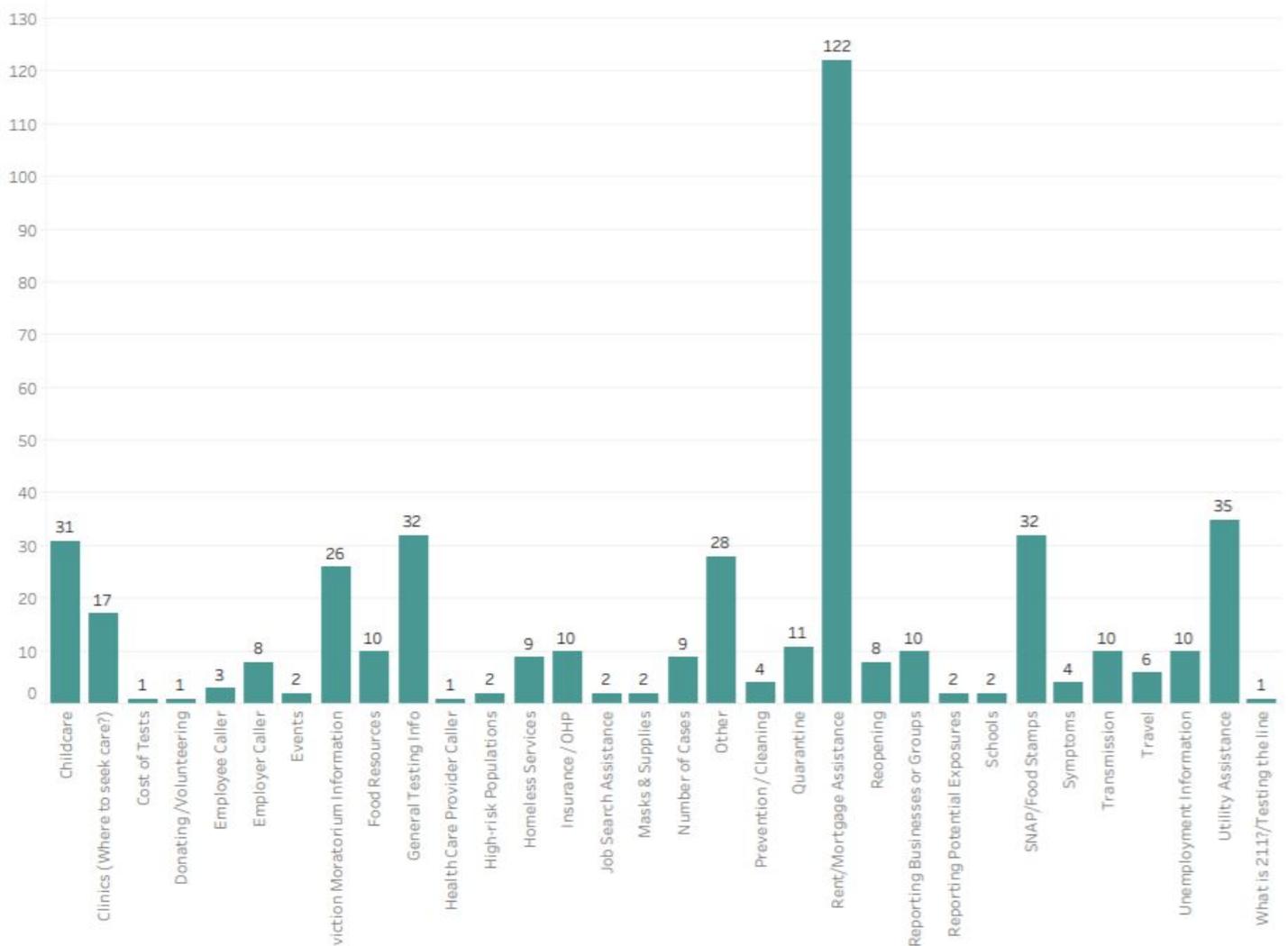
Media and Announcements

- On August 11, [Willamette Week reported](#), “Despite no dramatic shifts in the COVID-19 situation in the county, Multnomah County was removed from the yellow zone on the White House's list this week,’ says [a spokesman for Governor Brown]. ‘This after just last week Dr. Deborah Birx was quoted as naming Portland as one of nine cities that could be a potential hot spot for COVID-19.’”
- On August 12, [KOIN reported](#), “A Portland Kaiser Permanente location will be among those to test Pfizer’s phase three trial for their experimental vaccine for the novel coronavirus.” The article continues, “The health care provider is looking for 100 Kaiser members between the ages of 18 and 85 to volunteer for the trial . . . Researchers also said ideal volunteer candidates will be people who fall into the high-risk category and those deemed essential workers.”

211 Calls

- There were 303 calls to 211 on Thursday, August 13.
- The most common reason people called was to ask about rent/mortgage assistance. Other frequent inquiries were about utility assistance, general testing information, and SNAP/food stamps.

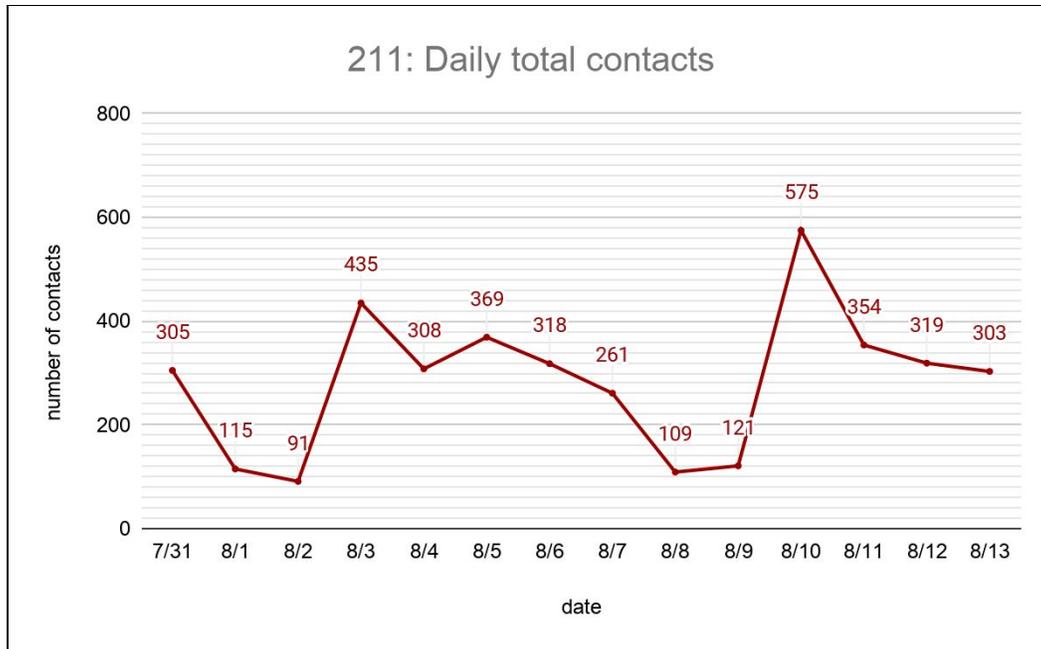
(chart on next page)

Reason for Contact


Data for August 13, 2020.

Aggregated data: The chart below shows the total number of 211 contacts each day, over the last two weeks.

(chart on next page)



State of Oregon and Regional Updates

Media and Announcements

- On August 12, [OPB reported](#), “This week, the state’s Department of Education bowed to pressure from rural community leaders and released new standards for in-person instruction in the state’s most sparsely-populated areas.”
- On August 12, [The Oregonian/OregonLive reported](#), “Jefferson County Schools, which educates Oregon’s largest concentration of Indigenous students, likely won’t reopen until 2021.” Complicating plans for distance learning is the fact that at least 40% of students do not have access to the internet or technology; additionally, remote parts of Jefferson County lack internet connectivity and cellular infrastructure.
- On August 13, [OPB reported](#) “The supplemental [unemployment] benefits President Trump created through executive order last weekend have sown widespread confusion around the country — including at the Oregon Employment Department.”
- On August 13, [The Oregonian/OregonLive reported](#), “Most colleges in Oregon intend to open their campuses, their dorms and dining halls this fall with strict new precautions and protocols intended to keep the virus at bay. Increasingly, faculty and alumni are questioning the wisdom of doing so given recent increases in the number of cases.”

