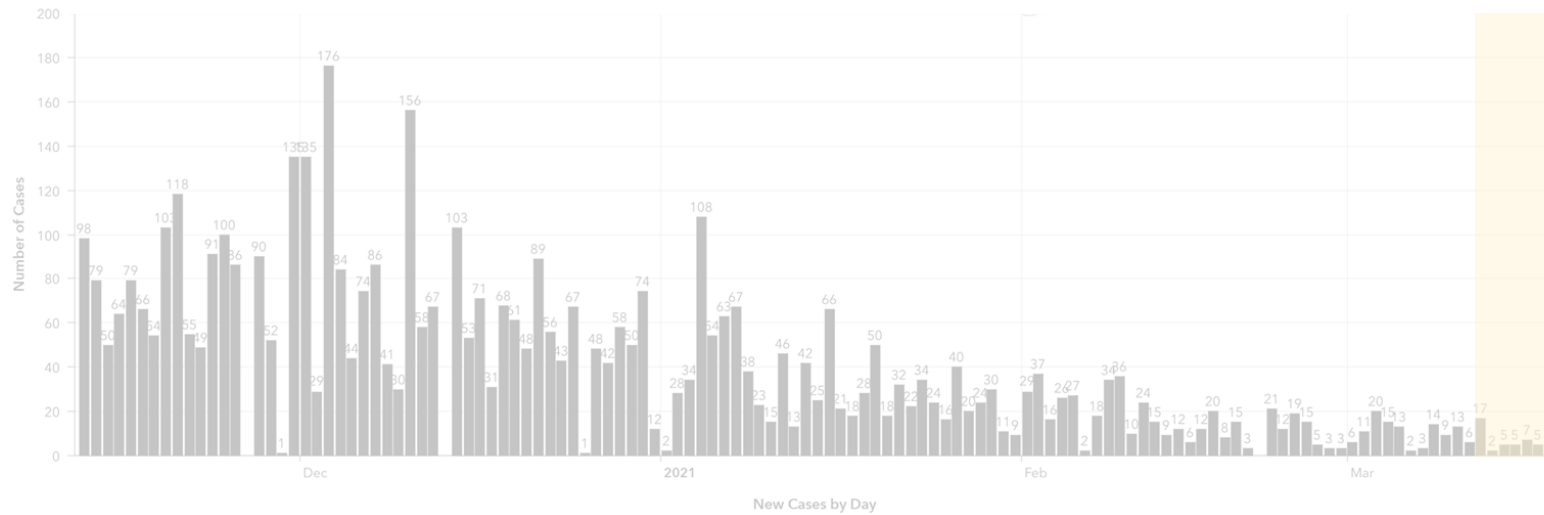




Weekly Report: Monitored Health Indicators
 March 19th, 2021: (03/12 to 03/18)



Note: Data run on a Friday to Thursday cycle. Composite data is reported on Friday but reflects totals from the seven previous days. Positive cases reported on a given day reflect testing results compiled from the previous day.

Monitored Health Indicators: Weekly Data

Local Metrics*	12/11	12/18	12/25	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29	2/5	2/12	2/19	2/26	3/5	3/12	3/19
Positive county cases per day	76.7 (avg)	73.0 (avg)	56.4 (avg)	49.7 (avg)	43.5 (avg)	35.4 (avg)	32.2 (avg)	27.2 (avg)	22.5 (avg)	22.4 (avg)	11.5 (avg)	12.1 (avg)	9.4 (avg)	8.7 (avg)	6.7 (avg)
Positive county cases per day (per 100,000)	111.1	105.7	81.7	72.0	63.1	51.3	46.7	39.5	32.7	32.5	16.7	17.5	13.6	12.6	9.7
Positive county cases per week	537	511	395	348	305	248	226	191	158	157	81	85	66	61	47
Positive county cases per week (per 100,000)	778.2	740.5	572.4	504.3	441.0	359.4	327.5	276.8	228.9	227.5	117.3	123.1	95.6	88.4	68.1
Positivity rate for week	26.5%	12.1%	15.4%	29.2%	19.0%	15.2%	14.7%	14.5%	10.2%	8.7%	9.1%	8.8%	7.5%	7.8%	TBD
District Metrics	12/11	12/18	12/25	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29	2/5	2/12	2/19	2/26	3/5	3/12	3/19
Confirmed Student Cases (week)	33	35	12	8	24	16	25	29	19	5	11	10	7	3	1
Confirmed Employee Cases (week)	9	17	2	9	6	8	7	6	2	6	1	3	2	2	0
Vacancies (week)	370	423	NA	NA	275	283	164	292	291	333	235	275	320	340	262
Fill Rate (week)	84%	85%	NA	NA	90%	90%	81%	83%	74%	74%	85%	92%	85%	86%	94%
Employees Impacted by Quarantine (current number)											15	17	16	9	9
Identified Close Contacts (Classroom)											Start 2/26	14	11	3	5
Identified Close Contacts (Non-Classroom)											Start 2/26	0	0	5	0

