

COVID-19 Updates: Homelessness Forum

Deepti Ravikumar, MPH

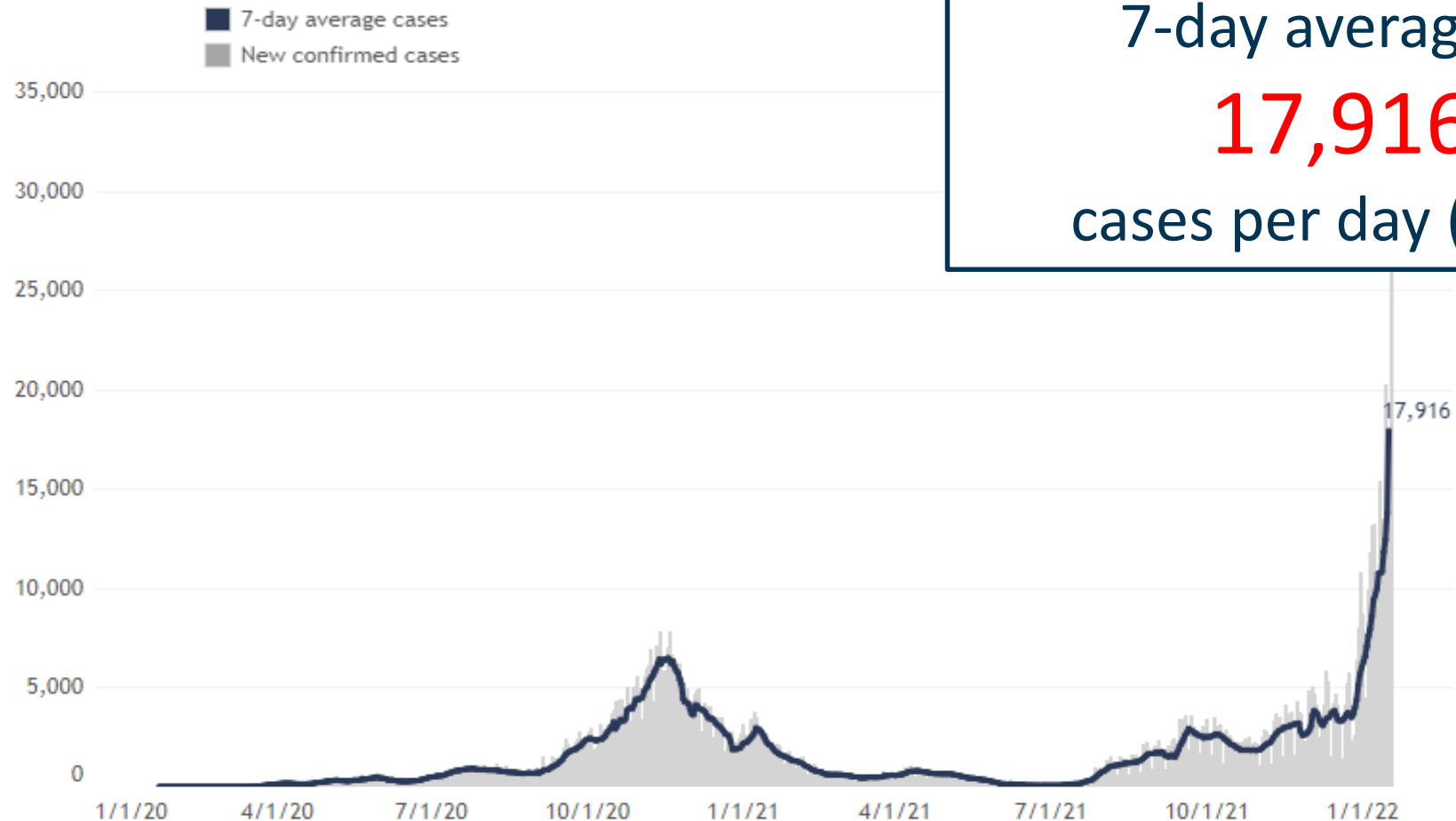
Epidemiologist, WI Department of Health Services

COVID-19 Recovery and Response Team

New COVID-19 Cases

New confirmed COVID-19 cases by date confirmed, and 7-day average

Updated: 1/17/2022



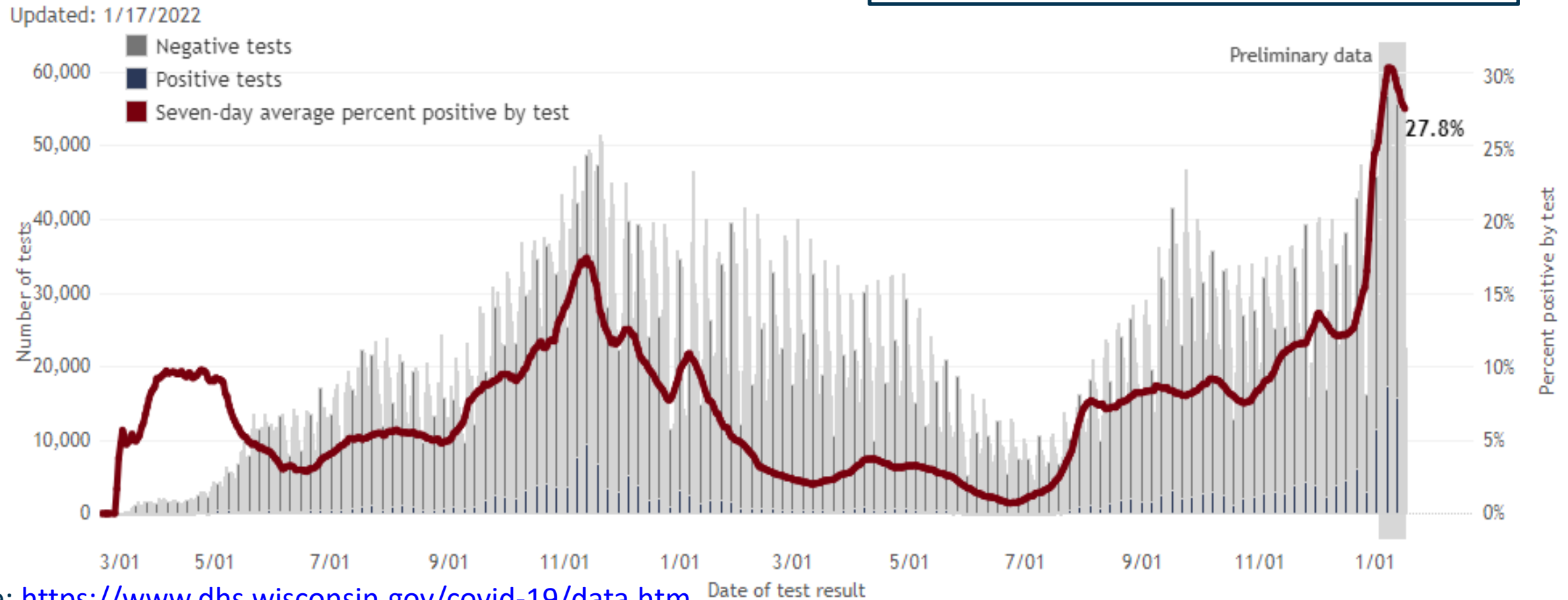
7-day average data on last webinar (12/3): **3,548** cases per day

