

Yakima County COVID-19 Trends Report

January 3, 2022 - January 10, 2022

Overview

The Yakima Health District is publishing this report weekly to provide more information on current trends in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths in Yakima County. This report also includes data on COVID-19 breakthrough cases. The data referenced in this report comes from the Yakima Health District's internal database, the Washington Disease Reporting System (WDRS), and the Washington Immunization Information Systems (WAIS). Note that the data on this report is preliminary and may change based on additional reporting.

Considerations for COVID-19 Breakthrough Data

While fully vaccinated individuals may still become infected with COVID-19, multiple factors determine the proportion of COVID-19 cases among fully vaccinated persons:

- **Breakthrough infections are expected to occur as more individuals become vaccinated**
 - When a larger proportion of the population is fully vaccinated, the expected proportion of cases among fully vaccinated individuals is also larger.
- **New COVID-19 variants may affect the proportion of breakthrough infections**
 - In late July, the Delta variant became the dominant variant in Washington and likely contributed to the increase in breakthrough cases that was observed over the summer due to its ability to spread faster than previous strains. On December 3, 2021, the Washington State Department of Health detected a new, more contagious variant called Omicron which has now become the dominant variant and is likely contributing to another surge in breakthrough cases.
- **While the COVID-19 vaccines remain effective in preventing severe illness due to COVID-19, they are not 100% effective against infection of COVID-19**
 - Preventative measures such as the use of face masks, social distancing, and testing remain important to help maximize protection against current variants and reduce the spread of the virus in areas with high or substantial levels of community transmission.
- **Waning immunity may occur over time.**
 - Waning immunity from the vaccine may occur due to the combination of decreasing protection as time passes since getting vaccinated, as well as the greater infectiousness of COVID-19 variants. Additionally, waning immunity appears to be more common among older individuals.



For additional COVID-19 data, visit:

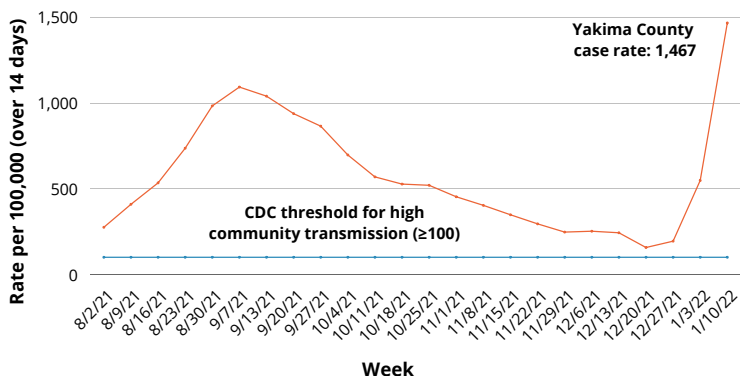
www.yakimacounty.us/2404/Data-Summary

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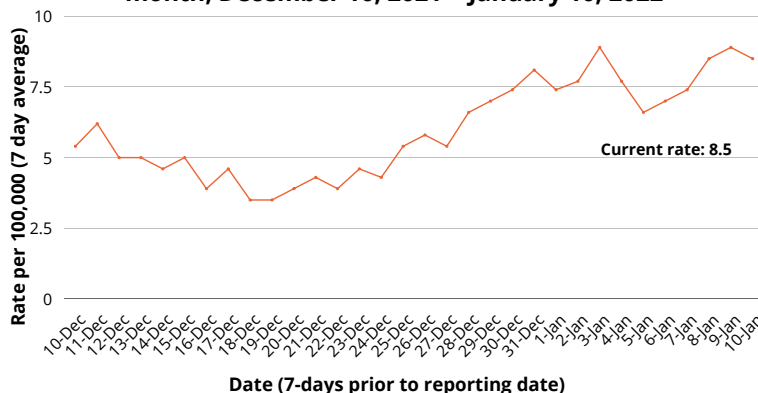
COVID-19 Cases

COVID-19 case rate by week, August 2, 2021 - January 10, 2022



COVID-19 Hospitalizations

COVID-19 Hospitalization rate, 7-day average for past month, December 10, 2021 - January 10, 2022



