



UINTA COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE REPORT 8-24-21

□ This Week's Messages:

▪ The Big Stuff/Summary:

The situation remains dicey. Our current surge doesn't appear to be slowing, and it won't, I don't think, without more action by more people. There's a pretty high level of viral transmission right now.

My main message this week is that we need to take action to protect our healthcare agencies in the region, to protect the school year, and to protect each other.

Vaccination is our best tool at preventing serious illness in individuals, and in getting a handle on this outbreak/surge, and preventing future outbreaks.

Please help spread the word!

Please see attached letter to Community Leaders, Employers, Businesses, Agencies, and community members, along with a little FAQ sheet that can be shared.

▪ COVID-19 Metrics:

Daily New Cases: (Are the number of new cases increasing or decreasing?)

Lab Confirmed Cases Over Time:

Apr 05: 1819 cases (increase of 20)

Apr 12: 1821 cases (increase of 2)

Apr 19: 1834 cases (increase of 13)

Apr 26:

May 3: 1860 cases (increase of 26 or 13/week)

Jun 01: 1938 cases (increase of 78 = 19.5 per week)

Jun 07: 1957 cases (increase of 19)

Jul 12: 1999 (increase of 42 = 8.4 per week)

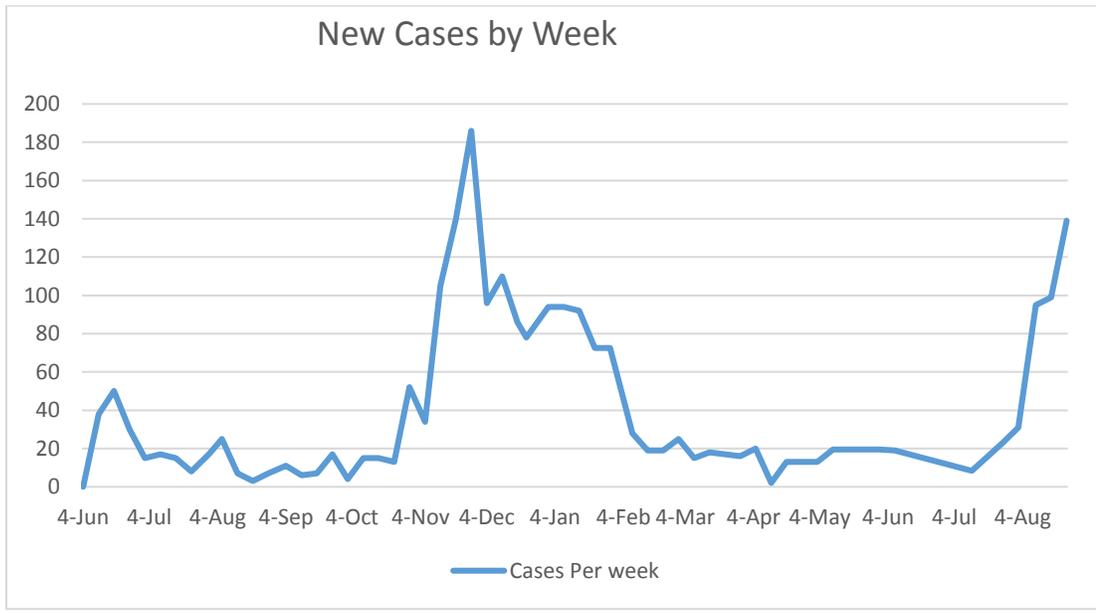
Jul 26: 2045 (increase of 46 = 23 per week)

Aug 02: 2076 (increase of 31)

Aug 10: 2171 (increase of 95)

Aug 17: 2270 (increase of 99)

Aug 24: 2409 (increase of 139)



