

State of King County Bellevue City Council

September 27, 2021

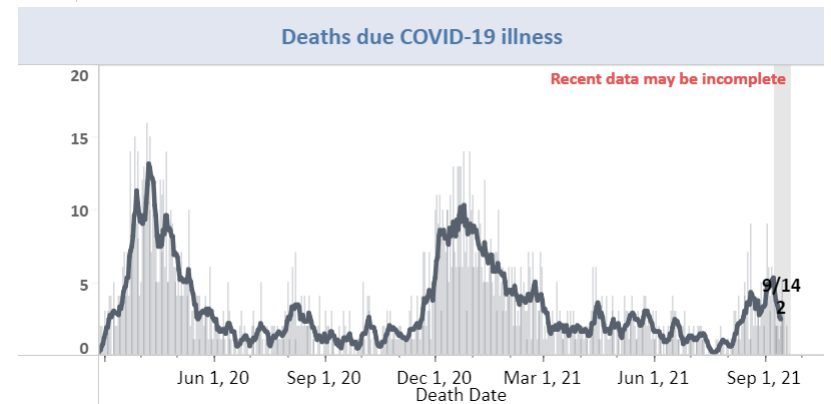
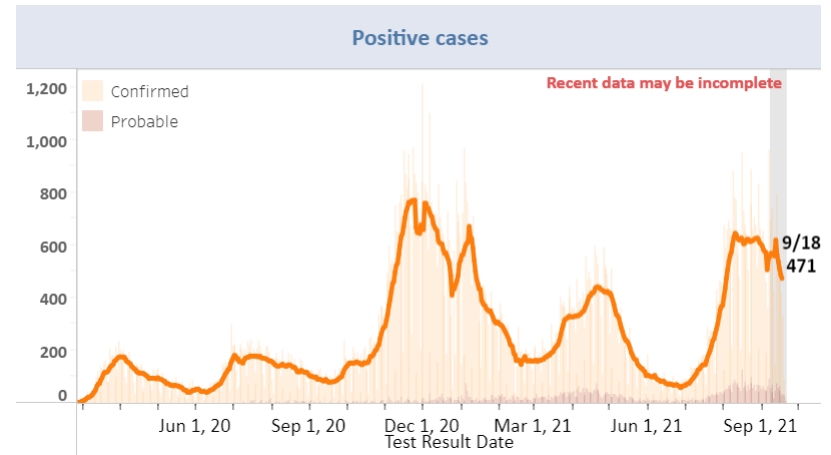
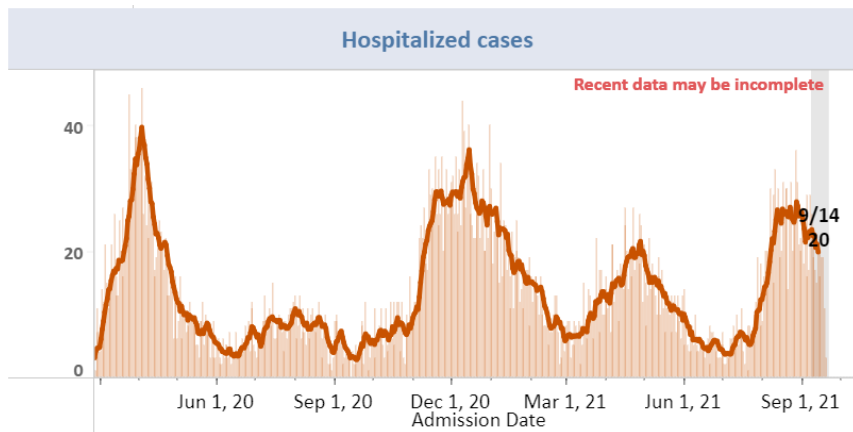
King County Councilmember
Reagan Dunn
District 9



COVID-19 CASE UPDATE

Since July, we have seen a spike in new cases and hospitalizations due to the rise of the Delta variant.

Sept 21, 2021	7-day average	14-Day Total
New Cases	471	6,822
Hospitalizations	20	236
Deaths	3	31



COVID-19 CASE UPDATE

The risk of infection, hospitalization, and death is much higher among the unvaccinated.

- In the past 30 days:

	Vaccinated	Unvaccinated
Positive Cases	31%	69%
Hospitalizations	17%	83%
Deaths	25%	75%

- The majority of breakthrough cases are not serious and do not cause death or require hospitalization.

