

THIS CALL IS BEING RECORDED

DHS Provider Briefings

Thursday 11/19/20

Provider Briefings are held
weekly, on Thursdays.



Agenda

- Announcements
- Essential Health and Human Services Worker Quick poll
- Policy & Legislative updates
- Health metrics
- The Community Pulse Report for Children & Families – Poise Foundation, United Way, Allies for Children, Fourth Economy
- Program updates



Food distributions

November 21

McKeesport

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: November 21 (10 a.m. – noon) WHERE: 1960 Eden Park Blvd., McKeesport, PA 15132

MAKE A RESERVATION

November 23

Duquesne

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Monday, November 23 (noon – 2 p.m.) WHERE: Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank; 1 N Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110

MAKE A RESERVATION

December 5

Wilkinsburg

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Saturday, December 5 (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.) WHERE: Enter at 225 Penn Ave (Intersection of N Trenton and Penn Ave), Pittsburgh, PA 15221

MAKE A RESERVATION

December 7

Duquesne

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Monday, December 7 (3 p.m. – 5 p.m.) WHERE: Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank; 1 N Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110

MAKE A RESERVATION

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

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA OF SW PA VIRTUAL ADULT SUPPORT GROUPS

New Day!! LGBT+ Group. Mutual support can help. This weekly group is now held Tuesday evenings, beginning November 3rd. See details [here](#).

We're back and we are now Virtual!! L.O.S.S. Suicide Loss Survivor Support Group is the first Tuesday evening of each month, also beginning November 3rd. More info [here](#).

Join the Conversation. For anyone feeling anxious or stressed. If you feel you need support, join our Wednesday evening group. See the group [Flyer](#).

Mental Health Group. Experiencing mental health symptoms? Then you can find support in the Tuesday afternoon Mental Health group. Details on the group [Flyer](#).

Groups are held via Zoom online. For more info or to join a group please contact the group leaders listed on the flyers. All groups are confidential.

CRF Billing



30 Dec. 20

CRF Expenses
must be incurred
by 12/30/20



November

Submission of
November
invoices by
12/5/20 would be
greatly
appreciated



December

Due date for
December
invoices will likely
be 1/5/21



Recruitment Platform *for* Essential Health and Human Service Workers

Quick Poll re: Temporary Essential Worker Platform

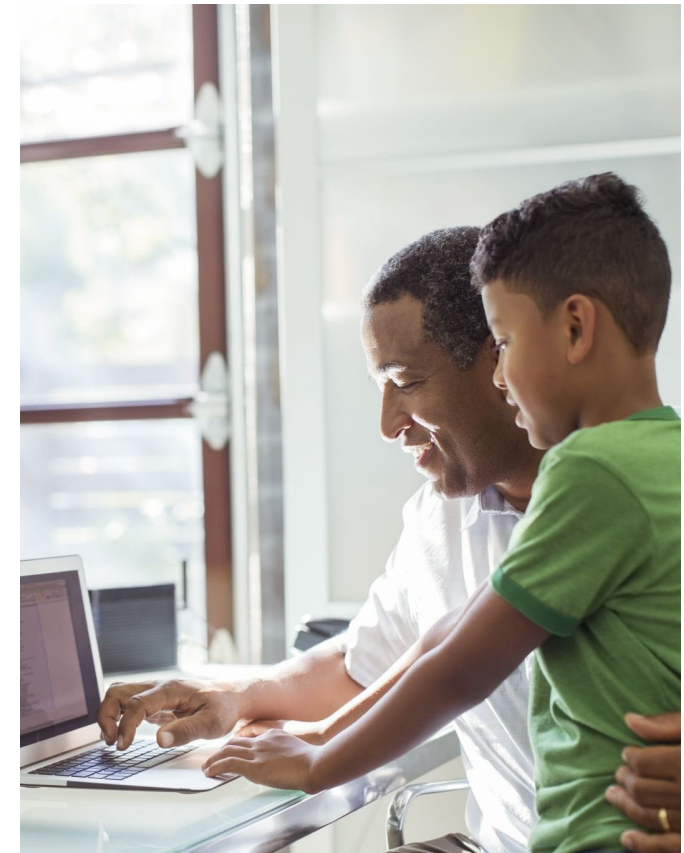
1. Do you have, or anticipate, a need for temporary workers to fill Covid-19-related gaps?
2. Would you be likely to use Recruitment Platform for Essential Health and Human Service Workers to fill your needs?
3. What sources do you use most often to find temporary workers to fill your vacancies?
4. What can DHS do to help with your staffing needs?



<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ej0n4MvksU6fclu6FvuWjUkxQl749jdHphHNKdg0q-tUN1BKM0FaU1JPSFJXODNQSk5MMEZRRFIyMS4u>

DEVICE REQUESTS

- WiFi Hotspots from T-Mobile are no longer available. We distributed 400 in total.
- Supply of Laptops is limited! This is a **FINAL CALL** for device requests!
 - [Device Request Form](#)
- We still have plenty of headsets in stock! If you need a headset, please email us.
 - dhs-covid19supplies@alleghenycounty.us



State COVID-19 Guidance Update

PA Dept of Health

- [Order](#) takes effect tomorrow (Friday, Nov 20th) - Travelers visiting Pennsylvania from another state, or Pennsylvanians returning to the state, must get a negative COVID test within 72 hours before entering or re-entering the state, or otherwise quarantine for 14 days upon entry.
- People must wear a mask anytime outside the home. This includes in restaurants, retail stores, parks, gyms, public transportation and everywhere else indoors OR outdoors.
- People shall wear masks in any enclosed space, where another person or persons who are not members of the individual's household are present in the same space, irrespective of physical distance.

Allegheny County Dept of Health Guidance

Residents are strongly encouraged to:

- Not have guests in their homes unless they are essential workers (e.g., home healthcare providers, childcare workers or educators)
- Cancel traditional Thanksgiving celebrations and celebrate virtually with non-household members
- Avoid unnecessary travel
- Limit social event gatherings
Social event gatherings mean any pair or group of individuals who reside in different households who are in close proximity of one another for more than several minutes who come together for non-business-related activities. Social event gatherings include, but are not limited to, celebrations, parties, dinners, barbeques, and the like.

[Read County Advisory here](#)

In light of the recent County Advisory...

County guidance states, “Residents are advised to only leave home to go to work or school, for essential needs such as seeking medical care, going to the grocery store or pharmacy, getting food, or the like.”

- Our work, serving vulnerable people in need of our services is essential and will continue, using all the necessary precautions such as proper masking, distancing, conducting work outside, if possible, with necessary handwashing and hand sanitizing.
- DHS will continue to update our guidance, as necessary.
- Contact your program lead with any questions.

Communication Protocol for Covid-19 Cases

- In a single email to the following three individuals, the program administrator is to immediately notify the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (ACDHS) and the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) that an individual being served in the program is presumed or has tested positive for COVID-19:
- LuAnn.brink@alleghenycounty.us
- Brian Bell, DHS's Privacy Officer, DHSPrivacyOfficer@alleghenycounty.us
- Your DHS program office contact

Policy & Legislative Update - State

- The General Assembly will most likely finalize the state's 2020-2021 budget by the end of today, which has a roughly \$2b gap due to COVID.
- While not final yet, it appears the state's budget deal will include the following means to close the funding gap, to what will be close to a flat fund budget:
 - \$1.3b CARES Act funding
 - \$340m from state's Rainy-Day Fund
 - Some targeted cuts (unclear where those will be)
 - Funds pulled from a couple state special funds

COVID-19 Interim Vaccination Plan V.2

- The state rolled out the COVID-19 Interim Vaccination Plan Version 2 today during a 12:15 pm press briefing
- The plan discusses the possible roll out of the vaccines and who will first receive the vaccines. Currently, there are potential phases for distribution. The phases have different options, especially due to the impact of COVID at the time. Healthcare workers/first responders/critical workers/people with high-risk conditions would receive the vaccine first (most likely)
- Additional information is available in the plan about the administration locations of the vaccine that COULD take place
- [View the Vaccination Plan](#)
- [Link to PA Health Department general vaccine page](#)

COVID-19 Test Site in McKeesport



Closed: Nov 26 (Thanksgiving) and Nov 27 (day after Thanksgiving)

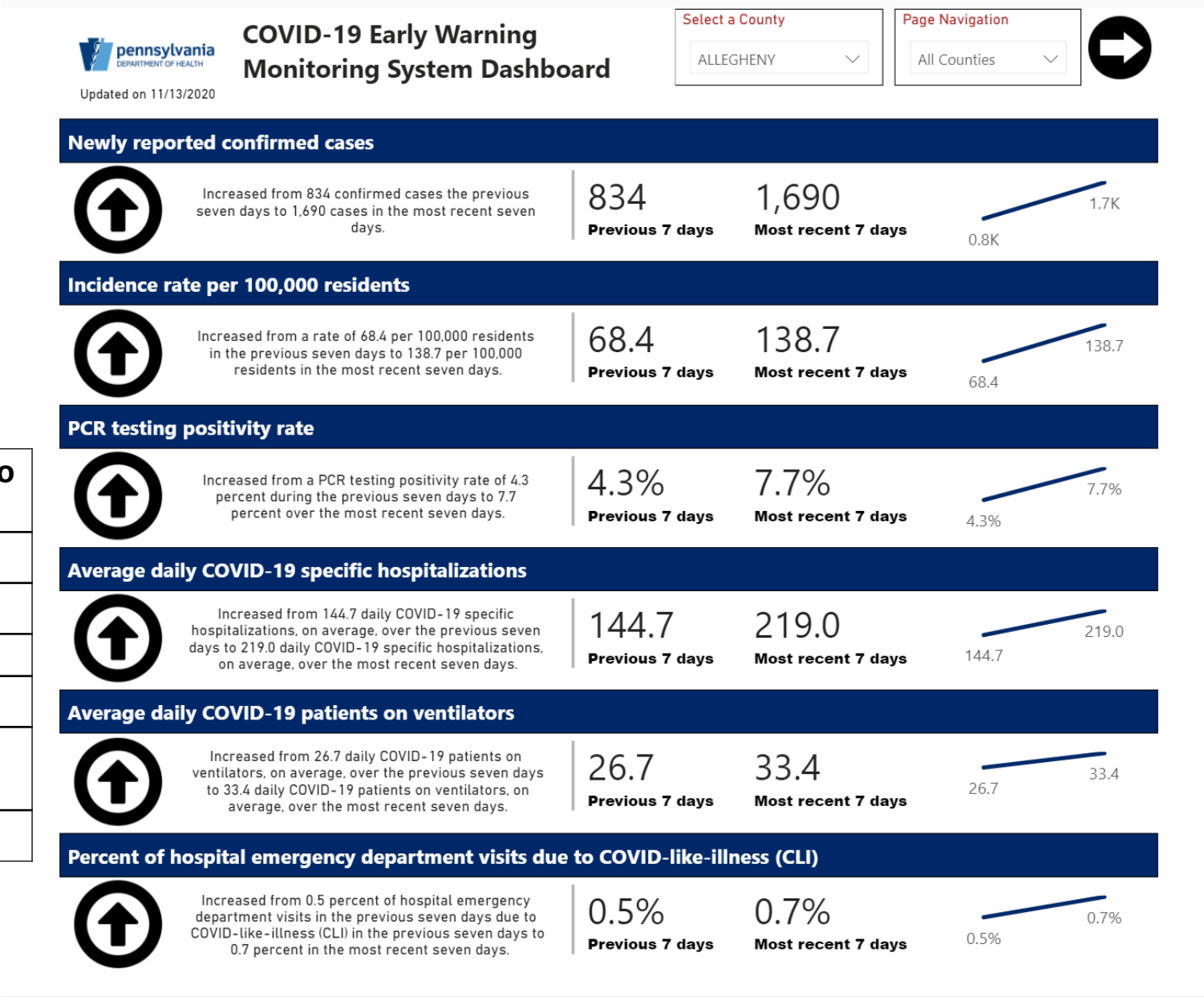
- Address: 455 Industry Road, McKeesport
- Regular hours: Monday – Friday 10am to 4pm
- Free COVID-19 Testing for anyone over 3 years old.
- Testing by **Appointment Only**. Pre-register online or via phone at 412-209-2262. Same-day appointments available by phone only.
- This is a drive-thru site with self-administered tests. No prescription or referral needed.
- **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

PA State Metrics

- Compares this week (November 6th to November 12th) to previous week (October 30th to November 5th). Data is updated every Friday.

