

Tioga County Public Health Department

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PRESS RELEASE

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Tioga County COVID-19 Update for January 12, 2022 – January 18, 2022

COVID-19 case breakdown in Tioga County from January 12, 2022 – January 18, 2022

• **New Cases:** 594

Unvaccinated: 62Vaccinated: 136

Unknown Vaccination Status: 345

o Children Under 12: 51

Hospitalizations: 13(Known) Deaths: 0

Current Active Cases: 278

(Please Note: Data does not include self-reported positive at-home tests)

Data is a snapshot of what is reported to us via different venues. Vaccination status is self-reported by the positive case or their parent/guardian during the case investigation. Tioga County is not always notified when a death occurs. Deaths related to COVID-19 are reported to our department in different ways. Various factors may impact the severity of one's COVID-19 illness including underlying health conditions and vaccination status. The COVID-19 vaccine offers protection against severe illness and hospitalization. We encourage eligible individuals to get vaccinated.

5 Important Things to Know About Isolation and Quarantine:

1. Isolation & Quarantine Attestation Form:

The process for issuing isolation and quarantine orders has changed in New York State. Not all individuals who test positive will receive a call. Those who test positive for COVID-19 who are not in a high priority population may visit https://tiogacountyny.gov/departments/public-health/ and complete the Isolation Attestation Form. The Quarantine Attestation Form for close contacts can be found here as well if they need documentation for work or school. The Affirmation Form will serve as your isolation or quarantine order. This form does not need to be submitted to your local health department.

2. No Contact Tracing:

New York State Department of Health is no longer conducting contact tracing. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 is responsible for contacting those they have been in close contact with. If someone is unvaccinated/not fully vaccinated, they should quarantine at home for 5 days from their exposure.

3. Who is Required to Quarantine if Exposed to a Positive Case?

- Those who have not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine
- Those who have not completed a vaccine series yet
- Those who are eligible for a booster shot, but have not gotten one yet (completed the
 primary series of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine 6 or more months ago or completed the primary
 series of J&J vaccine over 2 months ago)

These individuals must quarantine for 5 days after a known exposure to a positive case and should test on day 5 if possible. A well-fitting mask should be worn when around others for 5 additional days after completing quarantine.

The following groups are not required to quarantine when exposed to a positive case:

- Those who have received all vaccine doses, including a booster shot
- Anyone ages 5 11 who completed the primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine
- Anyone who has had a confirmed COVID-19 test within the last 90 days

These individuals should wear a well-fitting mask when around others for 10 days following their exposure. If symptoms develop, it is recommended that they quarantine and get a COVID-19 test.

4. 5 day Isolation and Quarantine:

Isolation for those who have tested positive for COVID-19 has been reduced to 5 days. If symptoms are not improving, the positive case should continue to isolate until day 10, or until they are 24 hours fever-free. Anyone who is not vaccinated, not fully vaccinated, or who is eligible for a booster shot but has not gotten one yet should quarantine for 5 days from the last day of their exposure.

5. Release from Isolation & Quarantine in Tioga County:

Once you have completed your isolation or quarantine, the last day on your order or attestation will serve as your release. For example, if your isolation is set from January 15, 2022 – January 20, 2022, you will automatically be released to return to school or work on January 21, 2022 (unless new symptoms have developed or current symptoms are not improving). You will not be given a separate release form from Tioga County Public Health.

COVID-19 Resources:

- COVID-19 Vaccine Locations: https://www.vaccines.gov/
- Find a COVID-19 Test Site Near You: https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you
- COVID-19 State Run Testing Locations: https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing
- New York State Dashboard: https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing-tracker
- Tioga County Public Health Website: ph.tiogacountyny.gov
- Tioga County Public Health Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/tiogacountypublichealth