7-day average of **17,916** cases per day (1/17)

Percent Test Positivity

7-day percent positive by test, total tests by day

7-day average of
27.8%
positive tests per day (1/17)



Cases are highest among youth <18

Confirmed cases by age group by date of symptom onset or diagnosis

Updated: 1/17/2022

Select a measure

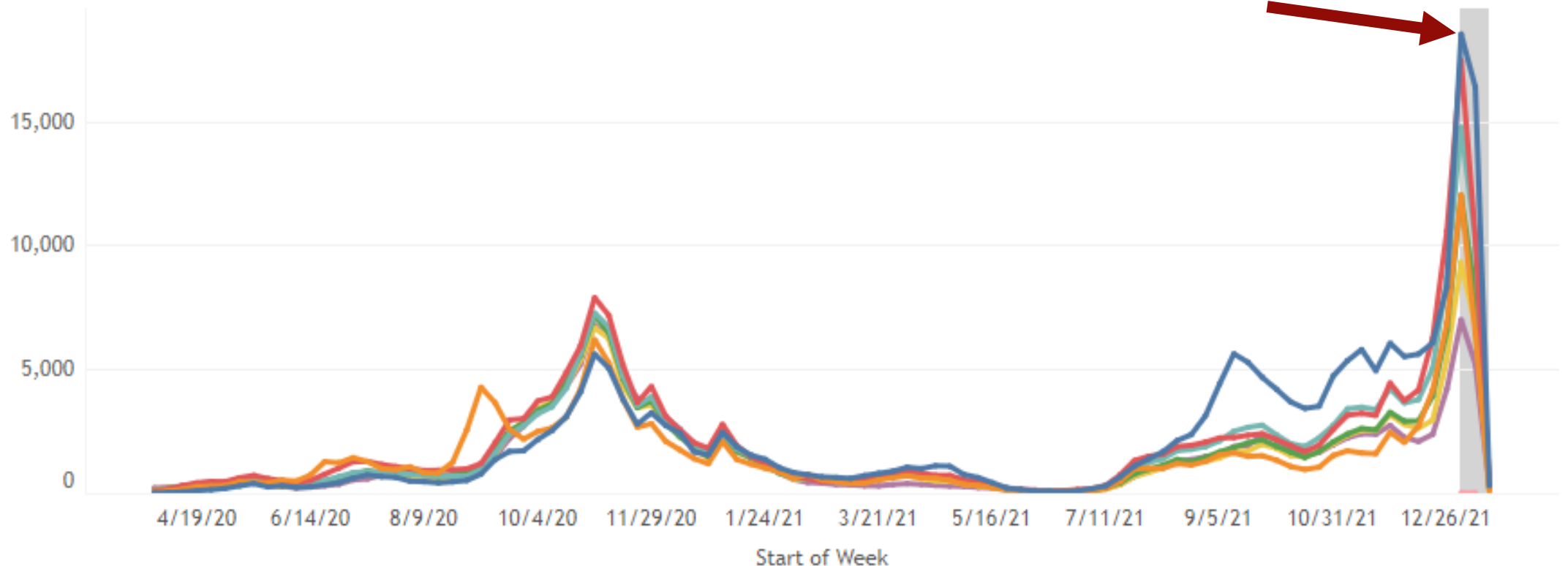
- Number
- Rate

Age group

- <18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

Click on an age group to highlight the line graphs on the right

Weekly case number by age group (Rate is cases per 100,000 residents)



