



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Winnebago County  
Health Department**

# Winnebago County Health Department COVID-19 Weekly Data Summary

November 25, 2020

## Summary

- **Stay at home.** There are thousands of people currently infected with COVID-19 in Winnebago County and thousands more that have been exposed and may develop the disease. Many do not know they are infected and others are knowingly breaking isolation and quarantine. **Assume that every public place you are in has a risk of exposure to you.** Wear a mask, keep your distance at all times in public, and minimize your time in any indoor environment outside your home. Assume household members that are active outside of the home can infect you. Group gatherings and a lack of physical distancing in indoor spaces remain the most important contributors to the pandemic in this area.
- When you seek goods and services, support businesses that engage in precautionary measures to keep our communities safe. If a business is not following safe practices, consider speaking with management or reporting your concern to the health department through this [form](#).
- Support local businesses. Use local curbside pickup and delivery to help support local service industries.
- **Deaths are on the rise.** Over 40% of the 90 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in our jurisdiction have occurred in the past 4 weeks.
- COVID-19 hospitalizations are at record levels across the state. In our region, **COVID-19 hospitalizations remain dangerously high.** As of 11/25/20, Fox Valley area hospitals had 126 COVID-19 patients hospitalized, a decrease from the 146 patients last week. [The Wisconsin State Fair Park Alternate Care Facility](#) currently has 9 patients.
- Due to the holiday weekend and lack of community testing availability, it is likely we will see numbers of cases drop early next week as those results are reported. This is likely to be followed later next week with higher case numbers due to an increased demand for testing after the holiday. Please continue to look at the weekly trends to best assess current case activity. With the increase in antigen testing it is important to look at the total confirmed plus probable case numbers to understand the current burden. Positive antigen results are considered a probable case.
- The confirmed case rate over the past 2 weeks for our jurisdiction is 935.9 cases per 100,000, a decrease from the 1,119.4 cases per 100,000 reported last week. This confirmed case rate does NOT include probable cases, which we have seen an increase in recently. The doubling time for our confirmed cases is 66.3 days. For all of Winnebago County, the case rate over the past 2 weeks is 1,104.9, and for the Fox Valley [HERC](#) region it is 1,058.3\*, putting both at a **critically high burden level.**
- The number of cases (confirmed/probables) in the first week of this 2-week timeframe was 860/263 and for this most recent week is 579/285. Cases are now generally distributed throughout all jurisdictions and adult age groups. Individuals aged 25-29 had the highest confirmed case rate of 1,460.7 per 100,000 over the past 2 weeks. Rates are lower in those under 18 (491.5 per 100,000).
- **Testing percent positivity of positive PCR tests is at 12.5%** for the past 2 weeks which is still far from our goal of remaining below 5% positivity. Over the past two weeks an average of 855 PCR tests were conducted each day. The [regional COVID-19 testing site](#) at Sunnyside Expo Center in Oshkosh has averaged performing 369 tests per day over the past 2 weeks. Regional testing capacity has increased with additional National Guard sites open in other counties. If you have been tested, please stay home until you receive your test results and follow the guidance provided. Information on local testing availability over the holiday weekend is available on [our website](#).
- **Contact tracing capacity is significantly strained.** We are still able to reach out to all people who tested positive within 24-48 hours of being reported to the health department. Despite adding 31+ full-time equivalent contact tracing positions to our health department, we are unable to provide contact tracing for all confirmed cases. If you have tested positive, please notify close contacts. Our contact tracers are seeing significant community spread.
- [Older adults and people with underlying medical conditions](#) should take extra precautions to stay safe.

## Background Information

This report provides *preliminary* data on the confirmed COVID-19 cases from November 11 – November 24, 2020. A person is counted as a **confirmed** COVID-19 case if they had a **positive confirmatory laboratory test** (for example, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests or nucleic acid amplification tests (NAT) that detect genetic material of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19). Antigen positive tests are counted as **probable** cases and are not currently included in the case count rates and graphs in this report.

Dates utilized for all graphs and tables are based on test result date and may not represent final case counts. Data may be underreported for recent days because results can take multiple days to be reported to the health department. This means the number of tests and percent positivity may change in next week's report. As this is a weekly report for the past 14 days, there will always be a week of overlap between reports.

