AppHealthCare
Caring for our Community

Ashe COVID-19 Situation Update
October 8th, 2021

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COVID-19 Updates

- In areas with substantial and high transmission, the CDC recommends that everyone (including fully vaccinated individuals) wear a mask in public indoor settings to help prevent the spread of the Delta variant, and to protect others.

  - According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Ashe County has a **HIGH** level of community transmission (right). Click here for North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' County Alert System.
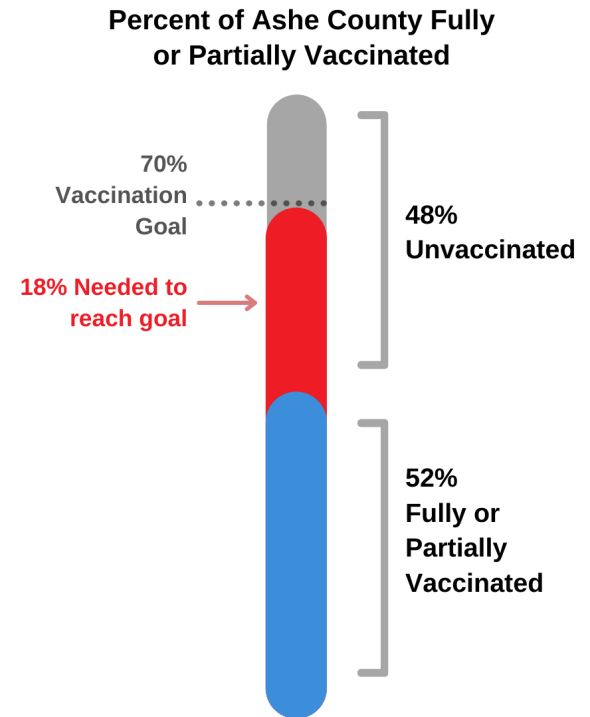
- AppHealthCare offers COVID-19 testing by drive-thru **Monday through Friday 8:30-10:00am** at each of our clinic locations. No appointment is needed.

- Based on CDC guidance, we are able to administer an additional dose of Pfizer or Moderna for individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised as recommended by the CDC. This is for individuals who have already received a 1st and 2nd dose of Pfizer or Moderna and who have a moderately or severely compromised immune system such as individuals who are undergoing cancer treatment, have had an organ transplant, are actively taking medications that suppress their immune system, have advanced or untreated HIV infection, or have another moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency condition. **Before receiving an additional dose, individuals will need to complete an attestation form stating they are eligible under the current criteria.**

- We have all three vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson) available at this time.

- **Booster doses are now recommended for some groups of people.** The CDC recommends Pfizer boosters six months after completion of the second dose for:
  - Older adults age 65+ and residents living in long-term care facilities,
  - Adults ages 50-64 at high risk of severe COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions,
  - Adults ages 18-49 at high risk of severe COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions should, _consider_ a booster based on an assessment of their individual benefits and risks and consultation with their medical provider, and
  - Adults ages 18-64 who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may receive a booster based on their individual benefits and risks.

  Boosters are not yet available for those who received Moderna or J&J, but we expect to have more information about them soon.

  If you are interested in receiving a booster and meet the criteria, you can schedule an appointment with us Monday through Friday by calling our COVID-19 Call Center at (828) 795-1970. We are also planning to have some larger community clinics where we will offer boosters. Once the details are confirmed, we will communicate that information.

Get Vaccinated to Protect Yourself Against COVID-19 and Variants

- AppHealthCare offers COVID-19 vaccines by walk-in or appointment Monday through Friday. **Walk-in hours for vaccines are 1:00-4:00pm.** If you choose to walk-in for a vaccine, you may have to wait. In order to lessen your wait time, please schedule an appointment. To schedule an appointment, call our COVID-19 Call Center at (828) 795-1970.
- Get vaccinated to protect yourself against COVID-19 and variants. With the Delta variant, this is more urgent than ever. The highest spread of cases and severe outcomes is happening in places with low vaccination rates.
- The vaccines are working like they should. They are helping prevent severe illness, hospitalization and death.
- If you get vaccinated, your risk of infection is about **3.5 times lower**, your risk of getting ill from COVID is over **8 times lower,** and your risk of hospitalization or death is about **25 times lower**.

