

Event Name: BFHD COVID-19

Report Period: 12/24/2020 – 12/30/2020	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. As of 3/19/2020 a 24, 48, 72-hour planning projection of the response is being done daily. Friday’s planning projection will encompass Saturday and Sunday, then resume normal planning projections on Monday.

Benton and Franklin County At-A-Glance

Total Case Count 12/30/20	Benton	Franklin
Confirmed*	11241	8496
Deaths**	156	77

*Confirmed: positive test result. **Deaths: BFHD defined a COVID-19 death as someone who died with COVID-19 as their primary cause of death

City Case Count 12/30/20	April OFM Population	# of Cases
Pasco	77,100	7454
Mesa	495	237
Connell	5,500	495
Kahlotus	165	11
Eltopia	-	120
Kennewick	84,960	6555
Richland	58,550	2598
West Richland	15,710	739
Benton City	3,560	459
Prosser	6220	711
Plymouth	-	34
Paterson	-	19
Not Specified	-	305

Current Hospital Status 12/30/20 M-F		COVID Like Illness = CLI	
	# Hospitalized Patients	# COVID-19 Confirmed & CLI	% COVID-19 Confirmed & CLI
Current hospitalized patients	400	68	17.0

Case Locations of Interest 12/30/20	
	# of Cases
Long Term Care Residents and Staff	740
Please visit Washington State Department of Corrections site for current case counts at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center. (https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/covid-19/data.htm)	

OPERATIONS SECTION:

<p>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.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Outbreaks in the community: these outbreaks meet the definition of an outbreak as described in the 10/1/20 Washington Outbreak report – click link below for report • https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/StatewideCOVID-19OutbreakReport.pdf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Business Community – 22 with 30 pending investigations ○ Long Term Care Facilities – 17 with 2 pending investigations ○ HealthCare Settings – 10 with 2 pending investigations ○ Childcare Settings – 1 with 3 pending investigation ○ Schools – 1 with 4 pending investigations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor Inslee announced updated in-person school guidance https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-announces-updated-school-guidance-person-instruction • DOH -Tools to Prepare for Provision of In-Person Learning among K-12 Students at Public and Private Schools during the COVID-19 Pandemic: https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/DecisionTree-K12schools.pdf • BFHD Continues to have weekly calls with the school districts - There have been several reports from schools on individuals (student/staff) who are COVID positive and have been in class or at school, BFHD and the schools are working closely to determine if there are any “outbreaks” as defined by DOH: 1. Two or more laboratory positive (PCR) COVID-19 cases, AND 2. At least two of the cases have symptom on set dates within 14 days of each other, AND 3. Plausible epidemiological evidence of transmission in a shared location other than a household is observed • Visit each individual school district website for current information on hybrid learning schedules, safety plans and COVID-19 Activity Dashboards • Dr. Amy Person, BFHD Health Officer has issued a letter to the school districts on 11/19/20 with additional recommendations a copy of the letter can be found here https://www.bfhd.wa.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_10765972/File/BFHD%20Health%20Officer%20Update%20to%20Schools%20Nov.%202019%202020.pdf • The BFHD Schools Team is working with area school administration to arrange distribution of point-of-care (POC) antigen test kits for staff testing. These test kits are being distributed out of the supply allocated to BFHD this Fall.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOH will be offering a mask fit test train the trainer session for Long Term Care Facilities after the first of the year
<p><u>CONTACT TRACING & CARE COORDINATION:</u></p>

- 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. With the increasing case count Care Coordination is averaging about over 30 case referrals per day. BFHD/Care Coordination Team has partnered with Yakima Valley Farm Workers who has agreed to take up to 20 household referrals a day to ensure that all those who need services can be reached on a daily basis.
- The BFHD Contact Tracing Team is experiencing extremely high volumes of cases. BFHD is utilizing surge support from the Washington State Department of Health's Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Team, as needed.
- The Washington State Department of Health will be rebuilding the data dashboards currently used by LHI's to track case and contact tracing. The BFHD Contact Tracing and Data Teams will be working with DOH during this rebuild.