Monitored Health Indicators: Definitions

Local Metrics	Definitions
Positive county cases (day)	The average number of cases from the last seven (7) days.
Positive county cases (day per 100,000)	This data point is based on the below-noted Positive County Cases (week per 100,000) metric. This data point is a simple seven-day average based on the corresponding week/seven-day number.
Positive county cases per (week)	The raw number of confirmed, reported cases within Lewis & Clark County across the last seven (7) days.
Positive county cases (week per 100,000)	Often referred to as “case incidence,” this data point is based on the above-noted, Positive Cases Per Week metric. This per 100,000 residents number has been scaled to equate our county population to 100,000 residents.
Positivity rate (week)	The percentage of lab-confirmed tests that are determined to be positive for COVID-19 (not the total number of positive tests)
District Metrics	Definitions
Confirmed Student Cases (week)	The total number students that have been reported confirmed positive test results for COVID-19. This number is the total from across the past seven (7) days, Saturday through Friday.
Confirmed Employee Cases (week)	The total number employees that have been reported confirmed positive test results for COVID-19. This number is the total from across the past seven (7) days, Saturday through Friday.
Vacancies (week)	The total number of employee absences (all positions) within a given week (Monday through Friday)
Fill Rate (week)	The rate of absent positions filled with a substitute/guest teacher. Unfilled positions typically require internal coverage from non-substitutes/guest teachers. Coverage is not included in this weekly rate – Only the percentage of positions filled with a substitute/guest teacher.
Employees Impacted by Quarantine (current number)	The number of employees currently impacted and unable to attend their position in-person due to a quarantine. This number is a snapshot in time representing the number of employees each Friday.
Identified Close Contacts (Classroom)	The number of students and/or employees identified as a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case, resulting in a mandatory quarantine. The “classroom” number represents close contacts identified through classroom-related exposure. The “non-classroom” number represents close contacts that results from potential exposure outside the classroom (siblings, carpools, extracurriculars, etc.)
Identified Close Contacts (Non-Classroom)	



Status Update

03/19: All of the Helena Public Schools have successfully transitioned to Phase II and currently attend school in-person on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday with Wednesday remaining a “C Day” for remote learning. As a district, we continue to monitor this phase for areas of improvement including potential format and schedule changes. At this time, Phase II remains consistent with the details that were communicated in February ([link](#)).

On Friday, 3/19, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) announced a change in their guidance from schools recommending 3 feet of distancing v. the originally cited 6 feet of distancing. At this time, it remains unknown as to whether this change will also decrease the distancing considered when assessing close contacts (quarantines). MT DPHHS will consult with the CDC and provide related direction to the local public health departments in the coming days/weeks. LCPH will issue a Health Alert when/if changes are made to contact assessment protocols.

For additional Phase II information, please consider our website and/or the below topic-specific links.

- Middle School Schedules ([link](#))
- High School Schedules ([link](#))
- Phase II Calendar ([link](#))
- Transportation Registration/Inquiries ([link](#))



Data-Informed Decisions

COVID cases in Lewis & Clark County decreased this week to a new low of 47 - a reduction of 14 cases from the previous week. This weekly total equates to a daily average of 9.7 cases per 100k residents. This is the first time that the daily per 100k rate has dropped below 10 since late September. The confirmed, county-wide test positivity increased slightly 7.8% as of March 12th but remains below the 10% threshold.

The Helena Public Schools reported one (1) confirmed COVID case this week. This single case represents the lowest weekly case total to date (other than weeks in August and September when zero (0) cases were confirmed). Employee quarantines remained stable with 9 active quarantines this week.



Professional Insights

Evidence of virus transmission within schools continues to be minimal. The single confirmed case this week resulted in five (5) confirmed close contacts resulting in student/employee quarantines.

Vaccine opportunities increased this week including several vaccine clinics specifically for education and childcare professionals. The number of HSD employees that have been able to receive their first dose (Pfizer/Moderna) or the single does of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine has increased significantly over the past ten days. Additional opportunities for education and childcare professionals are expected through the next week before vaccine opportunities open to all (ages 16+) in early April.