Winnebago County Health Department
COVID-19 Weekly Data Summary
December 17, 2020

Summary

- A small amount of vaccine arrives this week and is prioritized for healthcare workers who work in the highest risk care areas. More vaccine is expected to arrive late December for staff and residents in skilled nursing facilities.

- **Stay at home.** If you are over 65 or have significant health conditions, avoid indoor public spaces where anyone is unmasked due to the immediate risk to your health. Whenever possible, have your groceries and medications delivered. If you develop any symptoms, get tested immediately as the majority of therapeutics work best early in infection. If you are under 40, it is possible you may be infectious to others when you do not have symptoms or your symptoms are mild. Avoid gathering with anyone outside your home, especially those at increased risk for severe disease, and get tested after a known or potential exposure to the virus or if you have any symptoms, even if they are mild.

- We are seeing a decrease in cases and overall testing numbers in recent weeks. **Our burden still remains very high**. 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.

- Safely support local businesses. Use local curbside pickup and delivery to help support local service industries. 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.

- **Deaths continue to rise.** Nearly half (49%) of the 132 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in our jurisdiction have occurred in the past 6 weeks.

- The ability for hospitals to care for all patients is strained as COVID-19 hospitalizations remain high and healthcare facilities experience staffing shortage. As of 12/16/20, Fox Valley area hospitals had 81 COVID-19 patients hospitalized, a decrease from the 89 patients last week. The Wisconsin State Fair Park Alternate Care Facility currently has 4 patients.

- The confirmed + probable case rate over the past 2 weeks for our jurisdiction is 759.7 cases per 100,000 people, a decrease from the 808.5 cases per 100,000 last week. The number of cases (confirmed/probable) in the first week of this 2-week timeframe was 533/183 and for this most recent week is 321/131. Cases are distributed throughout all jurisdictions and adult age groups. Individuals aged 25-29 and 30-39 had the highest confirmed case rates of 858.7 and 850.0 per 100,000 over the past 2 weeks. Rates are lowest in those under 18 (384.8 per 100,000).

- Over this past week, 10.6% of PCR tests in Wisconsin were positive and 7.1% of PCR tests across all of Winnebago County were positive, which is still above our goal of remaining below 5% positivity. Many people with symptoms are only receiving antigen tests, which are excluded from our percent positivity calculation, leading to artificially lower percentages.

- Over the past two weeks, an average of 737 PCR tests were conducted each day among residents within the Winnebago County Health Department jurisdiction. The regional COVID-19 testing site at Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh has averaged 226 PCR tests per day over the past 2 weeks. If you have been tested, please stay home until you receive your test results and follow the guidance provided.

- **Contact tracing capacity has expanded this week due to increased staff capacity**. We continue to ask for the community's help with notification of close contacts. Early notification and quarantine of exposed individuals is an important tool in limiting spread of COVID-19. View our website for updated testing information.

Background Information

This report provides *preliminary* data on the confirmed COVID-19 cases from December 2 – December 15, 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.**