Current Active Cases: 150

Uinta County, WY

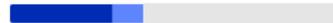
Updated on August 24

Share

Find a vaccine

RISK LEVEL
● **SEVERE**

VACCINATION PROGRESS



Daily new cases >

111.6 PER 100K

Infection rate >

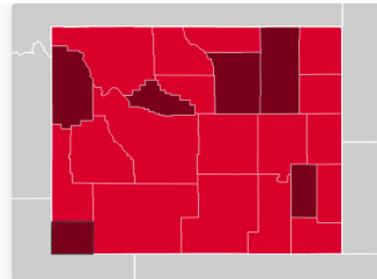
1.12

Positive test rate >

18.5%

% Vaccinated >

40.3% 1+ DOSE



% Vaccinated

Risk levels

Low risk ■ ■ ■ ■ Severe risk

Cases

DAILY NEW CASES

INFECTION RATE

POSITIVE TEST RATE

• **111.6** PER 100K

• **1.12**

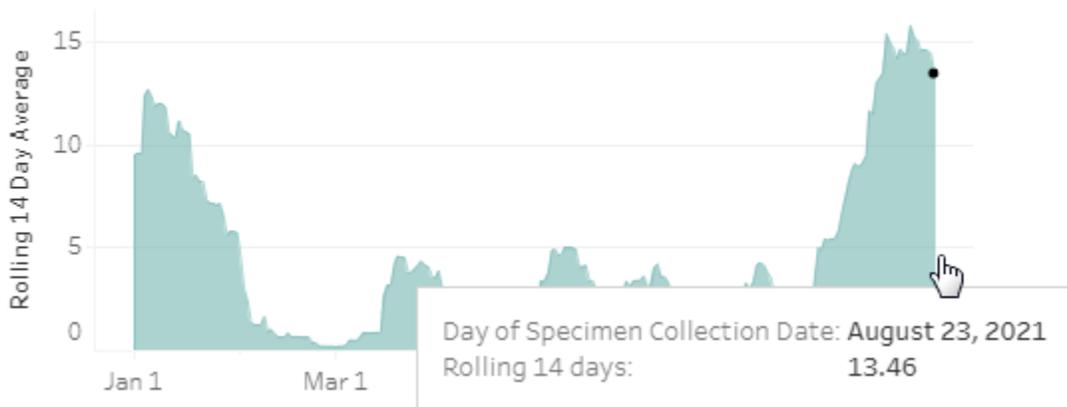
• **18.5%**



Percent Positive: (Higher percentages indicate widespread outbreak and insufficient testing for identifying cases. Anything over 3% is concerning, over 10% is “red zone.”)

ERH last week (8/16 – 8/20): 25%

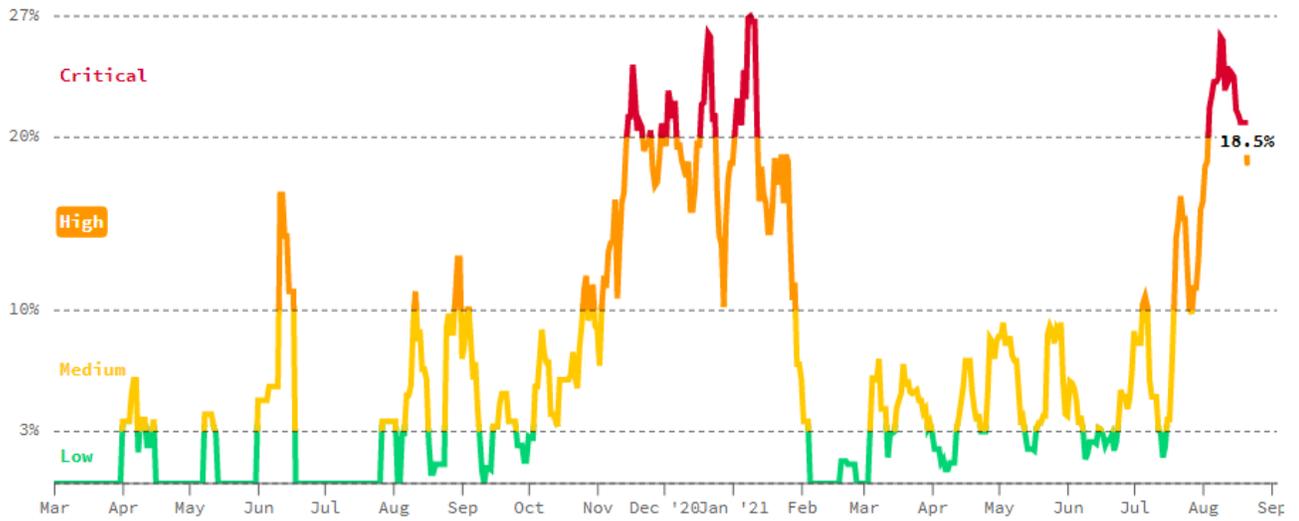
Rolling 14 Day Average Percent Positive



WDH reports 13.46% percent positivity.