Cases

People who are **not fully vaccinated** are:

7x

more likely to test positive for COVID-19

Hospitalizations

People who are **not fully vaccinated** are:

41x

more likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19

Deaths

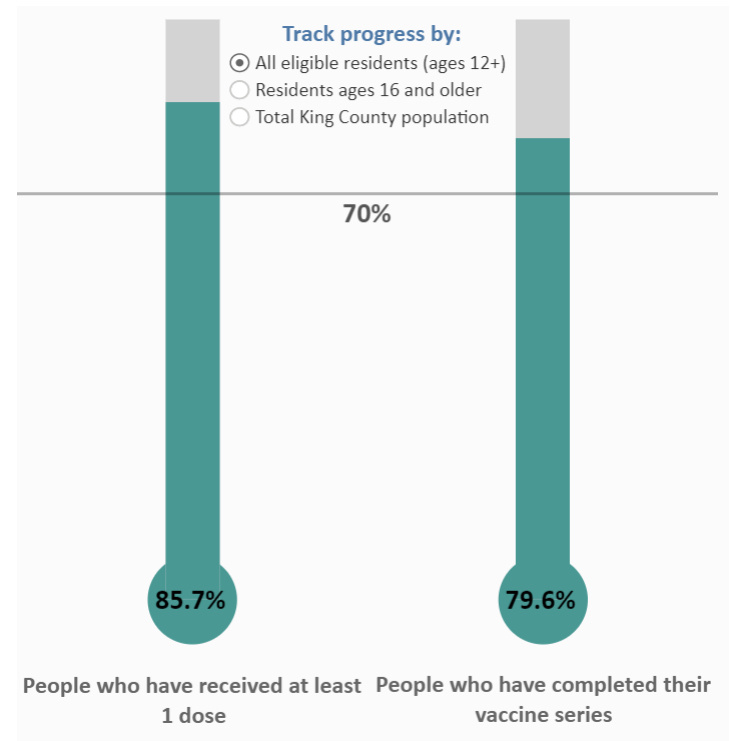
People who are **not fully vaccinated** are:

42x

more likely to die of COVID-19 related illness

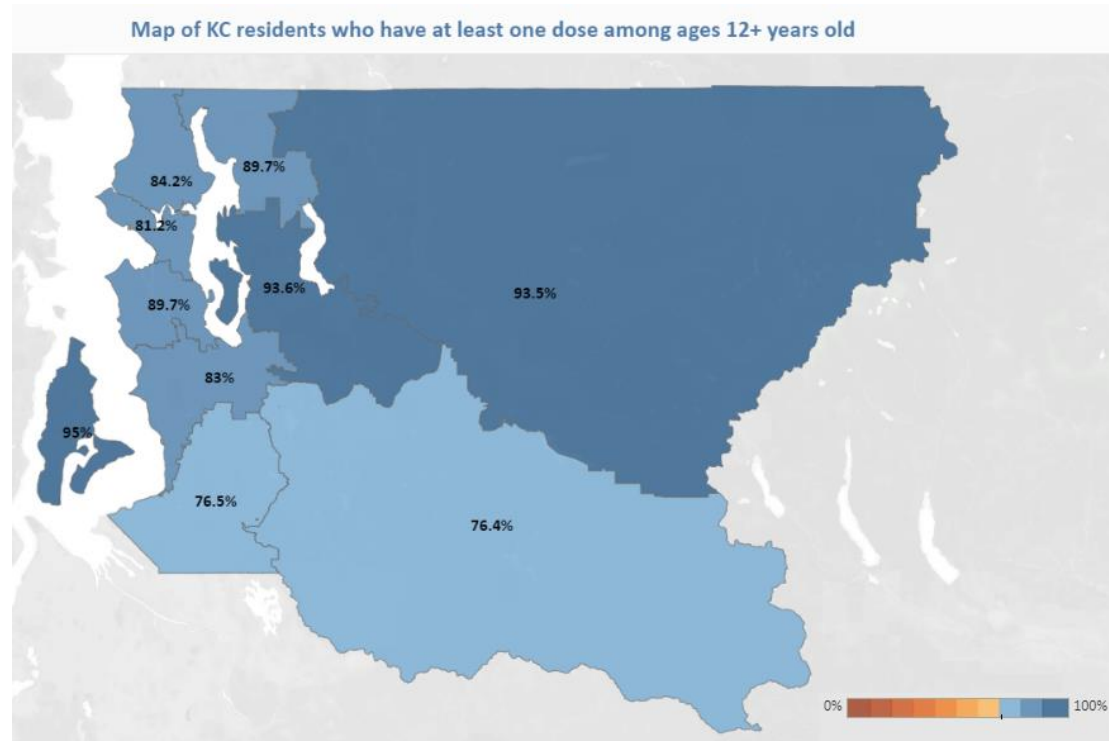
VACCINATION UPDATE

- **Goal:** to vaccinate 70% or more of all adults across all demographics
 - Ages 12+ population = 1.95 million; 79.6% fully vaccinated = 1.55 million
- **Numbers:** As of September 21st, 3,147,454 doses of the vaccine have been administered:
 - 1,672,384 King County residents have received one dose
 - 1,553,782 have been fully vaccinated with two doses
 - 23,537 have received a third mRNA dose
 - A third dose is recommended only for people with moderately to severe compromised immune systems.



