

# COVID-19 Hotspot Advisory

## Clark, Lewis and Marion Counties (and surrounding area)

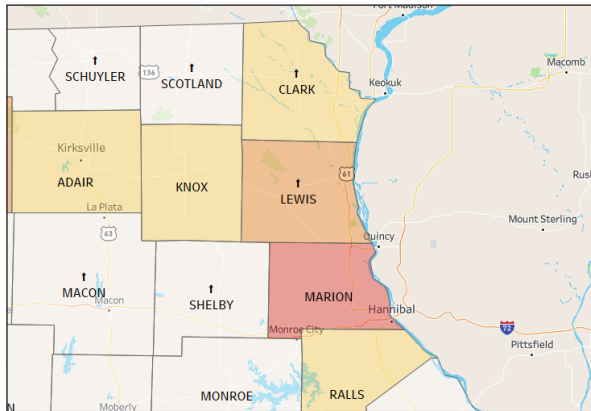
### August 18, 2021 (based on data Aug. 3 - Aug. 17)

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

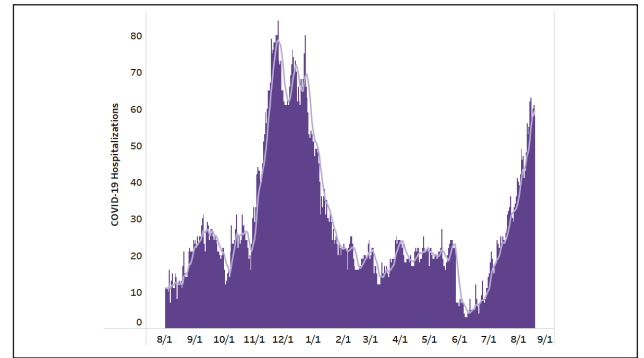
MOSTOPSCOVID.COM

#### Current COVID-19 Severity based on State Averages

- Typical
- Above Average
- High
- Severe



#### COVID-19 Total Patients in the Hospital by Day for the NE Region (Adair, Linn, Macon, Marion, Putnam, Randolph, Scotland and Sullivan)



#### SITUATIONAL SUMMARY:

In recent weeks, most areas of Missouri have experienced a surge in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. The Delta variant is the predominant cause. **Cases have been elevated in Clark (45), Lewis (81) and Marion (252) counties within the past 14 days.** Hospitals in the region are seeing resource strain from dramatically increased numbers of COVID-19 patients and hospitalizations. As a result, several hospitals in the region are at or near capacity. Continued disease spread into Northeast Missouri is expected.\*

The percentage of people fully vaccinated in **Clark (22.6%), Lewis (23.2.0%) and Marion (33.8%) counties.** Experts say at least 70% - 80% of people, depending on the type of variant virus, need immunity to provide the best chance of minimizing spread within a community.\*\*

#### Delta Variant Update:

- Delta cases are on the rise and the variant appears to spread more easily and poses higher risk of hospitalization than prior strains.
- Vaccination is the best way to prevent COVID-19. Social distancing, masking, handwashing, and other precautions remain important.

#### Value of Vaccination for Individuals:

- All approved vaccines are very effective, even against new variants.
- There is no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine, even if you are uninsured.
- Fully vaccinated individuals are less likely to miss work, school, or social functions due to illness.
- Fully vaccinated individuals are not asked to quarantine when exposed to COVID-19 and not symptomatic.

#### Value of Vaccination for Workplaces/Communities:

- Helps prevent or reduce outbreaks that create high absenteeism in businesses and hamper community social events.
- Minimizes health care resources and protects workers and patients.

#### Safety:

- Administered safely to millions in the US under intense safety monitoring.
- Authorized quickly, without ignoring safety checks, by cutting 'red tape'.
- Reduces the risk of COVID-19 and especially prevents severe illness.

“The COVID-19 vaccine is Missouri’s pathway to recovery. We strongly encourage Missourians to protect themselves by getting vaccinated as soon as possible.”

— Daniel P. Mehan, President and CEO Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“Vaccination reduces COVID-19 hospitalizations. Hospital ICUs are struggling to keep up. You can help ensure this space is available for other life-threatening illnesses.”

— Herb B. Kuhn, President and CEO Missouri Hospital Association

#### COVID-19 VACCINES ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE:

[MStopsCovid.com](https://mostopscovid.com) or [VaccineFinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org)

If your business or organization is interested in a COVID-19 vaccine, complete this [form](#)\*\*\*

## The vaccine is the best way to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Everyone 12 years of age and older is now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination.

\*<https://www.jhsph.edu/covid-19/articles/achieving-herd-immunity-with-covid19.html>

\*\*<https://showmestrong.mo.gov/data/public-health/>

\*\*\*Business form: <https://stateofmissouri.wufoo.com/forms/m1l2ergb0572jxj/>