

DANE COUNTY COVID-19 DATA

January 21, 2021 *Data from January 5—January 18*

Takeaway Messages

- We debuted a new [COVID-19 data dashboard](#) which now has a substantial amount of data available daily that was previously reported weekly in the data snapshot.
- There was a significant decrease in cases during this 14-day period, and percent positivity is back under the desired 5% threshold, at 4.4%. Timeliness of contacting people who tested positive has improved: 57% of cases received an interview within 24 hours of when their result was reported, which is up from 47% last week and 41% two weeks ago.
- 5.5% of the Dane County population has received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- 228 Dane County residents have died from COVID-19, and December had the highest number of deaths with 86. Two out of every three deaths that have occurred since December 1 were residents of a long term care facility.

Domain	Measure	Dane County Status
Epidemiology: We must have few enough cases of COVID-19 to be swiftly contained. This is an important parameter, and our thresholds for phased reopening are set at levels that align with the progression of our epidemic locally—a lower positivity rate than what is seen at the state level and a low number of cases per 100,000 residents. For the past 2 weeks, Dane County has a very high activity level.	Percent of total tests that were positive, averaged across most recent 14 day period (goal of <5%)	4.4%
	Number of cases per day, averaged across most recent 14 day period (goal of <5)	172
Healthcare: A sustained, high testing level is a critical metric, as testing is how we detect active infection and prevent transmission of COVID-19. Alongside testing to monitor the course of the epidemic, it is vital that healthcare systems are equipped to manage patient care in the context of a surge caused by COVID-19 as well as protect healthcare workers from infection. For the past 2 weeks, the South Central Region has a shrinking trajectory for COVID patients hospitalized and no significant change for COVID patients in the ICU.	Number of tests per day, averaged across most recent 14 day period (goal of >800)	3889
	Hospital staffing shortages: Within this 14 day period, six hospitals in our region reported at least one day of critical staffing shortage. None of these hospitals were within Dane County.	
Public Health: Our ability to identify and isolate infections is critical to prevent further spread. Through rapid contact tracing, we can identify and notify contacts who have been exposed. Through education and isolation assistance, we can help keep people who test positive and their contacts separated from others for the duration of the infectious period, and lower the risk of spread in the community. Monitoring community spread—the percentage of cases with an unidentified risk factor—is how we can gain a sense of the scale of undetected disease spread.	Decreasing or stable numbers of infected healthcare workers	
	All positive cases be contacted quickly after their test is collected (goal of 85% contacted within 48 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 77% of positive tests were reported within 24 hours • 57% of cases were interviewed within 24 hours of when their positive test was reported • 78% of cases have been successfully contacted so far 	52%
	Proportion of new cases over the most recent 14 day period who don't know where they could have gotten COVID (goal of <20%)	28%
	Downward or stable trajectory of COVID-like syndromic cases reported within this 14 day period	

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Data Snapshot Changes

This week, we debuted our new [COVID-19 data dashboard!](#) We also created a [video demo](#) which shows how to navigate the dashboard and make the most of the new features.

The dashboard has the ability to filter most graphs by the past 2 weeks, such as cases, tests, hospitalizations, and percent positivity by day, deaths by month, and demographics for cases, tests, and hospitalizations. It also shows the most recent two week trend for cases and hospitalizations. Therefore, we will no longer be including those charts and data points in the data snapshot (other than the metrics on the first page), as they will be readily available daily on the dashboard.

We will continue to report data that is not available on the dashboard in the weekly data snapshot, and to provide context around trends we are seeing in the data.

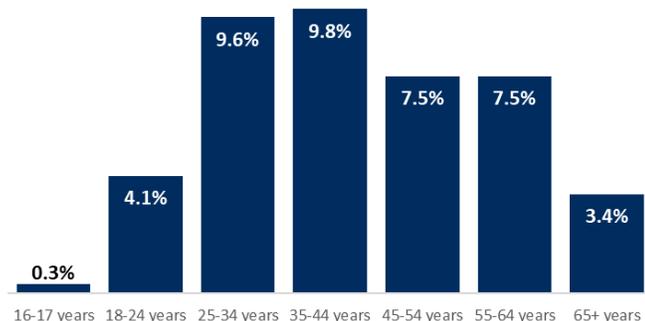
Vaccine

We have begun to receive weekly vaccination data for Dane County residents from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). Statewide data can be found on their [website](#). We currently have limited data on our dashboard, but will be adding additional data points, such as the ones included here, in the near future.

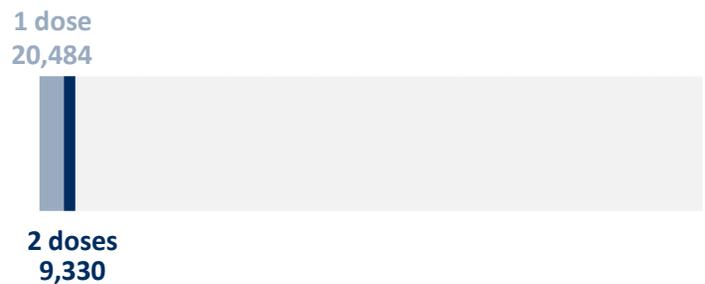
39,144 doses administered
29,814 people vaccinated
as of 1/20/21

Vaccine coverage is highest among people 25-44 years old, with nearly 10% of people vaccinated with at least one dose within those groups. Currently, the vaccine is only available to individuals in [Tier 1a](#) (frontline healthcare personnel and residents in long term care facilities), and police and fire personnel within Tier 1b. All adults age 65 and older will be eligible starting January 25.