Key Observations

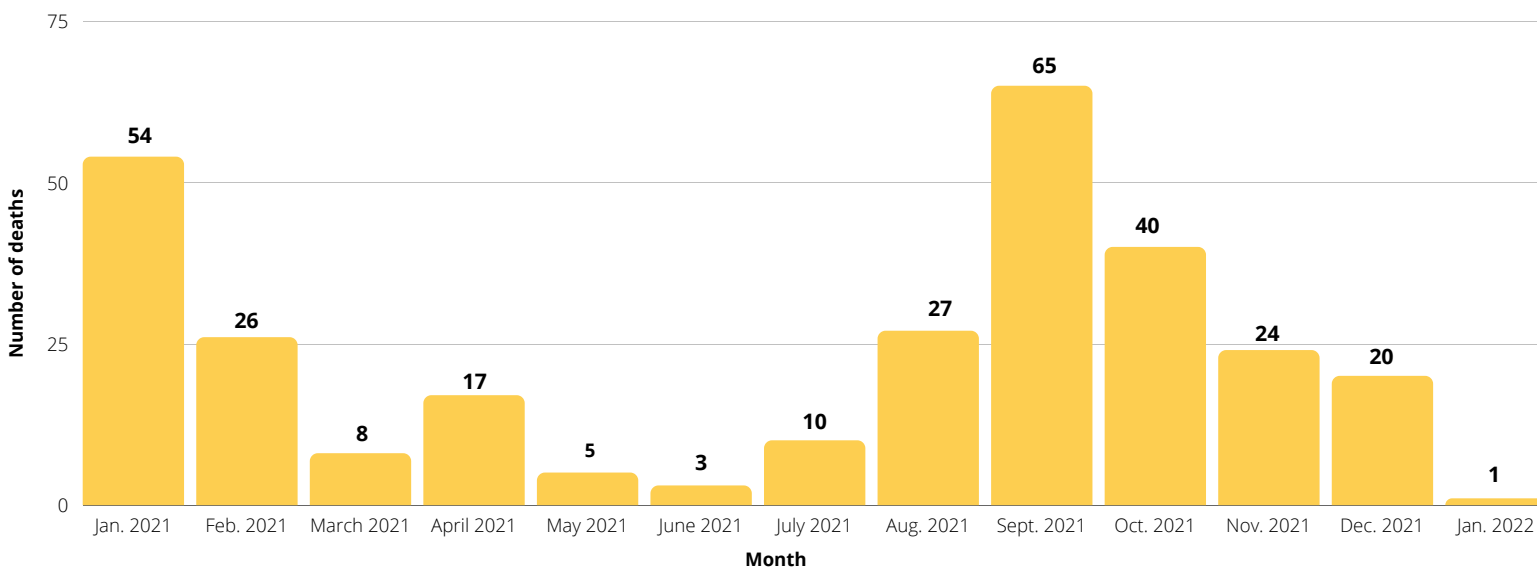
Yakima County continues to experience a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases. Between 1/3 and 1/10, the COVID-19 case rate increased from 548 to 1,467 cases per 100,000. An increase in cases of this magnitude has not been observed since the beginning of the pandemic. As of 1/11, individuals ages 0-19 accounted for 21% of all confirmed cases in Yakima County. This represents a slight increase in cases since the the last report in December.

Key Observations

Between 1/3 and 1/10, the 7-day average hospitalization rate increased from 3.1 to 8.5 per 100,000. The number current COVID-19 hospitalizations is 35, which is 11 more than the previous week. Individuals 65 and older account for the highest number of COVID-19 hospitalizations in January thus far.

COVID-19 Deaths

Figure 3. Total COVID-19 deaths by month, January 2021 - January 2022



Key Observations

While COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have increased, COVID-19 deaths have remained low. Since the last report, there has been one death due to COVID-19 reported in the month of January, with the average age of death being 70 years old.