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
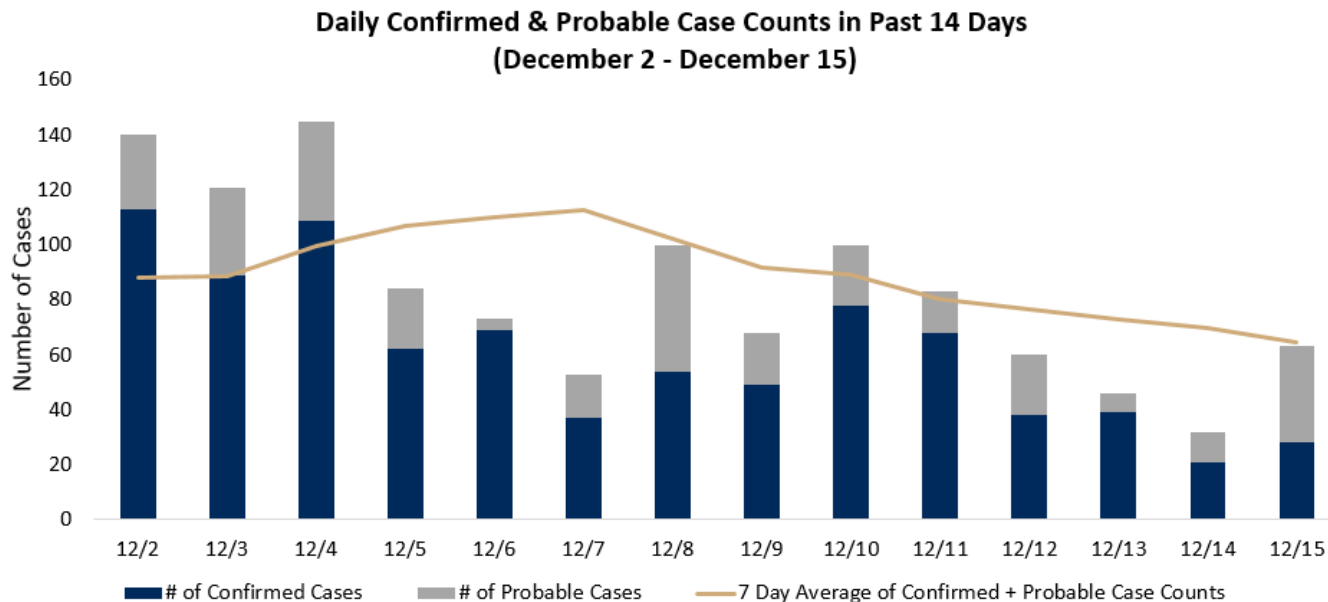- School District Weekly Data Summaries

Case Counts

	Case Counts for the Past 14 Days 12/2/2020-12/15/2020	Cumulative Case Counts 3/9/2020-12/16/2020
Confirmed Cases	854	11,840
Active Cases		549 (5% of cumulative cases)
Recovered Cases		11,170 (94% of cumulative cases)
Probable Cases	314	1,520
Negative Cases	3,671	63,352
Deaths**	16	132
Among Confirmed Cases	10	121
Among Probable Cases	6	11

