COVID-19 WEEKLY OUTLOOK
What you need to know about COVID-19 in Kitsap County.

KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

KEY UPDATES

The Washington State Department of Health has developed a frequently asked questions document about employer COVID-19 vaccination requirements. Employers in non-healthcare settings may choose to to require COVID-19 for their staff. DOH has published guidance on the COVID-19 vaccination requirements for workers in healthcare settings and for child care, early learning, and youth development providers.

All areas of Kitsap County remain in the "high" community transmission range, from 57.1 weekly cases per 100,000 population on Bainbridge Island, where rates have been dropping for the last two weeks, to 329.9 in Bremerton. Central Kitsap and South Kitsap are also above 300. As of September 14, Kitsap has been in the "high" transmission range for more than 40 days.

The rate of new COVID-19 cases in the county has increased 14-fold from early July to early September – from about seven new cases a day to more than 100 -- Health Officer Dr. Gib Morrow told the Kitsap County Health Board during its most recent meeting. Dr. Morrow attributed the "explosion" of cases to relaxation of guidelines, increased re-openings and summer events and gatherings, all occurring during the rise of the Delta variant.

Four COVID-19 drive-through testing sites around the county are being conducted by Kitsap Public Health District and the Kitsap County Emergency Operations Center. Sites on Bainbridge Island (Mondays), downtown Bremerton (Tuesdays), Port Orchard (Wednesdays) and downtown Poulsbo (Thursdays) offer PCR testing from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Registration is recommended, since onsite registrations are limited. Register for one of KPHD's sites, or find other testing opportunities around the county, at **kcowa.us/covidtesting**.

Gov. Inslee last week expanded the state's mask mandate to include outdoor gatherings of 500 or more people. Masks are required in all indoor public settings in the continuing effort to slow the transmission of COVID-19, especially the fast-moving Delta variant.

70% of Kitsap residents 12 or older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

779 **new cases** reported in Kitsap in the most recent week of full data (Aug. 29-Sept. 4).

27 on Bainbridge Isl.   246 in South Kitsap
193 in Bremerton   4 undetermined
168 in Central Kitsap
141 in North Kitsap   *kcowa.us/covid19data*

COVID-19 VACCINE

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and available at no cost.

- Everyone 12 or older is eligible for vaccination.

- Appointments are widely available in our county. Find a vaccine near you at **vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov** or call **1-800-525-0127**.

- Need help booking an appointment at a Kitsap Public Health District clinic? Call us at **360-728-2219 (360-728-2218 for Spanish)**.

WHO SHOULD GET TESTED?

Anyone, regardless of vaccination status, should get tested if they:

- **are showing symptoms of COVID-19**.

- **have had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19**.

- **Quarantine** if they have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and have no symptoms.

If you're not fully vaccinated, you should also get tested if you:

- have taken part in **activities that put you at higher risk**, such as being in large gatherings or crowded indoor settings.

- are traveling (even domestically). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends unvaccinated people get tested 1-3 days before a trip and 3-5 days after returning from a trip.

Learn more at **cdc.gov/coronavirus** and **coronavirus.wa.gov**.

LEARN MORE   kcowa.us/covid19 | coronavirus.wa.gov | cdc.gov | 1-800-525-0127