

THIS CALL IS BEING RECORDED

DHS Provider Briefings

Thursday 1/7/21

Briefings occur weekly, on Thursdays, at 4:30 PM



Agenda

- Announcements
- Planning & funding
- Health metrics
- Program updates



COVID-19 Test Site in McKeesport



- Address: 455 Industry Road, McKeesport
- Regular hours: Monday – Saturday 9am- 5pm
- Free COVID-19 Testing for anyone over 3 years old.
- Testing by **Appointment Only**. Pre-register online or via phone at 412-209-2262.
- This is a drive-thru site with self-administered tests. No prescription or referral needed.
- Insurance billing information will be collected but test will still be free if someone does not have insurance or their insurance does not cover cost
- **If you are unable to drive, contact the COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-856-2774 for additional options & resources.**
- Registration and testing information available at bit.ly/McKeesportCOVIDTestSite

COVID-19



Allegheny County Mobile Testing Sites

Friday, Jan 8, 9am-12pm

Destiny of Faith Church

3737 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Pre-registration link:

<https://curative.com/sites/22615/walkup>

Friday, Jan 8, 1pm-4pm

St. Paul AME Church

400 Orchard Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15210

Pre-registration link:

<https://curative.com/sites/15426/walkup>

Squirrel Hill Health Center Mobile Testing Site

Friday, Jan 8, 12:30pm - 3:30

300 JHF Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15217

Pre-registration link:

<http://alleghenycovidtesting.com>

Walk-ins welcomed

Insurance not required. However, if you have insurance that will cover the cost, your insurance will be billed

Vaccine Rollout

Phase 1a: limited supply. Focus on priority populations of frontline healthcare workers. PADOH contracted with the Pharmacy Partnership of CVS and Walgreens to vaccinate residents and staff in skilled nursing and assisted living facilities and other long term care facilities.

Phase 1b: first responders, critical workers, and high-risk populations listed in the [state's vaccination plan](#). ACHD, selected pharmacies, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and other organizations will administer vaccines.

Phase 2: Increased number of vaccine doses available. ACHD and many other providers will vaccinate the next group of critical workers and other high-risk conditions outlined in the [state's vaccination plan](#).

Phase 3: General population

Active Solicitations

RFP for Family-Centered Service Coordination for Families Involved with Child Welfare and Mental Health Services

- Proposals due Tuesday, February 9
- Optional pre-proposal conference via Teams next Thursday, January 14 (details in RFP)

RFP for Foster Care Agencies

- Proposals due Wednesday, February 10
- Optional pre-proposal conference via Teams next Friday, January 15 (details in RFP)

[Link](#) to DHS Solicitations

LEARN MORE ABOUT INCARCERATED WOMEN - JOIN REMOTE TRAININGS OFFERED BY A CHILD'S PLACE PA

- ✘ Locked Out Part I: Issues Impacting Incarcerated Women, Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- ✘ Locked Out Part II: Issues Impacting Incarcerated Women, Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- ✘ Part III Human Trafficking, Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021: 1:30-3:00 pm
- ✘ Choose any you like. Please register prior to session. Continuing education credits available. Contact Vicki Sirockman at 422-728-8287 or vsirockman@achildsplacepa.org.



Policy & Legislative Update – State & Local

- PA General Assembly began the 2021-2022 legislative session on Tuesday
 - While the House gavelled in their session without drama, partisan struggle overshadowed the Senate opening with Republicans refusing to seat Allegheny County Senator Jim Brewster, who won a close election in November, even though the State had certified his win. Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, whose duty it is to oversee Senate proceedings, was removed by Republicans in a symbolic display of power when he moved to allow Brewster to take the oath of office.
- PA House and Senate Democrats are renewing legislation to prevent widespread evictions and foreclosures ahead of the end-of-January federal eviction moratorium expiration.
 - The bill would extend the eviction moratorium to 60 days after the governor ends his COVID-19 disaster declaration. The disaster declaration was enacted March 6, 2020, and has been renewed three times since.
 - There were no Republican co-sponsors in the last session.
- Pittsburgh Public Schools announced the creation of the Re-Imagine School Safety Task Force, an act of the School Board intended to recommend and influence policies that combat racial disparities in school safety.
 - The task force will evaluate available police data to determine measures for reducing the disproportional arrests, citations and suspensions of students of color in PPS.

Allegheny Courts Emergency Operations Order

President Judge Clark issued an [Order](#) for Jan. 11 – Jan. 31, amending Court Operations due to COVID-19. All Courts will remain open to the public and for case filings, payments, and processing, with these exceptions:

- **Court of Common Pleas**
 - All matters shall be conducted remotely, with the exception of some specific in-person hearings
 - Indirect Contempt of court Hearings for incarcerated individuals shall proceed in-person as scheduled in the Family Division, with as many participants appearing remotely as possible, including witnesses and attorneys.
 - Delinquency Adjudication Hearings for Juveniles who are detained and who request an in-person hearing may proceed in person.
 - All proceedings scheduled on or prior to January 29, 2021 that cannot be conducted remotely are postponed to a date certain after January 29, 2021.
- **Magisterial District Courts and Pittsburgh Municipal Courts**
 - Landlord-Tenant proceedings scheduled during the period from January 11, 2021 through January 29, 2021 shall be postponed to a date certain after January 29, 2021.
 - Summary nontraffic/traffic and civil proceedings in which all parties agree to conduct the hearing remotely may continue, otherwise postponed until after January 29, 2021.
 - Preliminary Hearings for incarcerated individuals shall proceed as scheduled, with as many participants appearing remotely as possible.
 - Emergency PFA Petitioners may appear in person to present their petitions, and Preliminary Arraignments will proceed per the August 31, 2020 Emergency Operations Order.

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Update

CRF funding for the initiatives ended 12/30/20

Critical initiatives continue

Cleaning sites with a virus exposure

Community Learning Hubs

Health of the Network

Hazard Pay and Resource Family Payments

Safe Haven Hotel

Teen and Family Healing Center

United Way Food and Emergency Supports

All initiatives are part of a comprehensive planning process

New targeted COVID Stimulus dollars coming

New Federal Stimulus

- The \$2.3 trillion [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021](#) (5,593 pages) was enacted December 27, 2020.
- The legislation includes many smaller bills, including the \$900 billion Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 and annual government-wide appropriations.
- No new funding to states and counties to broadly respond and recover from the pandemic (i.e., no new program like the Coronavirus Relief Fund established in the CARES Act in March 2020)
- Each program/funding has its own specific requirements
 - May be time-limited or one-time funding
 - Federal agencies are in the process of issuing implementation guidance and updating websites with more details



Supports Available for Providers

- Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)
 - \$284 billion for businesses and non-profits, more restrictive eligibility criteria and reduced maximum amount if received a loan previously
 - Revised eligibility criteria: fewer than 300 employees, 25% revenue reduction
 - New [SBA guidance](#) for first-time borrowers and [guidelines](#) for new PPP loans to businesses that previously received a PPP loan.
- Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program
 - \$20 billion for new EIDL Grants for businesses and non-profits in low-income communities, up to \$10,000 to small businesses that remain severely impacted by the ongoing slowdown.
 - For [more information](#) through the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- Childcare provider support
 - \$10 billion nationwide to cover covid-related expenses, reenroll children in a safe environment, makes essential workers eligible without regard for income, and enables funding to cover expenses prior to bill enactment
- Hospitals and healthcare provider support
 - An additional \$3 billion for the Provider Relief Fund

Key Supports for Individuals

(1/2)

- **Economic Impact Payments**

- One-time \$600 direct payments to individuals (full payment for AGI up to \$75k, reduced amount until \$87k). \$600 for dependents. Most eligible people will get payments automatically; other eligible individuals will need to file 2020 tax returns to receive their payment
- For more information: IRS [Press Release](#), [FAQ](#), and [check payment status](#)

