

Event Name: BFHD COVID-19

Report Period: 10/02/2021 – 10/15/2021	Mission #: 20-0265	Jurisdictions Impacted: Benton & Franklin Counties
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YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS DENOTE NEW/CHANGED INFORMATION

General Situation/Overview:

On January 21, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Washington State Department of Health announced the first case of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States and in Washington State. Case rates are beginning to decrease but remain high; a lot of COVID-19 disease is in the community and deaths remain high. Hospital capacity is also stabilizing, planning is being done to protect the healthcare industry. On August 17th BFHD transitioned back to a 2-week IAP. The Unified SitRep will be distributed the Friday after.



- Gov. Inslee announced yesterday that beginning November 15th all large indoor events (1000+) and outdoor events (10,000+) will require proof of COVID vaccination or evidence of a negative COVID test 72 hours prior. This will apply to all attendees who are aged 12 and older.
- Gov. Jay Inslee announced a [vaccination requirement](https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-announces-educator-vaccination-requirement-and-statewide-indoor-mask-mandate) for employees working in K-12, most childcare and early learning, and higher education, as well as an expansion of the statewide mask mandate to all individuals, regardless of vaccination status. <https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-announces-educator-vaccination-requirement-and-statewide-indoor-mask-mandate>
- Gov. Jay Inslee today issued an [emergency proclamation](#) mandating that most state executive branch employees and on-site contractors and volunteers, along with public and private health care and long-term care workers, must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 18.

Benton and Franklin County At-A-Glance

Total Case Count 10/15/21	Benton	Franklin
Confirmed*	28364	18438
Deaths**	348	169

*Confirmed: positive test result. **Deaths Due to changes in the Vital Statistics Law (RCW 70.58A) that support increased security on personal information, access to data for death records is more limited. BFHD will report deaths weekly on Friday's.

Link to State and County Dashboards

[COVID-19 Data Dashboard :: Washington State Department of Health](#)

[COVID-19 Case Counts and Roadmap to Recovery - Benton Franklin Health District \(wa.gov\)](#)

Hospital Admission Data 10/15/21			
Total admitted patients	Total admitted patients with COVID-19 (Confirmed and suspect)	% of admitted patients having COVID-19	Recovered Estimate
400	53	13.2%	42307
Covid-19 Hospital Admission Rates			
Date Range	Benton-Franklin Hospital Admission per 100,000 over 7-days	Benton Hospital Admission per 100,000 over 7-days	Franklin Hospital Admission per 100,000 over 7-days
9/27/2021-10/3/2021	14.88	15.56	13.44

OPERATIONS SECTION:

OUTBREAK MITIGATION & DATA: Identify the COVID-19 spread, including clusters; track any lab confirmed cases and determine potential exposures. Identify the spread of COVID-19 in long-term care and community living facilities and provide infection control guidance and resources to those facilities. Input data from Epi into existing systems; WDRS and Redcap surveys.

- Weekly cases have decreased. Over the last 7 days we had 1544 cases, the previous 7 days was 1511.
- Active Outbreaks in the community: these outbreaks meet the definition of an outbreak according to DOH
 - **General Business Community** 10 with 11 pending investigations
 - **Long Term Care Facilities** – 9 with 5 on watch
 - **HealthCare Settings** – 0 with 0 pending investigation
 - **Childcare Settings** – 1 with 0 pending investigation
 - **Schools** – 2 with 2 pending investigations
- **BFHD Benton-Franklin County COVID-19 Outbreak Report ;October 2021** [Leg Report UPDATE Template \(civiclive.com\)](#)
- BFHD COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Benton & Franklin Counties Report [Benton & Franklin Vaccine Hesitancy Report.pdf \(civiclive.com\)](#)
- **Benton Franklin Counties COVID-19 Vaccine Breakthrough report posted October 2021.** [Leg Report UPDATE Template \(civiclive.com\)](#)

CONTACT TRACING & CARE COORDINATION:

- Contact Tracing FAQ's: [Case Investigations and Contact Tracing FAQ :: Washington State Department of Health](#)
- Surge standards are in place for investigating cases in Contact Tracing.
- Care Coordination team connects people in isolation or quarantine to the services they need to stay isolated. This may be providing a Walgreens Hygiene kit or a Kroger Food box or connecting them with rent assistance, grocery or prescription delivery or other services. These referrals are beginning to decrease but remain consistent.
- [Metrics for Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Conducted by Washington State Centralized Investigations](#) - October 13, 2021 report.