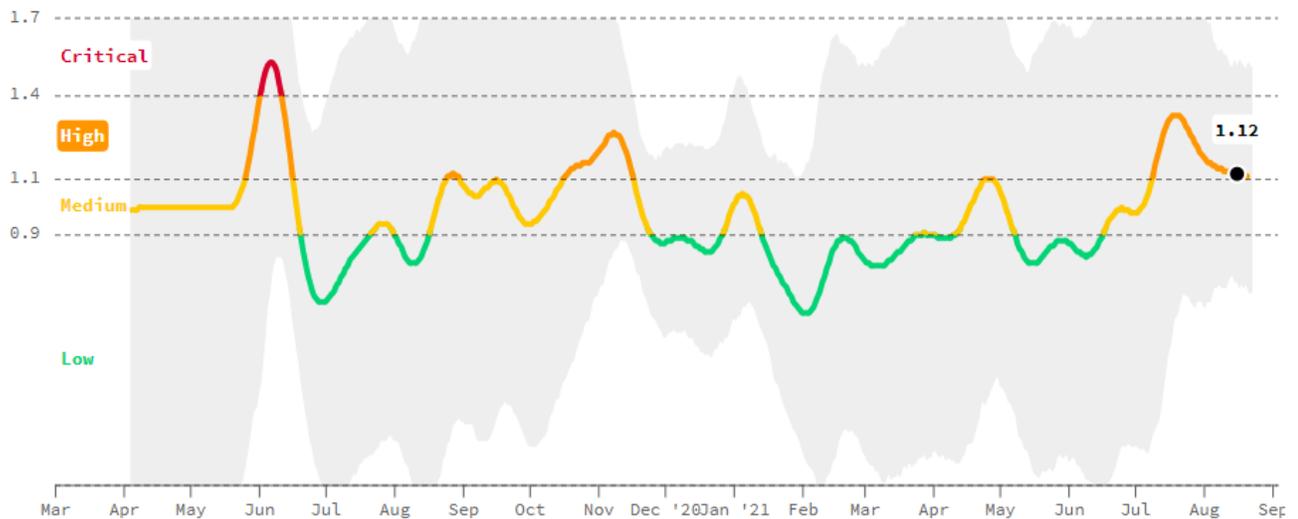
Transmission is very high. Indicates a substantial outbreak.

DAILY NEW CASES INFECTION RATE POSITIVE TEST RATE
 ● **111.6** PER 100K ● **1.12** ● **18.5%**



Infection Rate:

