



GENESEE & ORLEANS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS



Paul A. Pettit, MSL
Public Health Director

Brenden A. Bedard, MPH
Deputy Public Health Director

COVID-19 Press Briefing

March 5, 2021 / 4:00 p.m.

* **We are in Phase 4.** Electronic Press Briefings will be sent out daily (Mon-Fri) at 4:00 p.m. and will include the narrative of the new cases and the charts. We only report the numbers that are directly received to our departments. ZOOM briefings will be scheduled on an as needed basis and ZOOM invites will be sent out. Any questions, either related to the briefings or for other issues to be addressed can be e-mailed to Nola Goodrich-Kresse (Nola.Goodrich-Kresse@orleanscountyny.gov) or Kristine Voos (Kristine.Voos@co.genesee.ny.us).

SITUATIONAL UPDATE: STAY HOME; WASH HANDS; SOCIAL DISTANCING; WEAR A FACE COVERING!

- Data Update –
- Genesee County received 12 new positive cases of COVID-19 for a total of 4331 positive cases.
 - The new positive cases reside in the:
 - Central Region (Alexander, Batavia, Bethany, Elba, Oakfield)
 - East Region (Bergen, Byron, LeRoy, Pavilion, Stafford)
 - The individuals are in their 0-19's, 20's, 30's, 40's, 60's, 70's and 80's.
 - 19 of the previous positive individuals have recovered and have been removed from the isolation list.
 - 3 of the current positive individuals are hospitalized.
- Orleans County received 4 new positive cases of COVID-19 for a total of 2437 positive cases.
 - The positive cases reside in the:
 - Central Region (Carlton, Gaines, Albion, Barre)
 - East Region (Kendall, Murray, Clarendon)
 - The individuals are in their, 20's, 30's and 60's.
 - 14 of the previous positive individuals have recovered and have been removed from the isolation list.
 - 2 of the current positive individuals are hospitalized.

Genesee Orleans County Health Departments COVID-19 Status
Reporting on 03/05/21

County	# Positive - Total	#Negative - Total	Mandatory Isolation - Community (Active / Positive)	# Deaths per NYSDOH Data - Total	#Recovered - Community
Genesee	4331	96648	74	118	3797
Orleans	2437	52203	34	81	2048
Total	6768	148851	108	199	5845

The State updates the raw positive and fatality data as they receive it and can be seen here: <http://bit.ly/NYSFatalityData> The data is updated on Fridays with the latest data.

Vaccinations:

Here is the breakdown by county of residence for those who will be receiving the 3,500 doses of COVID-19 vaccine at the New York State Temporary Mass Vaccination Clinic at GCC over the next 5 days.

- Erie County:** 1,666 spots or 47.6%
- Genesee County:** 596 spots or 17.03%
- Niagara County:** 446 spots or 12.74%
- Monroe County:** 326 spots or 9.31%
- Orleans County:** 169 spots or 4.83%
- Wyoming County:** 99 spots or 2.38%
- Livingston County:** 73 spots or 2.09%
- Ontario County:** 45 spots or 1.29%

And 15 other counties and out of state residents each had less than 1%

Travel Guidance Update: According to the Governor's announcement today, those who travel domestically will no longer be required to quarantine or test-out within 90 days of full vaccination. International Travelers will continue to follow CDC quarantine guidance. Check for the updated guidance here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>

Gathering Size: Beginning March 22 for residential gatherings 10 people indoors, 25 people outdoors. For social gatherings up to 100 people indoors, 200 people outdoors. Check for the updated guidance here: <https://forward.ny.gov/reopening-what-you-need-know>

Beginning April 2: Event, Arts, and Entertainment Venues- reopening at 33% capacity, up to 100

people indoors, 200 people outdoors. With attendee testing, capacity increases to 150 people indoors, 500 people outdoors. Rapid test is valid for 6 hours; PCR test is valid for 72 hours. Social distancing and face coverings are required by all attendees. Check for the updated guidance here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

Starting March 15, 2021, the Governor is allowing weddings at up to 50% of the venue capacity or up to 150 people (whichever is smaller) at weddings/catered events. See section D (In-person and Catered Events) of the Interim Guidance for Food Services During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency updated February 24, 2021

(https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Indoor_and_Outdoor_Food_Services_Detailed_Guidelines.pdf). There are strict guidelines to be followed and Responsible Parties are to notify the local health department if they plan to host in-person and catered events above the State's maximum social gathering limit, which is 50 people as of February 24, 2021. **Those who ignore the guidance can be fined and/or lose their license to operate.**

There continues to be a maximum of 10 people indoors and outdoors for residential gatherings.