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COVID-19 Breakthrough Cases

Figure 4. COVID-19 cases by vaccination status, January, 2021 - January, 2022

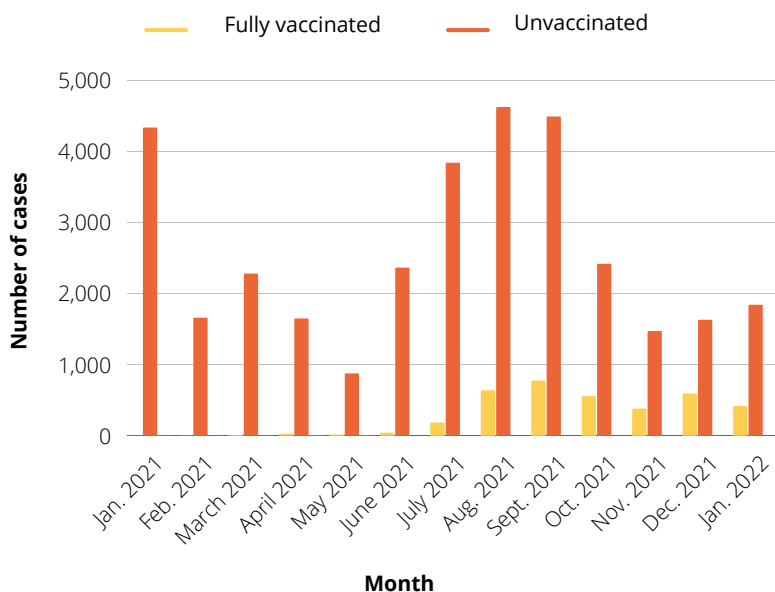


Table 1. COVID-19 cases by vaccination status, January, 2021 - January, 2022

Month	Fully vaccinated	Unvaccinated	Total
Jan. 2021	1 (0%)	4,326 (100%)	4,327 (100%)
Feb. 2021	3 (0%)	1,655 (100%)	1,658 (100%)
March 2021	10 (0%)	2,276 (100%)	2,286 (100%)
April 2021	28 (2%)	1,645 (98%)	1,673 (100%)
May 2021	17 (2%)	873 (98%)	890 (100%)
June 2021	44 (2%)	2,356 (98%)	2,400 (100%)
July 2021	186 (5%)	3,830 (95%)	4,016 (100%)
Aug. 2021	639 (12%)	4,613 (88%)	5,252 (100%)
Sept. 2021	775 (15%)	4,480 (85%)	5,255 (100%)
Oct. 2021	556 (19%)	2,409 (81%)	2,965 (100%)
Nov. 2021	380 (21%)	1,465 (79%)	1,845 (100%)
Dec. 2021	591 (27%)	1,623 (73%)	2,214 (100%)
Jan. 2022	418 (19%)	1,834 (81%)	2,252 (100%)

Key Observations

To date, there have been 3,648 breakthrough cases identified in Yakima County, with cases remaining the highest among the 39-49 year age ranges. Over the last week, there has been a large increase in breakthrough cases. Fully vaccinated individuals are strongly recommended to obtain a booster dose if eligible and follow other prevention measures such as wearing well-fitted masks, avoiding indoor crowded spaces, and getting tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or are exposed to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Breakthrough Cases and Hospitalizations

Figure 5. COVID-19 Hospitalizations by COVID-19 Vaccination Status, February, 2021 - January, 2022

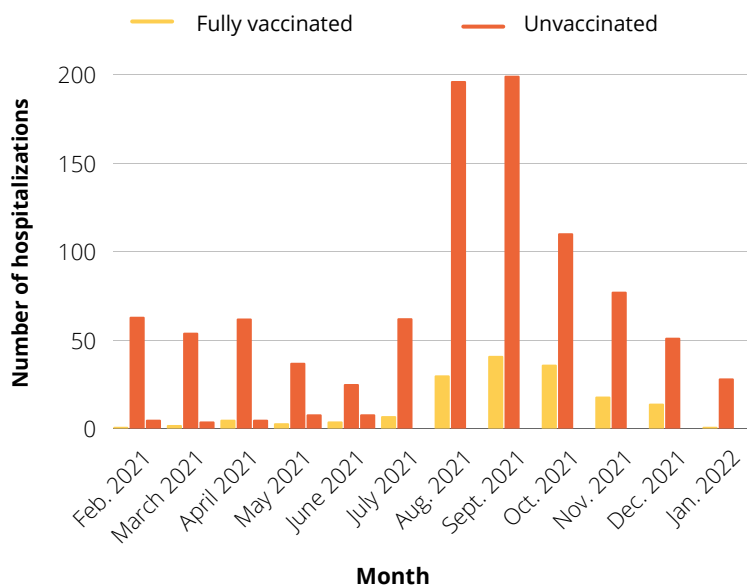


Table 2. COVID-19 Hospitalizations by COVID-19 Vaccination Status, February, 2021 - January, 2022

