

Tioga County Public Health Department

Lisa C. McCafferty, R.S., MPH; Public Health Director 1062 State Route 38, PO Box 120, Owego, NY 13827 607-687-8600



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Kylie Holochak, 607-687-8612 Senior Public Health Educator/PIO

Tioga County COVID-19 Update for November 24, 2021 - November 30, 2021

COVID-19 case breakdown in Tioga County from November 24, 2021 – November 30, 2021:

• New Cases: 182

Unvaccinated: 90Vaccinated: 52

Unknown Vaccination Status: 17

Children Under 12: 23

Hospitalizations: 10(Known) Deaths: 0

Current Active Cases: 246

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, as 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.

With an increase of COVID-19 cases being seen across New York State, Tioga County Public Health is concerned that we will experience a spike in new COVID-19 infections following the Thanksgiving holiday. Gatherings of any size with people outside of your household, especially among those who are not vaccinated, could potentially lead to new infections if there was just one positive case at a gathering.

Monitoring yourself and your family for symptoms over the next couple of weeks will be critical to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. If you are experiencing any common symptoms of COVID-19 like runny nose, cough, sore throat, fever, headache, nausea or vomiting, or shortness of breath, please stay home and <u>contact your health care provider</u>. Do not send your children to school if they are sick, and stay home if you are feeling ill. We urge everyone who has not yet been vaccinated to do so as soon as possible.

Yes, yet another variant has been identified, Omicron, which was first seen in South Africa, and has recently been detected in Canada. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the SARS-CoV-2 virus has mutated into new variants, which may cause COVID-19 illness. While there still is little we know about this new variant, the same precautions should be taken – washing your hands, practicing good respiratory hygiene, wearing a mask, social distancing, and getting vaccinated. Please, <u>stay home if you are sick to avoid getting others sick</u>.

COVID-19 booster shots are now available for anyone 18 and older. If you completed the Moderna or Pfizer series 6 months ago or had the Johnson & Johnson vaccine 2 months ago, please get your booster shot. Individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. All three of the COVID-19 vaccines continue to be highly effective in reducing risk of severe disease and hospitalization. Vaccination remains the best way to protect yourself and reduce the spread of the virus. To find a vaccination location, please visit https://www.vaccines.gov/.

COVID-19 Resources:

- Reporting Positive At-Home Test Results: 607-687-8600 (option 1)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Locations: https://www.vaccines.gov/
- Testing Locations: https://get-tested-covid19.org/
- 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