



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #109
COVID-19 Response
December 10th, 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

Ohio

Confirmed Cases: 489,078 (+30,085 in the last 96 hours)
Probable: 42,772
Confirmed Deaths: 6,772
Probable Deaths: 526

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

Metrics (as of 12/10)

Total Cases: 2,629 (+330)
Active Cases: 744 (+5)
Deaths: 49 (+10)
Recovered: 1591 (+93)
Hospitalized: 46 (+4)

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](https://www.cdc.gov)

Seneca County General Health District: senecahealthdistrict.org

Executive Summary

GOVERNOR: Today was the fourth highest increase of cases since the start of the pandemic. Governor DeWine stressed that the next three weeks are crucial in the fight to reduce the spread, particularly with the holidays. He announced that there will be another Stay Safe Ohio order signed which extends the curfew and mask orders through January 2, 2021.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY SYSTEM: In the latest county map, Lorain, Lake and Montgomery have been lowered from purple to red, however a record number of counties are now red. The new map can be found in the section below.

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TRAVEL ADVISORY: This week's map looks much the same as last week's, however Tennessee has been added.

CDC GUIDANCE: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released a scientific brief with considerations for reducing the duration of quarantine for COVID-19 using symptom-monitoring and diagnostic testing. The Ohio Department of Health has adopted this policy and it can be found attached to the email. Seneca County has adopted the same guidance with the exception of the 7 day option.

VACCINE PROVIDERS: 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 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

Governor DeWine announced that Phase 1A of the vaccine will be available around December 15, 2020. Phase 1A of distribution priorities - in no particular order include:

Health care providers and personnel routinely involved with the care of COVID-19 patients

Residents and staff at nursing facilities

Residents and staff at assisted living facilities

Residents and staff of Ohio's veterans' homes

Patients and staff at psychiatric hospitals

People with intellectual disabilities and those who live with mental illness who live in group homes and their staff

EMS responders

The federal government has made it clear that we will not know for sure how many vaccines are coming until closer to the time the shipments are finalized.

Our current understanding, which is subject to change, is that we will receive a shipment from Pfizer on December 15th with 9,750 vaccines for hospitals (prepositioned sites) and 88,725 for Walgreens and CVS for congregate care settings.

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On December 22, we anticipate a shipment of 201,000 vaccines from Moderna. These will go to 98 hospitals and 108 health departments. Hospitals will vaccinate those dealing with COVID-19 patients. Health departments will vaccinate people like EMS, home health care works, and others.

TESTING LOCATIONS: Seneca County is currently in the process of scheduling pop up testing. Date is tentatively scheduled with the National Guard in January.

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

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:

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PCR (4-6 day return):

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 **12/9/20**. Throughout the COVID-19 response, HCNO will release updated reports regularly using this format

Key points:

- Regionally, there are 710 COVID-19 patients with 422 (59%) in Lucas County hospitals, 83 (12%) in Allen County hospitals, and the remaining 205 (29%) from other NW Ohio counties
- Regionally, there are 174 COVID-19 Critical Care patients with 122 (70%) in Lucas County hospitals, 15 (9%) in Allen County hospitals, and the remaining 37 (21%) 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
 - Region 1 COVID-19 hospitalized patients are higher than our previous peak in the 200-330 range in mid-April
 - Zone 1's 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
- The statewide median age for COVID-19 is 42 years old
- The statewide 7-day average positivity rate for testing is 16%

Seneca County Regional Planning: senecarpc.org

Blood Collection: www.redcross.org

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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.mhrbssw.org

City of Tiffin: www.tiffinohio.gov

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

UNEMPLOYMENT: Ohioans filed 36,327 initial claims for unemployment benefits last week, up from 27,750 the week before, the Department of Job and Family Services reported Thursday.

The data continues the up-and-down pattern of recent weeks and reflects the stubborn nature of an economy struggling to fully recover in the face of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Last week's total, for example, was down 8% from the prior week.

ODJFS, however, pointed out that this week's filings equaled only 13% of the peak number of weekly claims – 237,888 – filed during one week in the spring earlier this year. The total number of initial jobless claims filed in Ohio over the last 38 weeks, at 1,969,894, is more than the combined total filed during the last four years, according to the agency.

Meanwhile, Ohioans filed 271,518 continuing jobless claims last week for traditional unemployment and extended benefits, which was 504,784, or 35%, off this year's peak, ODJFS said. In addition, 253,598 self-employed Ohioans received Pandemic Unemployment Assistance last week.

Over the last 38 weeks, ODJFS reported distributing more than \$7.4 billion in unemployment compensation payments to more than 859,000 Ohioans. Of the more than 1 million applications the agency has received, about 95% have been processed, the agency said. The state has issued more than \$7.2 billion in PUA payments to more than 727,000 Ohioans.

The national claims data also appears to have flattened out after dropping significantly from the spring peak, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's running total. In the week ending Dec. 5, there were 853,000 initial jobless claims filed across the nation, an increase of 137,000 from the previous week's revised level.

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

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

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

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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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