Month	Fully Vaccinated	Unvaccinated	Total
Feb. 2021	1 (2%)	63 (98%)	64 (100%)
March 2021	2 (4%)	54 (96%)	56 (100%)
April 2021	5 (7%)	62 (93%)	67 (100%)
May 2021	3 (8%)	37 (92%)	40 (100%)
June 2021	4 (14%)	25 (86%)	29 (100%)
July 2021	7 (10%)	62 (90%)	69 (100%)
Aug. 2021	30 (13%)	196 (87%)	226 (100%)
Sept. 2021	41 (17%)	199 (83%)	240 (100%)
Oct. 2021	36 (25%)	110 (75%)	146 (100%)
Nov. 2021	18 (19%)	77 (81%)	95 (100%)
Dec. 2021	14 (22%)	51 (78%)	65 (100%)
Jan. 2022	1 (3%)	28 (97%)	29 (100%)

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COVID-19 Breakthrough Cases and Deaths

Figure 6. COVID-19 Deaths by COVID-19 Vaccination Status, January 2021 - January 2022

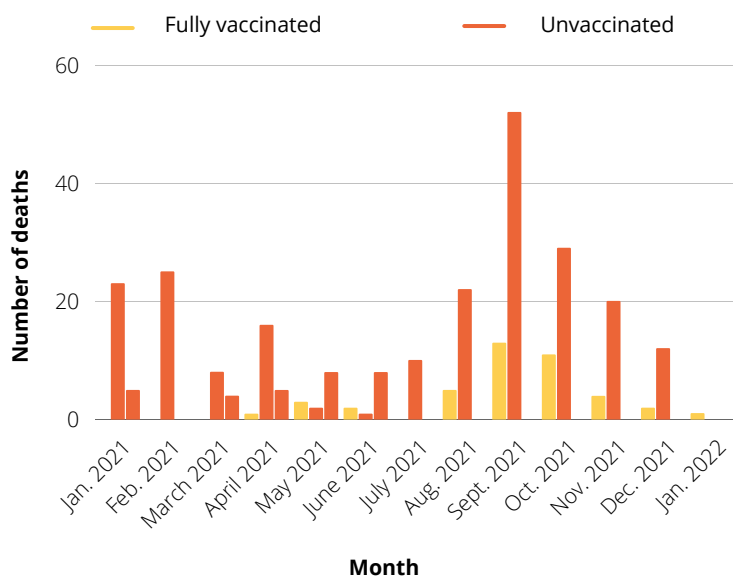


Table 3. COVID-19 Deaths by COVID-19 Vaccination Status, January 2021 - January 2022

Month	Fully vaccinated	Unvaccinated	Total
Jan. 2021	0 (0%)	23 (100%)	23 (100%)
Feb. 2021	0 (0%)	25 (100%)	25 (100%)
March 2021	0 (0%)	8 (100%)	8 (100%)
April 2021	1 (6%)	16 (94%)	17 (100%)
May 2021	3 (60%)	2 (40%)	5 (100%)
June 2021	2 (67%)	1 (33%)	3 (100%)
July 2021	0 (0%)	10 (100%)	10 (100%)
Aug. 2021	5 (19%)	22 (81%)	27 (100%)
Sept. 2021	13 (20%)	52 (80%)	65 (100%)
Oct. 2021	11 (27%)	29 (73%)	40 (100%)
Nov. 2021	4 (17%)	20 (83%)	24 (100%)
Dec. 2021	3 (15%)	17 (85%)	20 (100%)
Jan. 2022	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)

Key Observations

To date, there have been 162 hospitalizations and 43 deaths among fully vaccinated individuals in Yakima County. Of the 43 who were fully vaccinated and died; 43 (100%) had underlying health conditions. The age range of those who have died continues to be 35-94. While breakthrough cases have increased in the last week, COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths among fully vaccinated individuals have remained relatively low. At present, COVID-19 vaccination continues to provide strong protection against severe illness and death due to COVID-19.

Definitions

- **COVID-19 case:** An individual who tested positive for COVID-19 with a positive molecular COVID-19 test, including a PCR and antigen test.
- **COVID-19 hospitalization:** An individual with confirmed COVID-19 who have been identified as being hospitalized through case investigation data in WDRS or linkage with with Rapid Health Information Network (RHINO) records.
- **COVID-19 death:** An individual who tested positive for COVID-19 and died due to complications from COVID-19. This data has been ascertained by internal YHD data.
- A **fully vaccinated individual** is someone who is ≥ 14 days post-completion of the primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- An **unvaccinated individual** is someone who has not received an approved COVID-19 vaccine, or has not completed a COVID-19 vaccine series.
- A **breakthrough case** is defined as an instance when an individual who is fully vaccinated tests positive for COVID-19 at least 14 days after they have completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series. Partially vaccinated individuals are not counted as breakthrough cases because they are not fully vaccinated.