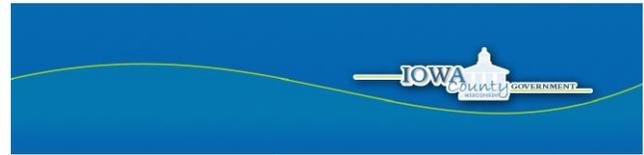


## IOWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

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



[www.iowacounty.org](http://www.iowacounty.org)

---

August 17, 2020

---

*For Immediate Release*

### Iowa County Health Department

*Director/Health Officer*

*Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN*

### COVID-19 Update: Case Count at 100; Weekly Dashboard Check-in

**Iowa County** – The Health Department confirms that over the weekend we added eight additional cases bringing the current COVID-19 confirmed case count in Iowa County to 100. Three of the weekend cases are individuals in the 18-25 age range, two are between the ages of 26-35, two are between the ages of 36-45 one is in the age range of 0-17 years. As a reminder, new cases are reflected on our Iowa County Health Department Facebook page each day (Monday through Friday). We update case numbers that occur over the weekend on our Monday Case Count. The Wisconsin [DHS website](#), is updated each afternoon with county specific numbers.

The number of individuals that have recovered is 72, meaning 28 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 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.

#### **Iowa County Dashboard Metrics: *Weekly check-in...***

**Epidemiology:** The metric remains green but our percentage of positive cases continues to increase, now at 4.2%. The average cases reported daily metric has changed to red as we averaged 2.5 new cases per day over the past 14 days. The Outbreak metric remains red as we have two active outbreaks in Iowa County.

**Healthcare Status:** Testing rate remains green with an average of 60 tests done each day in the past two weeks. We continue to encourage anyone with symptoms to contact your health care provider to be tested. Our partners in health care remain in green status.

**Public Health Status:** Community spread remains above target with 54% of cases reporting no known source in the past two weeks. This metric remains red, as our goal is fewer than 20% of cases have no known source of transmission. Our contact tracing efforts remain successful, as 100% of positive cases in the past two weeks have been successfully contacted within 48 hours of their positive tests.

**Emergency Management:** Our emergency management partners remain in green status.

“The continued increase in cases, especially over the last five weeks, and the trends in the dashboard related to positivity rates, growth of cases and community spread is concerning”, says Debbie Siegenthaler, Director, Iowa County Health Department. Iowa County is seeing increases and our neighbor counties are also experiencing increasing case numbers. This continues to mean that widespread community transmission is occurring and risk is everywhere. Below are changes in key areas of our local dashboard over the past five weeks.

	July 20, 2020	July 27, 2020	August 3, 2020	August 10, 2020	August 17, 2020
Positivity Rate	1.45%	2.1%	2.6%	3.9%	4.2%
Average Cases reported each day	.92	.71	1.0	1.71	2.5
Testing: Daily average	42.8	33.1	37.7	43.6	60
Outbreaks	red	red	red	red	red
Community Spread	46%	30%	42%	38%	54%

“The message today is the same one it has been from the start; urging everyone to keep social circles small and practice consistency and persistence with social distancing and hand hygiene. We appreciate the stellar job our businesses and residents are doing with embracing the public health measure to wear a cloth face covering”, Siegenthaler added. “We need everyone on the public health team. Everyone’s assistance with practicing these measures is important for the ENTIRE community”, added Siegenthaler. “I will keep reiterating the same messages which include, asking folks to not host large parties or gatherings, limiting exposure to large groups for a sustained duration and staying home when ill. You may not feel at risk or think this is serious, but it truly can be for those who have a vulnerable health status and even some who are otherwise healthy. While most of us will do fine and recover, some of us are at increased risk and may experience a bad outcome if we get COVID 19. Our goal is to avoid a large surge in our hospitals and our public health and emergency response systems. A public health response is one that requires everyone’s help in keeping friends, neighbors, loved ones and vulnerable residents safe and healthy. 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>
- **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 (updated each Monday)
  - 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** Simply call 211 or visit <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/>

-end-