Percent of Ashe County Fully or Partially Vaccinated

70% Vaccination Goal

18% Needed to reach goal

48% Unvaccinated

52% Fully or Partially Vaccinated

New CDC Data: COVID-19 Vaccination Safe and Strongly Encouraged for People Who are Pregnant and Breastfeeding

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine can protect you from severe illness from COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for those who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future. Pregnant and recently pregnant people are more likely to get severely ill with COVID-19 compared with non-pregnant people. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine can protect you from severe illness from COVID-19.
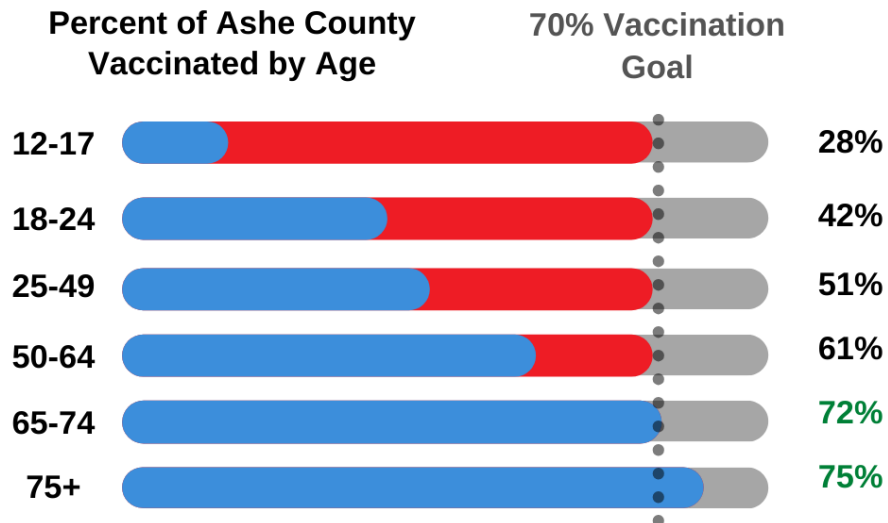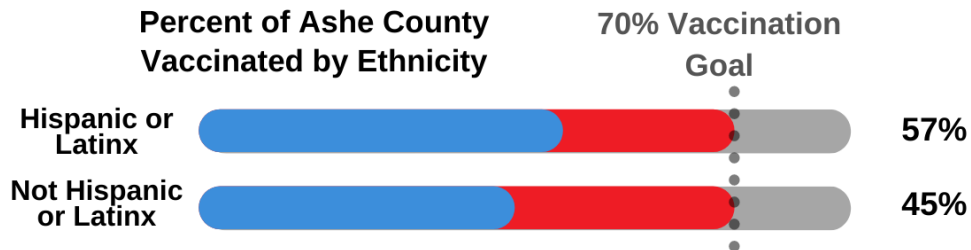
Clinicians have seen the number of pregnant people infected with COVID-19 rise in the past several weeks. The increased circulation of the highly contagious Delta variant, the low vaccine uptake among pregnant people, and the increased risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications related to COVID-19 infection among pregnant people **make vaccination for this population more urgent than ever.**

COVID-19 Ashe County Vaccination Updates

County-specific race, ethnicity and age data are from the NCDHHS COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard,
- *(All vaccine demographic data are current as of 10/07/2021 at 4:00pm).*

Percent of Population by Race Fully or Partially Vaccinated	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0%
Asian	0%
Black or African American	0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%
Other	32%
White	46%

13,626
Vaccines Administered by
AppHealthCare in Ashe County
as of 10/07/2021.

