Winnebago County Health Department
COVID-19 Weekly Data Summary

December 23, 2021

Health care is at capacity, take precautions now to help save those that need medical attention. What you do now makes a difference.

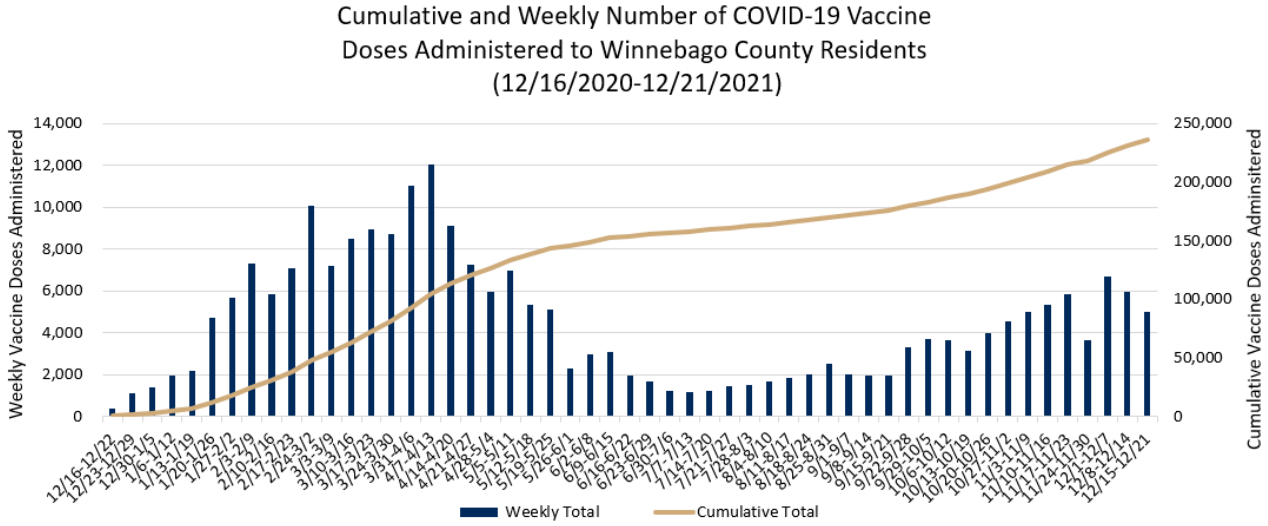
Summary

- Winnebago County Health Department and Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) are urging everyone to take urgent action to prevent hospitalizations and death. Public health officials are concerned that already strained health care systems will become further overwhelmed because of the Omicron variant, leading to dangerous situations where hospitals will be unable to serve patients who require care. DHS is advising everyone to get vaccinated against COVID-19, wear a well-fitting mask, and get tested for COVID-19.
- Situational Awareness:
  - Winnebago County is at a **very high** burden status and activity level. While it appears we are coming off a Delta peak, cases remain very high and we are bracing for a surge due to Omicron in the coming weeks.
  - There are currently 133 COVID-19 patients hospitalized in Fox Valley Area hospitals. Local health systems are at a crisis point and are severely strained due to the current spike in cases. Wisconsin COVID-19 hospitalizations are at the highest levels since December 2020.
  - 63.8% of Winnebago County residents aged 5 or older have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose.
- Happy holidays! Celebrate the holidays safely by keeping gatherings small, getting tested before visiting others, and staying home if you test positive or have any symptoms.
- Omicron is a new variant of the virus that causes COVID-19. The Omicron variant has been detected in a growing number of states, including Wisconsin. The Omicron variant is yet another reason to get vaccinated and get a booster if you are eligible. Find a vaccination location at www.wcvaccine.org.
- Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and the community, especially as we have moved into more indoor activities and holiday gatherings. If you get COVID-19, you also risk giving it to loved ones who may get very sick. COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to reduce the risk of getting the virus and also protect the people around you, particularly those at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Unvaccinated people account for the vast majority of severe cases, hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19. The risk of having a serious adverse reaction to the vaccine is very low — far lower than the risk of contracting COVID-19. Vaccines are free and do not require an ID or insurance at many locations.
- DHS recommends a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose for everyone 16 and older. Boosters are recommended 6 months after completion of the initial Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series, and two months after receiving Johnson & Johnson. The FDA and CDC have approved mixing and matching of vaccines, so individuals may choose a different vaccine type than they originally received. The CDC recommends people receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) over Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine, when possible and appropriate.
- To help keep schools open, have your child wear a mask, stay home when ill, and get tested if they have symptoms or were exposed to COVID-19. If your child is ill or has been exposed to COVID-19, keep all other children in your household home too. We currently have the highest rates of cases in children since the start of the pandemic. Act now, find a vaccine clinic at www.wcvaccine.org.
- COVID-19 testing remains an important tool in reducing spread of the virus to others. Whether you are vaccinated or unvaccinated, protect others by getting a COVID-19 test if you have symptoms, were exposed to the virus, or feel you need a test. Even if you have no symptoms or mild symptoms, you can infect others.
  - If you were exposed to COVID-19, it's best to wait 5-7 days from exposure to get tested. If you test too early, the viral load may not be enough to show up on a test. If exposure is ongoing, additional testing is recommended. Anyone with symptoms should get tested immediately.
  - Sunnyview Expo Center PCR test results currently take approximately 2-3 days. Visit our website for a list of testing locations in Winnebago County.
- Only the *highest risk close contacts* are being contacted directly by public health – we are asking people that test positive for COVID-19 to reach out to all close contacts themselves.
- Vaccines are available for anyone five and older any day of the week. Visit www.wcvaccine.org to find answers to your vaccine questions and find a vaccination site near you.

