

Link to the data tool: <https://www.communitiescount.org/covid19vulnerable>

What is the purpose of the data tool?

This tool shows data about which areas in King County may be more vulnerable to COVID-19. People can use this information to direct resources to vulnerable communities.

What does the tool show?

- Maps of King County, with darkest shaded areas showing neighborhoods or school districts that have the highest number of people or highest rates
- Cities and neighborhoods sorted from the highest to the lowest by counts or rates by vulnerability indicator
- Number and percent of people within each race/ethnic group that experience each condition
- For student needs, school districts sorted from highest to lowest counts or rates by vulnerability indicator

Which indicators are included?

- Indicators include those that the CDC identified in March 2020 as being at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19, including:
 - Adults over age 60;
 - Adults with heart disease, lung disease (including COPD and asthma), or diabetes;
 - People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] 40+)
 - People who are pregnant (using birth rate as a proxy measure)
- The number and percent of people in each city/neighborhood who identify with each race/ethnic group.
- The tool also includes potential proxy measures of groups that may have insufficient resources to prepare for or be resilient to COVID-19. These include:
 - living below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level;
 - having no health insurance;
 - having no primary care provider;
 - limited English speaking households and individuals;
 - students eligible for free and reduced price meals;
 - students experiencing food insecurity;
 - students experiencing homelessness;
 - caregivers without someone to turn to for day-to-day support with raising children

Why does the tool include these data? Why doesn't it include data about [other group / health condition]?

- Public Health - Seattle & King County analyzed available data to identify groups that may be most impacted by COVID-19 and the orders to *Stay Home, Stay Healthy*.
- We focused on the groups that the CDC identified in March 2020 as the highest risk for severe illness.
- We also chose proxy measures that were readily available for groups that may face additional challenges in preparing for or meeting basic needs during social distancing orders:
 - **Uninsured:** People without health insurance may delay or avoid needed care, which can be dangerous if the disease becomes serious.

- **No personal doctor:** It is recommended that people call their primary care provider before visiting a health care facility. Adults who do not have a personal doctor may encounter additional barriers in seeking adequate health care.
- **Poverty:** People living in poverty have limited resources for foods, supplies, and housing, etc.
- **Limited English speaking:** people in households in which no one age 14+ speaks English very well may encounter difficulties in seeking help and health care or receiving timely information.
- **Students who receive free or reduced price meals:** Students from low-income families may have difficulties in having adequate and nutritious meals due to school closures.
- **Student homelessness:** when an airborne disease becomes prevalent and schools are closed, students experiencing homelessness may face additional problems and need more assistance.
- These proxy measures do not represent all groups that may face increased risks, challenges or needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. We may add additional data about other groups in the future.

Why does the tool include data by race/ethnicity?

- The data tool shows the number and percent of the population in each city or neighborhood that identifies with a specific race or ethnic group.
- Early data suggest that certain race and ethnic groups are experiencing disproportionately high rates of COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death.
- Due to historic and ongoing systemic racism and discrimination, people in certain race and ethnic groups experience worse social, economic, and health outcomes than other groups. These social, economic, and health conditions may place these groups at higher risk of severe COVID-19 illness (the disease caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2) and/or make them more likely to experience hardship due to the social distancing orders and economic impacts of the pandemic.
- Due to small sample sizes, the tool does not display rates of each indicator by geography x race/ethnicity in order to protect privacy and ensure valid estimates.

Where do these data come from?

The data come from the Washington State Department Office of Financial Management; the Washington State Department of Health; the United States Census Bureau; the Washington State Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction; The Washington State Healthy Youth Survey; and the King County Best Starts for Kids Health Survey. A full list of data sources is available in the “Data Sources” tab in the data tool.

Where in King County are the most people at risk?

This depends on the indicator and whether we are looking at numbers of people or rates. For example, West Seattle has the highest number of adults over age 60, but Federal Way has the highest number with high-risk chronic diseases. The [PDF summary](#) of the data tool summarizes the findings.

Who is not included in this tool?

Some of the data come from surveys including the American Community Survey (poverty, limited English, uninsured) and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (no personal doctor, health conditions). These surveys do not include adults living in congregate settings such as long-term care facilities, shelters and other congregate settings where risk of COVID-19 transmission may be higher.

Where do I find the number of COVID-19 cases by city or ZIP code?

Public Health—Seattle & King County announces daily updates to COVID-19 cases and deaths in a separate data dashboard available at: www.kingcounty.gov/covid/data.

How can we prevent the spread of COVID-19 in these communities?

Visit the Public Health [COVID-19 website](http://www.kingcounty.gov/covid) for the most up-to-date information and guidance on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19: www.kingcounty.gov/covid

Where can we find resources to help people in these communities who may be impacted by school or workplace closures and the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order?

Visit the King County Department of Community and Human Services' [COVID-19 website](http://www.kingcounty.gov/covid) for links to community and school resources including information on housing, behavioral health services, and free meal distribution sites for student. The King County [Regional Donations Connector](http://www.kingcounty.gov/covid) has additional information on ways for individuals and organizations to request or donate resources.

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www.communitiescount.org



communitiescount@kingcounty.gov



206-263-8786