Source: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/cases.htm>

Cases are highest among youth <18, especially among school-aged children

Confirmed cases by youth age group by date of symptom onset or diagnosis

Updated: 1/17/2022

Select a measure

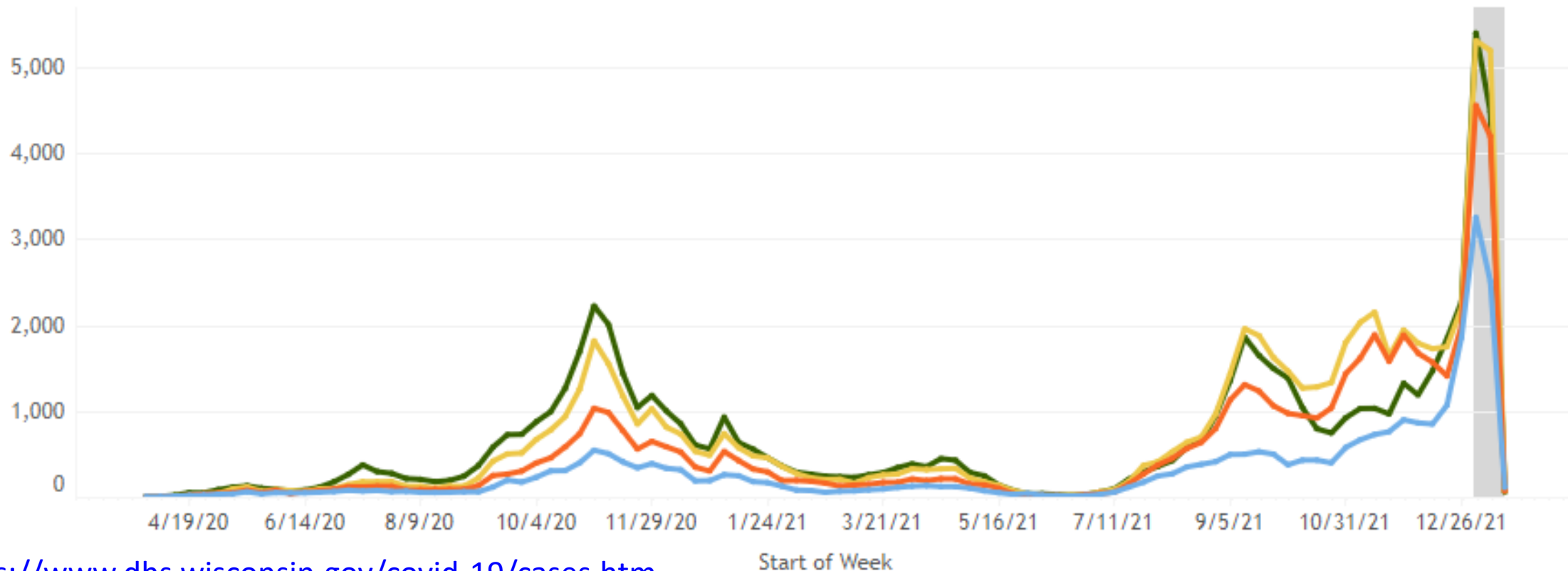
- Number
- Rate

Weekly case number by youth age group (Rate is cases per 100,000 residents)

Age Group

- 0-3
- 4-8
- 9-13
- 14-17

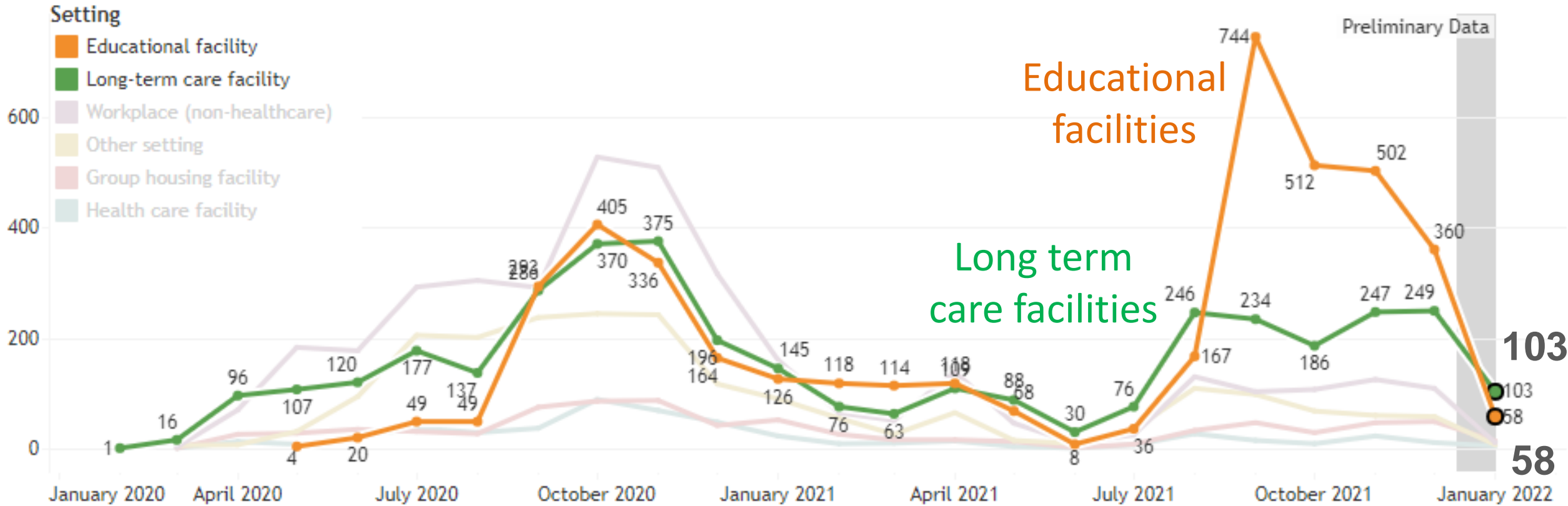
Click on an age group to highlight the line graphs on the right



Source: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/cases.htm>

Outbreak investigations in educational facilities are decreasing

Number of facility-wide investigations by setting type and month reported

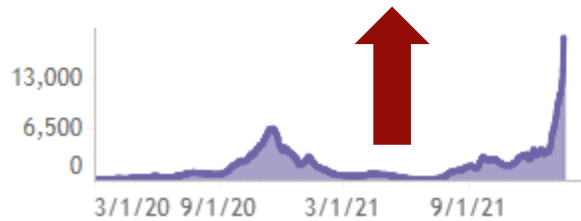


Testing data compared to last month

Testing Updated: 1/17/22

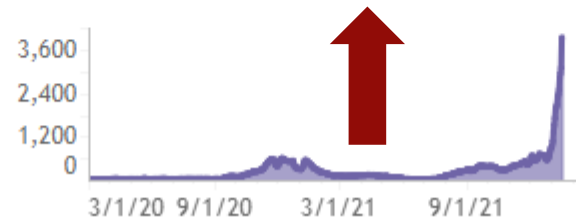
New Confirmed Cases
(7-day average)

17,916



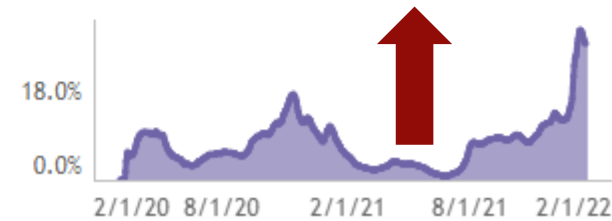
New Probable Cases
(7-day average)

3,938



Percent Positive by Test
(7-day average)