- **Emergency Rental Assistance Program**

- \$25 billion nationwide to cover rent and utilities ([Treasury's program overview](#))
- Eviction moratorium extension through January 31st
- Allegheny County Rental Assistance website for updates: <https://covidrentrelief.alleghenycounty.us/>

- **Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program**

- \$638 million allocated nationwide; new program with be established and administered by HHS through state governments
- Program specifics and eligibility criteria not yet specified

- **Pandemic unemployment programs**

- Extends Pandemic Unemployment Assistance for gig and non-traditional workers
- Extends Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation and restores supplement, \$300/week increase through March 14th

- **Emergency Broadband Benefit Program**

- New program administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) providing eligible households with \$50/month for internet service
- Qualifying households: children who qualify for the free/reduced lunch program, Pell grant recipients, recently laid off or furloughed workers, an individual who qualifies for the Lifeline program, an individual who qualifies for a low-income or COVID-19 internet service discount program
- [FCC seeking comments](#) as they establish the \$3.2 billion program (deadline January 25th)

Key supports for individuals

(2/2)

- **SNAP benefit increase**
 - 15% increase to the maximum allotment from January through June
- **Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) program simplifications**
 - Food benefit for households with kids eligible for school meal programs
 - Permits states to propose providing P-EBT benefits to SNAP households with a child under six that live in an area where a school is closed or operating under hybrid learning
- **Chafee Education and Training Vouchers**
 - Increase of maximum stipend for older youth in foster care
- **Pell Grant**
 - Increase of the maximum award by \$150
 - Reinstates eligibility for students who are incarcerated
- **Flexibility to leverage Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)**
- **FEMA Funeral Assistance**
 - Covers some funeral expenses for covid-related deaths in 2020

New nationwide stimulus funding that will support related County services and programs

Program/Service	Nationwide Funding Levels <i>Amount for PA and DHS not yet determined</i>
Head Start	\$250 million
Senior nutrition programs	\$175 million
Elder justice	\$100 million
Child welfare prevention	\$75 million
Family Unification Program (FUP) with a focus on vouchers for young people	\$25 million
Covid testing, contact tracing and mitigation efforts (\$2.5 billion reserved for high-risk and underserved populations)	\$25 billion
Vaccine development and distribution (\$300 million reserved for high-risk and underserved populations)	\$4.5 billion
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services – for Block Grants, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, suicide prevention programs, Project AWARE to support school-based mental health for children, emergency grants to states and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network	\$4.25 billion

Notable provisions

- Directs HUD to establish a Director of Domestic Violence Prevention Activities to coordinate domestic violence prevention activities throughout HUD and serve as a liaison with external stakeholders
- \$82 billion nationwide to make school and colleges safer for in-person learning, including formula and competitive grants
- Reduces the total number of questions on the FAFSA from 108 to 33

Human Services Planning: Request for Input

We need to identify priorities for helping people in Allegheny County

Priorities could include:

- Covid-response

- Emerging needs

- Changes to improve the services we provide (systems, practice)


Please use this form to provide DHS with your input by Thursday, January 14th:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ej0n4MvksU6fclu6FvuWjf0bRgIOiVVOt3FMeSJYKY1UME1TTIpFMDIZWUZBQ0NVVkeE3RzFIWjBFOC4u>

PA State Metrics

- Compares this week (December 25th to December 31th) to previous week (December 18th to December 24th). Data is updated every Friday.

	% change from last week to this week
Newly reported cases	-31%
Incidence rate per 100,000	-31%
Positivity rate	-9%
Ave. daily hospitalizations	-7%
Ave. daily patients on ventilators	-14%
% ED visits due to CLI	-27%




Updated on 1/1/2021


COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard

Select a County
 ALLEGHENY

Page Navigation
 All Counties



Newly reported confirmed cases




Decreased from 4,094 confirmed cases the previous seven days to 2,826 in the most recent seven days.

4,094


Previous 7 days

2,826

Most recent 7 days



Incidence rate per 100,000 residents




Decreased from a rate of 336 per 100,000 residents in the previous seven days to 231.9 per 100,000 residents in the most recent seven days.

336.0


Previous 7 days

231.9

Most recent 7 days



PCR testing positivity rate




Decreased from a PCR testing positivity rate of 12.3 percent during the previous seven days to 11.2 percent over the most recent seven days.

12.3%


Previous 7 days

11.2%

Most recent 7 days



Average daily COVID-19 specific hospitalizations




Decreased from 783.3 daily COVID-19 specific hospitalizations, on average, over the previous seven days to 728.7 daily COVID-19 specific hospitalizations, on average, over the most recent seven days.

783.3


Previous 7 days

728.7

Most recent 7 days



Average daily COVID-19 patients on ventilators




Decreased from 113.0 daily COVID-19 patients on ventilators, on average, over the previous seven days to 97.0 daily COVID-19 patients on ventilators, on average, over the most recent seven days.

113.0


Previous 7 days

97.0

Most recent 7 days



Percent of hospital emergency department visits due to COVID-like-illness (CLI)




Decreased from 1.1 percent of hospital emergency department visits in the previous seven days due to COVID-like-illness (CLI) in the previous seven days to 0.8 percent in the most recent seven days.

