



COVID-19 Response
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Updated May 27, 2020

1. How many people were tested/ what were the results? As of May 27?

Employees Tested	Positive	Negative
169	74 <i>*21 not exhibiting symptoms</i>	95
Close Contacts Tested		
138	45	<i>Pending update from County. Note, the County has the most up to date information on cases as they are tracking close contacts.</i>

2. What is the current status of those who are infected?

We are aware of one employee who was hospitalized. We understand that this individual has recovered. Others are self-isolating at home. We have contacted all employees to express our concern for their well-being.

3. How did you learn about the positive case?

The employee contacted her supervisor, and he immediately informed CEO Josh Hinerfeld per the protocol we had established at Firestone. Josh immediately notified Clark County Department of Health.

4. What actions did you take when the first cases were reported?

Notified team, closed the facility, contacted the county, prepared for modifications in operations to further enhance safety.

5. Has the source of the outbreak been identified?

The County investigating origin and contact tracing is ongoing.

6. How have you been keeping staff informed?

We have provided daily communication since the first case on May 17. Communication is provided in both English and Spanish. We use email, text messages and phone calls. We also now have a new tool in Spanish and English – *Firestone.work* – that allows team members to clock in and out, access 24/7 telehealth services; and access detailed information and resources about COVID-19.



7. [When did the facility close?](#)

We closed production and our office on May 18.

8. [Are you working with Clark County and/or State of Washington on re-opening requirements?](#)

Yes. We have been in collaboration with the County since the beginning of the outbreak. They helped secure testing locations (we paid for testing) and provide reports to us test results. The County has also been actively contact-tracing and that has resulted in new cases associated with those close to employee who have tested positive.

9. [Are employees being paid during the closure?](#)

We provided information on paid leave resources. Federal and State government offer paid leave for COVID-19. We advised them to use Federal Emergency leave funds first, then Washington State family leave. We have also extended our sick leave policy to allow for use of future sick leave. What about unemployment? To our knowledge, no one has yet filed for unemployment.

10. [Do employees have health insurance?](#)

Employees are offered Kaiser Health insurance, they may elect or decline coverage. Individuals may also choose to be covered by their spouse's plan, or through the Affordable Care Act. We provide (fully paid) to all employees 24/7 telehealth benefits that give them access round the clock to health care providers. We paid for all employees to get tested (and some re-tested to avoid false negatives).

11. [Are you still closed?](#)

Our production facility and office remain closed. Cold storage remains open. To date, we have had no COVID-19 diagnoses in that facility and we no individuals in that facility identified as "high risk" through the contact tracing efforts.

12. [What is the labor and industry investigation about?](#)

OSHA received a complaint from an employee of Firestone Pacific Foods and is investigating that complaint. They will be conducting interviews with employees and requesting documentation (e.g. copies of communications with staff during the pandemic. We will be fully cooperating with them and, as always, transparent and open. They anticipate the process will be completed in approximately 1 week.