

The Bulletin

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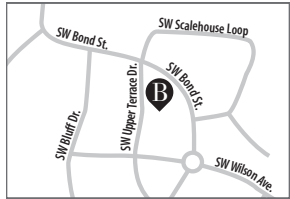
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Lottery results can now be found on the second page of Sports.

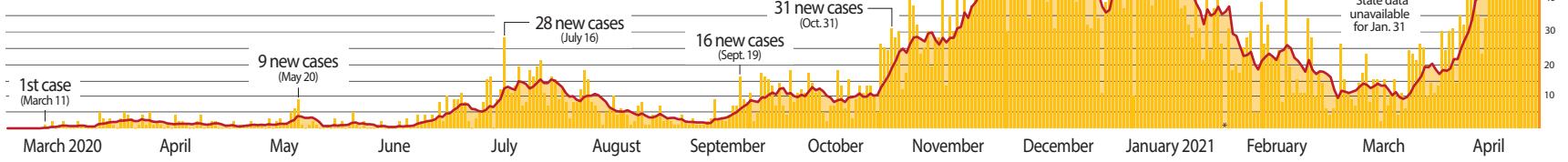
LOCAL, STATE & REGION

DESCHUTES COUNTY New COVID-19 cases per day

SOURCES: OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY, DESCHUTES COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES BULLETIN GRAPHIC

COVID-19 data for Wednesday, April 28:
Deschutes County cases: 7,822 (67 new cases)
Deschutes County deaths: 73 (zero new deaths)
Crook County cases: 967 (10 new cases)
Crook County deaths: 19 (zero new deaths)
Jefferson County cases: 2,105 (6 new cases)
Jefferson County deaths: 32 (zero new deaths)
Oregon cases: 182,916 (740 new cases)
Oregon deaths: 2,490 (2 new deaths)
COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Wednesday: 34 (4 in ICU)

What is COVID-19? A disease caused by a coronavirus. Symptoms (including fever and shortness of breath) can be severe, even fatal, though some cases are mild.
Ways to help limit its spread: 1. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. 2. Avoid touching your face. 3. Avoid close contact with sick people. 4. Stay 6 feet from others and wear a face covering or mask. 5. Cover a sneeze with a tissue or cough into your elbow. 6. Clean frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Oregonians' faith in democracy eroding, poll finds

BY ZANE SPARLING

Oregon Capital Bureau
Faith in democracy has dimmed.

After years of tumult, riots, economic uncertainty and low-blow politics — not to mention a global pandemic — nearly 7 out of every 10 Oregonians believe democracy has weakened across the United States over the past four years.

Residents describe a slightly more fortified state of affairs closer to home, with roughly 6 out of 10 statewide saying democracy in Oregon has diminished over the last four years.

The Oregon Values and Beliefs Center, a nonprofit created by DHM Research founder Adam Davis, compiled those results after surveying 600 residents, selected to be statistically representative of the state, in early March. The margin of error is 4%.

Here are the hard numbers:
• More than two thirds (69%) say American democracy has weakened in the past four years, compared with 22% who say it is stronger and 9% who were unsure. Seniors (77%) and self-identified liberals (78%) are more likely to see an attenuation of democratic strength, while conservatives (30%) and rural residents (33%) have a larger share who see American democracy as stronger now than before.

• Oregon democracy gets slightly higher marks, with one quarter of the population (25%) saying it has beefed up in the past four years, 61% saying it has weakened and 14% unsure. White people (63%) are significantly more likely to believe Oregon's representative government has weakened compared to non-white people (48%). Democrats (37%) and college grads (35%) are more likely to see the system as bulking up.

Despite their belief in a fal-

tering form of government, Oregonians are essentially split 50-50 when asked to rate their satisfaction with the way democracy actually performs, on Capitol Hill and in Salem.

• Nearly half (45%) are satisfied with American democracy, compared to 51% who aren't and 4% who are unsure. Portland metro area (49%) and Democrats (57%) are more likely to be satisfied, compared with more than half of suburbanites (56%) and Republicans (55%) who said they aren't satisfied.

• Once again, Oregon scores a tad higher than America as a whole, with 49% satisfied with Oregon democracy and 46% unsatisfied and 4% unsure. Urban dwellers (59%) are statistically more likely to be satisfied than rural residents (34%).

