

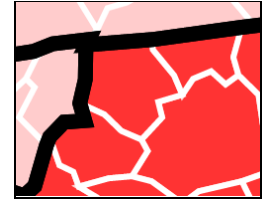
# Watauga COVID-19 Situation Update

October 22nd, 2021

## 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](#), Watauga County has a **HIGH** level of community transmission (right). [Click here for North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' County Alert System.](#)



**TESTING:** 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.

**ADDITIONAL DOSES:** 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.**

**BOOSTERS:** Booster doses are now expanded and recommended for individuals who have received Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. The CDC recommends Pfizer and Moderna booster shots six months or more after completion of the initial series for individuals who are:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- Age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings

The CDC recommends Johnson & Johnson booster shots for those who are 18 years and older and who were vaccinated two or more months ago. Based on CDC recommendations, individuals who are eligible for a booster vaccine may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster.

We hope to begin administering booster doses for Moderna and Johnson & Johnson on Monday, October 25th by appointment.

If you are interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccination, or 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. AppHealthCare also offers COVID-19 vaccines by walk-in or appointment Monday through Friday for those completing the initial series. Walk-in hours for vaccines are 1:00-4:00pm. We have all three vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson) available at this time. Stay tuned for additional vaccine clinic opportunities offered by us and other community partners.

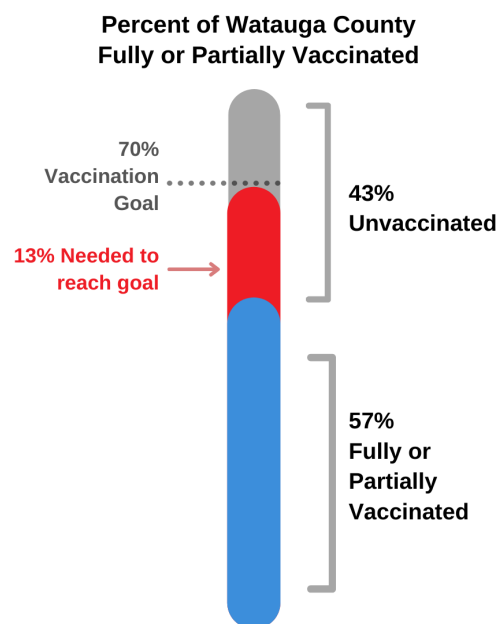
## Get Vaccinated to Protect Yourself Against COVID-19 and Variants

- The vaccines continue to be highly effective in reducing risk of severe disease, hospitalization and death. If you are considering a booster and have a question about whether you should receive one, we encourage you to talk with your healthcare provider to make the best decision for your health.
- 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.
- 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**.

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



- 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. For more information, [click here](#).

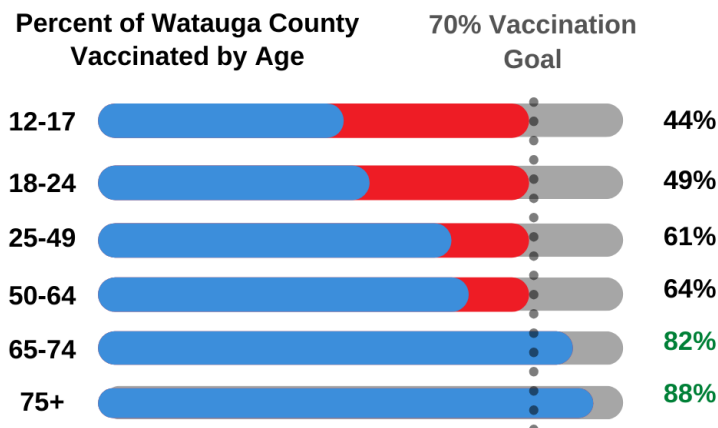
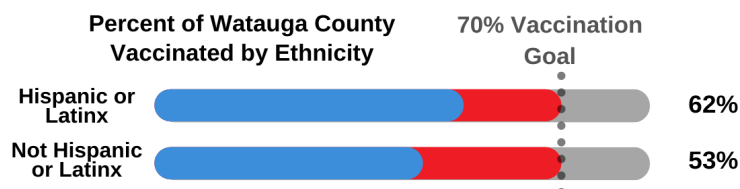


## COVID-19 Watauga County Vaccination Updates

County-specific race, ethnicity and age data are from the [NCDHHS COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard](#).  
 - (All vaccine demographic data are current as of 10/21/2021 at 4:00pm.).