Percent of Ashe County Vaccinated by Ethnicity

70% Vaccination Goal

Hispanic or Latinx	57%
Not Hispanic or Latinx	45%

Percent of Ashe County Vaccinated by Age

70% Vaccination Goal

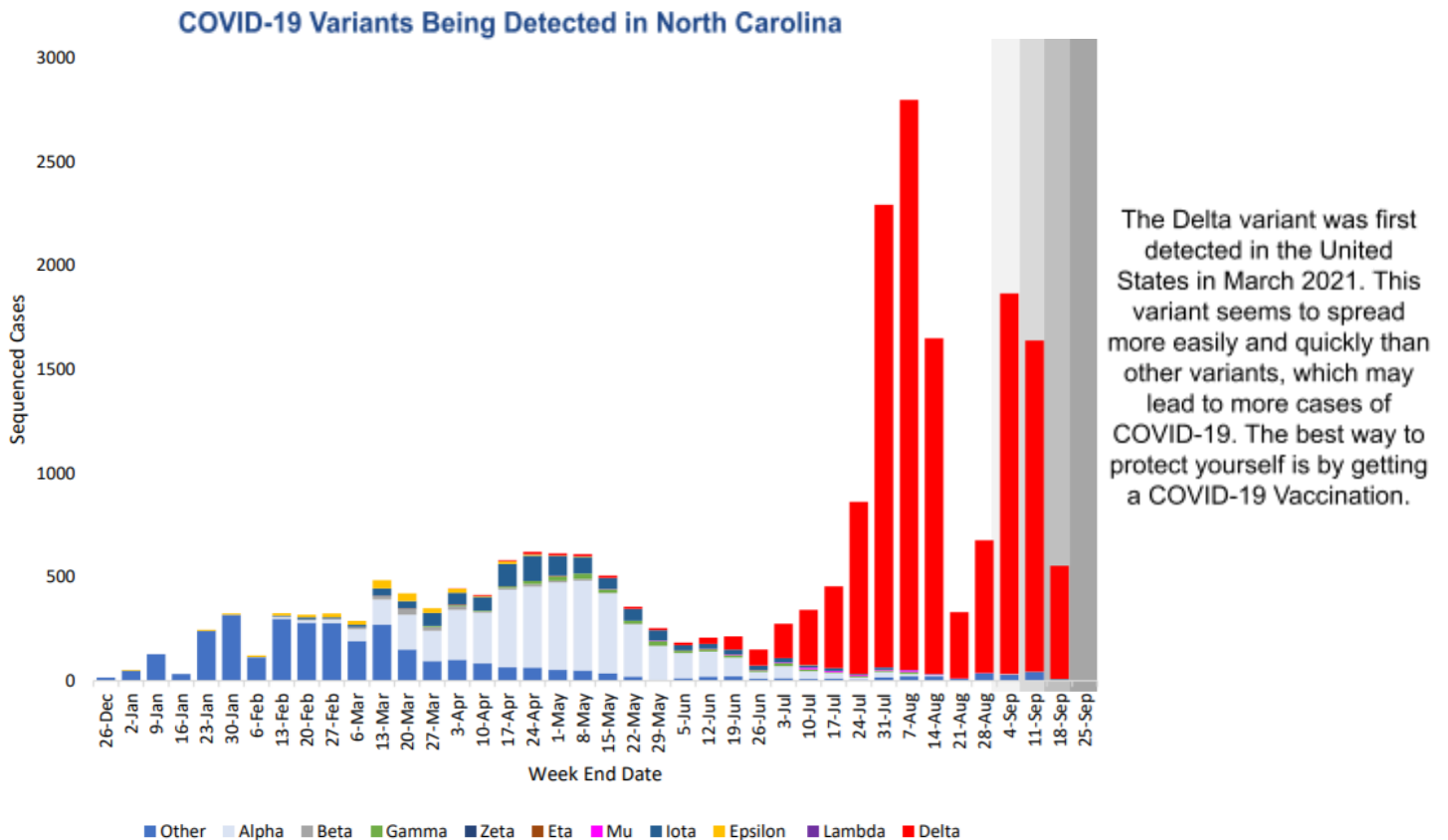|	
12-17	28%
18-24	42%
25-49	51%
50-64	61%
65-74	72%
75+	75%