The Oregon Values and Beliefs Center asked poll respondents to describe why they believe Oregon democracy has strengthened — or weakened — over the past four years. Here's what they said:

It has strengthened:
• "Because we have Democratic leadership. States with the GOP are severely hurting us."

• "More acceptance of people of color."
• "People in Oregon care about what is going on and take action."

• "Because of our governor, Kate Brown."

It has weakened:
• "One party rule. GOP has become more irrelevant and radical. No real counter to Democrats."

• "We don't seem to care much that our governor's 'emergency COVID powers' have gone on for a year."

• "Liberals... they want larger government, more controls and higher taxes."

• "An uptick in violence in the larger cities."



Residents wearing masks walk in downtown Lake Oswego on April 11. Gov. Kate Brown said Tuesday rising COVID-19 hospitalizations threaten to overwhelm doctors. She is moving 15 counties into the extreme risk category, which imposes restrictions including banning indoor restaurant dining. Gillian Flaccus/AP file

Deja vu: Northwest going into another shutdown cycle

BY ANDREW SELSKY

Associated Press

When the coronavirus pandemic hit the Pacific Northwest states of Oregon and Washington, their governors quickly reacted with shutdowns.

Now they are about to impose new restrictions again as infections and hospitalizations rise to alarming levels.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown is putting 15 counties that encompass the state's biggest cities into the extreme risk category starting Friday, imposing restrictions that include banning indoor restaurant dining.

"If we don't act now, doctors, nurses, hospitals, and other health care providers in Oregon will be stretched to their limits treating severe cases of COVID-19," Brown said.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee is expected to order new restrictions next week for several counties, likely including the state's largest, that would force businesses and churches to reduce their indoor gathering capacity from 50% to 25%.

Inslee will decide which counties need to be rolled back to Phase 2 of his reopening plan after an evaluation of public health safety benchmark numbers. The public health director for King County, which includes Seattle, expects it will be included in Inslee's order.

The moves come, ironically, as the supply of vaccines in many places is exceeding demand. "There are appointments available right now all across the state," Brown said.

For example, the public health director for Umatilla County, which was downgraded Tuesday from the moderate to the high-risk category, told state officials it can send last week's vaccine allocation somewhere else and will likely do so again this week.

The restaurant sector objected to Brown's action, with the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association declaring that the state lost more than 1,000 food service businesses in 2020 and that 200 more closed permanently so far this year.

"The move by the governor's office is tone deaf and offensive to tens of thousands of Oregonians working in restaurants and bars across our state attempting to pay their bills," said Jason Brandt, the group's president and CEO.

Brown's office said she is partnering with state lawmakers to approve a \$20 million small-business emergency relief package to immediately support affected businesses in extreme risk counties through the commercial rent relief program.

In the Oregon Senate on Wednesday, Republicans accused Brown of "reimposing draconian, undemocratic lockdowns that threaten the livelihoods of tens of thousands of Oregonians."

Brown, aiming to soften the blow to businesses, is also increasing the outdoor capacity limits for bars, restaurants and other sectors from 50 to 100 people in extreme-risk counties as long as they have physical distancing and other safety measures in place.

OHSU settles over TikTok doc's alleged harassment for \$585K

BY MAXINE BERNSTEIN

The Oregonian

Oregon Health & Science University has agreed to pay \$585,000 to settle a multimillion-dollar federal lawsuit brought by a social worker who accused a former anesthesiology resident of sexually assaulting her and the school of failing to take action.

The university also issued an apology to the woman in a statement released Tuesday and said she will be invited to participate in former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's independent investigation of OHSU's handling of sexual misconduct and discrimination complaints.

She alleged that Dr. Jason Campbell harassed her from January through March

last year, sending her a pornographic photo of himself and sexually charged text messages and then creeping up behind her in her office and forcibly pressing against her so she could feel his erection.

Campbell had gained fame on social media, becoming known as the TikTok Doc for his dance videos in hospital scrubs that went viral during the pandemic.

Campbell was referred for dismissal but resigned from his residency Oct. 23, according to the university.

The social worker isn't named in the suit.

OHSU has hired Holder to do a broader review of sexual harassment and discrimination complaints.



Campbell

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