COVID-19 Vaccination Data

As of 12/22/2021, **6,769,514 doses** of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to Wisconsin residents with 61.6% of the Wisconsin population having received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 57.9% of the Wisconsin population have completed the vaccine series.

As of 12/22/2021, **237,128 doses** of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to Winnebago County residents with 60.3% of the county population having received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 58.3% of the county population have completed the vaccine series. Of Winnebago County residents aged 5 or older, 63.8% have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Since August 12, 2021, over 41,000 3rd doses/booster doses have been administered to Winnebago County residents. Since November 7, 2021 over 3,100 first doses have been administered to children ages 5 to 11.



This table shows the number and percent of Winnebago County residents who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by demographic breakdown. Data will differ slightly from what is posted on the DHS website due to differences in population estimates used and because the data is extracted at a different time of day.

		Number	Percent	Population*			Number	Percent	Population*
Ethnicity	Hispanic or Latino	3,506	50.0%	7,017	Sex	Female	54,341	64.3%	84,556
	Not Hispanic or Latino	96,698	59.2%	163,394		Male	48,171	56.1%	85,855
	Unknown	2,495				Unknown	187		
Race	American Indian or Alaska Native	600	59.4%	1,010	Age Group	5-11	3,135	23.0%	13,635
						12-15	4,177	52.4%	7,974
	Asian	3,303	69.6%	4,748		16-17	2,248	54.8%	4,103
						18-24	8,301	40.5%	20,491
	Black or African-American	1,603	41.4%	3,874		25-34	12,938	57.7%	22,442
						35-44	13,879	68.9%	20,144
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	123	95.3%	129		45-54	14,222	63.5%	22,390
						55-64	18,170	79.5%	22,846
	Other Race	7,595	99.9%**	4,291		65-74	15,155	99.9%**	15,050
	White	86,723	55.5%	156,359		75+	10,473	87.5%	11,964
	Unknown	2,752				5+	102,699	63.8%	161,039

*Age Group Population Data comes from the 2019 census. Population sizes used in this table are for all of Winnebago County, not just the jurisdiction of Winnebago County Health Department. Population sizes will differ from population sizes used elsewhere in these reports.

** The metric for percent of population vaccinated has been capped at 99.9%. These metrics could be greater than 99.9% for multiple reasons, such as census denominator data not including all individuals that currently reside in the jurisdiction, differences in racial category classification, etc.

