

**Q1: Which most closely describes the focus of your organization/position?**

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Medical	7.47%	18
Mental Health	2.07%	5
Economic	4.56%	11
Community Support/Social Service	16.18%	39
Recreation	3.32%	8
Faith Based	2.49%	6
Other (please specify)	63.90%	154
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>241</b>

Other:

Recovery	4
Animal Welfare	1
Government	5
Education	123
Emergency Response Agency	5
Non-Profit	3
Transportation	5
Housing	1
Floral	1
Restaurant	1
Grocery	1
Insurance	1
Utility	1

**Q2: What criteria should be used for making local COVID policy changes? Mark all that apply.**

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
CDC recommendations	72.92%	175
South Central Public Health District recommendations	52.08%	125
Idaho Governor's recommendations and Stages of Openings	28.33%	68
Local medical expert recommendations	40.83%	98
The number of COVID case numbers in Blaine County (e.g. below 10 per 100,000 or 1 per 10,000)	53.33%	128
The number of COVID case numbers Statewide (e.g. below 10 per 100,000 or 1 per 10,000)	15.42%	37
When all residents over 15 years old in Blaine County have had a reasonable opportunity to get vaccinated	23.33%	56
Percentage of Blaine County residents who are fully vaccinated (e.g. above 70%)	42.92%	103
When our summer tourist season begins	9.17%	22
Other/Comments (please specify)	8.75%	21
Total Respondents: 240		

Other:

- AFTER school has dismissed for the summer
- all good information needs to be considered
- All restrictions should be lifted immediately.
- Any COVID policy changes should encourage respect for the most vulnerable.
- common sense
- COVID is being used as a control tool and for money and political gains
- Let people make their own choices. Just keep education going
- Look at what others are doing and their results (EG: Florida vs. California)
- Mask mandate should be lifted!
- Mask requirements should be optional at this point.
- Now please
- NOW! Because the vaccination is available to all that want it!
- numbers of people in hospital (our infrastructure currently is still taxed due to number of newcomers, numbers of people who have ignored their ill health, numbers per day in ED etc..)
- Open everything now! Get rid of masks!
- Severity of disease, i.e., deaths and hospitalizations

- We may have high rates of vaccinations in Blaine County, but we have a HUGE tourist population. This should be considered.
- We obviously are not listening to the CDC. As late as April their recommendation even for people who are vaccinated was to NOT travel. If we were really listening to them we would not have had a record year on the ski hill. Recommendations from the CDC are much slower than current science.
- We should be looking at the overall death statistic which according to the CDC data is less than 1%. I'm referring to the total of the US population divided by the total of cases.
- Whatever Dr. O'Connor recommends
- When summer tourist season is over.
- WHO

### Q3: Are you planning any summer events?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	62.61%	149
No - Skip to Question 6.	37.39%	89
TOTAL		238

### Q4: If you are planning an event will it be outdoors/indoors?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Outdoor	55.26%	84
Indoor	0.00%	0
Both	44.74%	68
TOTAL		152

### Q5: If you are planning an event how many people do you anticipate attending?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-20	41.22%	61
20-50	24.32%	36
50-100	14.86%	22
100-150	7.43%	11
150+	12.16%	18
TOTAL		148

**Q6: Would you like to see changes in our local COVID ordinances? Mark all that apply.**

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No, the current policies to mandate masks and/or restrict group size are appropriate	27.97%	66
Yes, remove mask mandates outdoors only	39.83%	94
Yes, remove mask mandates indoors and outdoors	30.93%	73
Yes, increase group size restrictions outdoors above 50	38.98%	92
Yes, increase group size restrictions indoors above 10	25.85%	61
Total Respondents: 236		

Comments:

