



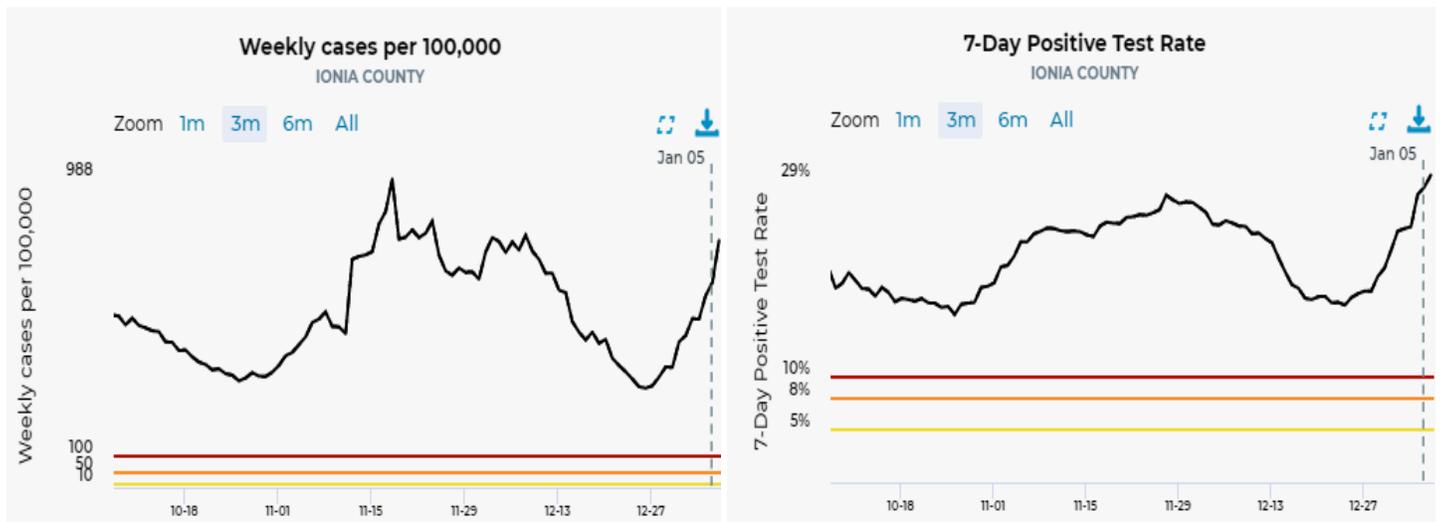
Ionia County: COVID-19 Pandemic Update

Data current as of 01/10/2022

COVID-19 Transmission

Cases and Positivity Rates

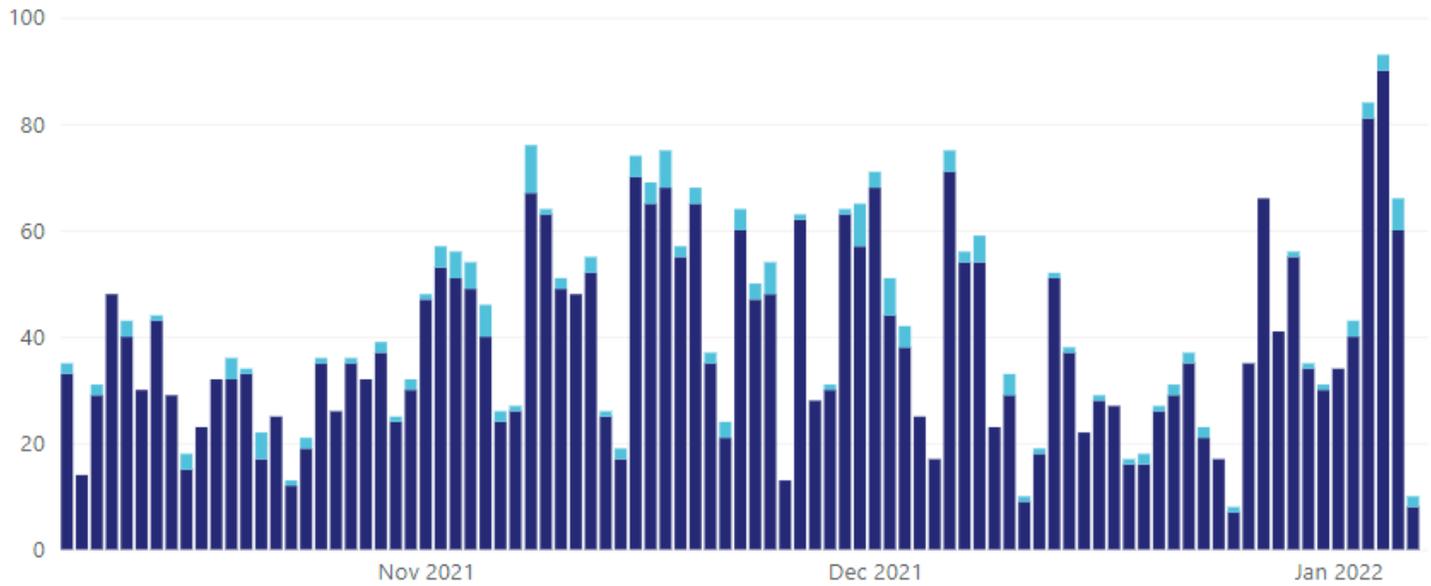
Michigan — like most states — is currently experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases, associated hospitalizations and deaths, driven by and mostly amongst the unvaccinated. Over the last three months, the average number of weekly COVID-19 cases in Michigan has more than tripled, increasing from 303 cases per 100,000 to 1,015 per 100,000 (the largest 90-day increase since January 2021 – March 2021). During this time, the average number of weekly COVID-19 cases in Ionia County also increased, with the largest increase between November and December, following the statewide trend. Between 10/08/2021 and 01/05/2022, the average number of weekly COVID-19 cases in Ionia County increased from 549 per 100,000 to 657 per 100,000.



The percentage of positive cases continues to remain high in Ionia County. The current case positivity rate is approximately 29%, roughly three points below the statewide rate.

