



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 22, 2021

Rock Island County Health Department reports 4 deaths, 253 new cases of COVID-19

The Rock Island County Health Department reports four COVID-19 deaths: a man in his 90s, a man in his 80s, a man in his 60s, and a woman in her 60s, all of whom died in a hospital. The total number of deaths is now 415.

“We offer our sincere sympathies to their loved ones,” said Janet Hill, public information officer of the Rock Island County Health Department.

In addition, the health department reports 239 new cases of COVID-19 since the last report on Monday. The total number of cases now is 22,624. Currently, 60 patients are hospitalized in the county with the virus. The average age of newly infected patients is 33. The next report will be issued on Monday, Dec. 27. The health department is closed from Dec. 23-26.

“The CDC estimates that Omicron is now the dominant variant representing about 73% of cases across the country,” Hill said. “Omicron, just like Delta, is a particularly infectious variant of the virus that causes COVID-19.

“Rock Island County has seen a huge surge in cases since Thanksgiving — more than 2,300 cases. For months now, we have had widely available vaccines that would have prevented a second holiday-season surge, but not nearly enough of us have gotten vaccinated. Only 61% of Quad Citians have been vaccinated. That’s not enough. Please do your part and get vaccinated and boosted; wear masks in public, indoor places; stay home when you are sick; and consider getting tested before gathering with family and friends this holiday season.”

Because of holiday schedules, the next walk-in Pfizer vaccine for 12 and older clinic is Jan. 7. Moderna and Johnson & Johnson clinics remain on their regular Tuesday schedule. Hours for all walk-in COVID-19 vaccination clinics are 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. The next Pfizer vaccine clinic for children ages 5-11 is Jan. 7. Appointments for that clinic will be posted on our Facebook page at 10 a.m. Jan. 5. Our pharmacy and healthcare partners also are offering vaccination opportunities. Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find your shot.

The new cases are

- 1 woman in her 90s
- 3 women in their 80s
- 5 women in their 70s
- 6 women in their 60s
- 11 women in their 50s
- 19 women in their 40s
- 21 women in their 30s
- 21 women in their 20s
- 1 woman in her teens
- 13 girls in their teens
- 17 girls younger than 13
- 1 girl infant 1 or younger

- 1 man in his 90s
- 2 men in their 80s
- 2 men in their 70s
- 8 men in their 60s
- 13 men in their 50s
- 14 men in their 40s
- 25 men in their 30s
- 17 men in their 20s
- 2 men in their teens
- 13 boys in their teens
- 20 boys younger than 13
- 3 boy infants 1 or younger

No additional information regarding these cases is available due to federal privacy laws.

We all must continue to work to prevent further spread of COVID-19 by:

- Getting vaccinated as soon as you can. Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find your shot. RICHD offers walk-in vaccines on Tuesdays (Moderna and Johnson & Johnson) and Fridays (Pfizer). The hours for both days are 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Boosters or third doses for immunocompromised people are available on the same day as first and second doses. We offer vaccines for children ages 5-11 by appointment on Fridays. Our next available pediatric clinic is Jan. 7. The link to sign up for the pediatric clinic will be posted on our Facebook page at 10 a.m. Jan. 5. Many of our healthcare and pharmacy partners also are offering vaccines for children.
- Staying home when you are sick.
- Wearing a face covering. A mandate from Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker requires that everyone 2 and older wear a mask in public indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status. The CDC recommends that everyone age 2 and older wear a mask in counties of high or substantial transmission, which includes almost every county in the country.
- Keeping 6 feet of physical distance from others in public if you have not been fully vaccinated
- Washing your hands frequently.

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