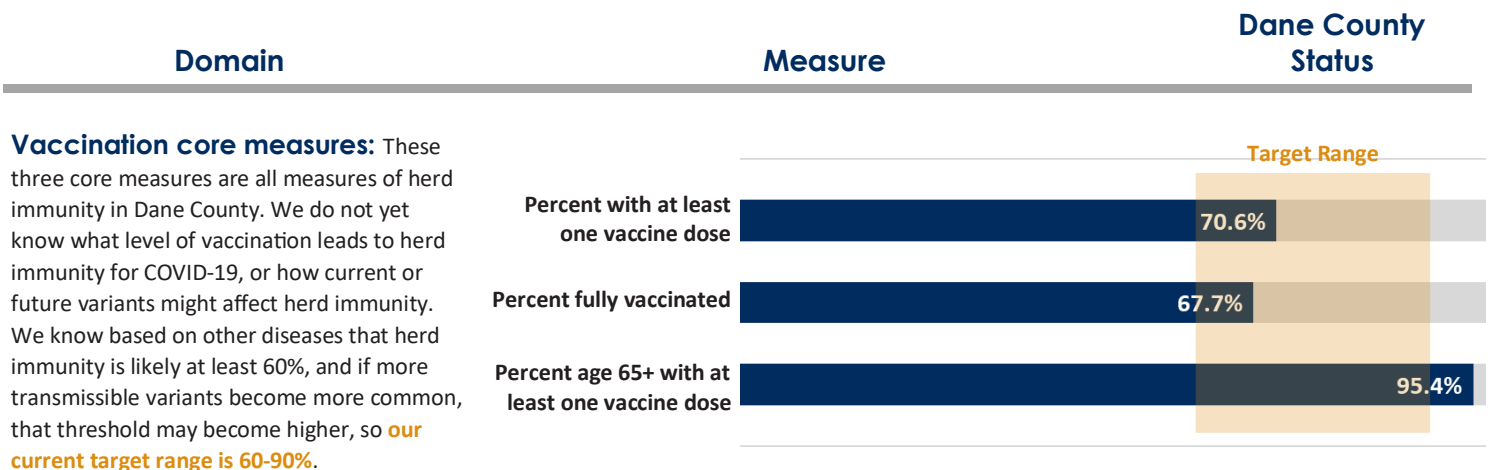


DANE COUNTY COVID-19 DATA

August 5, 2021 *Data from July 19—August 1*

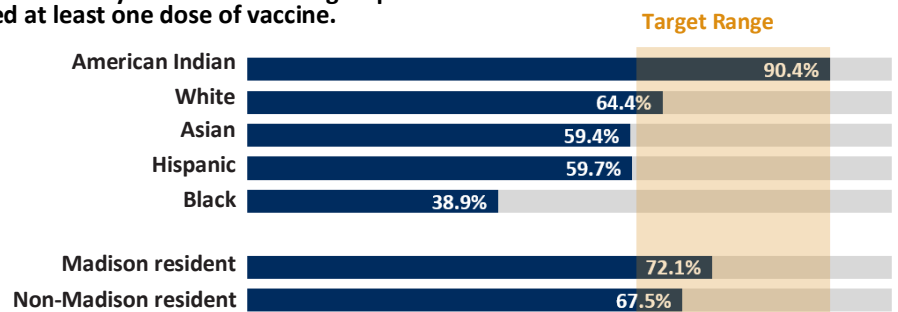
Takeaway Messages

- Cases increased during this 14-day period with an average of 55.6 cases per day. Percent positivity also increased to 3.3% and an average of 1,665 tests were conducted per day.
- 70.6% of all Dane County residents have received at least one dose of vaccine and 67.7% have completed the vaccine series. 81.6% of the eligible population (ages 12+) have received at least one dose of vaccine and 78.2% have completed the vaccine series.
- 93% of our July cases that have been sequenced have been the Delta variant of concern. Delta is the dominant strain of virus in Dane County.
- Our rate of vaccination is going up! We had an average of 504 doses given per day, compared to last week's average of 481 doses per day.
- It is strongly recommended that everyone gets vaccinated as soon as possible, and also wears a mask in public indoor settings and crowded outdoor places regardless of vaccine status. Masks help slow transmission of cases from person to person. People who are vaccinated and have symptoms may still be able to spread COVID-19 to others.