VACCINE PREPAREDNESS:

- Partnering with WSU Nursing students to provide mobile clinics throughout Benton -Franklin counties. The Mid-Columbia Libraries have partnered with BFHD to host clinics on 10/6 1-5 at Pasco Library; 10/8 9-1 W. Richland Library; 10/12 1-5 pm Kennewick Library.
- CVS vaccine clinic at Kennewick School on 10/1/2021: @0715am Park Middle School; @2pm Vista Elementary
- Care-a-van clinic 10/4/2021 @Columbia Basin College 10-2
- CVS clinic 10/4/2021 with Kennewick School district-Kennewick High School @315pm
- CVS clinic 10/6/2021 with Kennewick School district-Cottonwood Elementary @715am
- Vaccine planning for the 3rd dose is taking place with community partners. Kadlec health plex intends to stand up their large operation again to support the community need. All pharmacies who have Covid-19 vaccine will be providing booster doses.
- Pediatric Covid-19 vaccine for Pfizer/Comirnaty is expected to be discussed for ages 5-12 end of October 2021.
- BFHD continues to be a depot for vaccine allocations to local providers. BFHD transferred 5,400 doses to providers in our area.
- To locate a place to receive your vaccine go to vaccine locator: [Vaccinate WA: Find COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Near You](#) . or call **1.800.525.0127 (multiple languages available)**
- The Delta variant accounts for 100% of the cases in Benton & Franklin Counties Our team continues to work with providers on mitigation messaging and offering of vaccinations with patients.
- The Covid-19 Vaccine continues to be the only way to prevent serious outcomes of hospitalization and death from Covid-19. Monoclonal antibody treatment is incredibly limited in the Benton-Franklin Communities and should not be relied upon to be readily available in the event a person falls ill.

- For up-to-date information on Covid-19 vaccine info, please visit our Covid-19 page on Benton-Franklin’s Health District page: [Benton Franklin Counties’ COVID-19 Response Source - Benton Franklin Health District \(wa.gov\)](https://www.bentonfranklincounties.gov/covid-19-response-source)

COVID-19 Information & Call Center:

- BFHD continually updates the webpages. This period the schools page, the vaccine page, the business page, and the FAQ pages were updated. FAQ’s: <https://covid19.bfhd.wa.gov/covid-19-vaccine-information/>
- The BFHD call center continues to receive calls specific to the pandemic. There have been more than 11,600 calls addressed. On an average the call center takes 150-200 calls per week related to COVID-19. The range of inquiries are on Isolation and Quarantine, booster vaccine doses, testing, and vaccine card replacement. The number to the call center is: 509-460-4358.
- Tri-City Herald picked up at least 4 news stories from the Health District with topics about the rising death numbers each week and the encouraging vaccination rates over the past two weeks.
- KEPR, KNDU & KAPP-KVIEW regularly run news from the BFHD Media Briefings; some topics include the declining case rates, High School homecomings, data from the BFHD data dashboards, hospitalizations and death counts.

COMMUNITY TESTING:

- **CBC-West Test Site:** To date the site has administered 161,342 **COVID tests**. The 14-day positivity rate at the test site is 14.29%
- **CBC-West Test Site operates a drive through test site at 3110 W. Argent, Pasco WA. Hours/Days of operations are Friday to Tuesday from 8:30am to 4:00pm. The site will be closed on Wednesdays and Thursdays** - pre-registration makes for a faster experience at the test site – however you may still have to wait in line until you reach the point where the site breaks into lanes, please be patient. Click the link to be taken to the registration page www.wacovid19.org/tricitiestesting
- **Richland Test Site:** to date has administered 4,743 **COVID tests**. The 14-day positivity rate at the test site is 11.71%
- **City of Richland and University of Washington operate a walk-up test site at 975 W. George Washington Way Richland, WA. Hours/Days of operations are Sunday to Thursday 9:00am – 3:00 pm. This site is closed on Friday and Saturday.** Register here if you have symptoms of COVID: <https://www.solvehealth.com/book-online/pjGoYg>.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