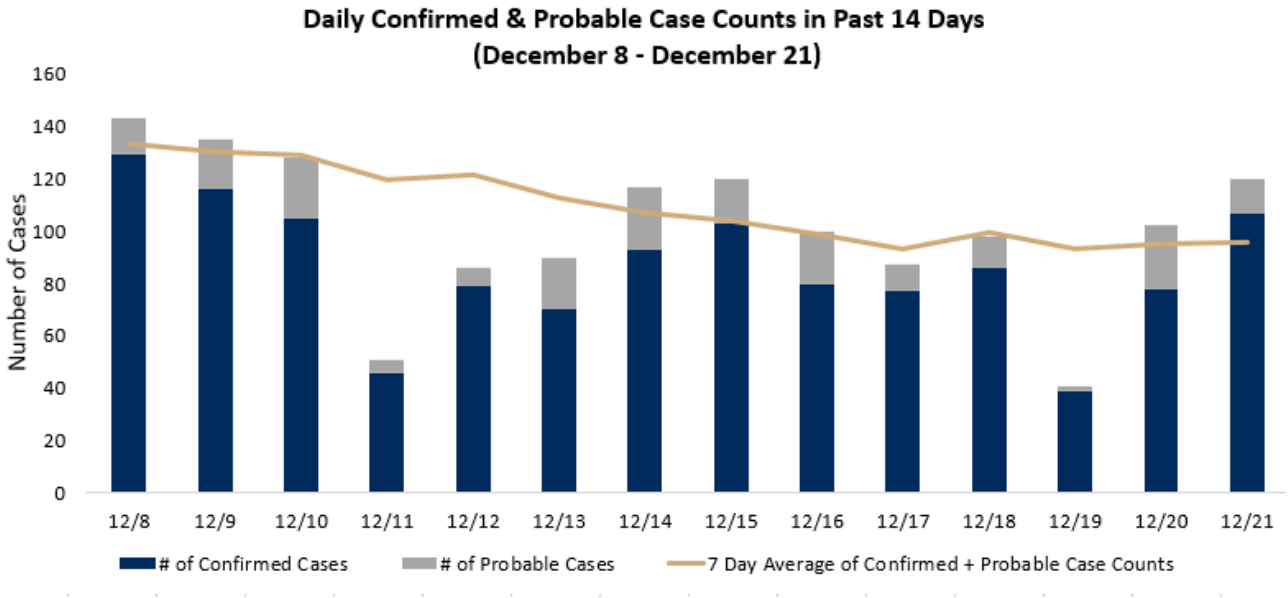
Reported Case Counts

	Case Counts for the Past 14 Days 12/8/2021-12/21/2021	Cumulative Case Counts 3/9/2020-12/22/2021
Confirmed Cases	1,208	24,641
Active Cases		1,091 (4% of cumulative cases)
Recovered Cases		23,322 (95% of cumulative cases)
Probable Cases	210	4,864
Negative Cases	1,946	115,952
Deaths**	10	261
Among Confirmed Cases	8	228
Among Probable Cases	2	33

***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. Data includes COVID 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 the overall burden of disease in our area. This graph shows the number of confirmed cases by test result date and probable cases by the date their case file was created. **There was an average of 101.3 confirmed and probable cases per day, which is a decrease from the 122.7 confirmed and probable cases per day last week. Total daily confirmed and probable case counts ranged from 41 to 143 cases.** There was an average of 86.3 confirmed cases per day, which is a decrease from the 101.7 cases per day last week. There was an average of 15.0 probable cases per day, which is a decrease from the 21.0 probable cases per day 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 detects the genetic material of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 (polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests or nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT)). Reasons a person could be counted as a probable case include: a positive antigen test or diagnosis due to symptoms and known exposure to COVID-19.

Burden Status

Burden status is the total number of reported cases per 100,000 residents in the last two weeks.

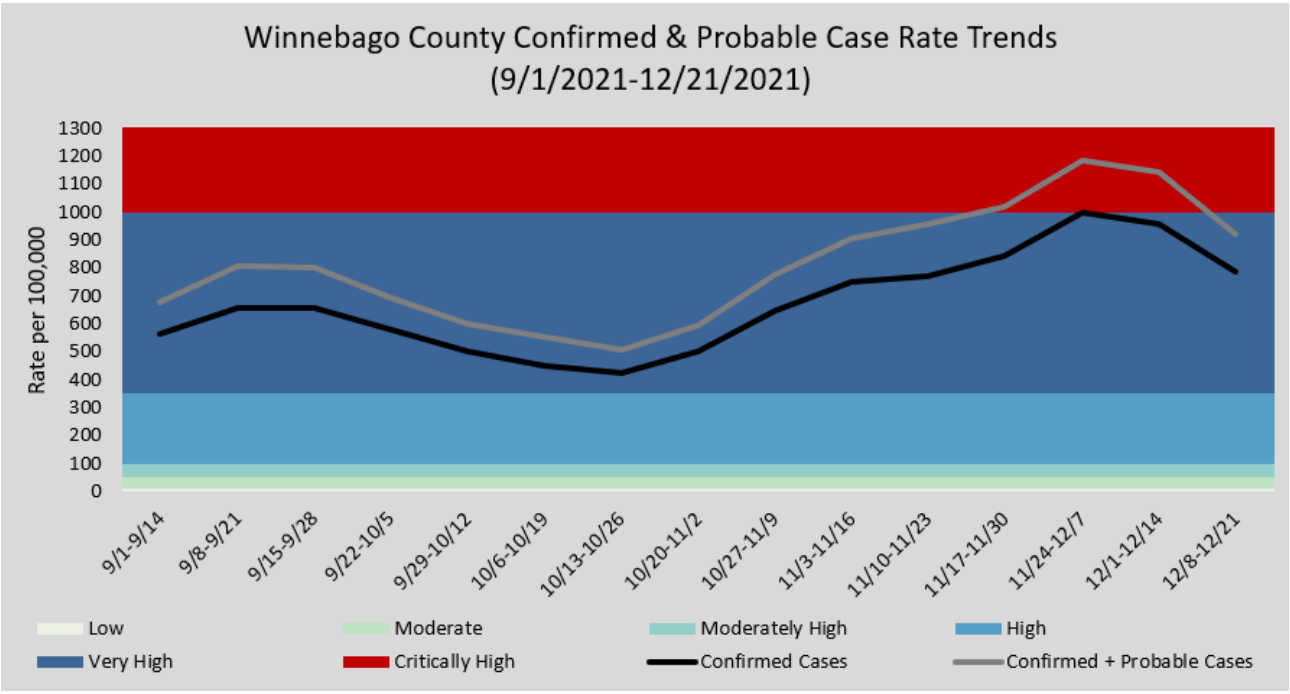
Dates	Confirmed Cases	Probable Cases	Total (Confirmed + Probable)
12/8-12/14	638	110	748
12/15-12/21	570	100	670
Total for last two weeks	1,208	210	1,418
Case rates for last two weeks (per 100,000 population)	785.7	136.6	922.3