Vaccination process measures: Monitoring the level of vaccine protection for more vulnerable populations and people who may have more difficulty accessing the vaccine is important to ensure that we have equitable vaccine distribution in our community. Monitoring the rate of vaccination and the extent of variant virus strains in the community gives us information about transmission dynamics and how quickly we may reach our target range of vaccine coverage.

Percent of Dane County residents in each group that have received at least one dose of vaccine.



2-week average daily number of vaccine doses administered to Dane County residents. This monitors the speed with which vaccination coverage is occurring.

504

Variant strains as predominant version of virus in community. This monitors whether variants of interest, concern, or high consequence are becoming the dominant strain, which may have impacts on transmissibility.

Some variants are **increasing in prevalence** and it's likely the Delta variant of concern is currently the most prevalent strain in Dane County.

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Domain	Measure	Dane County Status
Epidemiology: In addition to looking at vaccine measures, we will continue to look at disease burden and transmission in the community. For more information on the role of these measures, see our updated Forward Dane plan .	2-week average daily case count and trend The 2-week average daily case count among people who are not vaccinated was 34.	56
	2-week average daily percent positivity	3.3%
	2-week average daily COVID-19 inpatient hospitalizations and trend We are not able to discern whether these hospitalizations are among Dane County residents or among patients transferred to the Dane County hospitals from the surrounding areas.	29
	4-week total number of deaths and trend	1
	2-week lab and contact tracing capacity The percent of people who tested positive that were reached by a contact tracer within 48 hours of when their test specimen was collected.	33%
	Current infection rate (R)	1.45 Increasing
Public Health: Monitoring both the lab timeliness component and the contact tracing timeliness component of the lab and contact tracing capacity epidemiology core measure helps us understand what may be causing a delay in timely follow-up for positive cases. Monitoring the outcome of attempting to interview cases (e.g., successful contact, refusal, or unable to locate) tells us how many people we're able to speak with to help break the chain of COVID transmission.	2-week percent of positive tests reported within 24 hours of when the test specimen was collected.	98%
	2-week percent of people who tested positive that were interviewed within 24 hours of when their positive test was reported.	24%
	2-week percent of people who tested positive who successfully received isolation instructions.	61%
	2-week percent of people who tested positive who refused an interview with our contact tracers.	6%
	2-week percent of people who tested positive who were unable to be located for an interview by our contact tracers.	15%

Delta Variant

On June 14, the CDC classified the Delta variant (B.1.617.2 Pango lineage) as a [variant of concern](#), and on June 16, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services announced they would be tracking this variant and providing current case counts on their [website](#). The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene also provides regular updates on sequencing data, including the proportion of sequenced strains that are different types of variants, on their [genomic dashboard](#).

The Delta variant is concerning because it has increased transmissibility, and antibodies produced in response to COVID-19 infection or partial vaccination may be less effective in fighting the virus. The COVID-19 vaccines available in the U.S. have shown to still provide protection against the Delta variant, particularly in preventing severe disease and death. We have very good vaccine coverage in Dane County, including a high percentage of people who have completed the series. The most effective way to protect yourself and our community from being impacted by this variant is to [get vaccinated](#).

The prevalence of Delta in Dane County is rising quickly, and it is likely that it is now the dominant strain. Of 53 cases sequenced in July, 49 (93%) were Delta.