1.1%

Previous 7 days

0.8%

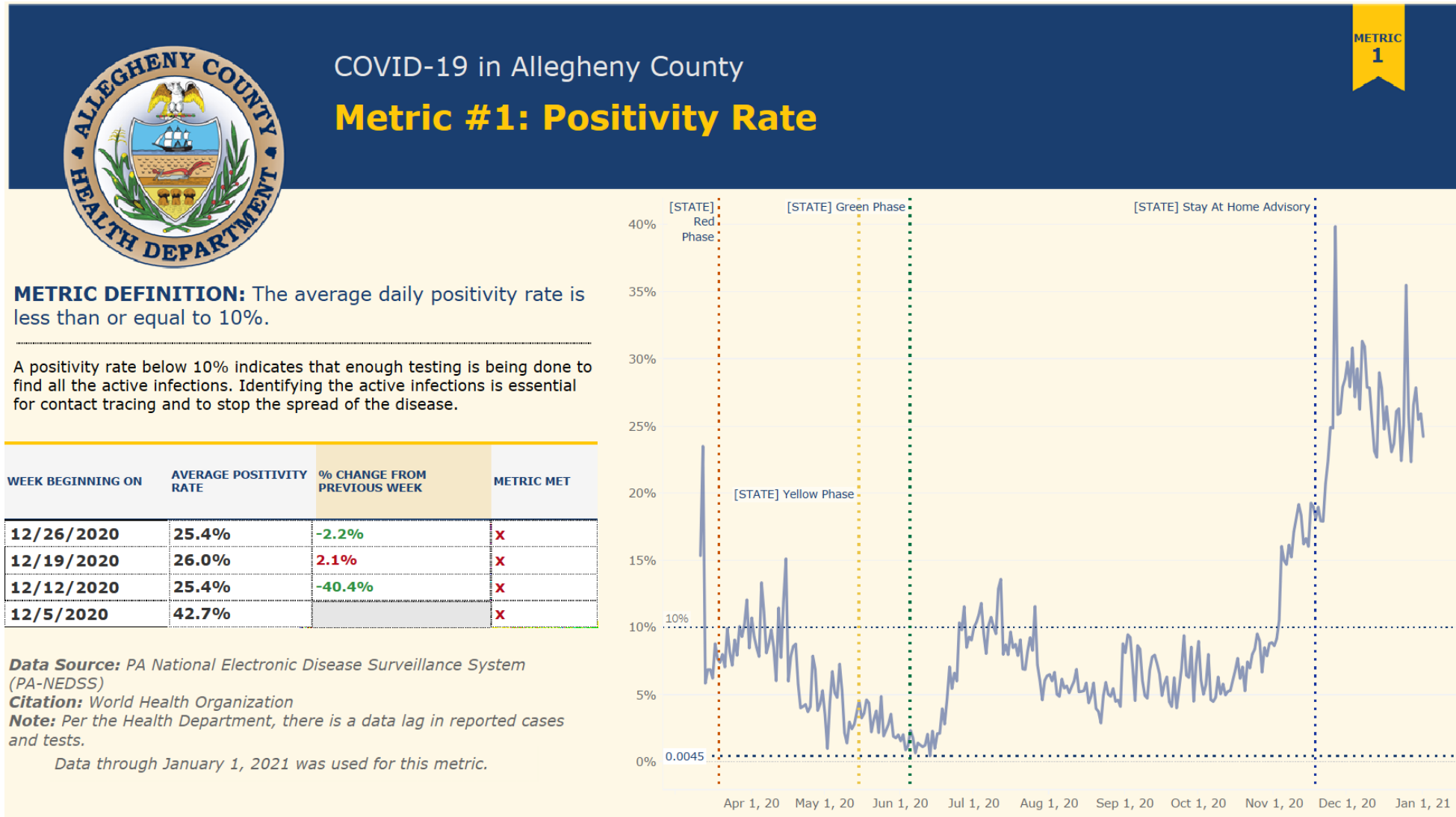
Most recent 7 days



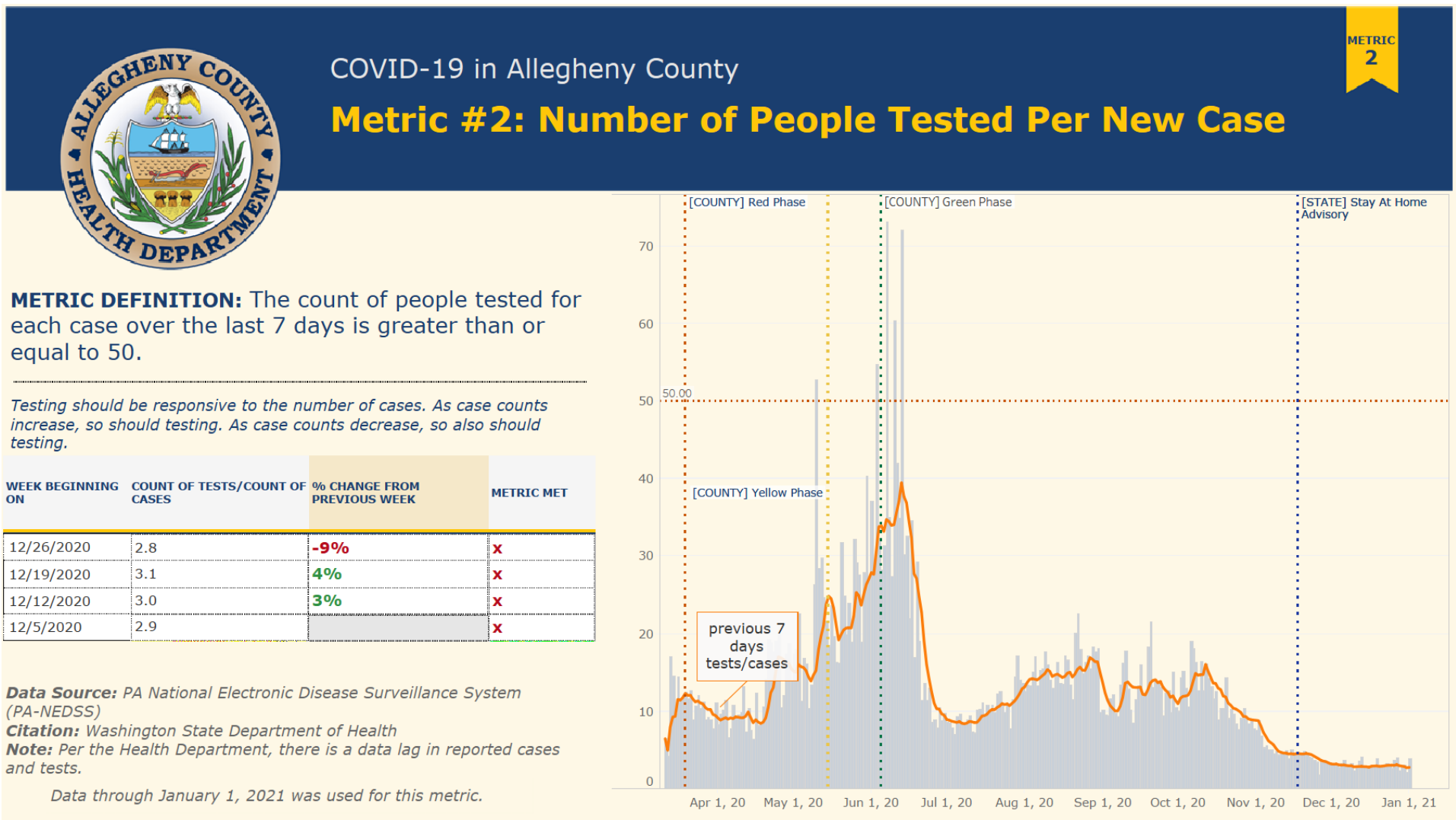
PA state's early warning system dashboard

(<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>).

The average weekly positivity rate been steady/decreasing since early December, but remains well above 10%. On December 31st, there was a **26% positivity rate** (333 cases out of 1,283 tests). NOTE: The spikes on the graph are from Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, when there were much fewer tests taken.



Though the number of people tested has been increasing since early September, the number of cases has increased at a faster rate. As such, the number of people tested per new case has been falling since early October. The ratio is the lowest it has been during the pandemic. 795 people were tested on 10/10 (with 40 cases) compared to 1,283 on 12/31 (with 333 cases)



Cases have fallen slightly throughout December, but are still very high. There were 4,006 cases the week of 12/26.



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Metric #3: Declining or Low Case Counts

