



Weekly Bulletin

Date: September 25, 2020

Subject: Island County COVID-19 Response

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Review of Current News and Updates

Numbers and data. At the time of this writing, Island County has 315 confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 12 deaths. This week's attached data sheet reflects an increase in rate of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 from 9.43 to 20.04 for 09/06/20-09/19/20. Within the last two weeks, Island County has experienced a significant increase in cases.

The most recent IDM [statewide situation report](#) shows an overall decline in COVID-19 cases in western Washington and a plateau in eastern Washington, with significant differences from county to county. Island County has added 24 additional positive COVID-19 cases since last Friday, September 18.

Cultural and linguistic support for small businesses. Small business, especially those from marginalized communities, have been hit especially hard by the negative impacts of COVID-19. The WA State Department of Commerce is collaborating with organizations to provide support through the newly launched [Small Business Resiliency Assistance](#) program. Twenty partner organizations are available to help small businesses and nonprofits in a variety of ways, including planning for recovery and safe re-opening, retaining and supporting the work force, access to translation services, [and more](#).

Youth Nonprofit funding available. The Washington State Department of Commerce is partnering with School's Out Washington to distribute [approximately \\$9 million](#) in state Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to respond to the impact of COVID-19 by supporting programs serving school age kids and young adults facing the most significant challenges to educational and economic opportunity.

Flu vaccine. We may not have a vaccine yet for COVID-19, but we DO have a vaccine for flu. The flu vaccine can keep you from getting sick with flu during the [COVID-19 pandemic](#). We can all do our part to

prevent illness and hospitalizations caused by flu. This will help save healthcare resources for COVID-19 response in our communities. More information from DOH is available [here](#).

Updated guidance. A few pieces of updated COVID-19 guidance have recently been released. See below for additional information:

- Miscellaneous venues, including convention/conference centers, designated meeting spaces in hotels, event centers, and other similar venues may host business meetings, professional development training and testing, and select similar activities, provided [all requirements are met](#).
- Governor Inslee recently announced [new requirements](#) for commercial airlines and recommendations for airlines throughout Washington State. The guidance will require face coverings in the airport; signage and spacing for physical distancing; protective barriers between travelers and workers; sanitizer and disinfectant protocols; and that airport vendors and businesses follow state and county health agency requirements. Inslee has called for a uniform national standard around air travel in [his letter to HHS and DOT](#).
- Concern over COVID-19 cases in hospital workers has prompted the [Washington State Departments of Labor & Industries \(L&I\)](#) and DOH to clarify and update hospital guidance geared toward staff and patient safety. Along with the guidance for health care and long-term care workers, guidance for other industries is available on the [L&I DOSH coronavirus webpage](#).
- Updated Personal Service Providers COVID-19 [requirements](#) now include what type of face covering can be used for certain services to resume. As of Sept. 18, services such as facials, beard trimmings and lower face tattoo and piercings can resume as long as the service provider wears a NIOSH approved N95 face covering.

Economic Recovery Dashboard. [A new Economic Recovery Dashboard](#) launched by the WA State Department of Commerce uses select data from a variety of reliable sources to display the latest available status of employment, businesses, government assistance programs and consumer behavior. It provides insight into the current impact of COVID-19, and over time, will help identify which communities or industries are recovering and which need continued support.

Available resources. A number of resources are currently available to Washingtonians that may help mitigate some negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) will [offer services remotely](#) until September 30. In lieu of in-person visits, WIC may enroll new applicants, provide nutrition education and breastfeeding support and issue food benefits by phone or video chat.
- Island County has extended the deadline to apply for assistance via funds under the “CARES Act” until October 2. Individuals and families impacted by COVID-19 should complete the [online referral form](#) or call the Human Services Help Line at 360.678.2346 to learn more.
- If you are in crisis or having thoughts of suicide, or if someone you know is in crisis, call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255 or [chat online](#).
- [Island County Human Services](#) is an accessible and responsive community resource. They can assist with housing resources, mental health care, substance use, developmental disabilities, veterans’ resources, and early childhood parenting support. Call 360-678-7880 or 360-678-2346.
- **The call center is staffed Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm (360.678.2301).**