	% change from last week to this week
Newly reported cases	103%
Incidence rate per 100,000	103%
Positivity rate	79%
Ave. daily hospitalizations	91%
Ave. daily patients on ventilators	25%
% ED visits due to CLI	40%

PA state’s early warning system dashboard (<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>).



The average weekly positivity rate has been increasing for the last month and has been above 10% since November 3rd. On November 13th, there was a **17% positivity rate** (185 cases out of 1,072 tests). This is the highest positivity rate since Allegheny County really began testing people



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Metric #1: Positivity Rate

METRIC
1

METRIC DEFINITION: The average daily positivity rate is less than or equal to 10%.

A positivity rate below 10% indicates that enough testing is being done to find all the active infections. Identifying the active infections is essential for contact tracing and to stop the spread of the disease.

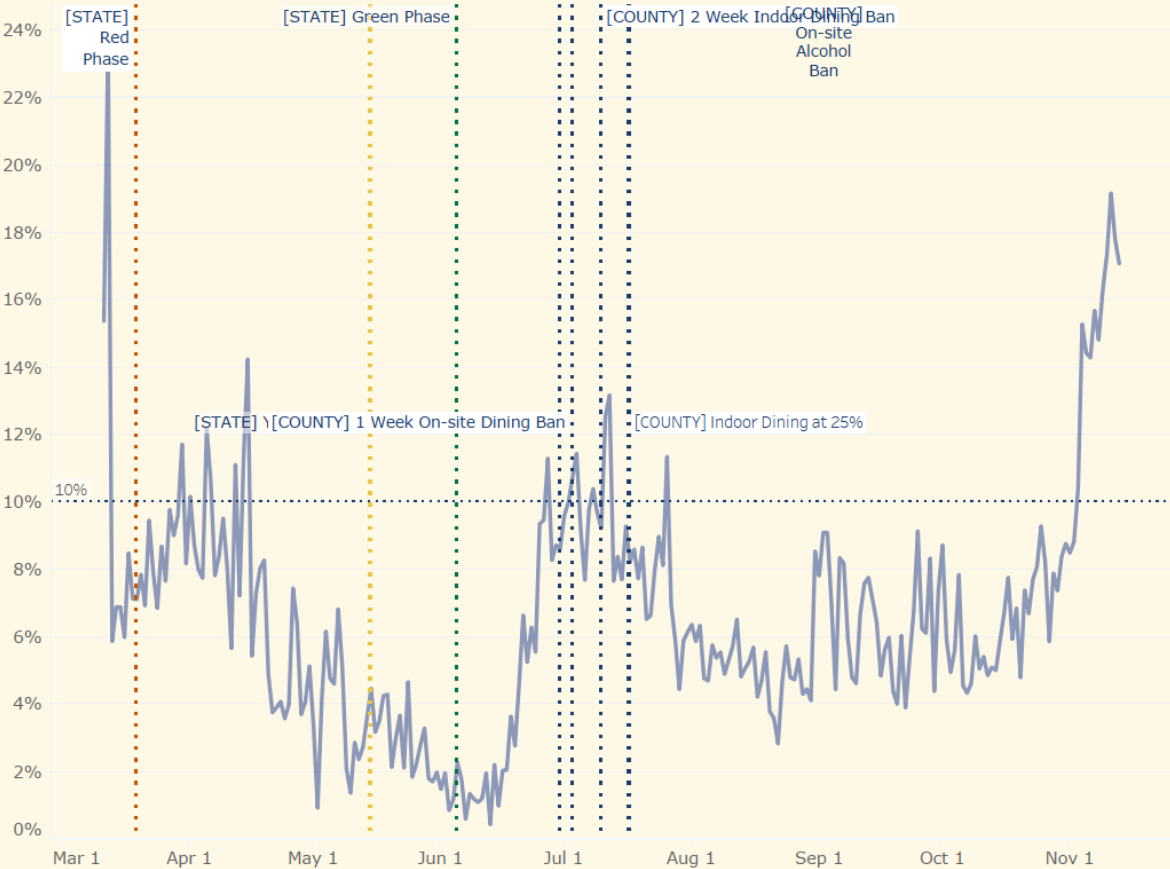
WEEK BEGINNING ON	AVERAGE POSITIVITY RATE	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET
11/7/2020	16.9%	46.8%	X
10/31/2020	11.5%	45.9%	X
10/24/2020	7.9%	16.9%	✓
10/17/2020	6.7%		✓

Data Source: PA National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (PA-NEDSS)

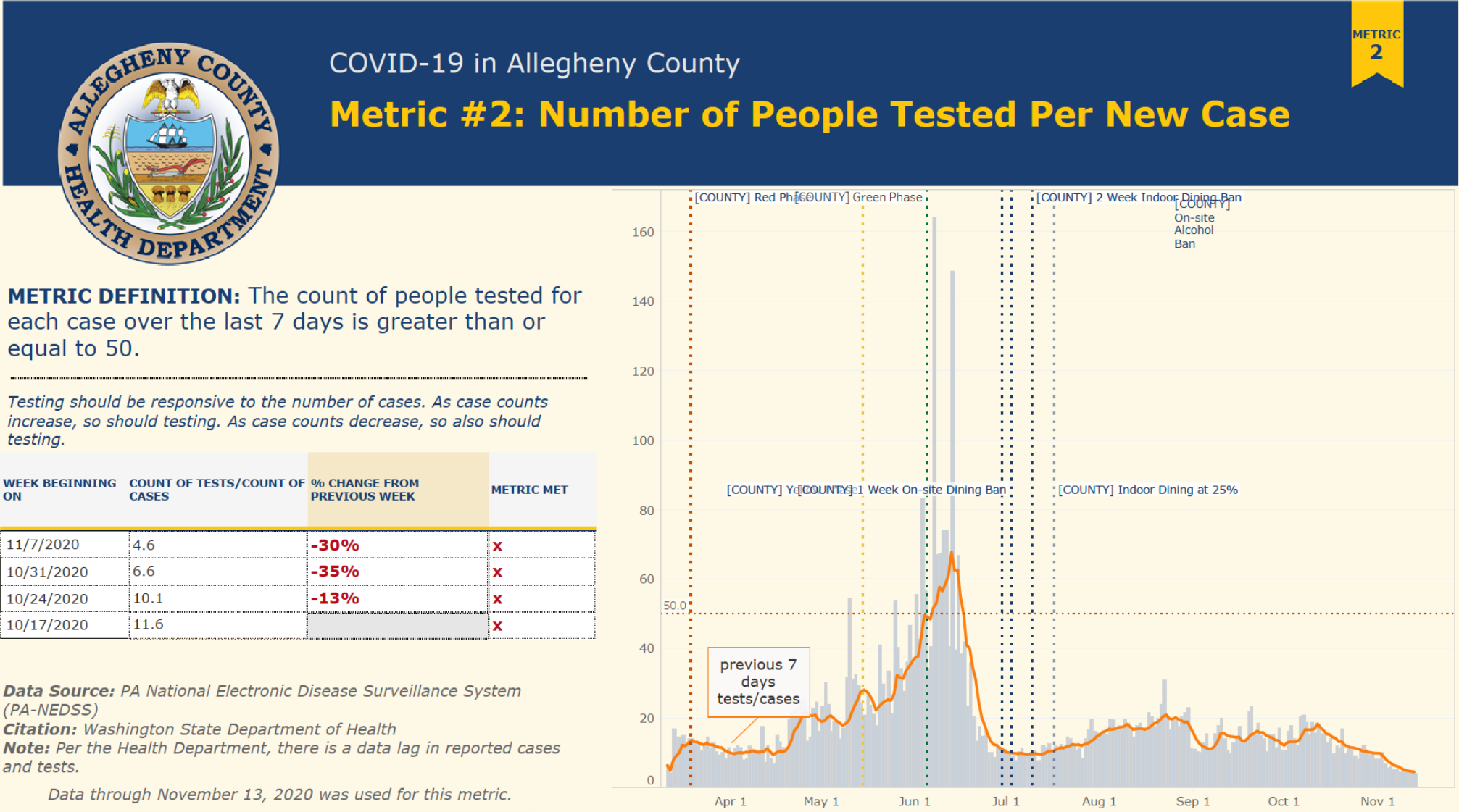
Citation: World Health Organization

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

Data through November 13, 2020 was used for this metric.

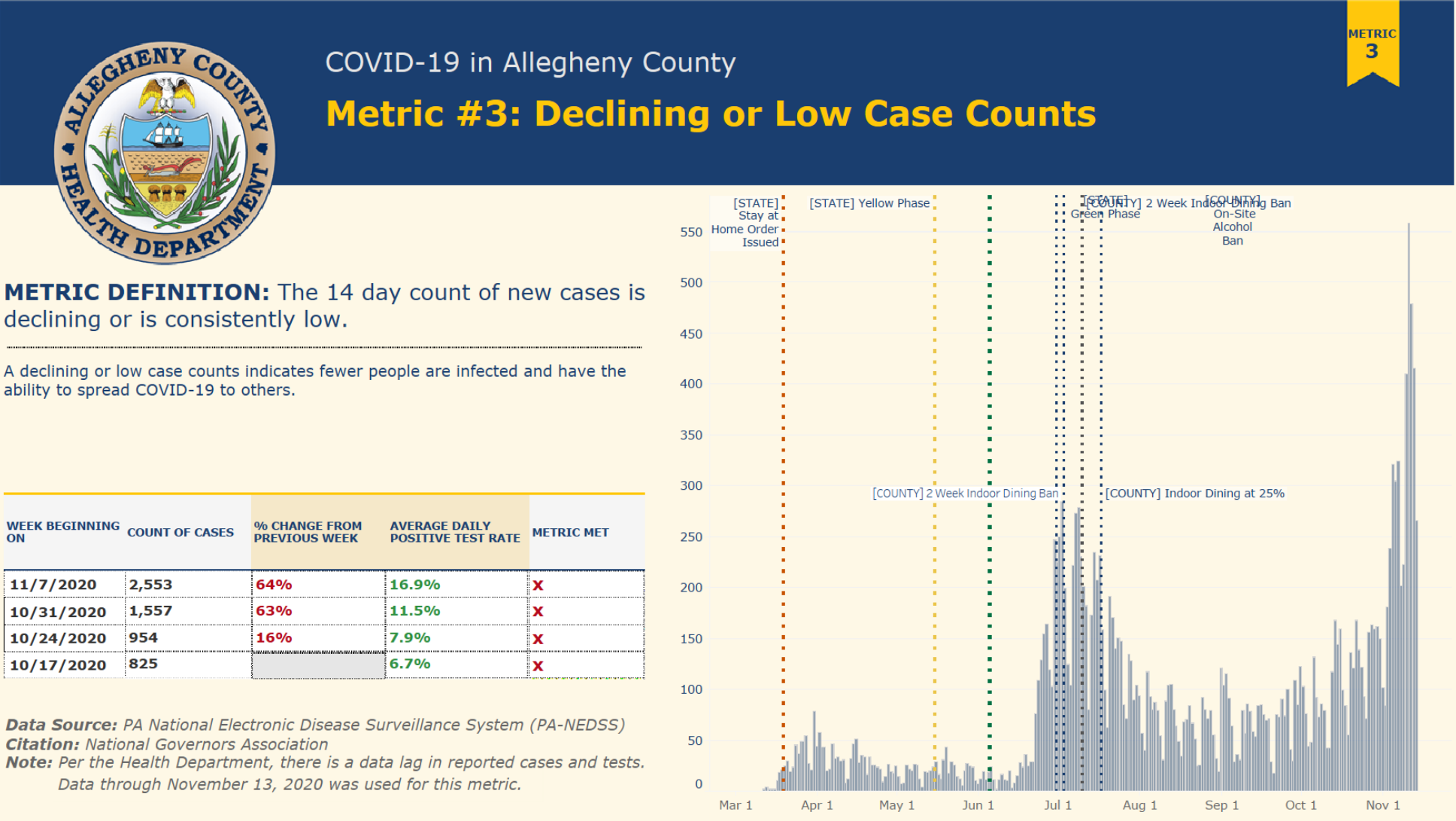


Though the number of people tested has been increasing since early September, the number of cases has increased at a faster rate. As such, the number of people tested per new case has been falling since early October. The ratio is the lowest it has been during the pandemic. 795 people were tested on 10/10 (with 40 cases) compared to 1,072 on 11/13 (with 185 cases)

