

Gallatin County Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report – August 28, 2020

As a supplement to the data provided on the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#), Gallatin City-County Health Department (GCCHD) will release this weekly surveillance report each Friday. The report includes additional epidemiologic data useful for understanding the current COVID-19 pandemic in Gallatin County, Montana.

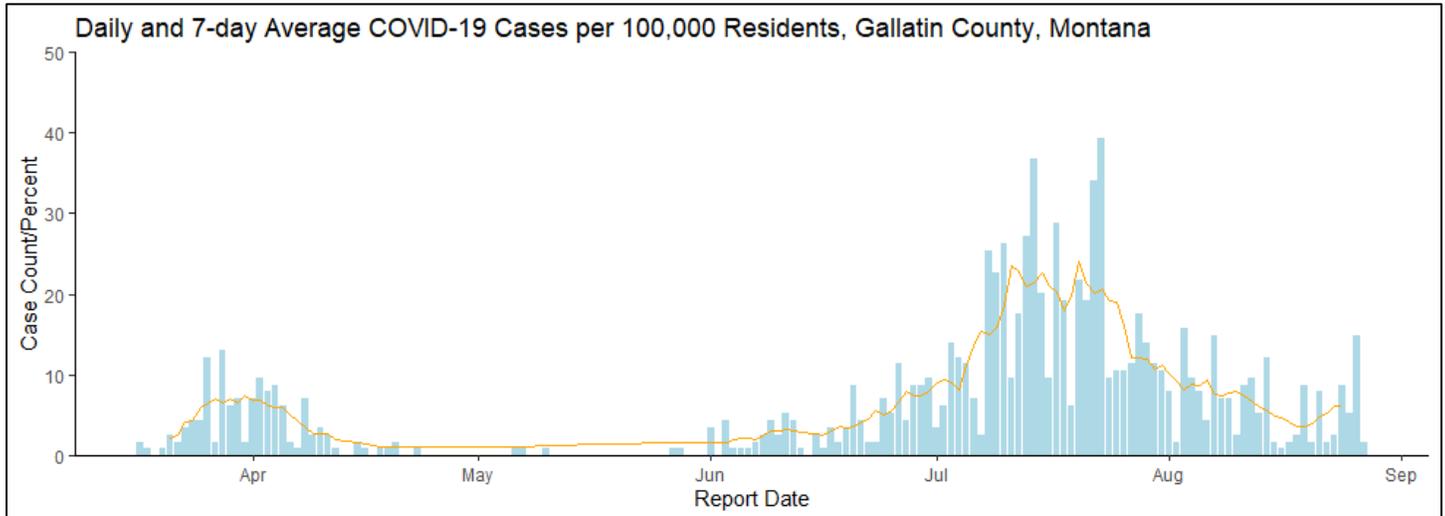


Figure 1. Describes the number of daily cases and 7-day rolling average of cases per 100,000 residents in Gallatin County. Blue bars indicate daily case reports per 100,000 residents and the orange line describes the 7-day rolling average of cases per 100,000 residents from March 1, 2020 to August 27, 2020.

