

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



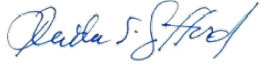
Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

BLAST FAX 2021-2

TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM: Acting Commissioner Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH 

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
Adelita Orefice, MPM, JD, CHC, Chief of Staff, Commissioner's Office
Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
Donna Ortelle, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section
Vivian Leung, MD, Healthcare Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance Program

DATE: February 1, 2021

SUBJECT: **Connecticut County Positivity Rates for Nursing Home Testing and Visitation**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) [QSO Memo 20-38](#) and [QSO Memo 20-39](#) set forth a variety of requirements and parameters for staff COVID-19 testing and for facilitating nursing home visitation during COVID-19 based on the level of community spread of COVID-19 by county.

DPH is aware that for the data period 1/7/21–1/20/21, county positivity data in the federal table for Connecticut has been color-coded as gray with a footnote indicating that the gray color-code is “due to incomplete reporting such that percent positivity cannot be calculated.” In such instances, CMS directs facilities to refer to their state COVID-19 website for positivity data.

DPH has been working with CMS and CDC to ensure accurate reporting of COVID-19 testing data, and CMS' most recent reporting period (1/14/21–1/27/21) is now accurate. Facilities should use the data in the tables below to determine their CMS testing and visitation requirements.

Should data on the CMS COVID-19 Nursing Home Data site become color-coded as gray again, DPH will forward additional instructions.

This week: Use data posted by CMS for reporting period 1/14/21–1/27/21

Fairfield County, CT	6.5%
Hartford County, CT	5.8%
Litchfield County, CT	5.0%
Middlesex County, CT	4.5%
New Haven County, CT	5.3%
New London County, CT	7.1%
Tolland County, CT	5.5%
Windham County, CT	8.8%

Last Week: Use indicators published by CT for reporting period 1/10/21–1/23/21

Fairfield County, CT	7.3%
Hartford County, CT	6.9%
Litchfield County, CT	5.4%
Middlesex County, CT	5.7%
New Haven County, CT	6.3%
New London County, CT	7.5%
Tolland County, CT	5.5%
Windham County, CT	10%

Prior week: Use indicators published by CT for reporting period 1/3/21–1/16/21

Fairfield County, CT	8.2%
Hartford County, CT	8%
Litchfield County, CT	6.5%
Middlesex County, CT	6.8%
New Haven County, CT	7.7%
New London County, CT	8.7%
Tolland County, CT	6.4%
Windham County, CT	11.6%