VACCINATION UPDATE, cont.

- **In Bellevue/Mercer Island/Issaquah,** 93.6% of residents age 12+ have received at least one dose.
- **Current Vaccination Efforts:** King County is administering a two-week moving average of 25,608 vaccine doses a week
- **What's Next:** King County will require verification of full vaccination status or a negative test to enter outdoor public events of 500 or more people and indoor entertainment and recreational establishments and events such as live music, performing arts, gyms, restaurants, and bars.
 - This goes into effect on October 25.



ECONOMIC RESPONSE

- On July 27th, the King County Council approved its **8th emergency COVID-19 budget**, totaling \$389 million.
- **Highlights include:**
 - Community supports (Eviction prevention, community development grants, HOME grants, immigrant community supports, civil legal aid, tiny house villages): \$283.3 million
 - Legal System Backlog: \$42.5 million
 - Public health response: \$25.9 million
 - Vaccination efforts: \$27.7 million
 - Economic recovery/workforce development: \$5.6 million



EVICTON PREVENTION & RENTAL ASSISTANCE

- In August, the Seattle Times reported that King County's Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance (EPRAP) program had only distributed \$6.5 million, or 4.5%, of \$145 million in available federal funding for rent assistance to tenants and landlords who need financial aid during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Legislation - In order to expedite the distribution of rent assistance, I introduced legislation requesting King County to report on the delays and make recommendations to expedite their process.
- King County has simplified the application and approval process for EPRAP and incorporated several changes in response to amended guidance received from the U.S. Department of Treasury in order to expedite the aid.
- As of September 20, 2021, \$34.3M in rental assistance has been distributed; King County anticipates the ability to process \$6 million weekly.

KING COUNTY REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS AUTHORITY

King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) – Established in December 2019 to unify and coordinate the homeless response system for Seattle and King County.

- **Scope:** coordination of all outreach, diversion, shelter, rapid re-housing, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing services and most of the region's prevention efforts.
- **Update:** The KCRHA has hired CEO Marc Dones and other key leadership positions. Staffing plan has been approved, and they currently have roughly 10 employees.
- **Next steps:**
 - Subregional planning – Alexis Mercedes Rinck was hired from the SCA to do the subregional planning work, and she has connected with over 140 organizations/individuals to help inform the subregional plan.
 - Taking over provider contracts – KCRHA is working on transitioning Seattle and King County's service provider contracts by January 1, 2022.

HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATION

- **Repurposing City Hall Park:**
 - After legislation to condemn City Hall Park and public outcry from Judges and employees, City Hall Park was cleared of homeless encampments.
 - This legislation would explore a land swap with the City of Seattle, so City Hall Park would be controlled by King County and brought into the downtown County Campus.
 - **Status:** In Committee
- **Creating homeless outreach teams:**
 - Creates homeless outreach teams to connect the homeless in unincorporated King County with services and shelters.
 - **Status:** In Committee
- **Creating standards for clearing homeless encampments:**
 - King County lacks guidelines for when and how to clear homeless encampments in unincorporated King County.
 - The goal is to create standards for how to respond to homeless encampments.
 - **Status:** In Committee

SUPPORTING ADDICTION RECOVERY AND MENTAL HEALTH

- **Conference on Addiction Disorders:**
 - Hosted King County's first conference on addiction and recovery, attended virtually by 200 people.
- **Protecting Virtual Recovery Meetings:**
 - Sponsored legislation to create a civil penalty for unauthorized recording or hacking of online recovery meetings.
- **Funding for Recovery Café:**
 - Delivered \$500k to support Recovery Café's services for those in recovery.

