

Event Name: BFHD COVID-19

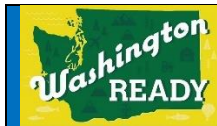
Report Period: 10/30/2021 – 11/12/2021	Mission #: 20-0265	Jurisdictions Impacted: Benton & Franklin Counties
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YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS DENOTE NEW/CHANGED INFORMATION

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.

- **Newest numbers.** The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) reported a total of 657,469 confirmed cases as of 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 9. There have been 8,857 COVID-19 deaths in Washington.
- Benton and Franklin County case rates are beginning to plateau following a significant decrease in October 2021. Community transmission remains classified as “High Transmission” by CDC, under which masks are recommended for all persons in indoor settings. Hospital capacity remains stable.



- Gov. Inslee announced 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>
- **Washington Listens helps people manage stress and anxiety they may be experiencing because of COVID-19.** If you or anyone you know is having difficulties managing stress, call the [Washington Listens](https://www.washingtonlistens.com) support line at 1-833-681-0211. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. TTY and language access services are available by using 7-1-1 or their preferred method. [See resources and self-help tips from Washington Listens.](https://www.washingtonlistens.com)

Benton and Franklin County At-A-Glance

Total Case Count 11/12/21	Benton	Franklin
Confirmed*	29412	18951
Deaths**	372	178

***Confirmed:** Detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA using a molecular amplification detection test or by sequencing results.

****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 11/12/21			
Total admitted patients	Total admitted patients with COVID-19 (Confirmed and suspect)	% of admitted patients having COVID-19	Recovered Estimate
410	49	12%	45988
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
10/25/2021 to 10/31/2021	10.91	13.13	6.2

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 401 cases, the previous 7 days was 511.
- Active Outbreaks in the community: these outbreaks meet the definition of an outbreak according to DOH
 - General Business Community 6 with 13 pending investigations
 - Long Term Care Facilities – 4 with 3 on watch
 - HealthCare Settings – 0 with 0 pending investigation
 - Childcare Settings – 0 with 0 pending investigation
 - Schools – 0 with 0 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 \(civiclive.com\)](#)

Latest COVID-19 reopening guidance for businesses and workers. See a full [list of current reopening guidance](#) from the Governor's Office.

Guidance and resources for employers and business owners. [Sign up for the Economic Resiliency Team business and worker newsletter.](#)

CONTACT TRACING & CARE COORDINATION:

- Contact Tracing FAQ's: [Case Investigations and Contact Tracing FAQ :: Washington State Department of Health](#)
- Incoming cases have slowed—surge standards have been removed and returned to regular case investigation and contact tracing standards.
- 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.
- The care coordination HUB is now at Providence Walla Walla. BFHD Care Coordination Team is re-training on Providence workflows.
- [Metrics for Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Conducted by Washington State Centralized Investigations](#) - November 10, 2021 report.

VACCINE PREPAREDNESS:

- Pediatric Covid-19 vaccine for Pfizer/Comirnaty has been reviewed by ACIP, FDA, CDC, and the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup and were approved for rollout in Washington on November 3, 2021. The Western States Workgroup carefully assessed the safety data for the vaccine prior to deciding.
- BFHD Vaccine Management team is deploying a program to provide booster vaccines to homebound residents in the Benton-Franklin area.

- BFHD is partnering with a WA DOH Mobile Vaccine strike team to provide booster vaccines to residents at local adult family homes. The WA DOH Team will be in the Benton-Franklin area community on 11/9/21 to deploy vaccines to these partners.
- Moderna and Johnson and Johnson boosters were authorized Friday October 22ⁿ for the same population groups as Pfizer. This approval also given for mixing booster dose brands.
- BFHD continues to be a depot for vaccine allocations to local providers.
- 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 primary 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 \(wa.gov\)](#)

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 11,700 calls addressed. On an average the call center takes 75-100 calls per week related to COVID-19. The range of inquires are on Isolation and Quarantine, booster vaccine doses, testing, and vaccine card replacement. The number to the call center is: 509-460-4358.
- KEPR, KNDU & KAPP-KVIEW regularly run news from the BFHD Media Briefings; some topics include the declining case rates, data from the BFHD data dashboards, hospitalizations and death counts.
- BFHD Information team is now maintaining a list of community vaccine clinics on the BFHD Web page [COVID-19 Vaccine Information - Benton Franklin Health District \(wa.gov\)](#)

COMMUNITY TESTING:

- CBC-West Test Site: To date the site has administered **172,324 COVID tests**. The 14-day positivity rate at the test site is **8.6%** in the previous 14-day period.
- Richland Community Test Site: This site is operated by University of Washington. To date the site has administered 7,058 **COVID tests**. The 14-day positivity rate at this test site is **8.43%**.
- **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
- **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:

- The COVID-19 vaccine is available to people 5 years of age and older. Youth 5-17 may get the Pfizer vaccine. No other COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for people younger than 18. Updated 11/3/2021. Vaccinating Youth information can be found at: [Vaccinating Youth :: Washington State Department of Health](#)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 27, 2021 DOH released updated K-12 School Guidance • Supplemental Considerations to Mitigate COVID-19 Transmission in K-12 Schools • Symptom Decision Tree and Contact Tracing Checklist for K-12 Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOH updated Interim SARS-CoV-2 Self-Testing Guidance for Employers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOH updated COVID-19 Guidance for Employee Screening at 24/7 State-Operated Facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination testimonial video https://youtu.be/-wjy5scKpq0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFHD moved to a level 2 activation level on 7/19/2021. • BFHD moved back to a level 3 activation on 8/13/2021.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angeles Ize is a regular guest on Univision Spanish radio
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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"> • 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths by vaccination status Oct. 27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARS-CoV-2 vaccine breakthrough surveillance and case information resource Oct. 27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 long-term care report Oct 26

LOGISTICS:

<u>PPE RECEIVING/DISTRIBUTION:</u>
<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:

<u>RECURRING ACTIVITIES:</u>
<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 11/30/2021.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BFHD Incident Action Plan (IAP) was disseminated on 11/10/2021; next one will be on 11/30/2021. • the Unified Situational Report (SitRep) goes out the Friday after the IAP, released on 11/12/21.
<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"> • The BFHD School Team hosts a call with local school administration - this call has been changed to weekly.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BFHD Long Term Care Team hosts a call with all the LTC facilities one time a month.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BFHD Epi Outbreak/Outreach Team meets with Agriculture Stakeholders once a month. They also consistently meet with Hanford DOE monthly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Thursday at 1:30 - Municipality Advisory Council
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Thursday at 9:30 – BFHD Media briefing; last briefing was on 11/4.21.
<p><u>FUTURE OPERATIONS:</u></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BFHD will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, 11/25/21. Minimal staffing will be working in the COVID response on 11/26/21; contact tracing and care coordination teams.
<p><u>CURRENT RISKS:</u></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large venue events continue to operate putting the community at risk with minimal mitigating efforts Vaccine hesitancy/resistance in our community Very few of our pediatric population are vaccinated. Efforts to improve vaccine status continue. Holidays continue to be a risk for possible increase in cases in our community; mitigation messaging continue to be disseminated.

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