



# Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management



## Community Situation Report

### 2021 COVID-19 Pandemic

**March 1, 2021**

#### Update from County Health Officer

Dr. Tom Locke reported that COVID case numbers are down everywhere in the US. Positive cases have dropped another 26% with decreases in death rates and hospitalizations. In Jefferson County, there have been only six cases in the past two weeks. Vaccinations are moving ahead rapidly with over 11,000 doses administered in the county making 13 percent of the population fully immunized.

A third vaccine was just given emergency use authorization by the FDA. Johnson & Johnson (referred to as J&J), will begin shipping vaccine this week. Washington State could get 60,000 doses. "This will become one of the predominate vaccines and it's only one dose," Locke said who cautioned people against comparing J&J with other vaccines. Both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were tested before the variants were discovered. J&J was tested after the variants were discovered and one of those tests was in South Africa. All three vaccines are very effective in preventing COVID and subsequent hospitalizations and deaths.

Regarding vaccinations for children, Dr. Locke said Pfizer vaccines are only licensed for 16 years of age and older and Moderna for 18 years of age and older. Vaccines are now being tested for younger people and could be approved by this summer. It's unlikely there will be a vaccine for children under 12 years of age before the next school year. "COVID is a mild disease in young children," said Dr. Locke. Virus transmission rates for children 10 and under are not an issue for outbreaks because children have good immune systems.

Vaccinated people are asked to continue to wear facemasks as they could still transmit the virus. Regarding variants, the more we look for them, the more we find, Locke said. Through the past year, the virus has been evolving into more transmissible forms. Everyone needs to maintain transmission prevention activities—wearing facemasks, practicing social distancing and good hygiene.

Responding to inquiries about how long the vaccination will last, Dr. Locke said it would last more than three months, and probably a year or longer. "It is looking more than likely there will be a booster dose to account for the variants. We will be in the vaccination business for a long time and every year we will be revaccinating the U.S. population."

#### Update from Emergency Management

Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Director Willie Bence told the Board of County Commissioners DEM continues to operate the vaccination appointment call center and is currently taking calls from residents 65 years of age and older who do not have an email address. Individuals who don't have access to the internet can call **360-344-9791**, Monday-Friday from 9AM to 4PM to schedule a vaccination appointment through Jefferson Healthcare. "We are planning to continue operating the call center when younger groups can get vaccinated," said Bence. When it's time for younger age groups to get vaccinated, there will likely be more people who can schedule appointments online. A mass vaccination location could be up and running by the middle of March, Bence said. It all depends on the supply of vaccine.

#### More vaccination clinics planned

While weather-related delays in vaccine deliveries have slowed the vaccination process throughout the state, both Jefferson and Clallam counties are looking ahead to the time when they can move to the B2 vaccination phase that would include critical workers age 50 and older. According to a report from the State Department of Health (DOH) released last week, nearly all the vaccine allocated to Washington has been shipped.

Jefferson County's Health Officer Dr. Tom Locke said last week the county will be working on the 65 and older population for another two to three weeks. Jefferson Healthcare is scheduling vaccination appointments for those who are 65 and older at <https://jeffersonhealthcare.org/covid-19-vaccination>.

## Washington State will stay in Phase 2

Last week, Gov. Inslee announced that all regions in Washington state will remain in Phase 2 and a pause has been put on going backward. Currently, there is no update on future phases. It's not certain the state will be using the metrics the regions had to meet to move to Phase 2 for future phases or if new ones will be developed. The pause is expected to last for several weeks.

On Friday, February 26, the DOH announced the addition of demographics data to the dashboard that include the percentage of people in each age group who have been vaccinated; race/ethnicity of people 65 and older who have had at least one dose of vaccine and those fully vaccinated, and race/ethnicity of people of all ages who have had one dose or are fully vaccinated. Go to <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/DataDashboard>, click on the Vaccinations tab at the top of the dashboard then select "Who is getting vaccinated?"

### Cases by Age

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| 0-19  | 65 |
| 20-29 | 35 |
| 30-39 | 44 |
| 40-49 | 37 |
| 50-59 | 38 |
| 60-69 | 60 |
| 70-79 | 37 |
| 80+   | 19 |

### Cases by Sex

| Cases by Sex | N (%)       |
|--------------|-------------|
| Female       | 164 (49.0%) |
| Male         | 170 (51.0%) |

### Cases by Location

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Port Townsend                                    | 155 |
| Mid-County                                       | 150 |
| South County (Quilcene, Brinnon, West Jefferson) | 30  |

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

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Total Positives (confirmed cases reported since 3/2/2020) | 335    |
| Active Cases in Isolation                                 | 4      |
| Negative  | 18,953 |
| Percent Positive  | 1.74%  |
| Test Results Pending                                      | 48     |
| Total Tests Administered                                  | 19,336 |
| Total Patients Recovered*                                 | 313    |
| Cases Ever Hospitalized                                   | 24     |
| Deaths  | 2      |
| Two Week COVID-19 Case Rate per 100,000 (Feb 14-Feb 27)** | 18.81  |

Last results received 3/1/2021. 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: 3/1/2021 at 12:00 PM.

### Case Rate in Last 4 weeks

| Week of.          | Case Rate |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 01/24/21-02/06/21 | 128.53    |
| 01/31/21-02/13/21 | 68.97     |
| 02/07/21-02/20/21 | 28.21     |
| 02/14/21-02/27/21 | 18.81     |

### % Positive in Past 4 Weeks

| Week of.          | Tests Completed | Cases | % Positive |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------|------------|
| 02/01/21-02/07/21 | 438             | 16    | 3.65%      |
| 02/08/21-02/14/21 | 371             | 6     | 1.62%      |
| 02/15/21-02/21/21 | 392             | 2     | 0.51%      |
| 02/22/21-02/28/21 | 387             | 4     | 1.03%      |

For details on the timeline for reported cases see the Epidemiologic Curves tab for Jefferson County on the [WA DOH COVID-19 Data Dashboard](https://www.wa.gov/COVID-19/DataDashboard).

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

<https://jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/1466/Case-Information>