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 or about 1 case per day.
Moderate	Case rate is greater than 10, but less than or equal to 50.	Greater than 15 cases, but less than or equal to 77 cases or less than 6 cases per day.
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 1,000.	Greater than 538 cases, but less than or equal to 1,537 cases.
Critically High	Case rate is greater than 1,000.	Greater than 1,537 cases.

Case rate is determined by number of new confirmed cases in a particular group (such as an age group) during the past two weeks, divided by the population of that particular group, multiplied by 100,000. View the DHS COVID Local Activity Level page to learn more about burden status.

Biweekly Confirmed & Probable Case Rate Trends

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

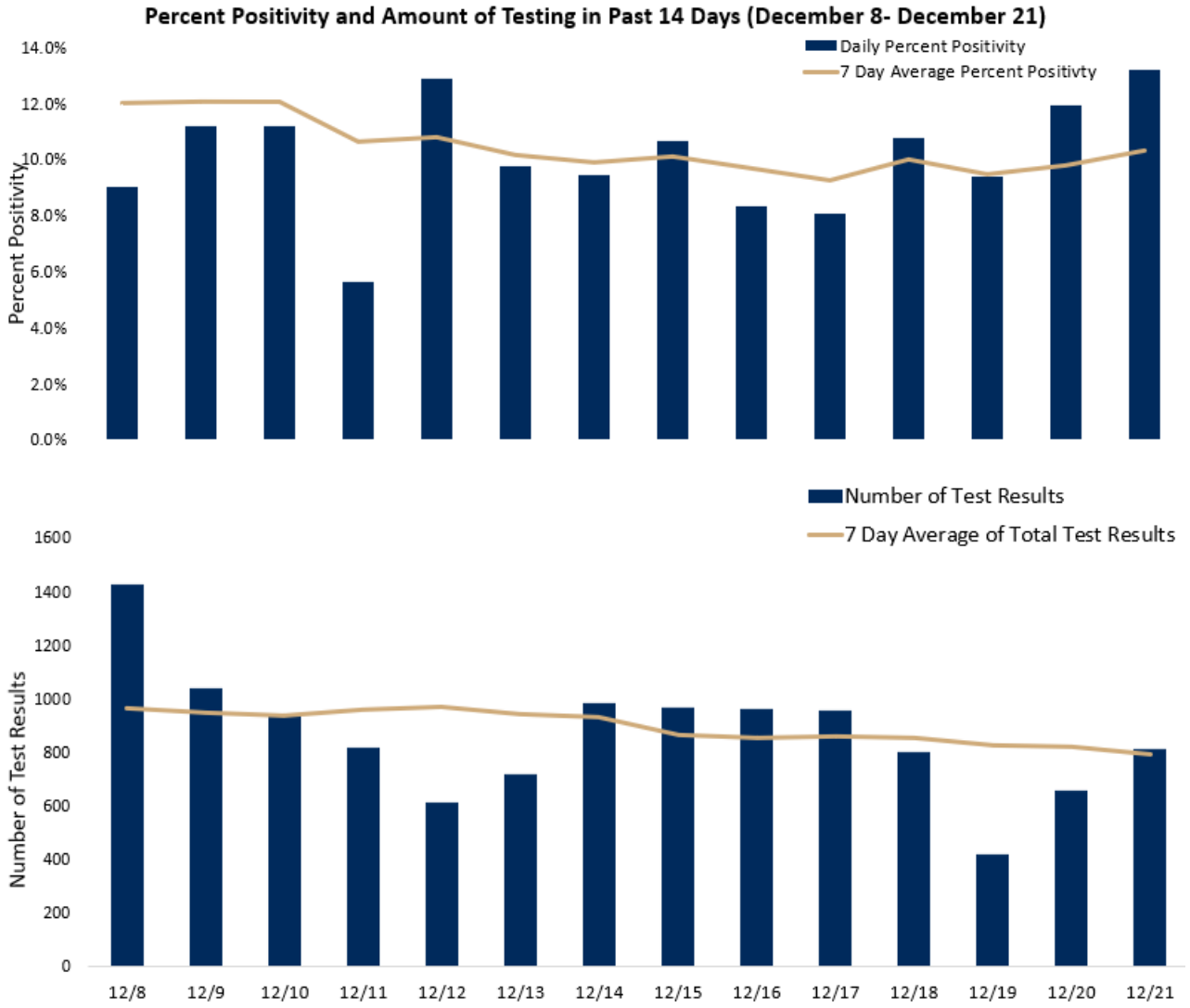


Amount of Testing and Percent Positivity

