

From: [Tad Sooter](#)
To: [Maxford Nelsen](#)
Subject: RE: Counting COVID-19 deaths
Date: Friday, June 12, 2020 4:48:43 PM

Good afternoon Maxford,

Thank you for your inquiry. We remain very busy with COVID-19 response but I will do my best to track down this information and get it sent to you next week.

Enjoy your weekend,

Tad Sooter | Public Information Officer

Kitsap Public Health District

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From: Maxford Nelsen <MNelsen@freedomfoundation.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Tad Sooter <Tad.Sooter@kitsappublichealth.org>
Subject: RE: Counting COVID-19 deaths

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Just checking in on this. Thanks!

Maxford Nelsen

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From: Maxford Nelsen
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:22 PM
To: pio@kitsappublichealth.org
Subject: Counting COVID-19 deaths

Mr. Sooter,

I have a question regarding Kitsap County's method for counting COVID-19 deaths that I hope you can help me with. Specifically, what criteria does the county use when counting a death as related to COVID-19?

I've so far identified two different methods used by various public health agencies in Washington.

The statewide COVID-19 fatality count publicized by the Washington Department of Health includes any person who tested positive for COVID-19 and subsequently died, even if the death certificate made no mention of COVID-19 as playing a role in the death.

However, I know some county health departments only count deaths of persons who tested positive for COVID-19 *and* died for reasons related to the virus. In [Thurston County](#), for instance, "[a]n individual is counted as a COVID-19 death if they were diagnosed with COVID-19 and died due to health complications related to the illness."

Which method does Kitsap County use? Or does it use a different method entirely?

Thanks in advance for your time.

Best,

Maxford Nelsen

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