

Situation Report

Situation Report Number: 09.16.2020		
Incident Name: COVID-19 and Statewide Wildfire Assistance MultCo Coordination		
OERS Number: 2020-0279 (COVID) and 2020-2261 (WILDFIRE/AIR QUALITY)		
EOC: Activated	Unified Commanders: Kim Toevs, Multnomah County Health Department Chris Voss, Multnomah County Emergency Management Marc Jolin, Joint Office of Homeless Services Deputies: Jessica Guernsey, Multnomah County Health Department Lisa Corbly, Multnomah County Emergency Management Alice Busch, Multnomah County Emergency Management Aaron Monnig, Multnomah County Health Department	
Date: 9/16/20	Time: 1:45 pm	Situation Reports are typically released on Thursdays at approximately 10:00 am. All posted Situation Reports are archived on the County's website.

To submit updates / actions to this report, email the Multnomah County EOC Situation Unit at eoc.situationunit@multco.us with the subject line: Update for COVID-19 Situation Report.

Multnomah County COVID-19 and Wildfire Impacts Emergency Response

- **As of 09/16/20 at 11:00 am, there are no active wildfires or evacuations in Multnomah County.** See Multnomah County's [Fire Evacuations Map](#). Community members are encouraged to sign up for emergency public alerts at public.alerts.org/signup. When traveling and staying away from home, consider signing up for the public alerts for that specific county.
- **Air quality in most parts of Multnomah County ranged from "very unhealthy" to "hazardous" from September 8 to September 16.** An article from OPB titled, "[Oregon's air is so hazardous it's breaking records](#)" stated that Portland's Air Quality Index of 477 on Saturday, September 12 was three times the previous all-time high rating of 157 recorded in 2017.
- Speaking to [PBS Newshour](#) on September 13, Dr. Jennifer Vines, Multnomah County Public Health Officer, discussed the **impacts of COVID-19 combined with Oregon's wildfire season**. With Multnomah County remaining in the [Very Unhealthy and Hazardous](#) ranges for several days, recommendations are to stay inside with doors and windows closed and to check the [Oregon Smoke Blog](#) for air quality updates.
- To learn about actions you can take to protect your health, visit Multnomah County's [Protect yourself from hazardous air](#), or the Oregon Health Authority's [Frequently asked questions about wildfire smoke and public health](#).
- The Public Alerts [Wildfire & Smoke page](#) provides information about local alert systems, safety amid poor air quality, smoke and COVID-19, how to evaluate evacuation orders, protecting your property during a wildfire, and preventing wildfires.

- Multnomah County Human Services is coordinating with the Joint Office of Homeless Services, and American Red Cross to shelter evacuees from Clackamas County and others impacted by fire and smoke. **See the Emergency Support Function (ESF) 6 - Mass Care and Sheltering section of this situation report for details.**
- On September 14, The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Lane Regional Air Protection Agency and the Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency extended an [air quality advisory for the entire state of Oregon](#) and for Southwest Washington due to smoke from fires in Oregon, Washington and California (also available in [Spanish](#)). The Air Quality advisory is expected to last at least through Thursday, September 17. The [National Weather Service predicts](#) precipitation locally at the end of the week, with subsequent improvements in air quality.
- Multnomah County officials continue to monitor air quality and determine impacts on County operations. Multnomah County offices remain closed to the public through at least Thursday, September 17. All County workers who are able to telework have been asked to do so; staff carrying out essential duties in person will continue their work.
- On September 15, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury issued [a statement about Phase 2 reopening](#), saying, “We have not met all the requirements for applying for Phase 2, but more importantly, our metrics are unreliable now because of the wildfires. We won’t know until the smoke has cleared what impact the smoke and fires will have on our COVID-19 cases.”
- Multnomah County Emergency Operations Planning staff members shared the County’s Wildfire Reentry Material and Recommendations from the 2017 Multnomah County Eagle Creek Fire with Clackamas County Disaster Management and will continue to provide support throughout this incident.
- **Cloth Face Covering Donations Project:** Multnomah County’s emergency response team at the EOC has developed a re-energized campaign to increase donations of cloth face coverings. With a focus on child-sized face masks which are in the most scarce supply. These face coverings will be distributed to communities that have been the most impacted by COVID-19. The County’s aim is to distribute 10,000 child-sized masks to children who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color, immigrants, or refugees, to other children in need, and to childcare providers. **A HUGE THANK YOU to our community!** Who donated over 23,000 adult sized face coverings. These were quickly distributed across the County.
 - Child size face coverings are 6-by-6 inch and 7-by-7 inch.
 - Cloth masks in unused and good condition, with two layers of tightly woven fabric (such as cotton or flannel) can be dropped off at:
 - Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. (use the loading dock on SE 6th Ave.), 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, or 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Saturdays

Important information regarding COVID-19 Testing in Multnomah County:

Testing sites are outdoors and conditions are evaluated each day for the safety of staff and clients to be outdoors.

- **Multnomah County’s East County COVID-19 testing site has been temporarily suspended September 14 and 17th due to air quality issues.** Please call 503-988-8939 for more information and visit our [Symptoms, Testing & Care](#) page for updated information.
- **OHSU’s two community-based testing sites will be closed at least through Thursday, September 17, due to air quality issues.**

- **Call your doctor or clinic:** If you have insurance or a regular care provider, contact your doctor's office or clinic to discuss whether you should be tested.
- **If you don't have a doctor:** Call [211](#) for help finding a clinic. They can help you even if you don't have insurance. You can also call the Health Department's [Primary Care Clinics](#) at 503-988-5558 to enroll as a new patient.

Multnomah County community testing: [No-cost testing by appointment only](#), for anyone with [symptoms](#).

You don't need to be a clinic or Multnomah County patient to get tested. Limited testing may be available for people without symptoms. We focus on reaching Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color communities, people without health insurance, and people without a regular health care provider. **Call 503-988-8939 for an appointment.**

Location and hours:

- East County Health Center (parking lot), 600 NE 8th St., Gresham, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00 am - 3:45 pm
- **NOTE: Testing currently unavailable due to air quality issues.**

Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) community testing: [drive-through/walk up testing sites in Portland and Hillsboro](#). OHSU offers testing for people with symptoms ages 2 months and older, and for people in specific risk groups. [See who can be tested on OHSU's website](#). Testing is walk-in or drive-through only; no appointments. There may be a long wait if demand is high. For more information, call the OHSU Coronavirus Hotline: 833-647-8222.

Locations and hours:

- Portland Expo Center, 2060 N Marine Drive, Portland, Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Gordon Faber Recreation Center, Hillsboro Stadium, 4450 NE Century Blvd., Hillsboro, Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- **NOTE: Testing currently unavailable due to air quality issues.**

For more information about testing sites, who should get tested, and what to expect from your COVID-19 test, see Multnomah County's [COVID-19 Testing](#) page.

Multnomah County Emergency Operations Section Updates

The Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is a temporary incident response framework that operates within the [Mission, Vision and Values of Multnomah County](#). The EOC develops objectives based on guidance and priorities from the Chair and Chief Operating Officer. The EOC provides support to County departments that are operating beyond their normal capacity, and creates surge capability through the incorporation of community volunteers, partner agencies and organizations, as well as staff from across all County departments. The full complement of this combined effort is directed toward helping accomplish the County's incident objectives.

EOC Section: [Public Information](#)

The Public Information Section provides accurate, coordinated, timely and accessible information with the goal of reducing the spread of COVID-19. This information is disseminated to local governments; media; the private sector; and the community through the Multnomah County COVID-19 website, social media, media outlets, call centers, and direct efforts with culturally specific communities. Particular attention is paid to the communities most affected by COVID-19 and people who may not receive information through mainstream means. Content and materials are developed for individuals with disabilities and/or access and functional needs, differing levels of literacy, and with particular care being taken to effectively meet the needs of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities. The Public Information Section uses an equity lens to create material which is culturally specific to the needs of the many communities represented within the county.

In response to the wildfires:

- Multnomah County **Communications**, Multnomah County **Emergency Management**, the Multnomah County **Sheriff's Office** joined a Joint Information Center (JIC) established by **Portland Fire and Rescue**.
- Created [September 2020 Wildfire Threat to Multnomah County](#) also available in Spanish at [Septiembre de 2020 Amenaza de incendios forestales en el condado de Multnomah](#). This site provides information about Multnomah County's air quality, evacuations, shelter availability for humans and animals, and power outages.
- The regional PublicAlerts site [Wildfire 2020](#) includes information beyond Multnomah County and additional information can be found on the [State of Oregon Fires and Hotspot Dashboard](#). This site provides updates on active fires in the state, including: acres burned, percent contained, fatalities, injuries, and structures destroyed by fire.
- Created a [Wildfires Newsroom](#) where members of the media can find contact information and high-resolution images for download.
- Created a webpage called [Get Ready, Be Set, Go](#) to help community members plan for and understand the three levels of evacuation.
- Created Multnomah County [September 2020 Wildfire Threat to Multnomah County](#) page, and the Spanish version [Septiembre de 2020 Amenaza de incendios forestales en el condado de Multnomah](#).