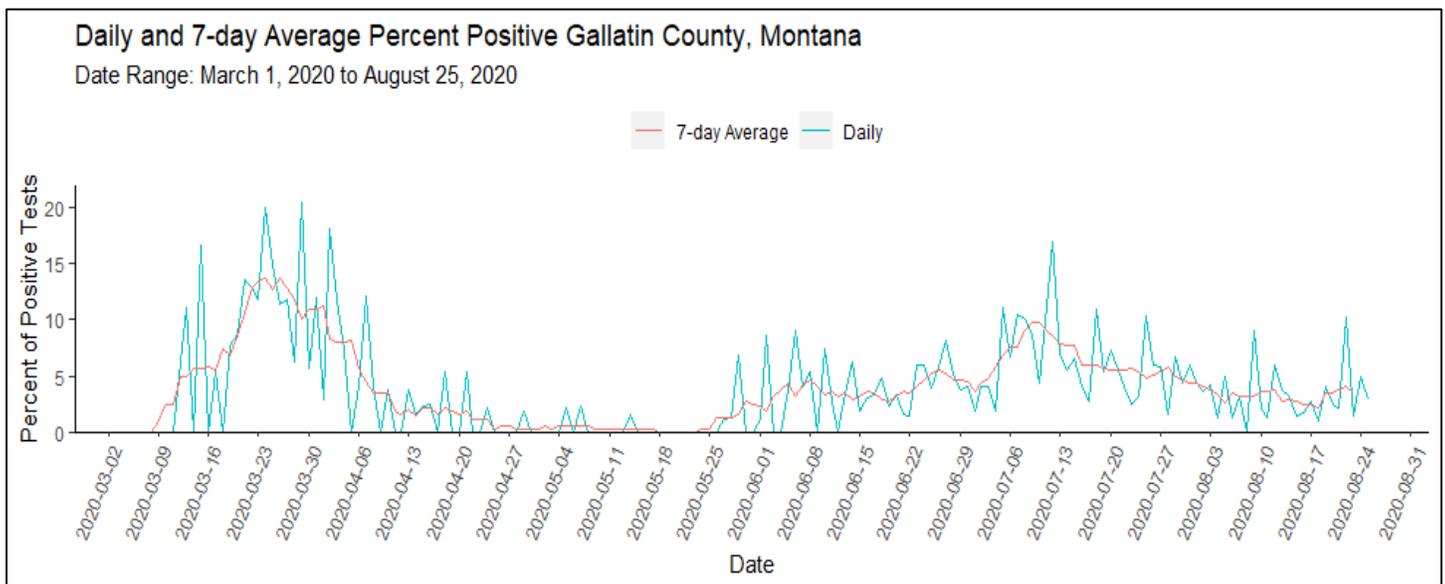


Figure 2. Describes the percent of positive tests by day and a 7-day rolling average of the percent of positive tests. The World Health Organization recommends a test positivity rate below 5% as a criteria for re-opening businesses. Public health experts say a positivity rate above 10% may mean more testing is necessary in order to avoid missing significant number of cases in the community. The 7-day rolling average of percent positive in Gallatin County was 3.4% on 8/23/2020, a 0.9% increase from the week prior.

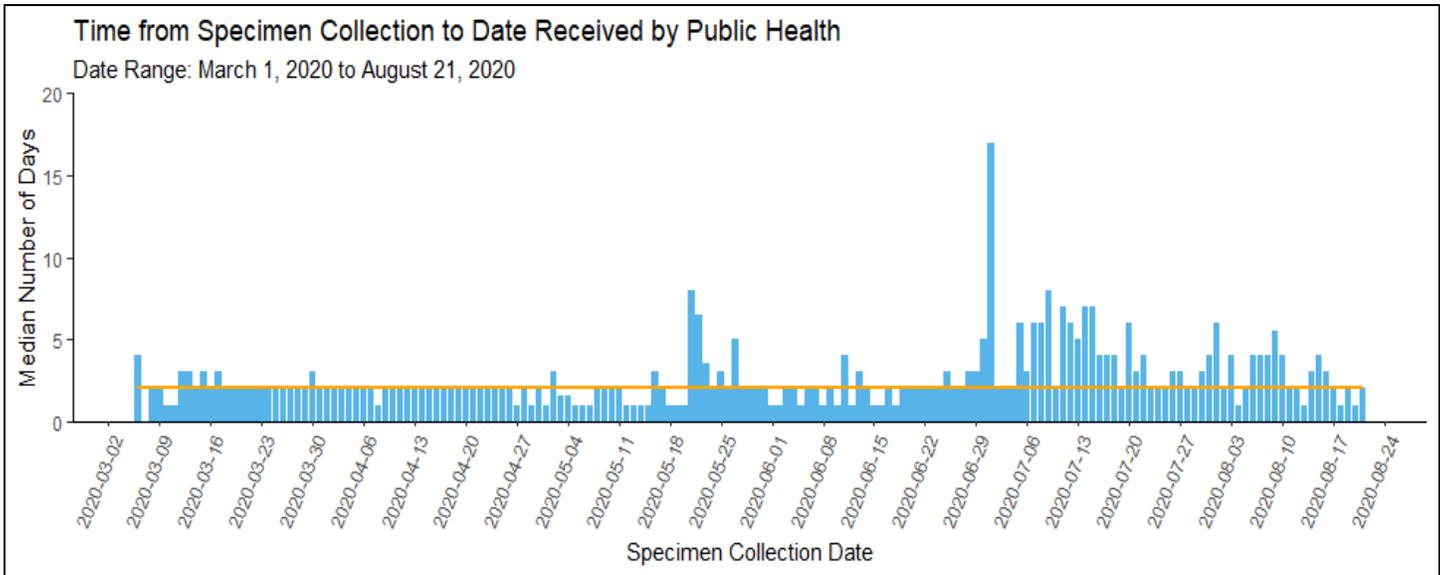


Figure 3. Describes the median number of days it takes a specimen collected until the result of the laboratory test is sent to GCCHD. The orange line on the figure above denotes 2 days. These data include laboratory tests transmitted electronically via the Montana Infectious Disease Information System (MIDIS). Ideally, local health departments receive test results within 24-48 hours of specimen collection. Consistent delays greater than that make it more difficult to slow spread of the disease through isolation and quarantine. The orange line in the chart shows the two-day mark.