DAILY NEW CASES INFECTION RATE POSITIVE TEST RATE
 ● **111.6** PER 100K ● **1.12** ● **18.5%**

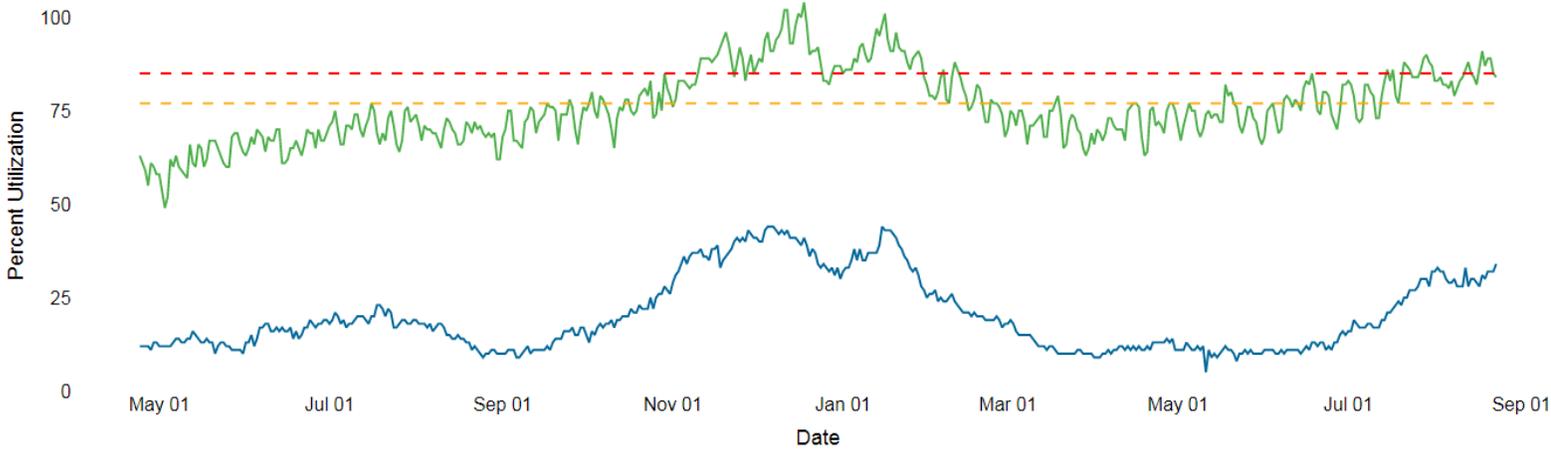


Hospital Capacity/ICU Use:

Locally: Our local hospital and staff are experiencing a strain on resources, emotionally and physically. Currently with near capacity COVID ICU admissions.

In addition to Evanston Regional Hospital, we consider the Wasatch Front as part of our capacity situation. Utah reports 177 confirmed COVID-19 in ICU, and a total ICU utilization of 84.3% for referral hospitals.

Note about ICU Utilization: The UDOH receives reports about the total number of available ICU beds in the state. However, this reporting does not reflect the number of staffed beds able to care for patients. At about 69% overall ICU utilization, ICUs in Utah's major hospitals with the ability to provide best care for COVID-19 patients begin to reach staffing capacity. Seventy-two percent use among all hospitals and 77% in Referral Center hospitals creates major strains on the healthcare system. When 85% capacity is reached, Utah will be functionally out of staffed ICU beds, indicating an overwhelmed hospital system.



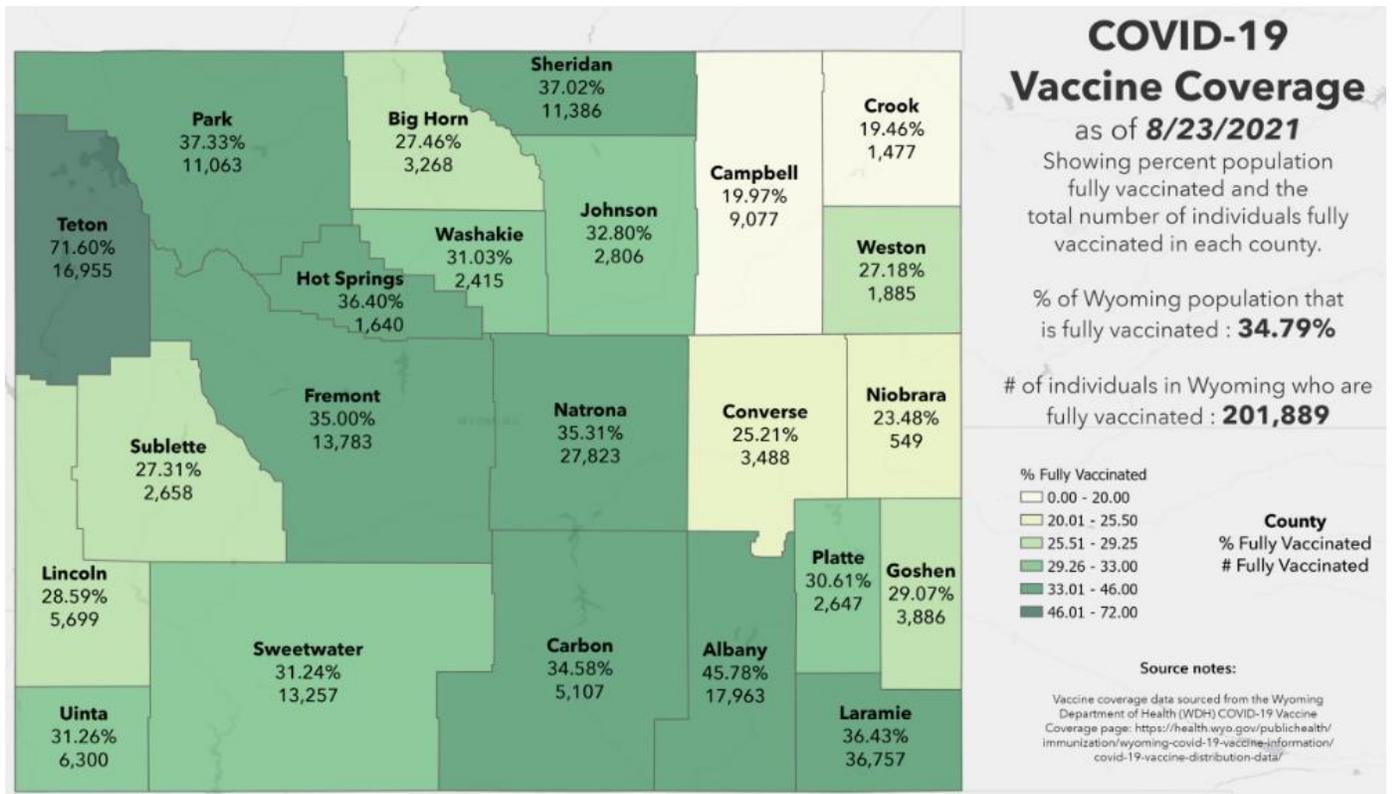
Things are still surging in Utah.