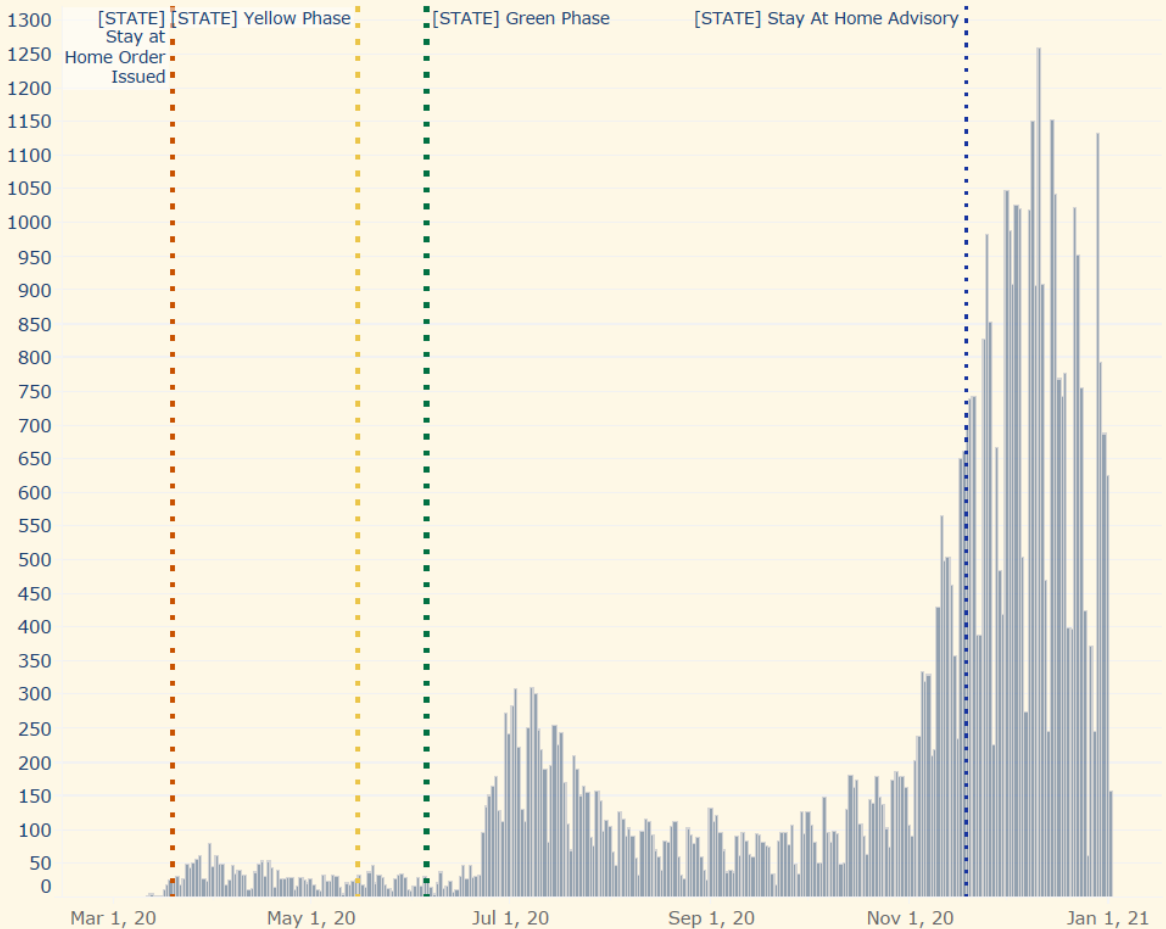
METRIC 3

METRIC DEFINITION: The 14 day count of new cases is declining or is consistently low.

A declining or low case counts indicates fewer people are infected and have the ability to spread COVID-19 to others.

WEEK BEGINNING ON	COUNT OF CASES	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	AVERAGE DAILY POSITIVE TEST RATE	METRIC MET
12/26/2020	4,006	0%	25.5%	X
12/19/2020	4,003	-23%	26.0%	X
12/12/2020	5,195	-14%	25.5%	X
12/5/2020	6,020		28.5%	X

Data Source: PA National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (PA-NEDSS)
Citation: National Governors Association
Note: Per the Health Department, there is a data lag in reported cases and tests. Data through January 1, 2021 was used for this metric.



The case rate per 100,000 residents has fallen since 12/15 (975). On 1/1, there was a case rate of 658 cases per 100,000. The case rate has been above 50 since 6/24.



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Metric #4: Case Rate

METRIC 4

METRIC DEFINITION: The 14 day count of new cases per 100,000 residents is below 50.

Similar to a low case count, a low case rate indicates fewer people are infected and have the ability to spread covid-19 to others.

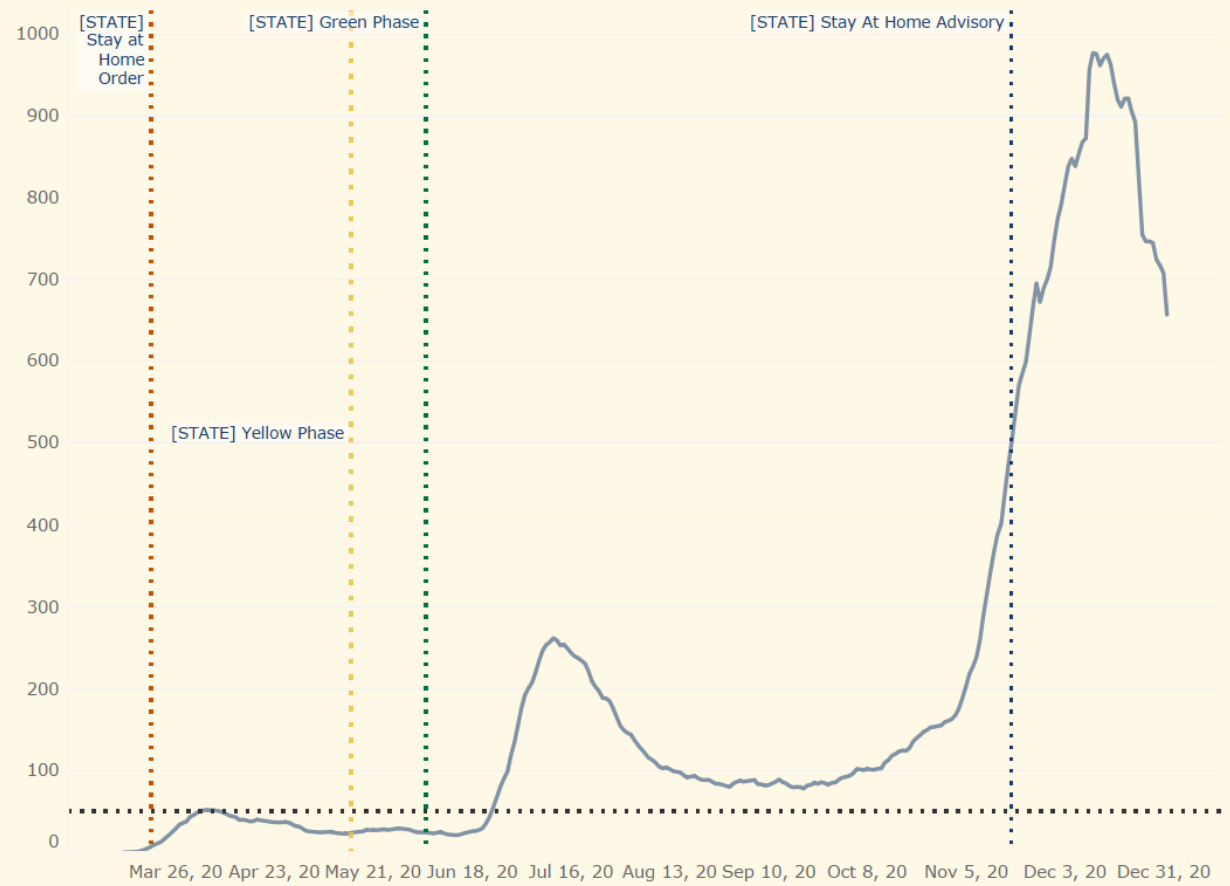
WEEK BEGINNING ON	AVERAGE COUNT OF CASES PER 100,000	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET
12/25/2020	736	-18%	X
12/18/2020	900	-7%	X
12/11/2020	967	11%	X
12/4/2020	869		X

Data Source: PA National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (PA-NEDSS), 2018 US Census Bureau population estimates

Citation: State of Pennsylvania (<https://www.governor.pa.gov/process-to-reopen-pennsylvania/>)

Note: Per the Health Department, there is a data lag in reported cases and tests.

Data through January 1, 2021 was used for this metric.



The 3-day average of total net hospitalizations has fallen since 12/17 (859). It was 664 on 1/6. This is 5x the number from early November when the number was 140 people.



