

## WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT SCPHD'S COVID-19 RISK LEVELS:

- The risk levels may be applied at the county level.
- **Different counties within SCPHD may be at different risk levels.** Risk levels can increase or decrease.
- In ALL risk levels, the preventive measures outlined in the Minimal Risk Level should be followed. *Always prepare for the next risk level.*
- In addition to metrics determining risk of transmission, public health officials will closely monitor and may take into consideration for movement to a different risk level the following:
  - Input from hospital partners – local hospital capacity is determined by each hospital in the region
  - Trends in COVID-19 testing, including positivity rate
  - Supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for healthcare providers/first responders
  - Epidemiological investigation and contact tracing capacity, including outbreaks associated with congregate living facilities
  - COVID-related hospitalizations and deaths
  - Syndromic surveillance of emergency department visits with COVID-like symptoms



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Last risk assessment: 1/13/2022

# Metric Definitions

and weight  
for each metric



**South Central Public Health District**

Prevent. Promote. Protect. [phd5.idaho.gov](http://phd5.idaho.gov)

Using data from December 26th to January 8th

## Positivity Rate for the County

Data is provided by Idaho Health and Welfare. This category is used mostly for context and has the least weight in the final assessment.

## Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents.

This category reflects the trending case number on a rolling 14 day average. It indicates public health's ability to keep up with investigation and contact tracing for new cases. This category has less weight than hospital capacity and more weight than the positivity rate.

## Hospital Capacity

Hospital Capacity includes the local healthcare facility's ability to treat all incoming patients, not just COVID -19 positive patients. This category has the most weight in the decision making for the final assessment.

Hospital capacity includes available staffing, available beds, available personal protective equipment, and other factors that may impact their ability to respond to medical emergencies. The final assigned capacity is determined by the local hospital in each county.

## Other Epidemiological Factors

These factors indicate public health risk. These may include SIGNIFICANT outbreaks (outbreaks that are not controlled) in healthcare centers, schools, congregate living facilities, etc. They may also include case surges that overwhelm investigation efforts.

If SCPHD identifies any concerning factors, this category will have similar weight to the hospital capacity level.

# Blaine County

Risk level: Critical

Blaine County's average new case rate and positivity rate have increased into the critical risk tier.

**Cases and positivity rate continue to trend upwards.**

The impact on the local hospital is minimal but impact on the regional hospital is critical due to staffing and space shortages. The public health district is investigating cases in the local schools and one long-term care facility.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is critical.



South Central Public Health District

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Using data from December 26th to January 8th

35.47%

Positivity Rate for the County  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

22.28

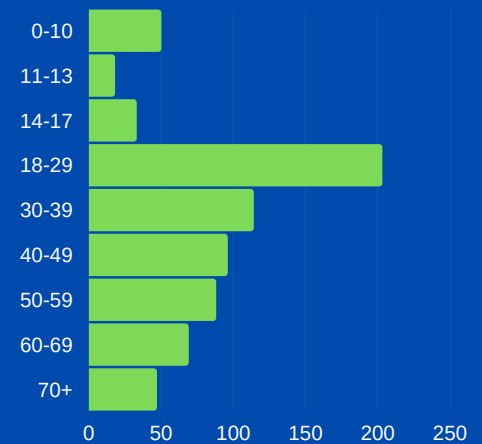
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents  
based on a 14 day rolling average.

Moderate

Hospital Capacity

Impact on the local hospital is minimal but  
impact on the regional hospital is critical.

NEW CASES BY AGE



Critical

Other Epidemiological Factors

SCPHD is investigating cases in the local schools and one long-term care facility. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

# CRITICAL

# CRITICAL RISK

1. **NEW CASES DAILY >5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)**
  2. **COVID-19 TESTING POSTIVE RATE > 20%**
- AND/OR**
3. **HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS SEVERELY IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY CANNOT BE MAINTAINED)**
  4. **CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE IMPLEMENTED**
  5. **EPIDEMIOLGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing**

**AT THE CRITICAL LEVEL, COMMUNITIES HAVE REACHED A TIPPING POINT FOR UNCONTROLLED SPREAD, SCPHD AND/OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE ALL OR SOME OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Maintain strategies from High Risk level
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements
- Consider quarantine orders (stay-at-home)
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Consider business/event/institution closures
- Consider universal social distancing requirements

# Camas County

Risk level: Moderate

Camas County's average new case rate is moderate, while the positivity rate has increased to critical.

**Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

A small population size easily affects the positivity rate, making a small number of tests inflate the positivity rate.

The regional hospital is experiencing critical impact due to staffing and space shortages.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is moderate.



Using data from December 26th to January 8th

22.22%

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

1.29

Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

No Specific Hospital

## Hospital Capacity

Hospital Capacity includes the local healthcare facility's ability to treat all incoming patients, not just COVID -19 positive patients.

NEW CASES BY AGE

Camas County did not have enough new cases in this time period to report ages without potentially identifying the individuals who tested positive.

# Critical

## Other Epidemiological Factors

Cases have not been detected in local schools or long-term care facilities. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

RISK LEVEL	METRICS MONITORED	MITIGATION STRATEGIES
<p><b>MODERATE</b></p> <p><b>MODERATE RISK</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NEW DAILY CASES IS BETWEEN 1 to 2.5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)</li> <li>2. COVID-19 TESTING POSITIVE RATE IS BETWEEN 5% to 10%</li> </ol> <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY STILL AVAILABLE)</li> </ol>	<p>AT THE MODERATE LEVEL, THERE MAY BE SPORADIC CASES, AN UPTICK IN CLOSE CONTACT TRANSMISSION, OR ISOLATED CLUSTER OUTBREAKS. SCPHD OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase education, information sharing and warning, and messaging (health advisories), continue to emphasize vaccinations</li> <li>• Extra precautions for vulnerable populations (older adults, individuals with underlying health conditions)</li> <li>• Stricter policies for staff and visitors to avoid potential outbreaks in congregate living facilities (long-term care, nursing homes, correctional facilities, etc.)</li> <li>• Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements</li> <li>• If unvaccinated, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible – avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces</li> <li>• If unvaccinated, wear face coverings in public that fully cover the nose and mouth when physical distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain</li> </ul>

# Cassia County

Risk level: High

Cassia County's average new case rate is in the moderate risk level and the positivity rate is in the high risk level.

**Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

The impact on the local hospital is moderate. Impact on the regional hospital is critical due to staffing and space shortages.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is high.



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Using data from December 26th to January 8th

**14.41%**

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

**1.34**

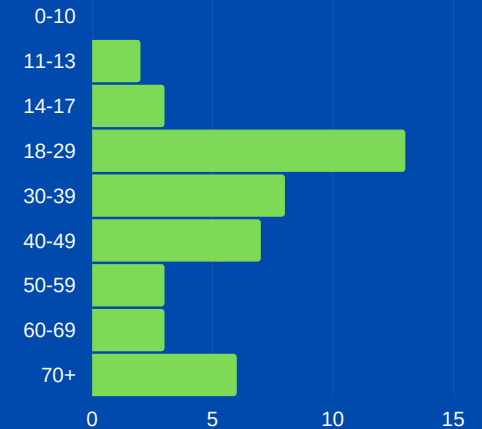
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

**Moderate**

**Hospital Capacity**

Impact on the local hospital is moderate.  
Impact on the regional hospital is critical.

**NEW CASES BY AGE**



**Critical**

**Other Epidemiological Factors**

SCPHD is investigating cases in two long-term care facilities. Cases have not yet been reported in schools. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

**RISK LEVEL****METRICS MONITORED****MITIGATION STRATEGIES****HIGH**

1. **NEW CASES DAILY IS BETWEEN 2.6 to 5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)**

2. **COVID-19 TESTING POSITIVE RATE IS BETWEEN 11% to 20%**

**AND/OR**

3. **HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY STILL AVAILABLE)**

**OR**

4. **OUTBREAK(S) OCCURRING AT:**

- **Hospitals/Healthcare Providers/EMS**
- **Critical Infrastructure Services (fire, law enforcement, utilities, solid waste etc.)**
- **Congregate Living Facilities (assisted living facilities, nursing homes, correctional facilities)**
- **Schools/institutions of higher learning**
- **Mass gatherings/events**

5. **EPIDEMIOLGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing**

**AT THE HIGH LEVEL, COMMUNITY SPREAD HAS ACCELERATED. SCPHD OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Increase education, information sharing and warning, and messaging (health alerts), continue to emphasize vaccinations
- Implement vaccination campaign
- If unvaccinated, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible – avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces
- If unvaccinated, wear face coverings in public that fully cover the nose and mouth when physical distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Self-isolation of vulnerable populations (older adults, individuals with underlying health conditions)
- Teleworking for those who are able
- Extra precautions for employees of congregate living facilities (long-term care, nursing homes, correctional facilities, etc.) and close facility to visitors
- Consider delivery/curb-side service for businesses, including food establishments
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements

**HIGH  
RISK**



# Gooding County

Risk level: High

Gooding County's average new case rate and positivity rates are in the high risk level.

**Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

The impact on the local hospital is moderate. Impact on the regional hospital is critical due to staffing and shortages.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is high.



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Using data from December 26th to January 8th

**14.71%**

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

**2.73**

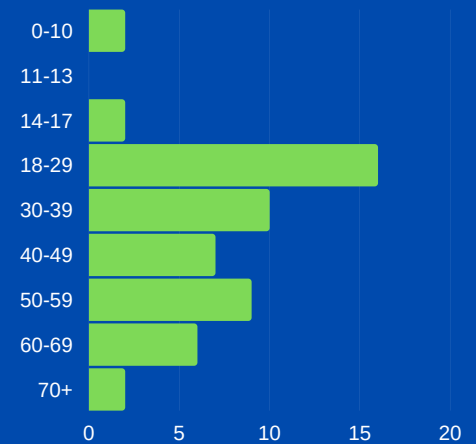
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

**Moderate**

**Hospital Capacity**

Impact on the local hospital is moderate and impact on the regional hospital is critical.

**NEW CASES BY AGE**



**Critical**

**Other Epidemiological Factors**

SCPHD is investigating cases in the local schools and one long-term care facility. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

**RISK LEVEL****METRICS MONITORED****MITIGATION STRATEGIES****HIGH**

1. NEW CASES DAILY IS BETWEEN 2.6 to 5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)

2. COVID-19 TESTING POSITIVE RATE IS BETWEEN 11% to 20%

AND/OR

3. HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY STILL AVAILABLE)

OR

4. OUTBREAK(S) OCCURRING AT:

- Hospitals/Healthcare Providers/EMS
- Critical Infrastructure Services (fire, law enforcement, utilities, solid waste etc.)
- Congregate Living Facilities (assisted living facilities, nursing homes, correctional facilities)
- Schools/institutions of higher learning
- Mass gatherings/events

5. EPIDEMIOLOGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing

AT THE HIGH LEVEL, COMMUNITY SPREAD HAS ACCELERATED. SCPHD OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Increase education, information sharing and warning, and messaging (health alerts), continue to emphasize vaccinations
- Implement vaccination campaign
- If unvaccinated, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible – avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces
- If unvaccinated, wear face coverings in public that fully cover the nose and mouth when physical distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Self-isolation of vulnerable populations (older adults, individuals with underlying health conditions)
- Teleworking for those who are able
- Extra precautions for employees of congregate living facilities (long-term care, nursing homes, correctional facilities, etc.) and close facility to visitors
- Consider delivery/curb-side service for businesses, including food establishments
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements

**HIGH  
RISK**

# Jerome County

Risk level: High

Jerome County's average new case rate is in the moderate tier, while the positivity rate has increased to the high risk level.

**Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

Hospital capacity metric remains on the high end of moderate due to staffing and space shortages at the regional hospital.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is high.



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Using data from December 26th to January 8th

15.77%

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

2.37

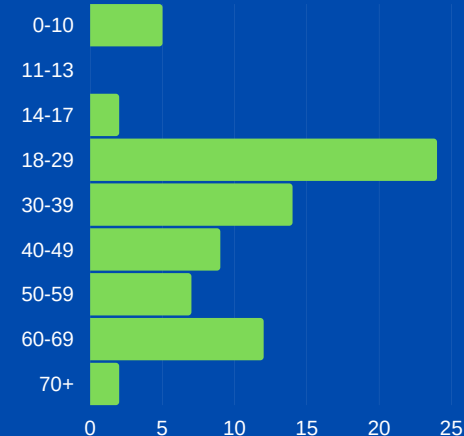
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

Moderate

Hospital Capacity

Impact on the local hospital is minimal.  
Impact on the regional hospital is critical.