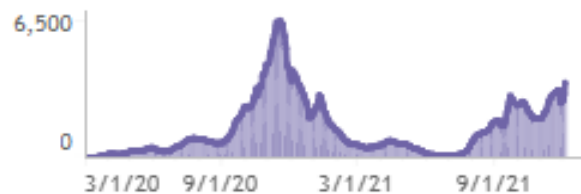
27.8%



Testing Updated: 12/3/21

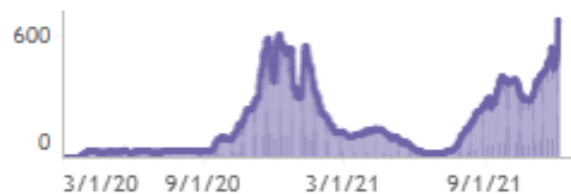
New Confirmed Cases
(7-day average)

3,548



New Probable Cases
(7-day average)

673



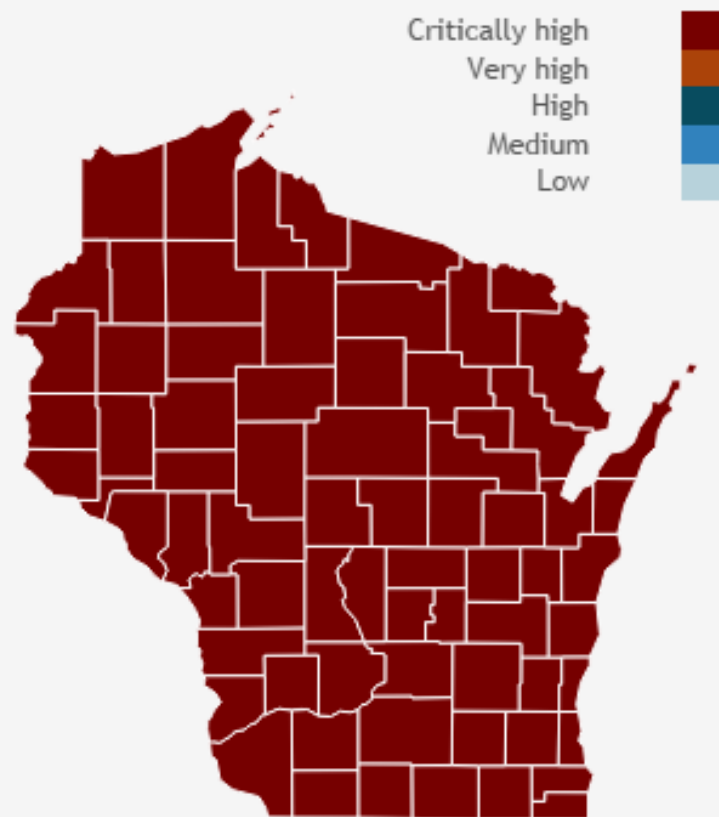
Percent Positive by Test
(7-day average)

13.1%



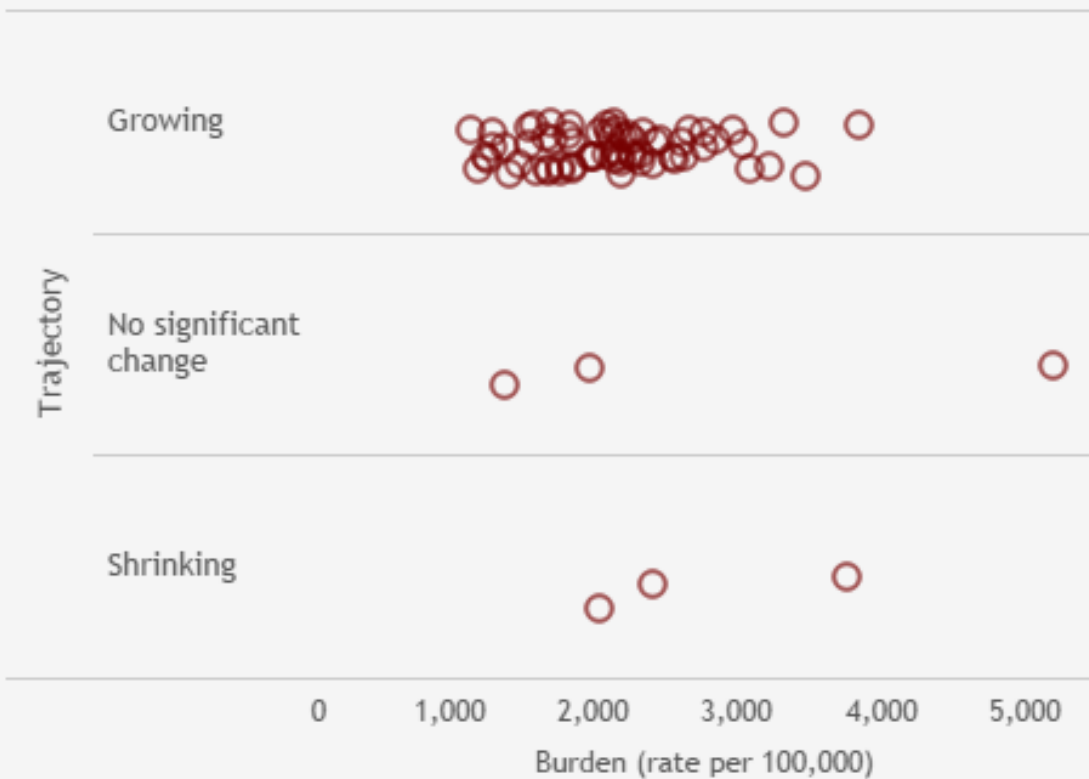
Currently in WI, case activity level is critically high

In Wisconsin between 12/29/2021 - 1/11/2022, the case activity level was critically high.

