

COVID-19 County Data & Updates:

A. CASES:

Count type	# of cases	date range
Weekend case count:	19 *More may be added as the communicable disease tracking system (OPERA) was temporarily down over the weekend (Sat/Sun).	Sept 17 - 19
7 -day case count:	90	Sept 12 – Sept 18
14-day case count:	240	Sept 05 – Sept 18
Month to date:	326 (Unvaccinated: 211 vaccinated: 64; unknown: 51*)	Sept 1 – Sept 19
Total:	1,815	March 2020 – Sept 19

- *Unknown - the vaccination record is not in Oregon's immunization registry (ALERT), and they may have been vaccinated outside of Oregon.
- Note: vaccine status is obtained through ALERT and self-reporting of cases during case investigation and is then used to determine an estimate of breakthrough rate %.

**Breakthrough rate: During the week of Sept 05 – Sept 11
81.3% of new COVID-19 cases were not vaccinated vs. 18.7% were vaccine breakthrough cases (statewide).**

[County month of September]: 76.73% not vaccinated vs. 23.27% vaccine breakthrough cases for Tillamook County.

What causes a vaccine breakthrough case to occur is a multitude of factors including an individual's immune system and viral load (amount of virus that is in your body). If an individual who is vaccinated already had a lowered immune system, their body may not be able to fight off the virus as effectively, compared to someone who has a strong immune system is also vaccinated.

B. DISEASE SEVERITY: Seeing an increase in severity

Type:	Number & Percentages
Deaths	<p>Confirmed deaths: 23 – 20 confirmed not vaccinated, 1 no vaccine record, 2 fully vaccinated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Context: County death toll was at 5 deaths up until July. Since August, death toll up to 23; 18 deaths in 28 days – which is nearly 5x our pandemic total COVID19 deaths in 4 weeks. With COVID-19 surges across the state, Oregon Health Authority notes that an associated increase in deaths has and will continue to occur across communities in Oregon – OHSU forecast does show COVID-19 related deaths to peak late September (approx. 9/26). We hope for a decline shortly after. Deaths that are determined to be related to COVID-19 need to meet criteria listed in the Oregon Health Authority “COVID-19 Investigative Guidelines” available on Oregon Health Authority’s COVID-19 page under “investigative guidelines” section 7. <p><i>With our community, we grieve for every life lost wish to extend our sincerest condolences at this difficult time</i></p>
Hospitalizations	77 – last week was 76, so just one recorded that occurred during the past 7-days.
Test positivity rate (OHA)	11.2% (Sept 12 – Sept 18) – decreased! was 16.0% the previous 7-day period.
Active Outbreaks	<p>11 confirmed outbreaks, 16 pending investigation = 26 total under monitoring (22 last week).</p> <p>Our public health team continues to perform case investigation and interviewing to determine any linkage amongst cases. Due to influx of cases and staff shortages, our public health team is behind on case investigation but is working hard to get caught up and will continue to update and monitor for outbreaks.</p>
Adult ICU beds region 1 (OHA)	364 beds total – 333 occupied, 31 available as of Sept 20 (91.48% occupied (was 94%))
Adult non- ICU beds region 1 (OHA)	1898 beds total – 1833 occupied, 65 available as of Sept 20 (96.57% occupied)

C. Treatments for COVID-19:

As cases of COVID-19 continue to increase and disease severity (hospitalizations and death) in our community, many may be feeling scared and uncertain.

There is a lot of information available to us about COVID-19, but not all of it is reliable, accurate or trustworthy. Using non-reliable sources of information can lead to an increase in harm to yourself and potentially others.

There has been an increase trend in the use of Ivermectin to treat or prevent COVID-19. Oregon Health Authority reported 5 hospitalizations over the weekend. This is not a safe or proven treatment and may cause serious harm when misused.

Ivermectin is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat certain **infections caused by parasites**, it has not been proven to prevent or treat COVID-19. The disease COVID-19 is caused by a virus (SARS-COV-2 virus) not a parasite.

Do not swallow ivermectin products that should be used on skin (e.g., lotions and creams) or are not meant for human use, such as veterinary ivermectin products.