Contact Tracing Capacity: (Are there enough tracers hired to call all + cases?)

Locally: Struggling to keep up and call all positive cases.

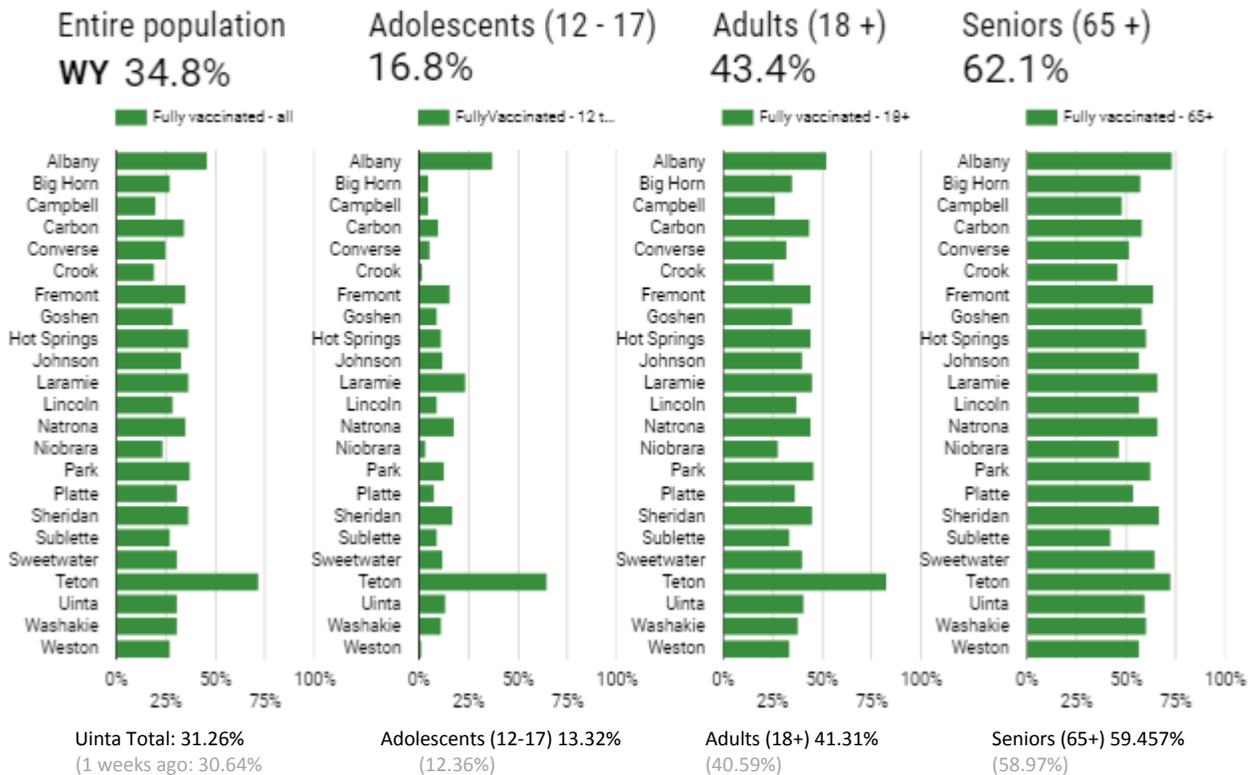
■ **Vaccine Efforts and Coverage Rates:**

- Vaccine availability/clinics:
 - Clinics on Friday's at Public Health, both Evanston & Lyman. Also available in Pharmacies.