- and enforce social distancing
- As I am currently pregnant I will not be able to receive the vaccine until after my baby is born. The mask mandate is the only barrier protecting me at the moment.
- Being mindful of socks distancing need when necessary (indoors, etc)
- By Idaho law, I thought you no longer have authority to have a mask mandate in place. Is this wrong?
- changes should be made per positive case rate, vaccination rate, and hospital admin rate
- Continue to restrict group sizes but remove the mask mandate for outside in small groups
- Current policy until all checked are fulfilled
- for now what we're doing is good- but once 12-15 have had the chance to get vaccinated I think it's full speed ahead
- I am tired of all the extra covid mandates. Get rid of them all and let me decide what is best for myself.
- I don't know. Professional advice.
- I feel we need to be vigilant. There were elementary students with positive covid tests and quarantined. We cannot relax about it.
- I suggest out of respect for the thousands that are lost every day, that we err on the side of caution. Thank you for showing up in such difficult times
- I will no longer participate in masks. People that are concerned with their health now can be vaccinated. Their health is not my responsibility.
- if a certain percentage of residents are vaccinated lift all restrictions
- if indoor groups are known to each other and vaccinate should be able to be held
- if you are vaccinated
- Kids outdoors = less risk in educational environment.
- Let's get back to allowing people their freedom to choose
- Make masks optional and get Blaine County Secondary Students back to 5 days per week
- Masks should still be required outside if people are in close proximity (SV Pavilion, WRHS graduation, etc.)

- Masks should still be worn outside in close-person proximity situations
- Maybe when more people are fully vaccinated I would support more changes.
- Once younger populations have had adequate chance to be vaccinated I would be comfortable lifting mask restrictions indoors as well.
- People who are concerned may wear masks if they wish. At this point, anyone who wants a vaccine has access. We either need to wear masks forever or get past masks
- PLEASE do not remove mask and social distancing mandates yet! It isn't safe yet!!!
- Remove all mask mandates by the start of school this fall.
- Remove mask mandates for vaccinated individuals only.
- Still require masks inside and social distance in both
- This should return to being an individual's right to choose what is best for them and for individual businesses to decide. The local ordinances should be discontinued.
- when outdoors exercising.

**Q7. Are there any comments that you would like to share with local elected officials related to local COVID policies or educational efforts, including how local policies have impacted your clients?**

- As an educator, I don't feel comfortable lifting a mask mandate. Local elected officials should also have better protocols for enforcing mask mandates in businesses. Bellevue seems to be exempt from mask mandates. As someone who interacts with the community to a high degree, I prefer to have safe policies over convenience. Since vaccines are FDA approved for adolescents 12-15 and 16+, I would like to see local officials ensure that students in BCSD have equitable access to vaccinations and that the vaccine becomes mandatory for enrollment in middle and high school.
- As close to normal as possible with safety protocols in place. As an elementary teacher, I feel that we can return to school with masks and little other protocols in place. Frequent cleaning and hand washing should remain into the future regardless of COVID. We should have contact tracing in place, but should not have to adhere to such strict distancing measures.
- As soon as 12 year olds get vaccinated... we should have to stop wearing masks.
- BCSD policies seemed to shift to make sure schools stayed open, even when the CDC and county numbers were very high and seemingly dangerous. It seems that having a set metric in place makes more sense than to go with what 'feels' right. Metrics and science should prevail.
- Conservative policy is better than outbreaks
- COVID policies are useless if people don't enforce them. At this point, I find a mask mandate both ineffective and burdensome on everyday life. People that are concerned should stay at home while those of us that are either not concerned or vaccinated can make personal choices that impact us personally.
- Covid policies have done harm to our students locally It would make sense to have politically conservative constituents to raise their voices re vaccination. It works, it protects and it will save our economy and lives and allow us far greater freedoms. Stop politicizing science.
- Enough is enough.
- Follow the lead of the County Commissioners and not the Mayors.
- For Mountain Rides, we are relaxing the rider limits on buses to seated passengers (was 15 max), but we will require masks until Sept at least following the govt mandate.
- Great job on handling the pandemic in Blaine County.
- Great job!!!
- I believe the local policies have been beneficial overall.
- I feel masks and mandates need to allow individual preferences. If people feel more comfortable and don't want to wear a mask, great. If you feel like masks protect you and you feel safer with one on, great. We need to respect each other's rights to choose what is right for them.
- I have appreciated mandates. They have NOT been too strict. If our bars were able to stay open the entire time, then I don't think they have been strict enough.
- I think our local officials have done an excellent job over the last 14 months with this!
- I think we have been very lucky in Blaine County. After May of 2020 we were able to pretty much have a semi normal life.
- I work for BCSD, and this has obviously been a tough year. The hybrid school year and wearing masks has been a challenge. I am praying the pandemic continues to wind down and

I am looking forward to coming back to school in August without any mask mandates. Hopefully that is acceptable.

