



## PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES February 24, 2022

Remotely via Zoom

### **CALL TO ORDER – FLAG SALUTE**

President Stan Moffett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. no flag salute was held due to meeting virtually.

### **WELCOME and THANK YOU TO HOST**

President Moffett thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

### **ROLL CALL – SELF-INTRODUCTIONS**

No roll call or self-introductions were done. There were 26 people in attendance.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS – Dr. Matt Brignall, Health Department**

Vice President Gorder introduced Dr. Matt Brignall with Tacoma PC Health Department. Shared a powerpoint presentation (copy attached). Talked about where at with vaccinations, treatment and where guidance is at. Links from chat:

Isolation and quarantine guidance:

<https://www.tpchd.org/home/showpublisheddocument/7603/637774031605500000>

TPCHD vaccine sites and other COVID stats, etc: <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

Open to the floor for questions. Received the at home tests, do they expire? Dr. Brignall stated they are good for 10 months. 2 different Omicron variants. Booster shots annual like flu shot? Thinking looking more like 5 years or so like Tetanus booster. We don't have the infrastructure to do annual vaccinations. PCR testing most effective test. Rapid tests are good predictor of who's infectious. Healthcare system has been overwhelmed for the last 2 years. Immunocompromised treatments – PC has 1,000 doses and aren't being used. Fire Departments have been wonderful help and support.

The Association thanked Dr. Brignall for his presentation and information he shared this evening. We'll be sending a challenge coin as a thank you.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA and TREASURER'S REPORT**

Add under New Business support of healthcare WFCA. It was moved by Commissioner Gorder and seconded by Commissioner McElligott to approve the agenda as amended and Treasurer's Report (see copy on the backside of the Agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Passed unanimously.

### **MINUTES OF January 27, 2022 MEETING**

Commissioner Linboe moved and Commissioner McElligott seconded to approve the minutes. Any discussion? Hearing none, anyone opposed? Hearing none, the January 27, 2022 minutes as presented were passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

## **SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES**

N/A

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

## **REGULAR REPORTS:**

### **a) Regional Representative Report – Jerry Bickett**

Reported letter drafted for Guy Earl, Kitsap County and 1 gentleman from Thurston County candidates. Nothing else to report.

### **b) Legal - Joe and/or Eric Quinn**

Joe reported on a couple items – he and Eric are going to be holding a municipal roundtable via zoom. Used to have one every quarter. Opportunity to teach and dialogue about hot topics. March 25<sup>th</sup>. Will send something to Denise to send out with the Zoom link. Employer issues of sick leave and potential sick leave abuse. Drafting a lot of policies regarding and ties in with so many other issues such as disability. Discussion earlier about open public meetings – subject to Governor’s order 28-20 has never been lifted. It’s been modified, but not lifted. Can do hybrid meetings already. Going to be based on what the Governor does and until he changes the modified order. Move in legislature to require public comment.

### **c) SouthSound 911 – Debbie Grady**

Reported had SS911 Board meeting yesterday. Julie Door elected as Chair, Derek Young is Vice Chair. Inaugural new board member orientation March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Everyone invited to attend if you’d like. If interested, send an email. Shared information on statistics in what calling new normal. 2019 pre-pandemic to 2021 year ending – increase of 16% in 911 calls. Averaging 50-60,000 911 calls per month. 105% increase of shootings and 89% increase in homicides. Recruiting efforts are very active. 19 vacancies on dispatchers.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

### **a) Fire Chiefs Association - Dan Rankin / Tom Sutich**

Commissioner Rankin reported the Chiefs didn’t have a speaker. Short meeting.

### **b) Legislative - Brandon Faust**

Reported last month had WFCA webinar legislative update. Might do another one next month. Will notify if so. Legislative updates get emailed out every Friday from WFCA – has links to take you to the website, etc. Anything need to take to Roger and the committee let know or email.

### **c) Bates Technical College – Dan Rankin**

Reported up and running. 1 class last year and back into having academies. 11 right now, 24 in the next. Equipment tested and up to date. Still looking for Chief to run.