Percent of Population by Race Fully or Partially Vaccinated	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0%
Asian	0%
Black or African American	45%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%
Other	58%
White	52%

**22,126**  
 Vaccines Administered by  
 AppHealthCare in Watauga  
 County  
as of 10/21/2021.



# North Carolina COVID-19 Updates

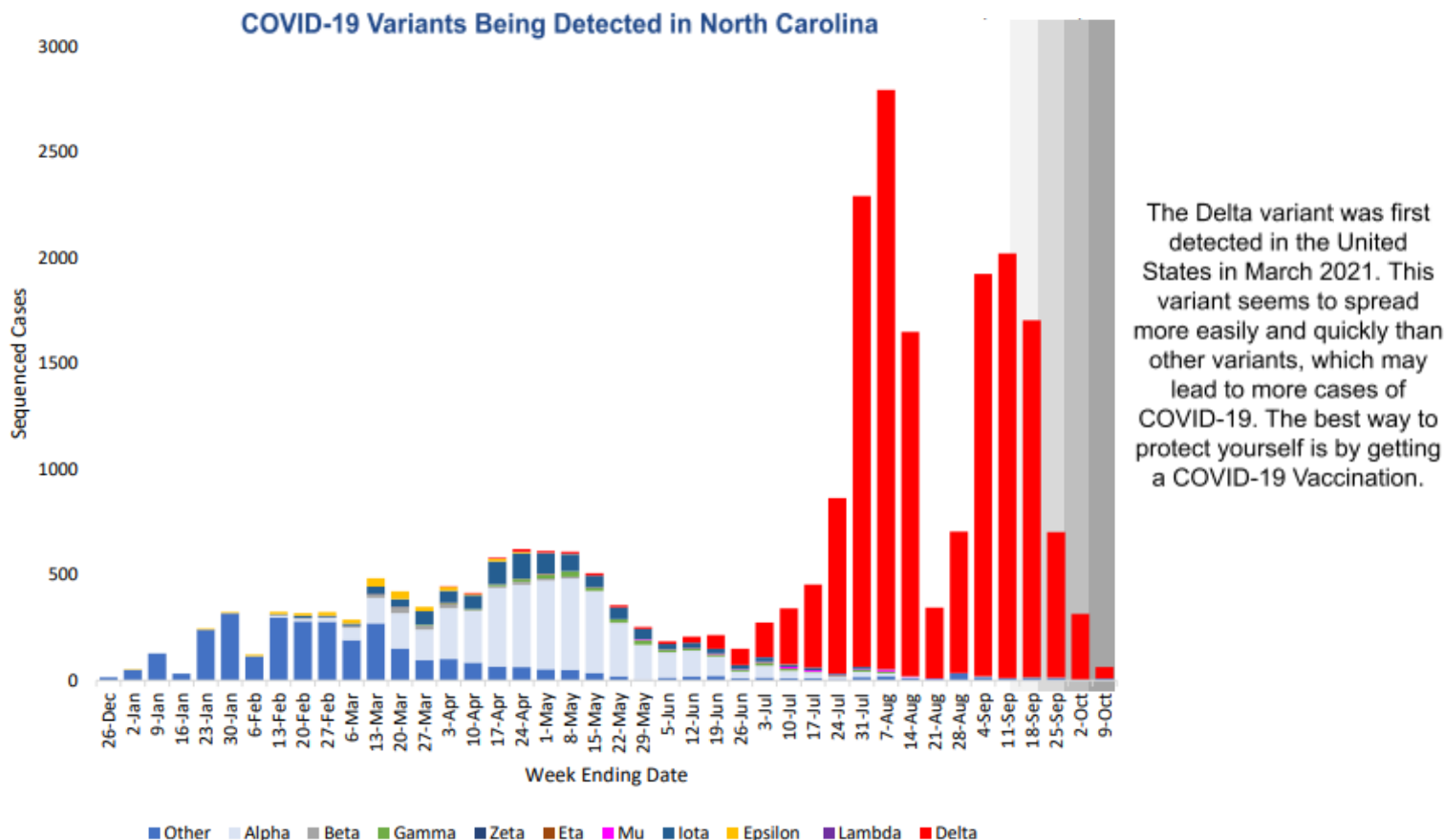
## North Carolina State Synopsis

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 10/15/2021)

	LAST WEEK	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK
RATE OF NEW COVID-19 CASES PER 100,000	217	-12%
NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION TEST (NAAT) POSITIVITY RATE	6.9%	-1.2%
NEW CONFIRMED COVID-19 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS / 100 BEDS	6.0	-22%
RATE OF NEW COVID-19 DEATHS PER 100,000	3.7	-21%
COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION LEVEL	HIGH TRANSMISSION	
PEOPLE RECEIVED AT LEAST 1 DOSE	6,494,826 people	61.9% of total pop.
PEOPLE 18+ RECEIVED AT LEAST 1 DOSE	6,081,847 people	74.3% of 18+ pop.
PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED	5,409,835 people	51.6% of total pop.
PEOPLE 18+ FULLY VACCINATED	5,078,312 people	62.0% of 18+ pop.

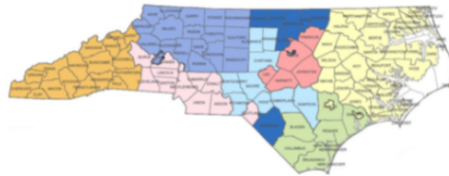
## COVID-19 Variants Detected in North Carolina by Week

Data is from [North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' COVID-19 Surveillance Study](#). (Data is current as of 10/21/2021 at 4:00pm)