VACCINE PREPAREDNESS:

- Conducting a gap analysis for those Long-Term Care facilities that did not enroll in the Federal Pharmacy Partnership COVID Vaccination program
- Developing a list of H2A housing facilities in preparation for vaccinations of this group when appropriate
- To date Washington has received 164,775 doses of Pfizer Vaccine and 172,300 doses of the Moderna vaccine. Benton and Franklin County have received 6,275 doses across various health care sites
- DOH is developing a PhaseFinder web-based application to allow people to check their COVID-19 vaccine eligibility and to assist with where to get vaccinated by linking to the Vaccine Finder Application. This application is currently under development at DOH and are not available to the public. January 6 is tentative release date.
- DOH is working with agency leadership and the Governor's office to finalize phase 1b/1c guidance. 1A guidance was updated 12.30.2020. Statement from DOH "We acknowledge that some communities are still working through 1A and others will be able to move to this second tier of 1A more quickly than others. Across Washington, it is important that health care systems actively reach out to and provide access to COVID-19 vaccination for community-based health care workforce outside their systems and in their community, this includes other health care providers, school nurses, and behavioral health providers, etc, in order to complete this phase and ensure we have protected healthcare system.
- Vaccinations are still only being given to those people who meet the definition as outlined in Phase 1A <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/VaccineAllocationPhase1A.pdf>
- There is NO WAIT list you can call to be placed on – There are scams out there regarding the COVID vaccine – please note that neither BFHD or DOH will call you and ask for money to place you on a vaccine list – for more information on spotting coronavirus scams go to <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/coronavirus-scams>
- BFHD webpage has added a COVID Vaccine page to help answer frequently asked questions <https://www.bfhd.wa.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=10766056&pageId=17196242>

COMMUNITY TESTING:

- To date, the National Guard at the HAPO Center testing site has administered ***20,774 COVID tests**. Testing numbers are as follows: Thursday 12/24 and Friday 12/25 -the test site was closed for the Holiday. Tuesday 12/29 –154 *this total includes #'s from when Toyota Center test site was operational as well)
- **The HAPO Test site** has transitioned to the same system and lab that is used at the CBC-West test site. Pre-registration is encouraged for a faster test experience at www.wacovid19.org/hapotesting ,and test results are received in 2-3 days. Site Hours of Operations remain the same, Tuesday - Friday from 7:00am- 3:00pm
- The National guard Test Site will be **closed on Thursday Dec 31st and January 1st**. The regular testing site schedule will resume on Tuesday January 5th at the new site in Kennewick
- BFHD has signed an agreement with Benton County to utilize the old Benton County Road Dept. building at 1709 S Ely in Kennewick as a community-based test site in Benton County. The new site will be called Kennewick Community Testing. The National Guard Test Team will transition from the HAPO center to this site on January 5th. This will provide a community-based test site in Benton County and allow for continuity of testing because this site will not be used for purposes other than COVID testing.

- **CBC-West Test Site:** To date the site has administered **42,038 COVID tests**. Testing numbers this week are as follows: Thursday 12/24 – 495, Friday 12/25 Holiday test site closed, Saturday 12/26 -641, Sunday 12/27- 493, Monday 12/28 – 856, Tuesday 12/29- 694, Wednesday 12/30 -756
- **CBC-West Test Site will be closed on Friday, January 1, 2021**
- **CBC-West Test Site is open 7 days a week Monday -Sunday from 8:30am to 4:00pm** - 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
- **Positivity rate for the CBC West Test Site is 18.07% and the positivity rate for the HAPO test Site is 12.85%**

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

NEWS AND INFORMATION OF INTEREST:

- Governor Inslee announces one-week extension of statewide restrictions. The extension of the statewide restrictions will now expire on January 11, 2021. No changes were made in the proclamation aside from the expiration date.
- Governor Inslee indicated that next week he will be announcing more details about the new plan to safely reopen
- On December 24th the CDC issued the following order requiring a negative test before traveling from the UK to the United States. [UK-Airline-Testing-Order_CLEAN-R3-signed-12252020-encrypted.pdf \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s122420-uk-travel.html)
- CDC released this scientific brief, summarizing what is known about this emerging variant: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/scientific-brief-emerging-variant.html>. According to CDC, this variant strain may potentially be more rapidly transmissible than other circulating strains of SARS-CoV-2, but at this time, there is not evidence that this variant causes more severe illness or increased risk of death.
- The Governor’s proclamation 20-83 from December 21st remains in effect alongside the federal policy https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/proc_20-83.pdf
- On Dec. 27, 2020, the federal stimulus that changes and extends CARES Act unemployment benefits was signed into law. **Visit the [COVID-19 page](#) for the latest info. Please do not call our unemployment claims center with questions as call volume remains high.**
- Gov. Inslee also updated [Proclamation 20-25](#) and related guidance for houses of worship, weddings, and funerals. Currently, houses of worship are permitted to hold indoor services with up to 25% room capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer.

