

New CDC Guidance Feb. 2021

- Provides new **CDC Indicators and Thresholds for Community Transmission of COVID-19**
- Replaces previous “CDC Indicators for Dynamic School Decision Making” which AAPS used in the fall to guide development of metrics
- Ties community spread data directly with school operations guidance
- Adds **student and staff COVID-19 testing guidance**
- Updates/repackages school **mitigation strategies**
- Adds vaccination as an additional layer of protection

CDC: New Indicators & Thresholds

NAATs =
nucleic acid
amplification tests
(PCR tests)

Table 1. CDC Indicators and Thresholds for Community Transmission of COVID-19¹

Indicator	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days ²	0-9	10-49	50-99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs that are positive during the past 7 days ³	<5.0%	5.0%-7.9%	8.0%-9.9%	≥10.0%

¹If the two indicators suggest different levels, the actions corresponding to the higher threshold should be chosen. County-level data on total new cases in the past 7 days and test percent positivity are available on the County View tab in [CDC's COVID Data Tracker](#).

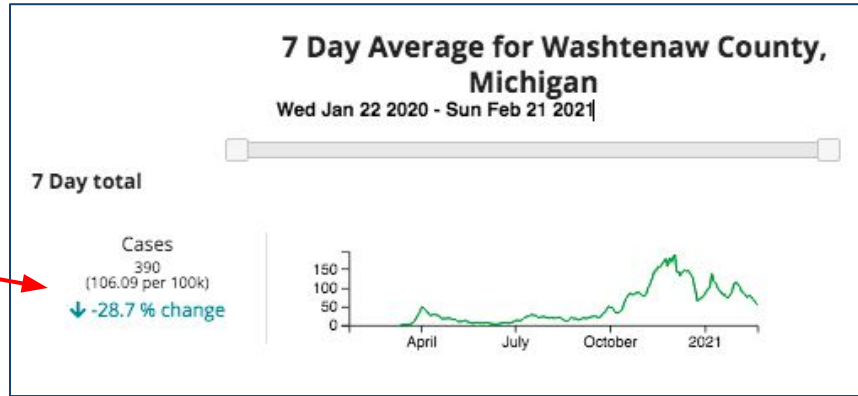
²Total number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 7 days is calculated by adding the number of new cases in the county (or other community type) in the last 7 days divided by the population in the county (or other community type) and multiplying by 100,000.

³Percentage of positive diagnostic and screening NAATs during the last 7 days is calculated by dividing the number of positive tests in the county (or other administrative level) during the last 7 days by the total number of tests resulted over the last 7 days. Additional information can be found on the [Calculating Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\) Laboratory Test Percent Positivity: CDC Methods and Considerations for Comparisons and Interpretation](#) webpage.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html#mitigation-strategies>

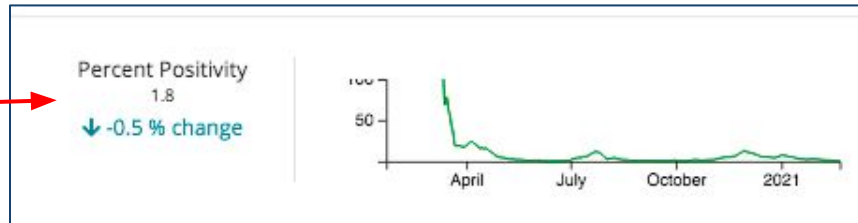
CDC: Washtenaw County Data

7 day total cases
390, or 106.09
per 100K



High Transmission Red
≥100
≥10.0%

Percent positivity
1.8%



Low Transmission Blue
0-9
<5.0%

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>



CDC Operational Guidance Based on Thresholds

With Mitigation Measures
and Diagnostic Testing...

AAPS Hybrid Plan
Elementary Stages 1-3

AAPS Hybrid Plan Secondary
Stage 4

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html#mitigation-strategies>

Table 2. Recommended Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and K-12 School Learning Modes by Level of Community Transmission for Schools That Do Not Implement Expanded Screening Testing

Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
<p>All schools: Universal and correct use of masks is required; physical distancing; handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine.</p> <p>Diagnostic testing²: Symptomatic students, teachers, and staff and close contacts referred for diagnostic testing</p>			
<p>K-12 schools open for full in-person instruction Physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible³</p>		<p>Elementary schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance⁴ Physical distancing of 6 feet or more is required</p>	
		<p>Middle and high schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance Physical distancing of 6 feet or more is required</p>	<p>Middle and high schools in virtual only instruction unless they can strictly implement all mitigation strategies, and have few cases; schools that are already open for in-person instruction can remain open, but only if they strictly implement mitigation strategies and have few cases⁵</p>

CDC 5 Key Mitigation Strategies

AAPS Super Six and other protocols

1. Universal masking

✓ Universal masking

2. Physical distancing

✓ Physical distancing

3. Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette

✓ *Supplies and signage for hand hygiene are included under cleaning and facilities protocols*

4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities

✓ *Cleaning and facilities protocols*

5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the local health department

✓ Public health protocols include prescreening, staying home when sick, contact tracing, and support for students who become ill during the school day

✓ *Cohorting - groups of students and staff with minimal interactions with others in building*

✓ *Ventilation Upgrades - exceeds standard for air change/hour from Harvard School of Public Health*