

MPH COVID-19 Update

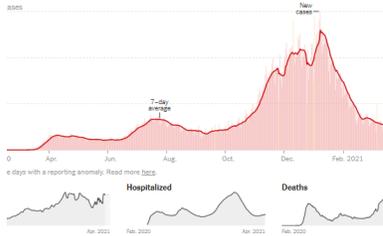
SitRep 46: 22April2021

Data:

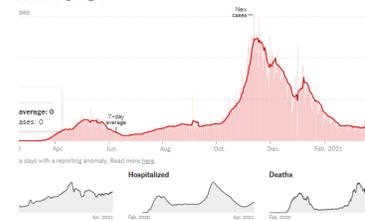
NYTimes # in [USA](#) will IL data [here](#) & IA data [here](#)

14-day new case and COVID-related death trends in Iowa and Illinois, aggregated, are below **using a 7-day rolling average**.

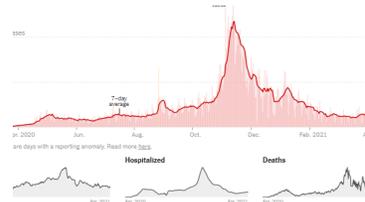
USA:



Illinois:



Iowa:



Daily confirmed cases-IA and IL: IA and IL combined, report a **non-significant decrease** ($p = 0.91$) over the previous 14-day period (using a 7-day rolling average). **By state:** Iowa reported a **significant decrease** ($p < .001$) in new daily cases with a decrease of ~8 new cases, per day. Illinois reported a **non-significant increase** ($p = 0.45$) with ~7 additional new cases, per day, over the previous 14-day period.

- **Local Raw Data:** **Scott Co** has seen a 10% decrease in new cases in the last 14 days with 53 new daily cases on average. **Hospitalizations have increased 58% in the last 14 days**, with 38 being admitted daily. Death rates averaging 0.3 per day. **RI Co** has seen a 24% decrease in new cases over the last 14 days with 26 average daily cases. **Hospitalizations are up 38%**. Death rates averaging 0.3 per day.
- **NOTE** Now both [Scott](#) is classified as “extremely high risk” and [RI Co](#) as “very high risk.”
- **Local Percent Positive:** WHO/IA/IL guidance: 5% or lower for at least 14 days indicate enough testing is available and lower risk to the community. Both RI and Scott are slightly higher this reporting period: RI at [5.3%](#) and Scott at [9.4%](#).
- **Local vaccinations rates:** [33.6%](#) in RI county have received their first vaccination shot, with [27%](#) fully vaccinated. [40.4%](#) in Scott have received their first shot, with [29%](#) fully vaccinated. IA has 29% fully vaccinated w/ [42% receiving one shot](#). IL has 26% fully vaccinated with [43% receiving one shot](#).
- **Local Health Capacity:** [Scott County](#) (ICU beds =47 at [66%](#)) and [RI County](#) (27 ICU beds at [53% capacity](#)).
- **Local Trends Interpretation:** New cases in both Scott and RI counties are decreasing over the last 14 days. Hospitalization rates continue to rise in both Scott and RI; deaths are stable. The test positivity rates in Scott County remains high, suggesting testing capacity is not being met. RI remains stable and suggests testing capacity is meeting demand. Vaccination rates continue to increase in both counties.

Sources: IL (<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics>); IA (<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/pages/case-counts>) *Daily figures for analysis as reported at 10:00am on April 22

Interpretation:

- **Vaccine Safety:** [Lisa Maragakis, M.D., M.P.H.](#), senior director of infection prevention, and [Gabor Kelen, M.D.](#), director of the Johns Hopkins Office of Critical Event Preparedness/Response, [answer questions](#) about the safety of the COVID-19 vaccines, including the facts behind the Johnson and Johnson pause (adverse events happening to only 6 people-out of 6.8 million).
- **Vaccination Roll Out:** Currently [26.4% of the US has full vaccination \(87.6 million people\)](#), with [40.5% having 1 dose](#). Full vaccination rates range from 33.9% (MN) to 20.0% (AL). US needs estimated [70-85% coverage](#) to approach herd immunity.
- **Vaccine reliance and rising variants:** Many states are relying on vaccines to control the virus, abandoning social distancing and other safety measures. COVID is steadily gaining ground even as vaccinations increase. Future surges are likely to be less deadly (because so many vulnerable Americans have been vaccinated), but they can provide fertile conditions for new variants, [keeping the coronavirus in our lives even longer](#).
- **Global Spread:** "Globally, the number of new cases per week has nearly doubled over the past two months...approaching the highest rate of infection that we have seen so far during the pandemic. Some countries that had previously avoided widespread transmission are now seeing steep increases in infections," said the head of [WHO](#). The bulk of new infections have been seen in [Brazil](#) and [India](#).
- **Long-term COVID symptoms:** One in 10 health care workers with mild COVID have lasting symptoms according to an [NIH study](#) showing healthy people with mild cases of COVID-19 can battle a constellation of symptoms that worsen over time—or which sometimes disappear only to come right back. These symptoms are part of what's called [“Long COVID Syndrome.”](#)
- **COVID, schools, and children:** A [University of Nebraska study](#) on asymptomatic COVID-19 cases in schools has found that infection rates may be higher than previously believed. An [NIH COVID testing program](#) is being piloted aiming to have children safely return to school.

Further Reading:

- **Race and Social Justice:** CDC's new [study](#) documents ethnic racial disparities related to Covid-19 infections, hospitalizations, and deaths. A second [study](#), based on data from 13 states between October and December 2020, reveals that people who are Hispanic and American Indian or Alaska Native had 1.7 times the rate of coronavirus ER visits that white people did, while Black people had 1.4 times the rate white people did.

Questions? Contact the Public Health Program at MPH@sau.edu