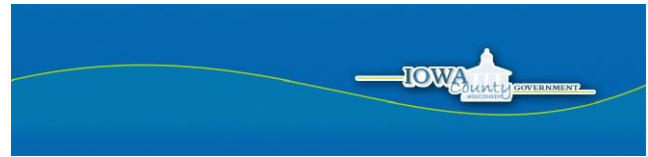


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September 4, 2020

For Immediate Release

Iowa County Health Department

Director/Health Officer

Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN

COVID 19 Update: Case Count at 123

Iowa County – The Health Department announces no additional cases today. The current COVID-19 confirmed case count in Iowa County remains at 123. 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.

“We are all aware that schools have resumed in-person instruction. We haven’t seen a spike in cases this week which is welcome news,” stated Debbie Siegenthaler, Director, Iowa County Health Department. “We want this trend to continue and ask this Holiday weekend, that you 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.

The number of individuals that have recovered is 112, meaning 11 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.

The growth in case numbers has slowed and trends in the dashboard related to percent of positive tests, growth of cases and community spread is leveling off. Below you can see key metrics in our local dashboard since mid-July.

	July 20, 2020	July 27, 2020	August 3, 2020	August 10, 2020	August 17, 2020	August 24, 2020	August 31, 2020
% Positive Tests	1.45%	2.1%	2.6%	3.9%	4.2%	3.8%	3.3%
Average Cases reported each day	.92	.71	1.0	1.71	2.5	2.0	1.5
Testing: Daily average	42.8	33.1	37.7	43.6	60	53	45
Outbreaks	red	red	red	red	red	red	red
Community Spread	46%	30%	42%	38%	54%	46%	43%

“We must remember that widespread community transmission is still occurring and risk is everywhere. With the start of school, we must be vigilant in our efforts”, added Siegenthaler. “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”, Siegenthaler stated.

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 through Friday). The Wisconsin DHS website is updated each afternoon with county specific numbers. We update case numbers that occur over the weekend on the Monday Case Count. All 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 (**added this week**)
 - 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>

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

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