

# OKALOOSA COUNTY COVID-19 KEY METRICS

## Week 36

The information in this report is collected and monitored daily and updated weekly to the community. As of September 6, 2020, 4,410 COVID-19 cases are reported for Okaloosa County, an increase of 257 cases since August 30, 2020.

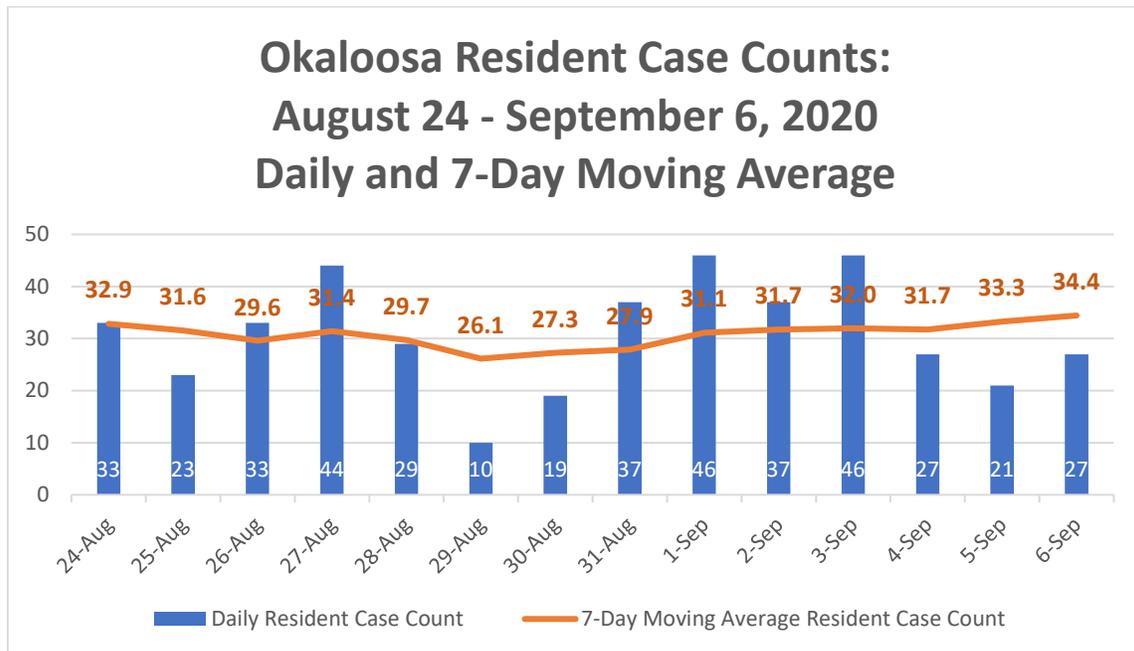
**New Confirmed or Probable COVID-19+ Resident Cases over past 14 days:**

Reports daily number and 7-day moving average of confirmed (PCR+) or probable (Antigen+) cases.

**RATIONALE:** Daily new cases reflect the proportion of the outbreak captured by surveillance systems. Number of new cases gives a sense of the size of the epidemic/outbreak in Okaloosa County.

**TARGET:** Decreasing case count over 14 days or at a low level (as defined by CDC\* as below 10 cases per 100,000 population over 2 weeks).

\*CDC Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President’s Plan for Opening Up America Again. May 2020. Low incidence plateau defined as a very low number of new cases (below 10 cases per 100,000 population over 2 weeks with only minimal change in daily cases).



New resident case counts have essentially been static with no significant increase or decline over the past two weeks.

This lack of change is reinforced by the cases per 100,000 population staying essentially static over the past two weeks.

- Total Cases in 2 weeks (August 24 – September 6) = 432 (up 16 cases in a two-week period)
- Rate: **205 cases/100,000 population 2-week period**
- Okaloosa Population = 210,000

Based on the rate of cases per 100,000 population disease burden in Okaloosa remains elevated over the past two-week period.