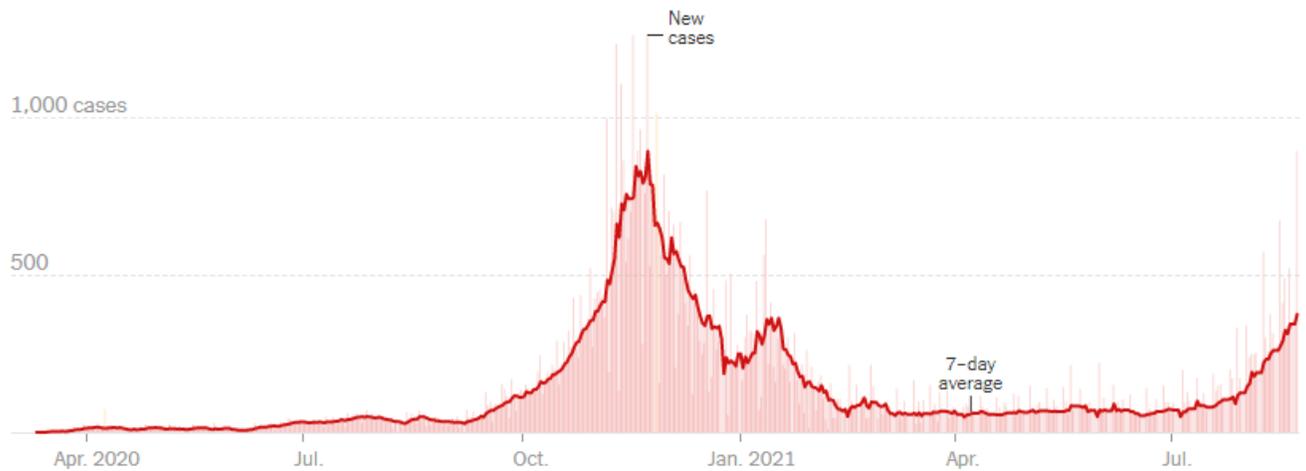
- Coverage Rates:

Statewide vaccine coverage, as of Aug 23, 2021



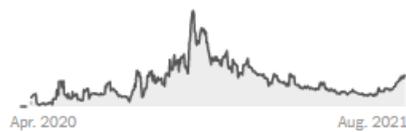
- **Break-through cases:** Happening more, primarily because of so much virus circulating. Still rare, and vaccines effective at preventing severe illness and death.
- **Variants and vaccine:**
 - Many samples sequenced and found to be attributable to Delta variant.
 - **In WYO:** Delta variant is responsible for most cases in Wyoming.
 - **Vaccine Effectiveness:** The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are approximately [90% effective](#) against Delta variant-induced infections and the development of severe COVID-19. The vaccines are holding the line against other current [variants](#) as well.

Wyoming Covid Map and Case Count

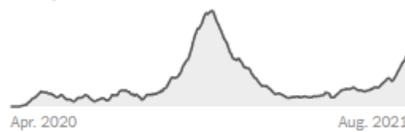


■ These are days with a reporting anomaly. Read more [here](#).

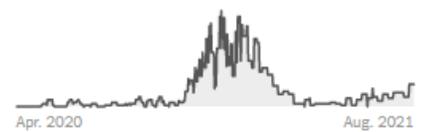
Tests



Hospitalized



Deaths



DAILY AVG. ON AUG. 23

14-DAY CHANGE

TOTAL REPORTED

| | DAILY AVG. ON AUG. 23 | 14-DAY CHANGE | TOTAL REPORTED |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Cases | 374 | +68% | 71,562 |
| Tests | 2,201 | +58% | — |
| Hospitalized | 135 | +52% | — |
| Deaths | 2 | +60% | 809 |