Health System Capacity

As of August 13, 2020:

Hospital Capacity and Usage in Oregon as reported to HOSCAP*

Overall Capacity	Available	Total Staffed
Adult ICU Beds	159	746
Adult non-ICU Beds	626	4,309
NICU/PICU Beds	89	324
Pediatric non-ICU Beds	93	332

COVID-19 Details	Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19	Only Patients with Confirmed COVID-19
Current Hospitalized Patients	232	156
Current Patients in ICU Beds	57	41
Current Patients on Ventilators	22	17

Available Ventilators	771
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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 August 13, [NPR’s program The Indicator from Planet Money reported](#), “The extra \$600 dollars a week that Congress added to unemployment benefits as part of the CARES Act expired at the end of July. Most of the 30 million Americans on unemployment, saw their weekly income drop by half. Congress was expected to extend the benefits in some way, but Republicans and Democrats seem deadlocked. And most legislators have left for their August break.”

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](https://www.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	8/13/20; 22:09 hours
Date of Next Situation Report	Monday, 8/17/20

Articles & reports cited

Local Updates

- “Federal Coronavirus Guidance to Oregon Takes Portland Off the Areas of Concern: Multnomah County is no longer considered in the yellow zone in federal guidance,” by Rachel Monahan, *Willamette Week*, 11 August 2020, <https://www.wweek.com/news/state/2020/08/11/federal-coronavirus-guidance-to-oregon-takes-portland-off-the-areas-of-concern/>
- “Kaiser Permanente COVID-19 vaccine trial looking for Portland volunteers,” by Lisa Balick, KOIN, 12 August 2020, <https://www.koin.com/news/health/coronavirus/kaiser-permanente-covid-19-vaccine-trial-looking-for-portland-volunteers/>

State of Oregon and Regional Updates

- “New metrics make it easier for rural schools to open,” by Emily Cureton and Erin Ross, 12 August 2020, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/08/12/new-metrics-make-it-easier-for-rural-oregon-schools-to-reopen/>
- “Jefferson County schools, which educate Oregon’s largest concentration of Indigenous students, likely won’t reopen until 2021,” by Jackson Hogan, reprinted in *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, 12 August 2020, <https://www.oregonlive.com/education/2020/08/jefferson-county-schools-which-educate-oregons-largest-concentration-of-indigenous-students-likely-wont-reopen-until-2021.html>, originally appeared as “County Health Director: Jefferson County students could stay at home until 2021,” by Jackson Hogan, *Bend Bulletin*, 11 August 2020,

https://www.bendbulletin.com/coronavirus/county-health-director-jefferson-county-students-could-stay-at-home-until-2021/article_3214ba2a-dbf3-11ea-b736-f3156f23740d.html

- <https://www.oregonlive.com/education/2020/08/jefferson-county-schools-which-educate-oregons-largest-concentration-of-indigenous-students-likely-wont-reopen-until-2021.html>
- “Oregonians might receive an extra \$300 in weekly unemployment benefits. Or not,” by Kate Davidson, OPB, 13 August 2020, <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/08/13/unemployment-disaster-relief-oregon-extra-money/>
- “Faculty, alumni urge Oregon colleges to keep campuses locked down,” by Jeff Manning, *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, 13 August 2020, <https://www.oregonlive.com/education/2020/08/faculty-alumni-urge-oregon-colleges-to-keep-campuses-locked-down.html>

National and International Updates

- “When \$600 Goes Away,” by Stacey Vanek Smith and Cardiff Garcia, *The Indicator from Planet Money*, NPR, 13 August 2020, <https://www.npr.org/2020/08/13/902342278/when-600-goes-away>