**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. Includes deaths among PCR confirmed cases and probable cases.

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 61.0 confirmed cases per day, which is stable with the 61.6 cases per day reported last week**. Daily confirmed cases ranged from 21 to 113. There was an average of 22 probable cases per day, which is a decrease from the 27 probable cases per day reported last week. 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 (December 2 – December 15)
        - 555.5 cases per 100,000 population
        - Very High burden
    - *Confirmed Case Rate for previous two weeks (November 25– December 8):* 561.3 *per 100,000 population*
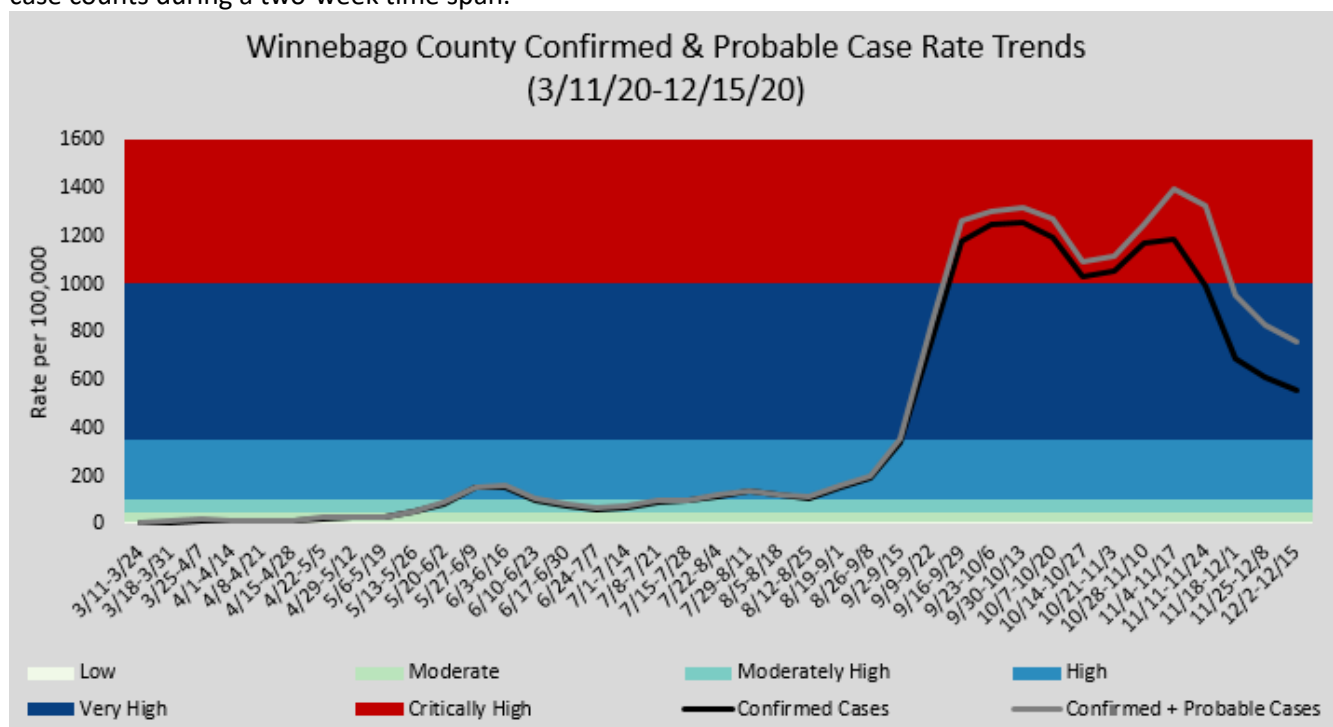
Burden Status	Case Rate per 100,000 residents in the past two weeks	Number of Cases in the past two weeks
Low	Case rate is less than or equal to 10.	Less than 15 cases
Moderate	Case rate is greater than, but less than or equal to 50.	Greater than 15 cases, but less than or equal to 77 cases.
Moderately 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
    - Very High

View the DHS COVID Local Activity Level page to learn more about these indicators.