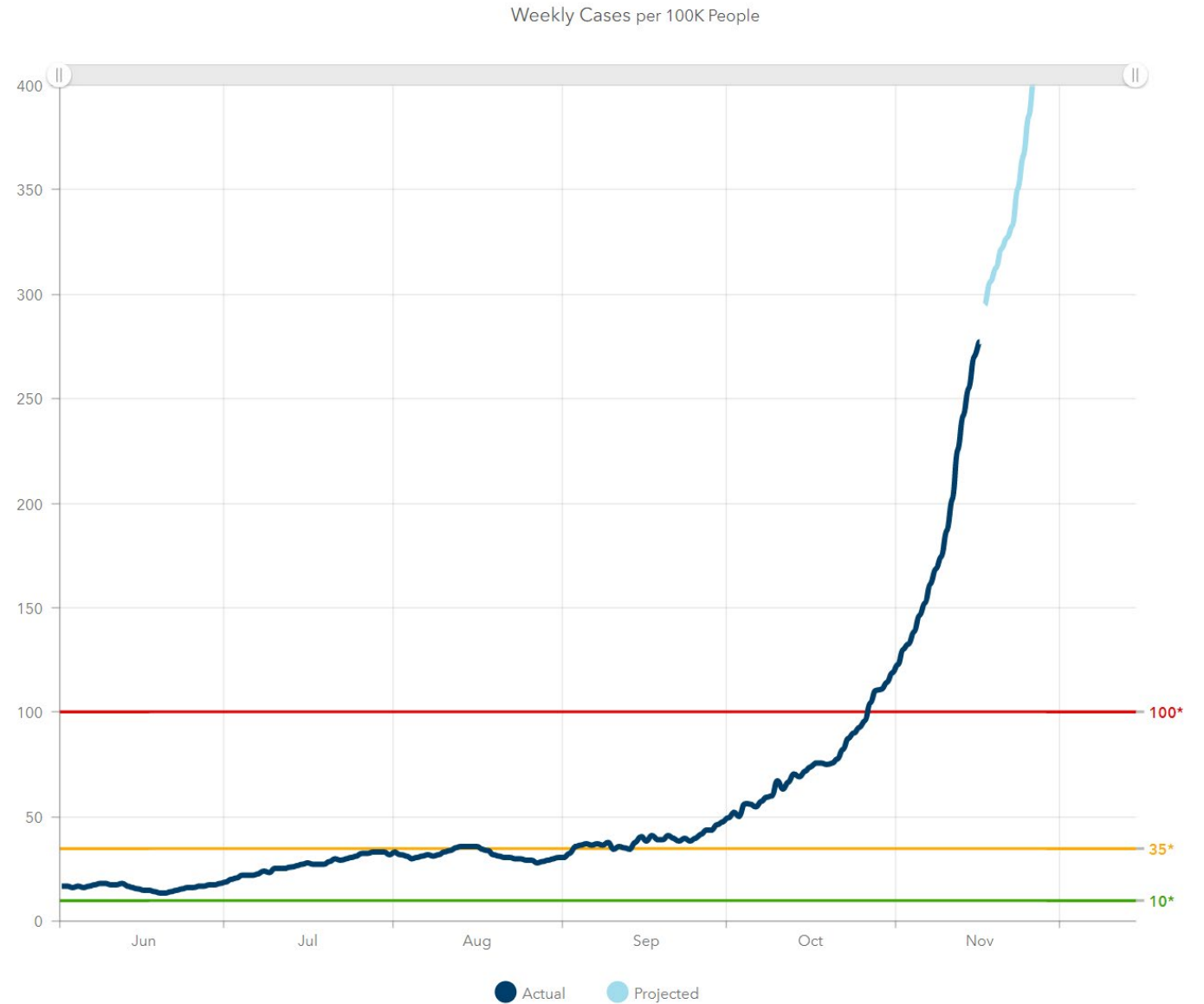


Cases have been rising throughout October. They have increased 213% (815 to 2,553) from the week of October 11th to the most recent week (November 7th).

- November 10th had the highest number of cases (confirmed or probable) in a single day since the start of the pandemic – 558 cases.

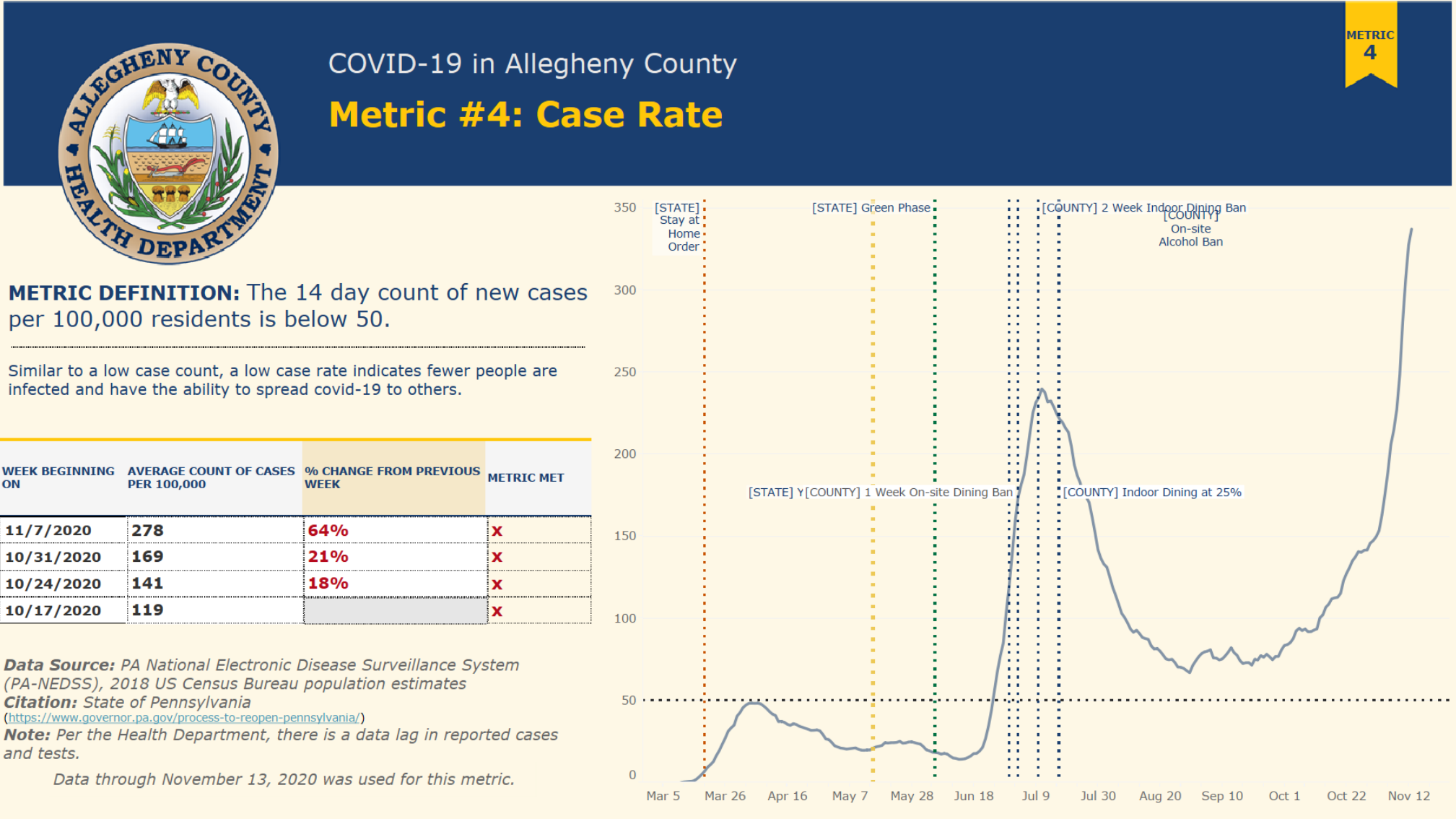


- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP lab) projects weekly cases per 100,000 people to continue to rise (steeply) throughout November.

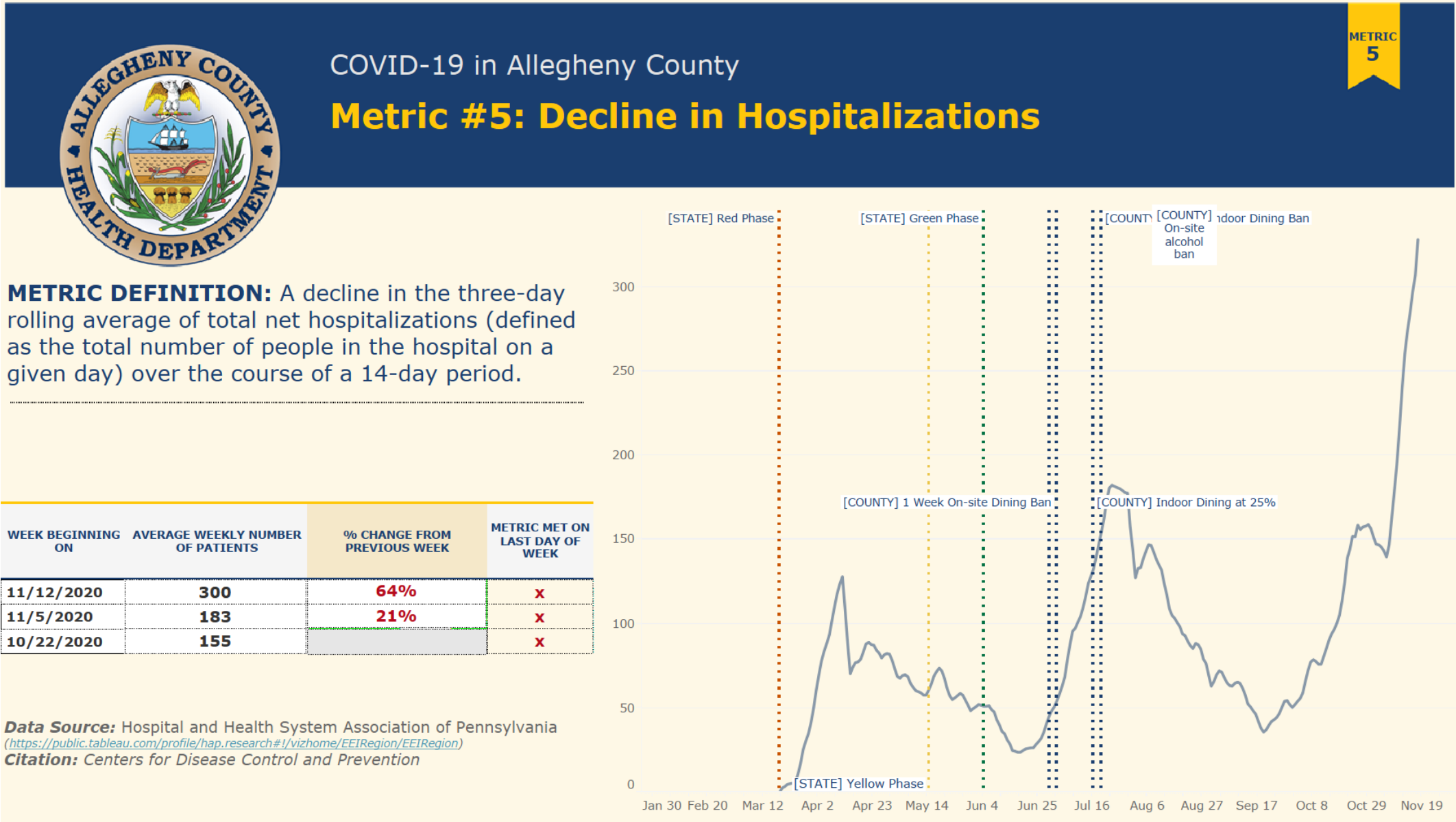


Source: <https://policylab.chop.edu/covid-lab-mapping-covid-19-your-community>

The case rate per 100,000 residents is at the highest rate since the beginning of the pandemic. On 11/13, there was a case rate of 337 cases per 100,000. Since the week of 10/17, we've seen a 134% increase in the case rate.