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

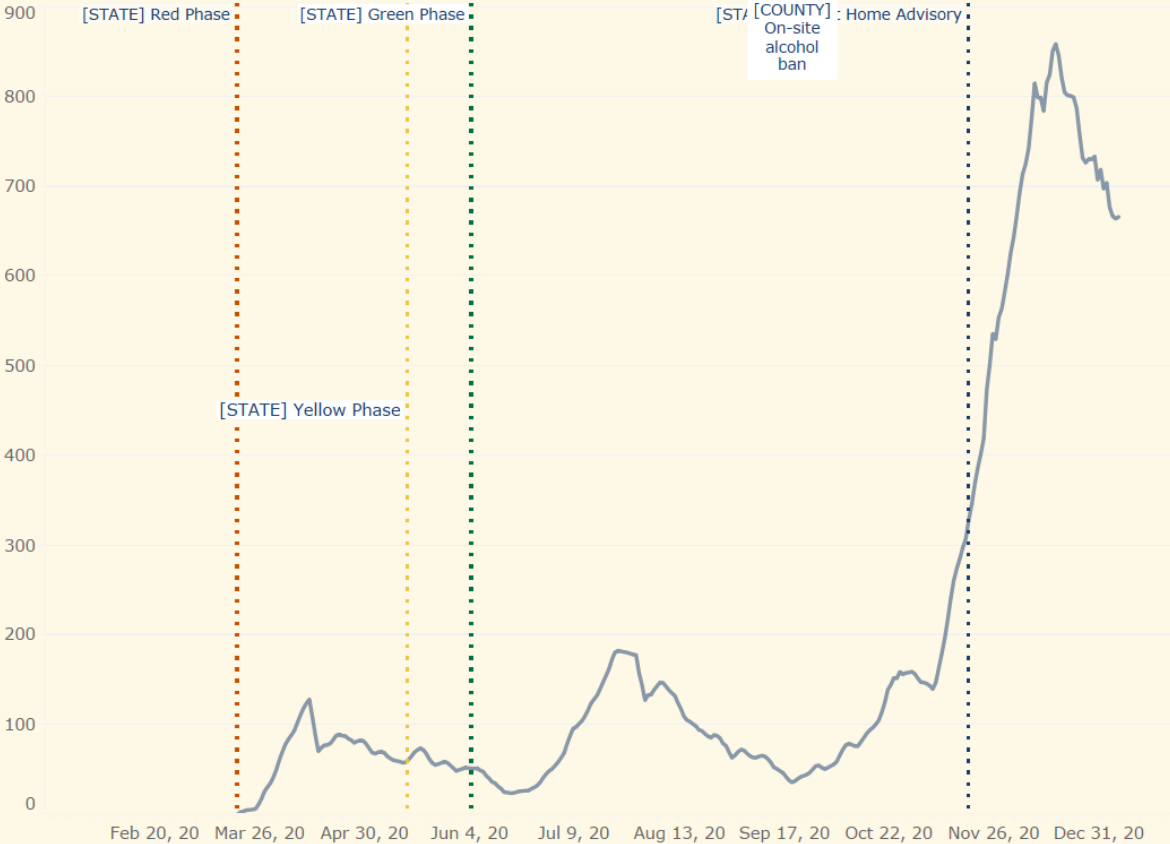
Metric #5: Decline in Hospitalizations

METRIC 5

METRIC DEFINITION: A decline in the three-day rolling average of total net hospitalizations (defined as the total number of people in the hospital on a given day) over the course of a 14-day period.

WEEK BEGINNING ON	AVERAGE WEEKLY NUMBER OF PATIENTS	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET ON LAST DAY OF WEEK
1/1/2021	688	-4%	X
12/25/2020	719	-10%	X
12/11/2020	821		X

Data Source: Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania
 (https://public.tableau.com/profile/hap_research#!/vizhome/EEIRegion/EEIRegion)
Citation: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



ICU bed usage has remained steady in December. On 1/5 the ICU bed usage was 89%.



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Metric #6: ICU Bed Usage

METRIC
6

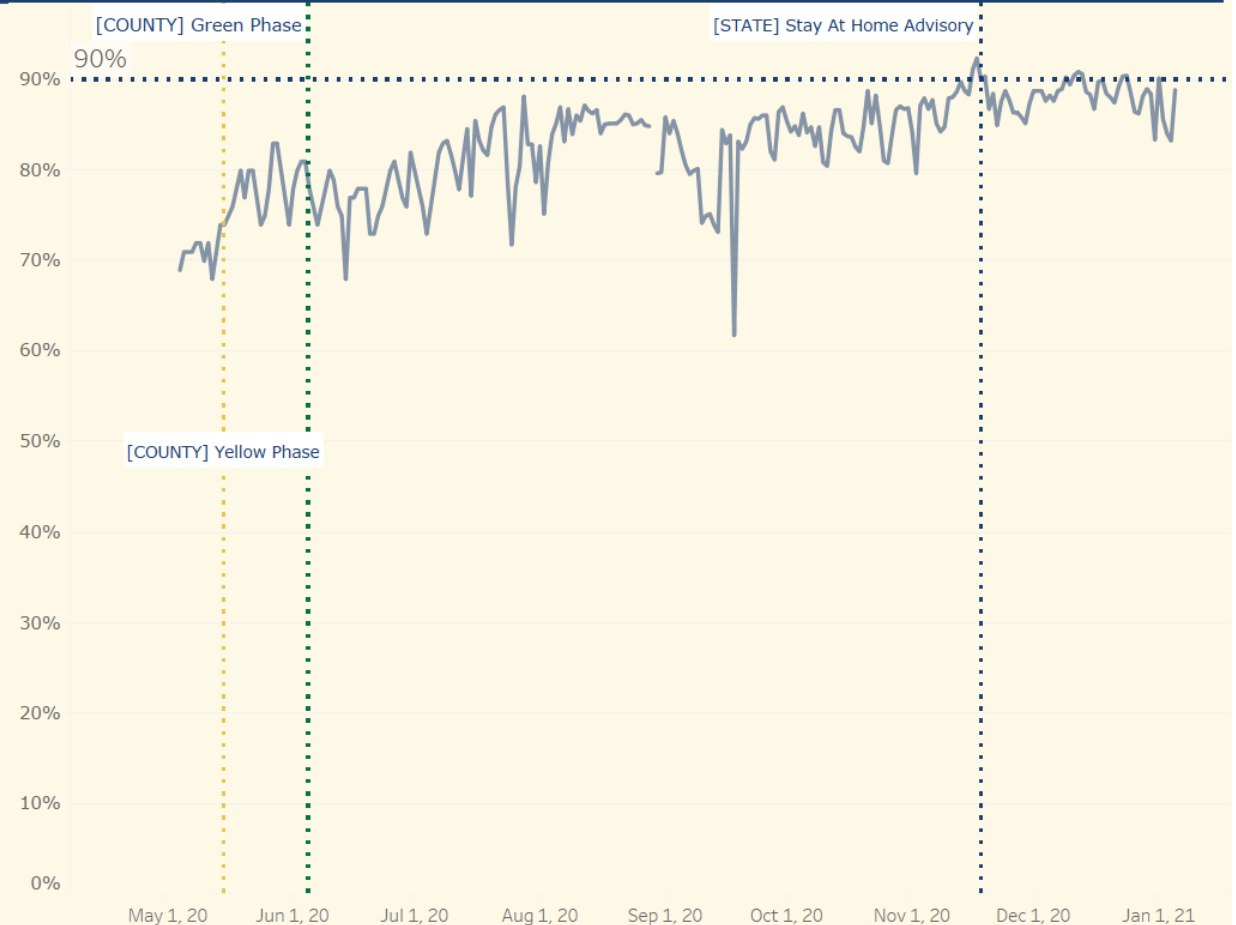
METRIC DEFINITION: Percent of ICU beds that are currently occupied is less than 90%

Nearly 30% of hospitalizations for COVID-19 ultimately require critical care. Regional health care systems should both maintain sufficient bed capacity for a potential resurgence in cases and have specific ICU bed capacity.

WEEK BEGINNING ON	AVERAGE WEEKLY ICU USAGE	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET DURING WEEK
12/25/2020	87.2%	-2.0%	✓
12/18/2020	89.2%	-0.2%	✓
12/11/2020	89.4%		✓

Data Source: Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania (https://public.tableau.com/profile/hap_research#!/vizhome/EEIRegion/EEIRegion)

Citation: State of Pennsylvania (<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/County-Dashboard.aspx>)



Deaths have risen since mid-November to a high of 19 (3 day rolling average) on 12/18. Deaths have fallen since then.



