

IOWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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September 18, 2020

For Immediate Release

Iowa County Health Department

Director/Health Officer

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COVID 19 Update: Case Count Increases to 140

Iowa County –The Health Department announces four additional cases bringing the current COVID-19 confirmed case count in Iowa County to 140. The recent cases are in persons in the following age ranges 46-55, 56-65 and 66-75 years. The Health Department has contact with all lab confirmed cases and reaches out to those who may have had close contact to each confirmed case. The Health Department assists in actively monitoring their health while they are under quarantine

“We must remember that widespread community transmission is occurring and risk is everywhere. Surrounding counties continue to see record numbers especially in the 18-25 year old age range. Our goal continues to be avoiding a large surge in our hospitals and our public health and emergency response systems. We still need everyone assisting in this mission. An especially important message to residents who are high risk (60 years and older or have a chronic medical condition or compromised immune status)... please take extra precautions to reduce your exposure”, stated Debbie Siegenthaler, Director, Iowa County Health Department.

“We want to also stress the hard work of large numbers of people in Iowa County to keep others safe. Teams at the Health Department, Emergency Management, Sheriff’s Department and all aspects of local government, health systems and first responders are working tirelessly for their community”, Siegenthaler added. “At times, members of our Health Department team are on the receiving end of inappropriate feedback. We are all suffering from “covid fatigue”. We ask that if you are reached out to by the Health Department, please return the phone call and remember to be kind. No member of our team deserves to be mistreated. Our mission is to keep people healthy, period”, added Siegenthaler. “Please continue to be part of the solution. Don’t go to crowds and don’t create crowds. Mask up, keep your small social circles outside, practice social distancing and wash your hands often. Every person and every practice is important and helps us in our goal”, Siegenthaler added.

We are all too aware the coronavirus is still here and, unfortunately, flu season is also on its way. It's not possible to definitively predict what will happen in the weeks and months to come, but the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) expects that flu viruses and the virus that causes COVID-19 will both be spreading in the fall and winter. It is more important than ever to plan on getting your flu shot this year.

The Iowa County Health Department and Iowa County Emergency Management are busy planning for flu clinics geared for school-age children. Look for details to come out through school districts in the near future. We are also making plans for a community testing site.

The number of individuals that have recovered is 125, meaning 15 cases are active. The number of patients recovered from COVID-19 is defined as the number of confirmed cases who are currently alive based on Wisconsin state vital records system data and have one or more of the following: 1) Documentation of resolved symptoms 2) Documentation of release from public health isolation 3) 30 days since symptom onset or diagnosis.

Below are key areas of our local dashboard tracked since mid-July.

<i>Date dashboard was updated</i>	<i>Percent of tests that are positive</i>	<i>Average number of cases reported per day</i>	<i>Average number of tests per day</i>	<i>Outbreaks metric</i>	<i>Percentage of cases contracted by community spread</i>
July 20	1.45%	.92	42.8	Red	46%
July 27	2.1%	.71	33.1	Red	30%
August 3	2.6%	1.0	37.7	Red	42%
August 10	3.9%	1.71	43.6	Red	38%
August 17	4.2%	2.5	60	Red	54%
August 24	3.8%	2.0	53	Red	46%
August 31	3.3%	1.5	45	Red	43%
September 8	2.0%	0.93	45.4	Red	38%
September 14	1.3%	0.64	49.7	Red	40%

Iowa County status remains classified as HIGH activity level along with the majority of Wisconsin counties. Visit the web link below to see definitions for case indicators, additional detailed data and a map of Wisconsin noting each county and their risk level <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm>

Important Sources of Information

- Wisconsin Statewide and Regional metrics [DHS website](#)
 - WI Department of Health Services (DHS) <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm>
 - Regional metrics <https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/data#metrics>
 - Activity risk level <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm>
 - County-specific data <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/cases-map.htm>
 - Decision Tool for Individuals and Families <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/decision.htm>
- Resources on the Iowa County website. <https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/COVID-19>
 - COVID 19 Dashboard (updated each Monday)
 - Daily Iowa County Case Count (updated Monday-Friday)
 - **NOTE:** New cases are reflected on the Iowa County Health Dept Facebook page each day (Monday thru Friday). The WI DHS website updates each afternoon with county numbers. We update case numbers that occur over the weekend on Monday's Case Count. Positive cases will continue to be reported to the state and followed up on as they have been.
 - Local Data graphs
 - School Resources and Capacity Indicators
 - Mass Gathering Guidance
 - Get a free COVID-19 test here! <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/testing>
- Upland Hills Health <https://www.uplandhillshealth.org/patient-visitors/covid-19/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
 - **Frequently Asked Questions:** CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>
- 211 Wisconsin is an easy and helpful resource for COVID 19 questions. Simply call 211 from your phone <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/>

Social Media sites:

Iowa County Public Health on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/iowacountyhealthdepartment/>

Upland Hills Health on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/UplandHillsHealthHospital/>

Iowa County Emergency Management on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ICEMWI>

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