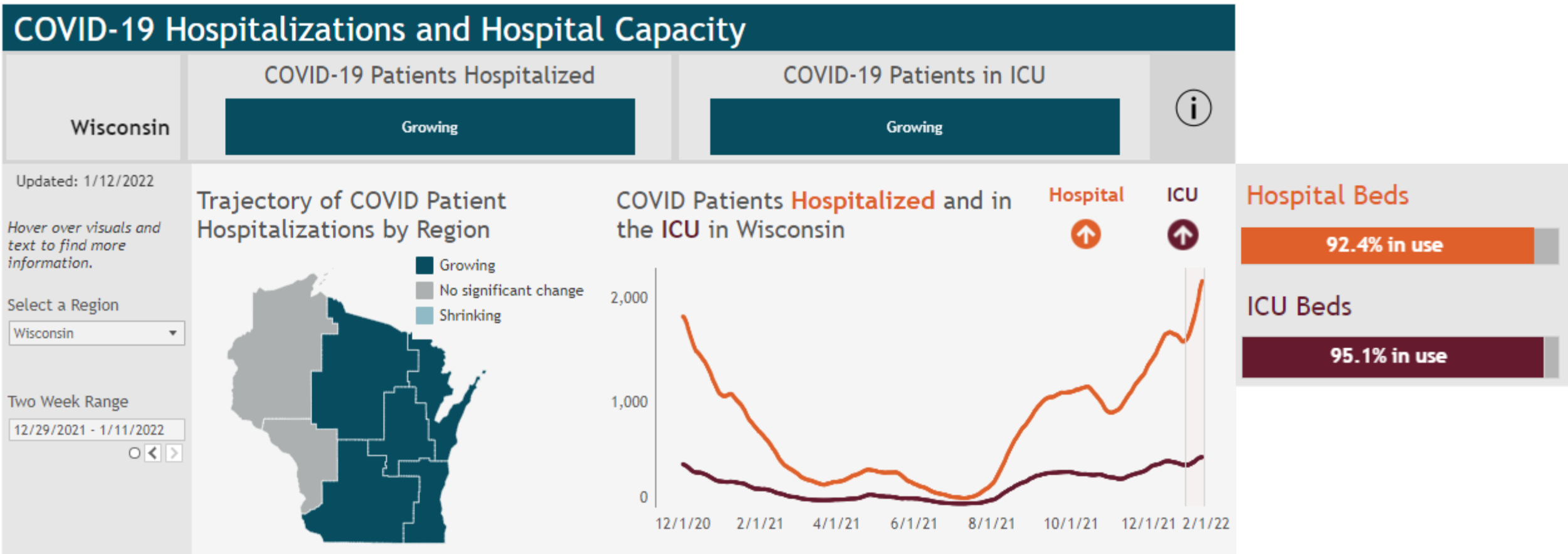


Case activity level by county (last two weeks)

Each circle represents a county.



Hospitals are full



December 2021: Age-Adjusted COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths Among Fully Vaccinated and Not Fully Vaccinated People

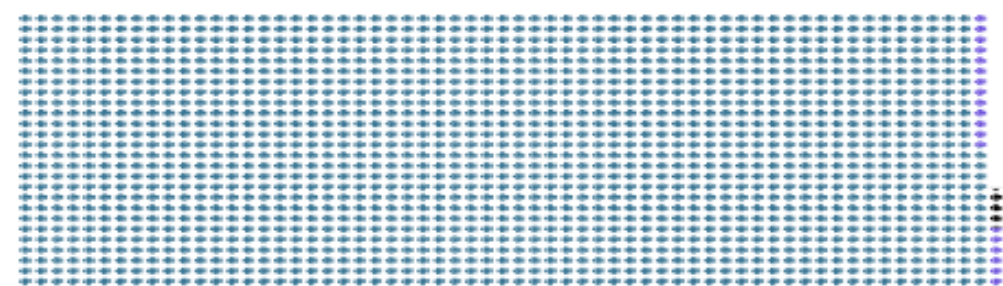
Last Updated: 1/14/2022

Fully Vaccinated

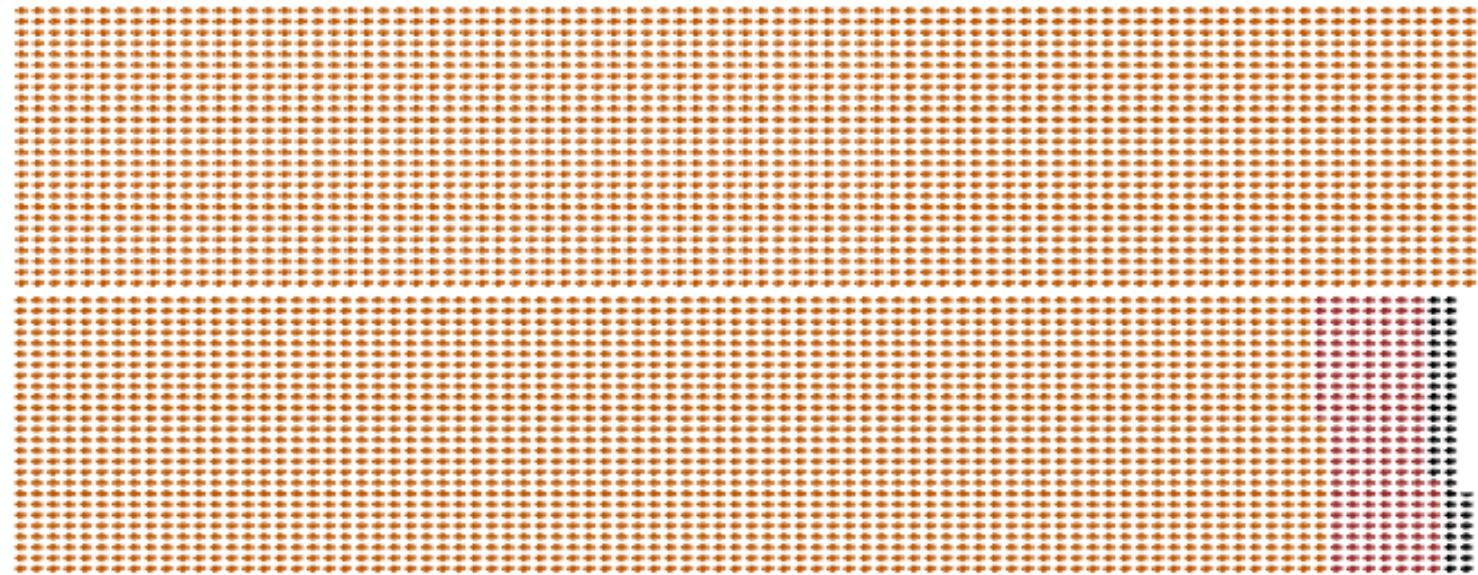
Per 100,000 Fully Vaccinated People

Not Fully Vaccinated

Per 100,000 Not Fully Vaccinated People



- 1,573.2 Cases
- 18.5 Hospitalizations
- 3.6 Deaths



- 4,746.4 Cases
- 176.4 Hospitalizations
- 50.8 Deaths

Source: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-status.htm>

Vaccination update

- FDA **expanded eligibility for boosters** to anyone 12 years and older who received their second dose of Pfizer or Moderna at least 5 months ago
- Additional primary dose for certain immunocompromised children 5 through 11 years of age
- Pfizer vaccine is the only one recommended for 12- to 17-year-olds at this time.