### **d) Fund Raising Activities - DORMANT- Ed Egan**

### **e) Annual Picnic/Potluck – DORMANT - Arlene Dannat**

**f) Annual Banquet – DORMANT - Mike Cathey**

**g) Scholarship & Education - Tom Sutich / Stan Moffett**

Commissioner Sutich stated no report. Heads up in April seminars are going to fulfill every 4 year certified training on public records and open meetings. Will also be held via zoom.

**h) Awards Committee – DORMANT - Margaret O’Harra-Buttz**

**i) Membership – Kevin Gorder**

Nothing at this time. President Moffett asked if anyone would be interested in stepping up and assisting with this committee. Arlene volunteered.

**j) Programs – Kevin Gorder**

Nothing at this time.

**k) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat**

Nothing to report.

**l) NAEFO – Gerry Gustafson**

Reported having some webinars.

**m) Nominating – DORMANT - Dan Rankin**

**n) Audit – Dan Rankin / Margaret O’Harra Buttz**

Commissioner Rankin reported it’s been completed and report was sent to Denise.

**o) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott**

Reported Debbie already shared about the meeting held yesterday. Nothing else to add.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:**

President Moffett stated 2 candidates for Healthcare committee. Dr from Thurston County and Dr. Earl has presented at WFCA conferences. Letter of support for these 2 individual to be considered for healthcare committee. Sutich moved to support both individuals for committee, Mitchell seconded motion. MOTION CARRIED.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Commissioner Egan have about 30 or 35 challenge coins left – more than happy to mail out if anyone is interested in buying for \$10.00 each. Look at purchasing more at the end of the year.

Commissioner McElligott stated congratulations in order to Denise as she recently got married.

Commissioner Rankin stated lost a Commissioner recently – Jordon sent out a notice earlier today.

Classes in April – has a state volleyball tournament in Spokane. Putting together a webinar. An article should be going out this week.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Commissioner McElligott moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Dannatt seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Website: <http://www.pcfirecommissioners.org/SitePages/Home.aspx>

**2022 Meeting Schedule:**

January 27, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom  
February 24, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom  
March 24, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom  
April 28, 2022 –  
May 26, 2022 –  
June 23, 2022 –  
July 28, 2022 – BBQ/Potluck –  
August 25, 2022 –  
September 22, 2022 –  
October 27, 2022 – No Meeting – Annual Conference  
November 17, 2022 –  
December 1, 2022 – No Meeting – Annual Awards –

# COVID-19 Update.

Working together to keep Pierce County safe.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
February 2022

# Overview

- Latest COVID-19 data.
- Testing.
- Mask guidance.
- Vaccines.
- Booster doses.
- Quarantine guidance.
- Isolation guidance.
- New therapies for COVID-19.



# Preventing disease spread requires several steps

## Layer your protection like Swiss cheese.

Use all the tools available to create less holes for COVID-19 to get through.



Stay 6 feet away from people you don't live with.



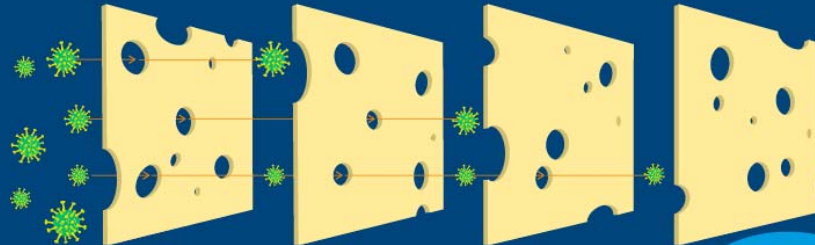
Wear a mask.



Wash your hands often with soap and warm water.



Get your COVID-19 vaccine.



[tpchd.org/safepactices](https://tpchd.org/safepactices)



# Latest COVID-19 data

- Omicron wave has peaked.
  - Latest surge is falling fast.
  - Find more COVID-19 data at [tpchd.org/covid19cases](https://tpchd.org/covid19cases).
- 69% of eligible residents vaccinated.
- Isolation and Quarantine easier.
- CDC shortened I&Q to 5 days.
  - 5 more days wearing mask.