\*The COVID-19 data provided in this report is specific to the Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) jurisdiction (population: 153,748). It does not include the portions of the City of Menasha or City of Appleton that fall within Winnebago County as those areas fall within the jurisdiction of the [City of Menasha Health Department](#) and [City of Appleton Health Department](#). With the increased amount of testing occurring in correctional facilities, starting October 3, 2020, data reports from the Winnebago County Health Department will not include test results from those living in Wisconsin Department of Corrections facilities, which includes the Oshkosh Correctional Institute. You can find testing data for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections on [this website](#).

Data provided on the [Department of Health Services website](#) may be different than the information provided by WCHD because the state reports data for the entire county based on address, which includes those portions of Menasha and Appleton as well as the correctional facilities.

**For additional Winnebago County Health Department COVID-19 information:**

- [WCHD COVID-19 Webpage](#)
- [Municipality Weekly Data Summaries](#)
- [School District Weekly Data Summaries](#)

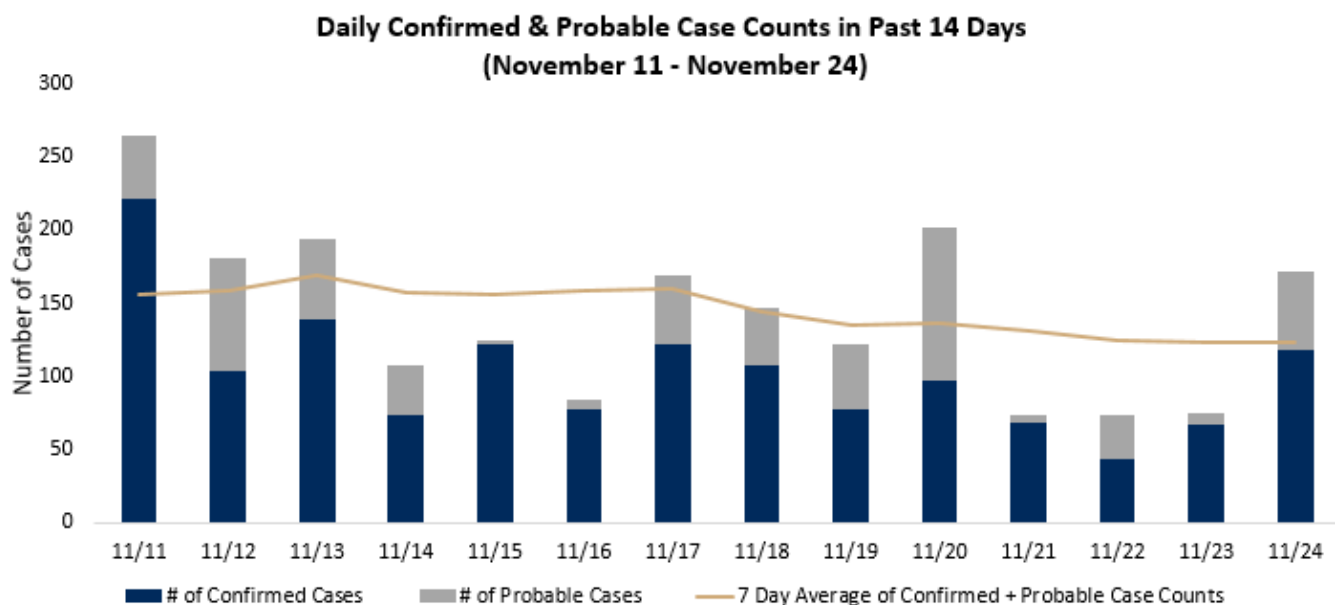
## Case Counts

- **Cumulative Case Counts (3/9/2020 – 11/25/2020)**
  - Confirmed Cases: 10,477
    - Active Cases: 982 (9% of cumulative cases)
    - Recovered Cases: 9,405 (90% of cumulative cases)
  - Probable Cases: 1,079
  - Negative Cases: 57,963
  - \*\*Deaths: 90
- **Case Counts for the Past 14 Days (11/11/2020 – 11/24/2020)**
  - Confirmed Cases: 1,439
  - Probable Cases: 548
  - Negative Cases: 6,503
  - \*\*Deaths: 7

*\*\*Death certificate must list COVID-19 (or the virus causing COVID-19) as a cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death. Healthcare providers and/or coroner determines cause of death.*

## Case Count by Day – Last 2 Weeks

When there is adequate testing in place, trending daily case counts show if the disease is spreading or shrinking and what the overall burden of disease is in our area. This graph shows the number of confirmed cases by the test result date and probable cases by the date their case file was created. **There was an average of 102.8 confirmed cases per day, which is a decrease from the 122.9 cases per day reported last week.** Daily confirmed cases ranged from 43 to 221. There was an average of 39 probable cases per day. The trend line shows the 7-day average for the combined total of confirmed and probable cases. For a full disease curve, see the [dashboard](#) on our [website](#).



