



# WisCon Words of Wisdom

Volume 1 | Issue 9 | December 1, 2021

## WI COVID-19 by the Numbers

Total Positive Cases	875,393
Total Deaths	9,019
Total Individuals Hospitalized	46,274

[DHS's Wisconsin Summary Data](#)

Numbers Updated 11/30/2021

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

Total Administered	7,666,450
Johnson & Johnson	303,545
Moderna	2,974,671
Pfizer	4,388,234

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

## Upcoming Webinar Topics

COVID-19 Update	12/6
Temporary Electrical Wiring	12/13
How to Record Injuries and Illnesses on the OSHA 300 log	12/20
No Webinar This Week	12/27

Sign up [here](#) for weekly webinar reminders! Click [here](#) to view previous webinars!

## COVID-19 Vaccination, Testing, and Face Coverings ETS

The [Vaccination, Testing, and Face Coverings ETS](#) is **NOT** currently in effect. The ETS was stayed by the 5th Circuit Court on Nov. 6th, 2021 and the ETS is facing a legal battle in the 6th Circuit Court after multiple cases were consolidated. If the ETS is upheld by the courts, it is important to be prepared to implement it when required by law, which may not leave a lot of time to prepare. Here are the basics of the ETS. .

The ETS applies to all business, regardless of industry, that have 100 or more employees corporate- or firm-wide. There are exceptions for employees who work in healthcare and fall under the previous ETS, exclusively outdoors, alone, or from home. The original dates of compliance are January 4th 2022 for the entire program including vaccination or weekly testing. December 6th 2021 is when the majority of the program was set to be implemented. Contact the [COVID Consulting Team](#) with questions.

Requirements:

- Develop, implement, and enforce a mandatory [COVID-19 vaccination policy](#) OR a [policy allowing for vaccination or weekly COVID-19 testing](#),
- Determine the vaccination status of each employee and maintain records,
- Provide paid time to receive each dose and to recover from side effects,
- [Test non-vaccinated employees for COVID-19 at least weekly](#),
- Require employees to inform you of COVID-19 positive status,
- Immediately remove any employee with COVID-19,
- Ensure that each employee who is not fully vaccinated wears a face covering,
- Train employees in a language and at a literacy level the employee understands,
- Report work-related COVID-19 fatalities to OSHA within 8 hour and hospitalizations within 24 hours, and
- Make records available to OSHA, employees, and their representatives.

## Spotlight Corner— Ann Jurkowski

Ann Jurkowski is a field consultant providing both COVID-19 and OSHA consultation services. She has been with the program for over a year and has prior experience in both public and private sectors. Ann has a B.S. in Biology, a Masters of Public Health, and a J.D. emphasized on Environmental Law. She is also a Certified Industrial Hygienist. In her spare time, Ann enjoys being on her hobby farm with her cows, ponies, poultry and lovable guard dogs, Ivy and Bailey.



## Temporary Wiring by Ann Jurkowski

'Tis the season for holiday lights! Following some basic safety rules can help your holiday season be brighter. Regardless of the type of

temporary lighting you will be putting up, [OSHA regulation Subpart S - Electrical, §1910.305](#) provides for safe use of these systems. With specific exceptions noted in §1910.305(a)(2), "Temporary wiring." needs to meet all other permanent wiring requirements in Subpart S. Always follow the product manufacturer's instructions for installation, operation and maintenance and make sure that the product is approved by a recognized testing/certification entity.

For temporary electrical power and lighting installations of 600 volts or less, §1910.305(a)(2)(i)[B] addresses Christmas decorative lighting, carnivals and other similar purpose lighting. This section states that such lighting can only be used for a 90 day period.

If flexible cords and cables are used for temporary lighting, they need to be protected from damage from sharp corners, projections, and doorways or other pinch points. Flexible cables and cords also need to be supported and protected from physical damage by a means that will not cause damage itself.

Another safety concern with temporary wiring is the actual placement of the wiring, which frequently involves a ladder. No matter what type of ladder you're using, make sure to keep your body centered on the ladder. As tempting as it is to overreach rather than climb down and move the ladder, take the time to safely move the ladder to a position that will allow you to stay centered on the ladder. The time it takes to safely move the ladder is a fraction of the time you will spend recovering from a ladder injury.

Some links to basic ladder safety are:

- <https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA3660.pdf>
- <https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA3662.pdf>

Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Source: Anika via [Flickr](#)

## Worker Fatigue

Have you ever noticed feeling more fatigued during the holiday season? It can happen. Employees may be working more hours, spending countless hours preparing for holiday festivities, worrying over finances, or may be feeling lonely this time of year. Fewer hours of sunlight may also increase the feeling of fatigue.

There are some careers where worker fatigue is particularly common throughout the year including: healthcare providers, first responders, firefighters, police, transportation workers, construction workers, and service and hospitality workers.

A fatigued employee is not the safest worker as worker fatigue increases the risk of injury and illness. Fatigue can cause weariness, sleepiness, irritability, decreased alertness, impaired decision making, or a lack of motivation, memory, or concentration.

Both employers and employees can take action to combat worker fatigue. This could include adjusting the lighting and temperature to increase alertness, making efforts to sleep at the same time every night, avoiding drinking caffeine prior to bedtime, or implementing a Fatigue Risk Management Plan.

For more suggestions, check out OSHA's webpage on [Log Work Hours, Extended or Irregular Shifts, and Worker Fatigue](#).

## Closing the doors—Ventilation in Winter

As the weather cools, many workplaces close their doors to keep the workplace warmer, this can introduce new health hazards as the amount of fresh air circulating in the workplace decreases.

One common problem area is loading docks where propane and gas powered forklifts are creating carbon monoxide. The gas used to be well mixed with fresh air, but now that doors are closed more often, concentrations could be reaching dangerous levels. Look for signs of chest tightness, headache, fatigue, dizziness, drowsiness, or nausea as these can be signs of carbon monoxide poisoning.

All respiratory health hazards are subject to this same principle including exposure to welding fumes, silica dust, paint solvents, and even diseases like COVID-19. It is important to ensure that adequate ventilation is in place in your facility even when the doors close in the winter.

Small businesses in Wisconsin can contact WisCon for **free** air quality monitoring if they have concerns about how closing their doors impacts the ventilation in their facility.

Wisconsin Safety and Health Consultation Program

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