



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #107

COVID-19 Response

December 3rd, 2020

County EOC Status: Monitoring

State EOC: Activated

Distribution List: Villages, Townships, Seneca County Elected Officials, City of Tiffin Elected Officials, City of Fostoria Elected Officials, Fire Chiefs, Law Enforcement, Seneca County Education Contacts and LEPC/HS and Mental Health Recovery Services

FROM ODH: Today's data is incomplete. Thousands of reports are pending review. Please bear with us as we work through the surge in testing.

Ohio

Confirmed Cases: 422,848 (+24,477 in the last 72 hours)

Probable: 24,001

Confirmed Deaths: 6,304

Probable Deaths: 449

Seneca County: LEVEL 3 (High Incidence) PUBLIC EMERGENCY [Ohio's Public Health Advisory System](#)

Metrics (as of 12/2)

Total Cases: 2,226 (+337)

Active Cases: 829 (-33)

Deaths: 33 (+5)

Recovered: 1341 (+266)

Hospitalized: 36 (+2)

Due to the change suggested by the CDC in the way the health department does contact tracing, there will be a lag in the data just as there is a lag at the state level. We will get the statistics updated as soon as possible.

Resources:

Ohio ODH: coronavirus.ohio.gov

CDC: CDC.gov

Seneca County General Health District: senecahealthdistrict.org

Executive Summary

GOVERNOR: Citing objections from health care professionals and business leaders as being detrimental to pandemic response and public health, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine today vetoed Substitute Senate Bill 311, stating in his veto message that "it is not in the best interest of protecting the health and safety of all Ohioans."

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Senate Bill 311 prohibits the ODH Director from issuing general, mandatory orders of isolation, and gives the General Assembly the ability to rescind ODH orders preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

VACCINES: During today's press conference, Governor DeWine gave more details about the vaccines that are expected to arrive in the coming weeks. He has planned a press conference tomorrow to focus on the plan for vaccine distribution and administration.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY SYSTEM: We have updated the map below. Franklin County has been removed from the purple tier, however Medina, Summit, Portage, Richland and Stark counties have all been added.

TRAVEL ADVISORY MAP: The map of states in which Ohioans are asked to quarantine when returning from has been updated. Ohio has now reached the 15% positivity rate, the threshold for travel advisories for other states. The latest map is attached to the email.

UNEMPLOYMENT: Ohioans filed 27,750 initial applications for unemployment compensation last week, according to data released Thursday by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The total represented an 8% decline from the previous week, when residents filed 30,177 jobless claims.

The agency reported Ohioans filed 256,776 continued claims last week, down from 263,737 the week before.

VACCINES: Prospective COVID-19 vaccine providers are encouraged to review the [enrollment checklist](#), [FAQ's Document](#), and [view the webinar](#) that details how to enroll.

To enroll in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program:

Visit OHID webpage: <https://ohid.ohio.gov>

Log-in using your OHID or create a new account

[Request access to the Vaccination Program \(COVID-19\) application](#)

Complete, sign, and submit all required forms electronically through the application

Other resources:

[ODH Provider Enrollment Information](#)

[ODH Provider Training](#)

[Interim DRAFT Vaccination Plan](#)

PHASED APPROACH TO ADMINISTRATION

The administration has yet to finalize a phased approach to the administration of the vaccine, however he is expected to unveil details of that plan Friday, December 4th, with health care workers and first responder anticipated to be among the first to receive doses.

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TESTING LOCATIONS: DeWine has started a walk-up/drive-up testing initiative with the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers and their affiliate members and the Ohio National Guard. These sites will also include other local community-based organizations i.e., faith-based organizations, community centers, food pantries, etc.

Testing for this initiative will be available for individuals with or without symptoms. The test has no out-of-pocket cost to the patient and individuals of any age are able to access the test. Minors will need signed consent of a parent/guardian.

For an exhaustive list of all the locations in the state that are offering testing, [click here](#).

Travel Advisory: Those entering Ohio after traveling to states reporting positive testing rates of 15% or higher for COVID-19 are advised to self-quarantine for 14 days.

The list of states will be updated every week on Wednesday. Based on a 7-day rolling average of positivity rates of November 18, the affected states are highlighted in yellow on the attached map.

Seneca County Commissioners: www.senecacountyohio.gov

The Seneca County Board of Commissioners heard positive reports from Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership and Great Lakes Community Action Partnership Thursday morning concerning grants awarded to assist residents, businesses and nonprofits to help deal with the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The commissioners previously committed about \$1.25 million to five area agencies to help those negatively affected by the health crisis. The funds were allocated to Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership, Fostoria Economic Development Corp., Great Lakes Community Action Partnership, Tiffin-Seneca United Way and Seneca County Department of Job and Family Services.

On Thursday, TSEP Rural Development Manager Audrey Flood reported that 126 businesses were assisted through the county's allocation.

Flood said local jurisdictions were invited to participate in the program, with seven entities pitching in. A total of \$846,146 was made available including about \$400,000 from Seneca County. The city of Tiffin contributed \$241,650, while Green Springs, Bettsville and Clinton, Bloom, Hopewell, Eden and Pleasant townships also contributed CARES Act money to assist local businesses through TSEP.

The commissioners initially committed \$300,000 to the program but added on nearly \$100,000 more Thursday to make sure all eligible applicants were funded. Flood said 126 businesses received funding and a total of \$846,146 was awarded. Disbursement is underway this week. Flood said \$486,000 of the funds went to rural businesses outside of the two cities, this marks about 58 percent of the total amount.

The businesses that received help each had at least a 15-percent decline in revenue due to the pandemic. The commissioners thanked TSEP personnel for their hard work in getting the money rolled out to the organizations and businesses that needed it the most. To see Flood's full report, see the attached .pdf.