As of January 20, 5.5% of the Dane County population (29,814 people) has received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.



Percent within each group that have received at least one vaccine dose



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Deaths

There have been 228 Dane County residents who have lost their lives to COVID-19 over the past eleven months. 68% of these deaths have occurred in November or December.

The rate of COVID-19 deaths in **Dane County** is **significantly lower** than the rate for **Wisconsin** overall.



Characteristics of Dane County Residents Who Have Died from COVID-19 since December 1, 2020

Of the 101 people who we lost in December and January, two-thirds were residents of a long term care facility. The median age of those who died was 84 and the majority were white, non-Latinx.

Female	55 (54%)
Male	46 (46%)
Age 40-49	1 (1%)
Age 50-59	6 (6%)
Age 60-69	9 (9%)
Age 70-79	22 (22%)
Age 80-89	34 (34%)
Age 90+	29 (29%)
White, non-Latinx	88 (87%)
Black, non-Latinx	6 (6%)
Latinx, any race	4 (4%)
Asian, non-Latinx	3 (3%)
Hospitalized	55 (54%)
Not Hospitalized	46 (46%)
Resident of a Long Term Care Facility	66 (65%)

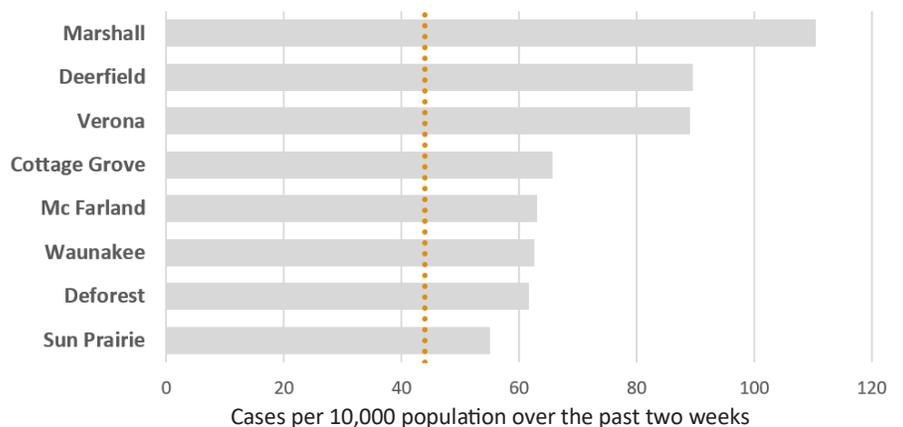
Geography

During this two-week period, 54% of Dane County residents who tested positive resided outside of Madison. The overall rate of cases in Dane County was **44 cases per 10,000** population.

Eight municipalities in Dane County had case rates that were **significantly higher** than the overall **county rate** (see right).

No municipalities had a significantly higher or lower rate this week compared to last week.

Municipalities in Dane County with a significantly higher rate of cases than the overall Dane County rate in the past two weeks



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Characteristics of COVID-19 Cases

In this 14-day period there were 2,404 total cases. At least 207 (9%) of these cases were associated with a cluster and/or a facility investigation at a long term care facility, correctional facility, childcare facility, or school.

We define a **cluster** of cases as two or more cases associated with the same location or event around the same time. A **facility investigation** is initiated when there is evidence of a cluster of cases or a strong possibility for a cluster to emerge from a single facility or setting. To learn more about clusters and facility investigations, see our [blog post](#).

Testing characteristics	
Tested by a Dane County Public Health community test site	1,035 (43%)
Tested by University Health Services	113 (5%)
Tested at other sites, such as health care settings	1,256 (52%)
Risk characteristics~	
Household contact with another COVID-19 case*	634 (35%)
Non-household close contact with another case*	632 (35%)
Attended a gathering or party in the past 2 weeks*	619 (35%)
UW college student	150 (6%)
UW college staff	52 (2%)

Category of Cluster/ Facility Investigation	Number of Unique Clusters^	Number of Associated Cases	Number of Facility Investigations (non-clusters)	Number of Associated Cases
Correctional Facility	2	60	-	-
Assisted Living	18	60	1	1
Skilled Nursing	7	23	-	-
Childcare Facility	8	22 (8 children, 14 adults)	11	12 (6 children, 6 adults)
School	3	6 (0 children, 6 adults)	15	23 (10 children, 13 adults)

^Most clusters also receive a facility investigation, e.g., there were 19 total assisted living facility investigations. Overall, there were 61 cases associated with this category.

~Not mutually exclusive categories

*Calculated among 1,786 people fully interviewed so far

Clusters & the Data Snapshot

At this time, we are not including additional cluster data in the Data Snapshot. Although our ability to contact trace and interview cases has improved, cluster data remain incomplete, as cluster data are an underrepresentation of all cases.

In a facility with a cluster, staff may be easily identified as part of that cluster, but clients or customers who are part of that cluster are less likely to be identified. This is because they could have many potential sources of exposure (or many places they went while they were infectious), and close contact between staff and customers, or between customers and other customers, can be difficult to identify. We also don't always have details on all the specific places people went or the specific dates and times they were there.

We are seeing similar clusters to those seen throughout the country. CDC has recently published national examples of clusters we see here related to [workplaces](#), [hockey](#), and [assisted living facilities](#). We've seen clusters in all of these settings in Dane County.

The categories of assisted living, skilled nursing, correctional facilities, childcare, and schools are reported differently than other categories, which is why we continue to report on clusters and facility investigations in these facilities. One case in these facilities results in an investigation, thus they are more straightforward to track and report.