



Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management



Community Situation Report

2021 COVID-19 Pandemic

March 8, 2021

School teachers, childcare workers in line for vaccinations

On Tuesday, March 2 President Biden announced a directive to all states to get all pre-K educators, teachers and licensed childcare workers at least one shot of COVID-19 vaccine in the month of March.

School staff and childcare workers were already in the next group to become eligible for vaccines, according to the Washington State Dept. of Health (DOH).

The DOH is working to get information from the Biden Administration to insure ample vaccine supply from various providers. Vaccine supply will likely be delivered through the federal pharmacy program and the directive indicates all vaccine providers should prioritize these workers.

DOH remains committed to continued vaccination for older adults and others who are currently prioritized for vaccinations under the current plan.

New timeline for vaccine rollout plan announced

Last Thursday, March 4, Gov. Inslee said the state can expect to be in vaccination phase 1b-Tier 2 beginning March 22.

Updated Vaccine Timeline:

- **March 22:** Critical workers in some congregate settings; agriculture, food processing, grocery stores, public transit, corrections, fire, law enforcement, staff and volunteers in congregate living settings.
People ages 16+ that are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at higher risk.
- **April 12:** People ages 50+ with two or more comorbidities (medical conditions).
- **April 26:** People ages 16+ with two or more comorbidities.
People living in congregate settings, people experiencing homelessness that live in or access services in congregate settings.

Dr. Locke answers community questions

In response to a question about possible reactions to the COVID vaccine, Dr. Locke said reactions can occur or could also be a reaction not specifically related to the vaccine. Any reaction can be reported to a national database, VAERS at <https://vaers.hhs.gov>. Information on this website shows the types of reactions that can occur with any vaccination, Locke said. Also, anyone can sign up for a program called V-safe, a vaccination monitoring program. Go to

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html>.

Addressing the issue of vaccine hesitancy, Dr. Locke said Public Health is working on a campaign to reassure the public of the efficacy and safety of the vaccines. The goal is to have 70-80 percent of the population fully vaccinated to suppress the circulation of the virus.

Regarding the variants, Dr. Locke said they are a concern especially with the rapid rise of the UK variant becoming the dominant strain in the US. The South African variant continues to show some resistance to the current vaccines, he added.

Volunteers sought for vaccination clinics

The Department of Emergency Management is seeking volunteers to fill a number of positions associated with vaccination clinics to include those with licenses to practice medicine to help with vaccine injections; individuals to assist with traffic control, paperwork, and help in the call center as people call to make vaccination appointments. "To volunteer, please send an email to JCDEM@co.jefferson.wa.us with your phone number and email address and the area you would like to volunteer in," said Director Willie Bence.

State Dept. of Health testing for new virus strains

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recently announced it has increased its capacity to identify new strains of COVID-19 using next-generation genome sequencing which is a set of laboratory methods that scientists use to scan a viral genome to determine the “genomic fingerprint” of a virus, or the set of mutations that make it unique. Mutations, which are changes in the genetic code between samples, occur naturally over time. Scientists compare samples to see how similar or different viruses are to one another. These comparisons allow us to better understand viral transmission, including tracking new variants. Sequencing also helps us detect clusters of cases, characterize outbreaks, and monitor new and emerging variants. Like all viruses, COVID-19 constantly mutates as it spreads. The goal is to test several thousand specimens a month. For more information, go to <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/data-tables/420-316-SequencingAndVariantsReport.pdf>.

Cases by Age

0-19	65
20-29	35
30-39	45
40-49	37
50-59	38
60-69	60
70-79	37
80+	19

Cases by Sex

Cases by Sex	N (%)
Female	164 (48.8%)
Male	172 (51.2%)

Cases by Location

Port Townsend	155
Mid-County	150
South County (Quilcene, Brinnon, West Jefferson)	31

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

Total Positives (confirmed cases reported since 3/2/2020)	336
Active Cases in Isolation	1
Negative	19,340
Percent Positive	1.71%
Test Results Pending	39
Total Tests Administered	19,715
Total Patients Recovered*	327
Cases Ever Hospitalized	24
Deaths	2
Two Week COVID-19 Case Rate per 100,000 (Feb 14-Feb 27)**	18.81

Last results received 3/8/2021. 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: 3/8/2021 at 1:16 P.M.

Case Rate in Last 4 weeks

Week of:	Case Rate
01/31/21-02/13/21	68.97
02/07/21-02/20/21	28.21
02/14/21-02/27/21	21.94
02/21/21-03/06/21	15.67

% Positive in Past 4 Weeks

Week of:	Tests Completed	Cases	% Positive
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	388	5	1.29%
03/01/21-03/07/21	379	0	0.00%

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