North Carolina COVID-19 Updates

North Carolina State Synopsis

Data is from COVID-19 State Profile Report, provided by White House COVID-19 Team, Joint Coordination Cell, Data Strategy and Execution Workgroup - *(All data is current as of 10/01/2021)*

|	LAST WEEK	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK
RATE OF NEW COVID-19 CASES PER 100,000	308	+36%
NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION TEST (NAAT) POSITIVITY RATE	8.8%	-1.3%
NEW CONFIRMED COVID-19 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS / 100 BEDS	9.2	-14%
RATE OF NEW COVID-19 DEATHS PER 100,000	4.9	+145%
COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION LEVEL	HIGH TRANSMISSION	
PEOPLE RECEIVED AT LEAST 1 DOSE	6,288,574 people	60.0% of total pop.
PEOPLE 18+ RECEIVED AT LEAST 1 DOSE	5,884,970 people	71.9% of 18+ pop.
PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED	5,232,429 people	49.9% of total pop.
PEOPLE 18+ FULLY VACCINATED	4,914,910 people	60.0% of 18+ pop.

COVID-19 Variants Detected in North Carolina by Week

Data is from North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' COVID-19 Surveillance Study. (*Data is current as of 10/07/2021 at 4:00pm*)

The Delta variant was first detected in the United States in March 2021. This variant seems to spread more easily and quickly than other variants, which may lead to more cases of COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself is by getting a COVID-19 Vaccination.

Regional COVID-19 Hospitalization Data

The hospitalization data reflected includes Watauga County. All hospitalization data is from North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Hospitalization Data Dashboard. *(All data is current as of 10/07/2021 at 2:00 pm)*
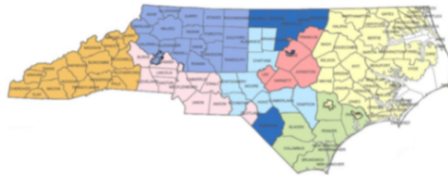

CapRAC - Capital Region Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
DHPC - Duke Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
EHPC - Eastern Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
MAHPC - Mountain Area Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
MCRHC - Mid Carolina Regional Healthcare Coalition
MHPC - Metrolina Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
SHPR - Southeastern Healthcare Preparedness Region
THPC - Triad Healthcare Preparedness Coalition

Currently Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients in Triad Health Preparedness Coalition Region* (THPC)

THPC	568	97%
All	**568**	**97%**
	Currently Hospitalized	Hospitals Reporting
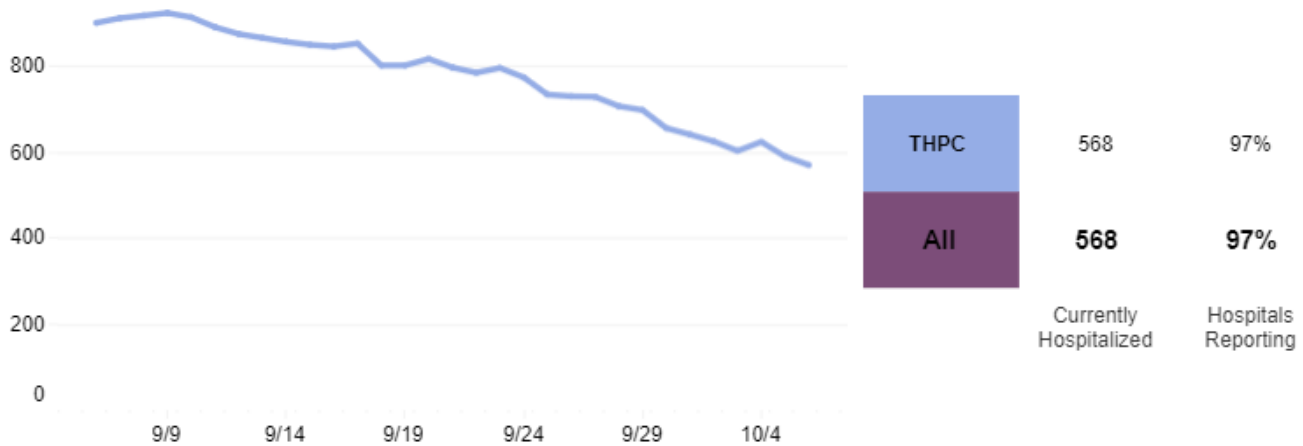
Number of COVID-19 Adult ICU Patients in Triad Health Preparedness Coalition Region* (THPC)