Variant updates

- **Omicron variant** – CDC announced as Dominant strain
 - Spreads more easily than any previous variant, including Delta
 - Accounts for 95.5% of current cases in the US
 - Data indicates milder infection for many people
 - Vaccines remain effective against hospitalization and death
 - Fully vaccinated people could still become infected and transmit the virus to others but are less likely to have serious illness.

Sources: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/variants-info.htm>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html>

Testing updates

- Shortage of BinaxNOW antigen rapid test kits
- PCR test supplies are available to order.
- Processing of PCR tests generally takes 2-3 days, though heightened demand may increase this timeframe.
- Orders can be placed for PCR test supplies by submitting a request (<https://covid19supplies.wi.gov/Testing>)

COVID-19 Health Tips

Staying Safe While at a Shelter

STOP THE SPREAD

Protect yourself and others.



Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer often. Stay at least 6 feet away from other people if possible. Wear a mask indoors and in crowded outdoor spaces.

STAY HEALTHY

Ask for help if you need it and take any prescribed medications.



If you are struggling with physical health, mental health, or substance use, ask shelter staff what resources are available.

GET VACCINATED

COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and free.



You can get your COVID-19 vaccine and influenza vaccine at the same time. Booster doses of COVID-19 vaccines are also recommended for the best protection against COVID-19.

GET TESTED

Get tested if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or were exposed.



Take part in a COVID-19 testing program at your shelter if one is available.

RESOURCES

- **Get Help Anywhere in the State:** Call 211 or text your zip code to 898211
- **See COVID-19 Information from DHS:** Visit www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index



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of HEALTH SERVICES

P-02620A (01/2022)

Recommendations

Promoting vaccination

Mask use

Physical distancing

Screening testing

Ventilation

Handwashing &

Staying home when sick

Contact tracing, isolation,
quarant

Cleaning and disinfection

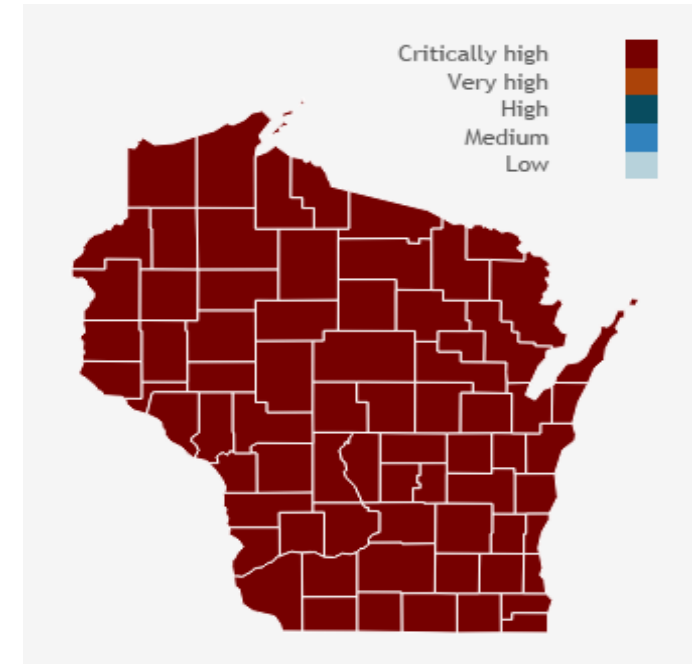
**Layered
Prevention
Strategies**

New Quarantine and Isolation Guidelines for High-Risk Congregate Settings

- 10-day **quarantine** for residents, regardless of vaccination and booster status.
- 10-day **isolation** period for residents remains.
- During periods of **critical staffing shortages**:
 - Facilities may consider shortening the quarantine and isolation period for **staff** (e.g., 5 days after last contact with constant and proper masking through day 10)
 - Case-by-case basis decisions for **staff** isolation and quarantine
 - Facilities should work with their LTHD to tailor crisis operations specifically to their needs
 - Expand Q/I space in facility instead of shortening periods if possible
 - Keep reductions minimal and gradual (e.g., 8 or 9 days instead of 10)
 - Consider shortening quarantine and isolation just for staff
 - Strengthen other mitigation measures in the facility (e.g., mask usage, distancing, vaccinations and boosters)

Recommendations

- Continue all mitigation strategies.
- Continue facility wide testing weekly.



**Community transmission is
Critically High**

Testing Resources

Testing supplies can be ordered by emailing:
WICOVIDTest@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Help applying for testing supplies can be found at:
dhscovidtestingprogram@dhs.wisconsin.gov

DHS Testing Support Page for Shelters:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing-shelters.htm>

Vaccination Resources

Local vaccination clinics and events:

https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/public-event-search?localHistory=h4hiRV_LGyLlaCnlbAn5Q

Vaccine partner resources:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-resources.htm>

Vaccination resources and questions:

dhscovidvaccinator@wi.gov

COVID-19 Vaccine Information (DHS):

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm>

Data Resources

Wisconsin COVID-19 Data

Summary data: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/data.htm>

Activity Level by Region and County: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm>

County Data: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/county.htm>

Cases: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/cases.htm>

Facility wide investigations: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/investigations.htm>

Illness after vaccination: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-status.htm>

COVID-19 Variants: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/variants-info.htm>



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Homelessness Forum Presentation