Added the following subpages:

- [Get Ready, Be Set, Go: evacuation levels explained](#) (also in [Spanish](#))
- [Protect yourself from hazardous air](#)
- [How to volunteer or donate during wildfires](#)
- [Block dangerous air from your home with a roll of weatherization tape](#)
- [Coping with crisis: five tips from an expert](#)
- [No evacuation in Multnomah County - here's why](#)
- [Smoke and Wildfire](#)
- [Wildfire Safety and Prevention](#)
- [Protect your pets from wildfire smoke](#)
- [Hazardous air is causing a jump in emergency department visits in Multnomah County](#)

EOC Section: [Operations](#)

In response to the Wildfires in neighboring counties:

- The **Operations** and **Logistics** teams provided critical emergency response deliveries including 40,000 personal protective equipment face coverings (KN95s,) 1,000 blankets, and other necessary supplies to our direct service providers.

Resource Request Unit

The Resource Request Unit is a group of diverse subject matter experts that represent and advocate for the needs of the communities Multnomah County serves. The team allocates critical supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to healthcare, shelter providers, and community organizations in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and respond to the current wildfire and air quality incidents.

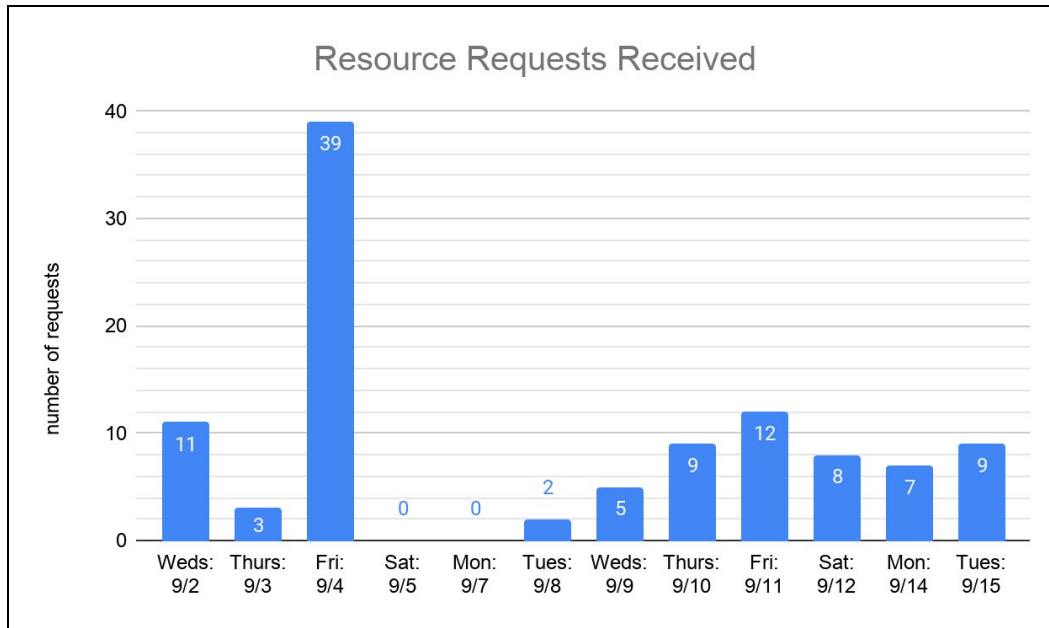
During the wildfire and poor air quality incidents the Unit is prioritizing requests that support life safety operations and for those who cannot take shelter indoors. We are receiving requests for N95 respirators from many sectors and are reviewing each request based on our limited resources and guidance from OHA.

When allocating PPE for COVID-19, the Resource Request Unit prioritizes the needs of people living in congregate (group) settings, organizations experiencing an outbreak, organizations that perform life saving operations (hospitals, clinics, etc), and organizations that serve communities of color, people ages 65 and older, and people with underlying health conditions. These priorities are part of Multnomah County's commitment to dedicate resources to the populations most impacted by COVID-19.

Within the Resource Request Unit, the Community Resources team helps community groups such as social service organizations, food pantries, faith organizations, businesses, and many others navigate the EOC resource request and allocation process. In addition, the team provides information and answers questions about availability of supplies and which PPE is indicated for particular circumstances. The team addresses the needs of the community with a strong equity lens and trauma-informed communication, and prioritizes services to those most at risk. You can reach the Community Resources team at communityresources@multco.us, or by calling 503-988-8940.

Daily Metrics: The Resource Request Unit tracks how many requests for resources it receives over a 24-hour period ending at 12:00 pm each day. The chart below shows the number of daily requests over the past two weeks.

(chart on next page)



Note: the Resource Request Unit operates Mondays-Saturdays.

This week the unit was closed 9/5-9/7 for the Labor Day Holiday, and no requests were processed on those days.

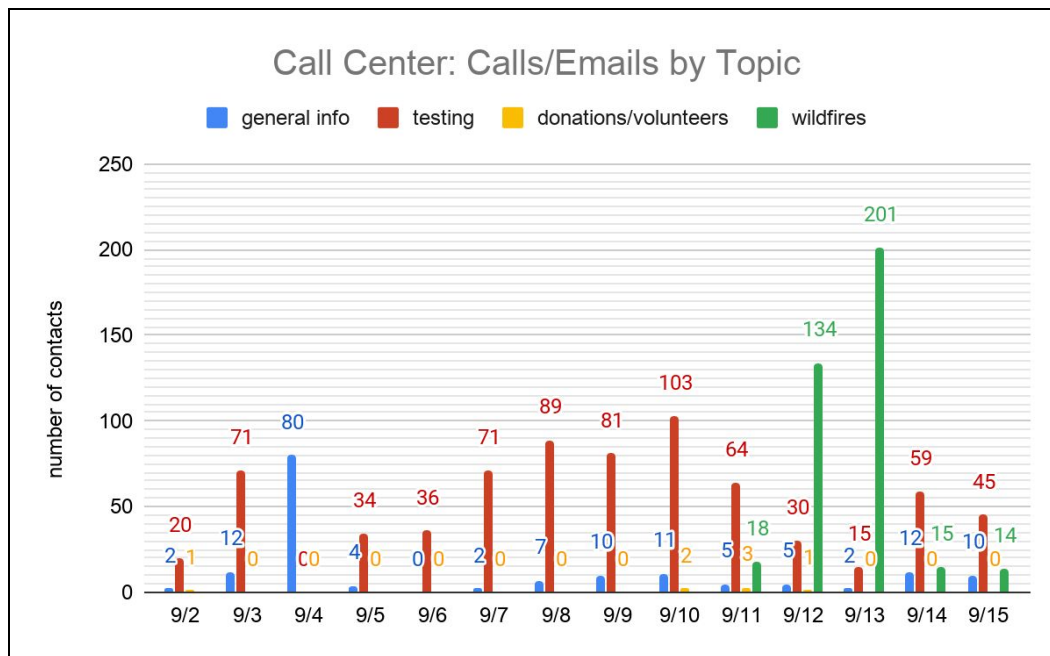
Call Center

The EOC Call Center answers a range of questions and concerns from community members related to COVID-19. Callers are connected directly from the Multnomah County Health Department and occasionally from 211. The Multnomah County emergency response team at the EOC continually updates the Call Center script content based on questions received. The Call Center also provides information regarding the many questions related to testing and assists by supporting Multnomah County Health with contact tracing, as well as by scheduling appointments for the County's low-barrier COVID-19 testing.