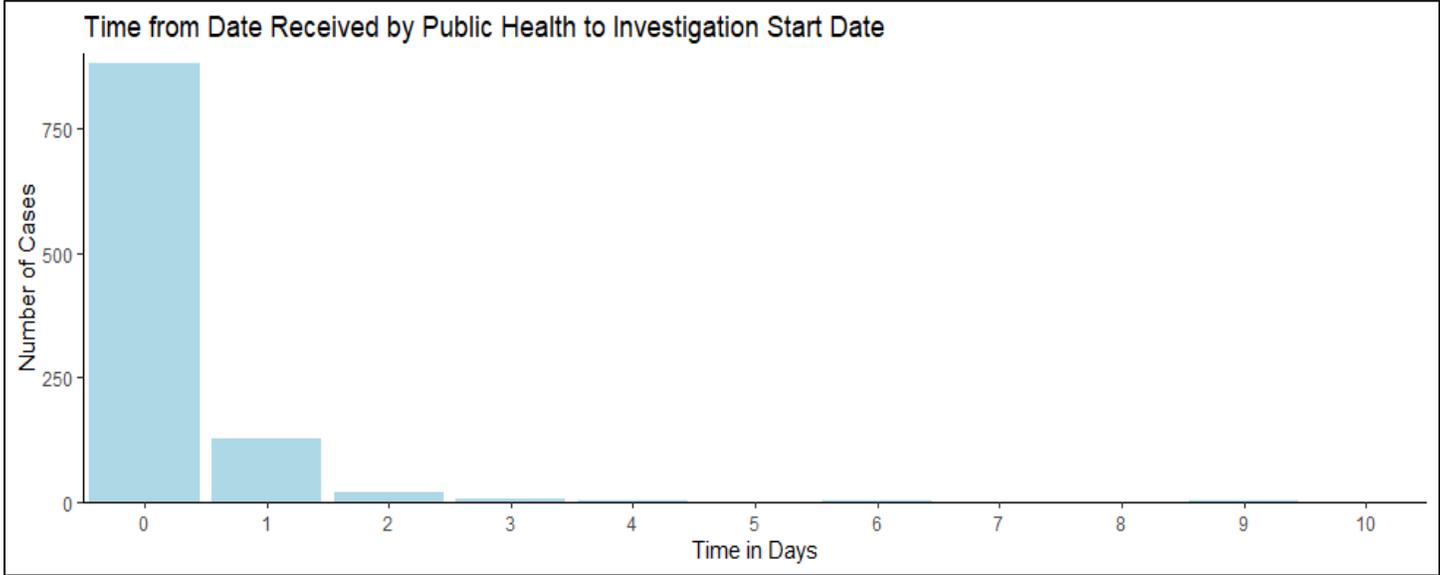


Figure 4. Describes the number of days from the time GCCHD is notified of a positive COVID-19 case and an investigation is started. Most COVID-19 case investigations (n=881) are initiated in less than 24 hours after notification is received, as evidenced by the first blue bar in the figure above. Delays longer than 24 hours may be an indication that case numbers are outstripping contact tracing capacity. The median time from date received to investigation start date the week ending 8/29/2020 was less than one day, unchanged from the previous week.

