

Snohomish County COVID-19 Outbreaks

October 28, 2020

COVID-19 facility and employer outbreaks have been occurring in Snohomish County since February 2020. As of October 28, 2020, there have been 203 outbreaks reported. Long-term care facilities (LTCF), including adult family homes, are the most common site of COVID outbreaks (figure 1, table 1). The second most common site is childcare facilities, followed by construction sites, restaurants and retail locations.

Healthcare associated outbreaks are unique from non-healthcare in response activities and infection control implications. Outbreaks in long-term care facilities and adult family homes are defined by the Washington State Department of Health as:

1. one PCR confirmed case of COVID-19 in either facility staff or a resident, OR
2. one resident with severe respiratory infection resulting in hospitalization or death, OR
3. Two or more residents or healthcare workers with new-onset respiratory symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 72 hours of each other

All other healthcare facility outbreaks are defined the same as non-healthcare associated outbreaks (see below).

There were 74 healthcare associated outbreaks which accounted for 673 cases of COVID-19 (table 2). Over two-thirds were in long-term care facilities (skilled nursing and assisted living). The next most common site of healthcare associated outbreaks is adult family homes. Healthcare associated outbreaks were among the first outbreaks identified. They peaked in March and bumped up again in July and August (figure 2).

Non-healthcare outbreaks consist of childcares, places of employment, faith-based organizations, and community and social events. A non-healthcare outbreak is defined as:

1. Two or more laboratory-positive (PCR or antigen) cases, AND
2. At least two of the cases have symptom onset dates within 14 days of each other, AND
3. Plausible epidemiological evidence of transmission in the workplace or related setting, AND
4. No other known epidemiological link outside of the workplace or related setting.

Community and social event outbreaks are defined as 5 or more cases associated with a specific community group or social event.

There were 129 non-healthcare outbreaks involving 678 cases of COVID-19 (table 3). Childcares are the most common site of COVID-19 outbreak. There were 21 childcare associated outbreaks involving 72 cases. Other common sites of employment-associated outbreaks were construction sites (n=19), restaurants (n=15), and retail (n=13). Non-healthcare outbreaks peaked in July along with the increase in cases seen in younger age groups (figure 3).