NEWS AND INFORMATION OF INTEREST:

- DOH released updated [K-12 School Guidance](#)
- Vaccination testimonial video <https://youtu.be/-wiy5scKpq0>
- Washington State Emergency Management will reduce their operations level from full activation to partial activation on July 3rd – at that time, the state situation report will no longer be produced, and the weekly state/local coordination call will also cease, unless situations warrant.
- BFHD moved to a level 2 activation level on 7/19/2021.
- BFHD moved back to a level 3 activation on 8/13/2021.
- Angeles Ize is a regular guest on Univision Spanish radio
- Heather Hill is a regular guest on Kadlec on Call 610 KONA AM Wednesday’s at 6 p.m. check it out here <https://anchor.fm/jim-hall3/episodes/Kadlec-On-Call-June-23--2021-e13cck7>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFHD Media Briefings are being held every other week now for the COVID-19 response. The last one was 10/14/2021 at 9:30 AM. The next one will take place on 10/28/2021.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular COVID-19 update segments with the Benton Franklin Community Health Alliance are given by Benton-Franklin Health District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFHD updates Website Twitter Instagram and Facebook

LOGISTICS:

<p>PPE RECEIVING/DISTRIBUTION:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests for PPE request can be sent to either Sean Davis at: sdavis@co.franklin.wa.us for Franklin County requests or Deanna Davis at: d.davis@bces.wa.gov for Benton County requests. • Open ordering of PPE is available through October 31, 2021, for organizations to replenish pre-COVID-19 stockpiles. • Beginning November 1, 2021, the state PPE supply will only continue to be available to support extraordinary circumstances such as when supplies are unavailable through regular supply chains, when shipping delays cause an insufficient level of PPE, and when urgent needs arise that cannot be addressed through other means
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of PPE vendors the state uses to procure PPE items https://des.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/documents/ContractingPurchasing/covid19/Vendors.pdf

DAILY and FUTURE OPERATIONS:

<p>RECURRING ACTIVITIES:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00am – COVID-19 Operational Briefing @ BFHD via zoom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFHD COVID-19 Planning meeting, next meeting on Tuesday 10/26/21.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFHD Incident Action Plan (IAP) disseminated every 2 weeks by 5:00; the last IAP was released on 10/12/21. • the Unified Situational Report (SitRep) will go out the Friday after the IAP, next one released on 10/15/21.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday at 1:00pm – Region 8 Healthcare and partners call
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every other Tuesday at 2:00pm - BFHD hosts local elected officials and decision-makers conference call
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once a month at 2:00pm – Call with local agricultural partners. The BFHD Outreach team participates in an Agriculture call hosted by Yakima Health District, hosted the third Friday of every month.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BFHD School Team hosts a call with local school administration - this call has been changed to weekly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every other Thursday at 1:30 - Municipality Advisory Council
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm - call with BFHD and LTC agencies
<p>FUTURE OPERATIONS:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booster dose access and capacity are being planned and implemented in the community • Pfizer/Comirnaty applied for EUA for the 5-11 yr. old’s to the FDA. Planning is beginning to serve this population
<p>CURRENT RISKS:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large venue events continue to operate putting the community at risk with minimal mitigating efforts • COVID-19 positive cases continue to burden the community with a high rate of disease in the community. • Vaccine hesitancy/resistance in our community

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION:

- Benton-Franklin Health District- All News: <https://www.bfhd.wa.gov>
- Washington State Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- REDI Healthcare Coalition: <https://srhd.org/programs-and-services/hcc/eei->

DISTRIBUTED TO:

Local Health Jurisdiction: Management Team, EOC/ECC Staff, all BFHD Staff

Region 8: Local Emergency Response Coordinators, Emergency Management agencies, healthcare partners, Fire/EMS agencies

WA State: Regional Emergency Response Coordinators, DOH Duty Officer

Eastern WA: REDI Coalition Duty Officer

Cross Boarder: Oregon Regions 6 and 9 Liaisons