Daily confirmed case counts presented here may differ from our situation update and the cases by day graph reported on our dashboard. This chart reflects the test result date instead of the date when the results are actually received by the health department. A person is counted as a confirmed COVID-19 case if they had a positive test result using a confirmatory diagnostic test that detect the genetic material of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 (polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests or nucleic acid amplification tests (NAT)). Reasons a person could be counted as a probable case include: a positive antigen test, positive antibody test, or diagnosis due to symptoms and known exposure to COVID-19.

## Case Rates

- Burden: total number of cases per 100,000 residents in the last two weeks
  - Confirmed Case Rate for past two weeks (November 11 – November 24)
    - 935.9 cases per 100,000 population
    - Very High burden
  - Confirmed Case Rate for previous two weeks (November 4– November 17): 1,119.4 per 100,000 population

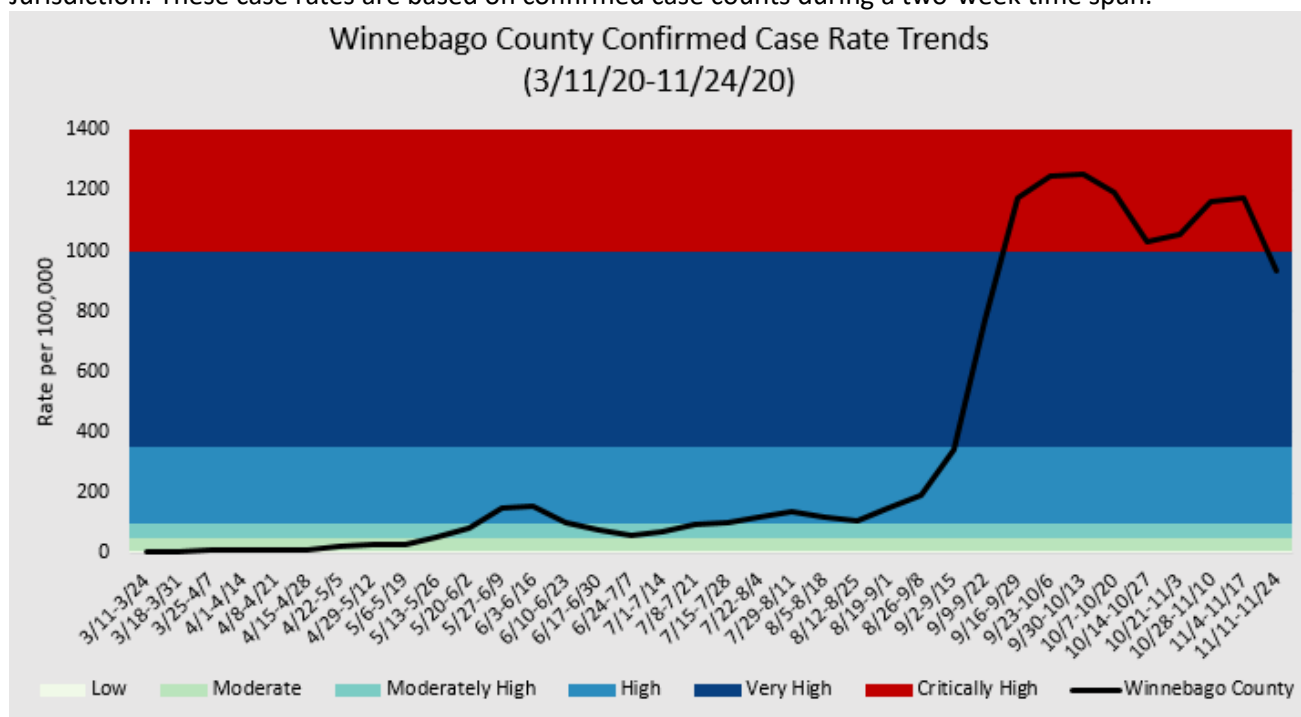
Burden Status	Case Rate per 100,000 residents in the past two weeks	Number of Cases in the past two weeks
Low	Case rate is less than or equal to 10.	Less than 15 cases
Moderate	Case rate is greater than, but less than or equal to 50.	Greater than 15 cases, but less than or equal to 77 cases.
Moderately High	Case rate is greater than 50, but less than or equal to 100.	Greater than 77 cases, but less than or equal to 154 cases.
High	Case rate is greater than 100, but less than or equal to 350.	Greater than 154 cases, but less than or equal to 538 cases.
Very High	Case rate is greater than 350, but less than or equal to 1000.	Greater than 538 cases, but less than or equal to 1,537 cases.
Critically High	Case rate is greater than 1000.	Greater than 1,537 cases.

