



Media Release

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Outbreak Among Costco Staff Members

YAKIMA, WA – At least 68 staff members at Costco have tested positive for COVID-19 over the past week. The Yakima Health District (YHD) has been working with Costco to investigate the cause for this outbreak. YHD has worked with Costco to ensure that all identified staff members isolate and quarantine and that all safety guidelines are being followed. Costco is currently conducting widespread testing of employees as directed by the Yakima Health District.

“The Yakima Health District conducted a site visit on December 23, 2020 and concluded that there was not an increased risk of COVID-19 transmission to the public so long as staff and customers continue to follow safety precautions.” Said Dr. Larry Jecha, Interim Health Officer at the Yakima Health District.

Yakima County has seen a significant increase in COVID-19 cases over the last few weeks. All community members should take safety precautions as if they, and others, may already be infected with the COVID-19 virus.

To reduce the risk of continued spread of COVID-19 all community members should:

- Avoid close contact (within 6 feet of distance for a total of 15 minutes) with anyone outside of their household
- Always wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose when in public and close to others from outside of their household
- Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds
- Sanitize frequently used surfaces frequently
- Stay home if sick, for any reason

For more information on how to safely celebrate this holiday season you can visit

www.yakimahealthdistrict.org .

Resources:

[Yakima County COVID-19 Data](#)

[WA DOH Guide to Safer Gatherings](#)

[What To Do if You Were Exposed to COVID-19](#)

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