



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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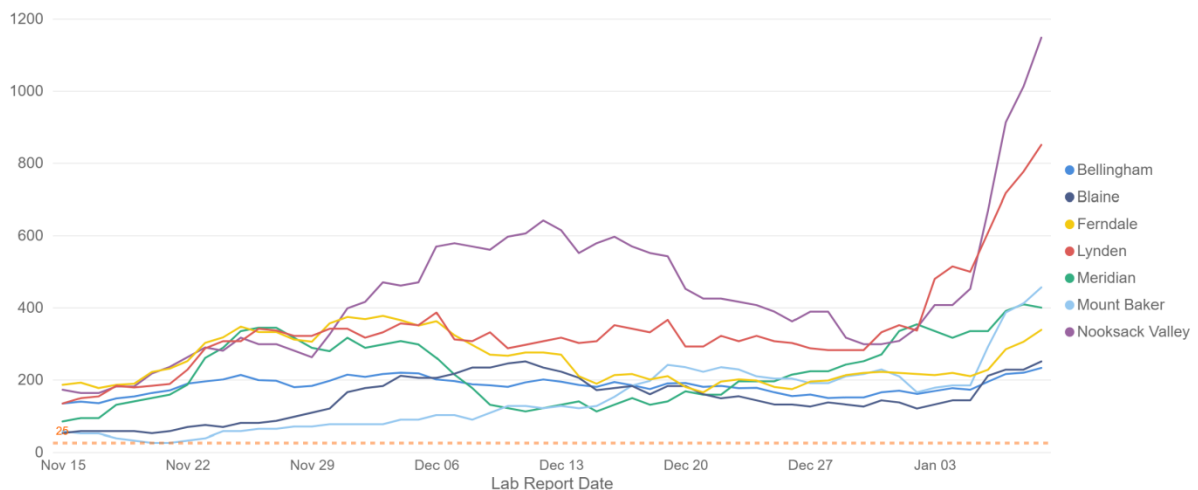
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Cases Take Off Across Whatcom County, Especially in North

Bellingham, WA - Recent data shows soaring case rates across all of Whatcom County, most strikingly in the north regions of the county. Cases have skyrocketed in the areas of Lynden and Nooksack Valley. The 14-day case rate is over three times higher in the Nooksack area than it was last week, and is over twice as high in Lynden.

Newly confirmed COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks, by Whatcom County School District Boundaries *see [Data Explainer](#) or [FAQs](#)

Data for the previous 8 weeks, 11/15/2020 - 01/09/2021

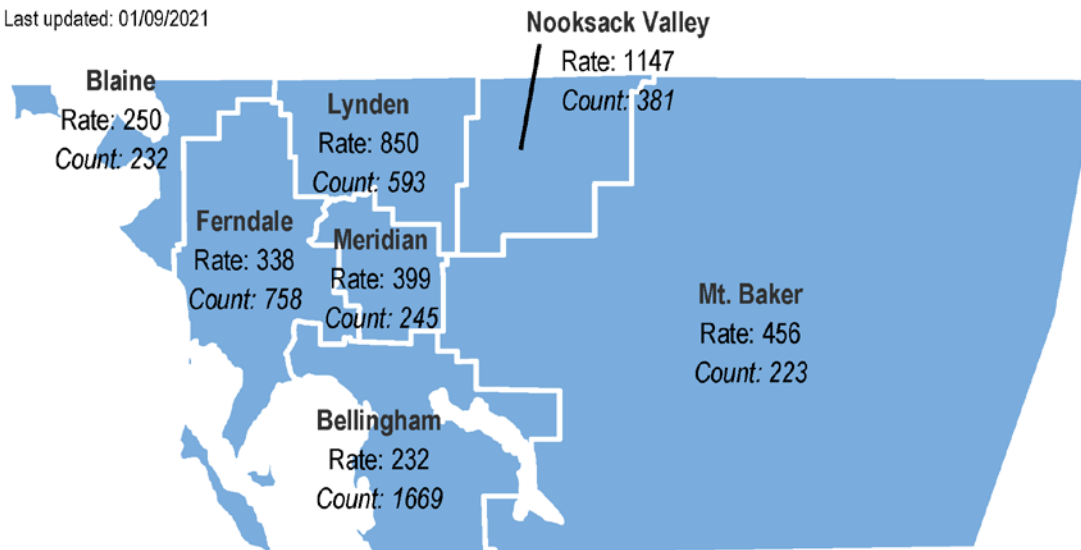


School district boundaries are used as geographical sub-units and are not indicators of transmission within schools.

Cases are rising across all Whatcom County, with the biggest increases seen in and around Nooksack Valley and Lynden.

COVID-19 in Whatcom County, by School District Boundaries: Recent Two Week Case Rates & Cumulative Counts

Last updated: 01/09/2021



Rate: Number of confirmed cases per 100,000 people for the past two weeks (12/27/20-1/9/21) *See [Data Explainer](#) for info

State Goal: Fewer than 25 cases per 100,000 people during the prior two weeks

Count: Cumulative cases of COVID-19

School district boundaries are used as geographical sub-units and are not indicators of transmission within schools.

When analyzing data geographically, school districts are used as community boundaries because people often identify their community in connection to schools and school districts.

The Nooksack Valley area's 14-day case rate is over three times higher than last week's, and the Lynden's rate is over twice as high than last week's.

The Whatcom County Health Department urges everyone in Whatcom County to take immediate preventive steps to protect themselves and their neighbors from a resurgent COVID-19. Without urgent action, rates will continue to rise and businesses will continue to be shuttered or operating at very low capacity. These steps include mask-wearing, physical distancing and frequent handwashing.

In the week following the Christmas holiday, 80% of known transmission sources were from social events and within households. This means that most of the new cases are contracted from friends and loved ones. The Whatcom County Health Department advises against social gatherings of any size with non-household members at this time.

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