Figure 1: Snohomish County COVID-19 outbreaks by site February-October 28, 2020

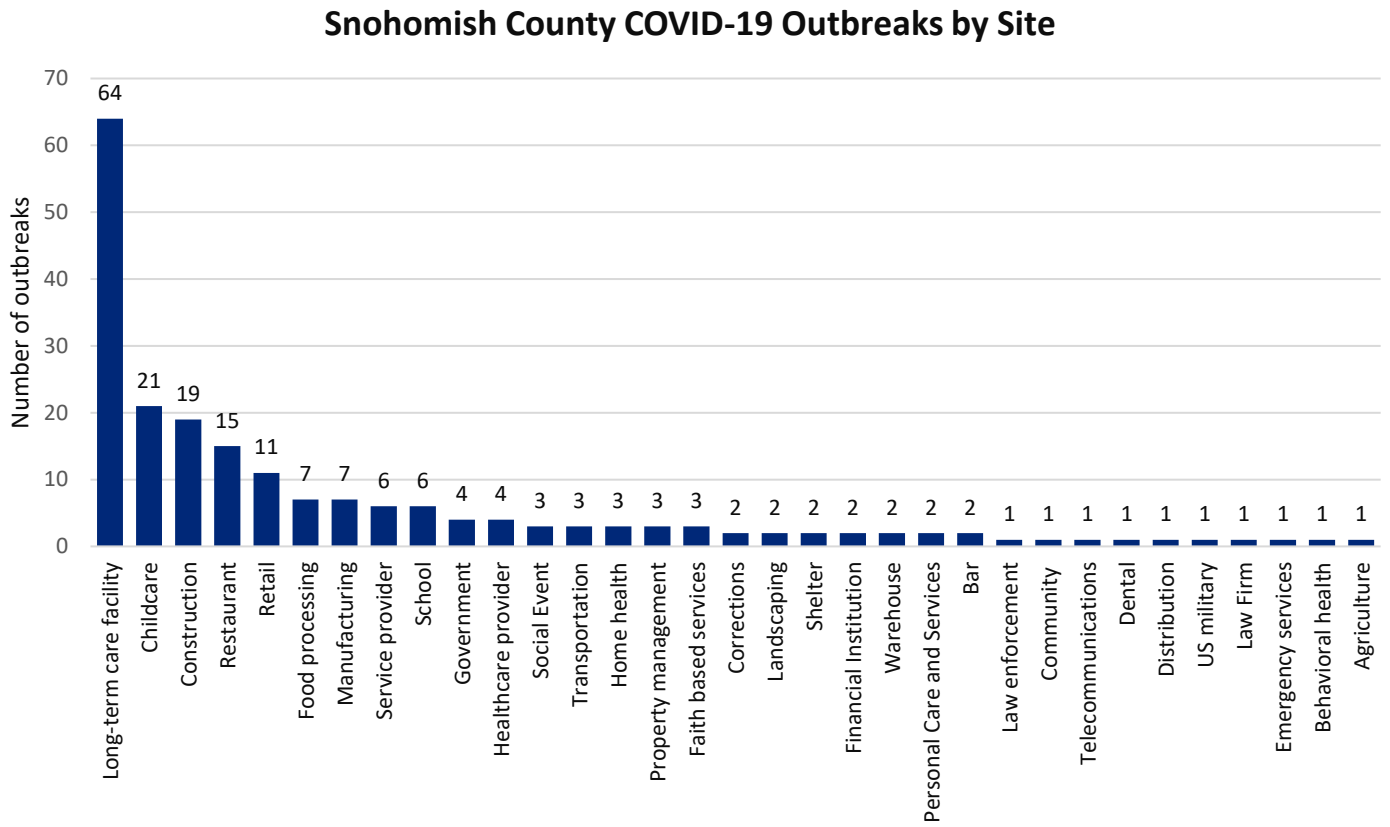


Table 1: Snohomish County COVID-19 outbreaks by site, February-October 28, 2020

Site of outbreak	Number	Percent	Number of cases	Median	Range
Adult family home	14	6.9%	60	4	2-10
Agriculture	1	0.5%	<5	N/A	N/A
Bar	2	1.0%	8	4	2-6
Behavioral health	1	0.5%	<5	N/A	N/A
Childcare	21	10.3%	72	3	2-7
Community	1	0.5%	141	N/A	N/A
Construction	19	9.4%	60	3	2-7
Corrections	2	1.0%	79	39.5	4-75
Dental	1	0.5%	<5	N/A	N/A
Distribution	1	0.5%	5	N/A	N/A
Emergency services	1	0.5%	<5	N/A	N/A
Faith based services	3	1.5%	11	2	2-7
Financial Institution	2	1.0%	5	2.5	2-3
Food processing	7	3.4%	25	3	2-7
Government	4	2.0%	11	3	2-3
Healthcare provider	4	2.0%	9	2	2-3
Home health	3	1.5%	24	4	3-17
Landscaping	2	1.0%	6	3	2-4
Law enforcement	1	0.5%	<5	N/A	N/A
Law Firm	1	0.5%	<5	N/A	N/A
Long-term care facility	50	24.6%	570	3	1-78
Manufacturing	7	3.4%	28	4	2-8
Personal Care and Services	2	1.0%	<5	2	2
Property management	3	0.5%	13	4	2-7
Restaurant	15	7.4%	52	3	2-7
Retail	11	5.4%	29	2	2-8
School	6	3.0%	18	3	2-4
Service provider	6	3.0%	27	4	2-8
Shelter	2	1.0%	6	3	2-4
Social Event	3	1.5%	18	5	5-8
Telecommunications	1	0.5%	12	N/A	N/A
Transportation	3	1.5%	13	4	2-7
US military	1	0.5%	14	N/A	N/A
Warehouse	2	1.0%	11	5.5	5-6
Grand Total	203	100.0%			

Table 2: Healthcare associated COVID-19 outbreaks by site, February-October 28,2020

Site	Number	Percent	Number of cases	Median	Range
Long-term care facility	50	67.6%	570	3	1-78
Adult family home	14	18.9%	60	4	2-10
Healthcare provider	4	5.4%	9	2	2-3
Home health	3	4.1%	24	4	3-17
Behavioral health	1	1.4%	<5	N/A	N/A
Dental	1	1.4%	<5	N/A	N/A
Emergency services	1	1.4%	<5	N/A	N/A
Grand Total	74	100.0%	673	3	1-78

Figure 2: Healthcare associated COVID-19 outbreaks by month onset of first case, February-October 28,2020