## 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 10/21/2021 at 2:00 pm)

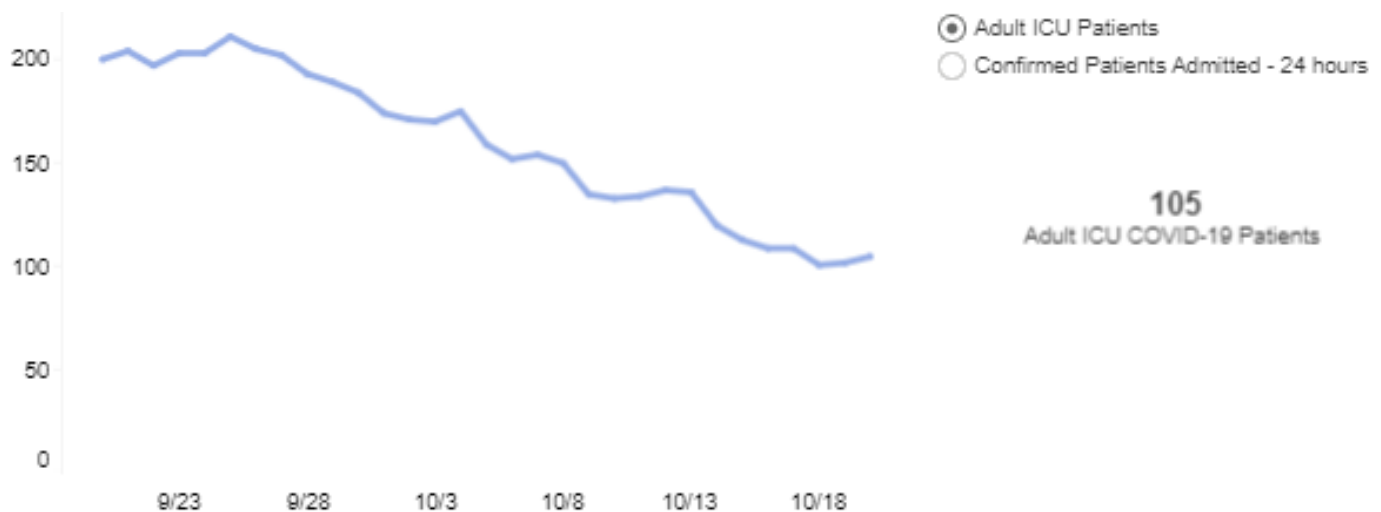


CapRAC - Capital Region Healthcare Preparedness Coalition  
DHPC - Duke Healthcare Preparedness Coalition  
EHPC - Eastern Healthcare Preparedness Coalition  
MAHPC - Mountain Area Healthcare Preparedness Coalition  
MCRHC - Mid Carolina Regional Healthcare Coalition  
MHPC - Metrolina Healthcare Preparedness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

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

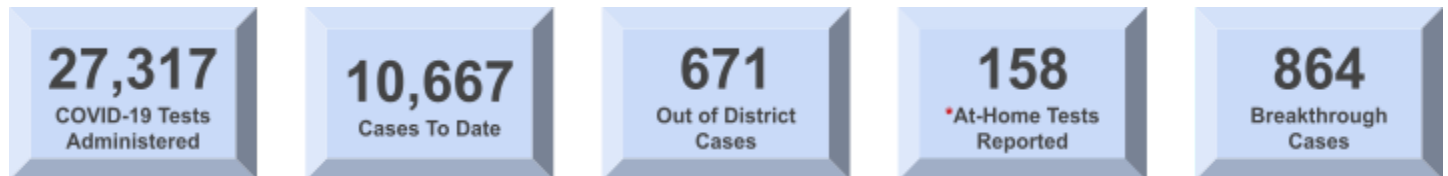