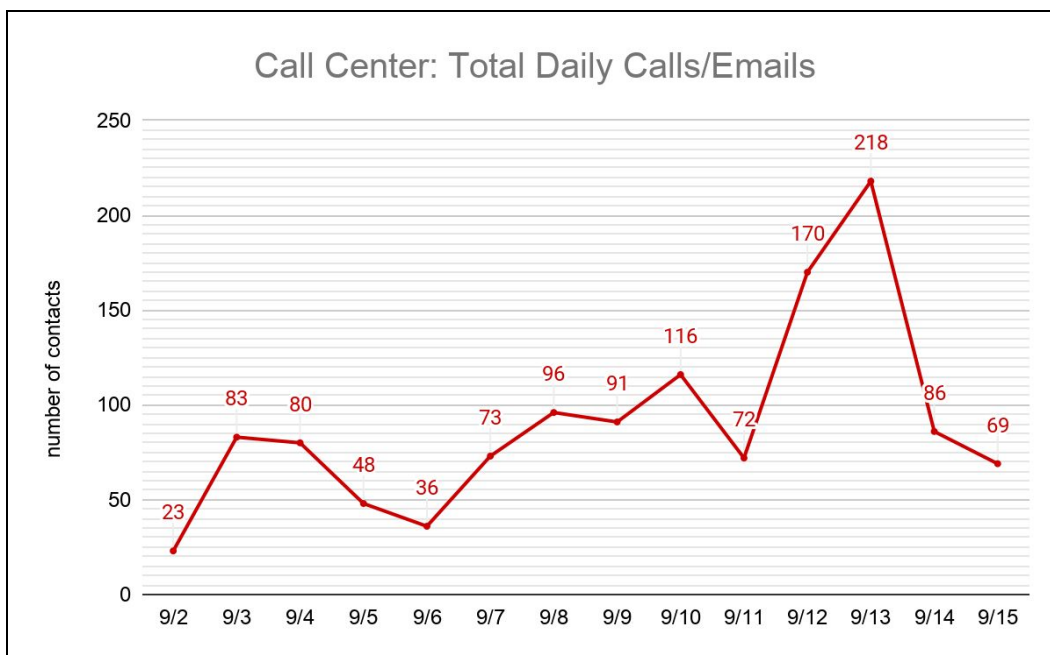
Wildfire Response

- Many different County staff members, including **Public Information Officers**, the Emergency Operations Center **Call Center** (comprised of **Health Department** and **Library** staff supported by the management team from **Aging and Disabilities Resource Connection** of Oregon) are supporting Clackamas County's emergency response line and established 24-hour coverage to assist in Clackamas County's emergency operations.
- On September 11, at the request of Clackamas County Disaster Management, Multnomah County's Emergency Response Call Center specialists began taking calls and answering questions from Clackamas community members. To achieve this, Multnomah County's Call Center quickly pivoted from an operation spanning 9:00 am - 8:00 pm to a 24-hour operational period and succeeded in orienting staff within 2 hours to address the needs of callers from a significantly expanded service area.
- From September 11 - 15, the Call Center fielded **615 calls** from community members, including **382 calls** seeking information about the wildfires.

Daily Metrics: The Call Center tracks how many calls and emails it responds to each day. The first chart below shows the number of calls and emails per day for the past two weeks, broken down by three topic categories. The second chart shows the total number of calls and emails received each day over the past two weeks.



Note: The Call Center began taking calls related to the 2020 Wildfires on 9/11.



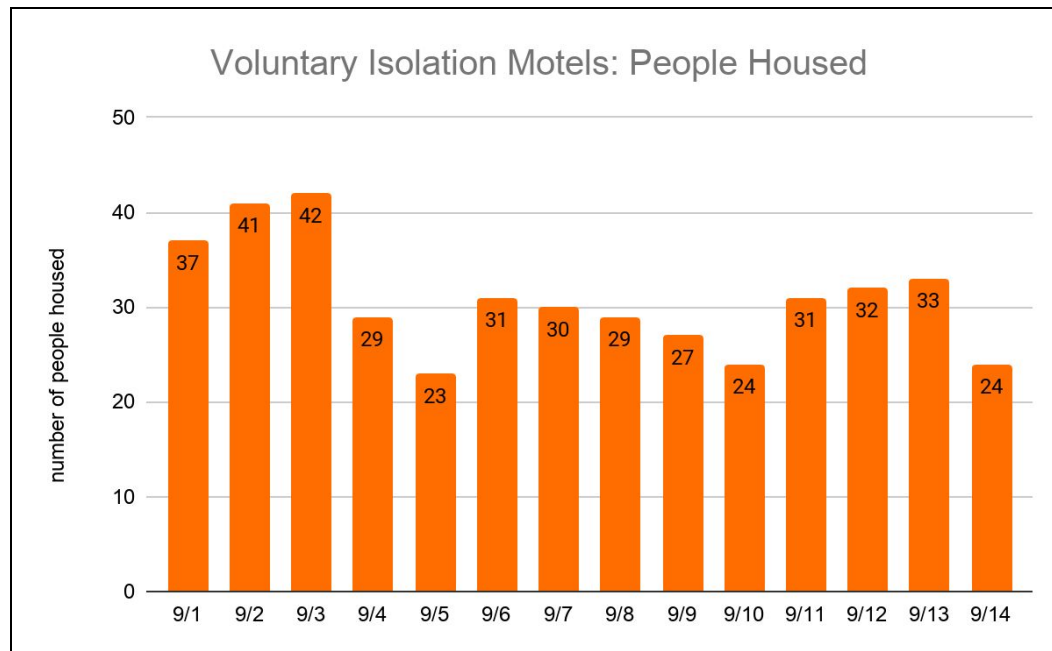
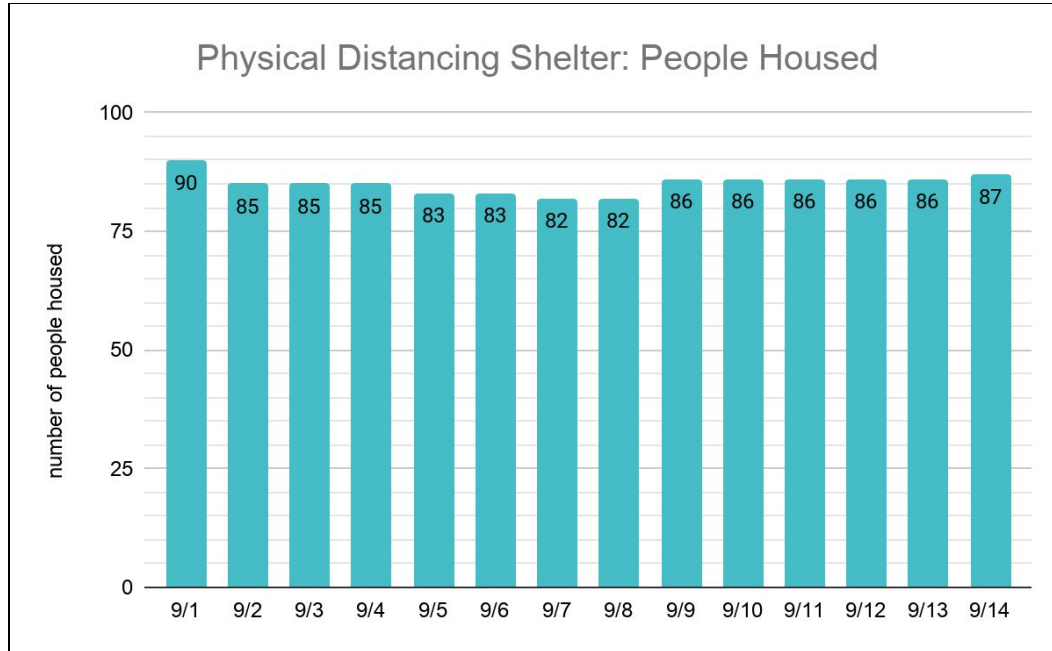
EOC Section: Mass Care and Shelter (Emergency Support Function 6)

Fire Impact and Cleaner Air Shelters

- The Multnomah County and City of Portland Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS), in partnership with the Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center and Do Good Multnomah, has established additional capacity at the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) and at Charles Jordan Community Center for fire impact and cleaner air space shelters to support people experiencing homelessness in avoiding poor air quality. A third site is available and prepped if capacity dictates.
 - As of Wednesday, September 16, the census last night at OCC included 98 individuals, 43 individuals at Charles Jordan Community Center and approximately 10 families are currently staying in hotels.
- The American Red Cross, in partnership with Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center and JOHS, opened an additional section also at the OCC to shelter up to 400 evacuees from Clackamas County.
 - The Red Cross reports that the height of the population at OCC is 100 individuals, as of Wednesday, September 16, the census last night at OCC included 39 individuals, with 6 adults and 7 children currently staying in hotels.
- Multnomah County Human Services is working with [Cascadia Behavioral Health](#), [Multnomah County HOPE](#), [El Programa](#) and [Feed The Mass](#) are conducting outreach and providing food for several RVs that are currently parked at Mt Hood Community College. Following these outreach efforts, individuals will be redirected to another site where more services are available, as this temporary site is closing.
- Animal sheltering is available for both livestock and pets through several organizations. For more information, visit the [Clackamas County Wildfire 2020 Animals](#) page.
- Multnomah County Health Department is working to ensure that wildfire evacuees are sheltered in safe and sanitary conditions, taking into account the special challenges of current air quality issues presented by wildfire smoke amid the COVID-19 health pandemic.
 - Representatives from Environmental Health worked with our partners at the OCC to increase filtration level used in the HVAC system. A review was also made of food handling, assessment of handwashing stations and restrooms, and made recommendations to increase safety.
 - The Communicable Disease team helped to update the health screening tool for congregate shelters to minimize the likelihood of disease spread.
- JOHS, supported by the County's emergency response Logistics team, is also working with mutual aid groups and contracted providers all across the county, to distribute tens of thousands of KN95 masks, water and other supplies. Read the JOHS September 15 [news release](#) for more detail.

