

IOWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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January 15, 2021

For Immediate Release

Iowa County Health Department

Director/Health Officer

Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN

Case Count at 1744; Dashboard Update

Iowa County – The Health Department reports an increase of 33 cases this past week bringing the total of cases to 1,744. During the previous week, 46 cases were reported, the week prior the increase was 52 cases and the week prior to that, 71 cases. The number of individuals that have recovered is 1,697, meaning 47 cases are active. Cases are in all age ranges and across the entire county. See <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/county.htm> for a breakdown of the location of positive cases.

This week's dashboard update saw the percentage of positive cases decrease to 5.6%, down from 8.5% at last Dashboard report, allowing our status to remain yellow. The average cases reported daily metric has decreased to 5.5, down from last week's average of 7.5, remaining at red status.

"Case numbers continue to decrease and we hope that this trend continues. We can't let our guard down when it comes to continued diligence in following public health recommendations," states Debbie Siegenthaler, Director, Iowa County Health Department. "The arrival of vaccine is fantastic, but until we achieve notable levels of vaccine uptake, we still need everyone's actions to prevent transmission", added Siegenthaler.

Please continue to:

- Limit indoor gatherings to 10 people or less.
- Limit outdoor gatherings to 25 people or less.
- Post-pone or cancel all non-essential events, gatherings and travel
- Wear a cloth face covering in public settings, especially when difficult to practice physical distancing.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from other people when you leave your home.
- Wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

The Health Department is grateful to Iowa County Emergency Management, Upland Hills Health and local EMS groups who are assisting in the vaccination efforts. "To date, administering the several hundred doses we have received at the Health Department to Tier 1A individuals has gone well. We are also very happy and proud of the hard work Upland Hills Health has done to deliver vaccine to their providers and staff. In addition, skilled nursing facilities in Iowa County have had vaccine administered to staff and residents", stated Debbie Siegenthaler, Director, Iowa County Health Department.

Additionally, we understand people are eager to get immunized and have questions about when they will be able to do so. Iowa County Health Department asks for residents' patience as we first vaccinate the Phase 1A group.

We will share information widely when we are authorized to start vaccinating other populations. Please keep up to date with the vaccine roll-out through press releases, the Iowa County COVID-19 website and/or the ICHD Facebook page. Please understand that the Health Department is not keeping lists of the general public wishing to receive the vaccine. Once again, we ask for your patience and understanding in this process. Our goal is to ensure everyone in Iowa County is vaccinated as soon as possible.

Iowa County Dashboard Metrics

Epidemiology: Our percentage of positive cases decreased some, now at 5.6%, remaining yellow. The average cases reported daily metric decreased to 5.5, remaining in the red. The Outbreak metric remains red.

Healthcare Status: Testing rate remains green with an average of 97 tests performed daily. We encourage anyone with symptoms to contact his/her health care provider to be tested. Local health care partner's facility use status (represents med surge and ICU capacity) has changed to green. Staffing status indicates the number of available staff to care for the volume of patients and remains yellow. Critical supply status reflects at least fourteen days' worth of supplies. This metric remains green. Our regional health care infrastructure metric represents regional hospital bed use and has changed to green. Currently there are 81.2% of regional hospital beds in use, up some from last week. In addition, 81.5% of total regional ICU beds are in use, also up from last week.

Public Health Status: Community spread decreased to 49%, so just under half of cases are reporting no known source of transmission in the past two weeks. Our goal is that fewer than 20% of cases have no known source of transmission. This value is a reflection of current information, some data is missing, as not all cases have been in contact with the health department. Our contact tracing efforts are at 97%. This metric is dependent on individuals either answering the phone or returning our calls, which remains an issue. Our health department volume and staffing metric remains yellow.

Emergency Management: Our emergency management partners remains green. PPE demand continues to be up and the supply chain is experiencing issues with gloves, gowns and N95 masks.

School Capacity Indicator Dashboard <https://www.iowacounty.org/COVID-19IowaCountySchoolGuidance>

This dashboard contains metrics from our Iowa County COVID-19 Dashboard along with new case rate metric (per 10,000) in the past two weeks. Today, the new case rate is 32, a decrease from 44 per 10,000 at last dashboard report and the prior week's value of 66.

<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>	<i>School Capacity metric: new case rate per 10,000</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%	9
September 8	2.0%	0.93	45.4	Red	38%	5
September 14	1.3%	0.64	49.7	Red	40%	4
September 21	2.6%	1.79	70	Red	64%	11
September 28	3.5%	3.79	107.5	Red	60%	22

October 5	4.8%	5.57	116.5	Red	51%	33
October 12	6.8%	8.21	121	Red	43%	49
October 19	7.5%	11.58	153.8	Red	41%	59
October 23*	7.9%	11.35	142.9	Red	43%	67
October 30	8.4%	11.29	133.7	Red	42%	67
November 6	11.4%	16.86	148.3	Red	42%	99
November 13	14.5%	26.36	181.8	Red	41%	155
November 20	14.7%	30.14	205.7	Red	43%	178
November 27	12.5%	26.86	215.1	Red	44%	158
December 4	9.8%	16.64	169.4	Red	43%	98
December 11	8.1%	11.9	147	Red	46%	70
December 18	9.6%	14.43	150	Red	46%	85
December 28	9.3%	14.64	156.8	Red	40%	86
January 4	8.6%	11.14	129.8	Red	44%	66
January 8	8.5%	7.5	89	Red	53%	44
January 15	5.6%	5.5	97	Red	49%	32

*Shift in day of dashboard update due to data availability.

Important Sources of Information

- Wisconsin Department of Health Services <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm>
- Iowa County website. <https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/COVID-19>
- Upland Hills Health <https://www.uplandhillshealth.org/patient-visitors/covid-19/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- 211 Wisconsin Simply call 211 from your phone <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/>

COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

- [DHS COVID-19 Vaccine page](#)
- [Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, COVID-19 Vaccine Q&A](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine page](#)
- [CDC: Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [CDC: Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [SDMAC: State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee](#)
- [Upland Hills Health: What you Need to Know about COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination](#)

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>

Iowa County Emergency Management on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/icemwi/>

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