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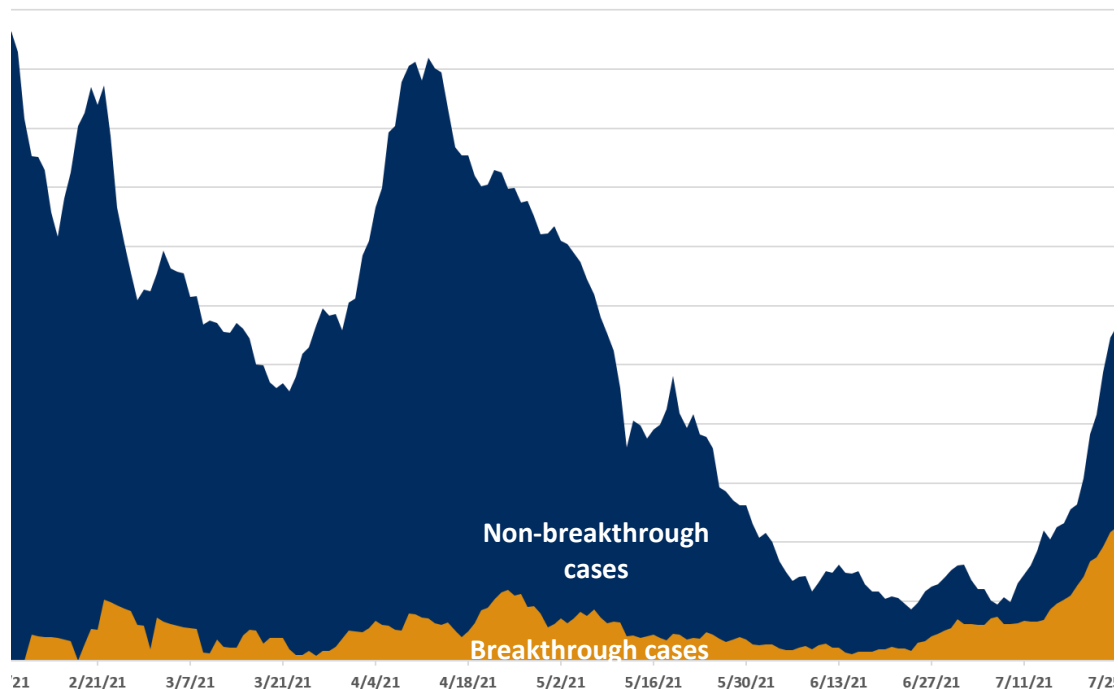
Breakthrough Case Trends

The vaccines available in the U.S. work incredibly well at preventing severe disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID. They are also effective, but less so, in preventing mild symptomatic infection from COVID. Breakthrough cases (when someone tests positive 14 or more days after their final vaccine dose) are expected, and with more than 67% of our population being fully vaccinated, we can expect an increasing proportion of our daily new cases to be among people who are fully vaccinated, especially with the highly transmissible Delta variant circulating. Unvaccinated people are still much more vulnerable, especially to severe COVID.

Cases among both unvaccinated and vaccinated people have rapidly increased since Delta became the dominant virus strain in Dane County. Dane County's current 7-day average of daily new COVID cases is 13.8 per 100,000 residents. The rate for **unvaccinated residents** is **25.4**, which is **8.2 times as high** as the rate for **fully vaccinated residents**, which is **3.1**.

7-day average of daily new COVID cases per 100,000 population* for **unvaccinated residents** vs. **fully vaccinated residents**

*population denominators adjusted daily to account for changes in vaccination status

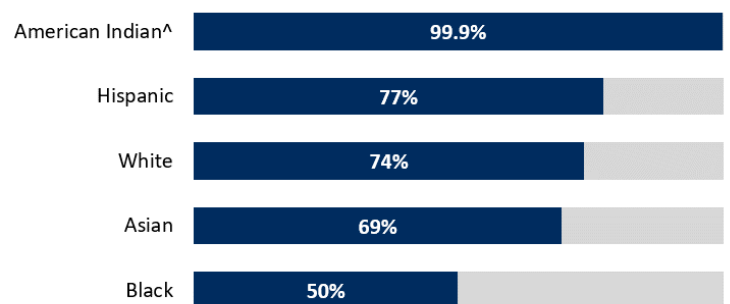


Vaccine Equity

Our blog post titled [Herd Immunity and Vaccine Equity: How We Look at Vaccine Coverage in Different Ways](#) explains when and why we might look at vaccine coverage for the entire population vs. the eligible population.