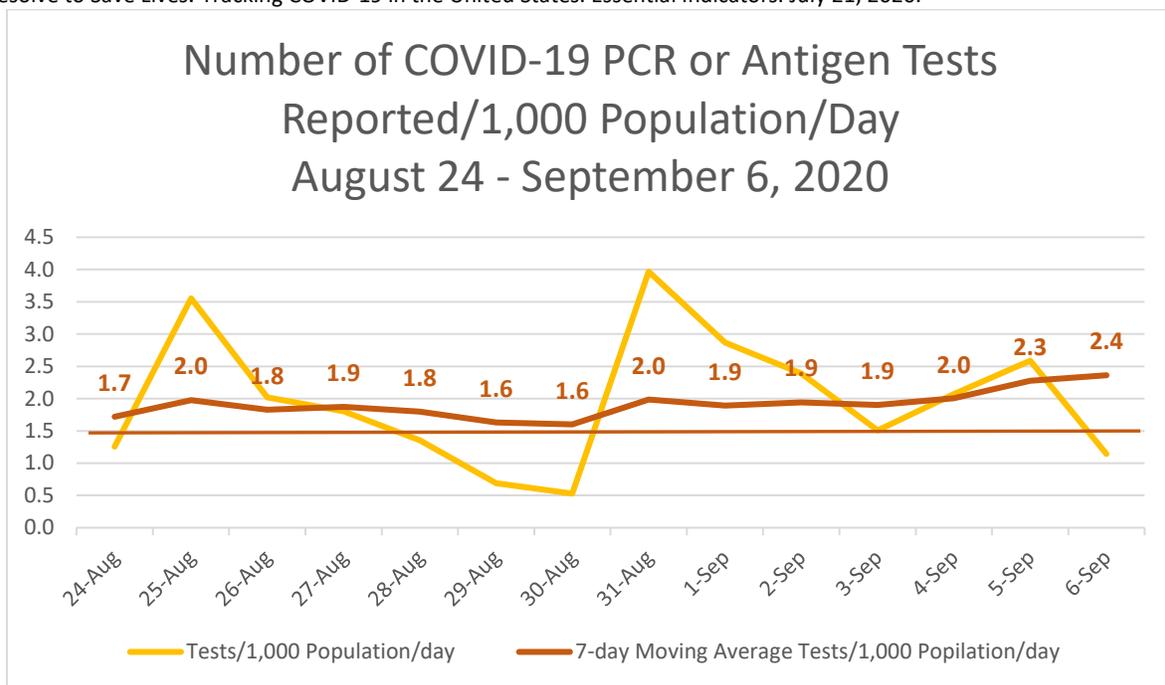
**COVID-19 Diagnostic (PCR) and Screening (Antigen) Testing Per Capita**

Reports daily and 7-day moving average total test results received / 1,000 population / day.

**RATIONALE:** The number of cases and percent of positive tests can be interpreted only with comprehensive surveillance and testing of suspect cases in the order of 1.5 /1,000 population/day.

**TARGET:** 1.5 tests / 1,000 population / day\*

\*Resolve to Save Lives. Tracking COVID-19 in the United States. Essential Indicators. July 21, 2020.



The decline in testing has flattened and remains above the target of 1.5 tests (positive and negative results) per 1,000 population per day based on the 7-day moving average.

There is adequate testing of the population to be able to interpret the burden of disease in the County based on the case count and the percentage of positive COVID-19 diagnostic or screening tests received.