### Number of COVID-19 Adult ICU Patients in Triad Health Preparedness Coalition Region\* (THPC)



# COVID-19 Case Updates

Cases to Date in App District (Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga counties). (All data is current as of 10/21/2021 at 9:00 am- Cumulative case counts may decrease or fluctuate due to ongoing reconciliation of data sets and elimination of duplicate data.)



\*At-Home tests, while they provide valuable information regarding COVID status and potential spread, are reportable to NCDHHS as suspected cases 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.**

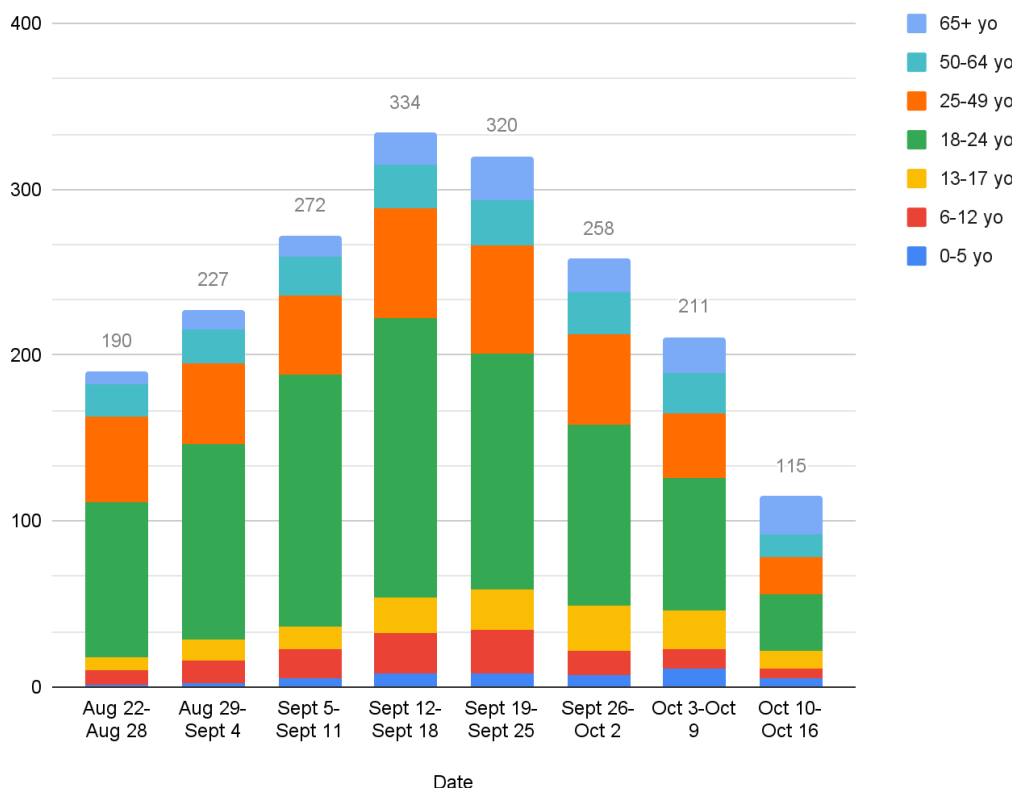
If you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 (regardless of whether or not you have symptoms), we recommend you be tested.