The 3-day average of total net hospitalizations has increased by 134% since 11/6 (from 140 to 328 on 11/18). Note: this is a lagging indicator and we would expect to continue to see increases in hospitalizations in the next few weeks (corresponding to continued increases in cases)



ICU bed usage exceeded 90% for the first time since the start of the pandemic. It was 91% on 11/16



COVID-19 in Allegheny County

Metric #6: ICU Bed Usage

METRIC
6

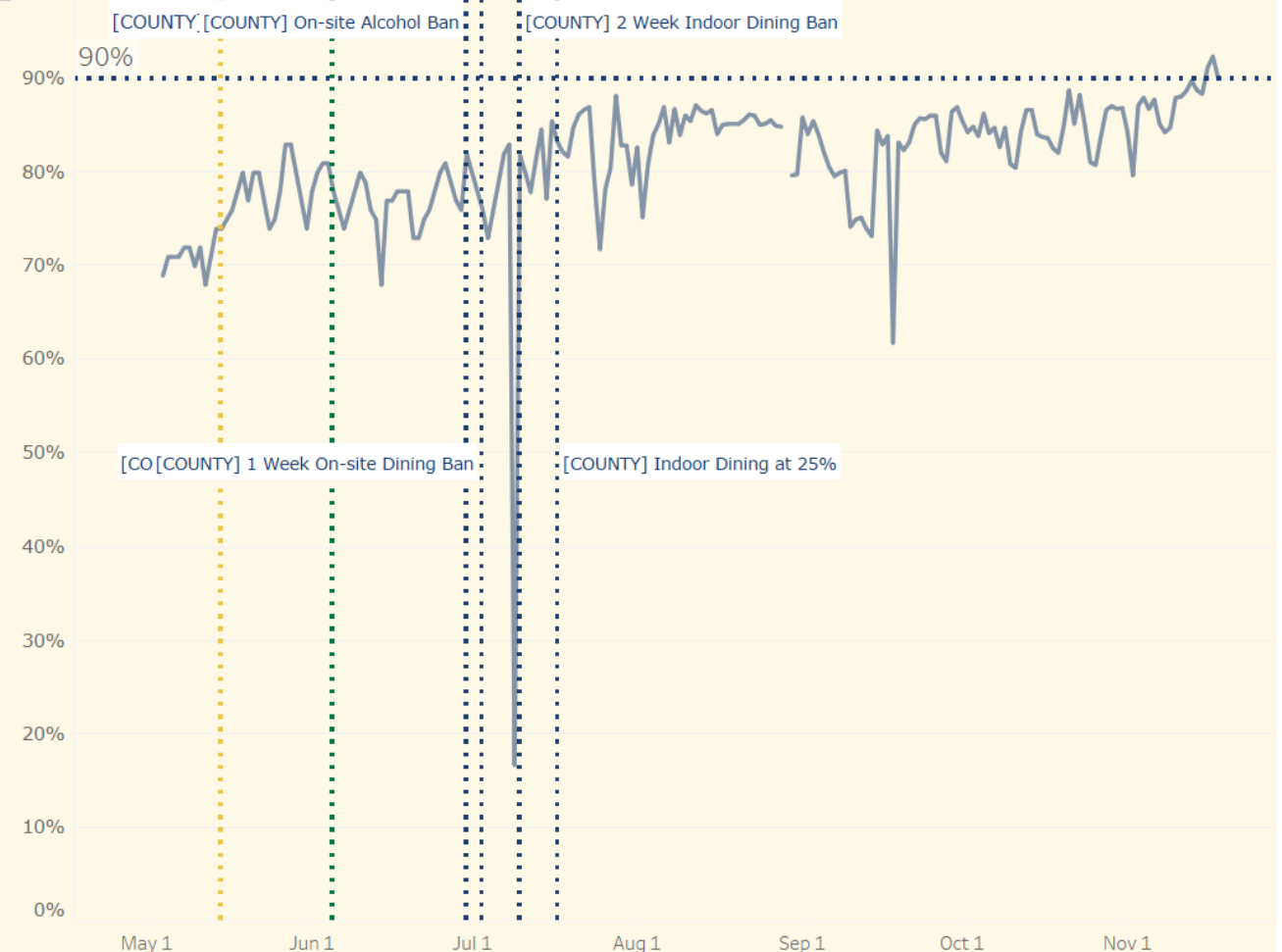
METRIC DEFINITION: Percent of ICU beds that are currently occupied is less than 90%

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.

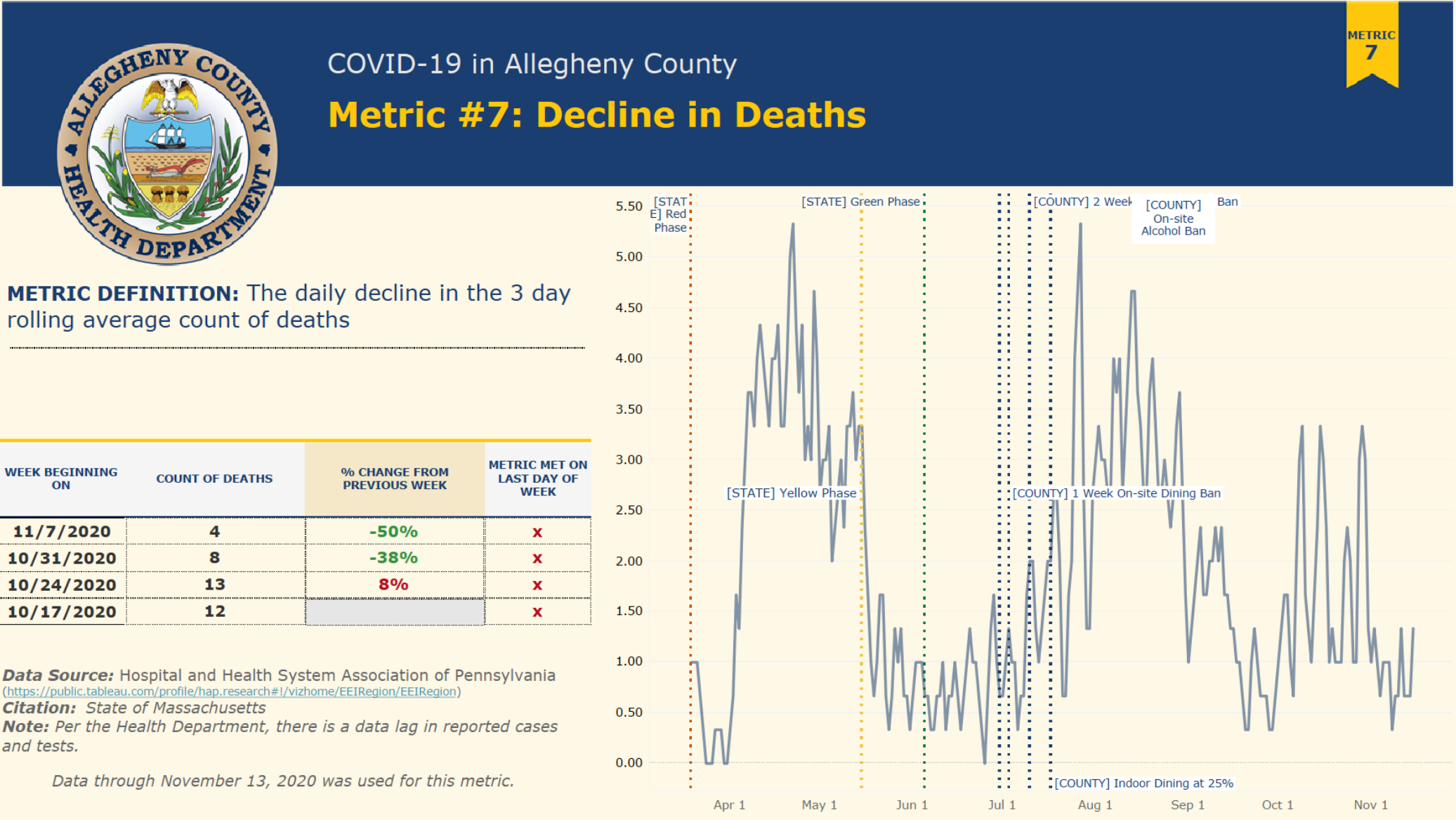
WEEK BEGINNING ON	AVERAGE WEEKLY ICU USAGE	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	METRIC MET DURING WEEK
11/5/2020	86.4%	0.7%	✓
10/29/2020	85.7%	1.3%	✓
10/22/2020	84.4%		✓

Data Source: Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania (<https://public.tableau.com/profile/hap.research#1/vizhome/EEIRegion/EEIRegion>)

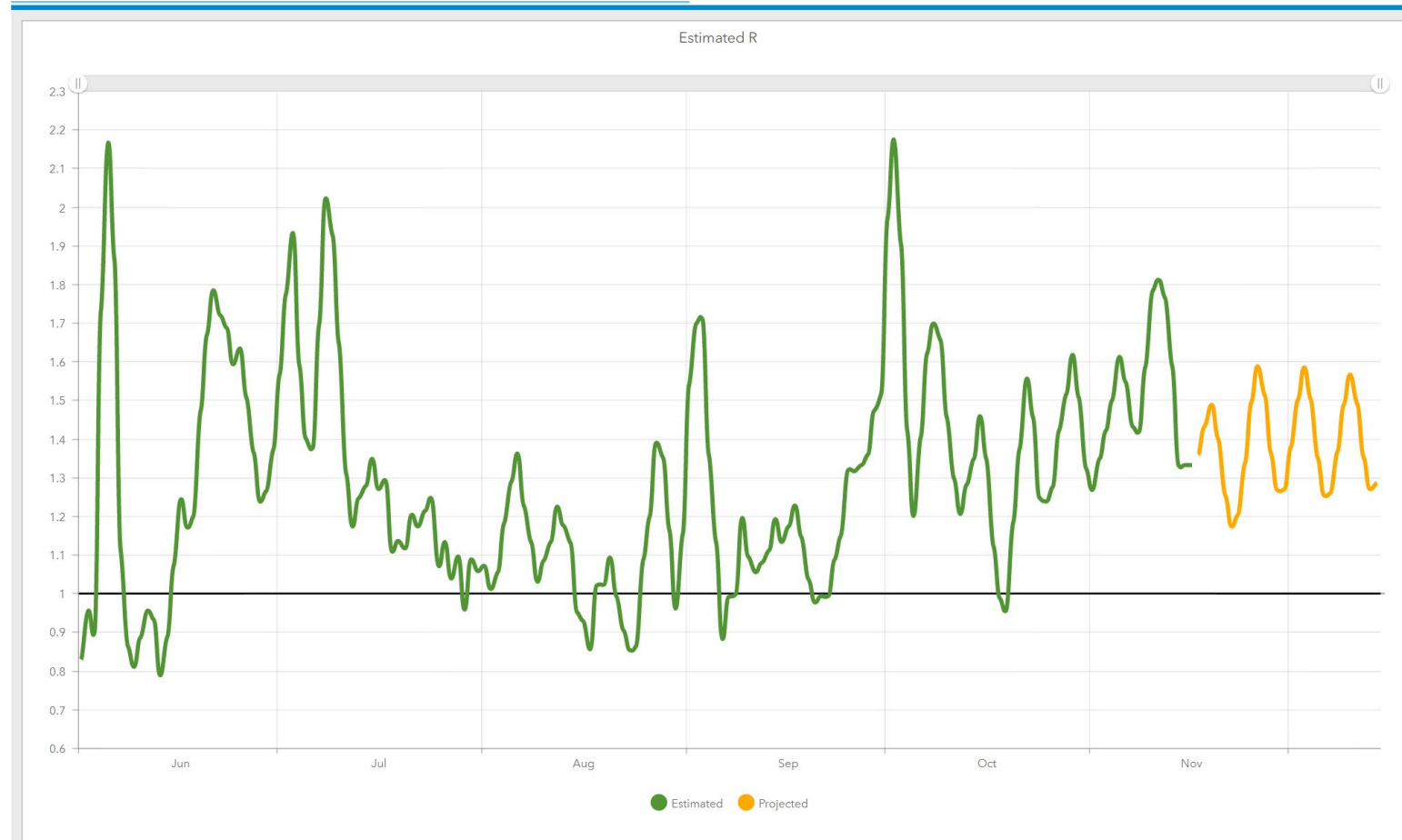
Citation: State of Pennsylvania (<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/County-Dashboard.aspx>)



Deaths remain low and have been low throughout the pandemic, never exceeding daily deaths of 6 (3 day rolling average).



