

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

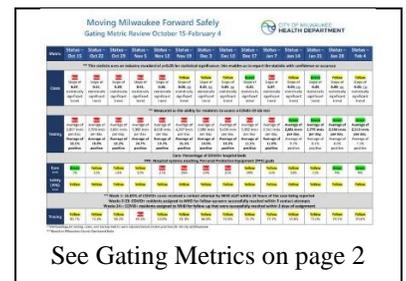
The City of Milwaukee Order #4.4 Update

MILWAUKEE– The new Milwaukee public health Order #4.4 went into effect today, Friday, February 5th, and that development coincides with stability in this week’s updated COVID-19 gating criteria. Two of the five metrics, both hospital bed usage and testing, are listed in the green category. The important “cases” criteria remained in the yellow category as there was no significant direction in the overall number of COVID-19 cases. These 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.

While the presence of the COVID-19 virus is lower than it was at its peak in recent months, infections, hospitalizations, and deaths remain major public health issues in Milwaukee.

The new Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely Order #4.4 adjusts the rules for sports and recreational activities, makes possible the reopening of museums and exhibition spaces, and, most significantly, modifies the regulations on public gatherings. The new order allows gatherings as long as the attendance does not exceed 25% of the total occupancy of the location, and one person for every 30 square feet, and 250 people. In some cases, larger gatherings could take place with formal approval of a safety plan by the Milwaukee Health Department.

“The Milwaukee Health Department continues to adapt and respond to the changing dynamics of COVID-19 in our city. This week we have expanded our vaccination capabilities, modified our public health order, and dealt with challenging winter weather,” Acting Commissioner Marlaina Jackson said. “We strongly encourage everyone to continue to do their part to crush COVID-19 by masking-up in public, maintaining distance from others, and avoiding group settings where the virus spreads.”



The Health Department’s central COVID-19 vaccination site opened a new scheduling portal at milwaukee.gov/covidvax which, this week, allowed city residents aged 65 and over to start signing up for the vaccination appointments. Because of the limited supply of vaccine, only a small percentage of people who wanted to sign up were able to do so. Each week, as the Health Department receives notification of its vaccine allocation, new slots will open up 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, American Family Field (formerly Miller Park), and at a mobile locations which are currently at Barack Obama High School (at Custer Stadium) and Pulaski High School (in the parking lot north and east of the school). The American Family Field site will be closed because of weather on Saturday, February 6th.

More information about testing is available at milwaukee.gov/covidtesting. 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 15-February 4



Metric	Status – Oct 15	Status – Oct 22	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
** 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 0.27, statistically significant trend	Red Slope of 0.21, statistically significant trend	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
** Measured as the ability for residents to access a COVID-19 lab test														
Testing	Red Average of 2,857 tests per day. Average of 10.2% positive	Red Average of 2,974 tests per day. Average of 10.9% positive	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
Care: Percentage of COVID+ hospital beds PPE: Hospital systems reaching Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) goals														
Care ***	Green 7%	Yellow 11%	Yellow 14%	Yellow 17%	Red 21%	Red 25%	Red 23%	Red 21%	Yellow 19%	Yellow 14%	Yellow 12%	Yellow 11%	Green 9%	Green 9%
Safety (PPE) ***	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 81.7%	Yellow 73.3%	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%

**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 02/04/21

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].”

There are a variety of resources for schools and businesses available. 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. Additionally, the City of Milwaukee has and will continue to provide a webinar series

to business owners and operators with sector specific guidance. Please visit our website milwaukee.gov/MMFS/SafetyPlan for more information on COVID-19 safety plan submission and webinars.

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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