

Health and Safety Update

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Community Levels tool helps guide mitigation steps. Levels can be low, medium, or high. The CDC uses a combination of three metrics based on the past seven days—new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population, the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population—to determine the COVID-19 community level as shown in the following chart taken from the CDC website.

COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community				
New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

The chart below aligns the COVID-19 community levels with CDC recommendations in the second column and MPS mask requirement in the third column. The MPS mask requirement will align with the CDC community level for Milwaukee County.

COVID-19 Community Level	CDC Recommendations	MPS Mask Requirement
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms 	Masks are optional
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms 	Masks are optional
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear a mask indoors in public Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms 	Masks required in all MPS buildings

The CDC also recommends the following to protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- Get vaccinated and stay up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines
- Physically distance
- Test to prevent spread to others
- Wash your hands often
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect
- Monitor your health daily
- Quarantine at home for five (5) days and wear a mask for five (5) days upon returning to school or work