

# MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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**COUNTY OF ERIE**  
OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## Erie County reports 214 new cases of COVID-19; 13 deaths

Erie, PA — County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper and Erie County Department of Health announce 214 new cases of COVID-19 and 13 deaths reported in Erie County on Dec. 7, bringing the total case count to 37,491 and the total deaths to 615.

[Information](#) on cases in Erie County and other data such as reports on vaccination demographics can be found at [eriecountypa.gov/covid-19](http://eriecountypa.gov/covid-19). Related data is also available at the Pennsylvania Department of Health website [health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Cases.aspx](http://health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Cases.aspx).

### Benefit of vaccination

The benefit of vaccination is that it helps the body prevent severe illness and lessens the likelihood of needing hospitalization. Free vaccines are available for residents of Erie County ages 5 years and older. To find vaccines in nearby locations:

- text ZIP Code to 438829
- visit [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov)
- call 1-800-232-0233

A free mobile vaccination clinic organized by the Erie County Department of Health is available to the residents of Erie County. No insurance is needed and walk-ups are welcome. For 12 years and older unless otherwise stated.

- **Friday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at Glenwood YMCA 3727 Cherry St, Erie

For schedule of local vaccination sites, visit [eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine](http://eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine). Not all locations can offer COVID-19 vaccines to children 5 to 11 years old. Call ahead to check availability.

### Importance of testing and quarantine

Testing for COVID-19 is recommended if exposed to anyone who has COVID-19 or if exhibiting its symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, fever or chills, muscle or body aches, vomiting or diarrhea, or loss of taste or smell. Testing results can help determine appropriate care and treatment if needed.

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Rapid testing results are available in 15 minutes at free mobile testing clinics organized by the Erie County Department of Health. No insurance is needed. To follow up results from this clinic, email [zheeter@lecom.edu](mailto:zheeter@lecom.edu).

- **Thursday, Dec. 9, 4 to 7 p.m.** at Greene Township Municipal Building, 9333 Tate Rd., Erie

For list of upcoming clinics and other local testing sites, visit [eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-testing-information](http://eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-testing-information).

Even if not exhibiting symptoms, community members who have COVID-19 and those identified as close contacts of a person with COVID-19 should cooperate with all public health recommendations, including quarantine, to prevent the spread of infection to others. For guidance on quarantine, call the Erie County Department of Health at 814-451-6700.

### **Masking order**

Wearing a mask that covers the mouth and nose has been proven to reduce the spread of infectious respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19. Studies on the effects of wearing masks have proved that there is no change in oxygen or carbon dioxide levels when people wear cloth and surgical masks while resting and exercising.

A universal indoor masking order for all public and private pre-schools, primary and secondary schools in Erie County is in effect until further notice. A copy of the order can be found at [eriecountypa.gov/covid-19](http://eriecountypa.gov/covid-19).

Erie County currently has a high rate of transmission according to the CDC. CDC guidelines recommend all people, including those who are fully vaccinated, should wear masks indoors in areas with substantial to high transmission rates of COVID-19. Data on transmission rates can be found at the CDC website [covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view).

For guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19 at events and business establishments, contact Erie County Department of Health at [covidresponse@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:covidresponse@eriecountypa.gov). All other questions about COVID-19 can be directed to 814-451-6700 or [ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov).

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