NEW CASES BY AGE



Critical

Other Epidemiological Factors

Cases have not been reported in local schools or long-term care facilities. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

**RISK LEVEL****METRICS MONITORED****MITIGATION STRATEGIES****HIGH**

1. NEW CASES DAILY IS BETWEEN 2.6 to 5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)

2. COVID-19 TESTING POSITIVE RATE IS BETWEEN 11% to 20%

AND/OR

3. HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY STILL AVAILABLE)

OR

4. OUTBREAK(S) OCCURRING AT:

- Hospitals/Healthcare Providers/EMS
- Critical Infrastructure Services (fire, law enforcement, utilities, solid waste etc.)
- Congregate Living Facilities (assisted living facilities, nursing homes, correctional facilities)
- Schools/institutions of higher learning
- Mass gatherings/events

5. EPIDEMIOLOGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing

AT THE HIGH LEVEL, COMMUNITY SPREAD HAS ACCELERATED. SCPHD OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Increase education, information sharing and warning, and messaging (health alerts), continue to emphasize vaccinations
- Implement vaccination campaign
- If unvaccinated, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible – avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces
- If unvaccinated, wear face coverings in public that fully cover the nose and mouth when physical distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Self-isolation of vulnerable populations (older adults, individuals with underlying health conditions)
- Teleworking for those who are able
- Extra precautions for employees of congregate living facilities (long-term care, nursing homes, correctional facilities, etc.) and close facility to visitors
- Consider delivery/curb-side service for businesses, including food establishments
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements

**HIGH  
RISK**

# Lincoln County

Risk level: High

Lincoln County's average case rate and positivity rates are in the high risk tier.

**Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

The regional hospital is experiencing critical impact due to staffing and space shortages.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is high.



**South Central Public Health District**

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Using data from December 26th to January 8th

12%

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

3.33

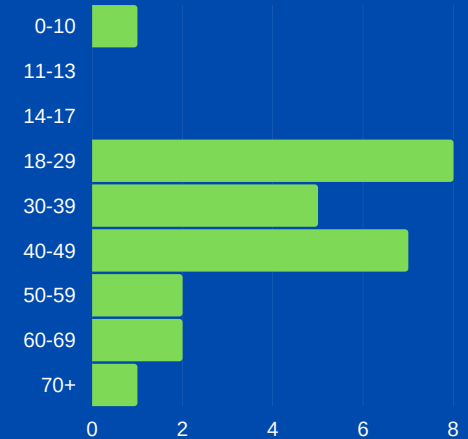
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

**No Specific Hospital**

**Hospital Capacity**

Hospital Capacity includes the local healthcare facility's ability to treat all incoming patients, not just COVID -19 positive patients.

NEW CASES BY AGE



**Critical**

**Other Epidemiological Factors**

Cases have not been reported in local schools or long-term care facilities. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

**RISK LEVEL****METRICS MONITORED****MITIGATION STRATEGIES****HIGH**

1. **NEW CASES DAILY IS BETWEEN 2.6 to 5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)**

2. **COVID-19 TESTING POSITIVE RATE IS BETWEEN 11% to 20%**

**AND/OR**

3. **HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY STILL AVAILABLE)**

**OR**

4. **OUTBREAK(S) OCCURRING AT:**

- **Hospitals/Healthcare Providers/EMS**
- **Critical Infrastructure Services (fire, law enforcement, utilities, solid waste etc.)**
- **Congregate Living Facilities (assisted living facilities, nursing homes, correctional facilities)**
- **Schools/institutions of higher learning**
- **Mass gatherings/events**

5. **EPIDEMIOLGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing**

**AT THE HIGH LEVEL, COMMUNITY SPREAD HAS ACCELERATED. SCPHD OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Increase education, information sharing and warning, and messaging (health alerts), continue to emphasize vaccinations
- Implement vaccination campaign
- If unvaccinated, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible – avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces
- If unvaccinated, wear face coverings in public that fully cover the nose and mouth when physical distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Self-isolation of vulnerable populations (older adults, individuals with underlying health conditions)
- Teleworking for those who are able
- Extra precautions for employees of congregate living facilities (long-term care, nursing homes, correctional facilities, etc.) and close facility to visitors
- Consider delivery/curb-side service for businesses, including food establishments
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements

**HIGH  
RISK**

# Minidoka County

Risk level: High

Minidoka County's positivity rate and case rate are in the moderate risk tier.

**Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

The local hospital is experiencing high impact due to staffing and space shortages. The regional hospital is experiencing critical impact due to staffing and space shortages.

Taking all major factors into account, the determined risk level is high.



**South Central Public Health District**  
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Using data from December 26th to January 8th

**9.21%**

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

**2.21**

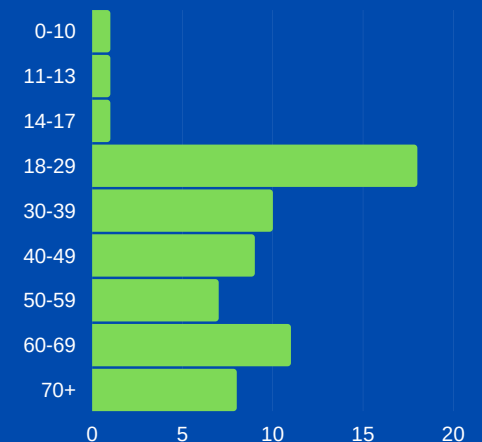
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

**High**

**Hospital Capacity**

Impact on the local hospital is high.  
Impact on the regional hospital is critical.

**NEW CASES BY AGE**



**Critical**

**Other Epidemiological Factors**

SCPHD is investigating cases in one long-term care facility. Cases have not been reported in schools. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

**RISK LEVEL****METRICS MONITORED****MITIGATION STRATEGIES****HIGH**

1. **NEW CASES DAILY IS BETWEEN 2.6 to 5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)**

2. **COVID-19 TESTING POSITIVE RATE IS BETWEEN 11% to 20%**

**AND/OR**

3. **HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY STILL AVAILABLE)**

**OR**

4. **OUTBREAK(S) OCCURRING AT:**

- **Hospitals/Healthcare Providers/EMS**
- **Critical Infrastructure Services (fire, law enforcement, utilities, solid waste etc.)**
- **Congregate Living Facilities (assisted living facilities, nursing homes, correctional facilities)**
- **Schools/institutions of higher learning**
- **Mass gatherings/events**

5. **EPIDEMIOLGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing**

**AT THE HIGH LEVEL, COMMUNITY SPREAD HAS ACCELERATED. SCPHD OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Increase education, information sharing and warning, and messaging (health alerts), continue to emphasize vaccinations
- Implement vaccination campaign
- If unvaccinated, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible – avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces
- If unvaccinated, wear face coverings in public that fully cover the nose and mouth when physical distancing is not possible or is difficult to maintain
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Self-isolation of vulnerable populations (older adults, individuals with underlying health conditions)
- Teleworking for those who are able
- Extra precautions for employees of congregate living facilities (long-term care, nursing homes, correctional facilities, etc.) and close facility to visitors
- Consider delivery/curb-side service for businesses, including food establishments
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements

**HIGH  
RISK**



# Twin Falls County

Risk level: Critical

Twin Falls County's case rate is in the critical risk tier and the positivity rate is in the high risk tier. **Case and positivity rates continue to trend upward.**

The regional hospital is **critically** impacted by staffing and space shortages. Nearby hospitals are also limited in their ability to accept overflow patients.

Local schools are reporting cases among students. SCPHD is investigating outbreaks in 7 local long-term care facilities.

Taking all major factors into account, the overall determined risk level is critical.



**South Central Public Health District**

Prevent. Promote. Protect. [phd5.idaho.gov](http://phd5.idaho.gov)

Using data from December 26th to January 8th

15.09%

Positivity Rate for the County in the past week.  
Provided by Idaho Health and Welfare

5.18

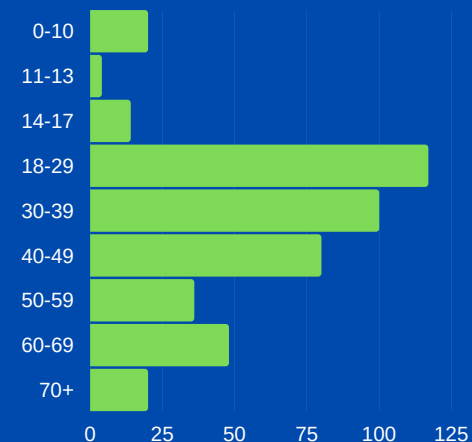
Average New Cases Per 10,000 residents based on a 14 day rolling average.