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Metric #7: Decline in Deaths

METRIC
7

METRIC DEFINITION: The daily decline in the 3 day rolling average count of deaths

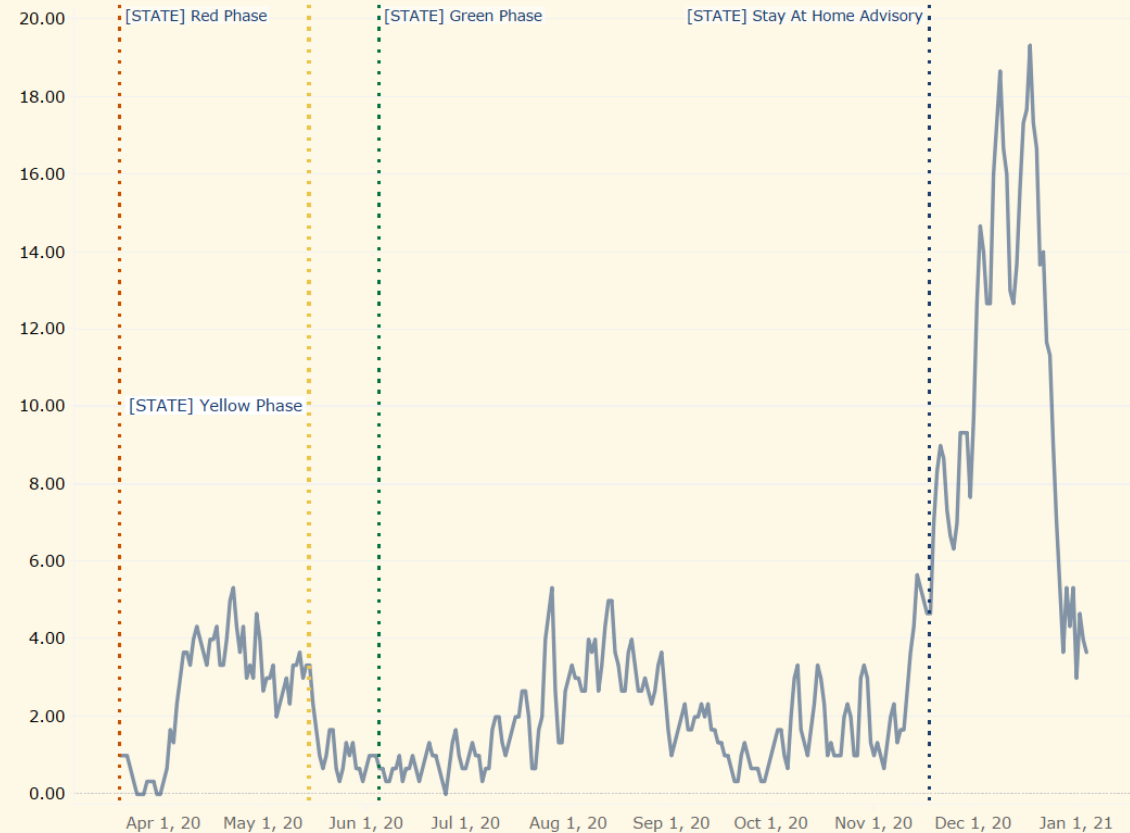
WEEK BEGINNING ON	COUNT OF DEATHS	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET ON LAST DAY OF WEEK
12/26/2020	31	-63%	X
12/19/2020	84	-28%	X
12/12/2020	116	0%	X
12/5/2020	116		X

Data Source: Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania
https://public.tableau.com/profile/hap_research#1/vizhome/EEIRegion/EEIRegion

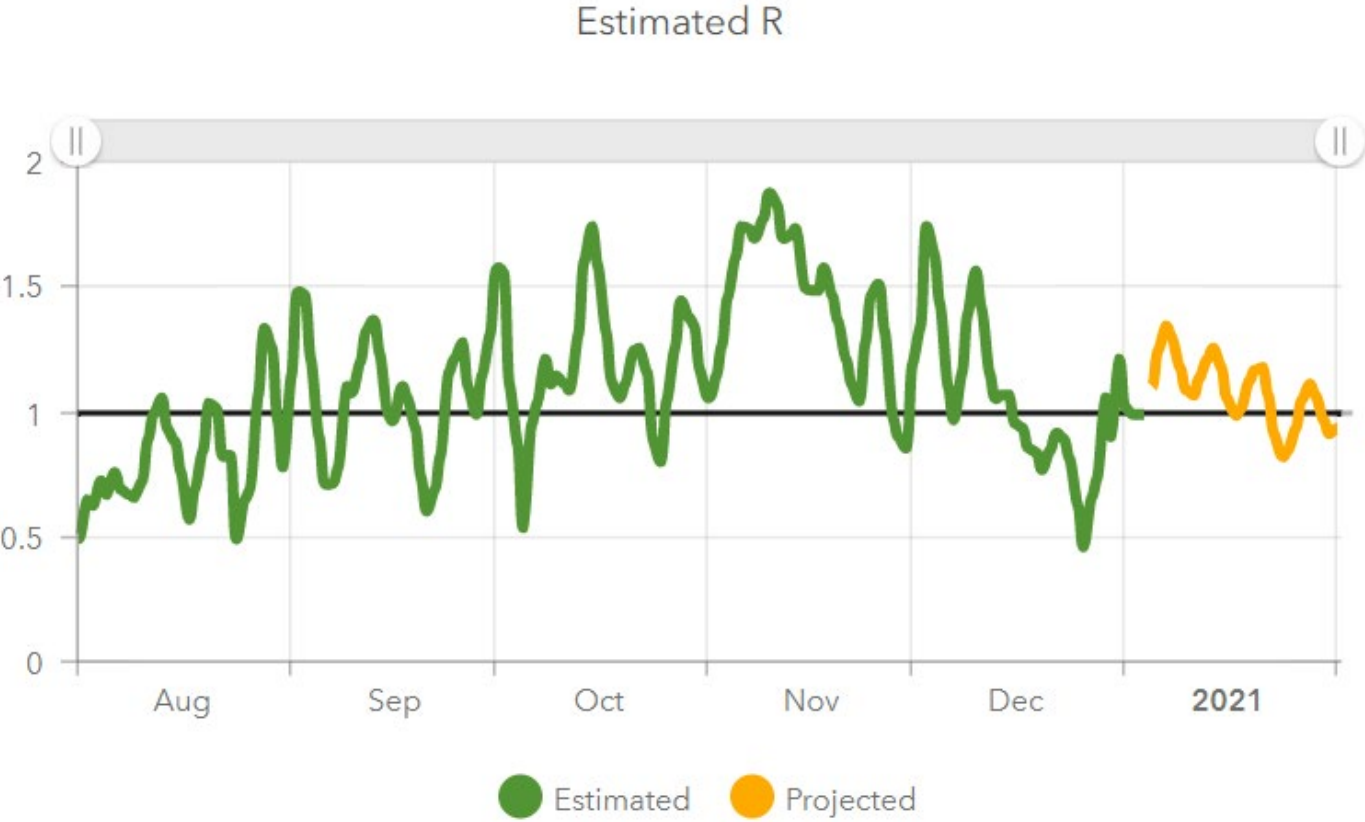
Citation: State of Massachusetts

Note: Per the Health Department, there is a data lag in reported cases and tests.

Data through January 1, 2021 was used for this metric.



All 3 models that we are looking at (CHOP model, RTLive and COVID Act Now) show an R value of falling throughout December. This information shows the CHOP model results. They are projecting the R value to be above 1 until the end of January.



Test Positivity	R
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Source: <https://policylab.chop.edu/covid-lab-mapping-covid-19-your-community>



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Reproduction number of COVID-19 below 1

R Selection
Average of all



METRIC DEFINITION: R0 is the average number of people who will contract COVID-19 from one person with that disease.