**COVID-19: Should you quarantine or isolate?** Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
Healthy People in Healthy Communities

After you talk with your healthcare provider, what should you do?

**Quarantine** If you were in close contact to someone with COVID-19 and:

- Are unvaccinated, OR
- Need a booster.

Stay home for at least 5 days after your last contact. Don't go to work or school. Avoid public places.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Wear a mask near people for an additional 5 days.

You don't need to quarantine if you are fully vaccinated and get your booster dose.

Get tested 5 days after your last contact.

Symptoms can appear 2-14 days after exposure.

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle pain.
- Headache.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Stuffy or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

Check your temperature twice a day and monitor for symptoms until 14 days after close contact.

If you get any COVID-19 symptoms, isolate and call your healthcare provider.

**Isolate** If you:

- Are sick with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Test positive for COVID-19.

Stay home until:

- ✓ 24 hours after fever is gone without using medicine.
- AND
- ✓ Symptoms improve.
- AND
- ✓ 5 days after symptoms started or date tested if you don't have symptoms.

Don't go to work or school. Avoid public places.

Wear a mask near people for an additional 5 days.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

If you live with others, set up a room where you won't be around people or pets. Use a separate bathroom if possible.

Call your healthcare provider immediately if your symptoms get worse.

Call 911 if you have a medical emergency.

Tell the dispatcher you have or may have COVID-19. Wear a face covering before emergency medical services arrive or you go to the emergency department.

Participate in a public health interview. Health Department staff will call to review instructions and answer questions.

Learn more and stay updated at [tpchd.org/coronavirus](https://tpchd.org/coronavirus). Rev. 1/5/2022



# Testing

- More testing options available.
  - Local sites.
  - State and Federal Government.
  - Pharmacies.
- Find testing options at [tpchd.org/gettested](https://tpchd.org/gettested).
- You can order free tests from [www.covidtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) and [sayescovidhometest.org](https://sayescovidhometest.org)
- Libraries distribute test kits for free.