**AppHealthCare offers free walk-in testing.** Refer to our [website](#) for more information and FAQs regarding getting tested for COVID-19.

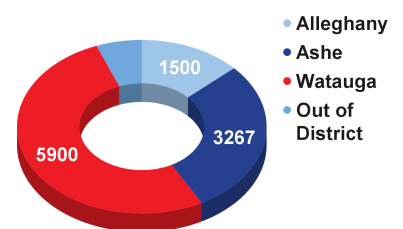


## Active Cases/Week Broken Down by Age Group

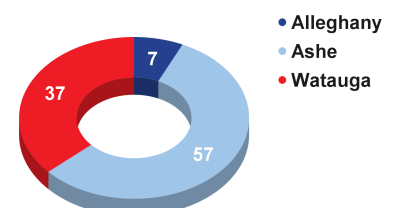
Watauga County



## Positive Cases



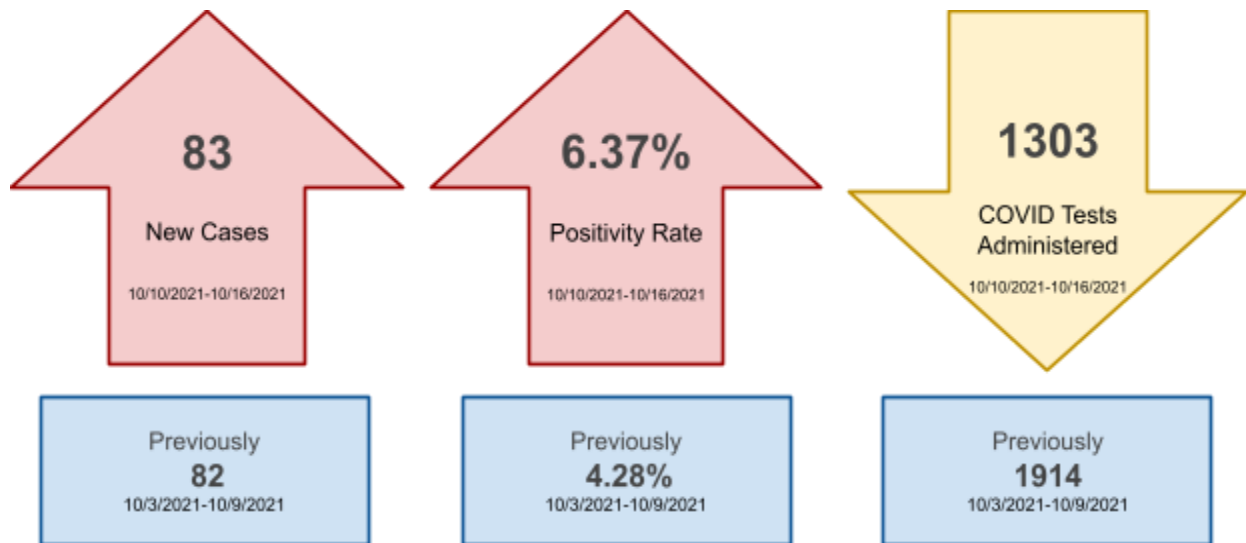
## COVID-19 Deaths



[Click here to view COVID-19 case and trend distribution by demographic groups for Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga counties.](#)