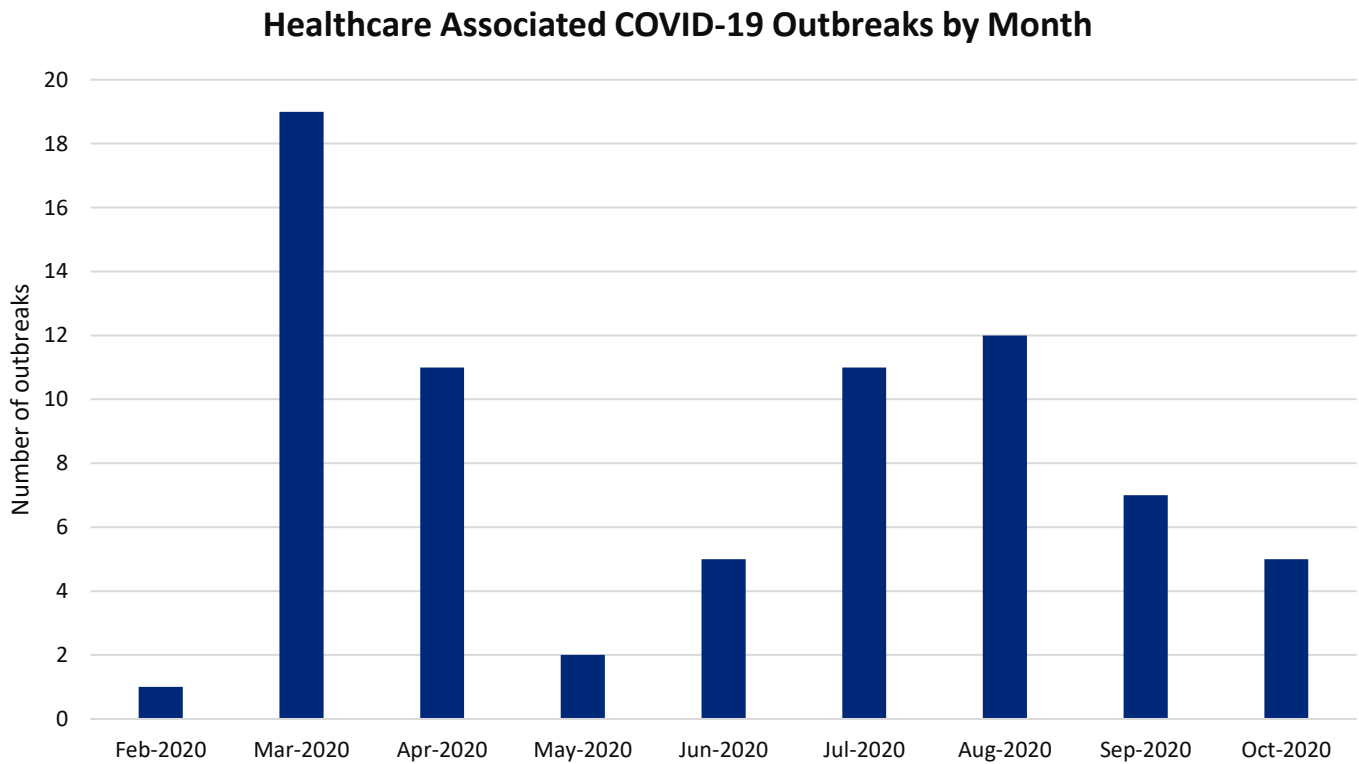


Table 3: Non-healthcare associated COVID-19 outbreaks by site, February-October 28, 2020

Site	Number	Percent	Number of cases	Median	Range
Childcare	21	16.3%	72	3	2-7
Construction	19	14.7%	60	3	2-7
Restaurant	15	11.6%	52	3	2-7
Retail	11	8.5%	29	2	2-8
Manufacturing	7	5.4%	28	4	2-8
Food processing	7	5.4%	25	3	2-7
School	6	4.7%	18	3	2-4
Service provider	5	3.9%	27	4	2-8
Government	4	3.1%	11	3	2-3
Transportation	3	2.3%	13	4	2-7
Social Event	3	2.3%	18	5	5-8
Faith based services	3	2.3%	11	2	2-7
Property management	3	0.5%	13	4	2-7
Bar	2	1.6%	8	4	2-6
Shelter	2	1.6%	6	3	2-4
Personal Care and Services	2	1.6%	<5	2	2
Corrections	2	1.6%	79	39.5	4-75
Financial Institution	2	1.6%	5	2.5	2-3
Landscaping	2	1.6%	6	3	2-4
Warehouse	2	1.6%	11	5.5	5-6
Agriculture	1	0.8%	<5	N/A	N/A
Telecommunications	1	0.8%	12	N/A	N/A
Community	1	0.8%	141	N/A	N/A
Distribution	1	0.8%	5	N/A	N/A
US military	1	0.8%	14	N/A	N/A
Law enforcement	1	0.8%	<5	N/A	N/A
Law Firm	1	0.8%	<5	N/A	N/A
Grand Total	129	100.0%	678	3	2-141

Graph 3: Non-healthcare associated COVID-19 outbreaks by month onset of first case, February-October 28, 2020