The 200-person maximum attendance cap is being removed in response to the December 15, 2020 decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in *Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley v. Sisolak*, which struck down Nevada’s 50-person attendance caps, interpreting the Supreme Court’s decision in *Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn v. Cuomo* to represent a ‘seismic shift in Free Exercise law.’

Because the Governor believes the attendance cap will help save lives, he is converting the required 200-person cap to a recommended cap. The Governor recognizes and respects that it is the role of the courts to say what the law is. The Governor does not intend to re-impose mandatory numerical caps specific to religious services unless the Ninth Circuit or the Supreme Court clarifies the state of the law. Other minor modifications are made to align the guidance documents and the proclamation related to music and singing.

The full proclamation is available [here](#).

The religious and faith based organization guidance is available [here](#).

The wedding and funeral guidance is available [here](#).

- Need support during COVID-19? Call Washington Listens - Crisis Connections helps facilitate a support line called Washington Listens. Washington Listens will provide non-clinical support to people who feel sad, anxious, or stressed due to COVID-19. Washington Listens is free and anonymous. Any Washington resident can call, and a support specialist will listen and help to guide you to connections within your community. Call [Washington Listens](#) at 1-833-

681-0211. Someone is available to talk from Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and weekends from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TTY and language access services are available

- BFHD will hold a Media Briefing tomorrow December 31st at 9:30am, via Zoom. You can view the conference on the [BFHD Facebook Page](#)
- BFHD updates [Website](#) [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) daily

LOGISTICS:

PPE RECEIVING/DISTRIBUTION:

- List of PPE vendors the state uses to procure PPE items
<https://des.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/documents/ContractingPurchasing/covid19/Vendors.pdf>
- If you are curious to know how much PPE each county has received from the state you can find that information here
<https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/personal-protective-equipment/tracking-ppe-distribution>
- Supply both the HAPO Testing Site and CBC-West Testing Site with PPE as needed/requested
- **Reminder entities should only be requesting assistance for those supplies they are unable to procure for themselves.** PPE requests from Hospitals/EMS/Law Enforcement/Clinics/LTC/Dentists need to be sent to their respective Emergency Management no later than **10:00am every Friday** or as circumstances dictate – a weekly request will be made to the state every Friday for delivery of supplies the following week.
Benton – d.davis@bces.wa.gov Franklin – sdavis@co.franklin.wa.us

DAILY and FUTURE OPERATIONS:

RECURRING ACTIVITIES:

- Daily at 8:00am - Operational Briefing
- Tuesday Planning meeting at 4:00pm – Planning Meeting via ZOOM
- Dissemination of BFHD weekly Incident Action Plan released Tuesday's by 5:00
- Tuesday at 1:00pm – Region 8 Healthcare and partners call
- Every other Tuesday at 2:00pm - BFHD hosts local elected officials and decision-makers conference call – **next meeting is January 12th**
- Tuesday at 2:00 - SEOC Unified Command Ops to BFHD Command Ops meeting
- Unified Situational Report (SitRep) dissemination once weekly - Wednesday only
- Wednesday at 10:30am - Local Hospital/Clinic/EMS/EM coordination call via ZOOM
- Every other Wednesday at 1:00 PM- BFHD School Team hosts a call with local school nursing staff. Due to the holidays, **the next meeting is January 13th**.
- Every other Wednesday at 1:30pm – Call with local agricultural partners. This call has ended. It will be restarted next year prior to the growing season. Ag partners will be kept engaged via email through the winter. The BFHD Outreach team participates in an Agriculture call hosted by Yakima Health District, hosted the third Friday of every month.
- Every other Wednesday at 1:00pm - North Franklin County Community Leadership meeting – call in phone 1-509-545-3555 meeting number: 5847# access code: 3555# **the next meeting will be January 6, 2021**
- Thursday at 11:30am - Coordination call with the WA State EOC, 1-877-820-7831, password 782831# - State SitRep is not produced on the weekends it will be sent M-F only

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday at 10:00- BFHD School Team hosts a call with local school administration. Due to the holidays, the next meeting is January 7.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Thursday at 1:30 - Municipality Advisory Council the next meeting will be January 7th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every other Wednesday at 1:30pm - call with BFHD and LTC agencies
<u>FUTURE OPERATIONS:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID vaccine planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue planning efforts in preparation for when the governor releases restrictions and announces new reopening plans
<u>CURRENT RISKS:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising case counts and an uptick in COVID hospitalizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to in-person/hybrid learning in schools across the two counties – monitoring for outbreaks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu season and recognition of Flu vs. COVID

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