



MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

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La Crosse County Health Department Releases Coulee COVID-19 Compass to Guide Decision Making

The La Crosse County Health Department announced the release of the Coulee COVID-19 Compass at today's media briefing. "Building upon our statement of unity, this tool uses local data about the ongoing changes in level of risk related to COVID-19 in our community. It will help to guide individuals and businesses as they make decisions related to that risk," stated Jen Rombalski, Health Director of the La Crosse County Health Department. "COVID-19 isn't going to go away anytime soon, so it's important to empower our community to make safe choices."

The Coulee COVID-19 Compass is built using local data on testing, disease cases and investigation, health care and public health capacity and will be updated at least weekly in order to guide decision making. Metrics in three categories (Epidemiology Status, Healthcare Capacity, and Public Health Capacity) move the Compass needle between four risk levels. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the health department fully expects changes to the risk level over time. It's expected that the needle will move between lower and higher risk levels as our community experiences waves of the virus. This will occur until a vaccine or treatment is widely available.

The Coulee COVID-19 Compass is available for viewing at www.lacrossecounty.org/covid19 by clicking the COVID-19 Compass tab on the left hand side of the website. Questions and comments about the tool can be sent to covid19@lacrossecounty.org or to our call center at 608-785-6240.