All 3 models that we are looking at (CHOP model, RTLive and COVID Act Now) have an estimated R above 1 throughout November and into December. This information shows the CHOP model results. They are projecting the R value to remain at about 1.4 (above 1) through mid-December.



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

COMMUNITY
PULSE
REPORT



Pulse Report for Children & Families

October 2020

Taking Our Pulse

The goal of the Community Pulse Report is to keep track of a consistent set of indicators as a way of taking the pulse of our community during these difficult times and to further inform policy makers, nonprofit leaders, reporters, and the public in general. The report is organized into four sections:



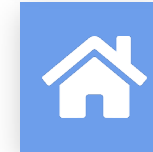
Health & Wellness



Educational Disruptions & Child Care



Jobs & Financial Assistance



Food Access & Housing

Our aim is to utilize data that will give us a snapshot of what is happening in the five-county region—Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette and Westmoreland Counties. Important to the project will be finding data that deepens our understanding of the intersecting disparities in health care, society, and the economy and their impacts on Black and LatinX children and families.

A Note on Disaggregated Data & Geographies

We are committed to utilizing data that can be disaggregated by race, gender, and age.

In future reports, we will strive to identify proxy indicators where disaggregated data is not available. We will also advocate for the disaggregation of data by race, gender and age and hope you can join us in that work.

Where such data is available, we note that throughout the report with this symbol



Where it is not available, we note with this symbol



Throughout this report, the geography of analyzed data is noted in the upper left-hand corner of each chart or graph:



National



Five-County Region
(Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler,
Fayette, Westmoreland)



County-Specific



Utilities: On slide 15 we highlight the growing backlog of customers unable to meet their utility obligations.

- Until late September, the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission had a moratorium on utility shut offs in place.
- [National United Way 211 data](#) suggests that utility needs this fall have started earlier and are greater than they were during the fall of 2019.
- Our own five-county region saw 211 utility assistance requests increase 31% from last month.
- With the end of the moratorium, winter approaching, and no support from the PA General Assembly or Congress, calls for utility assistance and payment plans will increase rapidly.



Housing: On slides 17 to 20, we highlight the growing need for housing support.

- An eviction and foreclosure moratorium put in place at the beginning of the pandemic initially protected many families from losing their homes.
- In October, Governor Wolf's moratorium ended and he [extended the application deadline](#) for the state's mortgage and rent relief assistance program, to boost participation by landlords and keep more people in their homes during the pandemic.
- At the same time, the [CDC issued a clarification](#) earlier this month that allows landlords to resume eviction proceedings, although [protections remain in place for certain households](#).
- In July, 1 in 5 renters reported being behind on rent, and households of color reported far higher rates of missed payments compared to the national average. ([Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, July](#))



Decrease in Utilization of Health Care: On slide 11, we highlight a recent Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services report pointing to the decreased utilization of health care services for children.

- Of significant concern are reduced numbers of screenings, vaccinations, and mental health visits.
- The rapid shift to telehealth is a bright spot and something we hope will continue, even beyond the pandemic.

Internet Access, Learning Models, & Telehealth: Access to high-speed internet remains a challenge for 20-25% of households in the region (slide 16).

- The explosion of telehealth services (slide 11) combined with the concentration of remote learning for low income children of color (slides 21-22) underscores a pressing need for internet access for our families.
- Internet connectivity must be treated as an essential utility -- like water, gas, and electric.

What We Are Seeing This Month



Child Care: The decline in child care (slides 23-24) is already impacting labor force participation and is expected to get worse.

- **The share of women employed and at work is the lowest it has been in 35 years.**
- Nationally, the percentage of mothers not in the labor force was 29.1% in September, up from 26.4% in September 2019.
- Workplace engagement for Black and LatinX mothers fell more than for White mothers, because of exits from the labor force at greater rates and also a larger increase in unemployment.

From the Field

Feedback and observations from our on-the-ground providers are critical to understanding the data we are collecting in context. This month, providers shared the following:

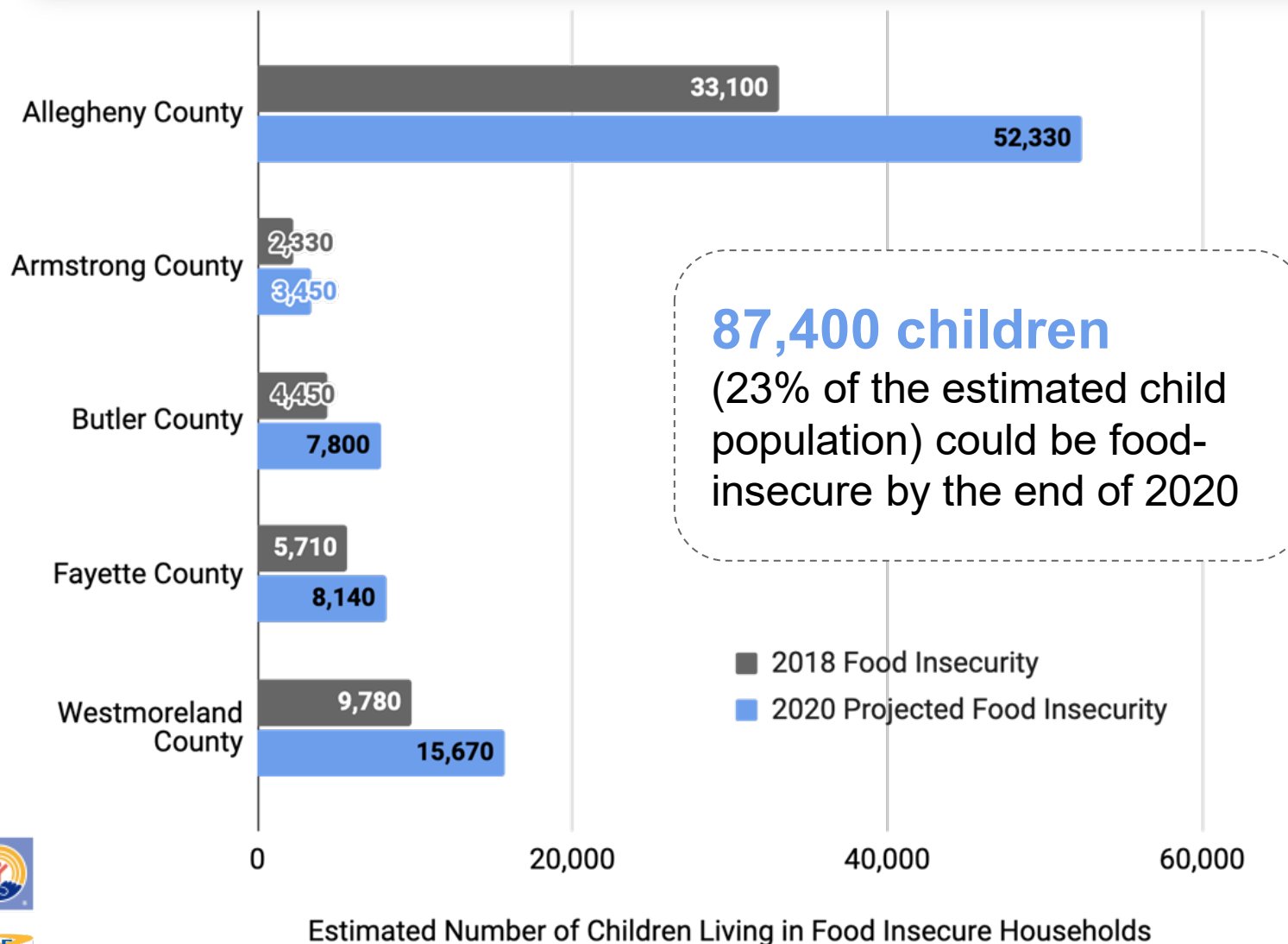
- Top needs continue to be housing and utility assistance.
 - With an upcoming end to the utility moratorium, concerns are that balances are quite large, and that water and sewer bills are not covered by utility assistance programs (LIHEAP, Dollar Energy, etc.).
 - Suggestions for action: extended moratorium, expanded unemployment, additional funding for utility assistance
- Access to internet is a concern as well.
 - Suggestions for action: additional funding for internet access, create a LIHEAP equivalent for internet access

“People are struggling to pay water and electric. Multiple people have had these services shut off.”

“Not all families have access to technology or wifi for virtual supports. We imagine there is greater need than we know with families who do not know where to turn or how to reach out for help.”



Child Food Insecurity



In the five-county region, the number of **children living in food insecure households** is predicted to **increase an estimated 58%** between 2018 and 2020.

Source: Gundersen, C., M. Hake, A. Dewey, E. Engelhard (2020). The Impact of the Coronavirus on Food Insecurity v1 [Data file and FAQ]. Available from Feeding America: research@feedingamerica.org. Note: 2020 Food Insecurity estimates are based on projected national annual unemployment (11.5%) and child poverty (21.2%) rates.





Medical Service Use Among Medicaid & CHIP Beneficiaries



National Trends, Children 18 and Under

Comparing March - May 2020 to March - May 2019



44% fewer
child screening services



69% fewer
dental services



22% fewer
vaccinations
for children up to age 2



44% fewer
outpatient mental
health services

**2,500%
increase**

in the **delivery of
telehealth services** to
children

from February to April 2020



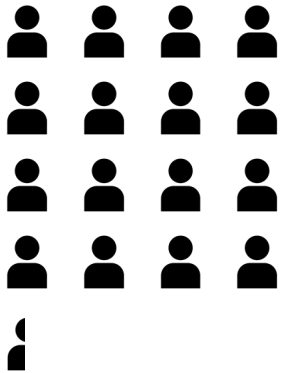
Source: [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#)



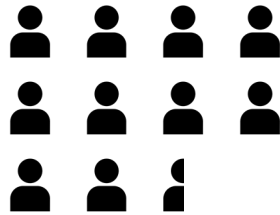
COVID-19-Associated Hospitalization Rate