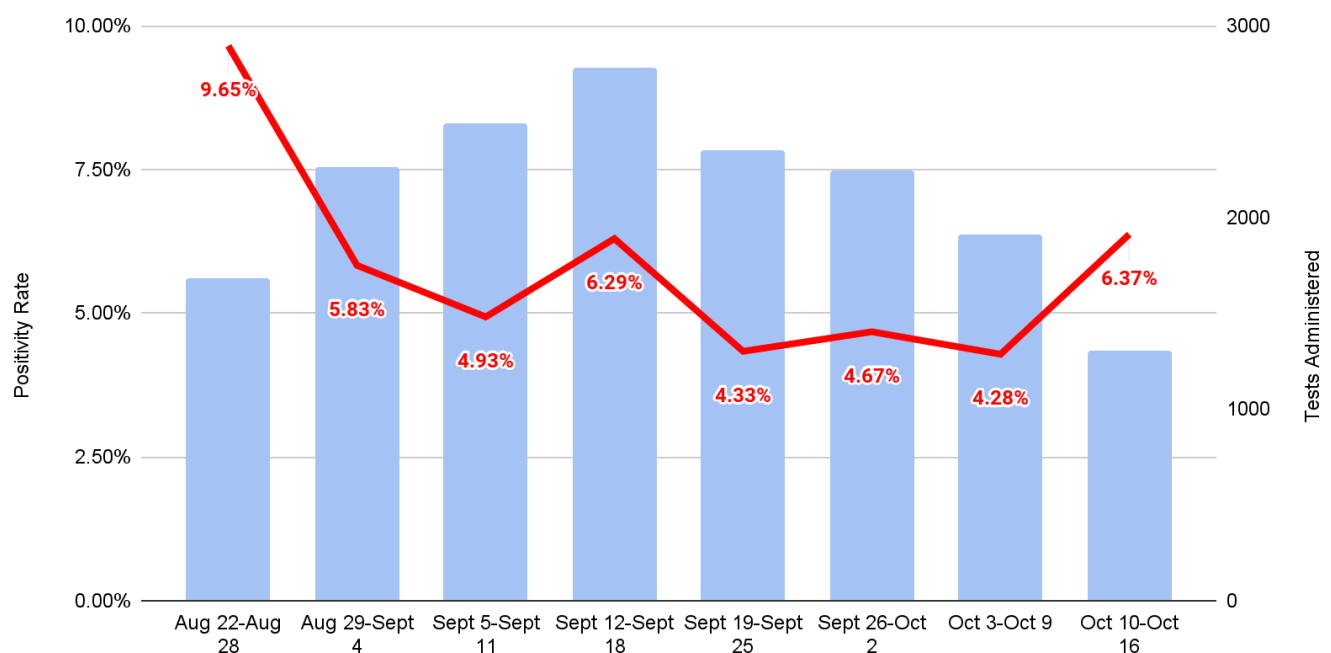
## Watauga County COVID-19 Case Trends

Changes since the Watauga County October 15th Situation Update:



## Tests Administered Vs Positivity Rate

Watauga County



## Active Clusters and Outbreaks in Watauga 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
Watauga	Thunder Hill Residence Hall (App State University)	University/College	1	15	10/13/2021
Watauga	Cottages of Boone	Apartment Complex	1	12	10/14/2021
Watauga	The Standard at Boone	Apartment Complex	1	10	10/12/2021

*(Cluster and outbreak data is current as of 10/21/2021 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](mailto:preparedness@apphealth.com)**

**Media inquiries: [media@apphealth.com](mailto:media@apphealth.com)**

**[www.AppHealthCare.com](http://www.AppHealthCare.com) and follow us on Facebook & Twitter**

