



Winnebago County Health Department

COVID-19 Weekly Data Summary

December 9, 2021

Cases are critically high. Get vaccinated. Wear a mask indoors.

Summary

- Situational Awareness:
 - Winnebago County has reached a **critically high** burden status and activity level which we have not seen since November 2020.
 - There are currently 131 [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.
 - 62.9% of Winnebago County residents aged 5 or older have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose.
- [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.
- On Dec. 9, the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration amended the emergency use authorization \(EUA\) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](#), authorizing a booster dose for individuals 16 and 17 years of age at least six months after completion of primary vaccination with the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine. The next step is a review of the recommendation by the CDC and Wisconsin Department of Health Services. At this time, the Winnebago County Health Department is offering booster doses for anyone 18 and older. Pfizer and Moderna boosters may be received 6 months after completion of the initial vaccine series, and Johnson & Johnson booster doses are recommended after two months. The FDA and CDC have also approved mixing and matching of vaccines, so individuals may choose a different vaccine type than they originally received if preferred. Additional doses continue to be recommended for moderately to severely immunocompromised people 12 and older at least 28 days after the last dose of their primary series.
- 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.
- **Note: This week (Thursday, December 9, 2021), we are not publishing a school district or municipal data summary, and the general data summary is a shortened version. Full data summaries will be available next week.**

COVID-19 Vaccination Data

As of 12/8/2021, **6,520,944 doses** of the [COVID-19 vaccine](#) have been administered to Wisconsin residents with 59.2% of the Wisconsin population having received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 56.3% of the Wisconsin population have completed the vaccine series.

As of 12/8/2021, **224,340 doses** of [COVID-19 vaccine](#) have been administered to Winnebago County residents with 59.4% of the county population having received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 56.9% of the county population have completed the vaccine series. Of Winnebago County residents aged 5 or older, 62.9% have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Since August 12, 2021, over 33,000 3rd doses/booster doses have been administered to Winnebago County residents. Since November 7, 2021 over 2,600 first doses have been administered to children ages 5 to 11.

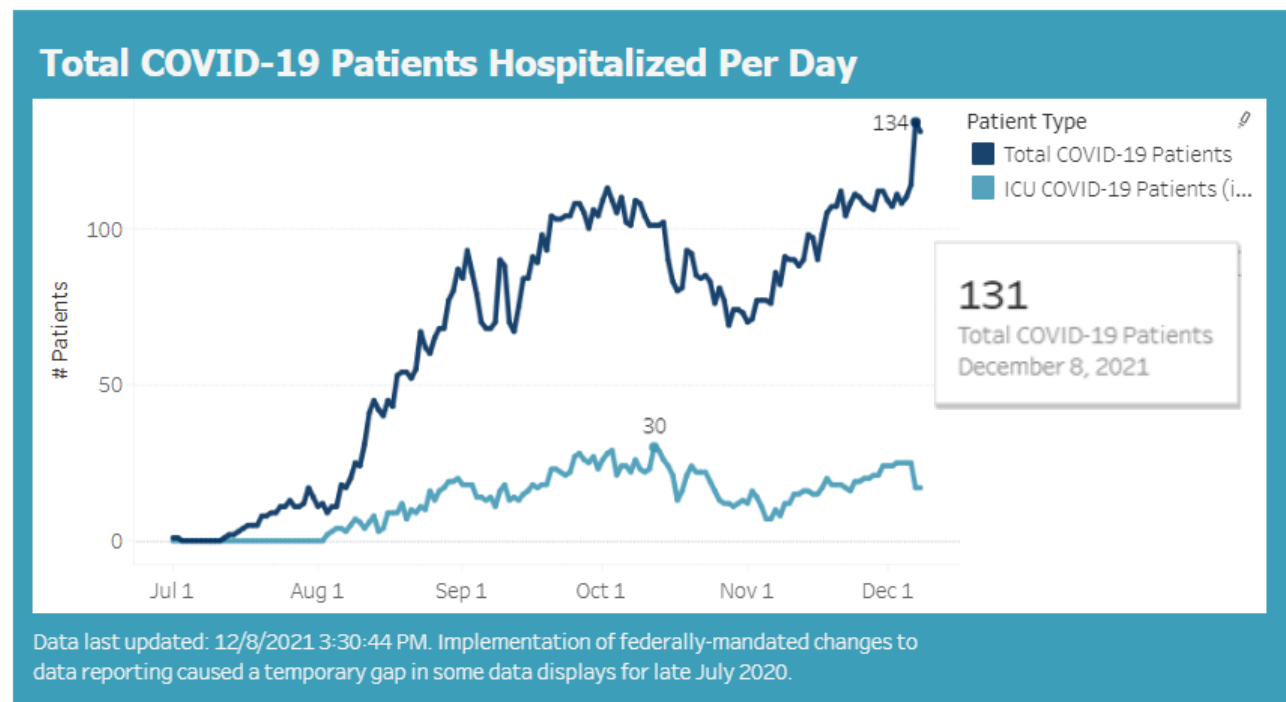
Healthcare Measures for the Fox Valley Area

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.

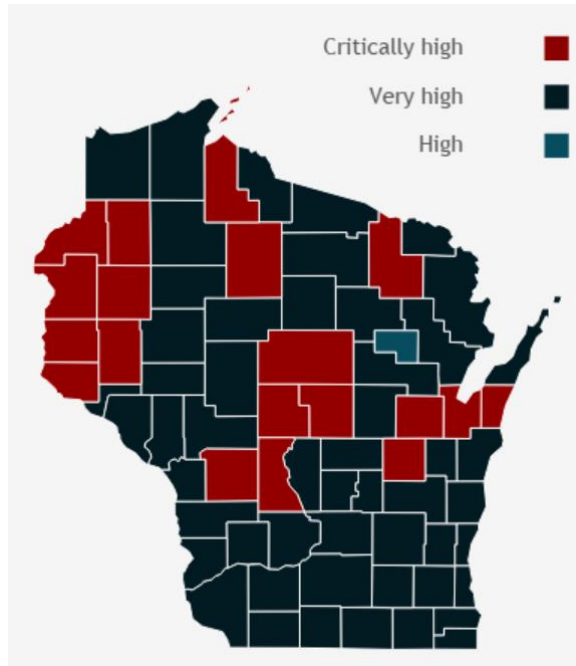
As of 12/8/2021, there were **131 COVID-19 patients hospitalized** in the Fox Valley Area hospitals with 17 of those patients in the ICU.

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 12/8/2021



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 8, 2021, Winnebago County**** was classified as having a **critically high COVID-19 activity level** and the Fox Valley Region was 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	Confirmed + Probable Case Count (Past 14 days)	Burden	Trajectory	Activity Level	Percent Positive (Past 7 Days)
Winnebago	1,797	1061.2 Critically High	+20% ▲	Critically High ■	14.1%
Fox Valley Area	5,316	974.7 Very High	N/A ↔	Very High ■	12.4%
Outagamie	1,841	1001.6 Critically High	N/A ↔	Critically High ■	12.0%
Wisconsin	49,203	851.1 Very High	+13% ▲	Very High ■	13.2%

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

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](#)