16.4
per 100,000
LatinX children



10.5
per 100,000
Black children



2.1
per 100,000
White children

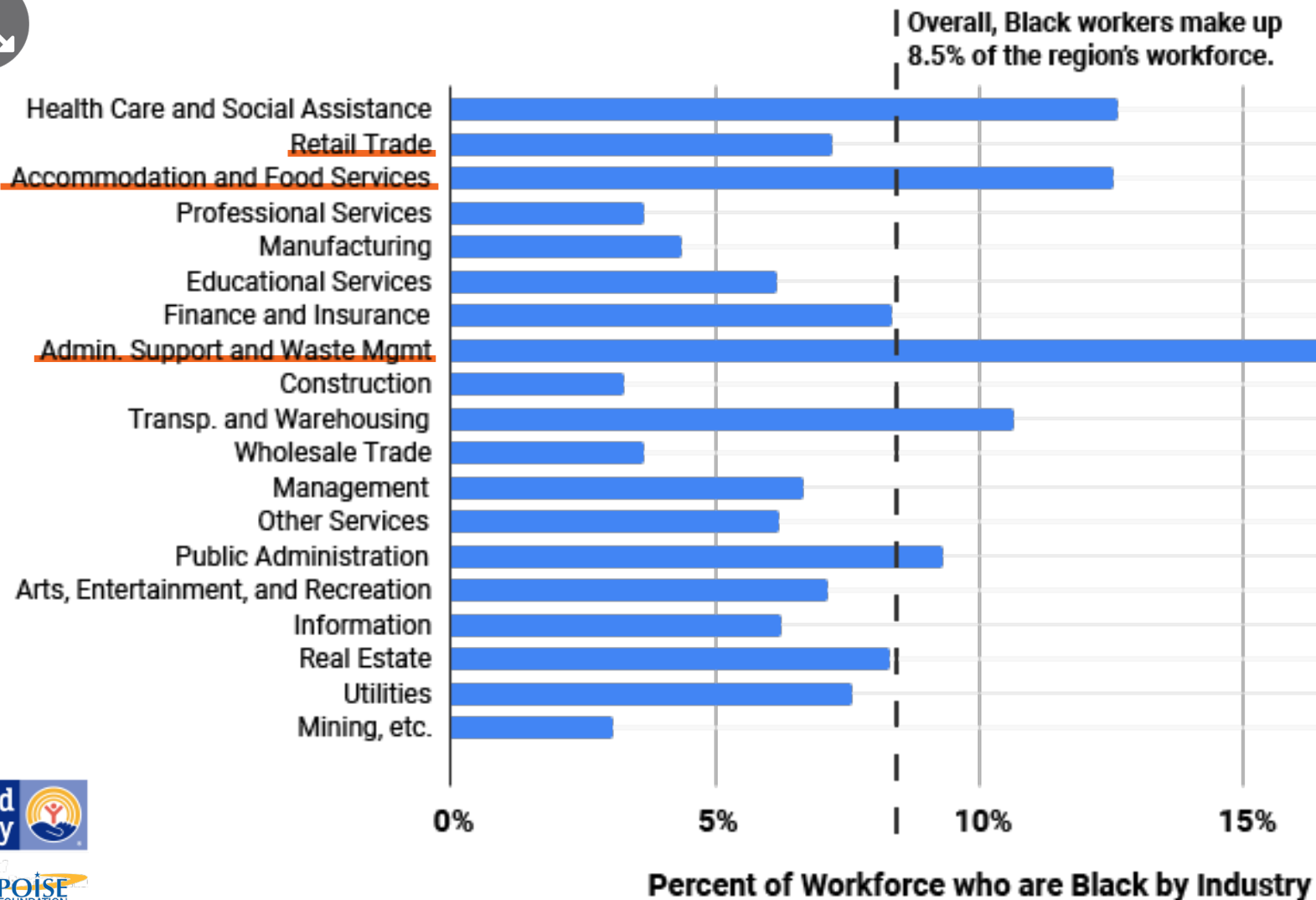


Nationally, Black and LatinX children have higher rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations than White children.

Existing disparities in the social determinants of health, as well as in access to and utilization of health services, could be responsible for these inequities. Other health disparities could be exacerbated by the decreased utilization of care referenced on the previous slides.



Employment of Black Workers by Industry



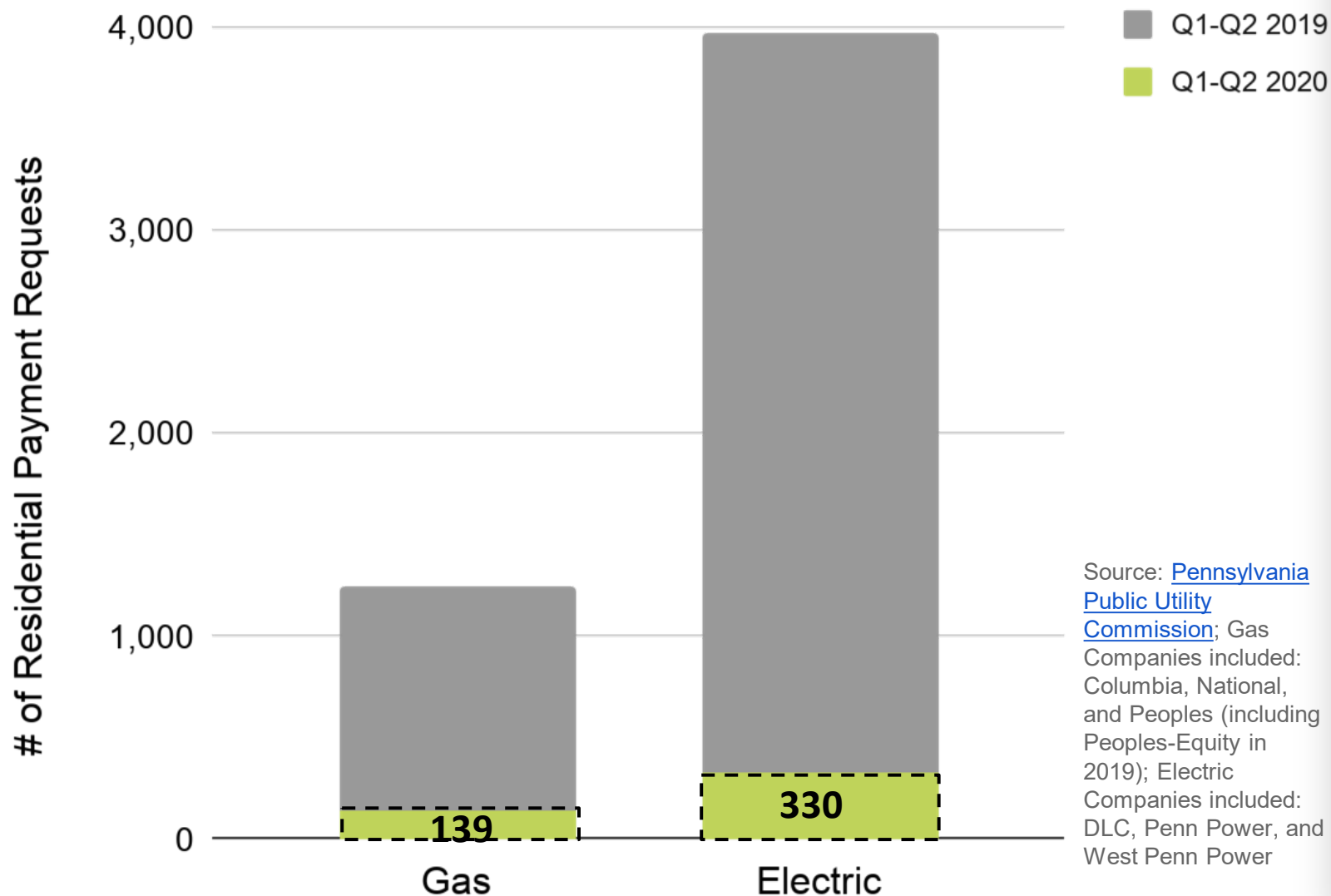
Last month's report looked at employment of non-White workers in the Pittsburgh MSA. This month, we focus in on employment of **Black workers in the five-county region** specifically. We still see a **concentration of Black workers in certain particularly vulnerable industries** (those that have a higher proportion of low-wage, part-time jobs).

Source: 2019 Q3 estimates based on US Census Bureau Quarterly Workforce Indicators data. Industries are sorted by total employment for region.





Utility Payment Plan Requests, Q1-Q2 (Jan-Jun)



There is a potential backlog of utility bills in the region. In January to June, there were:

>5,000
total payment plan requests in 2019

yet only 469
total payment plan requests in 2020

We are worried about what this lack of payment plans could mean: that people are neither paying, nor saving to pay – which will mean major balances and shut offs in the spring.



Households with Internet Access



County	% of Households with a Broadband Internet Subscription
Allegheny	81.5%
Armstrong	73.0%
Butler	83.0%
Fayette	72.2%
Westmoreland	77.8%

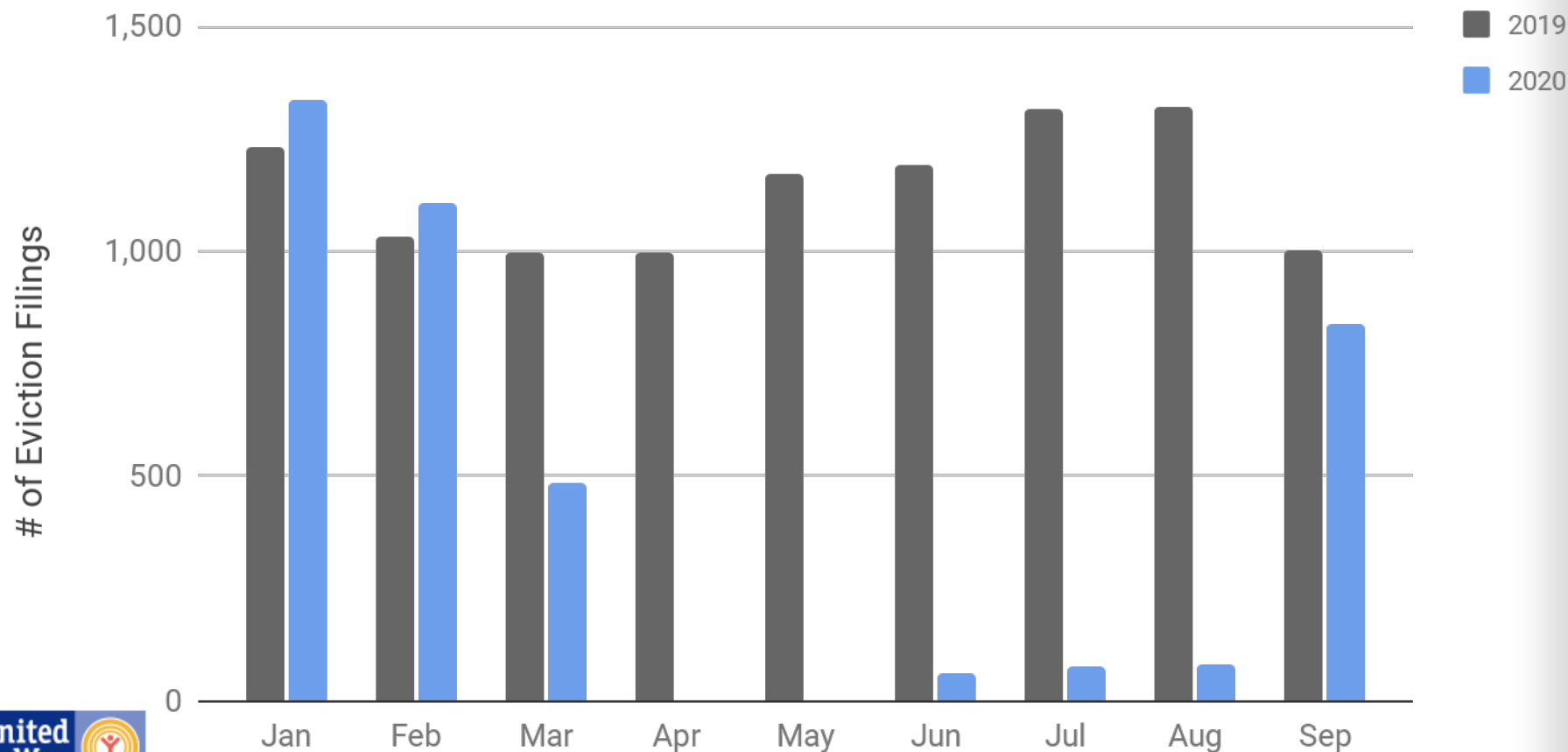
Internet access is an essential utility that allows families to work and attend school remotely, receive telehealth services, and conduct other critical business, like online banking.



Source: Census American Community Survey, 2014-2018 estimates



Evictions, Allegheny County



Absent the moratorium and if 2020 evictions were at 2019 levels, there could be a backlog of

6,454 evictions.