Social distancing, wearing cloth masks/face coverings over the mouth and nose, and handwashing, cleaning and disinfection protocol requirements are to be continued to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Pharmacies Participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC: The Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination is a collaboration between the federal government, states and territories, and 21 national pharmacy partners and independent pharmacy networks to increase access to COVID-19 vaccination across the United States. To learn more use the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program/participating-pharmacies.html>

CV19 CheckUp: Learn about what your risk is to get COVID-19 and how to limit your risk. CV19 CheckUp is free, confidential, and easy to use. It is designed to help you be safer and healthier during the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://newyork.cv19checkup.org/>

Vaccine Information: To see how the COVID-19 vaccine is administered throughout the state go to the COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker: <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-tracker> This now includes the county breakdown.

Currently what limited supply of vaccine the County Health Departments receive are targeted for specific audiences as per NY State requirements/guidance. As this changes and we receive more vaccine to our counties we hope we will be able to further open up vaccine clinics. At this time all appointments are full, however we encourage you to keep monitoring in case people have canceled.

To check for vaccination clinics in Genesee and Orleans Counties please go to: <http://bit.ly/GOHealthVaccine>

For more information about the vaccine and access for those who are 65 and older who do NOT have internet access, please contact your respective Office for the Aging (OFA). For Genesee

OFA please call 585-813-2457 for COVID-19 Vaccine assistance between 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and leave a message if you get voicemail and someone will return the call. For Orleans OFA please call 585-589-3191 between 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and leave a message if you get voicemail and someone will return the call. The OFA offices can only assist with the clinic links as they are available. The system may experience slowdowns and crashing due to high volume. Please be patient and try again later.

The NYS Department of Health has set up various opportunities for vaccination. As of January 11, 2021, New Yorkers in **Phase 1a** and segments of **Phase 1b** are [eligible](#) for the vaccines. **ALL VACCINATIONS ARE BY ONLINE APPOINTMENT ONLY.** Eligible groups include doctors, nurses and health care workers, people age 65 and over, first responders, teachers, public transit workers, grocery store workers and public safety workers. Residents and staff at nursing homes and other long-term care facilities will continue to be vaccinated through a [federal program](#), which the state is providing resources to accelerate.

- **People age 65 and over will primarily be vaccinated at pharmacies** and other sites that are part of the “retail network.” Please go to your pharmacy website for more information on vaccine availability and to make appointments. Do **not** call the pharmacies for COVID-19 vaccine as they do not have the staff to handle the calls. Currently, **by direction of NY State, pharmacies can only provide COVID-19 vaccine to those 65 and older.**
- **Health care workers** who are part of Phase 1a will continue to be vaccinated at hospitals and other clinical settings.
- **Public employees** (for example, police departments, public school teachers and MTA employees) will primarily be vaccinated through their groups’ relevant health programs or as organized by their unions.
- **County Public Health Clinics are** under the guidance of the state and must prioritize the essential worker population 1B group.

To see who are currently included in the 1A and 1B priority groups to check eligibility go to <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>.

The local vaccine availability is limited and determined by the state. For more information on when it will be available for the general public keep checking our website: <http://bit.ly/GOHealthVaccine> or the NYS Department of Health website: <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

Percent Positive 7/14 - day average click here (<https://forward.ny.gov/percentage-positive-results-county-dashboard>)

To review the raw positive data for each of the counties click the following link: <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCOVID-19Tracker-Map?%3Aembed=yes&%3Atoolbar=no&%3Atabs=n>

Click [here](#) to view the Genesee and Orleans County online map of confirmed cases.

A reminder the numbers listed as positive/active are current community cases. The recovered numbers are only for community cases and do not include non-county regulated facilities. The total

positive cases includes community active/positive, community recovered and all those from non-county regulated facilities.

Rapid Testing: [Pre-registration is required for rapid testing clinics.](#)

Please note if you have recently tested positive, please do NOT come and get tested again at these clinics. These clinics are to identify new cases, not to determine if you are now negative. It is important to understand that you may still test positive for several weeks after initially testing positive.

Use the Rapid COVID-19 Test Intake Form for Genesee County COVID-19 Rapid Test Clinics. You will need one form per person being tested.