Cases by Date of Onset

CASE_STATUS ● Confirmed ● Probable

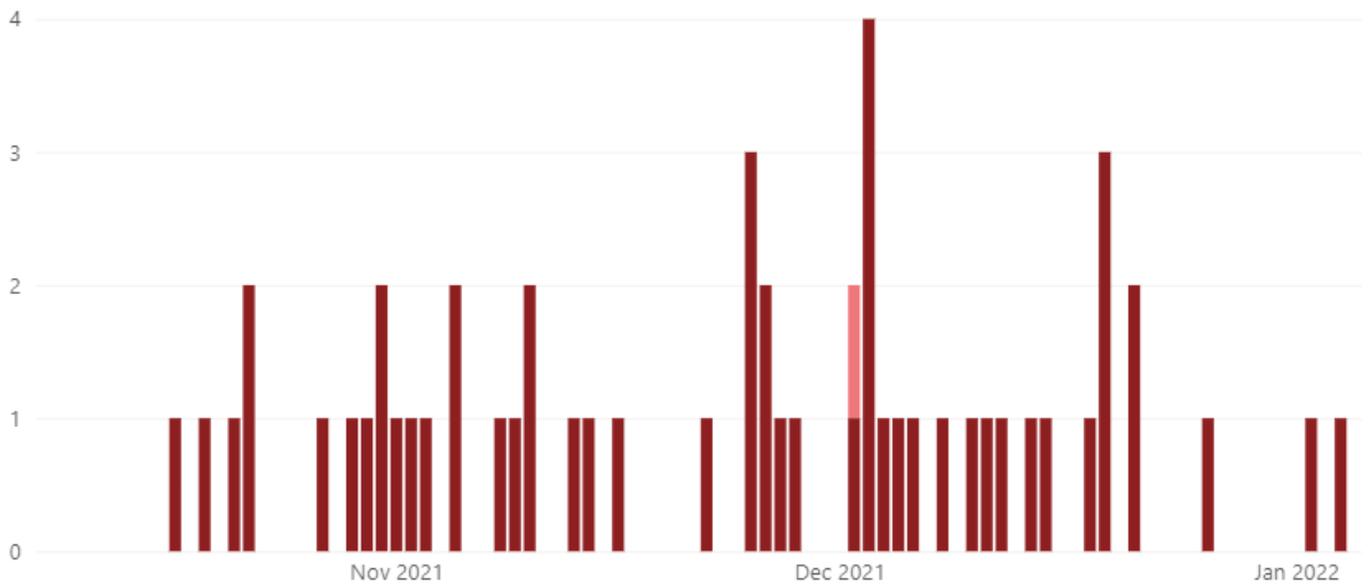


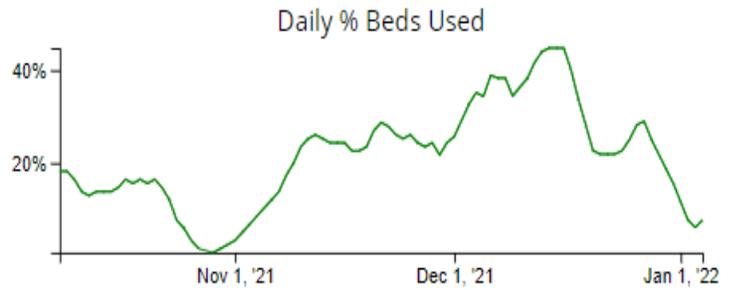
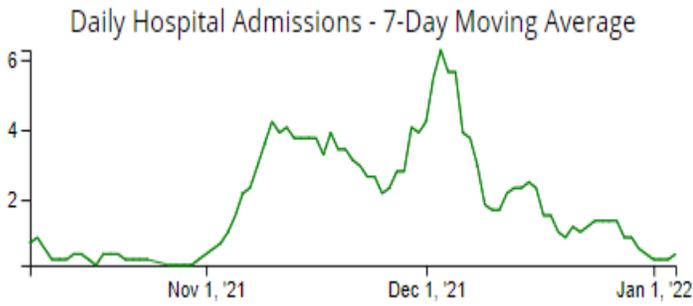
Hospitalizations and Deaths

COVID-19-associated hospitalizations and deaths have also increased over the past three months. Average daily hospital admissions have increased as well as the percentage of hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 cases. ^The number