Adequate testing capacity and utilization are necessary for identification of active infections of COVID-19, and investigations into those positive cases helps prevent the spread of the virus. Higher disease activity requires more testing to identify and isolate enough infected people to slow the spread. The percent positivity helps determine if there is adequate testing. A high percent positivity may indicate an inadequate amount of testing, which limits the number of identified cases and subsequent contact tracing used to help reduce the spread of the virus. 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.

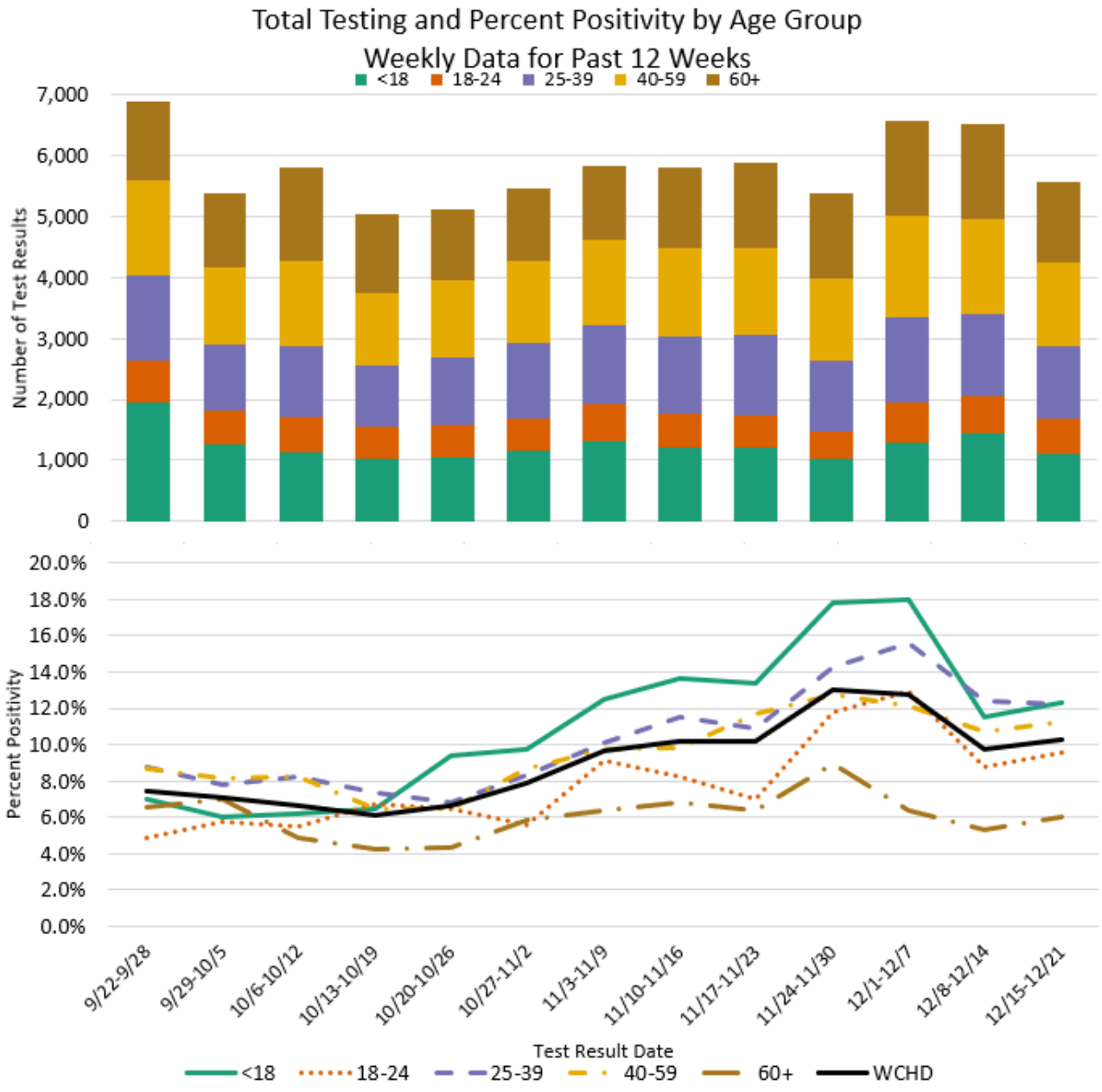
Over the past two weeks, **10.0% of PCR tests were positive**, which is a decrease from the 11.3% positivity last week. Over the past two weeks an **average of 863 PCR tests** were conducted each day among residents within the Winnebago County Health Department jurisdiction. Antigen tests are not included in the testing numbers or the percent positivity calculation.