- I would like to see all cities have the same policies in place for the same duration. It is difficult when we are in different areas with different messaging.
- improve outreach for vaccines in our Latino community
- In education, the mask mandates and social distancing have worked well. We need to educate and encourage our community to have their children vaccinated before next school year starts.
- It has made it difficult to include parents in many parts of their kid's educational experience. Obviously, these were necessary but parents are detached from what their kids are doing in school as they have never been allowed inside the building, can't volunteer, no events, etc. I also saw it impacting students' opportunities to practice vital social skills. All of these restrictions were necessary this year but they had impacts on our kids and families.
- It is important for the County to provide leadership in accordance with CDC recommendations. That leadership provides cover for local businesses wishing to protect the public health. If the County abstains from leadership in this area, businesses have no cover or moral and ethical basis for decision making. - Thank you for excellent leadership to this point. Let science be your guide.
- It is time to eliminate mask mandates. There are many people in the valley traveling to other parts of the state that have little or no enforcement for mask requirements. These people are returning to the Wood River Valley and there is no significant increase in COVID cases. Students are routinely taking off masks after school time and not following social distance guidelines or not following mask protocol with very significance with COVID consequences. Based on these situations, there is a feeling
- It's time to assume that if you're dumb enough to not vaccinate, the rest of us don't need to be punished. I'm ready for normalization.
- I've recently seen some pretty compelling evidence about the low risk of outdoor transmission. I think that outdoor events could go ahead as usual. I think that large indoor events are still risky based on Covid numbers. It seems like schools have been doing pretty well with their current policies.
- Keep our community safe based on science!
- Keep up the good work and continue to VACCINATE!
- Ketchum is about to be overwhelmed with tourists. Let's be reasonable.
- Let local businesses decide if they want mask worn in their establishments
- Let us have our freedom to choose to wear masks or not. If you are concerned you have had plenty of time to get the vaccine. We all face risks each and every day. Don't think that you know better or that you are saving me. Way too much micromanaging from our leaders throughout our county, state, and country. Let each individual make their own choice. Education has suffered so much this year and yet we still act like if you get exposed it is instant death. The data (science) doesn't back our drastic decisions. We started down a path that was a poor choice, but understandable at the beginning due to not enough information. Now we are still on the path and knowledge and data doesn't support the path we are currently on. Get off the wrong path and get kids back to school. Hopefully we can fill the massive gaps left by our overreaction.
- Let's don't relax about COVID protocols. We are not safe neither with the vaccine. It is better to be proactive and work hard to prevent any issue.