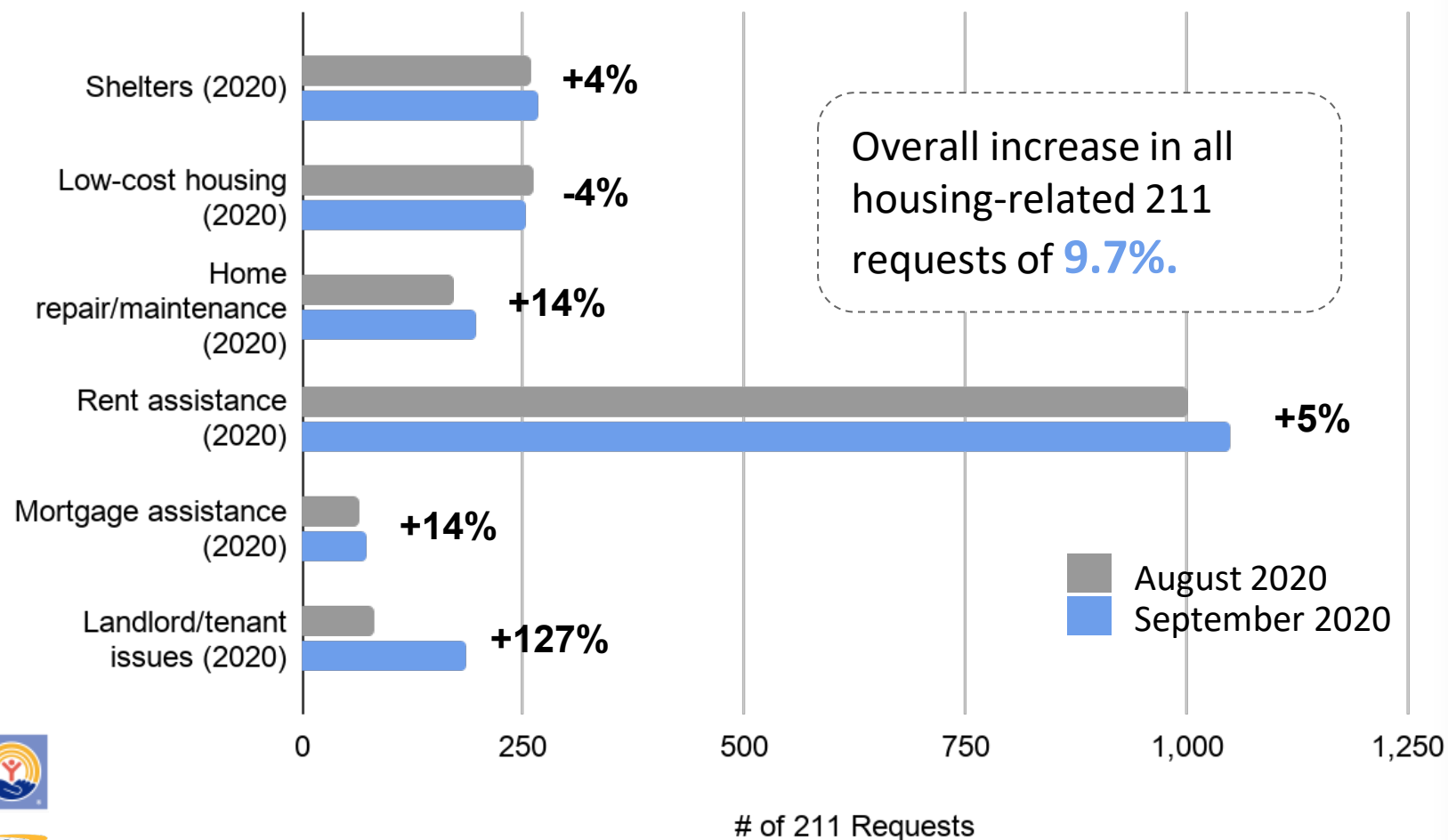
Source: Eviction Lab, CMU Create Lab



211 Housing Support Requests



August to September, 2020, Five-County Region



Besides an overall increase in requests for housing supports, we also see disparities in who needs that support.

Of calls to Allegheny Link, Allegheny County's information and referral program for housing and homelessness supports, **41% of callers in September 2020 were Black vs. 29% White.** In September 2019, 50% of callers were Black vs. 31% White.

Sources: PA 211 Counts. "Region" includes Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette, and Westmoreland Counties | Link Calls: Allegheny County DHS



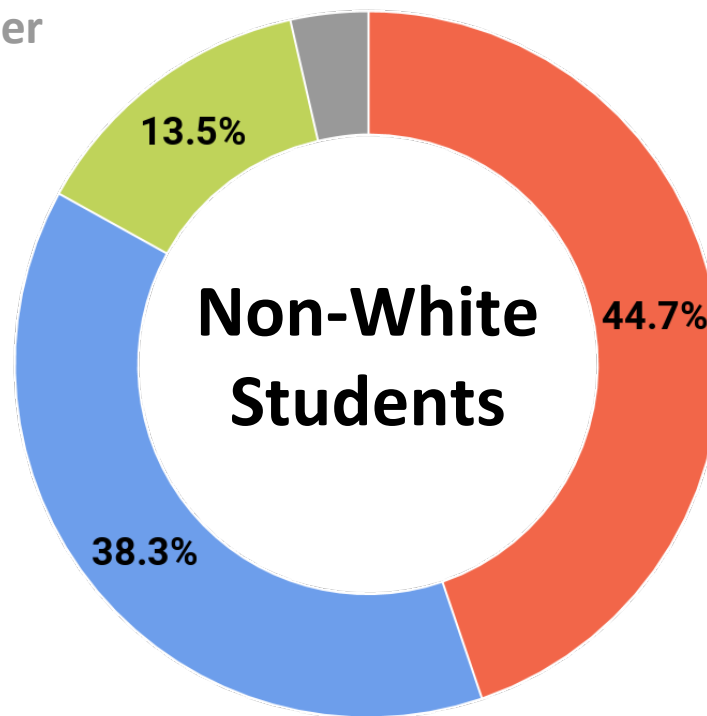
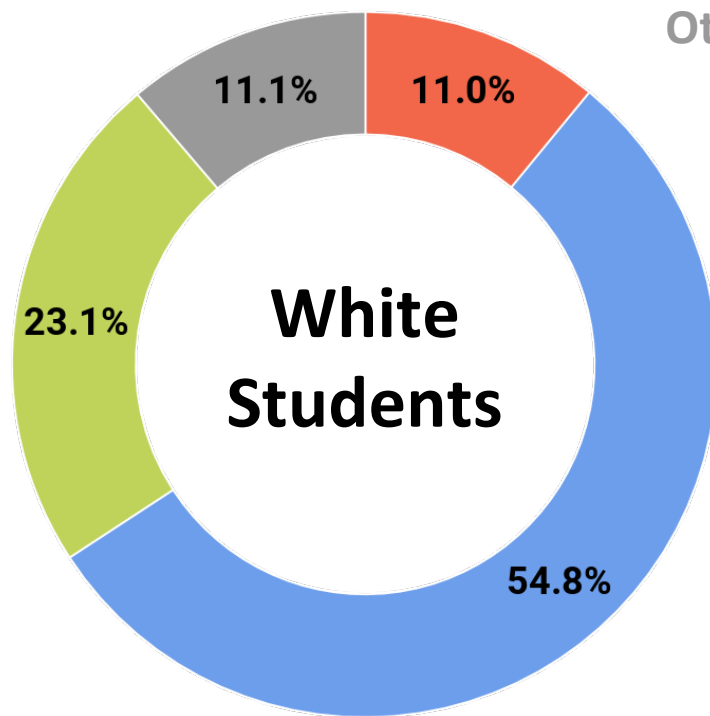


Learning Models, Start of the School Year



Learning Model
(District Recommendation)*:

Full Remote
Blended, Hybrid
Full In-Person
Other



Although most students are currently attending schools that are employing a blended, hybrid model of learning, **non-White students are more likely than White students to be attending schools that are employing full remote models of learning.**

There are already educational disparities for low-income students of color, and a shift to fully virtual learning this school year could exacerbate those gaps.

*Note: All districts have a virtual/remote option. Schools represented are public schools only.

Sources: PA Schools Work, PDE 2019-2020 enrollment, Allies for Children. Counties included: Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette, Westmoreland.

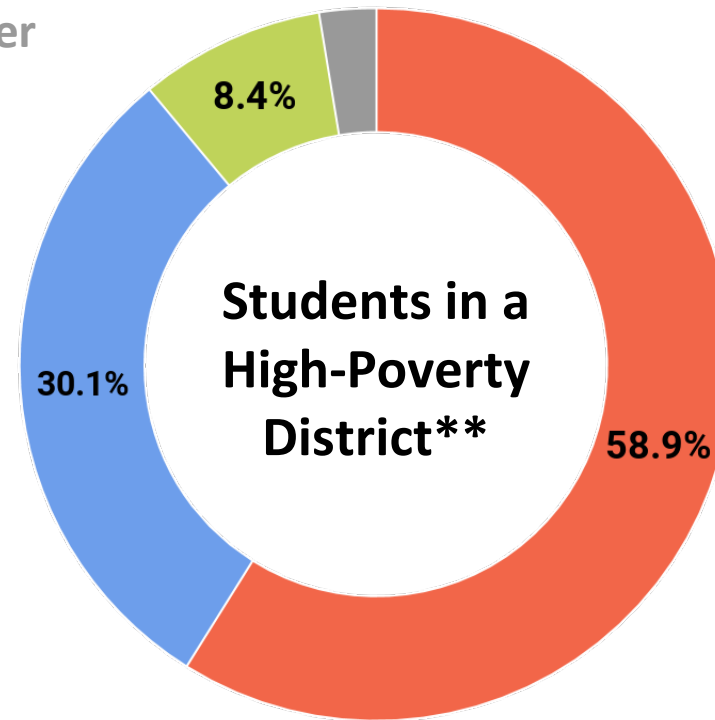
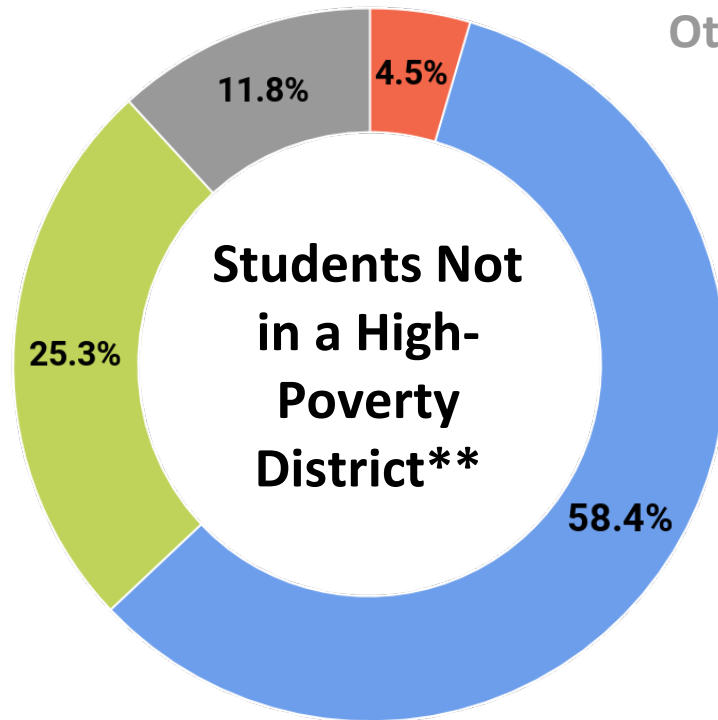


Learning Models, Start of the School Year



Learning Model
(District Recommendation)*:

Full Remote
Blended, Hybrid
Full In-Person
Other



Although most students are currently attending schools that are employing a blended, hybrid model of learning, **students in districts with higher rates of child poverty are more likely to be attending schools that are employing full remote models of learning.**

*Note: All districts have a virtual/remote option. Schools represented are public schools only.