The Mass Care and Shelter section of the EOC is also continuing to help support the operation of a Physical Distancing Shelter (PDS) with a total capacity of **120 beds**, and two Voluntary Isolation Motels (VIMos) with a total capacity of **120 beds**. The people working in this section include all of our on-site shelter staff who continue to respond with compassionate action as increasing numbers of guests are referred into the County's PDS site from partner shelters. Staffing and response plans that take into consideration COVID-19's extended duration are being finalized.

Weekly Metrics: During the week of **Monday, September 7** through **Sunday, September 13**, the Mass Care and Shelter Section housed an average of **85 people** per night in the County's Physical Distancing Shelter and **29 people** per night in the County's Voluntary Isolation Motels. The charts below show the number of people housed in these shelters and motels for each day of the past week.



EOC Section: Public Health and Medical ([Emergency Support Function 8](#))

The Public Health and Medical Section works to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Multnomah County, and to minimize the impacts of the disease on individuals and our community. This Section contains Units that support Fatality Management, Region 1 Hospital and Health Systems, Emergency Medical Services, COVID-19 Testing, and Communicable Disease Investigations which includes Epidemiology, Case Investigation and Contact Tracing.

Wildfire Impacts:

- According to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), emergency department and urgent care visits on September 15 for respiratory symptoms showed the first substantial decrease since Thursday, September 10.
- Emergency visits for asthma-like symptoms remain high, but are back within the range occasionally experienced on non-smoke days. Visit counts remained elevated on Tuesday, September 15 reflecting a level closer to 150% of normal levels rather than the 175-200% elevation we've seen over the past several days.
- State-wide, emergency department visits on September 10 and September 11 for asthma-like symptoms accounted for 1 in 10 emergency room and urgent care visits. This trend has continued through the most recent statewide report from OHA as of the writing of this report.
- Emergency department visits for shortness of breath and inhaler/albuterol were also elevated statewide.
- Multnomah County's Behavioral Health Call Center continues to field a steady volume of anxiety-related calls and continues to connect individuals to behavioral health services as appropriate.

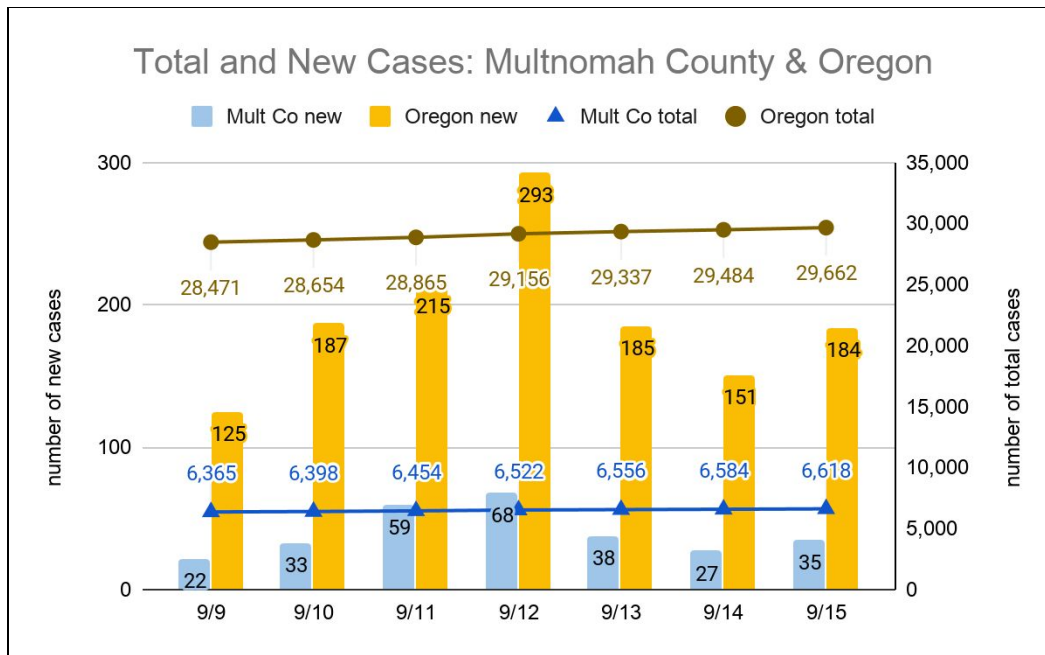
Epidemiology Data

This is a dynamic situation. Information and case counts are changing rapidly and the incident is ongoing.

COVID-19 cases and deaths in Multnomah County and in Oregon

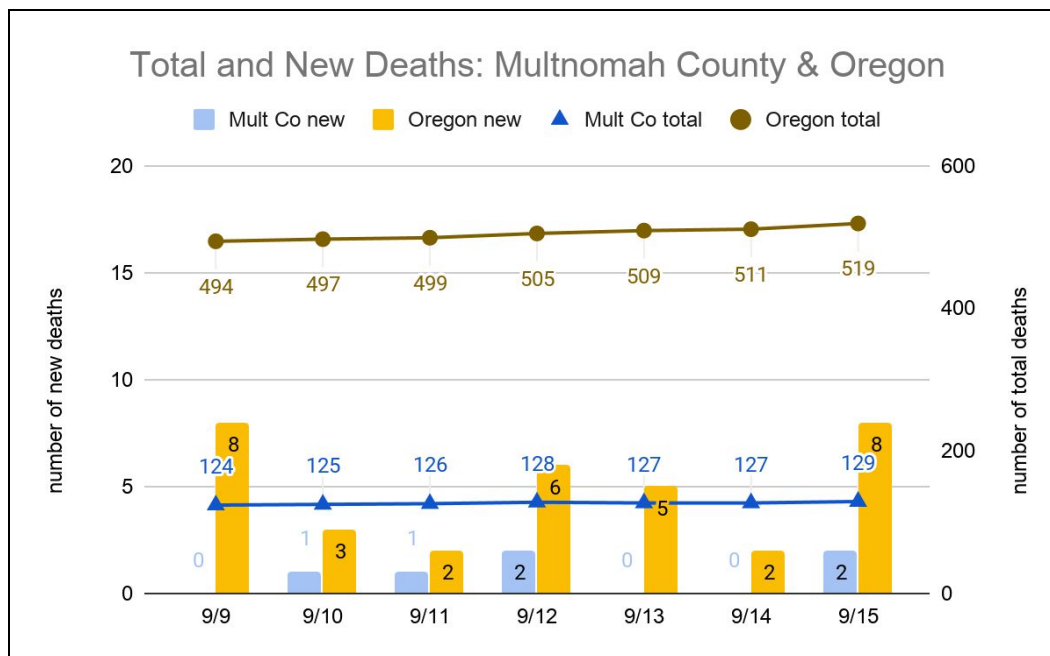
There were **184 new confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases** reported in Oregon on September 15. **Thirty-five** of these new cases are in Multnomah County. Since the pandemic began, there have been a total of **6,618** confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases in Multnomah County and **29,662** cases in Oregon. Multnomah County cases make up **22%** of the state's total. The chart below shows cases over the past week.

(chart on next page)



(Source: [Oregon Health Authority](#))

There were **eight new COVID-19 deaths in Oregon** reported on September 15. **Two** of these deaths occurred in Multnomah County. A total of **129** people are known to have died of COVID-19 in Multnomah County since the pandemic started. There have been **519** known COVID-19 deaths in Oregon, statewide. Multnomah County deaths make up **25%** of the state's total. The chart below shows deaths over the past week.



(Source: [Oregon Health Authority](#))

National and global data about COVID-19 cases and deaths are tracked in the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#), available through Johns Hopkins University's [Coronavirus Resource Center](#).