- Trajectory: Percent change in number of confirmed cases from previous to current week
  - Shrinking
- Activity: Summary indicator based on the burden and trajectory
  - Critically High

View the [DHS COVID Local Activity Level](#) page to learn more about these indicators.

## Biweekly Confirmed Case Rate Trends

The graphs below show confirmed case rate per 100,000 people for the Winnebago County Health Department Jurisdiction. These case rates are based on confirmed case counts during a two-week time span.

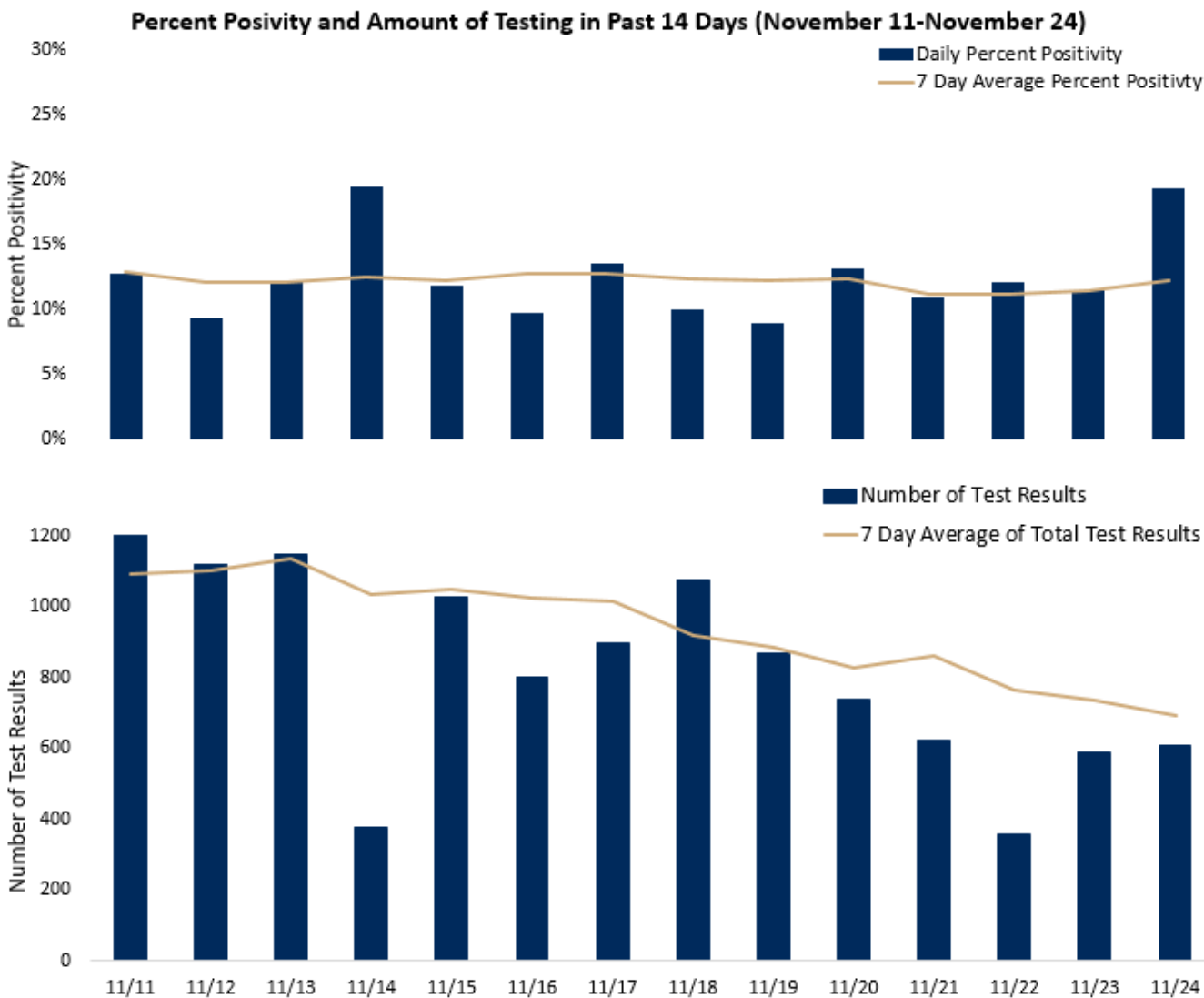


### Amount of Testing and Percent Positivity

Adequate testing capacity and utilization is necessary for identification of active infections of COVID-19. Only through identification of cases may they be investigated to help prevent spread to others. Higher disease activity requires more testing to identify and isolate enough infected people to slow the spread. The percent positivity helps determine if adequate testing is being performed. When percent positivity is high, it may indicate that testing is inadequate to identify enough cases