Critical

Hospital Capacity

Impact on the local hospital and regional hospital is critical due to staffing and space shortages.

NEW CASES BY AGE



Critical

Other Epidemiological Factors

SCPHD is investigating cases in the local schools and seven long-term care facilities. Omicron variant detected in Idaho. **Investigations are being impacted by increased case count. Testing availability is impacted on a district wide level.**

## CRITICAL

1. **NEW CASES DAILY >5 PER 10,000 POPULATION (14 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE)**
2. **COVID-19 TESTING POSTIVE RATE > 20%**

**AND/OR**

3. **HOSPITAL CAPACITY FOR CARE IS SEVERELY IMPACTED (MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY CANNOT BE MAINTAINED)**
4. **CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE IMPLEMENTED**
5. **EPIDEMIOLOGY FACTORS limit public health's ability to conduct investigations and contact tracing**

**AT THE CRITICAL LEVEL, COMMUNITIES HAVE REACHED A TIPPING POINT FOR UNCONTROLLED SPREAD, SCPHD AND/OR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS MAY INSTITUTE ALL OR SOME OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Maintain strategies from High Risk level
- Follow state, public health district, and/or local medical guidance for limitations on gatherings and mask requirements
- Consider quarantine orders (stay-at-home)
- Consider universal mask requirements
- Consider business/event/institution closures
- Consider universal social distancing requirements

**CRITICAL  
RISK**

## Crosswalk for Schools

[Idaho Back to School Framework](#) has identified three categories for determining transmission risk (table below). To assist schools located in the six-county region, South Central Public Health District has crosswalked the Idaho Back to School Framework with the COVID-19 Risk Level advisory system.

<b>"Identify Level of Transmission Risk"</b>			
	<b>Category 1: No Community Transmission</b>	<b>Category 2: Minimal to Moderate Community Transmission</b>	<b>Category 3: Substantial Community Transmission</b>
<b>Definitions</b>	Evidence of isolated cases, case investigations underway, no evidence of exposure in large communal setting, e.g., healthcare facility, school, mass gathering.	Widespread and/or sustained transmission with high likelihood or confirmed exposure within communal settings, with potential for rapid increase in suspected cases.	Large-scale community transmission, healthcare staffing significantly impacted, multiple cases within communal settings like healthcare facilities, schools, mass gatherings, etc.
<b>Level of Operations</b>	School buildings open with physical distancing and sanitation.	School buildings open but option of limited/staggered use of school buildings with physical distancing and sanitation.	Targeted, short-term, or extended building closure.



COVID-19  
RISK LEVEL  
**GREEN**



COVID-19  
RISK LEVEL  
**YELLOW**  
**ORANGE**



COVID-19  
RISK LEVEL  
**RED**

## DEFINITIONS

### CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE:

Guidance to help guide ethical decision-making for how to triage medical care when it has to be rationed.

Plan can be found on the [Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's website](#).

### MEDICAL SURGE CAPACITY:

Medical surge capacity refers to the ability to evaluate and care for a markedly increased volume of patients—one that challenges or exceeds normal operating capacity. The surge requirements may extend beyond direct patient care to include such tasks as extensive laboratory studies or epidemiological investigations.

[Source](#)

## TIMELINE FOR MEASUREMENTS

Data to support the corresponding Health Risk Level and any related mitigation strategies will be posted every other Thursday by 5 pm.

Health Risk Levels will be made on every other Thursday based on the prior two weeks starting on a Sunday and ending on a Saturday. Movement from one risk level to a lesser risk level will occur at 14-day intervals (one incubation period for COVID-19), while advancement to a level of higher risk can occur at any time.

## MOVEMENT BETWEEN RISK LEVELS

Determinations to move to a more restrictive risk level may be made mid-stage if any of the criteria below are met:

- Crisis standards of care are implemented
- Counties must remain in a risk level for at least two weeks before moving to a less restrictive phase
- Senior leadership at a local hospital indicates that further increases in cases in the community will overwhelm local hospital capacity
- Reported cases exceed **> 5 daily new cases** per 10,000 people in a defined population (e.g., town, city, or county) or if new case rate adversely impacts SCPHD's ability to respond

## REFERENCES

- [Key Metrics for COVID Suppression: A framework for policy makers and the public. July 1, 2020.](#)
- [Essential information for states and counties to publicly report](#)