Testing is available at the regional COVID-19 testing site at Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh as well as other locations including CVS pharmacies and community test sites in and Appleton.



Amount of Testing and Percent Positivity by Age Group

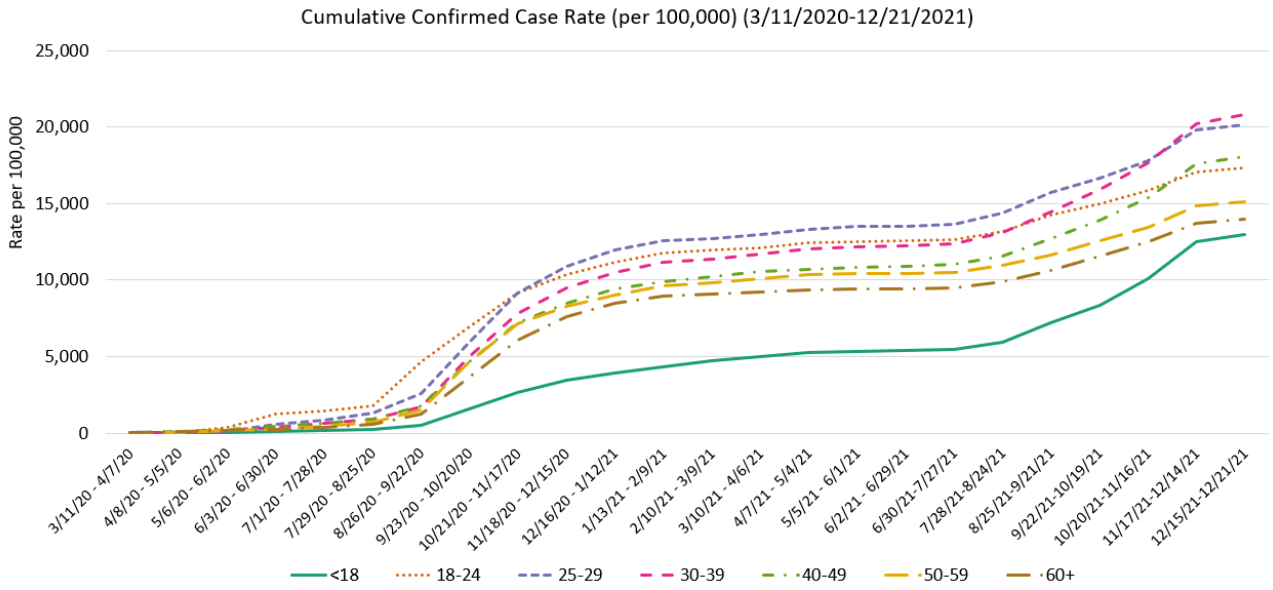
The figures below show the percent positivity and total testing numbers by age group. Antigen tests are not included in the testing numbers or the percent positivity calculation. A PCR confirmed case is only counted once in the percent positivity calculation, meaning a person with multiple positive PCR tests only counts as one confirmed case. Over the past week, individuals aged <18 had a 12.3% positivity rate. Over the past week, **10.3% of PCR tests were positive** in our jurisdiction, which is an increase from the 9.8% positivity reported for the previous week (12/8-12/14).



12/15-12/21	<18	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	Total
Percent Positivity	12.3%	9.5%	12.2%	11.2%	6.0%	10.3%
Testing Rates per 100,000 population	3,938	2,967	4,448	3,465	4,017	3,634
Number of Tests	1,107	567	1,201	1,380	1,300	5,556
Population	30,928	19,108	29,405	41,095	32,359	152,895

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.



This table shows the case count and case rate by age group for the past two weeks and cumulatively.

