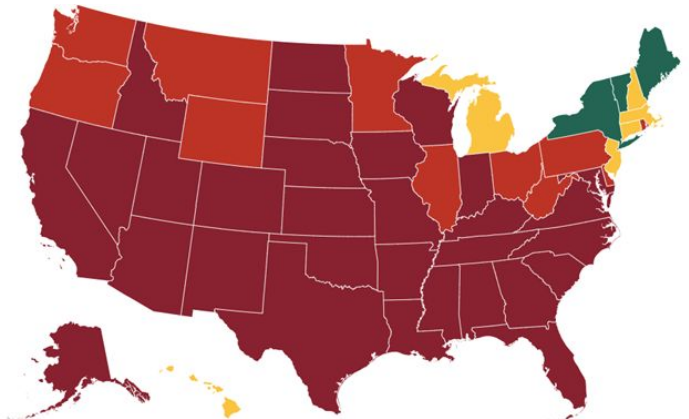# OPEN SAFE OREGON

Is the state effectively containing the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19")?
Weekly trends and risk assessment report for July 30, 2020

STATUS: RED

COVID Exit Strategy, a non-partisan group of public health and crisis experts, has been tracking the progress states have made towards containing COVID-19. However, the virus has reached levels in too many US states to plan for an immediate "reopening." Over 1,000 health professionals have now joined a call from USPIRG to shut down, start over, and do it right. We can still get COVID-19 under control, but it will require bold, coordinated, nationwide action: universal face coverings, shutting down high risk businesses, and a ban on non-essential interstate travel.
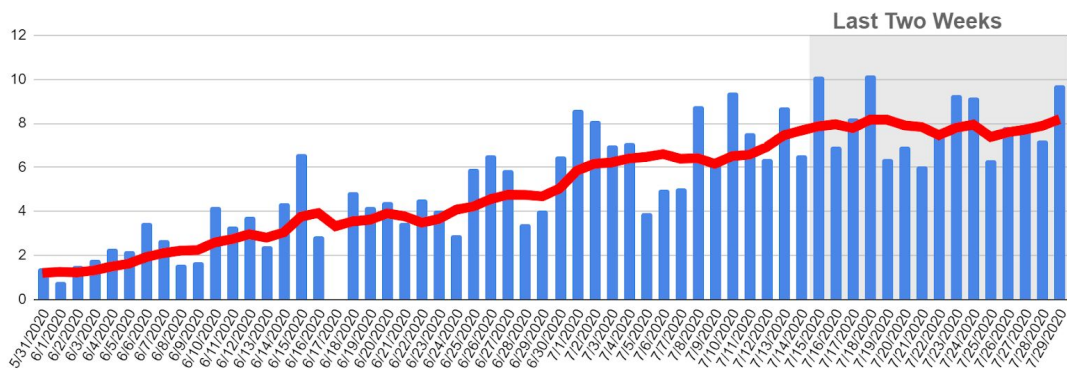
Map from COVID Exit Strategy, retrieved 7-30. Used with permission.

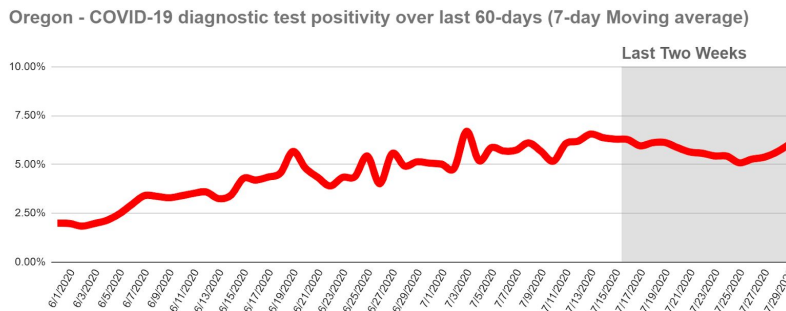# Benchmark: Daily cases per 100,000 population. Status: RED

Health experts recommend that a community maintain a rate of daily confirmed infections per 100,000 population below 3 to contain COVID-19. Infections have been growing in Oregon steadily since late May, now putting the 7-day moving average for daily new infections per 100,000 at 8, 5 higher than our target. To move to "Yellow" status, indicating a need for caution rather than a move back towards lockdown, this number would need to fall below 8.

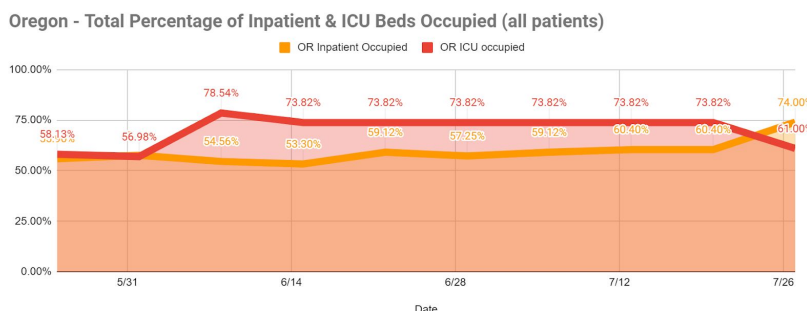Oregon - Daily cases per 100,000 population over 60 days

Last Two Weeks

Benchmark: Sufficient testing to track the spread. Status: YELLOW

To adequately track the spread of COVID-19, a state should have sufficient testing capacity such that [3% or less of tests are returned positive.](#) Oregon's 7-day average is 4%, 1% higher than the goal. To reach a "Green" rating, the state will need to expand testing and reach a test positivity rate less than 3%.

Oregon - COVID-19 diagnostic test positivity over last 60-days (7-day Moving average)

Last Two Weeks

Benchmark: Sufficient hospital capacity to avoid crisis care. Status: YELLOW

A state should have enough hospital and ICU beds available ([at least 20% over the last week](#)) to take care of all patients without resorting to crisis standards of care. [HHS reports](#) that Oregon hospitals are currently 74% full, and Oregon ICUs are 61% full. This meets the benchmark, but inpatient capacity is within 10% of the CDC recommended threshold, meriting caution. Inpatient occupancy will need to fall below 70% for the state to be rated "Green."

Oregon - Total Percentage of Inpatient & ICU Beds Occupied (all patients)

OR Inpatient Occupied   OR ICU occupied

Recommendations

Cases in Oregon have reached levels that will make containment through testing and tracing difficult if not impossible. We reopened before we were ready, and now we're seeing the consequences. Over 1,000 medical professionals have [joined a call from USPIRG](#) to shut down, start over, and do it right. We can still get COVID-19 under control, but it will require bold, coordinated, nationwide action: universal face coverings, shutting down high risk businesses, and a ban on non-essential interstate travel.

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Notes and Citations

● Photo Credit: Ketut Subiyato, www.Pexels.com, Pexels attribution license.
● Color rating is based on the recommendations of [COVID Exit Strategy.](#)
● Map graphic courtesy of [COVID Exit Strategy.](#)
● Test positivity & per capita case rate derived from Harvard Global Health Institutes's "[Key metrics for COVID-19 suppression.](#)"
● Hospital capacity recommendations derived from the CDC's "[Opening Up America Again](#)" framework, and [detailed guidance](#) released 5/19/2020.
● Current hospital capacity reports from [HHS Protect](#).
● Data for COVID+, test positivity, and concurrent hospitalizations derived from data collected by the [COVID Tracking Project](#).