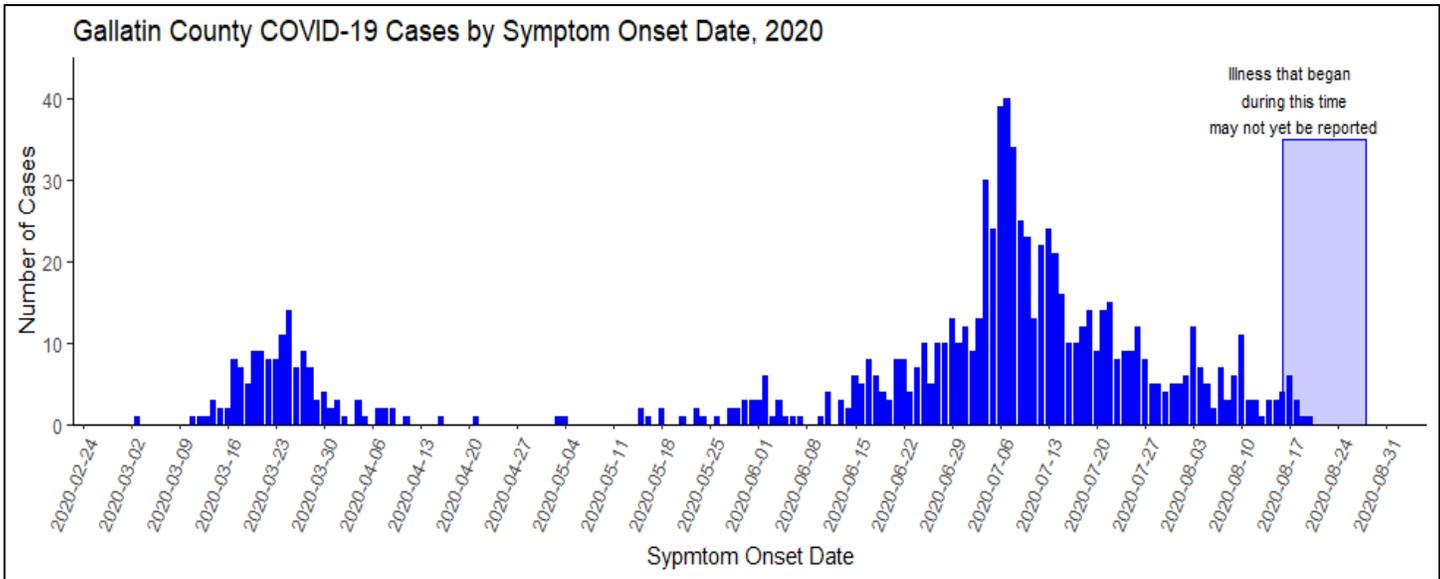


Figure 5. Epidemic curve of all cases residing or recovering in Gallatin County at the time of COVID-19 diagnosis displayed by date of symptom onset. Data only includes cases (n=874) with onset date information reported to GCCHD between March 1, 2020 to August 27, 2020. Onset date data may be unavailable because the COVID-19 case was asymptomatic, unable to determine when symptoms started, or was not responsive to public health outreach.

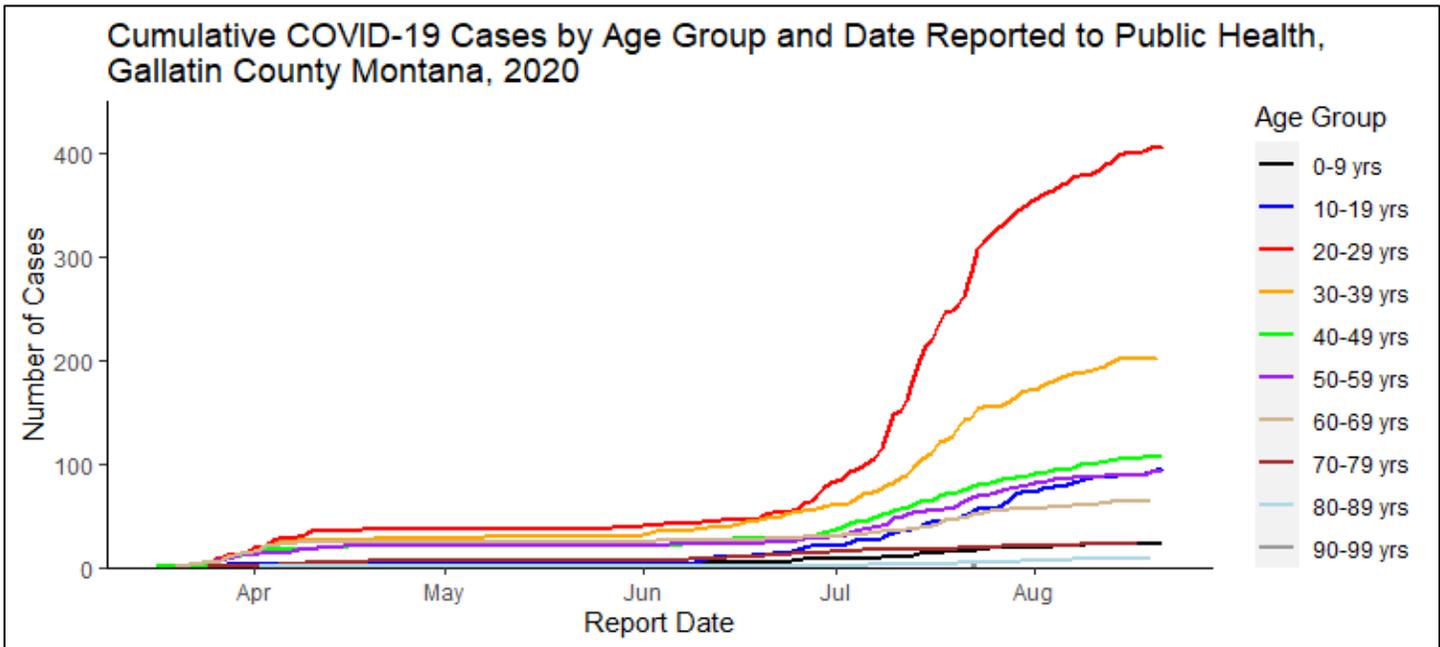


Figure 6. Describes the cumulative increase of COVID-19 cases over time among each ten-year age group from March 1, 2020 to August 21, 2020. The 20-29 year and 30-39 year age groups have experienced the greatest number of cases when compared to other age groups.