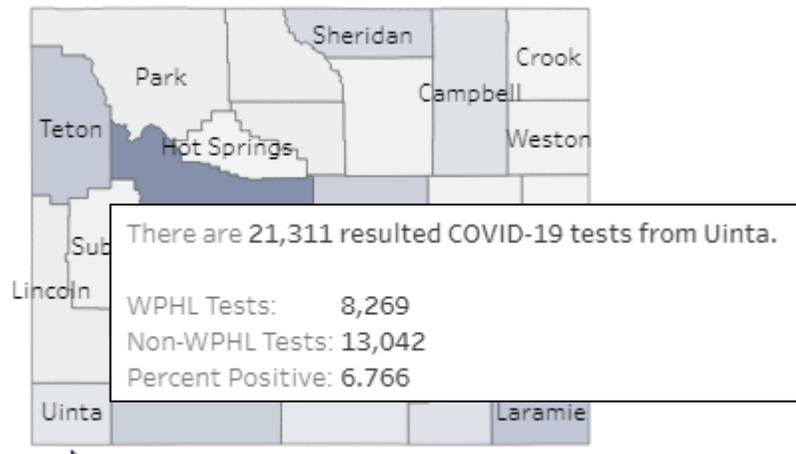
State of the virus across the country

Update for Aug. 19

- A summer that began with Covid seeming to fade into the national background has been upended by the [coronavirus's relentless spread](#). The Delta variant continues to drive up new case totals across the United States.
- More than 90,000 coronavirus patients were in [hospitals](#) nationwide, more than in any previous surge except last winter's. The country is averaging more than 800 newly reported deaths a day, about twice as many as in early August.
- Much of the South is contending with its most serious outbreak of the pandemic, including [Florida](#), [Louisiana](#) and [Mississippi](#). Hospitals have struggled to treat the influx of patients.
- Some Western states with relatively high vaccination rates also have struggled with Delta. [Washington's](#) governor ordered educators to get vaccinated and [Hawaii](#) imposed limits on gatherings.
- [Vaccines](#) remain highly effective against hospitalizations and deaths. The pace of vaccination has increased lately, but only 51 percent of Americans are fully vaccinated so far.

- New case reports are not increasing as quickly as they had been. In some hard-hit areas, case curves are leveling off or declining. [Louisiana](#), [Missouri](#) and [Arkansas](#), among the first places with summer surges, appear to be stabilizing.

□ **Testing Updates:**



- Apr 05 – Apr 11: Total 16419 = 252 in last week
 - Apr 12 – Apr 18: Total 16651 = 232 in last week
 - Apr 19 – May 2: Total 17183 = 532 in last 2 weeks (266/week)
 - May 3 – May 31: Total 18202 = 1019 in last 4 weeks (255/week)
 - Jun 01 – Jun 06: Total 18,443 = 24 in last week
 - Jun 07 - Jul 11: Total 19,298 = 855 in past month, **(171/week)**
 - Jul 12 – Jul 26: Total 19,693 = 395 in past 2 weeks **(197/week)**
 - Jul 27 – Aug 01: Total 19,930 = 237 in past week
 - Aug 02 – Aug 10: Total 20,363 = 433 in past week and couple days
 - Aug 11 – Aug 17: Total 20,752 = 389 in past week
 - Aug 18 – Aug 23: Total 21,311 = 559 in past week
- **Testing options:**
 - Drive-Up at ERH:
 - Liat: Rapid Molecular Test
 - Bridger Valley Urgent Care:
 - PCR test going to lab
 - Biofire PCR (rapid)
 - Evanston Community Health Center:
 - State WPHL PCR Test (3-5 days for result)
 - Vault At-Home Saliva Test: Wyoming still offering these tests for free to WY residents. Order a kit at <https://www.vaulthealth.com/covid>. If it is a Wyoming address, the \$150 testing fee is waived, and shipping costs are covered. Saliva is

collected during a supervised online telehealth visit with a Vault Test Supervisor (requires an internet connection.) Sample is sent to a Vault lab.