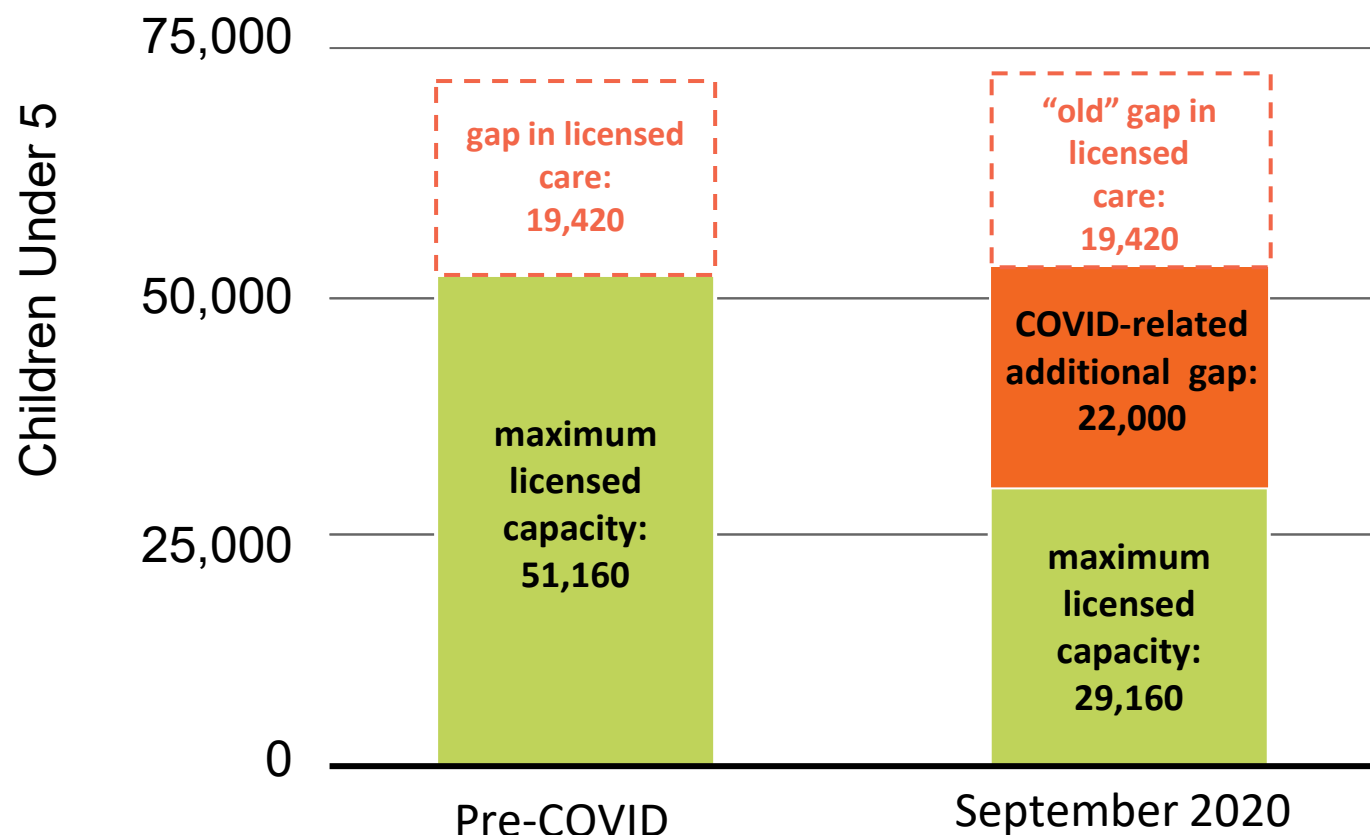
**High-Poverty refers to a district with a child poverty rate greater than or equal to 16.8%, PA's 2018 child poverty rate.

Sources: PA Schools Work, PDE 2019-2020 enrollment, Allies for Children. Counties included: Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette, Westmoreland.





Gaps in Needed Child Care, Pre-COVID



COVID has exacerbated existing gaps in child care, forcing providers to decrease their capacity even more. Some estimates say **the gap could be widening by as much as 22,000 additional seats.**

More Information & Previous Reports

- Find our full report, with more detailed data [here](#).
- Previous reports:
 - [Community Pulse Report: September](#) (full)
 - [Community Pulse Report: September](#) (abbreviated)



Allegheny County Community Learning Hubs

Safe places for kids to go to do schoolwork and participate in enrichment activities during COVID-19.

- 60 hubs currently open
- >1300 students are enrolled in hubs
- ~1000 students attending every day
- Almost 60% in PPS, but many districts represented
- Every hub reports some contact with schools
- Reinforcing health and safety measures now
- CARES funding expires December 30, 2020

School District (group)	
Pittsburgh Public	57% (696)
Chartiers Valley	6% (68)
Charter Schools	5% (65)
Baldwin-whitehall	4% (51)
Woodland Hills	4% (48)
Shaler Area	3% (41)
Penn Hills	3% (31)
Wilkinsburg	2% (20)
Steel Valley	2% (20)
Riverview	2% (20)

<https://tryingtogether.org/community-learning-hubs/>

Duquesne, South Allegheny, West Mifflin, and North Hills
also have >10 students enrolled in hubs

Childcare Access

- Childcare providers have been open throughout pandemic except when the state mandated them to close (March – May), and many also received waivers to remain open during that time
- School closures have put a burden on families who rely on school for childcare
- Childcare providers had to reduce capacity to allow for physical distancing
- There ARE still childcare seats available across STAR levels, neighborhoods, and age in Allegheny County (but this does not guarantee the right fit for a family's needs)
- There is, though, a waiting list of 360 for the childcare subsidy



Childcare Provider Sustainability

- Most childcare providers rely on a mix of private pay and subsidy funding for revenue, and margins are already very slim
- The pandemic hit this sector hard – mandated closures, reduced capacity, resistance to return to congregate settings
- To minimize revenue loss:
 - State continued to pay childcare subsidy based on February enrollment through August
 - Nearly \$20M of state CARES funding was distributed March - August
 - \$3.1M in county CARES funding will be distributed by end of December
- The hope is that these efforts will minimize number of providers who permanently close their doors, but revenue losses will continue into 2021

Winter Shelter Contacts

- Open November 15, 2020 through March 15, 2021, regardless of weather
- Every night from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

McKeesport Downtown Housing Emergency Shelter – All Welcome (open every night until March 15)

523 Sinclair St, McKeesport, PA 15132
724.244.6565

Women's Winter Shelter (inclusive of transgender and nonbinary individuals)

Shepherd's Heart Fellowship and Veteran's Home
13 Pride Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, Uptown
412-618-7719

Men's Winter Shelter (inclusive of transgender and nonbinary individuals)

Smithfield United Church of Christ
620 Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, Downtown
412-618-7467

****Nonbinary individuals are welcome to access the shelter space that feels most comfortable and safe.**

Allegheny County Rent Relief

Total applications received	7460
Total Applications Denied	290
Applications withdrawn by lessee	47
Total Lessees Paid	1162
Pending applications	5961

Total \$ paid to date **\$3,946,342**

- Every lessee who has applied will be contacted by the end of the week and will be given an opportunity to submit any missing documentation.

Other Rental Assistance Programs: Call the Allegheny Link @ 866-730-2368

Utility Assistance

Call Allegheny Link @ 866-730-2368 for more information about utility assistance programs including:

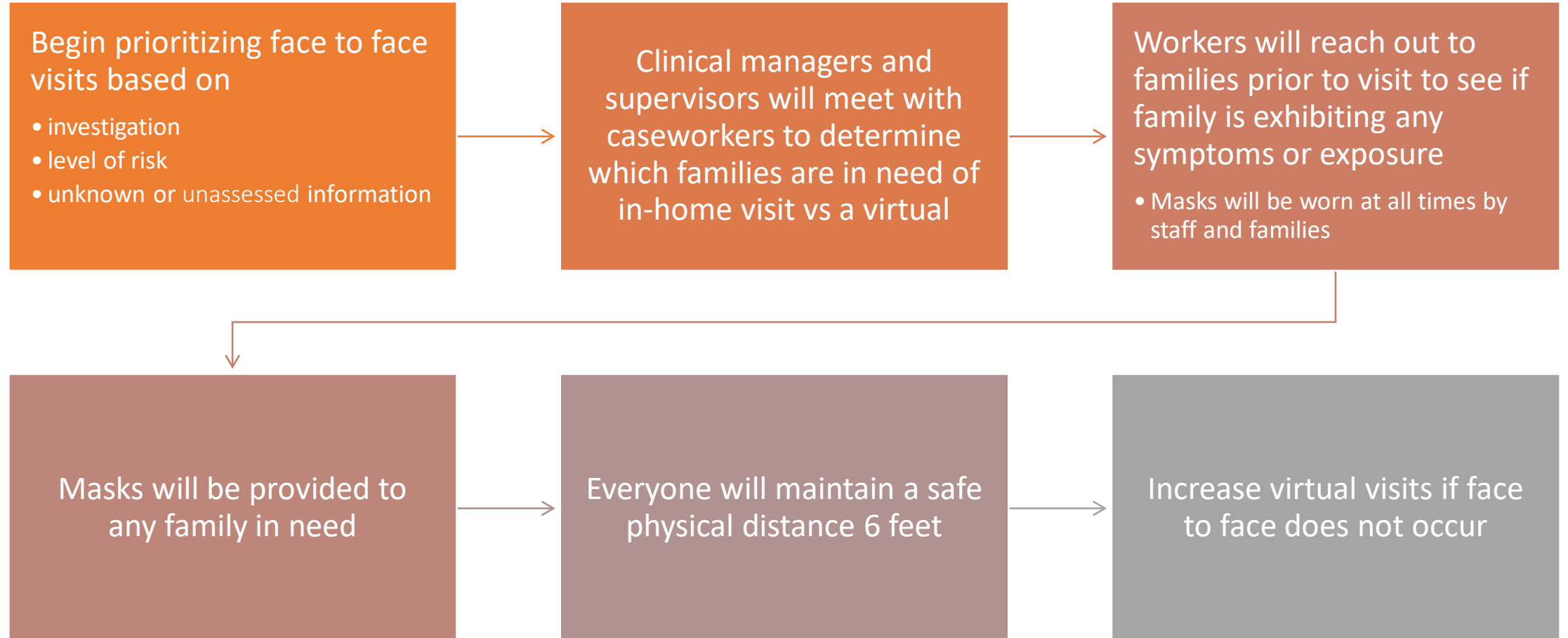
- Duquesne Light Co. – Duquesne Light will NOT shut off anyone for the remainder of the year.
- PWSA - PWSA will NOT shut off anyone for the remainder of the year.
- Peoples Gas - Peoples Gas is resuming shut offs for households above 300% FPL
- Dollar Energy Fund
- Customer Assistance Program - Due to pandemic restrictions, more flexible about income reporting/verification – will take verbal report in certain circumstances
- Low Income Usage Reduction Program (LIURP) - Free program to make heating system more efficient
- Peoples Emergency Furnace and Gas Repair/Replacement Program

Active Solicitation

RFP for Additional Rapid Re-Housing Units for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

- Proposals due this Tuesday, November 24 at 3 p.m.
- Recording and slides from Pre-Proposal Conference available on Solicitations webpage: [https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/Resources/Doing-Business/Solicitations-\(RFP/RFQ/RFI\).aspx](https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/Resources/Doing-Business/Solicitations-(RFP/RFQ/RFI).aspx)

Beginning today CYF staff will:



Provider expectation for next 30 days:

- Provide COOP plan to Provider Relations
- Continue to report all positive cases or exposures daily
- Address all crisis situations as normal procedure requires

In-home and foster care providers

- Attempt to deliver crisis services in the appropriate setting
- Prioritize face to face visits based on need, safety and risk
- Inform caseworker of individualized plan for child/family: safety plan, increased virtual visits and outstanding needs

Adoption day this Saturday



- 73 Children celebrating permanency through adoption this Saturday
- 20 more scheduled for December
- We will be delivering child and family gift bags this weekend to commemorate this accomplishment



Quick Poll Results

Recruitment Platform *for*
Essential Health and Human Service Workers

Spread the word!

Where candidates can submit their credentials and indicate their interests and experience:

https://bit.ly/SWPA_HHSjobs

How providers can register to gain access to the platform for their organization:

https://bit.ly/SWPA_HHSprovider

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.

