## WOU Community Health + Polk County

# **COVID-19 Project**

**Data Brief** 

County Rankings of Incidence in the Last Week

Polk: 14th (was 10th) Marion: 6th (was 14th)

\*Out of 36 Counties; 1st = highest incidence

Cumulative Case Numbers:

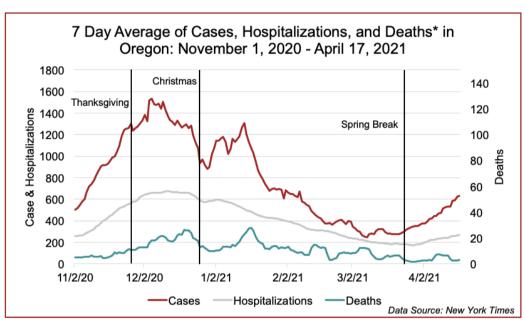
Oregon: 175,121 • Polk: 3,442 • Marion: 20,195

Individuals Currently Being Traced by WOU

Contact Tracing Team: 115

As of 8:00am 4/19 (Last Week: 144)





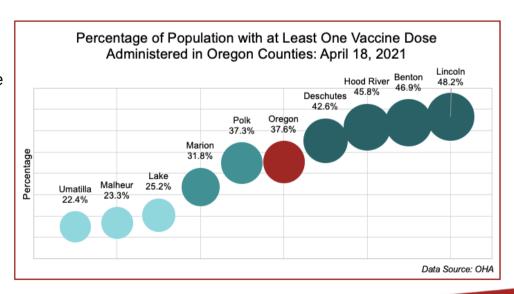
## \*Cases and hospitalizations are measured using the left axis. Deaths are measured using the right axis which is a smaller scale to allow details to be shown on the graph.

### **Oregon COVID-19 Trends:**

- Cases have more than doubled in the past month.
- The 20-29 year age group had the largest increase in cases.
- After major events that include large gatherings and travel, we see increases in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.
- Vaccinations may prevent the post-spring break surge from hitting the same levels as the post-holiday spikes.

## **Polk County Vaccine Update:**

- As of April 19th, everyone ages
   16 and older in Oregon is eligible for vaccination.
- 37% of Polk County's population have received at least one dose, ranking us 11th in Oregon.
- 68% of individuals in Polk County ages 65+ are fully vaccinated.
- Need an appointment? Visit
   <u>Salem Health</u> or look for
   availability at local pharmacies.





## **COVID-19 Variants**

#### **B.1.1.7** in the United States

This more transmissible and deadly variant of the coronavirus was first discovered in the United Kingdom. The graphs below show its increased proportion of total cases in several states, represented in blue.

#### Michigan Florida Pennsylvania California New cases per 100,000 New cases per 100,000 New cases per 100,000 New cases per 100,000 100 100 100 50 Virus cases over all Feb. 1 Mar. 28 Feb. 1 Mar. 28 Feb. 1 Mar. 28 Feb. 1 Mar. 28



### **Oregon in Context**

Much like California, <u>B.1.1.7</u> is not the dominant variant in Oregon. Although the Oregon Health Authority lists B.1.1.7 as a variant of concern, case numbers for the variant have been minimal. States strongly affected by this variant are mainly from the Midwest and Southern regions. The leading states with the B.1.1.7 variant are Tennessee, Michigan, Minnesota, and Florida, where it makes up over 50% all cases.

#### **International News**

COVID-19 has rocked the <u>Vancouver Canucks</u> likely in a way that we haven't seen with any other major pro sports franchise, at least in North America. Of concern is the fact that they are affected by the P.1. strain (first discovered in Brazil) which is more transmissible.

The symptoms of the players, which can be serious even for young, elite-level professionals, include vomiting, cramping, and dehydration. The virus has spread to over 20 players and coaches, plus family members so far.

#### What can we do?

- Wearing masks will reduce transmission.
- Outdoor activities are safer than indoor (e.g. dining).
- Higher levels of vaccination will create less opportunity for new virus mutations.

