

IOWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

303 W. Chapel Street
Suite 2200
Dodgeville, WI 53533-1314

Phone: (608) 930-9870
Fax: (608) 937-0501



www.iowacounty.org

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For Immediate Release

Iowa County Health Department

Director/Health Officer

Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN

COVID 19 Update:

Case Count; What's New in the Dashboard; Additional County-specific Data

Iowa County – The Health Department confirms that over the weekend we added four additional cases bringing the current COVID 19 confirmed case count in Iowa County to 45. The Health Department has contact with all 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.

An important piece of information to stress today is how important individuals continue to be in the response to this pandemic. “Please understand that if the Health Department reaches out to you, we need your cooperation in returning a phone call”, states Debbie Siegenthaler, Iowa County Health Department Director. “It is also critically important that if you are identified as a close contact and/or tested you must remain in quarantine, even if you have no symptoms”. This means you should stay home and stay away from people. “People must act decently and responsibly to not spread infection to others”, added Siegenthaler.

Iowa County Dashboard Metrics: *What's new from last week?*

Epidemiology: The metric remains green as our case positivity rate is steady from last week at about 2%. Our case rate remains steady with an average of a new case each day. The Outbreak metric remains red.

Healthcare Status: Testing rate remains green with an average of 50.5 tests being done each day. This is significantly above the goal of 35 tests per day.

Public Health Status: Community spread metric remains red as 50% of recent cases have no known exposure. Our contact tracing and lab reporting timeliness metric remains green at 86%. Successful containment requires several components. Lab results must be reported to the Health Department in a timely manner. The Health Department must reach out to positive cases in a timely manner. Success additionally requires that individuals the Health Department reaches out to get back in touch with public health. While we remain green in this metric, this past week included challenges in making contact with cases. This makes the Health Department's job harder and our community vulnerable.

Emergency Management: Remains green

- Check out this week's COVID 19 Dashboard <https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/COVID-19>
- Regional metrics <https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/data#metrics>
- Iowa County status remains at a HIGH activity level <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm>

Diligence is as important now as ever in following recommendations to physically distance, wash hands often, clean and disinfect high touch surfaces, stay home if ill, wear a face covering and avoid large groups.

Iowa County Data: *Check out new graphs*

In addition to the weekly dashboard update, we have added a new tab to the website with specific Iowa County data <https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/COVID-19> You will find two new graphs, one profiling age ranges of all cases. This age distribution graph highlights that the majority of cases in Iowa County have been in young people ages 15-25. The second graph plots all cases in Iowa County, demonstrating the growth in cases over time.

The number of individuals that have recovered is 39, meaning 6 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:

- Documentation of resolved symptoms
- Documentation of release from public health isolation
- 30 days since symptom onset or diagnosis

To date in Iowa County, a total of 3,234 tests have been performed. Forty-five tests have been positive cases and 3,097 have been negative, which is a positivity rate of about 2%.

New cases will continue to be reflected on our Iowa County Health Department Facebook page each day (Monday through Friday). The State of Wisconsin [DHS website](#), will continue to be updated each afternoon with county specific numbers. Going forward, we will not be conveying each positive case through a press release unless we are experiencing rapid or concerning changes in our metrics. All positive cases will continue to be reported to the state and followed up on as they have been. We have developed, through our Iowa County COVID 19 Dashboard, a multi-level way to monitor the picture in our county. Be sure to check out the COVID 19 Dashboard on our website. Check out the DHS website for more information <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/cases-map.htm>

Important Sources of Information

- **211 Wisconsin** is an easy and helpful resource for COVID 19 questions. Simply call 211 from your phone <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/>
- **Recently added /updated resources on the Iowa County website.** <https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/COVID-19>
 - Iowa County data graphs
- **Additional resources:**
CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

Please monitor the following 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/>

Monitor the following websites:

Iowa County COVID 19 <https://www.iowacounty.org/>
 Upland Hills Health <https://www.uplandhillshealth.org/patient-visitors/covid-19/>
 WI Department of Health Services (DHS) <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm>
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>