to help control the spread of disease through contact tracing. Our current goal is to have enough testing to keep the percent positivity below 5%. View the [DHS COVID Local Activity Level](#) page to see percent positivity for the state, counties, and regions.

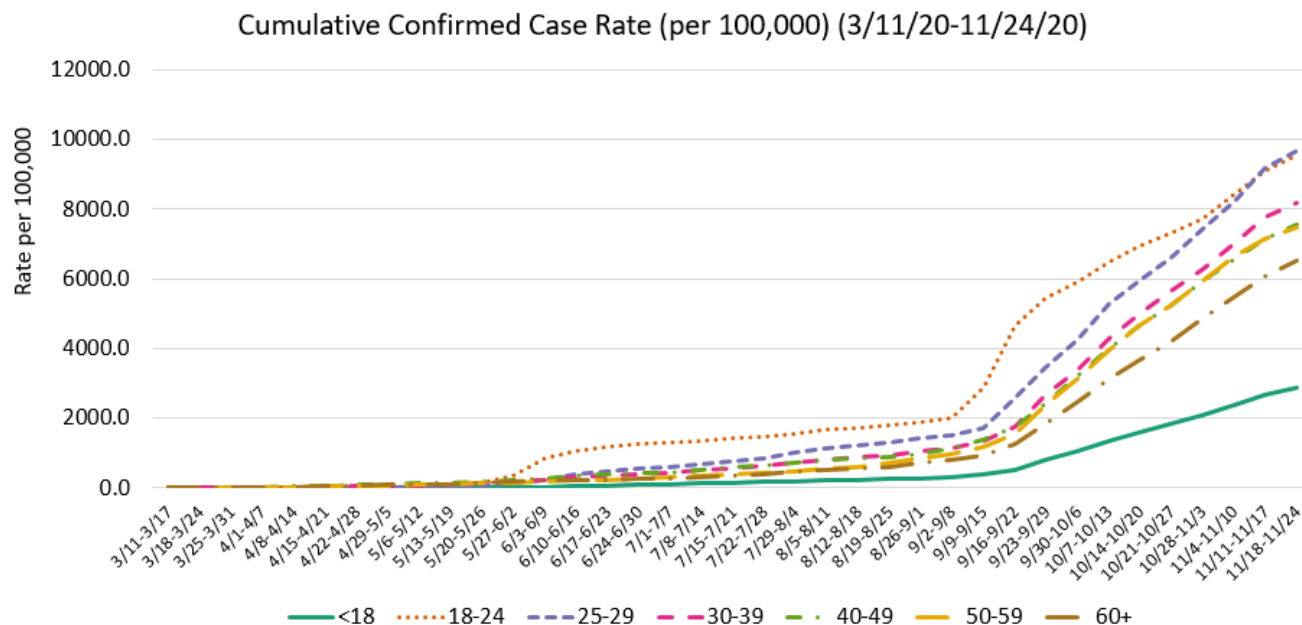
An average of **12.5% of tests were positive**, which is a slight decrease from the 16.7% positivity reported last week. This percent positivity continues to remain far from our goal of remaining below 5% positivity. Daily positivity ranged from 9.0% to 19.5%. Over the past two weeks an **average of 855 PCR tests** were conducted each day among residents within the Winnebago County Health Department jurisdiction.

The [regional COVID-19 testing site](#) at the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh has averaged 369 tests per day over the past two weeks. [Testing](#) is also available at other locations including [CVS pharmacies](#) and multiple community test sites in [Oshkosh](#), [Neenah](#), [Menasha](#), [Shawano](#), [Fond du Lac](#), [Appleton](#), and [Waupaca](#).



