

# The Bulletin

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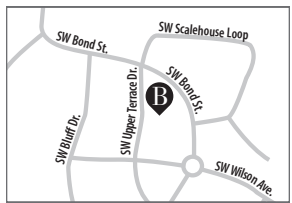
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# LOCAL, STATE & REGION

## COVID-19 data for Friday, Aug. 20

**Deschutes County cases:** 12,430 (147 new cases)  
**Deschutes County deaths:** 89 (1 new death\*)  
**Crook County cases:** 1,650 (13 new cases)  
**Crook County deaths:** 29 (zero new deaths)  
**Jefferson County cases:** 2,704 (13 new cases)  
**Jefferson County deaths:** 44 (zero new deaths)

**Oregon cases:** 252,977 (2,187 new cases)

**Oregon deaths:** 3,012 (19 new deaths)

\*Oregon's 2,994th COVID-19 associated death is an 87-year-old man from Deschutes County who tested positive on Aug. 11 and died on Aug. 19 at his residence. He had underlying conditions.

**COVID-19 patients hospitalized at St. Charles Bend on Friday:** 59 (12 in ICU)

The Bulletin had been tracking the seven-day average case count based on state data since local coronavirus cases were first reported in March of last year.

Starting with the July Fourth weekend, the state stopped providing county-level data for weekends or holidays. When data is available, The Bulletin will continue to publish information about the pandemic.

## PORTLAND

# Leaders, advocates denounce hate, violence

BY JACK FORREST

The Oregonian

A series of news conferences was held Friday ahead of a right-wing gathering expected Sunday at Portland's waterfront that officials say could lead to violent clashes seen at previous events.

Portland activist groups Friday morning held a news conference denouncing the actions of far-right groups and demanding answers from elected officials. Shortly after, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler hosted a separate event online with various community leaders titled "Choose Love: A Community Gathering to Denounce Hate and Violence in Portland."

A third news conference, held online Friday afternoon, saw Wheeler and Portland Police Chief Chuck Lovell directly address for the first time a "variety of potentially large gatherings," according to the mayor.

"I want to be clear, no permits have been requested or issued for these events," Wheeler told reporters.

Such gatherings of right-wing groups previously have drawn opposition from left-wings groups, causing tensions between the two factions to boil over into outright brawls. Lovell said police won't line up between potentially clashing protesters, but instead officers will be monitoring in case demonstrators break the law.

"Acting out violently or causing injuries to other people are not constitutional rights," Lovell said. "Violence is avoidable, and people should choose to act peacefully, even with those they disagree with. People can and should keep themselves apart and choose to avoid physical, violent confrontations."

"My message today is simple. If you're considering



Beth Nakamura/The Oregonian

Philip J. Wolfe speaks at the Don't Shoot PDX news conference in Portland on Friday.

coming downtown to fight, threaten people or participate in violence stay away. If people do engage in violent activity or property destruction, they face arrest and prosecution," the chief said.

Friday's first event was held at 9 a.m. in front of an art exhibit on Northwest Flanders Street showcasing Instagram posts with #Don'tShootPDX shared during racial justice protests in Portland.

Leaders from Don't Shoot Portland, Oregon Justice Resource, Mental Health Association of Portland, Portland Interfaith Clergy Resistance, United Mutual Aid, activist Philip Wolfe, all gave short speeches outlining concerns about Sunday, hopes for the city and denouncements of public officials.

Multiple leaders, including Juan Chavez of Oregon Justice Resource and Teresa Raiford of Don't Shoot Portland, called for the resignation of top Portland officials, including Portland Police Chief Chuck Lovell and Wheeler. They demanded

City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty take over Wheeler's position as police commissioner.

### Far-right gatherings

Speakers denounced potential far-right gatherings set to take place Sunday afternoon at the Portland waterfront.

"We know from the history of this country that police forces and local governments use, or look the other way, paramilitaries and militias to enforce the status quo," Chavez said. "Whether it's slavery, Jim Crow, anti-homeless laws or sundown laws, this weekend will be no different. And make no mistake, the Proud Boys don't come in peace."

Chavez's comment refers to a poster decked out with rainbow peace signs and flowers, for a "Summer of Love" event scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday on the waterfront that reads: "Patriots Spreading LOVE not HATE." No organizing group is identified, and it doesn't name the Proud Boys, though members of the right-wing group

have been involved in previous clashes at similar events.

Flyers were also passed out at the event held Friday morning to counter the Sunday event. The flyers encourage people to "Stand against racism, white supremacy and ethno-nationalism."

Later in the morning at the virtual event, Wheeler pointed to the "thousands" of volunteers that had turned out in recent months to participate in cleanup events and distribute food and water as the antithesis to the groups coming to the city Sunday.

"Hate and hate groups have no place in our city. Violence has no place in our city. Bigotry has no place in our city," Wheeler said. "I know that I speak for all Portlanders when I say we will not tolerate acts of violence, prejudice or intimidation."

Wheeler was joined by Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury, District Attorney Mike Schmidt and Metro Council President Lynn Peterson, who seemed to concede

that an online event alone was unlikely to persuade anyone intent on coming to the city with violent intentions.

"I hold out little hope that any Proud Boys are going to listen to the Metro Council president when she says we don't want you here. And I don't think many counter protesters will be surprised to hear the Metro council president say, 'Don't take their bait,'" she said.

"But I hope that all those thinking about fighting in our community this weekend see the strength, unity, diversity, love, empathy and genuine care for the people in our community on display here today," she continued. "I hope enough of our words made it through."

Nearly two weeks ago, on Aug. 7 and 8, opposing groups brawled against a backdrop of two religious events that drew crowds to the downtown area. At events Saturday and Sunday, people fought and used bear spray, airsoft guns, paintball guns and possibly other weapons.

The event planned for Sunday comes on the one-year anniversary of another raucous clash between opposing political ideologies. On Aug. 22, 2020, a series of tense and violent dueling rallies by left- and right-wing protesters took over Portland's downtown core near the Justice Center. At least one member of the right-wing group, Allen Swinney, was seen pointing a handgun at counter-protesters during the melee, and police did little to intervene.

Swinney, 50, was later arrested and has pleaded not guilty to a 12-count indictment on charges including second-degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon, unlawful use of force, pointing a gun at another person and menacing.

■ Oregonian/OregonLive reporter Kale Williams contributed to this report.

## LOCAL BRIEFING

### OSU to require vaccination proof to attend events

Oregon State University announced Friday that people attending university athletic events, concerts, conferences and other events will be required to show proof of vaccination against the coronavirus or a negative test result.

The new policy takes effect Monday and is in response to the rise in virus cases.

Attendees will be required to present their federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention vaccination record card or a photocopy or photo of the card.

Those who do not have proof of vaccination will need

to show documentation of a negative test taken within three days of the event.

Home tests will not be accepted.

People must be fully vaccinated, but children under 12 do not need to provide proof of vaccination or a negative test result.

— Bulletin staff report

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