January 24, 2022



Allison Olson, Outreach Specialist
COVID-19 Response and Recovery Team
Outreach Program

Diamond D. Hanson, DrPH, MPH
Outreach Program Manager

COVID-19 Response and Recovery Team
Outreach Program Area

Introduction

COVID-19 Vaccine Facts

COVID-19 Testing Programs & Homeless Grant Development

Stephanie Borchardt, PhD, MPH
Epidemiologist

Division of Public Health (DPH)

Bureau of Communicable Diseases, Immunization Program



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

COVID-19 Vaccine Facts

Stephanie Borchardt, PhD, MPH

COVID-19 Vaccines

Vaccine manufacturer	Age indication	Vial cap color denoting formulation	Dose	Injection volume	Number of doses in primary series (interval between doses)	Additional primary dose in immunocompromised people (interval since second dose)
Pfizer-BioNTech	5–11 years	Orange	10 µg	0.2 mL	2 (21 days)	1 (≥28 days)
Pfizer-BioNTech	≥12 years	Purple or gray	30 µg	0.3 mL	2 (21 days)	1 (≥28 days)
Moderna	≥18 years	Not applicable	100 µg	0.5 mL	2 (28 days)	1 (≥28 days)
Janssen	≥18 years	Not applicable	5×10 ¹⁰ viral particles	0.5 mL	1 (Not applicable)	Not applicable

Booster Dose

Vaccine completed for primary series	Authorized age for vaccine booster	Interval between last primary dose (including additional dose, when applicable) and booster dose	Number of doses	Injection volume and product that may be given as booster dose*
Pfizer-BioNTech	≥12 years	≥5 months	1	0.3 mL Pfizer-BioNTech*, or 0.25 mL Moderna, or 0.5 mL Janssen†
Moderna	≥18 years	≥5 months	1	0.25 mL Moderna, or 0.3 mL Pfizer-BioNTech, or 0.5 mL Janssen†
Janssen	≥18 years	≥2 months	1	0.5 mL Janssen†, or 0.3 mL Pfizer-BioNTech, or 0.25 mL Moderna

*Only Pfizer BioNTech can be used as a booster dose in those ages 12–17 years.
Use of an mRNA vaccine for a booster dose is preferred over Janssen vaccine.

Definitions

- Fully vaccinated
 - Two doses of mRNA vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer) or one dose of J and J (Janssen)
- Up-to-date (UTD)
 - Have received all the vaccine doses that are **currently eligible** for.
 - Examples:
 - ◆ Have completed primary series and received a booster.
 - ◆ Have completed mRNA primary series, but haven't reached 5 months when would be eligible for booster.
 - ◆ Individual aged 5-11 years has received the primary series.

COVID-19 vaccines do not cause infertility.

- No evidence that COVID-19 vaccines cause fertility problems in women or men
- Millions of people have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine and thousands have safely given birth or become pregnant after being vaccinated
- Reports claiming that COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility are unfounded and have no scientific evidence supporting them

COVID-19 vaccines do not increase risk of miscarriage.

- Studies show that people who received the COVID-19 vaccine while pregnant are not at an increased risk of having a miscarriage
- Getting a COVID-19 vaccine while pregnant protects you from severe disease and may help protect your baby from future infection

COVID-19 vaccines do not give you COVID-19.

- None of the COVID-19 vaccines will cause you to become sick with COVID-19 or test positive on a viral test (PCR or antigen)
- Some people have common side effects (like a sore arm or tiredness) a few days after vaccination which is normal and means you are developing protection against COVID-19

COVID-19 vaccines are not experimental.

- All available COVID-19 vaccines were evaluated in thousands of people who participated in clinical trials before the vaccines became available.
- Two months of safety and efficacy data was required before any of the vaccines were granted emergency use authorization.
- The COVID-19 vaccines have gone through the same safety tests as every other vaccine in the U.S. and continue to be closely monitored for safety.

COVID-19 vaccines do not change your DNA.

- COVID-19 vaccines do not interact with, or change, your DNA in any way.
- COVID-19 vaccines deliver instructions to our cells to help build protection against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines do not contain microchips.

- COVID-19 vaccines were developed to help your body fight against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.
- They do not contain fetal cells, blood products, the live SARS-CoV-2 virus, mercury, egg, latex, pork products, preservatives, or microchips.

COVID-19 vaccines do not make you magnetic.

- COVID-19 vaccines do not contain any ingredients that produce an electromagnetic field at the site of your injection.
- None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain metal.

No vaccine is 100% effective.

- We can expect some people who are fully vaccinated to get COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 vaccines are extremely effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death caused by COVID-19.
- People who are not fully vaccinated are much more likely to get severely sick from COVID-19 than people who are fully vaccinated.

Even if you've already had COVID-19, you still should get vaccinated.

- People who survive COVID-19 may develop some immunity against future COVID-19 illness, but the amount and strength of that protection is uncertain.
- Numerous reports and studies demonstrate that the COVID-19 vaccine provides a higher, more robust, and more consistent level of protection against COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines do not shed vaccine components.

- The COVID-19 vaccines available in the U.S. do not contain a live virus, therefore they do not shed, or release, any vaccine components in or outside of your body.
- You can shed, or spread, the virus that causes COVID-19 if you become infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Not all events reported to VAERS are caused by COVID-19 vaccine.

- The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is an early warning system used to monitor adverse events that happen after vaccination.
- Some VAERS reports may contain information that is incomplete, inaccurate, coincidental, or unverifiable because the information is self-reported.
- Reports of adverse events to VAERS following vaccination do not necessarily mean that a vaccine caused a health problem.

COVID-19 vaccines do not cause variants of SARS-CoV-2.

- Vaccination is the best tool we have to prevent future variants from forming.
- When a virus spreads quickly to multiple people, it gives the virus more chances to mutate, leading to new variants.
- Vaccines reduce a virus's ability to infect people, which gives the virus less opportunities to change over time and develop new variants.

Messenger RNA technology is well studied.

- Although the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are the first authorized vaccines to use mRNA technology, the technology used to develop the mRNA vaccines has been studied by researchers since the 1970s.
- The mRNA vaccines are held to the same safety and effectiveness standards as all other vaccines in the U.S.

