MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Erie County Department of Health provides COVID-19 public health update

Erie, PA — Erie County Department of Health provides a public health update on COVID-19. The community is welcome to contact the Erie County Department of Health for guidance. For details on how to stay up to date on vaccines and boosters, isolation and quarantine, preventing spread of COVID-19 in business establishments and events, and other information, contact covidresponse@eriecountypa.gov or 814-451-6700 or fill out the online Community Form at Eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/.

Cases and data

In the past week, June 13 Monday to 19 Sunday,

- There were **270** cases reported, with a daily average of **38.6** cases.
- There was **1** death reported, with date of death in the first week of June, increasing the total death count to **816**.
- The total unvaccinated death count remains at **659**, which is 81% of the total deaths (816).

The number of vaccinations and boosters administered from June 13 to 19 was **150**. This increases the total number of vaccinations and boosters to **182,922**.

The current breakdown of vaccination status of the population is the following:

Persons	Of eligible population	Of total population
Partially vaccinated	9.2%	8.7%
Fully vaccinated	62.7%	59.2%
Received first booster	31.9%	30.2%
Received second booster	6.2%	5.9%

As of June 19, among the total reported in deaths in Erie County, the breakdown by vaccination status and age range is as follows:

Reported Deaths	Ages 0-49	Ages 50-64	Ages 65 & older	Sub-total	Percentage breakdown
Not vaccinated	31	92	536	659	81%
Partially vaccinated	0	4	30	34	4%
Fully vaccinated without a booster	2	16	74	92	11%
Additional dose/booster	0	4	27	31	4%
Total	816			816	100%

Related reference at https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#rates-by-vaccine-status

Information on cases and deaths in Erie County and other data such as reports on vaccination demographics can be found at the Erie County Government website https://eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/positive-cases-in-erie-county/. Latest recommendations and related data is also available at the websites of

- Pennsylvania Department of Health health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Cases.aspx
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view

Benefit of vaccination and boosters
The benefit of staying up to date on vaccination and boosters, even for those who have had COVID-19, is that it helps the body prevent severe illness and lessens the likelihood of needing hospitalization. If having concerns or questions about vaccines, approach healthcare professionals or contact the Erie County Department of Health at 814-451-6700 for facts and answers.

Boosters extend the effectiveness of vaccines against COVID-19 and help protect against variants. Based on data from Erie County, those who are boosted are:
- 7 times less like to be infected with COVID-19
- 14 times less likely to die from COVID-19

Free vaccines and boosters are available for residents of Erie County. *For list of local vaccination sites, visit eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine.*

To find vaccines and boosters in other nearby locations text ZIP Code to 438829, visit vaccines.gov or call 1-800-232-0233

Importance of testing
Community members, vaccinated or unvaccinated, are recommended to get tested for COVID-19 if they have been exposed to anyone who has COVID-19 or if they have symptoms such as sore throat, coughing, upper respiratory congestion, 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.

Community members using home test kits who have questions or need guidance can call 814-451-6700.

For list of local sites offering free testing, visit eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-testing-information.

Preventing spread
According to the **COVID-19 Community Levels** guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is updated weekly, Erie County is now currently at **low risk**.

At this level, recommendations for preventing the spread of COVID-19 include the following:
- Get all recommended COVID-19 vaccine and booster doses, for 5 years and older, including those who are pregnant and plan on becoming pregnant.
- Anyone may choose to mask at any time, regardless of vaccination status.
- If you are (or live, work or have contact with someone who is) at high risk for severe illness or have a weak immune system, consider masking indoors and rapid testing before gatherings.
- Get tested if you have symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Wear a mask if you have symptoms, positive test results, or have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Stay home while waiting for test results. If you have positive test results, even if you don't have symptoms, stay home and apart from others in your home and, if possible, use a separate bathroom; inform your close contacts to stay home and get tested.
- Maintain improved ventilation throughout indoor spaces when possible.

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