

Key Data and Trends for the period of December 27, 2020 to January 4, 2021

Here is some data to discuss from this week. 12/27/2020 to 01/03/2021. Please note: MDHHS was assisting with our case investigation and contact tracing over the last two holiday weekends. They seem to have been recommending a 14 day quarantine opposed to the 10-day quarantine we have been using. I apologize for any confusion that this may have caused.

A. The trend of Covid-19 (COVID) cases or positive tests, hospitalizations due to COVID; and the number of deaths resulting from COVID in the past 14-day period.

1. Last week 260 new COVID-19 cases were detected. This reporting week 335 New COVID-19 case were detected.
2. Over the last week, Berrien County has seen an average of 48 new cases per day.
3. As of 9:00am on Sunday 1/03 there are 35 people, 2 are in Critical Care in the hospital who have tested positive for COVID-19 and our hospital system continues to operate well.
4. There have continued to be several deaths over the past week from several outbreaks in a Skilled Nursing Facility and sporadic deaths in chronically ill individuals. Average age is 80, all deaths have had multiple comorbidities or significant congenital health concerns.

B. COVID cases for each day for every 1 million people.

1. This past week Berrien's average new case rate is calculated to be 28.57 cases per 100,000 residents or 285.7 Cases per 1 million residents.

C. The percentage of positive COVID tests over a four-week period.

1. 7 day % positivity = 9.0%
2. 14 day % positivity = 9.3%
3. 28 day % positivity = 12.9%
4. Berrien county has the 14th highest percent positivity in Michigan.

D. Health care capacity strength.

1. Test turnaround time is strong. Berrien is the 4th most tested County in Michigan per capita. PPE is in good supply, hospital and SNF rooms are

limited, Regional COVID Recovery Centers are expanding throughout Michigan.

E. Testing, tracing and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID.

1. Public health continues case investigation for all residents who are confirmed positive with COVID-19. Contact tracing has been designated for people at higher risk of transmission and severe symptoms due to a COVID-19 infection. Follow up is taking roughly 24 hours from when we are given the test results.
2. MDHHS Case investigators have been assisting in case investigation. It appears they recommend 14 days of quarantine, BCHD case investigators will continue to recommend 10 days in most cases.
3. If anyone suspects that they have COVID-19, they must isolate themselves at home. Limit interactions with household members, particularly those with underlying health conditions.
4. **Schools**
 1. Public health is working tirelessly to keep schools in person and safe!
 2. Fall and winter semester there were approximately 551 positive COVID-19 cases related to schools (roughly 30% and 70% students)
 3. Currently there are 22 cases in isolation and 52 Berrien County students and staff in quarantine.

The Health Department and Spectrum Health Lakeland are both moving through vaccinating the Priority 1A groups, and we are deep in planning for Priority 1B and beyond.