## Trending by Age Group

This graph shows how cumulative confirmed case rates by age group have changed over time. Cumulative case rates will always trend upward, it is the rate of increase in that trend that helps us understand what populations are being impacted the most. The cumulative case rate among those aged 25-29 (9,692.1 per 100,000) has surpassed the cumulative case rate among those aged 18-24 (9,566.7 per 100,000).



This table shows the case count and case rate by age group for the past two weeks and cumulatively. Over the past two weeks, **individuals aged 25-29 had the highest confirmed case rate.**

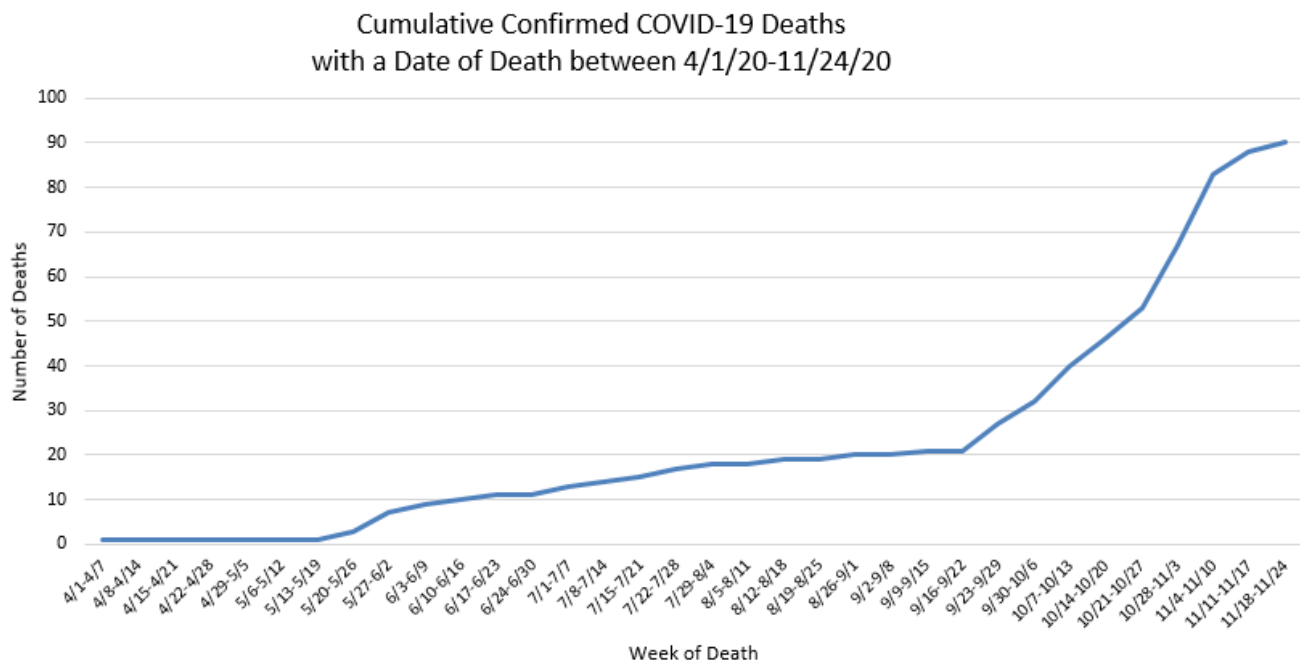
Age Group	Past Two Weeks (11/11/20-11/24/20)				Doubling Time (Days)	Cumulative Confirmed Case Count	Population***
	Case Count	Case Rate (per 100,000)	Percent increase in total cases in that age group	Percent of Cumulative Cases in that age group			
<18	152	491.5	20.8%	17.2%	51.9	883	30,928
18-24	213	1,114.7	13.2%	11.7%	79.1	1,828	19,108
25-29	148	1,460.7	17.7%	15.1%	60.0	982	10,132
30-39	221	1,146.7	16.3%	14.0%	64.9	1,577	19,273
40-49	180	985.3	15.0%	13.0%	70.2	1,382	18,269
50-59	190	832.4	12.5%	11.1%	82.9	1,705	22,826
60+	335	1,035.3	18.8%	15.9%	56.8	2,113	32,359

\*\*\*Age Group Population Data comes from the [2018 census](#). Total Population size across all age groups differs slightly from total population size used to calculate Winnebago County Health Department jurisdiction case rate (153,748) which was determined using 2020 population data from the [WI Department of Administration](#).

