



May 15, 2020

COVID-19 Weekly Testing Summary

On May 1, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) released [its COVID-19 Strategic Testing Plan for Oregon](#). The Strategic Testing Plan includes the following goals:

1. *Test more people living in Oregon for COVID-19 based on new [testing guidelines](#).* These testing guidelines include direct care or service workers, front-line workers, people from linguistically diverse populations and people who identify as Black, African American, Latino, Latina, Latinx, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, or as having a disability. Data shows us that people in these communities are at higher risk for COVID-19 and related health problems because of longstanding social and health inequities.
2. *Use all available resources in Oregon so more people are tested for COVID-19, so that Oregon meets its minimum weekly goal of 15,000 tests per week.*

The Strategic Testing Plan is an essential component of active surveillance, which includes case investigation and contact tracing, to better understand and stop the spread of disease.

Summary of Oregon test results through 5/15/20

	Pre- 2/28	2/29- 3/6	3/7- 3/13	3/14- 3/20	3/21- 3/27	3/28- 4/3	4/4- 4/10	4/11- 4/17	4/18- 4/24	4/25- 5/1	5/2- 5/8	5/9- 5/15	Total to date
Positive	1	12	35	66	348	437	472	414	392	402	453	438	3,470
Negative	3	122	466	1,460	7,050	7,434	9,318	8,683	8,779	12,282	14,028	16,349	85,974
Total results	4	134	501	1,526	7,398	7,871	9,790	9,097	9,171	12,684	14,481	16,787	89,444
% positive	25.0%	9.0%	7.0%	4.3%	4.7%	5.6%	4.8%	4.6%	4.3%	3.2%	3.1%	2.6%	3.9%

As of May 15, Oregon's cumulative positive testing rate has remained fairly consistent at about 3.9% of tests performed. This is considerably lower than the national average of 15.0%.

Oregon's decreasing weekly test-positivity rate reflects decreasing numbers of individuals with COVID-19 due to Governor Kate Brown's stay-at-home order and increasing testing statewide, including the tests run at hospital laboratories and commercial laboratories.

Testing capacity

This week, Santiam Hospital began in-house testing. The state's weekly testing capacity is now up to 37,702 (above the required 12,572 per week for 30/10,000).

In addition, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) and several Oregon laboratories have completed COVID-19 validation tests with promising results on the Hologic Panther instrument. Hologic received FDA EUA approval for the Panther on May 15, 2020. OSPHL will be testing on this high-throughput platform beginning next week.

Testing resources

In addition to an initial push of specimen collection kits, OHA continues to fill requests for commercial laboratory testing through Quest and LabCorp. These contracts are designed to provide access to COVID-19 testing for entities that do not have access to laboratory testing through their own health system or commercial laboratory contracts. Commercial testing requests by local emergency managers are made via the ECC's OpsCenter platforms.

This week, OHA has received its weekly allocation of 50 boxes of Abbott ID NOW test cartridges (24 tests per box). The Abbott ID NOW instruments have been distributed to areas of the state that do not have in-house laboratory testing or serve COVID-19 hot spots. The clinics and hospitals that have received an Abbott ID NOW instrument and test kits this week include:

- Asher Community Health Center (Wheeler County)
- Bay Area Hospital (Coos County)
- Blue Mountain Hospital (Grant County)
- Grande Ronde Hospital (Union County)
- Mercy Medical Center (Douglas County)
- Mirasol Family Health Center (Umatilla County)
- Northwest Human Services (Marion County)
- Salud Medical Center (Marion County)
- Sky Lakes Medical Center (Klamath County)
- Wallowa Memorial Hospital (Wallowa County)
- West Valley Hospital (Polk County)
- Woodburn Ambulance (Marion County)

OHA continues to supply Curry General Hospital, Lake District Hospital and Pioneer Memorial Hospital with Abbott ID Now test kits. The CDC International Reagent Resource (IRR) will supply states with 50 boxes of test kits and six packs controls through an automatic shipment each week.

This week, Oregon received its third shipments of testing swabs, universal transport media for specimen collection kits, and certain testing supplies and reagents from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). These ongoing supplies will be available for counties and Tribes to request through their Emergency Managers using OpsCenter.

OHA continues to explore opportunities to expand collection and testing services.

Supply chain issues

OHA has received information that additional Cepheid test cartridge availability will continue to be limited, as the supplier is at production capacity.

Technical assistance

Oregon hospital laboratories and OSPHL continue to meet three times per week to share technical information, updates about testing efforts, and information about supply-chain barriers. OHA continues to evaluate COVID-19 testing platforms as they become available.

Congregate care settings

OSPHL continues to prioritize its testing to identify and control clusters of COVID-19 disease in congregate care settings, including long-term care and correctional facilities. As of May 1, OHA's testing guidance includes a separate document with criteria for COVID-19 testing at OSPHL.