○ Adult ICU Patients
○ Confirmed Patients Admitted - 24 hours

152
Adult ICU COVID-19 Patients
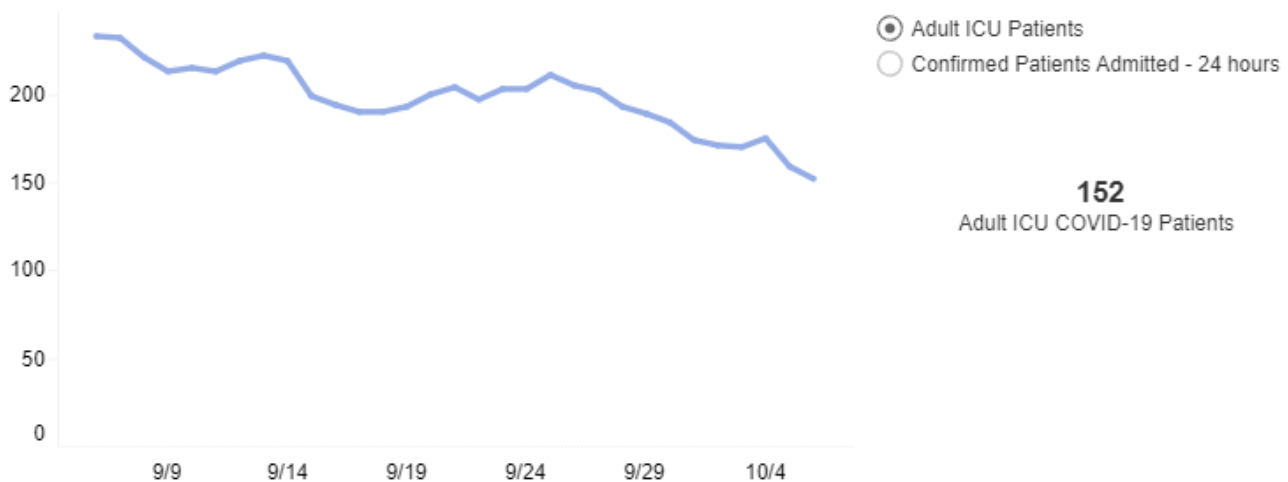
COVID-19 Case Updates

Cases to Date in App District (Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga counties). *(All data is current as of 10/7/2021 at 9 am- Cumulative case counts may decrease or fluctuate due to ongoing reconciliation of data sets and elimination of duplicate data.)*

26,385
COVID-19 Tests
Administered

10,394
Cases To Date

659
Out of District
Cases

153
*At-Home Tests
Reported

709
Breakthrough
Cases

*At-Home tests, while they provide valuable information regarding COVID status and potential spread, are not currently reportable to NCDHHS and are thus not included in our cases to date.