- Once everyone has had a reasonable opportunity to get vaccinated, then remove all restrictions. If people choose to not get vaccinated and they get sick, it's on them. Don't keep everything closed and restricted because of a minorities refusal to get a vaccine.
- overstep has been intrusive. this should've been handled with education. Our community is smart and did not and still does not need mask mandates. It's silly
- Perhaps some advantage to citizens getting COVID shots to entice others to get it.
- Please increase support of vaccinations
- Please keep up your efforts to help us all do the right thing. Masking and distancing should/could be seen as nothing more than a sign of respect and consideration for our neighbors. Thanks
- Please make masks optional, vaccinated individuals should be protected
- Please Please Please follow the science not politics. We will never be able to resume our full freedom until we ALL help to get rid of this crisis together NOW. Not give up because we're all tired of the restrictions, and then we will have to start all over when even more variants start spreading again.
- Safety first, I appreciate your reluctance to just drop all protocols.
- Schools being on hybrid models until this spring was not beneficial to students or parents. Our county took way to long to get back to regular school days compared to what was happening in the rest of our region and the state. It was very detrimental to students.
- See response to #8.
- Social Media has been informative. I wish all families who send their kids to school took the protocols seriously outside of school.
- Stop scaring people. The impacts of COVID on the mental health of the community is been far worse than COVID. Alcoholism, drug addiction, and child and spouse abuse have increased dramatically.
- Students are lagging far behind where they should be. Routines and schedules have been disrupted for long enough. Let us go back to our way of life. If people are worried about going out or feel that they are at risk, allow them to make arrangements to accommodate their specific needs. Schools, businesses and organizations should be accommodating but they should be able to function as normal. We have wasted too much time on this already. Take a look at the economies of local and Idaho businesses. If we continue to destroy our own economy, it won't matter if we are sick or healthy. People need to go to work and take normal precautions to avoid illnesses in general. Sorry for the rant.
- Thank you for all your efforts and perseverance!
- Thank you for enacting a single message, based on science. Yes people are 'over' covid, but let's stay the scientific course and only relax policies as appropriate. We are all in this together - let's get through it together!
- Thank you for your dedication and constant work during this process!
- The Bellevue Survival Group of Alcoholics Anonymous that meets behind the laundromat on Poplar St. in Bellevue continues to disregard local ordinances. Vast majority of attendees do not wear masks or distance appropriately. We would suggest law enforcement or governmental intervention.
- The clearer the policies the better and have a way to make sure they are followed.
- The ongoing COVID restrictions have hindered the Senior Connection from providing services to our Clients.
- The restrictions in place now have made it difficult for my family to make arrangements with vendors for a get-together.



- The restrictions were absolutely necessary but this has been very difficult for many students. They struggled working on days when they were not on campus. I applaud the board for going back 4 days a week at the Upper grades.
- This is still a dangerous situation; it's not over just because we are over it.
- Truly appreciate schools having mask mandates.
- We are coping well. We appreciate officials' openness.
- We did a good job of closing down when needed and opening when prudent. Now, we need to move to the next phase

## Q8. Any additional comments?

- As soon as 12 year olds get vaccinated... we should have to stop wearing masks.
- Count your blessing Blaine County.
- Evaluate the risk, pros and cons. Look at the effects of certain decisions as made by other focus groups. Putting political bias aside, the statistics, risk factors and vaccine availability make the decision quite simple and clear: Open things up fully, those who have been vaccinated should be able to not have a mask.
- Follow the science and trust in the CDC
- Get rid of masks outside (there will be less enemies) allow businesses to mandate them inside.
- Get rid of the mask mandate!!
- Given that Blaine County is such a tourist area, utilizing county numbers or even state is misleading, as many of the cases originating or coming through will be counted elsewhere. That also means we have no way of accurately measuring the percentage of people who are vaccinated, because many are coming from other places and we simply don't know without requiring documentation. Until we can confirm a high enough percentage of our own residents are vaccinated I don't think we should be relaxing our ordinances.
- Health care workers are angels on this earth!
- Hopefully all mask mandates are dropped at some point this summer.
- I appreciate all of the hard work that our officials have been doing during the pandemic. Thank you for taking the time to consider all of the options.
- I wish to commend the local leadership in its pandemic response. Through these efforts, Blaine County was able to mitigate what could have been a devastating outbreak in the beginning. The response to the initial high numbers was thoughtful and appropriate.
- If anything, err on the side of being cautious. We can't control what all the visitors from out of the area do when they come here.
- In order to prevent other kinds of health situations, we should work as a community all together to support each other and teach our tourists how we should handle prevention.
- It is time to put COVID behind us and move forward. It's a virus. It is here to stay but between those who are vaccinated and those who have the antibodies, we should be at herd immunity which will do its part to keep communities safe.
- It is time to unpack the science of the last 14 months. The discussion about studies and Covid mitigation needs to be replaced with actual data from our Covid experience. Let's please talk about Covid numbers in Blaine County vs surrounding counties that do not have many of the restrictions that we do, if any. Outside of a 6-week span in October and early November, Blaine numbers have been higher or similar to Twin Falls. Other counties have similar to better numbers than Twin Falls. While Blaine County has been throttled down with Covid restrictions our neighbors have been going about their business and educating their kids. The data does not bear out the measures that we have taken. It is time to acknowledge that our reaction was probably justified considering the possibilities. Now we know the actual science of what the last year has been. That data needs to be the basis for decisions moving forward and not studies that are limited in number and hold little water against actual hard data. It is time to embrace science and data and move forward. On top of that data comes the reality of our high numbers of vaccinated people. Seventy-five-point five percent of those 65 years old and older have been vaccinated in Idaho. According to a recent article in the Mountain Express 73% of Blaine County residents aged 16 or older have been vaccinated. We need to embrace science and data and move forward. At this point a mask should be up to local

