



# Yellowstone County Schools Weekly Report 01.05.2021

Week reviewed 12.27.2020-01.02.2021

The Unified Health Command Medical Technical team, with representatives from Billings Clinic, St. Vincent Healthcare and RiverStone Health, makes weekly recommendations to education leaders about in-person instruction based on four major indicators. If three of the four indicators are red, a strong recommendation will be made to consider switching to distance-learning only. Duration of recommendation depends on local factors.

## Current Recommendation: **Yellow**

Modified in-school attendance (as currently in place) is acceptable.

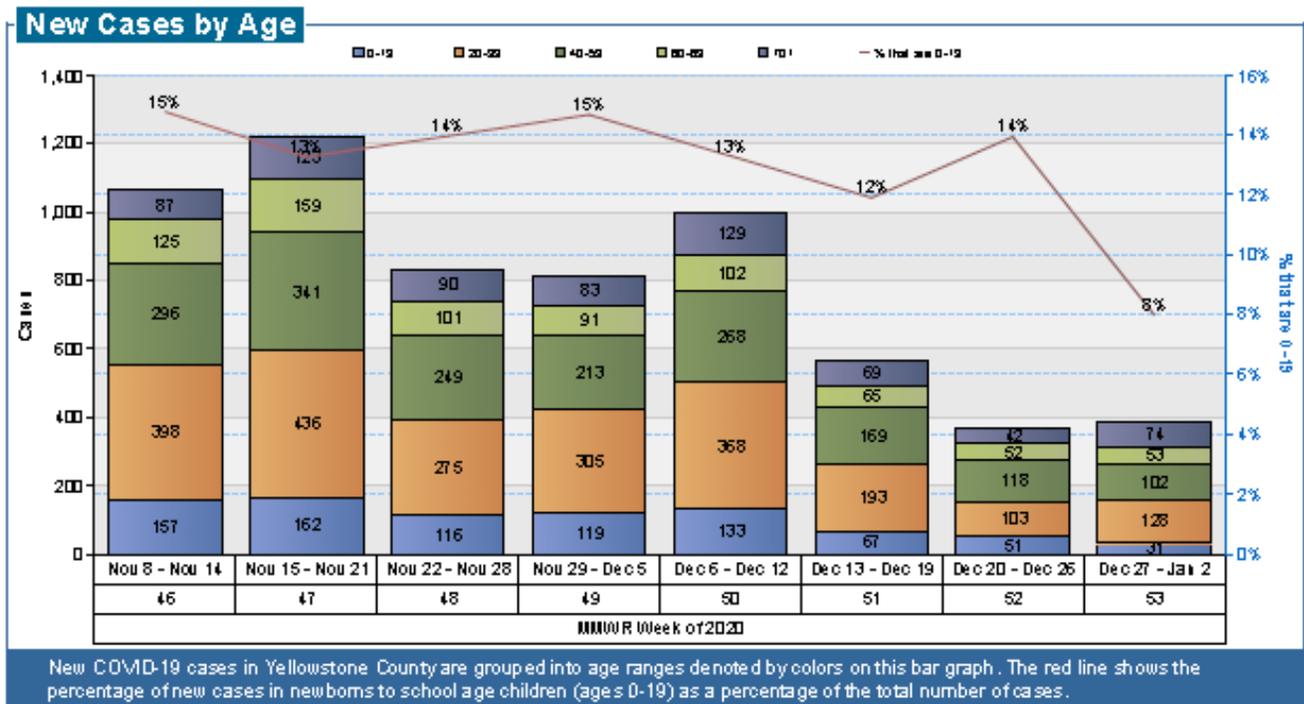
### Indicators:

