



# GENESEE AND ORLEANS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS



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## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### COVID-19 Update – COVID-19 Transmission Rate Update

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Genesee Orleans County Health Departments (GCHD/OCHD) uses 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons.

**Health Alerts** convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from New York health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies, and/or the public.

**Health Advisories** provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

**Health Guidance** contains comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and includes recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by GCHD/OCHD.

**Health Updates** provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

“Both Genesee and Orleans Counties are now in a high level of community transmission according to the CDC COVID Data Tracker (<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>),” stated Paul Pettit, Director of the Genesee and Orleans County Health Departments (GO Health). “Genesee and Orleans Counties are currently at 99 active cases. We are also reporting eleven hospitalizations between the two counties, with 8 in Genesee and 3 in Orleans. All of these hospitalizations are community members across the age spectrum and not nursing home residents. The majority are unvaccinated.”

We encourage everyone to follow the public health prevention precautions as noted below. It is important for those who are not currently vaccinated to talk with their primary care provider to determine whether getting vaccinated is right for them. “The best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 or health complications from COVID-19 is to get vaccinated. The vaccine is proven to be safe and effective,” stated Pettit.

Per the CDC recommendations for communities with high spread of COVID-19 we encourage everyone, vaccinated and unvaccinated, to wear masks when indoors in public and when at crowded outdoor settings.

Everyone should continue practicing the following public health prevention precautions:

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
  - If water is not readily available, use hand sanitizer.
- Wash and sanitize frequently shared/touched items.
- Stay 6 feet away from others and avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.
- Wear a face mask indoors in public and crowded outdoor settings.
- Monitor your health daily and stay home if you are experiencing any symptoms.
- Get tested if you are experiencing symptoms and self-isolate until you get your results back. If you test positive for COVID, you are to isolate for 10 days.

For up to date data, GO Health updates the Emerging Issues page of the website (<https://gohealthny.org/emerging-issues/>) on Mondays and Thursdays and posts the data on our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages (GOHealthNY is the user name for each of these platforms).

The Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming County Health Departments COVID-19 Case and Vaccination Tracker is updated daily (<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/5f8401b0516247b490934303e3975e49/>)