

North Office

3328 U.S. Hwy 51 N
Janesville, WI 53545-0772
Mailing Address:
PO Box 1088
Janesville, WI 53547-1088

608-757-5440
608-758-8423 (fax)



Public Health

www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth

South Office

61 Eclipse Center
Beloit, WI 53511

608-364-2010
608-364-2011 (fax)

NEWS RELEASE

To: Local Media
From: Marie-Noel Sandoval, MPH, Health Officer
Date: April 23rd, 2020

COVID-19 Weekday Update

As of today at 2:00pm, there have been 5,052 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Wisconsin. Statewide, 257 individuals have died due to complications related to COVID-19. In Rock County, there have been a total of 99 confirmed positive cases and four deaths. There have been a minimum of 1,399 negative tests results reported in our county.

Please visit our website, www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth for additional local COVID-19 information updated daily.

COVID-19 "Recovered" Information

Beginning today, on our website, the Rock County Public Health Department will report the number of recovered COVID-19 cases, using a preliminary definition for recovery. A person is considered recovered if it has been at least 30 days since they tested positive for COVID-19 (based on the date the health department received the laboratory report) and they have reported no symptoms for at least 72 hours to a public health nurse.

It's tough to know for sure when someone recovering and isolating at home has recovered from COVID-19. Because the majority of COVID-19 patients are able to recover at home, there isn't a way to systematically capture when every single person gets better. Recovery from COVID-19 can take time, and varies by person. Some may never fully "recover", or feel exactly as they did before becoming infected with the virus. Nationwide, there are many instances of people recovering from symptoms and several days later experiencing symptoms again, making determining who has recovered even more complicated.

We are excited to share this positive piece of data with you, but please be aware that the definition is subject to change as we continue to collaborate with Wisconsin Department of Health Services on a universal definition of COVID-19 recovery.

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