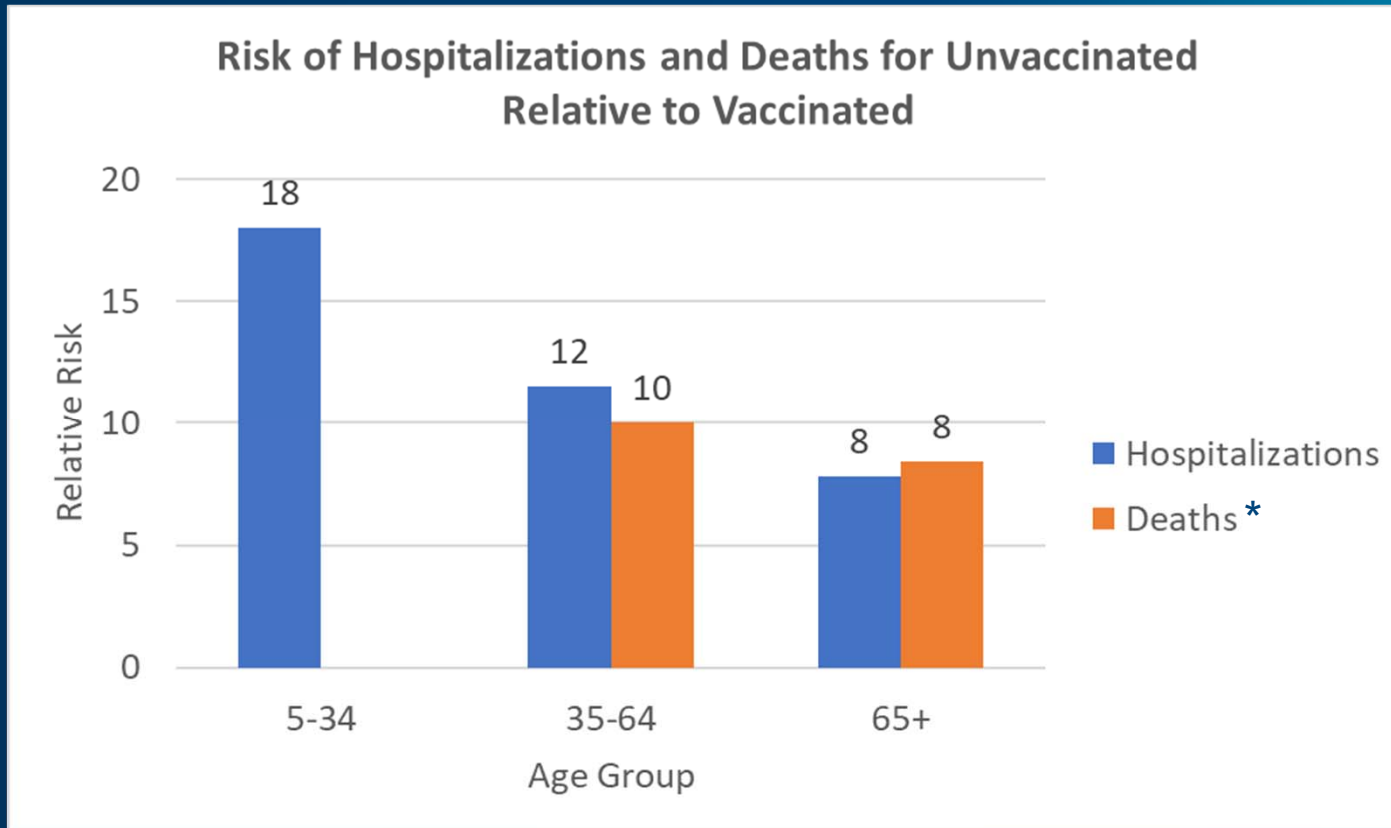
**Drive-thru testing at Washington State Fair Bronze Lot.**



# Mask guidance

- Indoor mask order to end March 21.
- Outdoor mask order ended earlier this month.
- Wear a mask that fits over your nose, mouth and under your chin.
- Choose a mask that offers high protection and is comfortable to wear.
  - Pick a mask with at least 2 layers to keep droplets out.
  - Can't see light through your mask.
- Different types of masks:
  - KN95/N95 masks
  - Paper or surgical masks
  - Cloth masks

# Vaccines work!



\* There were no deaths among the youngest age group

Interpretation: An unvaccinated 35- to 64-year-old is 10 times more likely to die from Covid-19 than someone that age who is vaccinated.

# Which vaccine is best for me?

- All the available vaccines protect you against COVID-19.
- CDC recommends the mRNA vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer) in most cases.
- You should get Johnson & Johnson if have a severe allergy to either mRNA vaccine.

# Booster doses

## Pfizer-BioNTech

- At least 5 months after 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> dose for everyone 12+.

## Moderna

- At least 5 months after 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> dose for everyone 18+.
- Booster dose is ½ amount of primary dose.

Mix and match: You can get a booster dose that's the same or different from your initial vaccine.

Pfizer or Moderna vaccines preferred.

# Should I get vaccinated even though I've had COVID-19?

- You should still get vaccinated if you've been infected.
  - Wait until your isolation period is over if you're sick.
  - Wait until you finish your quarantine period if you were exposed.
- Vaccination cuts the risk of having a second COVID infection by more than half.

# Where can I get COVID-19 vaccine?

- COVID-19 vaccine is easy to get and always free.
- Find your dose at [tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture](https://tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture).
- Call (253) 649-1412, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Check [tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture](https://tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture).
- Call your healthcare provider.
- Call local pharmacies.

You can get vaccine at:

The infographic is titled "You can get vaccine at:" and features six panels, each with an illustration and a caption. The panels are: 1. "Your healthcare provider's office." showing a female doctor and a male doctor. 2. "Pharmacies." showing a red pill bottle and an orange pill box with an 'Rx' symbol. 3. "Drive-thru events." showing a person in a car being vaccinated by a healthcare worker. 4. "Walk-up clinics." showing a line of people being vaccinated by a healthcare worker. 5. "Community clinics." showing an elderly person being vaccinated by a healthcare worker. 6. The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department logo and name, with the tagline "Healthy People in Healthy Communities".