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Although the application deadline for the TSEP and FEDC programs has passed, residents may still reach out to GLCAP, Tiffin-Seneca United Way or Seneca County DJFS for information on how to apply for funding. Several programs are available, including mortgage, rent, food and utility assistance. GLCAP President RuthAnn House also gave a brief, but positive report.

“We are doing extremely well in serving people with the Cares Act dollars,” she said. “We are estimating that by the end of this week, we will have expended all the funds (provided by the commissioners).”

The commissioners allocated \$250,000 in an attempt to assist those in the community who are in need due to COVID-19.

House said she would provide a more formal report in January when figures are finalized.

In other business, the commissioners briefly previewed an upcoming meeting to be held at 7 p.m. Monday via Zoom. The meeting will be dedicated to emergency medical services discussion, and the board is expected to be joined by Joint Ambulance District leadership. You can join the meeting at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89248935920?pwd=aVZoNWszNmVzNFNwMGdvS01rMGZvUT09>

Also during the meeting, the commissioners affirmed its December meeting schedule. The board plans to meet for board sessions on Dec. 10 and 17, with additional meetings scheduled for the 22nd and 29th, if needed.

During new business, the board accepted:

- * Appointing Patricia Smith to the Seneca County (169) Board for Seneca County Opportunity Center.
- * Authorizing Seneca County Job and Family Services to transfer TANF funds to Morrow County Job and Family Services.
- * Establishing the Fiscal Year 2020 COSSAP Fund on behalf of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office.
- * A \$5,000 supplemental appropriation for CARES Act money, amended to remedy a calculation error.

Seneca County General Health District: www.senecahealthdept.org

Seneca County Health Commissioner will produce Facebook Live videos with updates from the Health District. This will occur at 10:30 on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Videos will be archived on Facebook and can be viewed live on the Health Department's and Commissioner's FB pages.

Emergency Management Agency

What do you do if you have symptoms of COVID? Contact your doctor. If you don't have a doctor, but have insurance, check to see if your insurance has tele-health and see a doctor. If your doctor does not recommend a COVID test but you need one, call the Tiffin Community Health Center, 419.455.8140 and make an appointment.

PCR swab tests may take 4-6 days to return results as they must be sent to a lab and be cultured to test for the virus. Rapid tests have a much shorter return time, but are in short supply. No test is 100% accurate. The test relies on, among other things, the amount of virus in your system at the time of the test. Tests are available at the following locations:

PCR (4-6 day return):

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Mercy Health-Tiffin Hospital (with Drs. order)
ProMedica Hospital (with Drs. order)
Tiffin Community Health Center (Tele-health or Dr. on site)

Rapid Test (6-8 hour return):

Urgent Care (Tele-health or Dr. onsite)
CVS

The Public Health Advisory System shows that Seneca County has met 5 of the 7 indicators needed to change the level. Wearing a mask, washing your hands and/or using hand sanitizer and not congregating with friends or family not living in your household is the best way to stem the tide of this virus. This is inconvenient and difficult, but necessary.

The EMA will continue to update our partners on the numbers twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays. Please continue to send your information to be shared with our partners to jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov.

Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio: hcno.org

Please see the attached COVID-19 Data Report for 11/30/20. Throughout the COVID-19 response, HCNO will release updated reports regularly using this format

Key points:

- Regionally, there are 758 COVID-19 patients with 428 (57%) in Lucas County hospitals, 100 (13%) in Allen County hospitals, and the remaining 230 (30%) from other NW Ohio counties
- Regionally, there are 193 COVID-19 Critical Care patients with 131 (68%) in Lucas County hospitals, 17 (9%) in Allen County hospitals, and the remaining 45 (23%) from other NW Ohio counties
- Out of 38 regional hospitals reporting, 20 hospitals reported strained or critical nursing shortages (53%)
- The number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients in Region 1 and Regions 1, 2 and 5 (Zone 1) combined continues to increase
 - o Region 1 COVID-19 hospitalized patients are higher than our previous peak in the 200-330 range in mid-April
 - o Zone 1 COVID-19 hospitalized patients are higher than our previous peak in the 690-700 range in mid-April
- Cases reported through the Ohio Department of Health continue to increase substantially each day

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- The statewide median age for COVID-19 is 42 years old
- The statewide 7-day average positivity rate for testing is 15.1%

Seneca County Regional Planning: senecarpc.org

Blood Collection: www.redcross.org

For a limited time, your blood donation will include an antibody test with results returned to you through your Red Cross Donor App. Go to redcrossblood.org for more information.

Blood Collection Screeners Needed: COVID-19 has disrupted our daily lives, but the need for lifesaving blood hasn't changed. To help protect everyone's safety, we have a need for Donor Screener volunteers (ages 18+) to take the temperatures of blood donors entering American Red Cross blood drives or donation centers.

In this volunteer position you can volunteer just once or multiple times, the choice is yours! Apply now at www.redcross.org/volunteer

For more information or questions, please contact Melanie Collins at Melanie.Collins4@redcross.org or 330-204-6615.

Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties: www.mhrsbsw.org

City of Tiffin: www.tiffinohio.gov

Job and Family Services: <https://djfs.co.seneca.oh.us/>

Please see the attached update on jobless claims from the state.

Education: <http://www.ncoesc.org/>

Tiffin-Seneca Public Library: <http://tiffinsenecalibrary.org>

OSS Solid Waste District: <https://recycleoss.org/>

Economic Recovery (Seneca County): <https://www.tiffinchamber.com/coronavirus-resources>

Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership: <https://senecasuccess.wordpress.com/tag/tsep/>

This situational report will be sent around 4 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays and as needed on other weekdays and weekends.

If you wish to update or add information to this report, please send it to the EMA at jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov by 2:30 p.m. each publishing day.

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