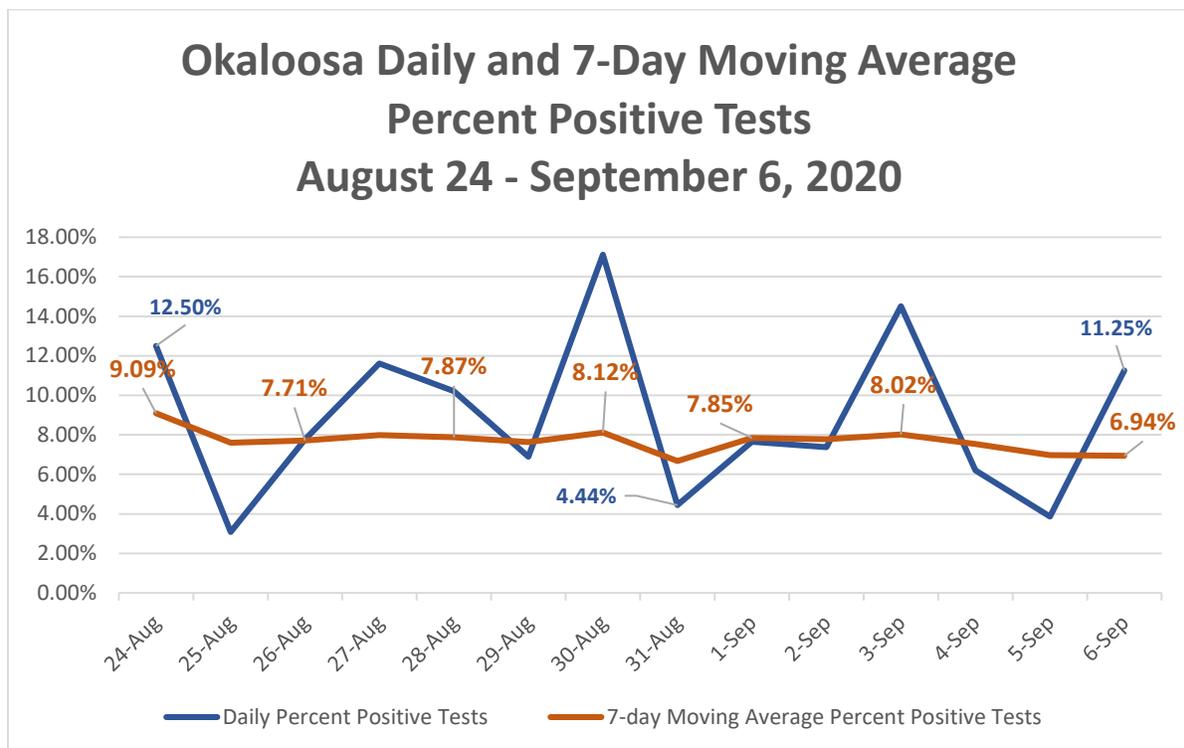
## **Percent Positive COVID-19 Tests:**

Reports daily and 7-day moving average percentage of all positive COVID-19 diagnostic and screening tests (regardless of provider) for Okaloosa County residents.

**RATIONALE:** Test positivity is an important indicator of the burden of disease in the area (county). The percent of positive tests can be interpreted only with comprehensive surveillance and testing of suspect cases in the order of 1.5 /1,000 population/day, which Okaloosa County achieves (see above metric).

**TARGET:** 5% or less of tests for COVID-19 are positive for at least 2 weeks.

\*WHO. Public Health criteria to adjust public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19. May 2020.



This indicator remains relatively static for the past two-week period although in the past two days there has been a dip below 7%. Okaloosa remains above the <5% target.