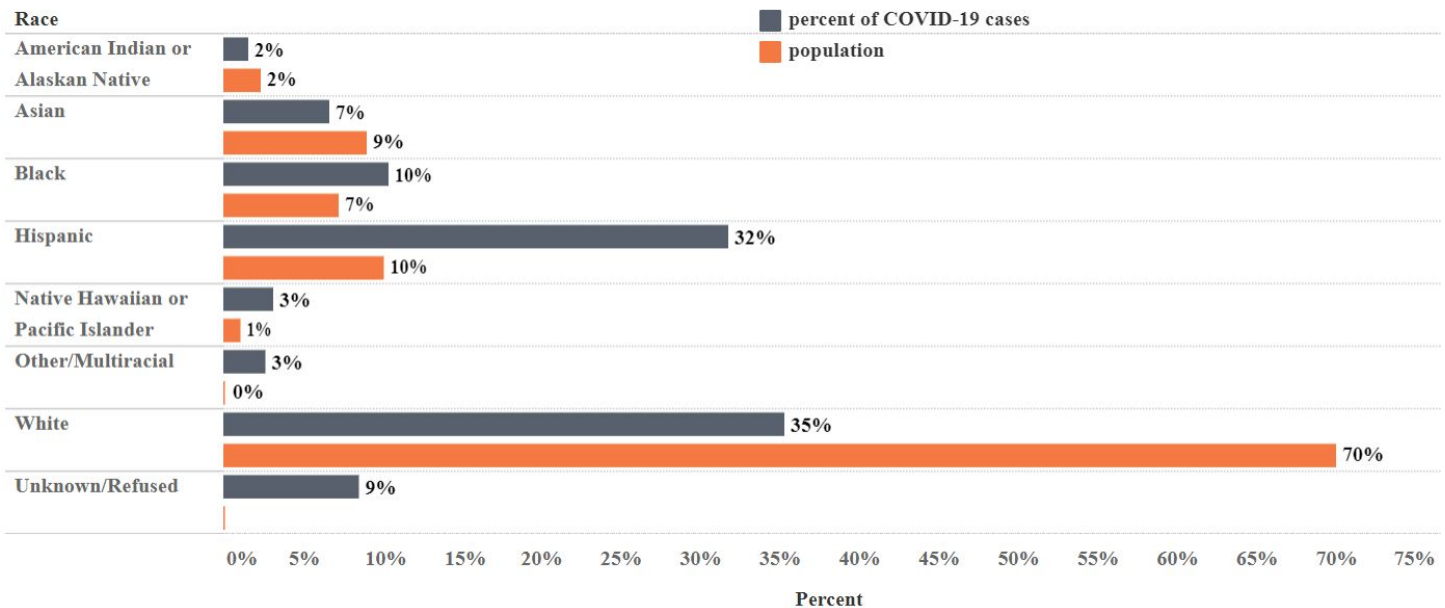
Race and Ethnicity Impact in Multnomah County

Detailed local data, including demographics (race, sex, age, and housing status) are available in the [Regional COVID-19 data dashboard](#) hosted by Multnomah County. The dashboard also contains data on case counts, hospitalizations, symptoms and coexisting conditions, and testing. For statewide data on COVID-19 cases in Oregon by sex, age group, race, and ethnicity, consult the Oregon Health Authority's [Demographics and Disease Severity dashboard](#). National data on racial disparities in the COVID-19 pandemic is updated daily in the [COVID-19 Racial Data Tracker](#), which is a joint project of the COVID-19 Tracking Project at *The Atlantic* and the [Center for Antiracist Research](#).

The charts below show **the percentage of total cumulative cases, deaths, and hospitalizations by race and ethnicity (in gray)**, as of September 13. Each chart also shows **the proportion of Multnomah County's total population by race/ethnicity (in orange)**. Instances where the percentage of cases, deaths, and hospitalizations exceeds the proportion of Multnomah County's total population by race/ethnicity indicate the communities that are most impacted by health inequity from COVID-19. These differences may reflect the inequitable distribution of the risks of being exposed to COVID-19 and the opportunities to access medical care and COVID-19 testing.

Cases by race/ethnicity and population proportions

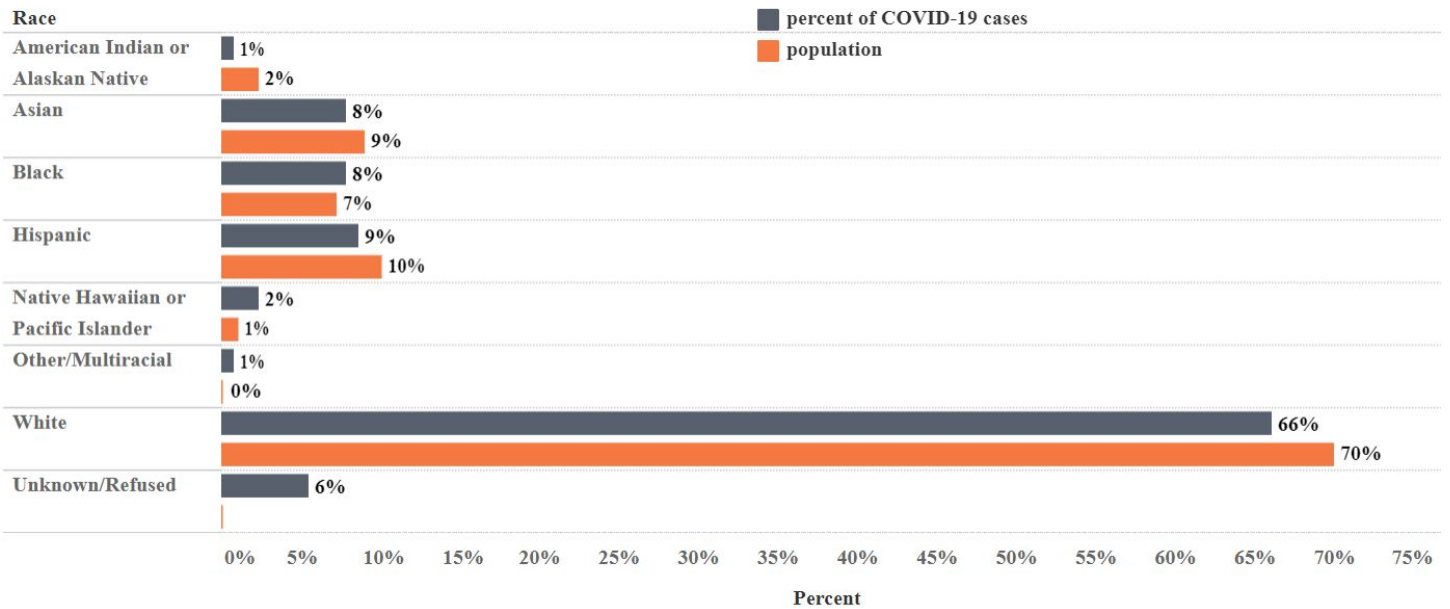
Percent of COVID-19 Cases Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions



Data current as of September 13, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)).

Deaths by race/ethnicity and population proportions

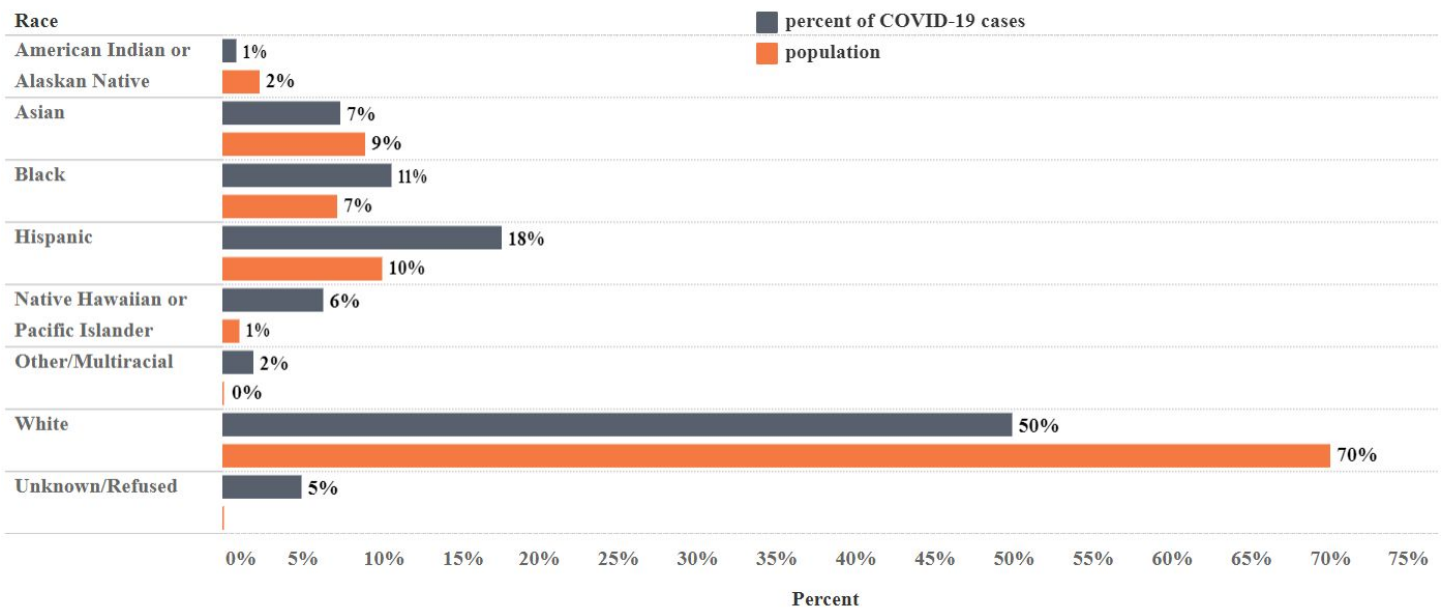
Percent of COVID-19 Deaths Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions



Data current as of September 13, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)).

