

Williams County Health District

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Community Talking Points

January 19, 2022

Williams County (WC) Data: January 11th – January 18th				
462 New Cases	2 COVID-19 Hospitalizations	3 Deaths Reported (sometimes delayed due to ODH death reporting system change)	46.23% Completed 1st Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine	CDC Level of Community Transmission: RED – HIGH 
#84 Williams County's Rank (based on cases per capita in 88 counties in Ohio)	1,131.8 – high incidence WC Cases Per Capita (new cases per 100,000 population over 2 weeks)	1883.8 Ohio Cases Per Capita (new cases per 100,000 population over 2 weeks)	42.57% Completed COVID-19 Vaccine Series	

- **Get Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests Delivered to Your Home**
 - Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 rapid antigen tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.
 - Limit of one order per residential address. Orders will ship from USPS for free starting late January.
 - Order your tests now so you have them when you need them: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>
- **What mask should I wear?** (Source: CDC)
 - **Vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals should wear masks to slow the spread of COVID-19.**
 - The CDC recommends that you wear the most protective mask you can that fits well and that you will wear consistently. While all masks provide some level of protection, it is recommended that you wear a mask with extra protection because Omicron spreads so rapidly.
 - **Loosely woven cloth products** provide the **least protection**, **layered finely woven products** offer more protection, **well-fitting disposable surgical masks and KN95s** offer even more protection, and **well-fitting NIOSH-approved respirators (including N95s)** offer the **highest level of protection**.
 - Wearing a highly protective mask or respirator may be most important for certain higher risk situations (ex. crowded indoor areas, taking care of a sick loved one, or when around unmasked groups).
 - Wearing a highly protective mask is also highly recommended for people who are at higher risk of severe disease (immunocompromised or older individuals).
- **How to get the most from your mask** (Source: Mayo Clinic, CDC)
 - **Correct and consistent mask use** is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. Whatever product you choose, it should provide a good fit (i.e., fitting closely on the face without any gaps along the edges or around the nose) and be comfortable enough when worn properly (covering your nose and mouth) so that you can keep it on when you need to.
 - **Make sure the mask is well-fitted to your face.** Check for gaps by cupping your hands around the outside edges of the mask. Make sure no air is flowing out near your eyes or from the sides of the mask. You should feel warm air coming through the front of the mask when you breathe out, not at the edges of the mask. You may be able to see the mask material move in and out with each breath.
 - **Wear a mask with multiple layers of material and with a nose wire.** The extra layers will stop more respiratory droplets from getting inside or outside of your mask. The nose wire will help you adjust the mask to keep air from leaking out the top.
 - More information on how to improve how well your mask protects you: <https://bit.ly/3nCarXu>

What Mask Should I Wear?

Along with getting vaccinated and boosted, experts recommend upgrading your mask if you want optimal protection.

No Protection

Some Protection

Most Protection



No Mask or Improper Use

- Mask should fit over your nose and mouth and be snug against your face with no gaps
- Don't use masks that are damp, dirty or damaged
- Don't wear masks with exhalation valves, which allow virus particles to escape

Cloth Masks

- Washable and reusable. Masks should be washed at least once a day or as soon as they become dirty
- Multiple layers of woven, breathable fabric



If you don't have access to a high filtration respirator mask, double up. Single layer masks, such as bandanas and gaiters, are less effective, so wear a cloth mask with multiple layers or wear a cloth mask over a surgical mask. Be sure your mask fits properly—nose wires improve fit.

Surgical Masks

- Disposable, intended for one time use
- Multiple layers of non-woven material
- Provides protection against large droplets

High Filtration Masks

(Respirators - N95, KN95, KF94)

- Varies by mask type, but reusable up to 5 times with proper care
- Filters up to 95% of particles in the air
- Seals tightly to the face when fitted properly (some facial hair can interfere with this seal)
- Designed and regulated to meet international standards. Check lists of trusted manufacturers from CDC and Project N95 to avoid counterfeit masks

For Larger Graphic: <https://bit.ly/3FKJmMx>