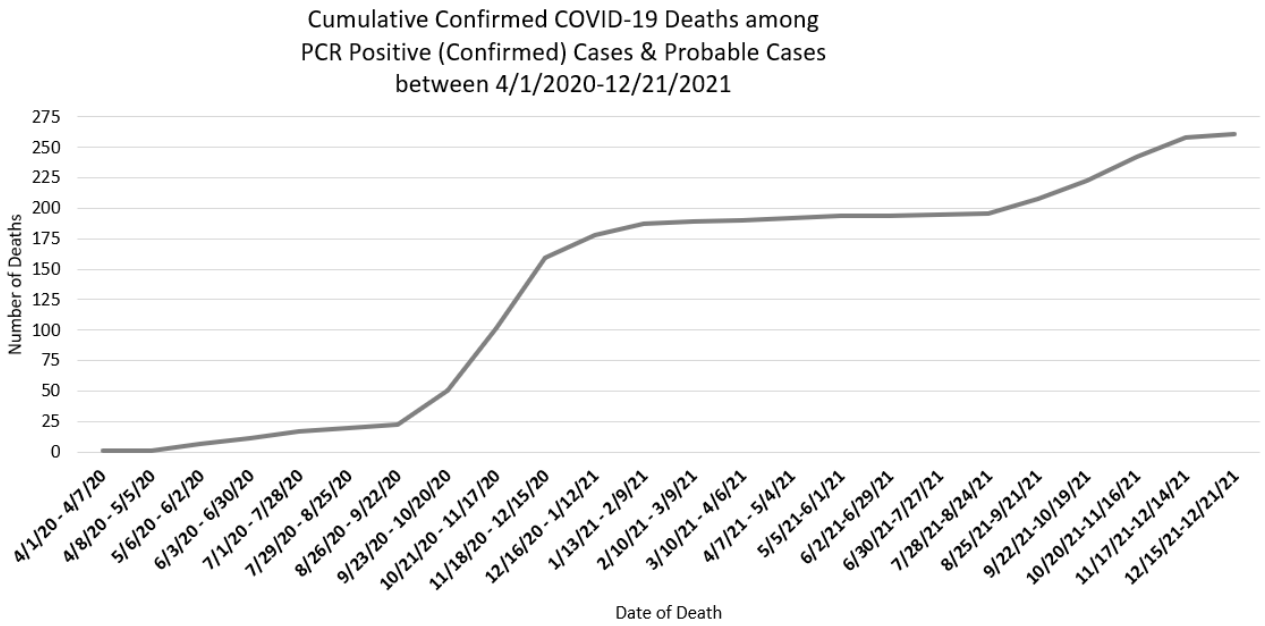
Age Group	Past Two Weeks (12/8/21-12/21/21)		Cumulative PCR Confirmed Case Count	Population***
	PCR Confirmed Case Count	Case Rate (per 100,000)		
<5	46	554.7	599	8,293
5-9	103	1,247.6	1,191	8,256
10-14	95	1,062.2	1,285	8,944
15-17	58	1,067.2	928	5,435
18-24	107	560.0	3,311	19,108
25-29	81	799.4	2,038	10,132
30-39	233	1,208.9	4,009	19,273
40-49	191	1,045.5	3,299	18,269
50-59	133	582.7	3,446	22,826
60+	161	497.5	4,508	32,359

***Age Group Population Data comes from the 2018 census. Total Population size across all age groups (152,895) 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.



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 100,000	Population
<50	12	1	13	13.3	97,710
50-59	25	1	26	113.9	22,826
60-69	34	8	42	254.7	16,491
70-79	39	19	58	604.5	9,594
80-89	44	34	78	1,944.5	6,274
90+	14	30	44		
Total	168	93	261	170.7	152,895

All Confirmed COVID-19 Deaths by Ethnicity, Race, and Sex		
Ethnicity	Hispanic/Latino or Unknown	22
	Not Hispanic/Latino	239
Race	Other or Unknown	21
	White	240
Sex	Female	111
	Male	150