A breakthrough case is when someone who is fully vaccinated becomes infected. **Breakthrough cases occur in only a small proportion of vaccinated people and the vast majority are avoiding serious illness, hospitalization, or death.**
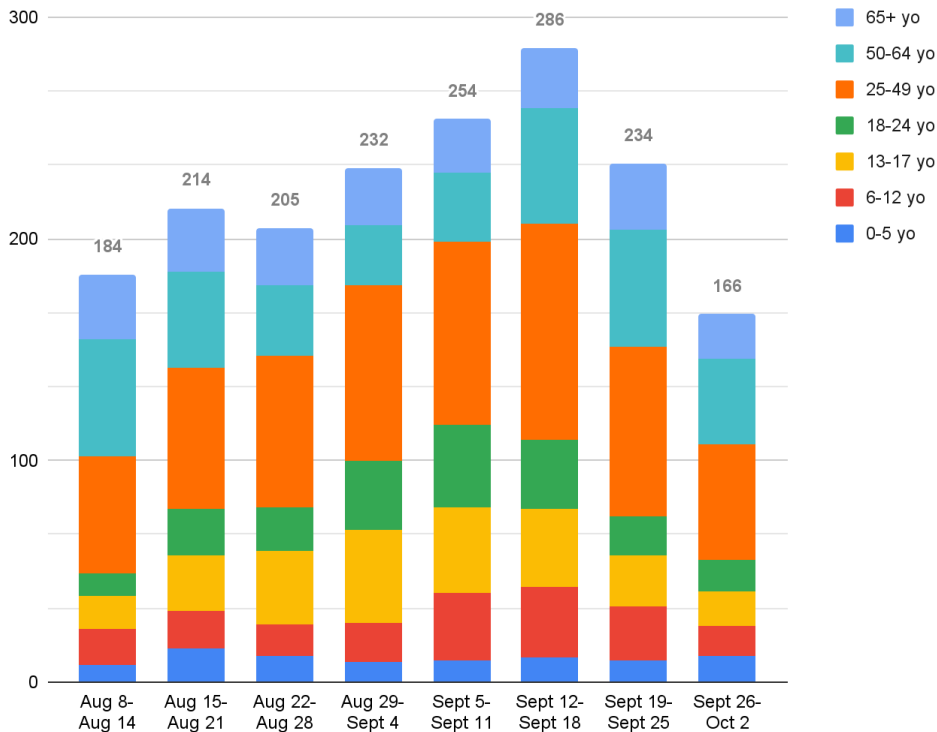
If you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 (regardless of whether or not you have symptoms), we recommend you be tested.

AppHealthCare offers free walk-in testing. Refer to our website for more information and FAQs regarding getting tested for COVID-19.
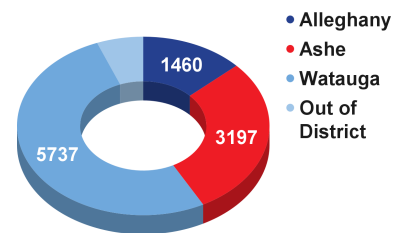
100
Deaths

Active Cases/Week Broken Down by Age Group

Ashe County
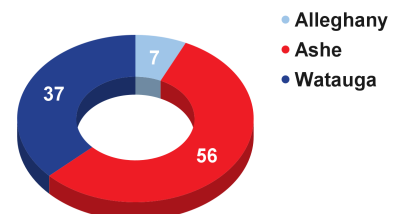
Legend:
- 65+ yo
- 50-64 yo
- 25-49 yo
- 18-24 yo
- 13-17 yo
- 6-12 yo
- 0-5 yo

Values above bars: 184, 214, 205, 232, 254, 286, 234, 166

X-axis labels: Aug 8-Aug 14, Aug 15-Aug 21, Aug 22-Aug 28, Aug 29-Sept 4, Sept 5-Sept 11, Sept 12-Sept 18, Sept 19-Sept 25, Sept 26-Oct 2

Positive Cases

- Alleghany
- Ashe
- Watauga
- Out of District

1460
3197
5737

COVID-19 Deaths

- Alleghany
- Ashe
- Watauga

7
37
56

Ashe County COVID-19 Case Trends

Changes since the Ashe County October 1st Situation Update:

75	13.44%	558
New Cases	Positivity Rate	COVID Tests Administered
9/26/2021-10/2/2021	9/26/2021-10/2/2021	9/26/2021-10/2/2021
Previously **64**	Previously **12.08%**	Previously **530**
9/19/2021-9/25/2021	9/19/2021-9/25/2021	9/19/2021-9/25/2021