Page 1 of this snapshot shows the percent of **all** Dane County residents by race and ethnicity that have received at least one dose of vaccine, while the graph to the right shows the percent of **currently eligible** (age 12+) Dane County residents by race and ethnicity that have received at least one dose of vaccine. A larger proportion of those under the age of 12 are people of color compared to those age 12 and older, so looking at the percent of eligible people in each group that has received vaccine can tell us more about the true disparities in vaccine access and uptake.

Percent of *currently eligible* Dane County residents in each group who have received at least one dose of vaccine*



*11.4% have a race listed as Other/unknown, and 9.2% are missing ethnicity.

[^]In alignment with [CDC](#), we have capped the percent of population coverage at 99.9%. These metrics could be greater than 99.9% for multiple reasons, including census denominator data not including all individuals that currently reside in the jurisdiction (e.g., part time residents) or potential data reporting errors. The American Indian/Alaska Native population in particular is small, and therefore population estimates are unstable and coverage may be overestimated. See [DHS](#) for additional information on the limitations of demographic information for immunizations.

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Characteristics of COVID-19 Cases

In this 14-day period there were 779 total confirmed cases and 10 probable case. At least 105 (15%) of these cases were associated with a cluster and/or a facility investigation.

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](#). Note that cluster data are an underrepresentation of all cases. One case in a long term care facility, correctional facility, childcare facility, or school results in an investigation, thus they are more straightforward to track and report. This data does not represent the full extent of likely transmission within all these facilities within the entire county.

Most Likely Location of Exposure*		Category of Cluster/ Facility Investigation	Number of Unique Clusters^	Number of Associated Cases	Number of Facility Investigations (non-clusters)	Number of Associated Cases
Client's own home (non-congregate)	70 (15%)					
Sporting Venue (participant/ spectator)	52 (11%)					
Other Public/private event or gathering venue	41 (9%)	Assisted Living	-	-	-	-
Work	35 (7%)	Correctional Facility	1	1	-	-
Private Home, other than client's home	30 (6%)	Childcare Facility	2	4 (3 children, 1 adult)	6	6 (2children, 4 adults)
Restaurant or bar (patron)	24 (5%)	School	-	-	4	4 (4 adults)
Camp, Day or overnight (camper)	11 (2%)	Skilled Nursing	1	1	1	1
Hotel/motel (guest)	3 (1%)	Health care	2	5	-	-
Daycare, adult or child (attendee)	2 (<1%)	Workplace:				
Healthcare facility (patient or guest)	2 (<1%)	Manufacturing	2	5	-	-
Religious Venue (guest)	2 (<1%)	Office/Indoor Workspace	2	4	-	-
Retail Location/store (patron)	2 (<1%)	Other	3	5	-	-
Congregate living setting (resident)	1 (<1%)	Other Setting				
Other	28 (6%)	Event Venue	1	54	-	-
Undetermined	165 (35%)	Youth Camp	3	11	2	2
		Youth Sports	-	-	2	2
		Congregate Living	-	-	1	1

*Calculated among 468 people fully interviewed so far
Most likely location of exposure is based on the case
investigator's professional assessment of information
collected during the client interview

Cluster spotlight: 54 people tested positive after gathering to watch the Milwaukee Bucks win the NBA championship. The Delta variant is easier to transmit than previous versions of COVID. We recommend wearing a mask when you're in close contact with others in public settings, including crowded outdoor spaces.