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

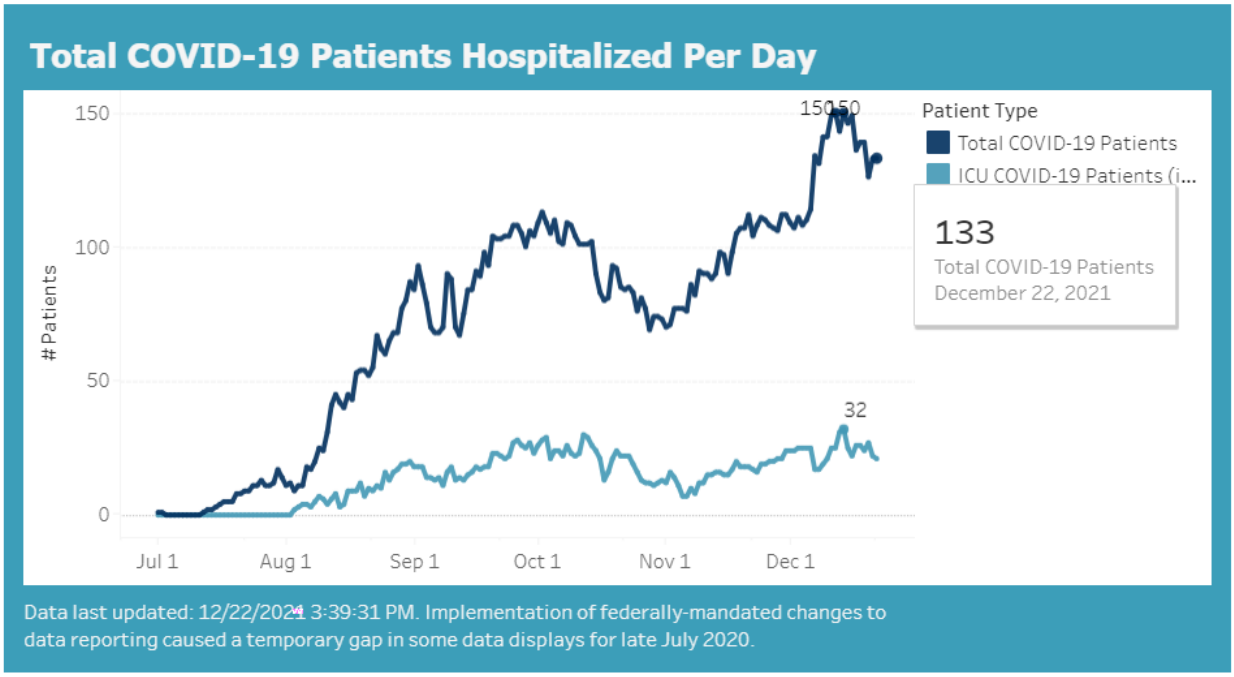
Healthcare Measures for the Fox Valley Area

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.

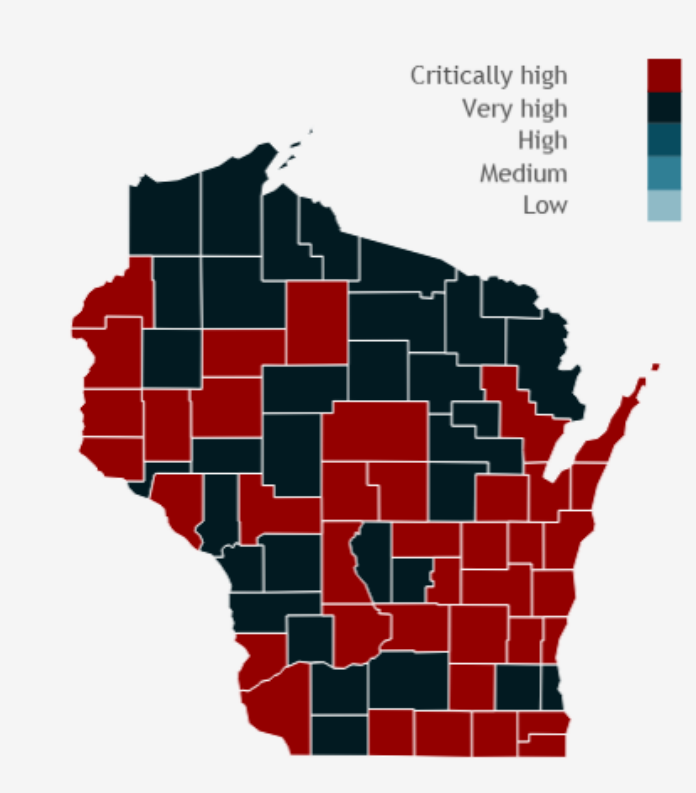
As of 12/22/2021, there were **133 COVID-19 patients hospitalized** in the Fox Valley Area hospitals with 21 of those patients in the ICU.

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



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

Updated 12/22/2021



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 22, 2021, Winnebago County**** and the Fox Valley Region were 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	Confirmed + Probable Case Count (Past 14 days)	Burden		Trajectory	Activity Level	Percent Positive (Past 7 Days)
Winnebago	1,861	1,098.9	Critically High	-28% ▼	Critically High ■	10.7%
Fox Valley Area	5,689	1,043.1	Critically High	-28% ▼	Critically High ■	10.4%
Outagamie	1,987	1,081.1	Critically High	-30% ▼	Critically High ■	10.3%
Wisconsin	60,241	1,042.0	Critically High	N/A ↔	Critically High ■	13.3%

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.*

Background Information

This report provides *preliminary* data on confirmed COVID-19 cases from December 8, 2021 – December 21, 2021. **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 (NAAT) 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 reported 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 Winnebago County that fall within the jurisdiction of the City of Menasha Health Department and City of Appleton Health Department. As of October 3, 2020, data reports from the Winnebago County Health Department do not include test results from residents in Wisconsin Department of Corrections facilities, which includes the Oshkosh Correctional Institute. This data can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Corrections website.

Data provided on the Department of Health Services website may be different than 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
- Trend Data Graphs