- Abbott Alinity: Available at Public Health. Shallow nasal swab. No charge.
- OTC At-Home Test approved by FDA (Binax Now)

□ **Guidance, Orders, Updates & Research**

- Schools: Wyoming Department of Health issued recommendations for upcoming school year:
 - WDH recommends that schools follow CDC guidance released July 27, 2021--This guidance urges in-person learning, spacing of at least 3' between students, and mask use, regardless of vaccination status, or community transmission status. (Previous recommendation was masking just for those unvaccinated.)
 - There are no current orders in place at this time, and no plans for orders.
 - “How the CDC distancing and masking recommendations will be implemented will be determined by each school district, in consultation with public health. Exceptions and variances are not applicable at this time because there are no public health orders in place.”
 - The federal order requiring that masks be worn on public transportation, including school buses, remains in place.
 - WDH will continue to conduct contact tracing and require that individuals who have COVID-19 and who have been exposed to COVID-19 remain out of school (in other words, we will continue to implement isolation and quarantine). Individuals who are fully vaccinated or who have been diagnosed with COVID in the prior three months and are exposed are not recommended to quarantine, but the new recommendation is that they be tested 3-5 days after a known exposure, and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. For unvaccinated individuals in schools, if both the person with COVID-19 and the person who is exposed are wearing masks, then the person exposed does not need to quarantine; this is consistent with our protocols from last year and is now consistent with CDC guidance for K-12 settings.
 - WDH has released guidance and resources for testing in schools, which can also be found on the Information and Guidance page:

<https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/WDH-Testing-Resources-and-Guidance-for-K-12-Schools.pdf>. Schools can opt to provide diagnostic and/or screening testing for staff and students and WDH can provide all resources necessary for the testing. This document describes the resources available and recommended protocols.

- Please note that WDH can provide both testing supplies and funding for schools to hire additional staff to assist with testing, contact tracing, and other COVID prevention activities

- CDC/WDH Updates:
 - CDC now recommends fully vaccinated individuals wear masks in public indoor settings in areas with substantial or high community transmission. The indicators CDC uses to measure transmission differ somewhat from those WDH uses. For example, WDH calculates metrics over 14 days instead of 7, and WDH takes into account the number of active cases to account for smaller counties where relatively few cases can cause large changes in rates. To account for these differences, WDH recommends that fully vaccinated individuals who live in counties in the yellow, orange, or red zones according to WDH metrics wear masks in public indoor settings. (Uinta County in Red.)
 - WDH metrics can be found on this page and are updated weekly: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-orders-and-guidance/>
 - Fully vaccinated people might choose to mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease, or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.
 - While fully vaccinated individuals still do not need to quarantine after an exposure, CDC now recommends fully vaccinated people be tested 3-5 days following a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
 - Fully vaccinated people who live in a household with someone who is immunosuppressed, at increased risk of severe disease, or unvaccinated (including children <12 years of age) could also consider masking at

home for 14 days following a known exposure or until they receive a negative test result.

- Most fully vaccinated people with no COVID-like symptoms do not need to quarantine or be restricted from work following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 if they wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days after exposure or if they receive a negative test result from a test taken 3-5 days after exposure. They should isolate if they test positive.
- Statewide Public Health Orders & Guidance:
No public health orders are currently in place. No limits on gathering sizes, no requirements for masking. Masking recommendations remain.

□ **Resource Update:**

Reminder that COVID Testing, Treatment and Vaccination are free if uninsured.

Rent and Utility Assistance available now through ECDC (Emergency Rental Assistance Program.) For households unable to make rent and/or utility payments as a result of the pandemic.

“ERAP will provide direct financial assistance to landlords and utility companies on behalf of renters who, because of COVID, are in arrears and/or unable to make on-going rental payments. Eligibility is based on income, impacts of COVID-19, and risk of homelessness or housing instability. The goal is to start taking applications in April 2021.

Please help us get the word out about this program to ensure that every eligible Wyoming resident knows about the program.”

COVID-19 Funeral Assistance: Through Fema. Contact us if you would like information.

For more information about this assistance, visit [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov/covid-19-funeral-assistance).

□ **Community Hero:** Students!

□ **Useful Links:**

- *WDH:* <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-map-and-statistics/>
- *Wyoming Information Sharing Platform:*
<https://wohs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=42fd398fa8f449fb930f2d3755c5a1bb>
Also, here is the CDC Coronavirus website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Kim Proffit, Nurse Manager,

Uinta County COVID-19 Co-Incident Commander