of confirmed deaths due to COVID-19 between 10/08/2021 and 01/08/2022 was approximately 54, with one COVID-19-probable case.

Deaths by Date of Death

CASE_STATUS ● Confirmed ● Probable





Period Totals (10/08/2021 – 01/10/2022)

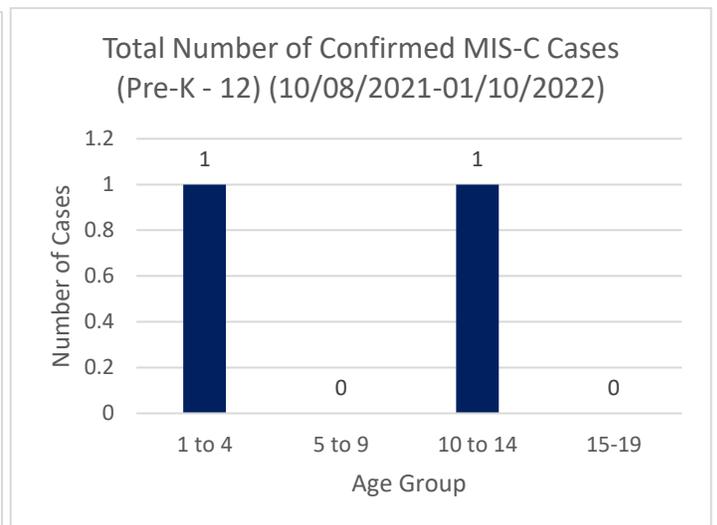
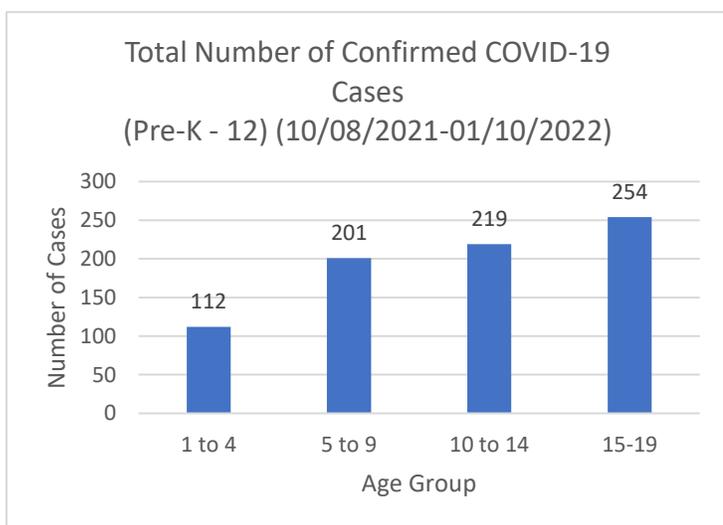
- ^Cases: 4591(Males: **2179**, Females: **2412**)
- ^Cases of MIS-C: **2**. (1 Male, 1 Female)
- ^Deaths: **54** (Males: **36**, Females: **18**)