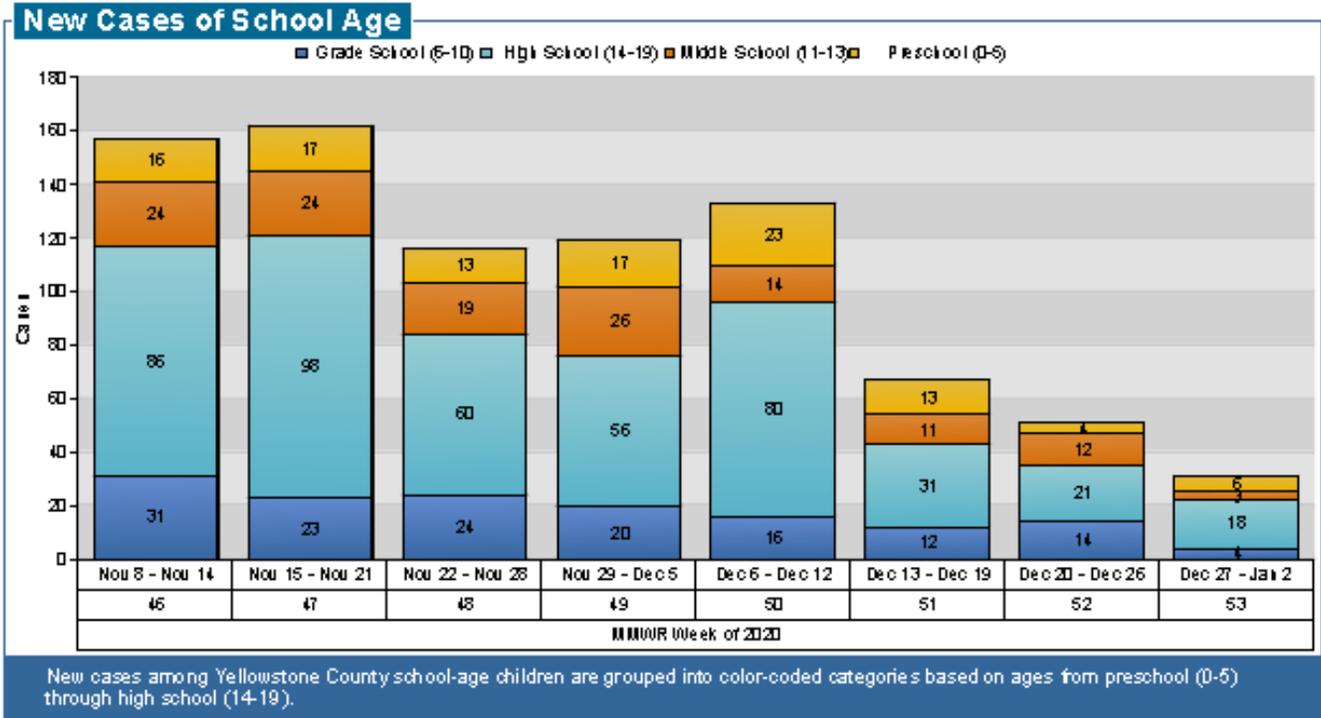
1. Capacity of Healthcare and Public Health: **Yellow (Trending: Improvement)**

**Situation:** Both healthcare systems have experienced a reduction in patients requiring hospitalizations from COVID-19. Hospitalizations still include both Yellowstone County residents and individuals from the surrounding region. There is surge capacity for inpatients, ICU patients, and ventilated patients. Public Health continues to expand services and personnel for timely case investigation and contact tracing and is seeing improvements with the new electronic systems that have been implemented.