Your healthcare provider's office.

Pharmacies.

Drive-thru events.

Walk-up clinics.

Community clinics.

Tacoma-Pierce County  
Health Department  
*Healthy People in Healthy Communities*

# Quarantine guidance

## **If you are not up to date on your vaccine:**

- Stay home for 5 days.
- Wear a mask around other people for an additional 5 days.
- Test immediately and stay home if you develop symptoms.
- Test on day 5 if you don't have symptoms.



# Quarantine guidance

**If you are up to date on your vaccine or had confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days, you don't need to quarantine.**

You should still:

- Wear a mask around other people for 10 days.
- Test immediately and stay home if you develop symptoms.
- Test on day 5 if you don't have symptoms.

Read and [share our infographic](#).

# Isolation guidance

You may return to normal activities:

- 24 hours after fever gone without use of fever reducing medications.
  - And your symptoms improve.
  - And 5 days after symptom started, or test date if no symptoms.
- If you take a test on day 5 and it's positive, stay away from others for 5 more days.

Wear a well-fitted mask around others for 5 more days.

## Do you need to quarantine or isolate?

Call your healthcare provider immediately if symptoms get worse.

Call 911 if you have a medical emergency.

- Tell the dispatcher you have or may have COVID-19. Wear a face covering when emergency medical services arrive.

# New therapies for COVID-19

- We have 4 new therapy options for COVID-19.
- Each reduces the risk of hospitalization and death.
- You need to start these therapies early in the infection. Once symptoms are severe or beyond 5 days, treatments aren't effective.
- We have a limited supply of these treatment options for now.
  - We are working with local health partners to rapidly and equitably distribute treatments.
- Talk with your healthcare provider to see if you are a candidate for this treatment.

# Keep Pierce County safe

- Prioritize vaccinations.
  - Stay up to date.
- Casual and Connected clinics.
  - Low-pressure approach.
- Partnership with schools.
- Data reporting.
  - We focus on bringing you useful and reliable stories about COVID-19 data.
- Encouraging healthy choices.



# Have questions? Want more information?

Visit [tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture](https://tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture).

Call (253) 649-1412.

Email [info@tpchd.org](mailto:info@tpchd.org).