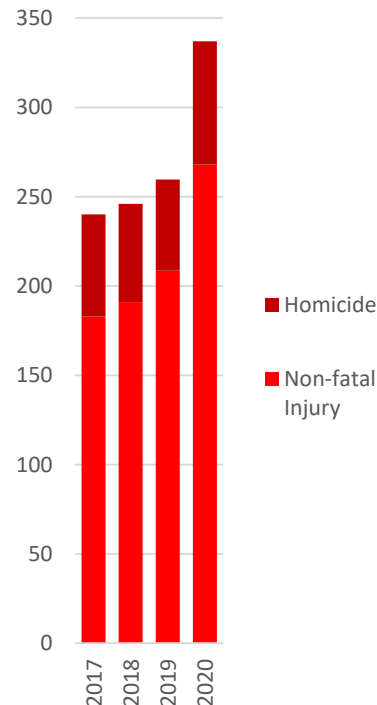


PUBLIC SAFETY

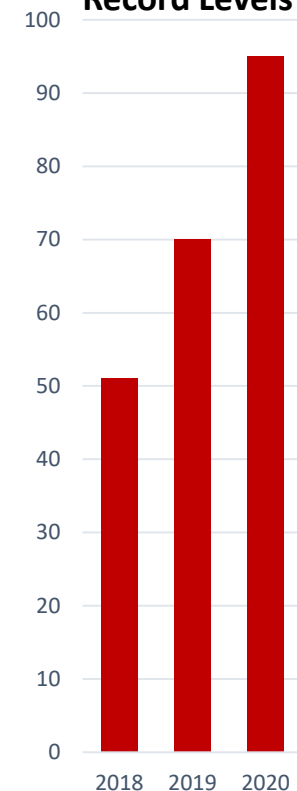
Violent Crime on the Rise: 2021 is on track to be a record year in gun violence and homicide.

- **1,025 Shots Fired in 2020** – 19% increase compared to the three-year average of 870 shots fired.
 - 580 shots fired in Q1-Q2 in 2021, up 33% from the 3-year average.
- **337 shooting victims** – 36% rise in shooting victims in from the three-year average
 - 196 shooting victims in Q1-Q2 of 2021.
- **95 homicides** – Homicides and murders have spiked 86% over the past three years, increasing from 51 homicides in 2018 to 70 homicides in 2019 and 95 homicides in 2020.
 - There have been 101 potential homicides so far in 2021.

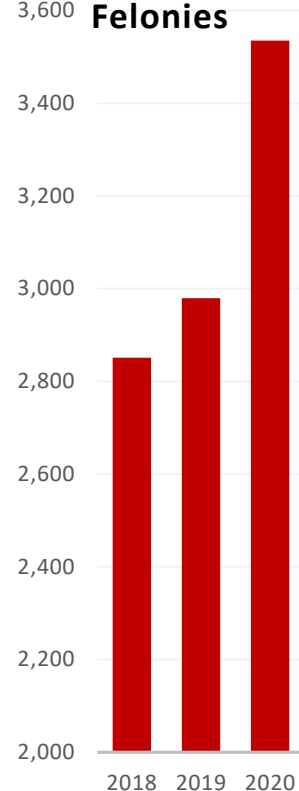
**2021 Shots Fired Report
Number of
Shooting Victims**



**Murders &
Homicides at
Record Levels**



**Spike in
other
Felonies**



* "other felonies" include less serious violence and economic/property offenses, some burglaries and car thefts

KING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPDATE

Appointing a New King County Sheriff

- The Executive's Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) will report recommendations to the Council on September 30th.
- Once the report is submitted, the Executive will take the recommendations from the PSAC regarding what qualities the next Sheriff should have and begin a search for candidates meeting those recommendations.
- The Executive will appoint a final candidate and the Council will confirm.

PUBLIC SAFETY LEGISLATION

- **Officer Wellness Program:**
 - Requests a report to the Council on the effectiveness of the KCSO wellness program after its first year and funding for a full-time program coordinator position
 - Goal is to highlight the importance of this program and encourage making it permanent
 - The program supports deputies in coping with stress, substance use recovery, and mental health in order to improve on-the-job performance
 - **Status:** Approved in June 2021 supplemental budget
- **KCSO Recruiter Position:**
 - Sponsored funding for to hire a recruiter to fill vacant deputy positions
 - Currently, KCSO has 54 vacant positions
 - **Status:** Approved in the COVID 8 supplemental budget
- **Hate Crime Hotline:**
 - Creates a workgroup to build and launch a non-police hotline and reporting system that would allow King County residents the ability to report these incidents
 - The proposed Stop Hate Crime Hotline received \$150,000 in funding in the first omnibus supplemental budget passed by the County Council in late June.
 - **Status:** Has passed committee and will be sent to the full King County Council for a final vote

INVESTING IN BELLEVUE

- **2021 Grants**

- \$5,000 Youth and Amateur Sports Grant for the City of Bellevue
 - \$25,000 for Cross-Cultural Center
 - \$25,500 for King County Housing Authority
 - \$5,000 Youth and Amateur Sports Grant for Newport High School
 - \$2,500 for the Bellevue School Foundation
 - \$2,500 for Eastside Heritage Center
 - \$5,000 for Newport Youth Soccer
 - \$25,000 for Bellevue LifeSpring
 - \$25,000 for Bellevue Chamber

- **Metro Van Donation**

- Donated retired Metro van to Bellevue-based non-profit Recovery Beyond, an organization that works to help those in recovery by providing outdoor and recreational opportunities, as part of the recovery process



Questions?

King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn
District 9