Hospitalized cases by race/ethnicity and population proportions

Percent of COVID-19 Hospitalized cases Compared to Multnomah County Population Proportions



Data current as of September 13, 2020 (source: [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)).

EOC Section: [Logistics](#)

The Logistics Section supports the response actions of all other EOC sections. Logistics focuses on procedures for activating, dispatching, distributing, allocating, tracking, and deactivating resources needed for emergency and disaster operations from government, private, or volunteer sources. For Multnomah County's COVID-19 response, important Logistics functions include supporting our Physical Distancing Shelters (PDS) and Voluntary Isolation Motels (VIMOs), coordinating the donation of supplies and delivering resources to community partners.

Donations Unit

Cloth Face Covering Donations Project: Multnomah County's emergency response team at the EOC has developed a re-energized campaign to increase donations of cloth face coverings. With a focus on child-sized face masks which are in the most scarce supply. These face coverings will be distributed to communities that have been the most impacted by COVID-19. The County's aim is to distribute 10,000 child-sized masks to children who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color, immigrants, or refugees, to other children in need, and to childcare providers. **A HUGE THANK YOU to our community!** Who donated over 23,000 face coverings. These were quickly distributed across the County.

- Child size face coverings are 6-by-6 inch and 7-by-7 inch.
- Cloth masks in unused and good condition, with two layers of tightly woven fabric (such as cotton or flannel) can be dropped off at:
 - Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. (use the loading dock on SE 6th Ave.), 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, or 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Saturdays

Shelter Supply Unit

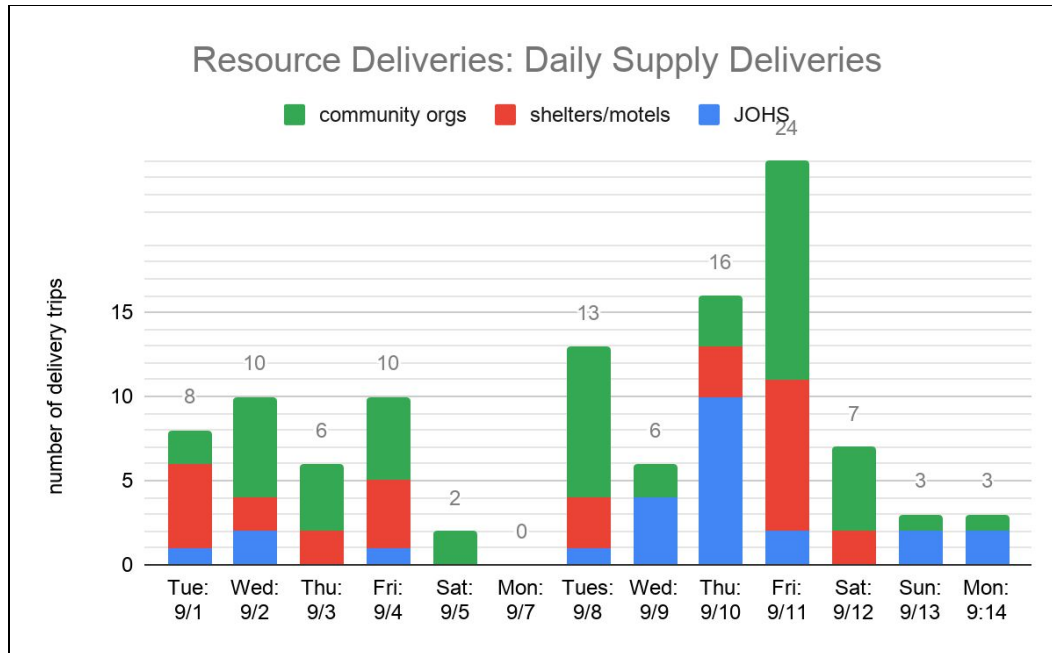
The Shelter Supply Unit works closely with our Emergency Support Function-6 teammates to ensure our shelter guests have what they need for a comfortable stay. With the help of other Logistic Section units, they directly support nearly 250 staff and residents in these facilities with supplies, laundry, snacks, meals, medical assistance, and other services as requested. The Shelter Supply Unit strives to provide for the well-being of shelter residents by providing items such as comfort kits, clothing as needed, and entertainment options.

Resource Deliveries

The Logistics Section provides transportation for numerous response functions, including delivering supplies to community partners. The chart below shows the number of daily trips delivering resources to community organizations, County-run PDS shelters and VIMOs, and emergency outdoor shelters run by the City of Portland and Multnomah County's Joint Office of Homeless Services. The chart does not represent the quantity of supplies included in these deliveries, so a single delivery could include small or large quantities of resources.

In response to hazardous air quality stemming from the current wildfires, the Logistics team has prioritized delivery of essential, life-saving equipment and resources while restricting time spent outside making deliveries. For this reason, delivery of materials that are not essential to life-saving safety efforts have been postponed until at least next week, dependent upon improvements in air quality. The Logistics team will

continue to monitor safety conditions and work to balance the safety of County workers with the needs of the County's most vulnerable populations.



Note: Logistics typically operates Monday - Saturday, with on-call deliveries made on Sundays. To fill needs presented by the 2020 Wildfires, Logistics has added Sunday deliveries.

Weekly metrics: Each week, the Logistics Section tracks the number of items that it delivers and picks up. The table below shows these deliveries by week for the current month.

Items delivered	Aug 15-21	Aug 22-28	Aug 29-Sept 4	Sept 5-Sept 11
8-24 oz hand sanitizer	1070	850	512	4,522
Gallon hand sanitizer	24	15	22	62
Cloth face coverings	160	99	194	114
KN95 masks	33375	13,120	18,090	51,371
Face shields	0	0	400	1,222
Procedure masks	0	0	0	200
Other (varied items including test kits, goggles, etc.)	0	106	784	1,222

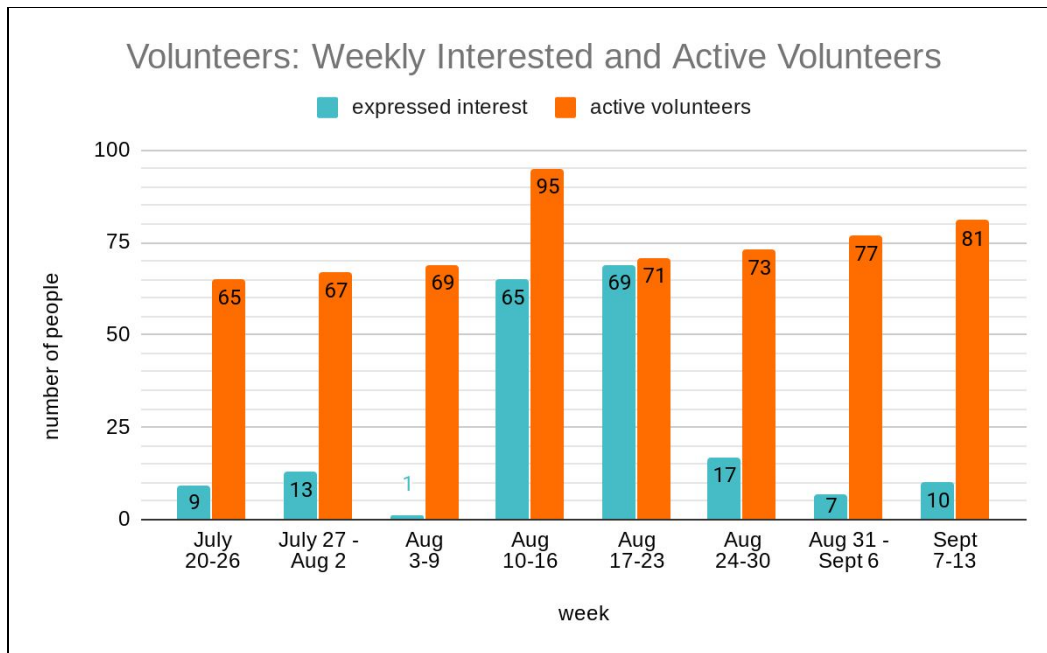
EOC Section: [Administration](#)

The Administration Section provides targeted support to create an inclusive, positive, productive and healthy work environment across all response operations, that is responsive to the changing conditions of the COVID-19 incident. Functions include the recruitment, training and onboarding of staff and volunteers; equity and inclusion support; and human resources and labor relations consultation.