2. Weekly Case Mix and Clusters: Increase in new cases in children under 19 & clusters in schools: **Yellow (Trending: Improvement)**

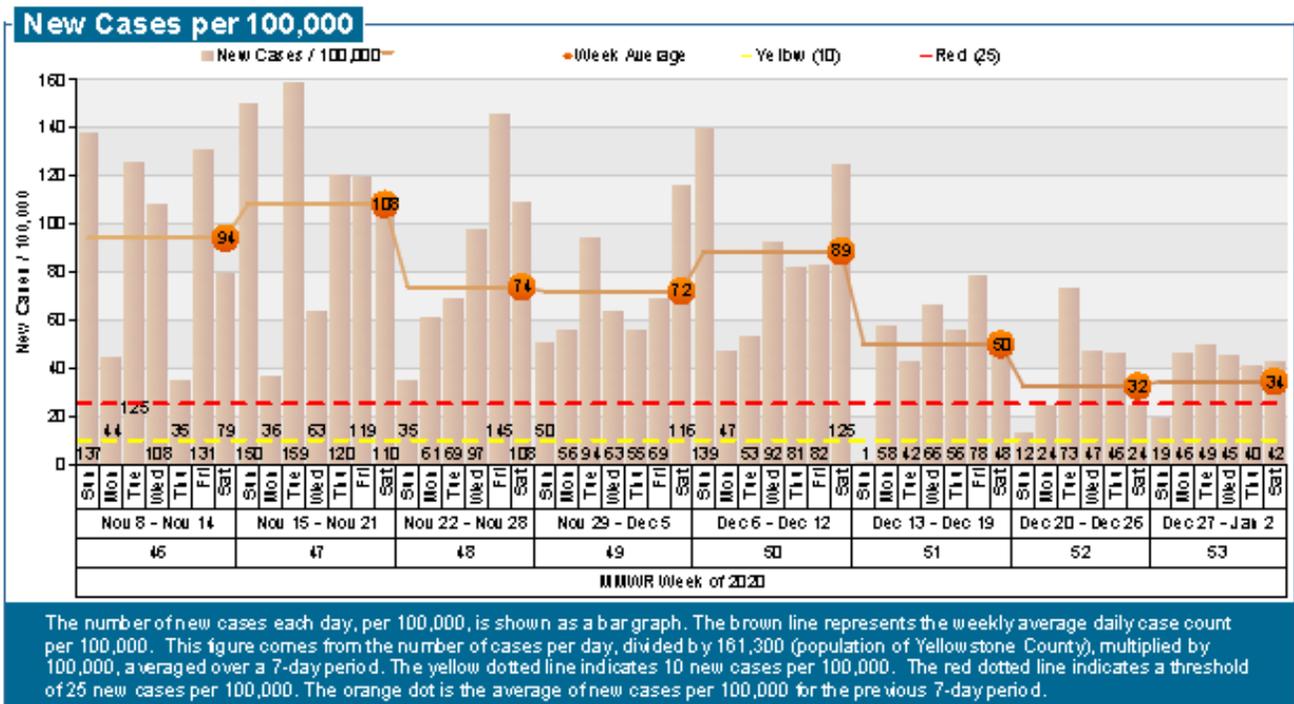
**Situation:** This past week (12.27.2020-01.02.2021) showed a decrease of new cases involving children under age of 19 and a decrease of the case mix. These numbers may be impacted by the holiday break and kids not being in school.





3. Weekly Average Daily Case Count per 100,000: **Red**  
**Green <10; Yellow 10-25; Red >25 Currently: 34**

**Situation:** This indicator continues to remain red due to sixteen weeks in a row of being over the threshold of 25 cases per 100,000. This past week (12.27.2020-01.02.2021) there was a slight increase from the previous week (12.20.2020-12.26.2020).



4. Weekly Yellowstone County test positivity rate: **Yellow** (Trending: worse)  
**Green <5; Yellow 5-10; Red >10 Currently: 13.15%**

**Situation:** There was an increase in the positivity rate over this past week (12.27.2020-01.02.2021) compared to the previous week (12.20.2020-12.26.2020). The positivity rate has been above the threshold for red ten weeks in a row until week (12.06.2020-12.12.2020). This indicator will remain yellow until it has been in the red threshold for two consecutive weeks. Please note there was a significant decrease in the number of tests reported last week due to an issue with the state pulling the testing data for our county which affects the positivity rate in the short term this week. A large revision in this number next week is possible.

