

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Jeff Fleming
(414) 286-8580
jeff.fleming@milwaukee.gov

The City of Milwaukee Order #4.4 Update

MILWAUKEE– For the first time since last August, the COVID-19 gating criteria monitored by the Milwaukee Health Department included three categories achieving green status. The new results reflect the overall positive trends seen in the progression of the pandemic. The overall number of COVID-19 tests has been trending down, but the percentage of positive test results reached its lowest level since the start of gating criteria monitoring. The trend in the number of new cases is also encouraging. The five gating criteria track key indicators in the COVID-19 pandemic, and they are used to determine the restrictions and precautions incorporated in the department’s public health order.

Milwaukee remains under Order #4.4 which went into effect two weeks ago, and that order requires specific precautions and places limitations on gatherings and activities.

This week the Milwaukee Health Department noted the first confirmed case in the city of the COVID-19 B.1.1.7 variant – also called the U.K. variant. This development is of particular concern because this variant is known to spread more easily and quickly. There is also concern about the possibility that the B.1.1.7 variant is associated with a higher risk of death.

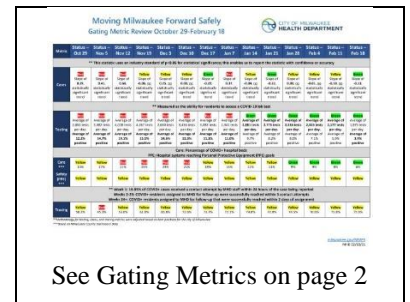
“The positive trends in the gating criteria are encouraging, but storm clouds are on the horizon. We are moving forward purposefully to vaccinate, test, and get compliance with public health regulations. That’s Milwaukee’s best approach to crushing COVID,” Acting Commissioner Marlaina Jackson said. “Everyone in our community can assist by wearing their masks, keeping a safe distance from people outside the home, and avoiding groups of people gathering in an unsafe manner.”

The Milwaukee Health Department continues to accept and review safety plans. This week the Health Department joined the Milwaukee Bucks to announce the limited return of fans to Fiserv Forum for basketball games. A number of museums and events have also received approval for a limited reopening.

Vaccination efforts at the Wisconsin Center continue with thousands of doses being administered weekly. Milwaukee residents ages 65 and older can make appointments through the Health Department’s scheduling portal at milwaukee.gov/covidvax. Because of restrictions in the supply of vaccine, only a limited number of people seeking appointments are able to sign up. Each week, as the Health Department receives notification of its vaccine allocation, new slots open on the schedule. City residents without internet access can schedule appointments by calling 414-286-6800.

The Health Department continues to offer COVID-19 testing at the Southside Health Center, the Northwest Health Center, and American Family Field (formerly Miller Park). The most up to date information about testing is available at Milwaukee.gov/covidtesting or by calling 414-286-6800. People with COVID-19 symptoms and everyone potentially exposed to someone infected with COVID-19 are encouraged to be tested.

Below are the Five Key Indicators and Gating Criteria that drive our City’s advancement through the phases and guide our reopening.



Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely Gating Metric Review October 29-February 18