businesses and individuals. If a mask mandate continues please back it up with current science and not out dated CDC studies or recommendations.

- keep it going
- Let us live again.
- Let's make sure that we take the necessary steps to help end COVID.
- Look at the rest of Idaho. They are not basing their decisions off fear and have done pretty well. Idahoans are tuff people. The newcomers are fleeing the cesspools they created. Do not allow them to turn Idaho into what they created.
- Make a scientific not politcal decision.
- None
- None
- Open things up let people make their own choices. Keep education out there, but not as a scare tactic. The reality is the majority that get it survive and don't need any assistance or hospitalization.
- Open this county up and let's get back to living our lives.
- Peace be with you.
- Please be proactive and create a community wide culture where being kind and following protocols is enforced by ALL community members. We are about to see more tourists than ever before. Let's get prepared.
- PLEASE bring vaccines to students at school so that we can reach a higher percentage of our student population.
- Respect our town. Patience consideration and love will help us all through this.
- Thank you for putting this together and taking feedback. I hope we can get to a standard that everyone will work towards
- Thank you for seeking input. Super nice, to be invited to the conversation. I do believe that we have overt, direct and necessary responsibility to each other and to all occupants of the WR Valley (is this survey in spanish, too?). We are in this together, and guidelines might bring what personal discipline might not be able too. In lieu of the worldview of shared experience & need for the health of all of us, not simply "I've Got Mine", law aides is moving more people to put effort into shared benefits and larger awareness. I do not grown my own coffee beans, make my own clothes, own my own business, design & build my own car, pave the roads I drive on, pump my own water for a daily shower. My daily living is based directly upon others being able to do their daily living. I would prefer we had measures in place to demonstrate such awareness of "we". Thank you.
- Thank you for the oppportunity to give feedback.
- Thanks to you all for your leadership and guidance in such difficult times.
- The vaccine is out. Time to get back to normal. The CDC seems to be playing politics and has lost credibility.
- There are many people who have not been able to work from home since the beginning of this pandemic. They have had to show up to work and "deal with it" so that others would get paid. It is time to make everyone go back to work in person. Working at home is NOT productive. It creates laziness. Elected officials should be at work, in the work force. NOT working from home. Individuals are not more productive nor do they get more done in a day than the rest of us. It is a cop out for not wanting to be around people and held accountable. Go to work! Do the job you were elected to do out among the people you were elected to serve. Stop hiding. You are part of the problem and fear mongering. Where is the leadership? Elected official were elected to lead, not hide. Do the job.

- Trust humankind that they are making decisions that will help our community to move forward. Respect people's opinions on the vaccine; it's their body so don't force vaccinated/un-vaccinated rules.
- until we decide otherwise, I wish our current restrictions would be reinforced in the community. such as, having police/law reinforce the restrictions on visible/known/reported large gatherings in the community/event centers.
- We would love to see stronger enforcement of mask and social distancing mandates (and heightened consequences, subsequently) in the city of Bellevue.
- Wearing a mask is nowhere near as inconvenient, as saying goodbye to a loved one - take it from me, I've done both this past year.
- When are we going to have our COVID "hot wash" with our county leadership?
- With summer tourist season coming up it is imperative we continue to be vigilant. People visiting will be coming from areas that have not been as diligent in vaccinating their population or using masks to prevent the spread of COVID.