Biweekly Confirmed & Probable Case Rate Trends

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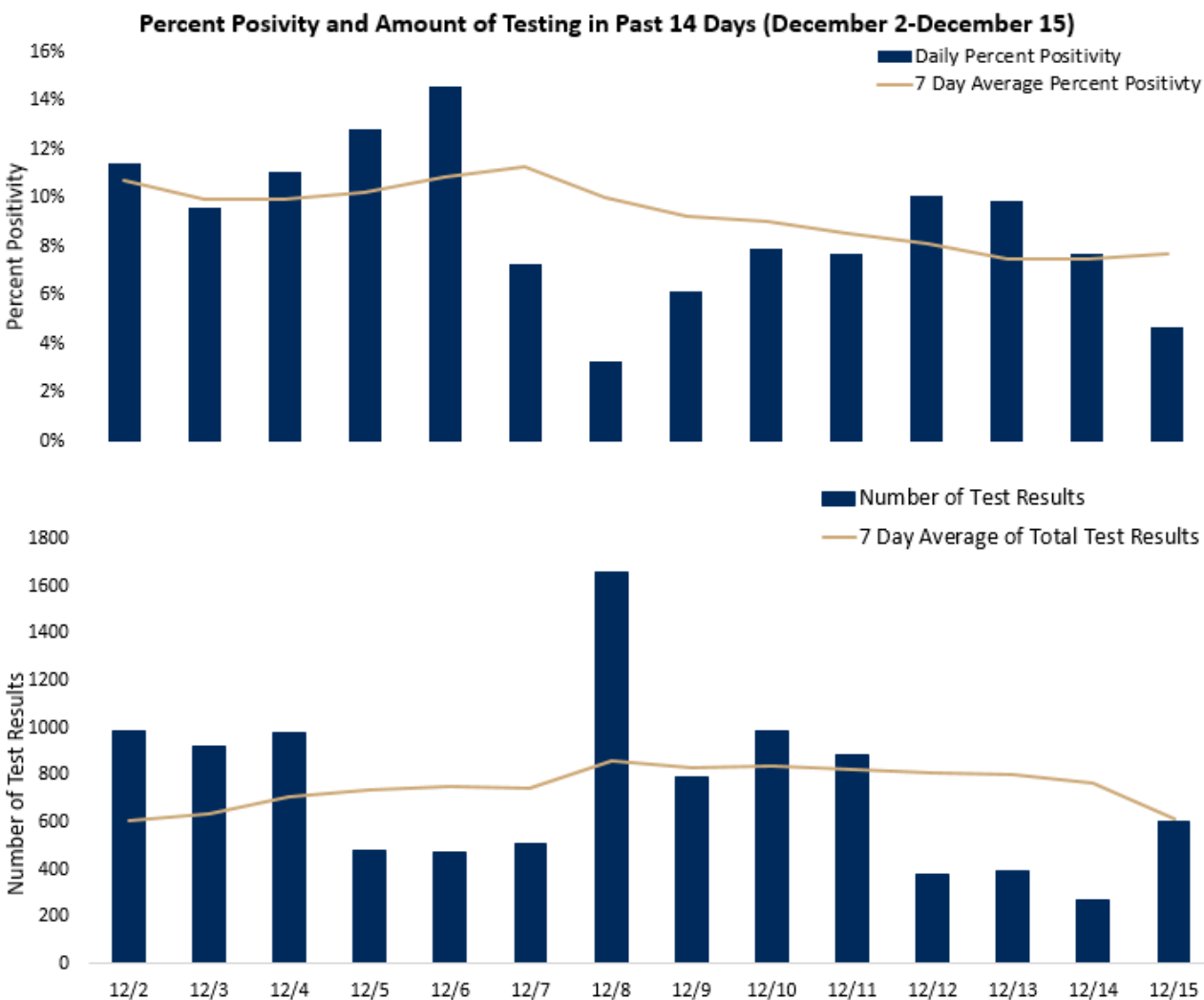
Amount of Testing and Percent Positivity

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.
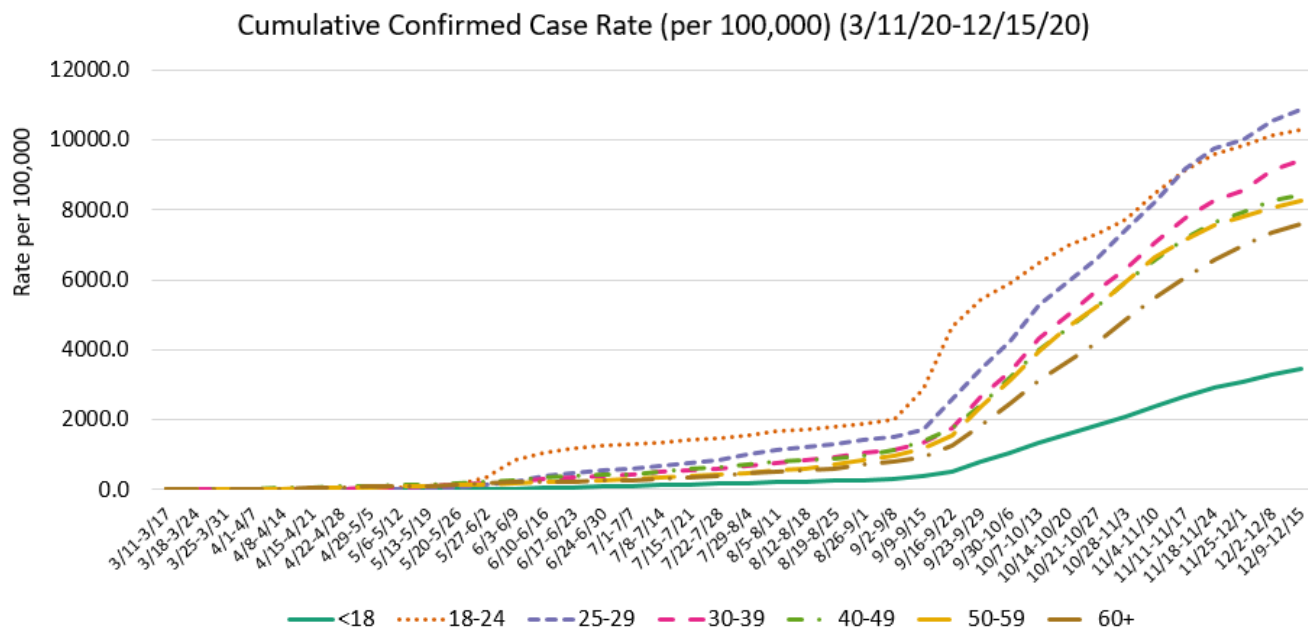
An average of **8.9% of tests were positive**, which is a decrease from the 10.6% positivity reported last week. This percent positivity continues to remain above our goal of remaining below 5% positivity. Daily positivity ranged from 3.3% to 14.6%. Over the past two weeks an **average of 737 PCR tests** were conducted each day among residents within the Winnebago County Health Department jurisdiction. Antigen tests are not included in the testing numbers and are excluded from the percent positivity calculation. A PCR confirmed case is only counted once in the percent positivity calculation.