Tests Administered Vs Positivity Rate

Ashe County

Positivity Rate values by week:
- Aug 8-Aug 14: 22.32%
- Aug 15-Aug 21: 15.93%
- Aug 22-Aug 28: 9.58%
- Aug 29-Sept 4: 10.91%
- Sept 5-Sept 11: 13.79%
- Sept 12-Sept 18: 15.88%
- Sept 19-Sept 25: 12.08%
- Sept 26-Oct 2: 13.44%
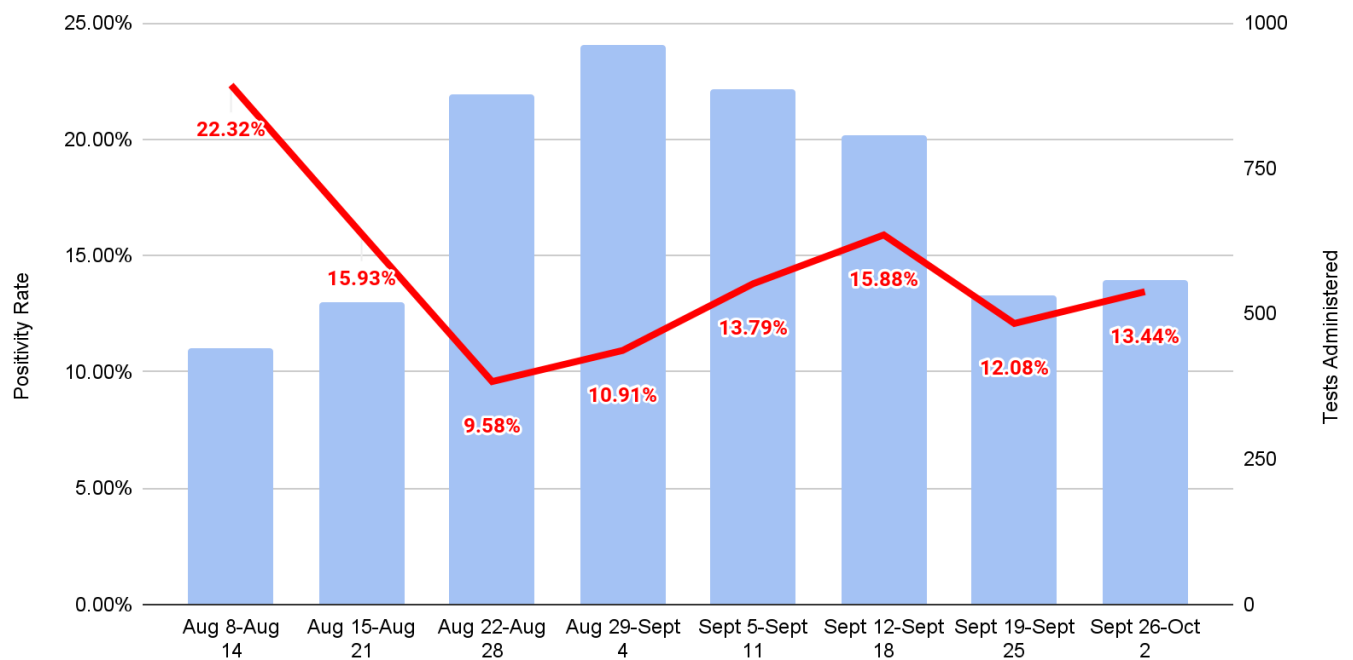
Active Clusters and Outbreaks in Ashe County

An outbreak is defined as two or more laboratory confirmed cases within a 14 day period in a congregate living setting. A cluster is defined as a minimum of five cases within a 14-day period and plausible epidemiologic linkage between cases. An outbreak or cluster is considered active until 28 days have passed with no newly identified cases. Additional information on the definitions of outbreaks and clusters is provided by the North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services.

County	Setting Name	Setting Type	Active Cases	Cumulative Cases	Latest Positive Result
Ashe	Margate Health and Rehab Center	Long Term Care Facility	1	11	10/4/2021

(Cluster and outbreak data is current as of 10/7/2021 at 9am)

Alleghany (336) 372-5641 | Ashe (336) 246-9449 | Watauga (828) 264-4995
AppHealthCare COVID-19 Message Line: (828) 795-1970
General COVID-19 Questions: preparedness@apphealth.com
Media inquiries: media@apphealth.com
www.AppHealthCare.com and follow us on Facebook & Twitter

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