



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 23, 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 reporting 12 new positive cases of COVID-19 for a total of 4548 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, 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's.
 - 30 of the previous positive individuals have recovered and have been removed from the isolation list.
 - 3 of the current positive individuals are hospitalized.
 - *We are very sad to report the COVID-related death of one of our county residents. The individual was over the age of 65. We do not provide any further information to protect the privacy of the individual and their family. Our deepest condolences to the family and friends during this very difficult time.*
- Orleans County reporting 3 new positive cases of COVID-19 for a total of 2516 positive cases.
 - The positive cases reside in the:
 - Central Region (Carlton, Gaines, Albion, Barre)
 - The individuals are in their, 0-19's, 30's, and 40's.

- 5 of the previous positive individuals has recovered and has been removed from the isolation list.
- 0 of the current positive individuals are hospitalized.

Genesee Orleans County Health Departments COVID-19 Status
Reporting on 03/23/21

County	# Positive - Total	#Negative - Total	Mandatory Isolation - Community (Active / Positive)	NYS Fatality Data	#Recovered - Community
Genesee	4548	105480	63	http://bit.ly/NYSFatalityData	3998
Orleans	2516	56139	27		2132
Total	7064	161619	90		6130

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.

The Finger Lakes Vaccine Hub has launched a Finger Lakes Region Vaccine Finder:

<https://flvaccinehub.org/getting-your-vaccine/#vaccine-finder>

For wedding and defined catered events, the following guidance and GO Health Large Event form are specific to these events and do not go by the non-essential gathering guidance. 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. **All venues/event planners are to complete the Genesee Orleans (GO Health) COVID-19 In-Person and Catered Events Notification Form no less than 5 days prior to the event – for events above NYS's maximum social gathering limit, which is located on the Genesee and Orleans County Health Departments websites.** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GOHealthLargeEvent> Those who ignore the guidance can be fined and/or lose their license to operate.

NY Forward Rapid Test Program: <https://forward.ny.gov/ny-forward-rapid-test-program>

Beginning April 1st, New York State will no longer require quarantine for domestic travelers. International travelers will still need to quarantine. All travelers will still be required to complete the Traveler Health Form. For updated Traveler Guidance go to

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>. Regardless of quarantine status, all individuals exposed to COVID-19 or returning from travel must:

- Continue daily symptom monitoring through Day 14;
- Continue strict adherence to all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions, including hand hygiene, and the use of face coverings, through Day 14 (even if fully vaccinated);
- Must immediately self-isolate if any symptoms develop and contact their healthcare provider or the local public health authority to report this change in clinical status and determine if they should seek testing.

Beginning March 23rd, all New Yorkers 50 years and older will be eligible to receive the vaccine. Public facing essential workers from governmental and nonprofit organizations will be eligible beginning March 17th. This expansion includes public-facing essential building services workers. Providers, including Pharmacies will be able to vaccinate any eligible New Yorkers, in line with federal policy beginning March 10th. This is all subject to the availability of the vaccine to the providers. This new addition of new eligible residents still far exceeds the supply of vaccine received in our counties. Individuals who are eligible must have an appointment in order to get a vaccine.

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 60 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.

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/>

Restaurants: As of March 19th, New York State is increasing restaurant capacity from 50% to 75% for counties outside of New York City. Further guidance is expected.

Travel Guidance Update: 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 non-essential social gatherings (not including weddings and catered events) 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>

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.

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.

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. If there is no link, there isn't a testing clinic available. This will be determined week-to-week.

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.

Please note these may be NEW links

- To register for the **Genesee County or Orleans County Testing Clinics** please go to: <https://orleanscountyny.com/covid19testing/>
- Starting March 24th, Orleans County will have limited rapid testing available at the Orleans County Health Department. You must have an appointment in order to be tested. Use the link above. Following this week, Genesee County will be moving their testing clinic, more details to follow. Check the testing link above periodically for further information.
- **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 post an announcement on our websites 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 03/13/21 Genesee County has 0 cases and Orleans County has 0 cases. There are 114 cases statewide. This is +4% from the previous week. Cases (Statewide) Season to date: 4,028. 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