- If R0 is less than 1, each existing infection causes less than one new infection. The disease will decline and eventually die out.
- If R0 equals 1, each existing infection causes one new infection. The disease will stay alive and stable, but there won't be an outbreak or an epidemic.
- If R0 is more than 1, each existing infection causes more than one new infection. The disease will be transmitted between people, and there may be an outbreak or epidemic.

WEEK BEGINNING ON	AVERAGE R0 VALUE DURING WEEK	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET ON LAST DAY OF WEEK
12/24/2020	0.84	-8%	✓
12/17/2020	0.92	-13%	✓
12/10/2020	1.06	-7%	✗
12/3/2020	1.14		✗

Data Source: Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/hap.research#!/vizhome/EEIRegion/EEIRegion>

Citation: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FOOD RESOURCES

Thursday,
January 14

Glassport

1 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Queen of the Rosary Church
530 Michigan Ave, Glassport, PA 15045

MAKE A RESERVATION

Saturday,
January 16

McKeesport

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
McKeesport Area High School
1960 Eden Park Blvd., McKeesport, PA 15132

MAKE A RESERVATION

Saturday,
January 23

Wilkinsburg

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
East End Behavioral Health Hospital
225 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15221

MAKE A RESERVATION

Monday,
January 25

Duquesne

12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
1 N Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110

MAKE A RESERVATION

**Make
Reservations
Here!**

[Drive-Up Food
Distributions -
Greater
Pittsburgh
Community
Food Bank
\(pittsburghfood
bank.org\)](#)

The Food Bank's network of food pantries is ready and able to serve you! Connecting with a pantry in your area means consistent access to food.

Use the Food Bank's locator tool to find the pantry closest to you!

<https://www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/get-help/locator/>

HEALTH OF THE CHILDCARE SYSTEM

- There is a total of 567 licensed child care providers and 437 relative providers currently **open**.
- 64 licensed child care providers are temporarily closed due to challenges with reopening during COVID-19. Reasons for temporary closure include being located in a closed K-12 school, lack of staff comfortable working right now, enrollment challenges, etc...
- 30 providers had to **close temporarily** in December due to **potential/positive cases** of COVID-19; 29 were Child Care Centers and 1 a Family Child Care Home. This **impacted 654 children** receiving CCW as they had to make alternative arrangements while their facilities were closed.
- 22 child care providers have permanently closed since the start of COVID-19 in Allegheny County; 9 Child Care Centers, 8 Family Child Care Homes, and 5 Group Child Care Homes.
- There are currently 7,688 children receiving the Child Care Works (CCW) subsidy right now. There are no children on the **waitlist** the subsidy as of 1/5/21.

Resources:

- Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC): Physical offices not open to public, but all services available virtually @ (412) 350-3577 and elrc5@alleghenycounty.us
- Community Learning Hubs: [Community Learning Hubs - Trying Together](#)

HEALTH OF THE HOMELESSNESS SYSTEM

- Providers are still operating, sheltering, housing, and moving people into permanent housing.
- Adult shelter beds available at all 3 winter shelters (Smithfield, Shepherd's Heart, and McKeesport Downtown Housing) and some year-round shelters (EECM, Light of Life, & Bethlehem Haven).
- Youth shelter beds currently full.
- Family Shelter units available, mostly units for smaller families.
- 3 Warming Centers open during hours winter shelters are closed. Centers are located at Catholic Charities, Red Door, McKeesport Downtown Housing.
- Isolation and Quarantine facilities (Safe Haven & Family) receiving referrals, taking in record numbers of people including increased percentage of positive/exposed. Family I&Q facility has moved to Penn Hills, now operated by FamilyLinks.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY RENT RELIEF PROGRAM 2.0

- Covid-19 relief bill signed into law on December 27.
- The \$900 billion package includes housing provisions:
 - Extends CDC's federal eviction moratorium through January 31.
 - The Emergency Rental Assistance program makes available \$25 billion to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the pandemic. Allegheny County requesting rental assistance funding.
- DHS expects to launch new rental assistance program supporting tenants and landlords impacted by Covid in February. Stay tuned!

ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS

Second round of economic impact payments expected this week (up to \$600 per qualifying individual). For most, payments will be issued automatically via direct deposit or mail. However, some of your clients may require action to receive their money:

- If the first stimulus payment was direct deposited to a card that is no longer in service, the client should try to reactivate that card to receive their funds. The card will need to have the same account and routing number as the original card.
- If a client received their first stimulus payment by a paper check or prepaid card mailed directly by the IRS, their second check will be sent to that same address. This will require action if the client has moved.
- People can check the status of both their first and second payments by using the Get My Payment tool in upcoming days

If a client did not receive one of their 2020 stimulus payments, but should have, the easiest way to get their payments is to file a full 2020 tax return. **The Allegheny County Free Tax Program can assist the taxpayer for free, starting on January 20th.** A photo ID for the taxpayer, social security cards for all individuals on the return, and tax documents are required. Now is a good time to assist interested clients with requesting a social security card at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

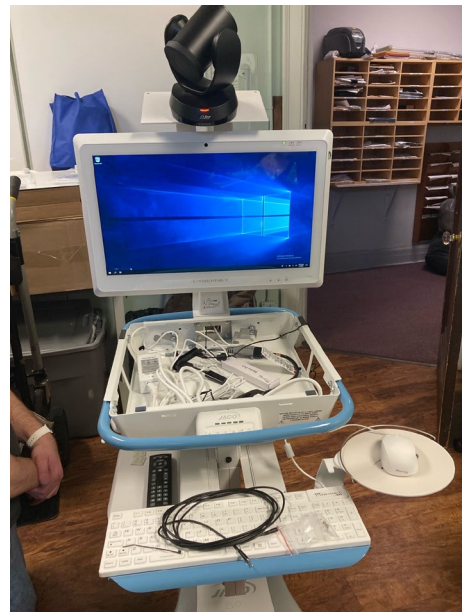
If you have multiple clients interested in filing a full tax return, please email FreeTaxPrep@alleghenycounty.us, so we can discuss the easiest way to serve your clients.

If additional legislation is enacted to provide for an additional amount, the Economic Impact Payments that have been issued will be topped up as quickly as possible.

Here is more details on the stimulus payments currently being issued: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/treasury-and-irs-begin-delivering-second-round-of-economic-impact-payments-to-millions-of-americans>

TELEHEALTH

- Telehealth Workstations on Wheels delivered to all shelters and 3 SRO buildings this week.
- Partnership between DHS, ACHD, FQHCs, and shelter.
- Goals include increasing access to physical and behavioral health services, decreasing need for ED services.



UPCOMING TRAININGS

Housing Navigator Unit

January 27th, at 1pm – Landlord/Tenant Topics

- Standard lease breakdown
- Tenant Responsibilities
- Landlord Responsibilities

[Click here to join the meeting](#) or call in (audio only) +1 267-368-7515 Conference ID: 919 769 821#

February 24th, at 1pm – Housing Crisis

- Hoarding / Infestations
- Housing Cost Burdened
- Eviction Prevention
- Condemnations
- Change of Ownership/Common Real Estate Scams

[Click here to join the meeting](#) or call in (audio only) [+1 267-368-7515](#) Conference ID: 129 530 437#

Bureau of Homeless Services

- **Mental Health First Aid**
- **Trauma Informed Care**
Please click [HERE](#) to register by January 18th, and click the option for Homeless Service Provider and select preferred dates.
- **Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression**

Contact Rob Eamigh for more information or to sign up.