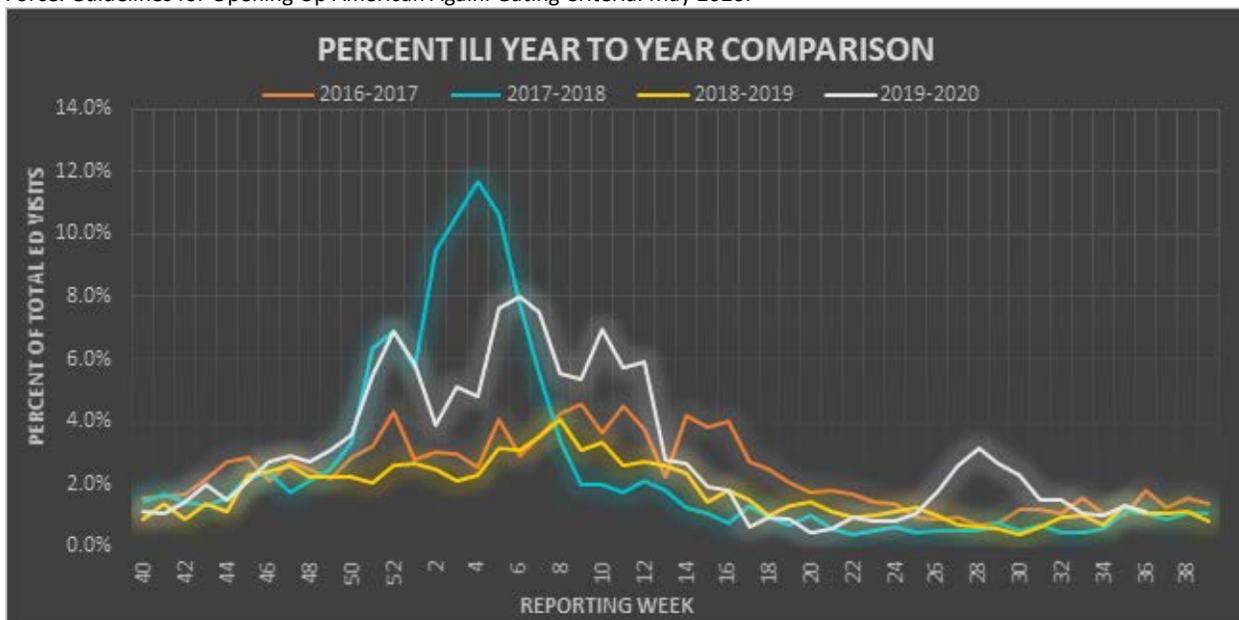
## Influenza-Like Illness

Activity levels are based on the percent of emergency department visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) compared with past year activity at the same time of the year.

**RATIONALE:** This type of syndromic surveillance\* is used to monitor trends in emergency department visits and can be used to potentially detect a rise in COVID-19 cases before a rise in confirmed cases occurs. ILI is defined as fever (temperature of 100° F or greater with cough and/or sore throat without a known cause other than influenza).

**TARGET:** At or below baseline for the time of year based on past year trends for percent of ILI visits to emergency departments.

\*Resolve to Save Lives. Tracking COVID-19 in the United States. Essential Indicators. July 21, 2020. White House Coronavirus Task Force. Guidelines for Opening Up American Again. Gating Criteria. May 2020.



As of Week 36, percentage of emergency department visits for ILI is at baseline for this time of year.

WEEK	VISITS ILI/Total	% ILI of Total ED Visits	WEEK	VISITS ILI/Total	% ILI of Total ED visits
Week 27	57/2184	2.61%	Week 32	32/2107	1.52%
Week 28	71/2274	3.12%	Week 33	21/2015	1.04%
Week 29	59/2194	2.69%	Week 34	19/1918	0.99%
Week 30	48/2117	2.27%	Week 35	26/1974	1.32%
Week 31	32/2117	1.51%	Week 36	22/1984	1.11%

