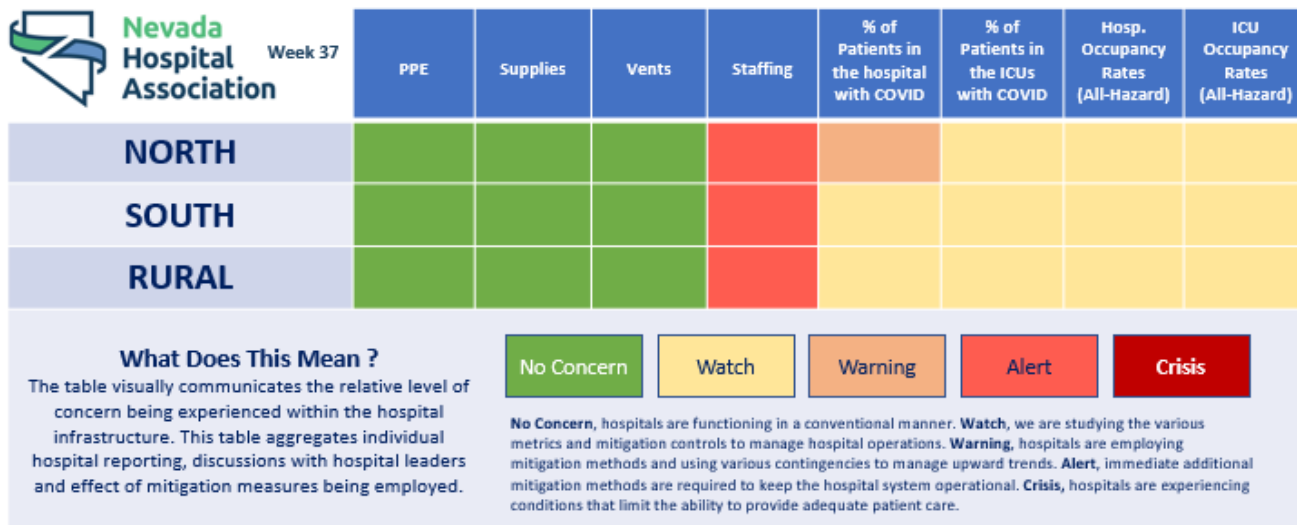


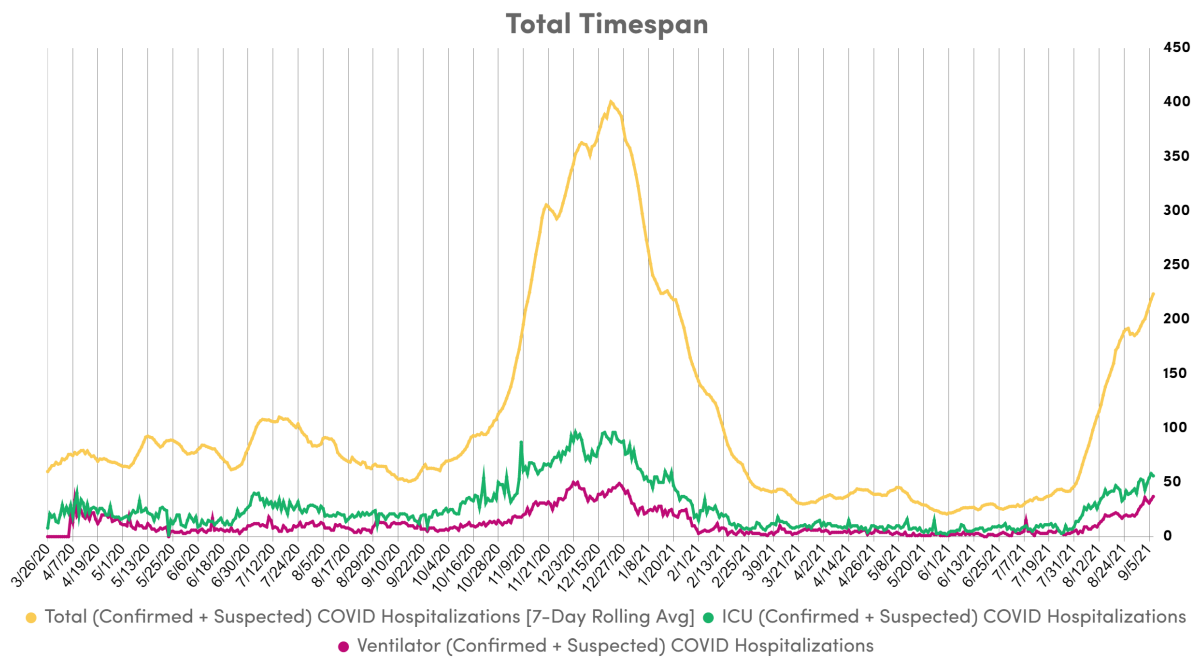
## Weekly Wrap Up - Week 37

**COVID-19 hospitalizations in the northern region and rural areas are climbing after a week of stabilization.** COVID-19 hospitalizations represent upwards of 20-25% of all patients hospitalized in the northern and rural areas with some variation by the facilities. The overwhelming majority of these patients are unvaccinated, driving some hospitals to publish pleas within their neighborhoods and communities to get vaccinated. Simultaneously, with the rising COVID-19 hospitalizations in much of the state, hospitals, and other healthcare entities are experiencing significant staffing shortages. These shortages are resulting in downstream patient care effects including ambulances delayed at hospitals, difficulties discharging or placing patients in a skilled nursing facility, and delayed or canceled procedures. Hospitals can limit some services, contract in size (limit the number of available beds), or augment staffing with employee incentives, overtime, or other enticements. All of these are viewed as short-term solutions to long-term problems.



Changes in the risk table from the last report include both “% of COVID patients in the hospitals” and “% in the ICUs” being elevated in the north. These changes are based on the continued increases that hospitals are appreciating. Staffing has been elevated to an alert and, as we are on the verge of flu season, hospitals have limited ability to deal with a surge of patients (all-cause). Augmentation staffing in the form of traveling nurses is essentially nonexistent at this time.

## Northern Region Graph



The graph above shows the continued increases in COVID-19 hospitalizations in the northern region. Please note, in the previous wave, there were three starts and stops before reaching the peak flow of inpatients.

To access individual charts or data elements please log into the portal at <https://praedico.m2medintel.com/>. Also, explore the "Risk Report" section for up-to-date medical intelligence notifications and prior week's wrap-up reports. If you need access, send an email to [COVID@nvha.net](mailto:COVID@nvha.net).