# Community Presentations

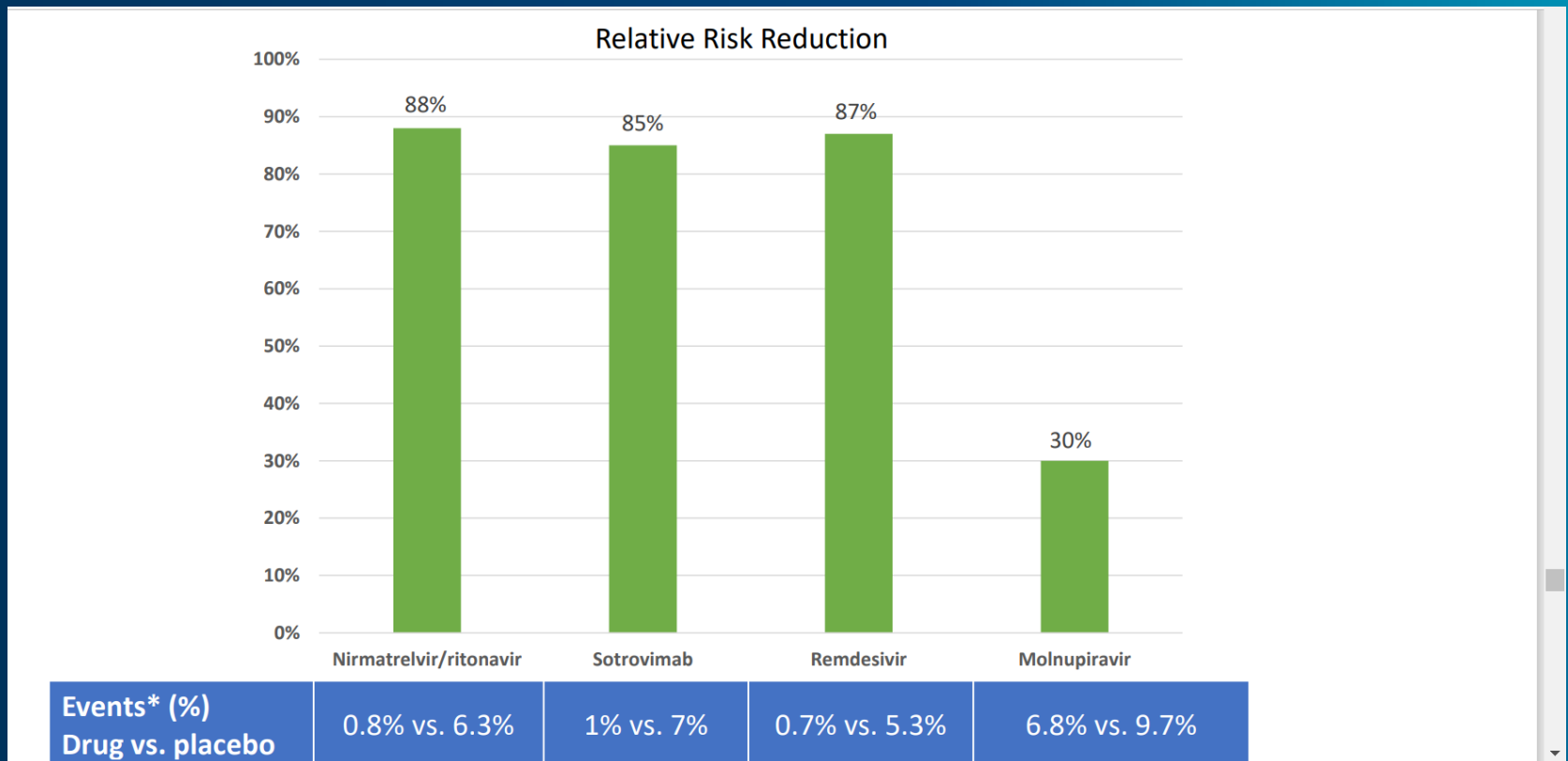
- Note taker: Write all questions down. Note which ones the presenter answered. Do not answer questions you don't know the answer to. Keep q/a time to last slide.
- Track all presentations in shared planning document.
- Plan for a 30-minute presentation.
- Jax will regularly update the presentation file. Please don't make changes to it. If you want to cut/change, download and make changes on your own computer.
- If you want Jax to present, let her know 2 weeks in advance.
- If you want to adapt to a specific population: send request at least 2 weeks in advance to [communications@tpchd.org](mailto:communications@tpchd.org) and include Jax as SME with clear instructions.
- Thank you! You all can do this. It's OK we're not experts.

# Pierce County Vaccination Data

- More than 1.3 million vaccine doses have been delivered to Pierce County residents.
- We continue to administer over 20K doses per week.
- 64% of eligible residents are fully vaccinated.
- More than 90% of people over 80 have had at least one dose.