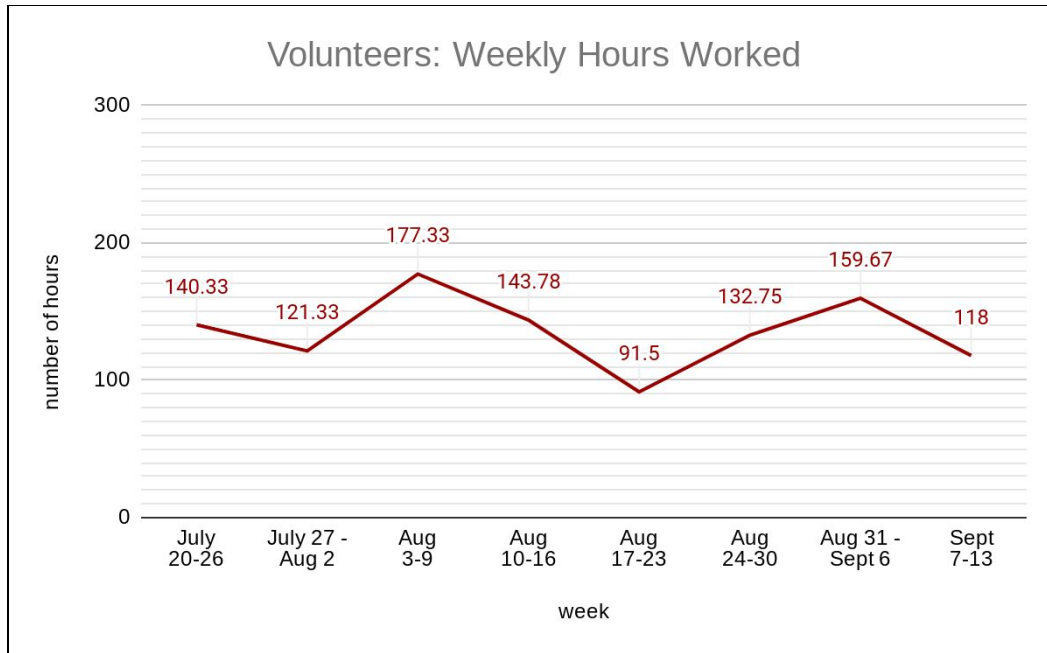
Volunteers

The Volunteer Program of Multnomah County's COVID-19 emergency response works to recruit, screen, onboard and support volunteers for the Joint Office of Homeless Services' Emergency Physical Distancing Shelters and for other emergency response functions. The Volunteer Program bolsters and sustains the community response to COVID-19 in Multnomah County through promoting, organizing, and supporting safe volunteer activities and works closely with the City of Portland and other County Departments to prioritize support for historically underserved communities.

Weekly Metrics: The Volunteer Program tracks how many individuals complete an interest form to express interest in volunteering, the number of active volunteers, and the number of volunteer hours worked each week. The charts below show these metrics each week for the past several weeks.



(chart on next page)



As of September 13, 2020, a total of **916** individuals have completed the volunteer interest form. A total of **104 people** have volunteered their time with the EOC during the COVID-19 response, and active volunteers have worked a total of **5,560.12 hours**. Using the County's job class compensation guide as a metric, the value represented by this donated labor is **\$136,200.04**.

EOC Section: [Community Liaisons](#)

The Liaison Unit is made up of four Liaison Officers and five Deputies who support 47 community liaisons across [27 sectors](#). Liaison Officers and Deputies foster community connection and information sharing by creating spaces to problem solve, share resources, and discuss community experiences. In addition, they track and identify trends within the community and elevate them to response leadership to inform outreach and policy. Community Liaisons use their subject-matter expertise to act as a critical link between the COVID-19 response mission and the audience it affects. They answer sector specific questions, ensure understanding of local and State guidelines as it pertains to their sector, and manage communication and information sharing between sector organizations and the Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center. More than 8,500 people actively participate in the liaison program and help spread accurate information throughout our community and beyond.

Updates

- This week's themes and trending questions in the Liaison Section:
 - Pivoted to providing substantial support to the 2020 Wildfires Assistance response
 - Continue to support a wide range of communities and groups seeking resources and information related to COVID-19
 - The Liaison team activated their nearly 10,000 contacts to establish situational awareness around services being offered across the county to wildfire evacuees, including: shelter, parking lots for cars and RVs, and emergent donation collection sites and compiled a database of

private facilities taking in pet and livestock evacuees. This information was shared with Clackamas County and helped our Call Center quickly direct those in need and helped determine any needs for wrap around support services for those who stepped forward to assist.

- The Liaison team also helped to identify warehouse locations to store 40 tons of hay to feed evacuated livestock.

General

- On September 21 and 22, TriMet's will host virtual listening sessions in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Each event will begin with a brief presentation about TriMet's current security approach, followed by an opportunity for people to ask questions and share thoughts.
 - English: Monday, September 21, 5:00-6:30 pm
[Meeting link](#), event password: trimet
submit questions ahead of time to: equity@trimet.org
 - Español, Martes, 22 de septiembre, 5:00-6:30 pm
[Link para reunión](#), contraseña del evento: trimet
envíe preguntas: equity@trimet.org

Culturally Specific Communities

- Oregon Cares Fund for Black Relief and Resiliency Applications. [Applications are now open for The Oregon Cares Fund](#). The Oregon Cares Fund for Black Relief and Resiliency is a \$62 million targeted investment in the Black community from the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund. This fund is meant to provide the Black community with the resources it needs to weather the global COVID-19 health pandemic and consequent recession. The Oregon Cares Fund is for Black individuals, Black-owned businesses, and Black community based organizations.

Faith-Based/Community Organizations

- The Faith-Based/Community Organization Liaison team met with members of the Public Health Department and members of the Slavic community to strategize outreach and communications to support the Slavic community in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Schools (Childcare, K-12, Universities)

- Multnomah County posted resources for students and families on its [Supporting Your Student Learner during COVID-19](#) page.

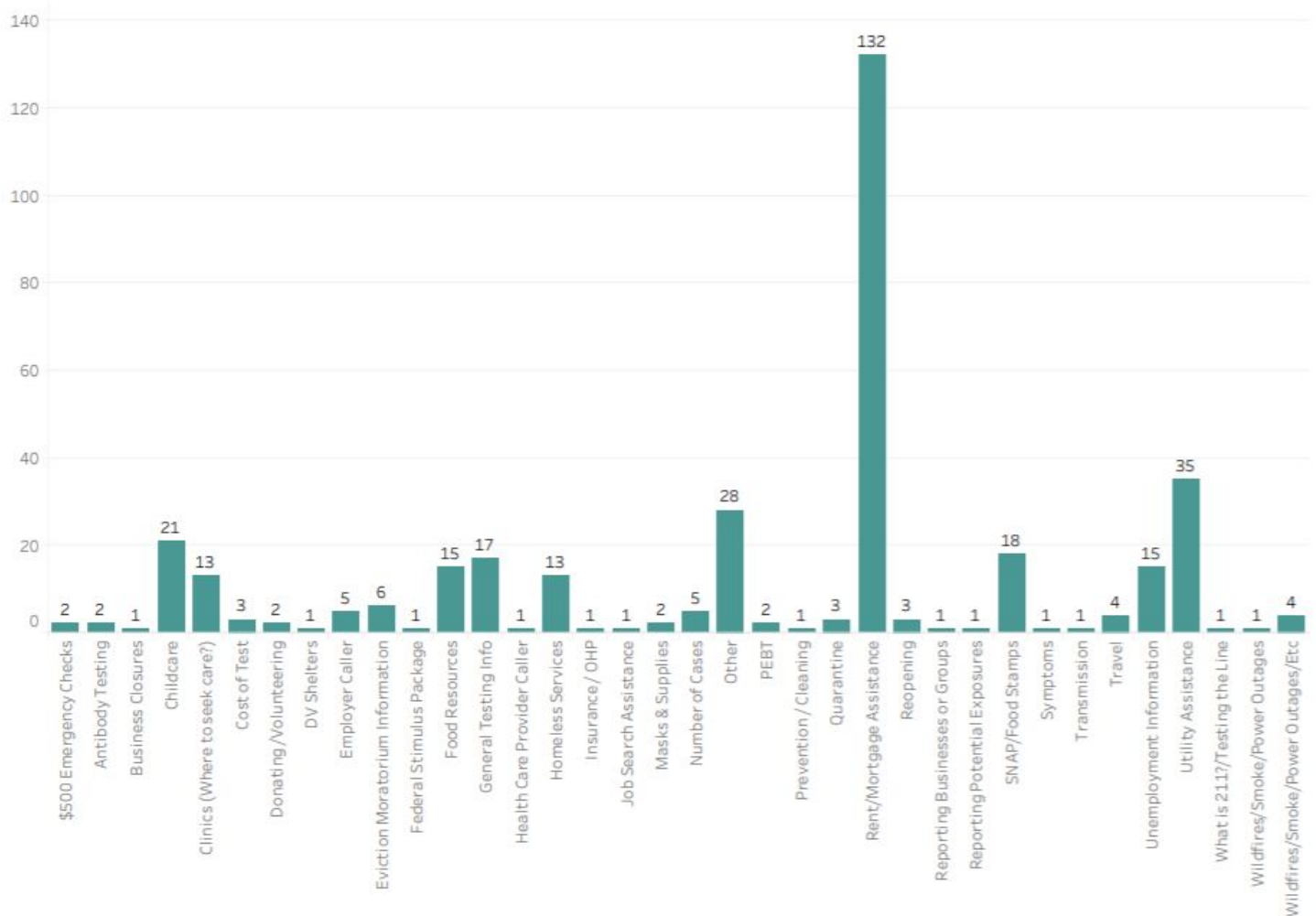
Sector Contact Information and Conference Call Schedule

If you have specific questions, or to attend a regularly scheduled sector conference call, please [contact the sector liaison](#) via email.