The regional COVID-19 testing site at the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh has averaged 226 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.

Percent Posivity and Amount of Testing in Past 14 Days (December 2-December 15)

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 (10,896.2 per 100,000) has surpassed the cumulative case rate among those aged 18-24 (10,315.1 per 100,000).

Cumulative Confirmed Case Rate (per 100,000) (3/11/20-12/15/20)

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 25-39 had the highest confirmed case rates**.
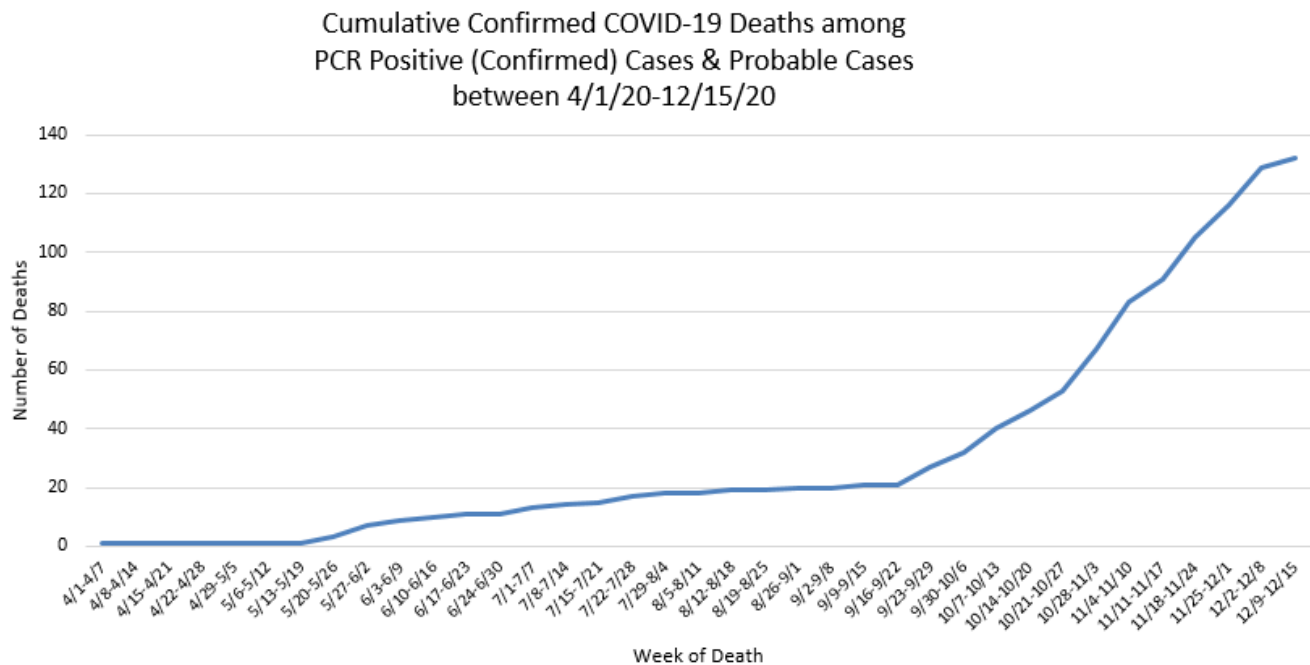
| Age Group | Past Two Weeks (12/2/20-12/15/20) | | | | Doubling Time (Days) | Cumulative Confirmed Case Count | Population*** |
	Case Count	Case Rate (per 100,000)	Percent increase in total cases in that age group	Percent of Cumulative Cases in that age group			
<18	119	384.8	12.6%	11.2%	82.8	1,066	30,928
18-24	93	486.7	5.0%	4.7%	202.7	1,970	19,108
25-29	87	858.7	8.6%	7.9%	119.3	1,103	10,132
30-39	164	850.9	9.9%	9.0%	103.5	1,816	19,273
40-49	91	498.1	6.3%	5.9%	161.1	1,542	18,269
50-59	101	442.5	5.7%	5.4%	177.8	1,883	22,826
60+	199	615.0	8.8%	8.1%	115.8	2,453	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