Resources

[COVID-19: Vaccine Facts | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations](#)

COVID-19 Testing Support for Unhoused Populations

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COVID-19 Testing Support for Shelters

Wisconsin shelters with shared living environments are able to order rapid antigen tests for COVID-19 and/or lab-based follow-up PCR tests for free from the state of Wisconsin. This testing support is intended to complement COVID-19 prevention efforts.

All shelters with shared living environments are eligible to receive supplies. Organizations without shared living environments that work with housing insecure populations may also be eligible to receive testing supplies.

<https://covid19supplies.wi.gov/Testing>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing-shelters.htm>

Testing Supplies Distributed to Shelters in 2021

19 Shelters placed orders for supplies in 2021

The majority of orders were for antigen testing with approximately 3,000 antigen tests shipped directly to facilities

Additionally, in some jurisdictions Local Health Departments have ordered and distributed directly to shelters

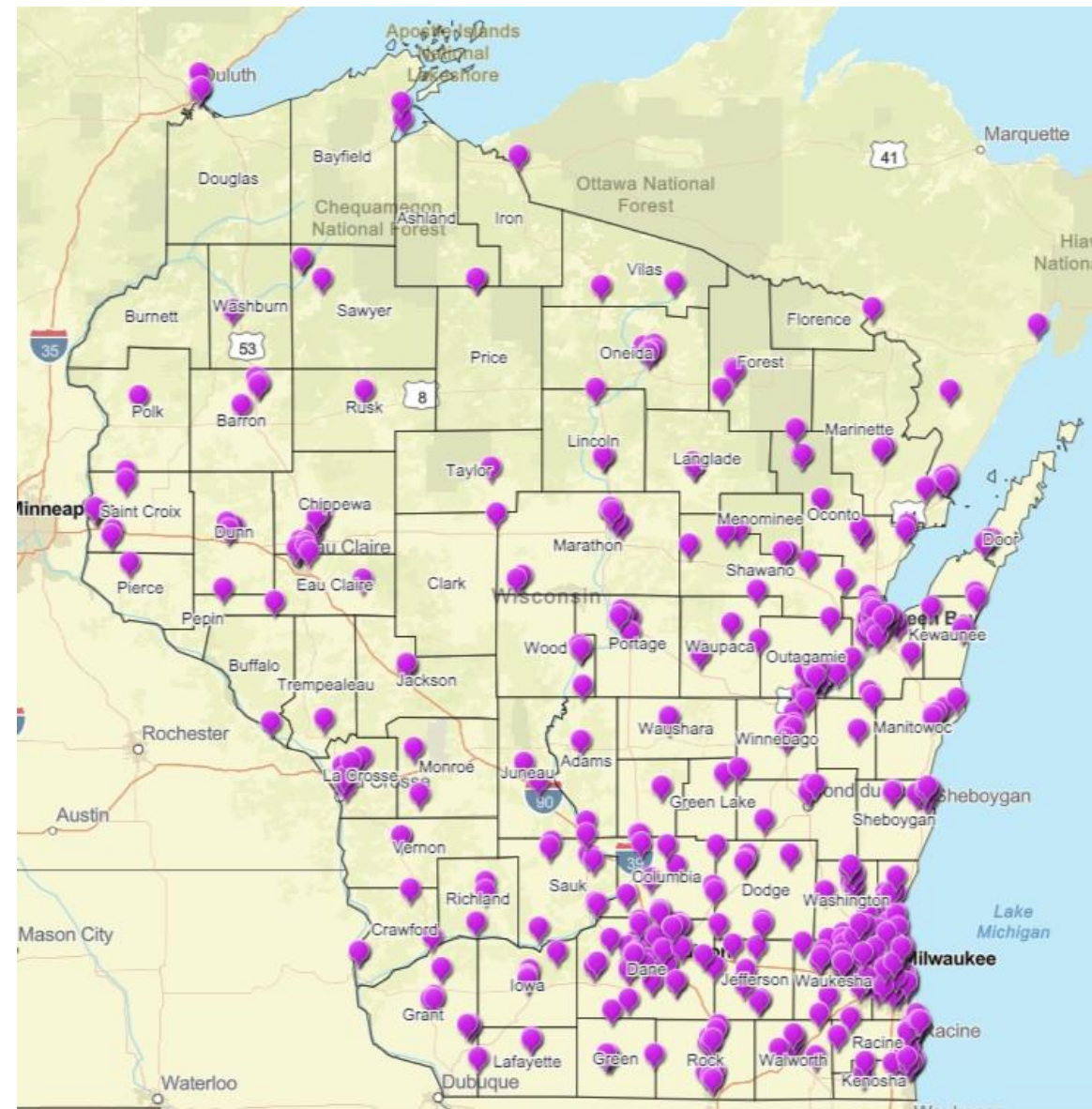
DHS is currently experiencing a shortage of BinaxNOW antigen rapid test kits, linked to a nationwide shortage and steep increase in demand for testing across the U.S. Due to these events, DHS may be unable to accommodate requests for BinaxNOW antigen tests at this time.

PCR test supplies are available to order. The processing of PCR tests generally takes 2-3 days, though heightened demand may increase this timeframe.

DHS is closely monitoring the situation and will provide more information as it becomes available.

Community Testing Locations in Wisconsin

- Each site may have different requirements. Check with the testing site location for clarification
- Some sites may ask you to stay in your car. Other sites will screen you before you come indoors.
- Many sites will require an appointment before you arrive in order to ensure they've collected your contact and insurance information.
- Some sites may have age requirements.
- Some sites may require a fee for testing service
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm>



Helpful Testing Resources

CLIA Certification, Testing and Result Reporting Video

<https://vimeo.com/643663703>

CLIA Quick Start Guide

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/laboratory-quick-start-guide-cms-clia-certification.pdf>

COVID-19 Requirements for Testing Providers

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing-providers.htm>

Opportunity in 2022 to Expand Testing Support For Shelters

- ELC Detection & Mitigation of COVID-19 in Homeless Service Sites and Other Congregate Living Facilities
 - \$1.2 Million to continue current testing supply support and expand COVID-19 Testing Support for Unhoused Individuals

Poll

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