Cumulative Totals (03/01/2020 – 01/10/2022)

- ^Cases: 12,576. (Males: **5,996**, Females: **6,556**, Unspecified: 24)
- ^Cases of MIS-C: **2**. (1 Male, 1 Female)
- ^Deaths: **141**. (Males: **89**, Females: **52**) (One probable)

Children and Schools

Cases in the Ionia County Health Jurisdiction



^Between 10/08/2021 and 01/08/2022, there were 786 confirmed COVID-19 cases in individuals 1-19 (1-4 y/o: 112, 5-9 y/o: 201 cases, 10-14 y/o: 219 cases, 15-19 y/o: 254 cases). There were two confirmed cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C): one case in the 1-4 y/o group and one in the 10-14 y/o group.

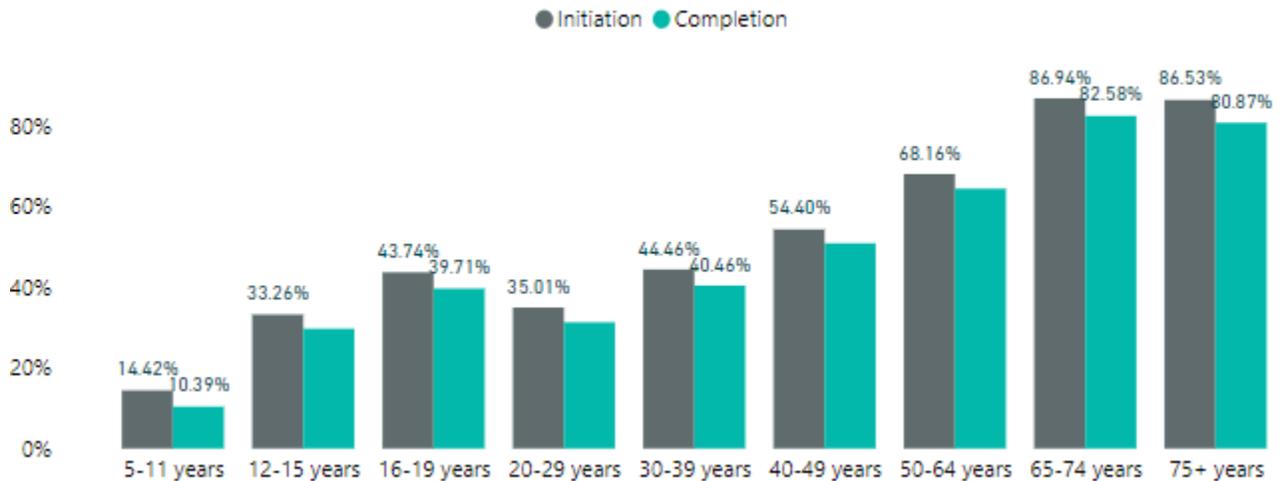
Cumulative Totals (03/01/2020 – 01/10/2022)

- ^COVID-19 Cases (<20 y/o): **2,456**. Males: **1,196** Female: **1,260**
- ^Cases of MIS-C: **2**