**Also: Housing & Homelessness Provider Calls
Next Call: Tuesday, January 19**

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[+1 267-368-7515](#)

Conference ID: 883 836 652#

Aging Services and Trends

- ✓ Stable
- ? At-risk
- ✗ Unstable

✓ In-Home Services

? Adult Day Centers

CLOSED

- Minimal participant impact due to small size
- Providers are struggling

? Personal Care, Home Support

▼ 10-15% (from July - present)

- Participants cancelling or placing holds on services

✓ All Other Services

+/- 5%

(Home repairs
Home modifications
Personal emergency response system
Medical equipment, supplies
Home health)

✓ Food

✓ Grab-n-Go

▲ 33% from the start of the pandemic

21 centers (▲ 7 from September)

- 2 providers coordinating with ACCESS

✓ Emergency Boxes

479 delivered (December)

✓ Shelf Stable Boxes

3,777 delivered (November)

✓ Home Delivered Meals

- Stable volume

? Protective Services

- Investigating cases
- Adequate PPE supplies
- Cases have ▲ and we continue to pursue additional funding for positions

✓ SeniorLine

- Stable with calls

✓ Ombudsman

- Assisted with 6 facility closures since late fall
 - Represents significant ▲
 - Typically see < 4



Town Hall with Children's Bureau Tomorrow at 2:00 P.M.!

Think of Us is hosting a national Town Hall to discuss the Supporting Foster Youth & Families through the Pandemic Act. In addition to over 750 young people across the nation, guests will include Assistant Secretary Lynn A. Johnson, Administration for Children and Families, and Associate Commissioner Jerry Milner, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, who will share remarks.

The Children's Bureau staff will give a high-level overview of the initial information related to new funding and additional support for current and former foster youth 14 to 26.

You can [register via Think of Us](#) or simply visit the [home page](#) of the Exchange to watch a live stream there.

Key Contacts

- Provider questions for Allegheny County Health Department
 - DHS-COVID19Planning@alleghenycounty.us
 - Use the subject field to indicate if your qq is about CYF, Aging, BH, CYF, ID, Community Services, or DHS operations (e.g., contracting, payment)
 - <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment/index.aspx>
- Key DHS staff
 - Payment inquiries: Dan Evancho Dan.Evancho@alleghenycounty.us
 - Contract inquiries: Kathy Heinz Kathy.Heinz@alleghenycounty.us
Laura Brigido Laura.Brigido@alleghenycounty.us
- United Way 2-1-1
 - For basic needs assistance or general COVID-19 inquiries call the 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-856-2774. Language services are available.



Updated Covid-19 Guidance for DHS providers – Overview of December 2020 Updates

Enhancements to DHS Guidance documents stem from PA's November 2020 [Mitigation and Enforcement order](#), the November 2020 updates to [PA DOH's Mask Order](#), and ACHD's updated [Isolation and Quarantine](#) guidance.

DHS Guidance for Congregate and Long-Term Care providers:

This document was updated to reflect:

- Strengthened masking guidance
- Updated isolation and quarantine guidance for exposed or Covid-positive/probable employees
- Enhanced guidance to control non-resident visitation

DHS Guidance for Providers Conducting In-Person Operations:

This document was updated to reflect:

- **Enhanced masking guidance**
- Strengthened **isolation and quarantine** guidance for employers' affected employees;
- Enhanced **temperature screening** guidance; and
- Strengthened **telework, remote work, and social distancing** guidelines

DHS Communications Protocol For Reporting Positive Cases:

This document was updated to reflect:

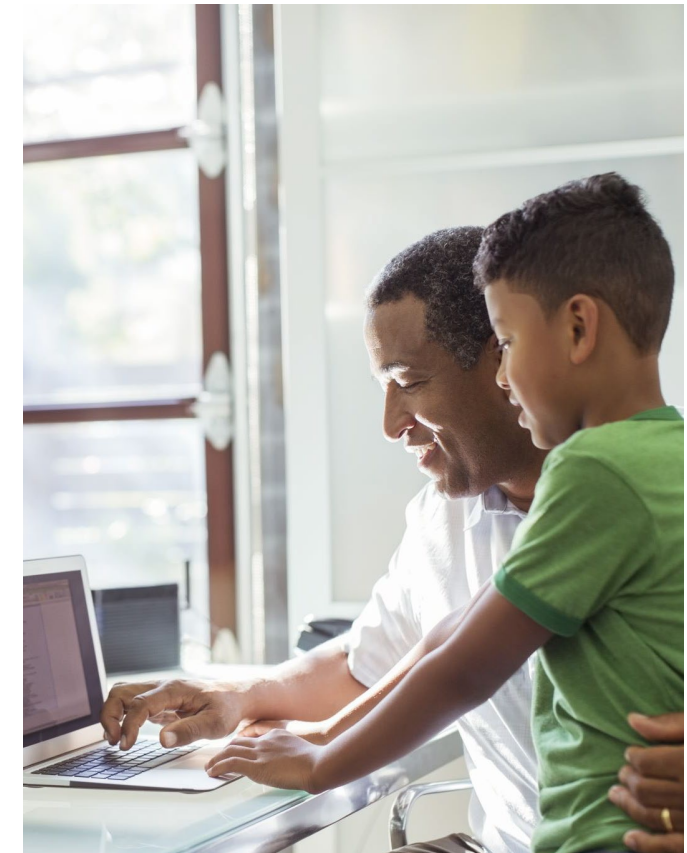
- Updated relevant contact information
- Edits to clarify ACHD's current process upon receipt of providers' reports of positive cases

Communication Protocol for Covid-19 Cases

- In a single email to the following individuals, the program administrator is to immediately notify the that a staff person or an individual being served in the program is presumed or has tested positive for COVID-19:
 - Lori Horowitz, Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD), lori.horowitz@alleghenycounty.us;
 - Long Term Care Team, Allegheny County Health Department, Covid19LTC@alleghenycounty.us;
 - Brian Bell, DHS's Privacy Officer, DHS-PrivacyOfficer@alleghenycounty.us; and
 - Your DHS program office contact CC: LuAnn Brink, Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD), luann.brink@alleghenycounty.us

DEVICE REQUESTS

- WiFi Hotspots from T-Mobile are no longer available. Additional units may be available next year.
 - Reminder: WiFi Hotspot service charges **will continue to be paid by DHS into 2021**. Service lasts 12 months beginning from original activation date.
- We have fewer than 50 laptops remaining! Our Device Request Form will close within the next week!
 - [Device Request Form](#)
- We still have plenty of headsets in stock! If you need a headset, please email us.
 - dhs-covid19supplies@alleghenycounty.us



FREE PUBLIC WI-FI – 9 SITES LIVE!

FIND THESE AND MORE AT:
WIFI.ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US

CYF Mon Valley Regional Office	355 Lincoln Hwy, Suite 500 – Entire Lot	Entire Plaza Lot
CYF Permanency Office	10 Duff Rd, Penn Hills, PA	Entire Lot
CYF East Regional Office/Intake	10700 Frankstown Rd, Pittsburgh, PA	Rear Lot
DHS Gristmill Office	101 Bellevue Rd, Pittsburgh, PA	Upper-Left Lot
Donnelly-Boland HQ	2801 Custer Ave, Pittsburgh, PA	Street and Church Lot
Kingsley Family Center	6435 Frankstown Ave, Pittsburgh, PA	Front Lot
Highlands Family Center	415 E 4th Ave #6, Tarentum, PA,	Entire Lot & Courtyard
Duquesne Family Center	1 Library Pl. Duquesne, PA	Entire Lot & Surrounding Streets
Highlands Family Center	415 E. 4 th Ave Suite 6. Tarentum, PA	Front Lot & Courtyard
DES Main Office	600 Mifflin Rd, Hays, PA	Rear Lot

Look for these signs! (coming soon)

PUBLIC WiFi HERE!
Free! No username or password required.



SCAN ME



Find more WiFi hotspots at wifi.allegHENYcounty.us

Allegheny_Public