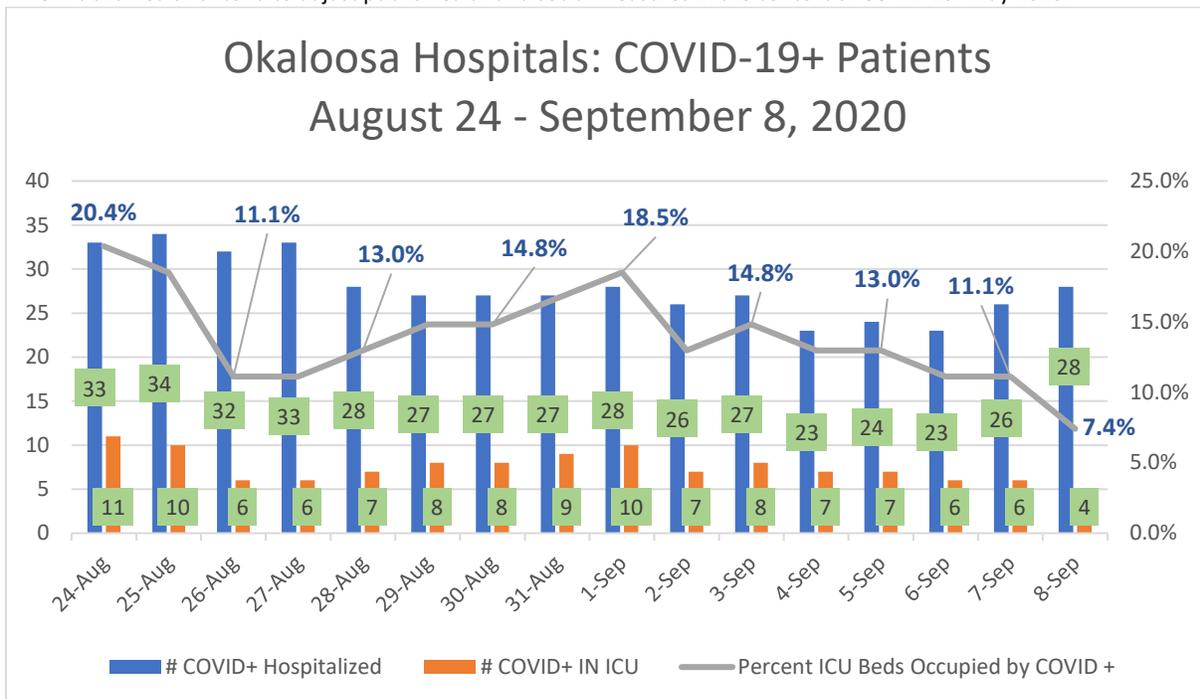
## COVID-19 Hospital Admits

Number of COVID+ Hospitalized; Number of COVID+ in ICU; and percentage of ICU beds occupied by COVID+ patients.

**RATIONALE\***: Declining hospitalization and use of ICU beds indicates a decline in the number of cases in community, with an approximately ~1-week lag and providing that the criteria for hospitalization has not changed.

**TARGET**: Continuous decline in the number of hospitalized and ICU admissions of confirmed (PCR test) or probable (Antigen) COVID-19 cases for at least the past two weeks.

\*WHO. Public Health criteria to adjust public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19. May 2020.



COVID-19 hospitalizations have continued to decline through the end of August but have been relatively stable at an average of 25 per day for the month of September. Most notable in this past week is the decline in the number of persons with COVID-19 needing an ICU bed. COVID-19 patients occupy about 7.1% of all staffed hospital beds as of September 8.

## **Deaths**

As of September 6, 2020, Okaloosa County has 88 COVID-19 deaths. This is an increase of 11 deaths reported since Week 35. Most of the newly reported deaths (72.7%) occurred to persons 75 years and older.

AGE GROUP	DEATHS	PERCENT	CHANGE FROM 8/30
25-34 YEARS	4	5%	+0
45-54 YEARS	5	6%	+0
55-64 YEARS	9	10%	+0
65-74 YEARS	11	13%	+3
75-84 YEARS	26	30%	+2
85+ YEARS	33	38%	+6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88</b>		<b>+11</b>

## **Long-Term Care Facilities**

As of September 7, 2020, Okaloosa has two long-term care facilities which have 23 COVID-19+ residents under their care. This is down 33 cases from last week. In addition, another 33 COVID-19+ residents were transferred to other out of county long-term care facilities for ongoing care. There is only one long-term care facility with 5 or more resident COVID-19+ cases (#20). Seven long-term care facilities have 19 COVID-19+ staff.

## **SUMMARY**

The good news this week for Okaloosa County:

- Hospitalizations for COVID-19 have not increased and are essentially stable
- The need for ICU beds by COVID-19 patients has been declining over the past week
- The number of long-term care facilities with COVID-19 positive residents is substantially lower
- The total number of long-term care facility staff with COVID-19 has also declined

Okaloosa can continue to push this outbreak curve downward through adherence to personal protective measures:

- Washing hands for at least 20 seconds and washing hands often
- Avoid groups of people and close contact with others
- When outside the home practice physical distancing (at least 6 feet)
- Cover your mouth and nose with an appropriate face mask
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Monitor your health daily, which includes staying home when you have COVID-like symptoms or are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test

These protective measures all work together to reduce the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. **This list of personal protective measures is NOT an ala carte menu. The entire list must be practiced; all are necessary.** Using some of the practices is not enough to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus. All must be used together in order to provide personal protection for yourself and those around you.

On August 31, 2020, the Okaloosa County School District returned approximately 77% of their students back to brick and mortar classroom instruction. As of 2:30 PM CT on Tuesday September 8, 2020:

- 27 cases (18 students and 9 staff members) of COVID-19 have been identified since the start of the district's school year:
  - The close contacts of these cases include 81 students and 9 staff members (total excluded = 90) and were placed in quarantine based on the last day of exposure to the case
  - Most of the close contact exposures occurred in a non-school setting
  - All the new cases acquired COVID-19 prior to the start of school
- Four of the 27 cases resulted in close contact exposure at school resulting in 52 students and 6 staff members being placed in quarantine (total excluded due to school exposure = 60)
  - The 60 people excluded due to these four cases is a subset of the 90 individuals excluded for all cases