



Health and Human Services - Division of Public Health

111 E Mullett, PO Box 136, Portage, WI 53901-0136

P: 608-742-9227 / F: 608-742-9700 / E: dhhs@co.columbia.wi.us

www.co.columbia.wi.us



Columbia County
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

COLUMBIA COUNTY COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

Key COVID-19 Data Summary for Columbia County as of November 11th 10:00 a.m.

- Total confirmed positive test results: 2477 (+435 since 11/04/20)
(Includes active, recovered, deceased)
- Active cases: 804 (+170 since 11/04/20)
- Total probable test results 175 (+22 since 11/04/20)
- Total ever hospitalized 126 (+21 since 11/04/20)
- Individuals recovered: 1664 (+260 since 11/04/20)
- Total deaths of people confirmed positive: 9 (+2 since 11/04/20)
- Total deaths of people probable results 1 (+0 since 11/04/20)
- Total negative cases: 20663 (+718 since 11/04/20)
- Total number of active investigations by setting: 54 (+8 since 11/04/20)
Educational facility -15; Long-term care facility -8; Workplace (non-health care) -19; Group housing facility -2; Health care facility -1; Other setting -9.
- **COVID-19 Activity Level :** **VERY HIGH** (Same as 11/04/20)

Two more people have died in Columbia County of complications surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19). We now have a total of 9 deaths in Columbia County associated with COVID-19. "We are deeply saddened by the loss of two more of our community members," said Susan Lorenz, Health Officer for Columbia County. "Our thoughts are with the family and friends."

Frequently Asked Questions

What age groups in Columbia County are testing positive for COVID-19?

As of 11/11/2020 at 10:00 a.m., the 2477 persons testing positive per age group were:

0-9 years old - 70 persons (2.8%)	50-59 years old – 451 persons (18.2%)
10-19 years old – 267 persons (10.8%)	60-69 years old – 246 persons (9.9%)
20-29 years old – 436 persons (17.6%)	70-79 years old – 147 persons (5.9%)
30-39 years old – 403 persons (16.3%)	80-89 years old – 58 persons (2.3%)
40-49 years old – 381 persons (15.4%)	90 plus years old – 18 persons (0.7%)

Mission Statement: To promote and protect the health and safety of our community.



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How many people were tested for COVID-19 at the National Guard Testing Sites in Cambria November 6th and Columbus November 10th?

On Friday, November 6th, 225 people were tested for COVID-19 at the Cambria Fire Station. On Tuesday, November 10th, 331 people were tested for COVID-19 at the Columbus Community Center. We want to thank the Cambria Fire Station and Columbus Community Center for hosting our testing events. We also want to thank to the National Guard for coming into our county to do the free COVID-19 testing.

When and where are the FREE COVID-19 testing sites in Columbia County?

Friday, November 20, 2020 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Cambria Fire Department 702 Elizabeth Street **Cambria**, WI.

Wednesday, November 25, 2020 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 pm at the City of Portage Utility building 135 Northridge Drive **Portage**, WI. Please do not enter front door or contact Utility Staff at Portage Utility Building for COVID-19 testing. This is a drive-thru testing site only.

Friday, December 4, 2020 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Cambria Fire Department 702 Elizabeth Street **Cambria**, WI.

All of the above FREE COVID-19 testing sites are open to the community and appointments are NOT necessary. In an effort to save time, we encourage online registration. If you do not register online, you will still be tested. Staff on site will assist in the registration process. Registration should be done no sooner than 24 hours prior to the event at <https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov/en-US/>

Due to the unknown amount of interest, prepare for potential wait times. It is requested that vehicles form a line and stay in the mode of transportation at all times. No restroom facilities will be available on site, please plan accordingly.

The National Guard will be doing the testing, they will be in uniform and full personal protective equipment. Individuals will be contacted with their results within 3-7 business days.

Please visit our Columbia County website

<https://www.co.columbia.wi.us/columbiacounty/hhs/HealthHumanService/PublicHealth/Coronaviruses/tabid/9196/Default.aspx> for more information.

Where else can I get tested for COVID-19?

In Columbia County, testing for COVID-19 is provided at **Aspirus Divine Savior Healthcare** in Portage and **Prairie Ridge Health** in Columbus. For a complete listing of COVID-19 Community Testing Sites, please visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm> .

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What is the difference between flu and COVID-19?

Flu and COVID-19 share many characteristics, but there are some key differences between the two. COVID-19 seems to spread more easily than flu and causes more serious illnesses in some people. It can also take longer before people show symptoms and people can be contagious for longer. [Click here to learn more about the differences between flu and COVID-19.](#)

Does the flu vaccine prevent COVID-19?

While flu vaccines will not prevent COVID-19, they can prevent flu-related illness, hospitalizations and deaths which will reduce the strain on health care workers and facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read why it's important to get the flu vaccine this year.](#)

With people moving inside due to weather and the holidays, why do they say the virus can spread more during the colder months when we are indoors, when I have been indoors in the warmer months as well?

According to [research](#), the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 will thrive this winter for three reasons: dropping temperatures, diving relative humidity, and drier respiratory tracts. When the weather turns cold, air gets drier, and viruses (including [SARS-CoV-2](#)) generally live longer in cooler, drier conditions. And turning on the heat dries both the air and the tissues lining the airways, impairing how well mucus removes debris and invaders like SARS-CoV-2.

Limiting the number of people in a confined space, wearing a mask, and ensuring good ventilation can help reduce the risk of infection indoors. But still, the viral particles from an infected person are more likely to accumulate indoors and not just blow away, as they might outside on a windy day, so it is important to follow these recommended precautions and limit your time spent indoors with others from outside your household as much as possible.