Seek immediate medical attention or call the poison control center hotline (1-800-222-1222) for advice if you have taken ivermectin or a product that contains ivermectin and are having symptoms of ivermectin toxicity, which include the following: Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, headache, blurred vision, dizziness, increased heart rate (tachycardia), low blood pressure (hypotension), visual hallucinations, altered mental status, confusion, loss of coordination and balance, central nervous system depression and seizures.

There is safe treatment for COVID-19 available in Tillamook County; Monoclonal antibody therapy (Regeneron [brand-name])

Monoclonal antibodies are like your body's own antibodies as they help your immune system quickly destroy the COVID-19 virus before it harms you or causes hospitalization. Fortunately, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorized monoclonal antibody treatment for emergency use for eligible patients.

If you test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms, talk to a healthcare provider right away. Monoclonal antibody treatment must be given as soon as possible within 10 days of getting a symptom. These treatments require a provider referral after a positive COVID-19 test. The treatment is given through a one-time IV infusion currently at Adventist Health, Tillamook hospital.

D. DELTA VARIANT TRACKING:

As of Saturday September 11th, Oregon Health Authority Oregon COVID-19 Variant Count shows 3,836 delta variant cases have been tracked in Oregon and 664 in region 1 (Clackamas, Clatsop, Multnomah, Tillamook, and Washington counties). County level data is not available. Oregon Health Authority notes that nearly all of the new COVID-19 cases have been from the delta variant. The delta variant is three times more transmissible than earlier strains of the virus, both young and older individuals are getting sick and increasing disease spread.

E. Face Covering and Masks:

- **Reminder** masks are required in all public indoor spaces and outdoors when physical distancing is not possible. OHA strongly encourages masks at private residences when gathering with others outside of your immediate household.
- **Tillamook County Public health strongly urges individuals to follow all mask requirements.**
- In addition, due to continued outbreaks, Tillamook County Public Health recommends that individuals take the following precautions to reduce and limit the spread of COVID-19:
 - Wear a mask properly (over mouth and nose).
 - Keep 6ft of distance from those not in your immediate household,
 - Wash your hands frequently,
 - Make a plan to get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible, if eligible and not yet vaccinated.

F. TESTING:

Volume: On average 190 individuals were tested throughout the week last week at the drive-up COVID-19 testing clinic (61-65 per each day, operating 3 days a week).

previous was 100 per each day of operation which was 3 days (300 avg).

Drive-up testing will continue to be available to the community on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 am – 3pm at the Tillamook County Fairgrounds

(except for holidays). No appointments are required; **however**, this drive-up testing clinic is **only** for those who are **currently with symptoms** consistent with COVID-19 (such as fever, dry cough, fatigue, muscle aches, sore throat, or congestion) and those who have been exposed to someone who tested positive (**close contact**). **Due to high demand testing is being prioritized and is not available for surgery, travel, work, school, sport etc. purposes.** COVID-19 testing is available at no charge.

Sites for testing of for symptomatic individuals and close contacts:

- **Tillamook County Health Center:**

- (1) **8th St. Acute Care Clinic** (sick visits & testing):

- Tuesday and Thursday 8am -4:30pm – Appointment are required:
503-842-3900

- (2) **Fairgrounds COVID-19 testing only** –Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9am – 3pm through September (except holidays). No appointments, drive-up testing only

- **Adventist Health Urgent Care – Tillamook**

- **Rinehart Clinic – (Director at Rinehart can speak to their availability and process)**

Questions: Public Health Nurse line (for COVID-19 symptom, quarantine, and testing questions): **503-842-3940** (messages returned within next business day).

Home Tests - If you are unable to get tested, and you are symptomatic, you may want to use a home test from a pharmacy. (Supplies seem to be limited) Follow the instructions on the kit. If you have a positive result, guidance for positive home test is available on our website on our COVID-19 testing page.

As mentioned, people are taking these tests and the results are not included in this report.

G. EVENTS & GATHERINGS: There is no mandate to cancel events.

Please do consider these Public Health Recommends:

1.

Reschedule or postpone any events, gatherings, or celebrations. If you must hold an event, follow the CDC guidance for modifying your event and using CDC precautions.

2. If you are unvaccinated, you should not attend these events, celebrations, or gatherings. If you do, make sure to wear a mask even in outdoor settings when people are close together.

Information on Community gatherings and ideas for outdoor gatherings are on our Facebook page and CHC website. Search Tillamook CHC. org.

(See, also, Public Health Officer Recommendations.)