Metric	Status – Oct 29	Status – Nov 5	Status – Nov 12	Status – Nov 19	Status – Dec 3	Status – Dec 10	Status – Dec 17	Status – Jan 7	Status – Jan 14	Status – Jan 21	Status – Jan 28	Status – Feb 4	Status – Feb 11	Status – Feb 18
** This statistic uses an industry standard of p<0.05 for statistical significance; this enables us to report the statistic with confidence or accuracy														
Cases	Red Slope of 0.29 , statistically significant trend	Red Slope of 0.41 , statistically significant trend	Red Slope of 0.66 , statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of -0.06 , no statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of 0.25 , no statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of 0.03 , no statistically significant trend	Green Slope of -0.22 , statistically significant trend	Red Slope of 0.37 , statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of -0.04 , no statistically significant trend	Green Slope of -0.22 , statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of 0.00 , no statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of -0.01 , no statistically significant trend	Yellow Slope of -0.10 , no statistically significant trend	Green Slope of -0.13 , statistically significant trend
** Measured as the ability for residents to access a COVID-19 lab test														
Testing	Red Average of 2,861 tests per day. Average of 12.2% positive	Red Average of 3,382 tests per day. Average of 14.7% positive	Red Average of 4,018 tests per day. Average of 19.1% positive	Red Average of 4,267 tests per day. Average of 15.5% positive	Red Average of 2,680 tests per day. Average of 14.6% positive	Red Average of 3,456 tests per day. Average of 13.3% positive	Red Average of 3,332 tests per day. Average of 11.1% positive	Red Average of 2,341 tests per day. Average of 11.0% positive	Green Average of 2,881 tests per day. Average of 9.7% positive	Green Average of 2,775 tests per day. Average of 8.2% positive	Green Average of 2,536 tests per day. Average of 8.0% positive	Green Average of 2,315 tests per day. Average of 7.1% positive	Green Average of 2,177 tests per day. Average of 5.0% positive	Green Average of 1,975 tests per day. Average of 3.9% positive
Care: Percentage of COVID+ hospital beds														
PPE: Hospital systems reaching Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) goals														
Care ***	Yellow 14%	Yellow 17%	Red 21%	Red 25%	Red 23%	Red 21%	Yellow 19%	Yellow 14%	Yellow 12%	Yellow 11%	Green 9%	Green 9%	Green 8%	Green 6%
Safety (PPE) ***	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
** Week 1: 16.05% of COVID+ cases received a contact attempt by MHD staff within 24 hours of the case being reported														
Weeks 2-23: COVID+ residents assigned to MHD for follow-up were successfully reached within 3 contact attempts														
Weeks 24+: COVID+ residents assigned to MHD for follow-up that were successfully reached within 2 days of assignment														
Tracing	Yellow 58.2%	Red 45.3%	Yellow 53.0%	Yellow 61.0%	Yellow 66.8%	Yellow 72.6%	Yellow 73.7%	Yellow 72.1%	Yellow 74.8%	Yellow 72.0%	Yellow 74.5%	Yellow 70.6%	Yellow 75.8%	Yellow 75.6%

**Methodology for testing, cases, and tracing metrics were adjusted based on best practices for the city of Milwaukee
***Based on Milwaukee County Dashboard Data

milwaukee.gov/MMFS
MHD 02/18/21

Reminder – Masks are required per the MKE Cares mask ordinance, which went into effect on July 16, 2020 for the city of Milwaukee. Please report business violations of the mask laws and Order #4.4 by calling 414-286-3674 or emailing cehadmin@milwaukee.gov. Complaints will remain anonymous. Free MHD masks are available for households and individuals. Free mask sites locations throughout the city are continually updated online at milwaukee.gov/masks.

Under order #4.4, restaurants and bars are required to submit their Business COVID Safety Plan and fill out the [Risk Assessment Tool](#) to continue in person dining. The facility’s COVID safety plan is comprised of two pieces. A complete safety plan is comprised of supporting documentation that addresses the components of the Risk Assessment Tool. The Risk Assessment Tool can be located at: milwaukee.gov/MMFS/SafetyPlan. Documents should be sent to cehadmin@milwaukee.gov with the subject line “COVID SAFETY PLAN: [insert name and address].”

Entertainment and other public venues can obtain more information about COVID-19 safety plans for their operations at city.milwaukee.gov/MMFS/EntertainmentVenue.

Our school resource webpage is located at: milwaukee.gov/MMFS/Schools. The MHD is continuing to review COVID-19 safety plans for schools that are located in the City of Milwaukee and desire to have options aside

from virtual. Plans are reviewed in the order that they are received and prioritized by the open date. Schools will receive an approval letter from the Commissioner of Health.

The City of Milwaukee key indicators for Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely are updated weekly and are available online at milwaukee.gov/coronavirus.

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