

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The City of Milwaukee Order #4.4 Update

MILWAUKEE– The COVID-19 gating criteria monitored by the Milwaukee Health Department remain unchanged this week with three categories listed in green status. The data used to determine the five gating criteria reflect a continuing positive trend over recent weeks. The number of new COVID-19 cases continues to trend lower in the city of Milwaukee.

The 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 three weeks ago, and that order requires specific precautions and places limitations on gatherings and activities.

The Milwaukee Health Department continues to be concerned about COVID-19 variants, both the B.1.1.7 “UK Variant” and variants emerging elsewhere. Variants have the potential to spread more easily and quickly. There is also concern about variants being associated with a higher risk of death.

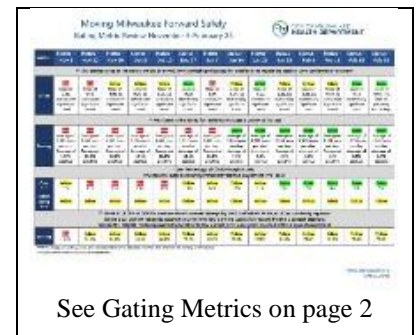
“We have reached an important stage in the COVID-19 pandemic where several vaccines are now approved and more people are receiving vaccinations. Those of us in the public health field share a sense of optimism while continuing to be wary of a possible reversal of progress,” Acting Commissioner Marlaina Jackson said. “It is so important to maintain safety precautions – masks, distancing, and avoiding groups – so we continue to head in the right direction.”

Vaccination efforts at the Wisconsin Center continue with thousands of doses being administered weekly. The State of Wisconsin added to the vaccine-eligible categories starting this coming Monday. Most notably, teachers and early-childhood educations can now receive the vaccine. The Milwaukee Health Department is increasing the hours and capacity of the vaccination site at the Wisconsin Center and will begin mobile vaccination efforts later next week.

Eligible individuals can sign up for vaccination appointments through the Health Department’s scheduling portal at milwaukee.gov/covidvax. City residents without internet access can schedule appointments by calling 414-286-6800. While the supply of vaccine provided to the Milwaukee Health Department has increased, demand for vaccinations remains high. In the near term, it is likely that more people will be seeking vaccinations than the Health Department can provide.

The Milwaukee Health Department continues to accept and review reopening safety plans. The Health Department is actively reviewing the plans that have been submitted including one from the Milwaukee Brewers baseball club.

The Health Department has modified hours at the largest COVID-19 testing location in the region. Starting next week, the American Family Field site will be open three days each week, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00 am until 6:00 pm. The change follows a decreased demand for testing, and it allows for the redeployment of some staff to vaccination efforts. Six-day-per-week COVID-19 testing remains available at the Southside Health Center and the Northwest Health Center. The most up to date information about testing



is available at [Milwaukee.gov/covidtesting](https://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 November 5-February 25



Metric	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	Status – Feb 25
** 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 0.41, 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	Green Slope of -0.05, less than 5% positivity for 14 days
** Measured as the ability for residents to access a COVID-19 lab test														
Testing	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	Green Average of 1,962 tests per day. Average of 3.4% positive
Care: Percentage of COVID+ hospital beds PPE: Hospital systems reaching Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) goals														
Care ***	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%	Green 5%
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	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%	Yellow 73.9%

**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 02/25/21

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 can remain anonymous. Free MHD masks are available for households and individuals. View free mask locations 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 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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