Confirmed COVID-19 deaths include deaths among PCR confirmed cases and probable cases. Confirmed COVID-19 deaths have a death certificate that lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 as a 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.

Cumulative Confirmed COVID-19 Deaths among PCR Positive (Confirmed) Cases & Probable Cases between 4/1/20-12/15/20

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

All Confirmed COVID-19 Deaths by Age Group and Housing Type					
Age Group	Not Group	LTCF/ Group	Total Deaths	Rate per 100,00	Population
<60	10	0	10	8.3	120,536
60-69	15	4	19	115.2	16,491
70-79	22	10	32	333.5	9,594
80-89	24	21	45	1,131.7	6,274
90+	5	21	26		
Total	76	56	132	86.3	152,895

All Confirmed COVID-19 Deaths by Ethnicity, Race, and Sex		
Ethnicity	Hispanic/Latino or Unknown	8
	Not Hispanic/Latino	124
Race	Other or Unknown	9
	White	123
Sex	Female	59
	Male	73

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
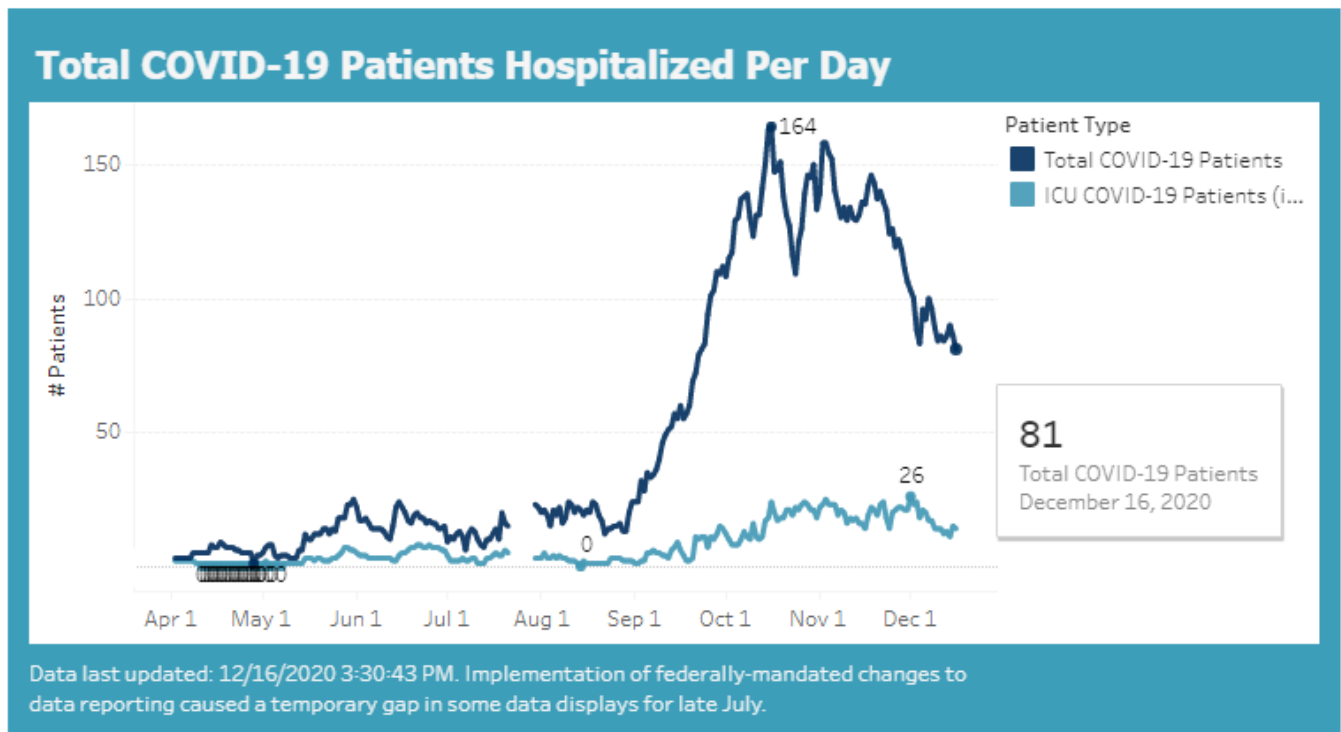
Healthcare Measures for the Fox Valley Area

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.
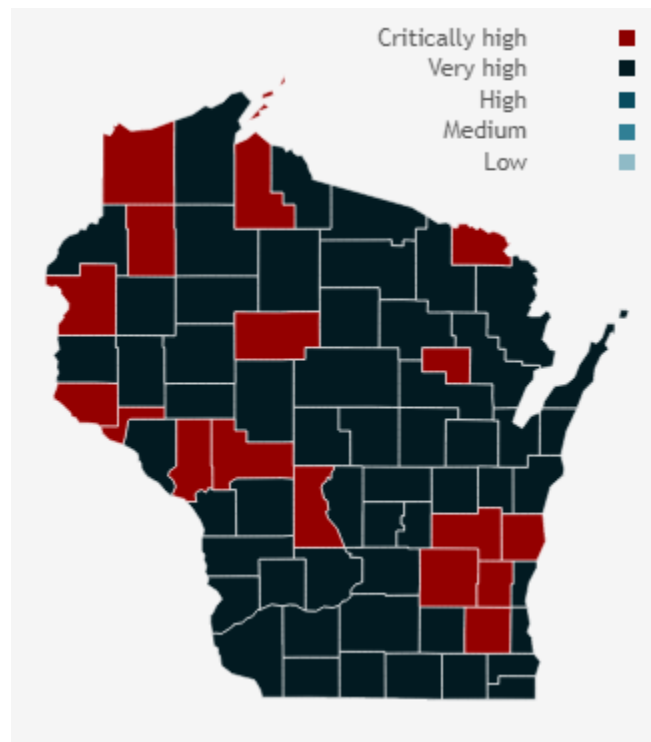
COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to remain dangerously high across the state. As of 12/16/2020, there were **81 COVID-19 patients hospitalized** in the Fox Valley Area hospitals with 14 of those patients in the ICU.

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 12/16/2020

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 5 p.m. As of December 16, 2020, Winnebago County**** and the Fox Valley Region are both classified as having a **very 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	1,067	630.1	Very High	-19%	▼	Very High	■
Fox Valley Area	3,379	619.6	Very High	-13%	▼	Very High	■
Outagamie	1,252	681.2	Very High	-20%	▼	Very High	■
Wisconsin	49,726	860.2	Very High	-16%	▼	Very 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.*