Vaccinations

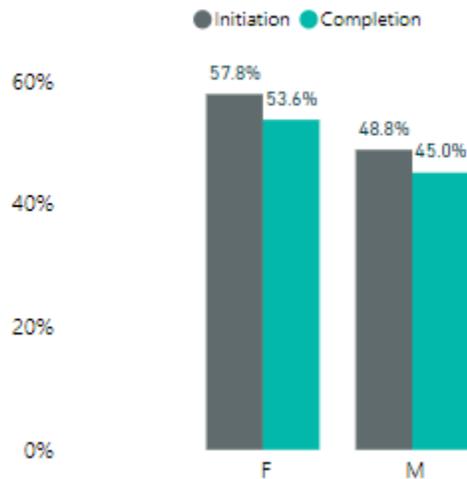
COVID-19 vaccination rates in Ionia County remain below statewide levels. Currently, 53% of Ionia County residents ≥ 5 years of age have received their first dose and 49% have completed their vaccination regimen, falling below the statewide levels of 63% and 57%, respectively.

COVID Vaccine Coverage by Age Group



Vaccination distribution by age and sex generally match that of the state and country. Female vaccination levels are higher than male levels in nearly all age groups.

COVID Vaccine Coverage by Sex



^Individuals aged 20-59 represent roughly 62% of reported cases and 10% of total deaths. However, the average vaccination level for this demographic remains relatively low, as opposed to that of those ≥ 65 years of age (~82%), who represent 90% of deaths and are at the highest risk for serious COVID-19 related

complications. According to the CDC, vaccine efficacy can decrease over time, and continued COVID-19 surges can increase the incidence of breakthrough cases and put vaccinated individuals (particularly those 65 and older) at greater risk of COVID-19-related complications. Although boosters are effective at providing continued protection against COVID-19, it is important that the bulk of the working demographic gets vaccinated to effectively address COVID-19.

ICHD COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

For the Community

- Get vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccines are available for individuals 5+ y/o. Booster shots are also available and recommended for vaccinated individuals 12+ y/o. Call **616-527-5341** to schedule a COVID-19 vaccination appointment.
- Get your flu shot.
- Avoid unnecessary travel and large gatherings.
- Wear a mask when indoors and around others, regardless of vaccination status or facility masking policies.
- Practice proper hand hygiene.
- Socially distance whenever possible and stay home if you feel ill.
- Immunocompromised individuals should get vaccinated and follow the precautions recommended for unvaccinated persons.
- Get tested. Any person who is displaying COVID-19-like symptoms should get a **viral** test to test for a current infection.

For Schools and Workplaces

- Consider adopting universal masking policies (if not already in place) to help mitigate the spread of infection.
- Consider test-to-stay policies to help keep kids in school, as resources allow.
- **Testing:** Positive antibody tests indicate that a person has been vaccinated against COVID-19 or has had a previous COVID-19 infection. As such, antibody tests **should not** be used to diagnose a current COVID-19 infection or determine if a person can return to work or school. Individuals who have positive antibody tests can still return to normal activities, but should follow the aforementioned COVID-19 protocols, **including getting vaccinated.**

**The CDC recently released updated guidelines regarding quarantine and isolation periods for the general population. For schools, ICHD recommends following the updated CDC guidance.

Data Reporting Notice

The accuracy of reported cases can vary based on the time in which cases are reported. Potential delays in reporting can occur, affecting the timeliness of reported positive cases, case positivity rates, vaccinations

rates, etc. As such, COVID-19-monitoring sites should be checked regularly for the most updated information regarding past cases.

Case positivity refers to the percentage of tests that indicate the presence of a COVID-19 infection

*MDHHS-reported cases for COVID-19 are diagnosed by NAAT/RT-PCR. NAAT/RT-PCR tests are used to diagnose a current COVID-19 infection. Values listed for 'cumulative cases' and 'cumulative deaths', are based on data retrieved from MDHHS.

^MDSS-reported data

Sources

<https://www.mistartmap.info/cdc-indicators>

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<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/resources/antigen-tests-guidelines.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/resources/antibody-tests.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/resources/sars-cov2-testing-strategies.html>

https://ioniacounty.org/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19-Return-to-School-Toolkit_Ionia-082421.pdf

https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html?utm_campaign=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

COVID-19 Case Investigation Records (Michigan Disease Surveillance System)