## Confirmed COVID-19 Deaths

COVID-19 deaths are deaths among laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19. Those are deaths that have a death certificate that lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 as an underlying cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death. Healthcare providers or medical examiners/coroners determine cause of death. Public reporting of COVID-19 deaths lag while waiting for confirmation.

In the graph below, the data for recent weeks is preliminary and subject to change. Recent deaths are still pending as we await confirmation on cause of death.



These tables show case counts for COVID-19 confirmed deaths by age group and housing type, as well as by ethnicity, race, and sex.

COVID-19 Deaths by Age Group and Housing Type					
Age Group	Not Group	LTCF/ Group	Total Deaths	Rate per 100,00	Population
<60	8	0	8	6.6	120,536
60-69	10	4	14	84.9	16,491
70-79	12	5	15	177.2	9,594
80-89	18	17	33	812.9	6,274
90+	5	11	15		
Total	53	37	90	58.9	152,895

COVID-19 Deaths by Ethnicity, Race, and Sex		
Ethnicity	Hispanic/Latino or Unknown	3
	Not Hispanic/Latino	87
Race	Other or Unknown	4
	White	86
Sex	Female	39
	Male	51

**Long-term care facility (LTCF):** nursing homes, assisted living facilities

**Group housing facility:** Group housing facilities include city and county jails, homeless shelters, dormitories and group homes. Deaths among those living in Wisconsin Department of Corrections facilities (including Oshkosh Correctional Institute) are not included here

**Not group housing facility:** single family homes, apartments, condos, duplexes or townhouses

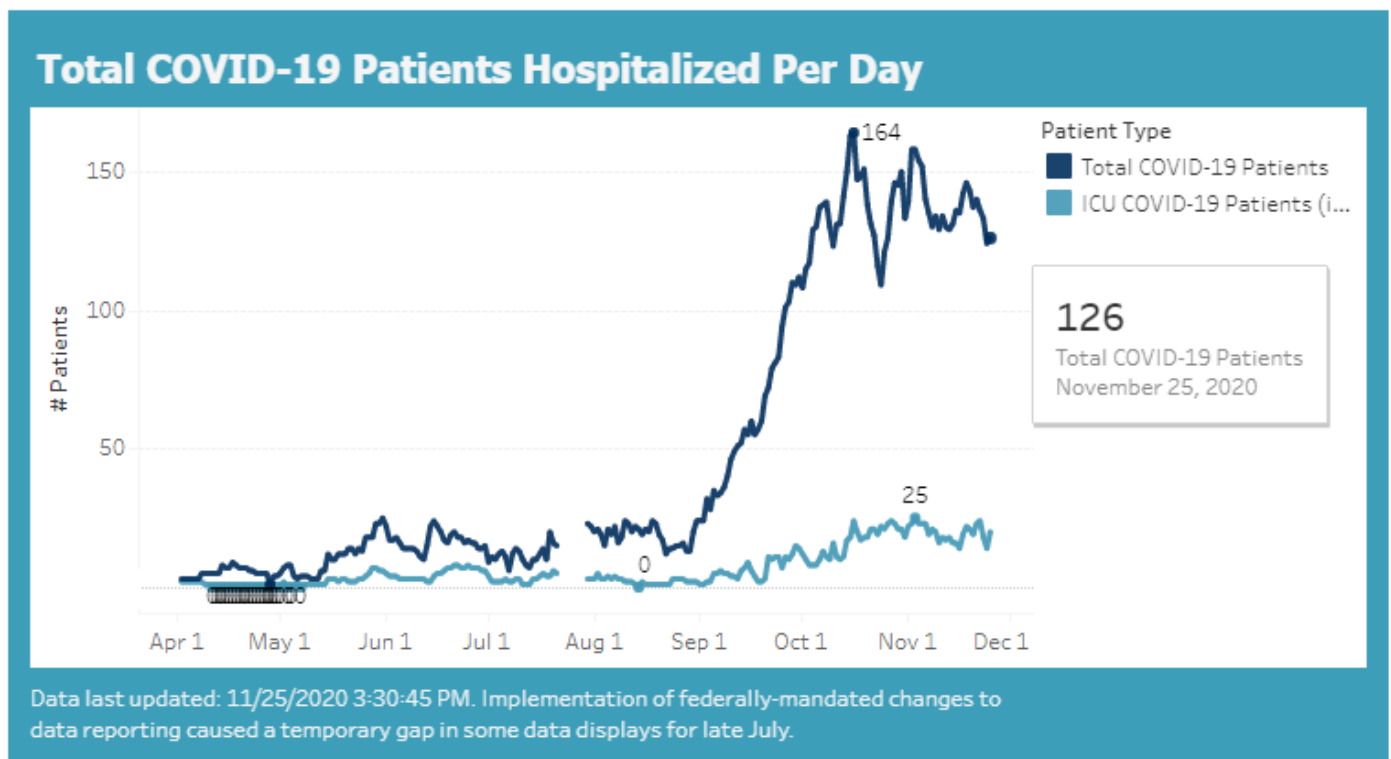
## Healthcare Measures for the Fox Valley Area

The Fox Valley Area HERC Region includes Calumet, Green Lake, Menominee, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago Counties.