H.

VACCINE UPDATE:

VACCINE #

Type	#	Vaccine rate % eligible Eligible population = 21,965 (16+)	Vaccine rate % eligible Eligible population = 23,214 (12+)	Vaccine rate % total population Total population = 26,530	As of date:
At least one dose	16,599	75.57%	71.50%	62.57%	Sept 20
Fully vaccinated	15,026	68.41%	64.73%	56.64%	Sept 20

COVID-19 vaccines are the best tool for protecting yourself and those you love against COVID-19& slowing spread. We have seen an increase in vaccine requests through the month of August and so far in September – 60-70 per clinic day on avg (So total is 120-140 each week avg (open twice per week on Tues/Thurs.)

1. NEWS:

[BOOSTER]

- o Friday, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) convened medical experts who recommended that people aged 65 and older and those considered at high risk of severe COVID-19 should receive a booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at least six months after the second dose.
- o The FDA is reviewing this recommendation to determine whether to add this use to the Emergency Use Authorization for the Pfizer vaccine. Once the FDA reviews this recommendation, the next step will be for the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to review the FDA’s recommendation (ACIP is meeting on Sept 22 – 23). It is anticipated that ACIP will provide additional guidance on who is considered at high risk of severe COVID-19.
 - After FDA and CDC decisions, the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup (WSSSRW) meets on Sept. 24 to consider federal recommendations for implementation in California, Nevada, Washington, and Oregon. Once Western States issues a recommendation, the Oregon Health Authority will support implementation.

- Booster doses have not been recommended for people who received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccine. It is expected that federal officials will consider booster doses for people who've received these vaccines in coming weeks.

When approved for use, booster doses are expected to be widely available through pharmacies, doctor's offices and clinics, as COVID-19 vaccine is today.

Reminder that healthcare workers, school educators and staff and state employees must be fully vaccinated by October 18th unless have a religious or medical exemption. Fully vaccinated is 2 weeks after the completion of a 2-dose series or 2 weeks after receiving a single dose vaccine such as Johnson & Johnson. In order to meet this requirement, here are the dates for each vaccine:

- Moderna: 1st dose by: Sept. 6th; 2nd dose by: Oct 4th
- Pfizer/ Comirnaty 1st dose by Sept. 13th; 2nd dose by Oct 4th
- **Johnson & Johnson: Single dose by Oct 4th**

******For someone choosing to get vaccinated for the 1st time, Johnson and Johnson would allow you to meet the criteria for fully vaccinated by October 18th. Please talk with your healthcare provider if you have questions about which vaccine is best for you.**

[3rd Dose]

- The additional dose, called a "3rd Dose" is a separate recommendation for people who have moderately to severely compromised immune systems as defined by the CDC is currently available to those who it is authorized for, and is separate from what is considered a "booster" and is currently being reviewed. A list of these conditions from the CDC is available on our website.

September & October- Vaccine Appointments:

- (1) **Tillamook County Community Health Center Fairgrounds Convention Center September for the month of September. All three COVID-19 vaccines available on Tuesday and Thursdays 9am – 3pm. Drop-in only. No appointments required.**

Starting in October flu and pneumonia shots will be available along with COVID-19 vaccines on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 am – 3pm at the fairgrounds Convention Center. The CDC advises that the flu and covid vaccine may be administered in the same day.

(2) Adventist Health:

- 1) **Tillamook @ Occupational Medicine office**
- 2) **Pacific City on Wednesdays**

A. Rinehart Clinic in North County

B. Local Pharmacies – Safeway, Fred Meyer, and Tillamook Pharmacy

C. **Statewide Pharmacies** – check websites to schedule appointments.

Additional Guidance: www.healthoregon.org/covidguidance webpage has been updated with new section for Requirements and Recommendations.

- Mask, Face Covering, and Face Shield Requirements indoor public spaces:
<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=280420>
- Guidance for houseless shelters and transitional settings is available on this page:
<https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-resources>, under the Recommendations for Houseless Shelters section.

Link to OR-OSHA rules:

<https://osha.oregon.gov/OSHARules/adopted/2021/ao5-2021-letter-cov19-allworkplaces.pdf>

Media Statement from CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH, on Signing the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Recommendation for an Additional Dose of an mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine in Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0813-additional-mRNA-mrna-dose.html>