# The most exciting development since vaccines



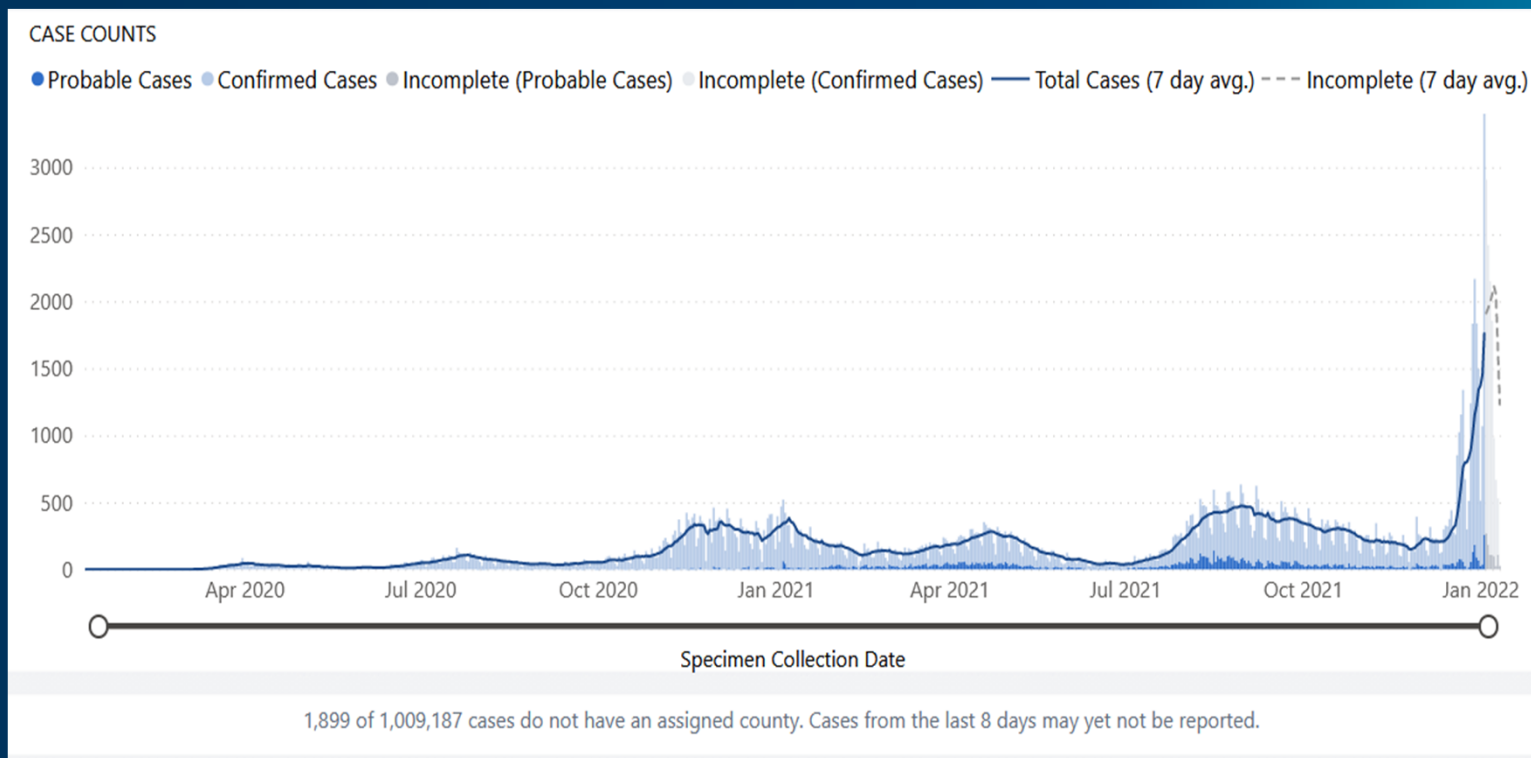


# How can I get tested for COVID-19?

- Get tested if you have symptoms.
- Find locations and hours for all sites at [tpchd.org/gettested](https://tpchd.org/gettested).
  - Some locations may require appointments.
- You can order 4 free tests from [www.covidtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov)
- Libraries throughout the county distribute PCR and Antigen test kits for free.
- We help businesses and organizations get free rapid tests.
- Watch for fraudulent testing sites. We promote free and safe testing sites on our website.

# Omicron variant in Pierce County

- Omicron is more contagious but, so far, less severe.
- If you're up to date on vaccine, you're better protected against serious illness, hospitalization and death.



# How can I get COVID-19 vaccine?

- Call (253) 649-1412, Monday-Friday  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Check [tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture](https://tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture).
- Check [vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov](https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov).
- Call your healthcare provider.
- Call local pharmacies.