211 Calls

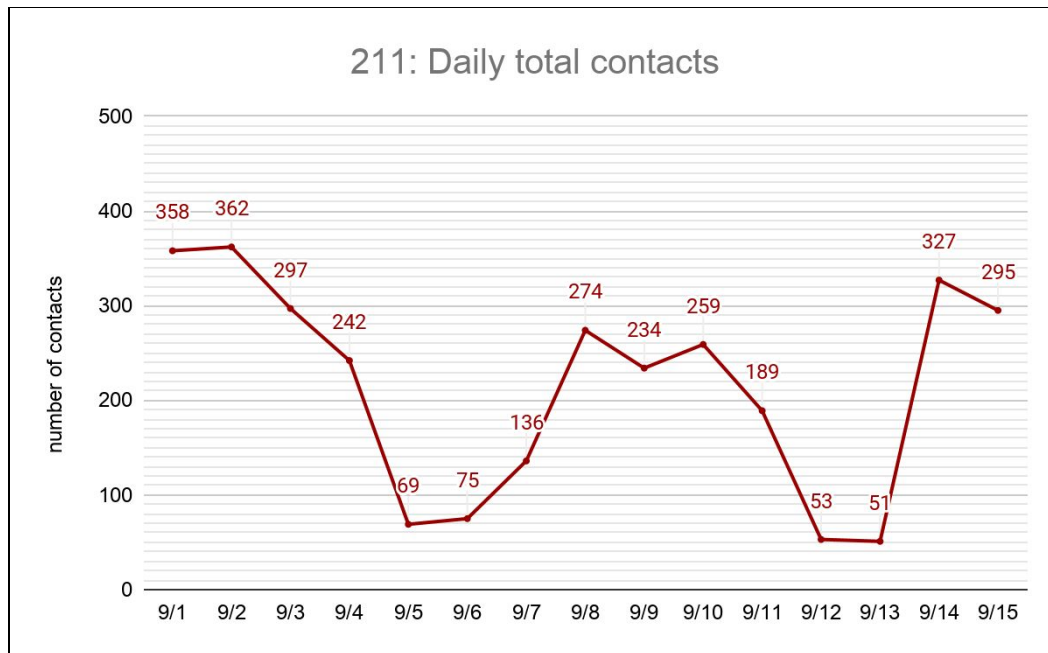
- There were 295 calls to 211 on Tuesday, September 15.
- The most common reason people called was to ask about rent/mortgage assistance. Other frequent inquiries were about utility assistance and childcare.

Reason for Contact



Data for September 15, 2020.

Aggregated data: The chart below shows the total number of 211 contacts each day, over the last two weeks.



Health System Capacity

Hospital Capacity and Usage in Oregon as reported to HOSCAP*

Overall Capacity	Available	Total Staffed
Adult ICU Beds	157	738
Adult non-ICU Beds	655	4,444
NICU/PICU Beds	113	379
Pediatric non-ICU Beds	102	335

COVID-19 Details	Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19	Only Patients with Confirmed COVID-19
Current Hospitalized Patients	155	106
Current Patients in ICU Beds	34	23
Current Patients on Ventilators	11	11

Available Ventilators	782
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Data as of September 15, 2020. Source: [Oregon COVID-19 Update](#).

*Note from OHA: *Every hospital in Oregon is asked to submit data twice daily to Oregon's Hospital Capacity Web System (HOSCAP). Data are based on the most recent report from the hospitals, available as of 9:00 am. Hospital staff are asked to enter bed capacity information, by type, as well as the number of patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19*

illness who are currently hospitalized at the time of data entry. These data may conflict with hospitalization status in Orpheus due to case reporting and investigation lags and temporary discrepancies in case classifications.

Local Media & Announcements

- On September 10, the Oregon Health Authority posted the State's [Wildfire Evacuation Protocol for People Quarantining or Isolating Due to COVID-19](#).
- On September 10, [The Oregonian/OregonLive reported](#) that "A smoky haze continued to blanket many parts of Oregon Thursday, elevating air quality to unhealthy or downright dangerous levels due to the state's wildfires. Even the Portland area, which hasn't been as hard hit as regions to the south, registered far worse air quality than in the high population metropolises of Beijing, Mumbai and Mexico City, which are known for polluted air despite some efforts to rein it in."
- On September 10, [The Oregonian/OregonLive reported](#) that "Portland Public Schools will offer child care for up to 270 children starting in late September."
- On September 12, [OPB published a story](#) on the role climate change is playing in this year's wildfire season.
- On September 13, Multnomah County Health Officer Dr. Jennifer Vines released a video -- in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#) -- with advice about how to limit the health effects of wildfire smoke.
- On September 13, the [New York Times published a story](#) about the effects of wildfires and wildfire smoke on communities throughout Oregon, Washington, and California.
- On September 14, [NPR reported](#) on Oregon wildfires. Multnomah County Health Officer Dr. Jennifer Vines is quoted in the article: "[I]t's the same people who are at higher risk of complications from wildfire smoke and from COVID-19. We know many of them in the Portland area are Black, Indigenous or people of color."
- On September 14, [OPB reported](#) that "Gov. Kate Brown will veto a number of budget adjustments passed by legislators last month, restoring planned cuts to a handful of state agencies while scrapping \$100 million lawmakers had earmarked for emergency spending."
- On September 14, [The Oregonian/OregonLive published an article](#) about the effects that wildfires are having on the spread of COVID-19 in Oregon, saying "The number of Oregonians tested for coronavirus during historic wildfires is likely to plummet to levels not seen since this spring, a senior public health adviser said Monday, with the long-term impact of wildfires on the pandemic unclear."

National and International Media Updates & Announcements

- On September 9, the [Associated Press published a story](#) about safety in COVID-19 vaccine trials.
- On September 10, [NPR reported](#) on the results of a [poll it conducted with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#). The article explains that "The poll finds nearly half the households in America — 46% — report facing serious financial pain during the pandemic. It is a problem that is more acute in the four largest U.S. cities, and among Latino and Black households. Hundreds of billions in government stimulus and other support did not make an apparent dent in their struggles."
- On September 11, the [Centers for Disease Control's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report published a study](#) which found, among other things, that "Adults with positive SARS-CoV-2 test results were

approximately twice as likely to have reported dining at a restaurant than were those with negative SARS-CoV-2 test results.” This story was reported by [NPR](#).

- On September 12, NPR’s [Morning Edition ran a story](#) about what it might mean if a COVID-19 vaccine is only 50% effective.

Stay Informed, Get Involved

COVID-19 Response

- **Local response:** the [Multnomah County COVID-19 website](#) is regularly updated with new information and guidance. Topics covered include:
 - [Daily Living](#)
 - [Reopening & Guidance](#)
 - [Symptoms, Testing & Care](#)
 - [Outbreak Summary](#), including the [Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#)
 - [Get or Give Help During COVID-19](#)
 - [What’s open — and what is closed — at MultCo during COVID-19](#)
 - [Discrimination, stigma and COVID-19](#)
- **State response:** [Oregon Health Authority COVID-19 website](#)
- **National response:** [CDC website](#)

Media

For media inquiries related to COVID-19 please **contact Julie Sullivan-Springhetti**, Multnomah County Public Information Media Coordinator at: **503-502-2741**.

Check out our [list of trusted sources](#) for current regional and national COVID-19 information.

Activated Call Centers

Call Center	Phone Number	Email	Hours
211 Call Center	211	help@211info.org	Seven days a week, 8:00 am - 11:00 pm
Mental Health Call Center	503-988-4888 Toll-free: 800-716-9769 TTY: 711		Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
Aging & Disabilities Resource Connection	503-988-3646	adrc@multco.us	Information and assistance to older people, people with disabilities, and caregivers, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week

City County Information and Referral	503-823-4000		Mondays-Fridays, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
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Help and Resources

- **Having symptoms?**
 - [C19Oregon.com](#) is an online triage tool that helps public health officials track COVID-19 cases and allows community members to check their symptoms and receive guidance.

More questions?

- Consult the [Multnomah County COVID-19 FAQs](#).
- [Call 211](#).
- Still can't find the answer you're looking for? Submit [questions about the novel coronavirus](#) to Multnomah County.

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Date; Time Approved	9/16/20; 13:34 hours
Date of Next Situation Report	Thursday, 9/24/20

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