



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2020

Contact: Tioga County Legislative Office

TIOGA COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE – JULY 15, 2020

Owego, NY – Tioga County Legislative Chairwoman Sauerbrey reported the following Tioga County COVID-19 Statistics:

- **165 Confirmed Cases** – Total confirmed cases, to date.
- **63 Individuals in Mandatory Quarantine.** These are individuals who have had close contact (6 ft.) with someone who has tested positive, but is not displaying symptoms for COVID-19; or individuals that have traveled to China, Iran, Japan, South Korea, or Italy and is displaying symptoms of COVID-19.
- **131 Recovered** – Total number of individuals who had a confirmed case of COVID-19 and are now symptom and fever-free that meet the criteria to be released from Isolation.
- **24 Deaths**

This is a snapshot of data provided to Tioga County Public Health at this point in time.

Administered tests are tracked in various ways. Test results are reported.

COVID-19 Testing Results

Last week, Tioga County was notified that eight employees at a local nursing home tested positive for COVID-19. Not all of these cases were Tioga County residents. This led to the quarantine of the positives as well as the close contacts to these individuals.

New York State guidelines require nursing homes to test their employees weekly for COVID-19. This nursing home contracts with a private lab for their employee's tests. After receiving eight positive tests back on a single day, which were recorded in the New York State system, the nursing home had concerns regarding potential false-positive results and requested the lab rerun the existing tests.

Tioga County Public Health has worked closely with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to address the situation. The nursing home and Tioga County Public Health were directed to wait for resubmitted lab testing results. The lab that initially tested the specimens re-tested the same eight swabs again. Upon conclusion of the investigation, NYSDOH accepted the revised case results on July 14th. All quarantined individuals have been notified of the situation and their quarantine has been terminated and the daily numbers adjusted accordingly.

Tioga County's Updated COVID-19 Numbers:

- Confirmed Cases: 165
- Mandatory Quarantine: 63
- Recoveries: 131
- Deaths: 24

These numbers, along with any additional changes for today will be reflected in the Tioga County Legislature COVID-19 Update Press Release for July 15th. Tioga County Public Health is committed to serving our community and will continue to protect our residents from COVID-19. Tioga County Public Health continues to report the most accurate information available at the time reports are made.

For further information, please refer to the following resources:

- **NEW!** <https://covid19.tiogacountyny.com>
- **NEW! Tioga County Coronavirus Response Hotline – 687-8225**
- **Facebook** @Tioga County Public Health
- **Facebook** @TiogaMH (Tioga County Department of Mental Hygiene)
- **Tioga County Public Health Voicemail Line – 687-8623**
- **NYS Coronavirus Hotline: 888-364-3065** (for general questions or information about COVID-19)
- **Tioga County Emergency Food Hotline – 607-354-0965**

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