



**Seneca County EMA Situation Report #113**  
**COVID-19 Response**  
**December 24th, 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: 590,630 (+19,856 in the last 72 hours)**  
**Probable: 63,020**  
**Confirmed Deaths: 7,687**  
**Probable Deaths: 769**

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

**Metrics (as of 12/23)**

**Total Cases: 3,237 (+200)**  
**Active Cases: 492 (-287)**  
**Deaths: 73 (+10)**  
**Recovered: 2393 (+172)**  
**Hospitalized: 19 (+1)**

**Resources:**

**Ohio ODH: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)**

**CDC: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)**

**Seneca County General Health District: [senecahealthdistrict.org](https://senecahealthdistrict.org)**

**Executive Summary**

**GOVERNOR:** Today, there are 7,790 new cases in Ohio. This is below average for the past 3 weeks, but is still at the elevated level we have seen since mid-November.

The Ohio Department of Health has released two new [maps](#) today. The first is a Cases per Capita Over Time. This map is designed to show you how your county compares to other counties. The second new map is an ICU Admissions Over Time map. This map shows each Hospital Preparedness Region and what percentage of the ICU patient population are COVID-19 patients. At the start of August, around 1 in 8 ICU patients statewide had COVID-19. Now, it is approximately 1 in 3 patients.

These two [maps](#) will be updated each week on Thursday.

**VACCINE:** We are currently in Phase 1-A of the vaccination process; however, Governor DeWine gave an update on the next category of people eligible for the vaccine.

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Governor DeWine went over the deaths from COVID-19 by age group. Those who are 65 and older represent 87% of the COVID-19 deaths. The group of Ohioans who are 65 and older will be in the next group of vaccinations. More information, including logistics, will be released in time.

The COVID-19 vaccine will also be offered to younger people with severe inherited or developmental disorders that make them particularly vulnerable – such as Sickle Cell or Down Syndrome.

The vaccine will be offered to all schools who want to go back or remain in person. All of the adults in the building who come in contact with children will be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination.

The goal of the second phase will be around mid-January 2021.

**COVID-19 VACCINATION DASHBOARD:** The COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard is now live, and displays the most recent data reported to the Ohio Department of Health regarding the number of individuals that have started and completed the COVID-19 vaccination series by various demographics and county of residence. This dashboard is available on the [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov) website, and will be updated daily.

#### **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

**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](#).

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**Seneca County Commissioners:** [www.senecacountyohio.gov](http://www.senecacountyohio.gov)

**Seneca County General Health District:** [www.senecahealthdept.org](http://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):

- 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](mailto:jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov).

**Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio:** [hcno.org](http://hcno.org)

Please see the attached COVID-19 Data Report for **12/23/20**. Throughout the COVID-19 response, HCNO will release updated reports regularly using this format. This will be the last report until Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.

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**Key points:**

- Regionally, there are 648 COVID-19 patients with 365 (56%) in Lucas County hospitals, 90 (14%) in Allen County hospitals, and the remaining 193 (30%) from other NW Ohio counties
- Regionally, there are 169 COVID-19 Critical Care patients with 117 (69%) in Lucas County hospitals, 17 (10%) in Allen County hospitals, and the remaining 35 (21%) from other NW Ohio counties
- Out of 38 regional hospitals reporting, 20 hospitals reported strained or critical nursing shortages (53%)
- The statewide median age for COVID-19 is 43 years old
- The statewide 7-day average positivity rate for testing is 13.6%

**Seneca County Regional Planning:** [senecarpc.org](http://senecarpc.org)

**Blood Collection:** [www.redcross.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.redcross.org/volunteer)

For more information or questions, please contact Melanie Collins at [Melanie.Collins4@redcross.org](mailto:Melanie.Collins4@redcross.org) or 330-204-6615.

**Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties:** [www.mhrsbsw.org](http://www.mhrsbsw.org)

**City of Tiffin:** [www.tiffinohio.gov](http://www.tiffinohio.gov)

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

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

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

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

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

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**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](mailto:jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov) by 2:30 p.m. each publishing day.**

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