



On-Site Safety and Health Consultation Program

# WisCon Words of Wisdom

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## WI COVID-19 by the Numbers

Total Positive Cases	3,459,970
Total Individuals Recovered	584,515
Total Deaths	6,850
Total Individuals Hospitalized	29,527

[DHS's Wisconsin Summary Data](#)

Numbers Updated 05/04/2021

## WI COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution by the Number of Doses

Total Administered	4,497,245
Johnson & Johnson	172,382
Moderna	1,916,743
Pfizer	2,407,926
% Residents with 1st dose	43.5

Check out the [latest data about Wisconsin's progress!](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

<a href="#">Electrical Safety Equipment Clearances</a>	5/10
<a href="#">What is an OSHA Compliance Directive</a>	5/17
<a href="#">Heat Illness</a>	5/24
<a href="#">COVID-19 Update</a>	6/7

## Welcome Message

Welcome to our second edition of WisCon Words of Wisdom. As we said before, this newsletter is being created for safety and health enthusiasts and professionals across the state of Wisconsin. We know you value your inbox space and our goal is to provide information important to you. Hopefully, this includes a breakdown of Wisconsin's COVID-19 cases, deaths, vaccination distribution, the latest OSHA news, our upcoming Monday webinars, and other tidbits along the way. As a reminder, Memorial Day is May 31st. As such, we will not be having our regularly scheduled Monday webinar. Thank you for hitting that subscribe button!

## OSHA's Summer Initiatives

On the heels of OSHA's 50th Anniversary, the agency is preparing for several initiatives this summer. Two of which are happening this month.

The National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction is happening this week (May 3-7). More information can be found at <https://www.osha.gov/stop-falls-stand-down>.

Don't Fry Friday—Heat/Sun Awareness day is May 28, the Friday before Memorial Day. Originally created by the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention, National Don't Fry Day aims to increase awareness on the risk of overexposure to the sun and sunburn. It's always a good habit to have sunscreen handy when you're outside for extended lengths of time. For more information click [HERE](#).

Other initiatives happening this summer include:

- [Trench Safety Stand Down](#), June 14-18, and
- [Safe + Sound Week 2021](#), August 9-15.

## Where to get the vaccine?

Wisconsin has a COVID-19 vaccine registry that allows Wisconsin residents to register for and schedule a COVID-19 vaccination locally. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-registry.htm>. Additionally, [VaccineFinder.org](http://VaccineFinder.org) is a tool that allows you to enter your zip code and filter by search radius and vaccine type. After entering this information, a map of vaccine providers will appear, as well as a list with each provider's days and hours of operation. Clicking on the provider name will give you the information you need to schedule an appointment (either a website or a phone number).

## COVID-19 Questions and Answers

Our COVID-19 Consulting group recently attended a webinar session with an organization that has employees and volunteers. We wanted to share some of their questions and the answers we provided.

1. If someone has had the vaccine do they really need to wear a mask? - Even if someone is [fully vaccinated](#) they still have the potential to transmit the disease. Mask use is considered to be part of a best practice approach by OSHA. Cloth and disposable procedure type masks are used as source control and work best when everyone wears one.
2. Trying to find a fair solution: What if someone does not want the vaccine but wants to come on-site and they ask that others be masked? - During this time when some people are fully vaccinated and others are not, the “fair solution” is the tough one of asking everyone on the site to wear a mask, everyday—and try to keep a 6 foot distance from others, and not allowing sick persons onsite. Imposing this policy has the benefit of not getting into individual discussions about who’s vaccinated and why or why not, and moves you forward to protecting everyone as well as you can, regardless of vaccine status.
3. How does the growing number of vaccinated individuals impact the COVID prevention precautions in place at our stores? - Until we know more about how vaccines will affect the spread of COVID-19, the current COVID-19 prevention precautions should be continued. People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 should keep [taking precautions](#) in public places like wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart from others, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, and washing your hands often.
4. Since the State Supreme Court struck down the mask mandate, can businesses still require masks for all staff and customers? Not having the mandate has made it harder to get customers to comply. - Private businesses are allowed to require a mask to be worn on their premises. They also have the right to refuse business to someone who doesn’t follow their policy. Additionally, some counties like Dane have county level mask mandates, check to see if counties that you are in have them as well.
5. At what point do you anticipate that we can eliminate the social distancing and mask requirements? - No one is able to predict this exactly at this time. Elimination of these safeguards is likely to be a slow process extending into next year. Getting as many people vaccinated as possible will help to shorten the time that we need these protections.

## Hazard Communication Standard — Proposed Update

On February 16, 2021, OSHA issued a new proposed rule to update the Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) to align with the seventh revision of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS).

Comments regarding the proposed rule are able to be submitted electronically on the [Federal e-Rulemaking Portal](#) through May 19, 2021. The original comment period was extended from April 19th on April 13, 2021.

Key modifications to the standard fall into four general categories:

- Maintain alignment with the GHS;
- Address issues that have come to light since the revision of the standard in 2012;
- Alignment with Canada; and
- Improve alignment with other U.S. agencies.

The agency had preliminarily determined the following:

- The proposed modifications will enhance the effectiveness of the standard;
- The rulemaking is not “economically significant” as it is likely to not have an effect on the economy of \$100 million or more in any one year; and
- The proposed action is deregulatory.

The proposed rule is available from the Federal Register [here](#).

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