It is vital that healthcare systems have adequate capacity to manage patient care in the context of a surge caused by COVID-19. Through adequate testing, case identification and investigation we can help keep case counts at levels that are manageable by our healthcare systems. When healthcare systems exceed their capacity, the ability to treat severe illness is compromised and patients do worse and/or do not get the care they need to survive the illness.

COVID-19 hospitalizations are hitting record levels across the state. In our Fox Valley region, COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to remain at high levels. As of 11/25/2020, there were **126 COVID-19 patients hospitalized** in the Fox Valley Area hospitals with 20 of those patients in the ICU.

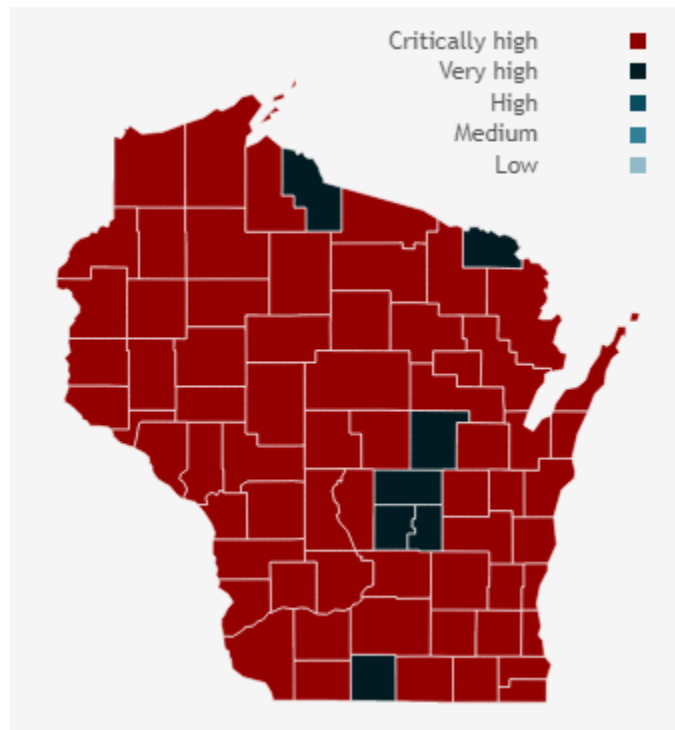
To view more information on healthcare measures in the Fox Valley Area and across the state, please visit <https://www.wha.org/COVID19Update> & <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/hosp-data.htm>





## Burden, Trajectory, and Activity Level Across Wisconsin in Past 14 Days

Updated 11/25/2020



The Wisconsin Department of Health Services classifies regions and counties as critically high, very high, high, medium, or low activity levels for COVID-19 spread by combining the case burden (case rate) and trajectory (change in cases over time) indicators. The state updates this information weekly on Wednesdays by 4 p.m. As of November 25, 2020, Winnebago County\*\*\*\* and the Fox Valley Region are both classified as having a **critically high COVID-19 activity level**.

To view more information on these metrics, please visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm>

Area	Case Count (Past 14 days)	Burden	Trajectory	Activity Level
Winnebago	1,871	1,104.9 Critically High	-46% ▼	Critically High ■
Fox Valley Area	5,772	1,058.3 Critically High	-38% ▼	Critically High ■
Outagamie	1,840	1,001.1 Critically High	-23% ▼	Critically High ■
Wisconsin	83,553	1,445.3 Critically High	-18% ▼	Critically High ■

A trajectory of N/A means there was no significant change in the percent change in cases for this week compared to the previous week.

\*\*\*\*This data is provided by the [Department of Health Services](#) and may be different than the information provided by WCHD because the state reports data for the entire county, which includes the portions of Winnebago County that fall within the jurisdiction of the [City of Menasha Health Department](#) and [City of Appleton Health Department](#).