If you are filling out the form, please complete it, [print it out and bring it with you.](#) [Click here for the form: http://bit.ly/GOHealthIntakeForm](#)

Please note these may be NEW links

- To register for the Genesee County Testing Clinic please go to: <http://bit.ly/GeneseeTest>

Following this week, testing will be determined on a week-to-week basis as our focus will be on vaccine moving forward. When vaccine is limited, we may hold testing clinics. Check the links periodically for further information. The testing clinics will continue to be held at the Genesee County Fire Training Center for both Genesee and Orleans County residents.

- **After testing, go home to wait for your results...do NOT go out in public.**
- If the clinics are closed please check the NYS COVID-19 Drive through test sites: Call New York State Department of Health Testing Appointments Call 1-888-364-3065 or
 - Monroe Community College – testing by appointment only: <https://www.monroecc.edu/index.php?id=29078>
 - Niagara County Community College - <https://covid19screening.health.ny.gov/covid-19-screening/>

To learn more about the businesses and restrictions go to <https://forward.ny.gov/ny-forward>

To learn more about large gatherings, quarantines and travel go to:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/travel-large-gatherings-and-quarantines#quarantines>

COVID-19 101 Reminders: If a person is identified as a contact, they will be notified by the County Health Department, quarantined and if warranted, swabbed if indicated. Limited information is provided to the public in compliance with **HIPAA regulations and out of the respect of those impacted by this virus.**

- When, and if, there is a situation where potential contact is made in a public location where contact tracing doesn't have actual names of close contacts, we will send out a media announcement to help seek contacts.
- If you are experiencing **ANY** COVID-19 related symptoms **STAY HOME!** Do not go to work, do not go to the store, do not go anywhere, **YOU** are spreading the virus. **STAY HOME!**
- **We encourage everyone to remember to be polite and respect individual privacy. If you have a complaint about someone or a business use the appropriate channels provided by the state.** **To file a complaint about a business, location or incident in your community you can call 1-833-789-0470 or use the [online form.](#)**

- **Using social media to air your complaints and accusing individuals / businesses of wrong doing generally does nothing to fix the problem. Be compassionate of other people and spread kindness.**

Reminders

- **Flu Season:** It is important to get your flu shots now to build up immunity. It generally takes 2 weeks before immunity is built up after getting the shot. Once you have the flu vaccine, if you do get the flu, research shows that the vaccination reduces the risk of severe illness. Getting a flu vaccine can save healthcare resources for the care of patients with COVID-19 and other illnesses. Talk with your primary care provider today! #SleeveUp #FightFlu For locations go to <https://vaccinefinder.org/>. It is always good to call prior to going to make sure they have your vaccine in stock.
- **Flu Tracking: For the 2020-2021 Flu Season we will provide data weekly on the current influenza activity. To check the data click [here](#). For the current week ending date 02/27/21 Genesee County has 0 cases and Orleans County has 0 cases. There are 148 cases statewide. This is +37% from the previous week. Cases (Statewide) Season to date: 3,804. This data is influenza that is confirmed by laboratory testing. Not everyone seeks testing for confirmation of the flu.**
- **School Guidance:** Click [here](#) to access the COVID-19 Report Card.

COVID-19 Resources: For general inquiries contact or call the Hotline: **1-888-364-3065** or click [Ask Question](#)

- To file a report of an individual failing to adhere to the quarantine pursuant to the travel advisory, please call **1-833-789-0470** or click [here](#) to file a complaint online.
- Complaints and concerns: <https://forward.ny.gov/new-york-state-pause>
- Finger Lakes Regional Control Room: flnyf@esd.ny.gov
- To file a complaint about a business, location or incident in your community you can call **1-833-789-0470** or <https://mylicense.custhelp.com/app/ask>
- To find a test site, click the link: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>
- ROC COVID-19 Health Screener: To learn more go to: <https://www.roccovid.org/index.html>
- For access to various languages and ASL videos click this CDC [link](#).
- **211 Now Available for COVID-19 Info:** Individuals across our region can now call 211 to get COVID-19 information and clinic updates (scheduling appointments through 211 is not available at this time).

Mental Health Resources:

Care+Crisis Helpline: 585-283-5200 or text 'Talk' to 741741
Genesee County Mental Health Department: 585-344-1421
Orleans County Mental Health Department: 585-589-7066