

Williams County Health District

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Community Talking Points

December 22, 2021

Williams County (WC) Data: December 14th – December 21st				
175 New Cases	28 COVID-19 Hospitalizations	6 Deaths Reported (sometimes delayed due to ODH death reporting system change)	44.88% Completed 1st Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine	CDC Level of Community Transmission: RED – HIGH 
#22 Williams County's Rank (based on cases per capita in 88 counties in Ohio)	885.8 – high incidence WC Cases Per Capita (new cases per 100,000 population over 2 weeks)	783.2 Ohio Cases Per Capita (new cases per 100,000 population over 2 weeks)	41.59% Completed COVID-19 Vaccine Series	

- The Williams County Health Department meets with local medical facilities each week to discuss the status of the hospital and healthcare system. For the last month, they have shared that the medical system is suffering. This is preventable. Please encourage your neighbors, coworkers, family, & friends to wear a mask in public indoor settings, stay home if sick, and most importantly, get the COVID-19 vaccine and booster when eligible.

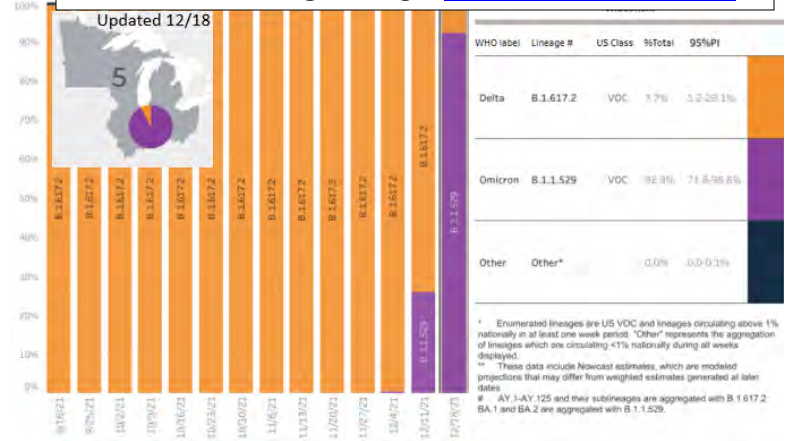
- What is the Omicron variant?***

- Omicron is a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19. The Omicron variant has been detected in northern Ohio.

- Is Omicron as serious a health risk as other variants? Is it more or less contagious?***

- Data is still being collected to answer these questions. In the meantime, it is important to remember that any COVID infection can be life threatening especially for people with underlying medical conditions.
 - In the UK, Omicron cases are growing rapidly with a doubling time of 2.5-3 days. It is projected that it is likely 2-3 times more transmissible than the Delta variant. There is ongoing research to learn more.
 - In Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI), it is estimated that the Omicron variant made up 92.3% of all COVID-19 cases from 12/11 through 12/18.

Click here for larger image: <https://bit.ly/3yRBNSL>



- Are the vaccines effective against this variant?***

- Current vaccines are expected to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths due to infection with the Omicron variant. The best way to prevent the spread of this new variant or any other variant is to get vaccinated, get a booster if you are eligible (6 months after 2nd dose of Pfizer/Moderna, 2 months after 1 dose of J&J), and to wear a mask in indoor public settings or in a crowded environment.
 - Because immunity has been shown to wane over time, it is important to maintain protection against mild and moderate disease by getting the recommended COVID-19 booster.

* Sources: Public Health Collaborative (PHC) & Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

- **Get tested before gathering with loved ones this holiday season.**
 - Make sure that you are not unknowingly spreading COVID-19 to your loved ones. Before you gather, take a COVID-19 test to make sure you are not positive.
 - Free COVID-19 testing resources are available throughout the county at Williams County Public Libraries and the Montpelier Public Library. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3ybc6MI>
 - Other local testing sites can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3GKQKZf>

Williams County COVID-19 Testing Locations

There are several locations that offer COVID-19 testing in Williams County. Some locations require appointments and some allow walk-ins. Information is subject to change based on supply. Please call or check the provider's website for appointments or to verify walk-in clinic hours. Free at-home test kits at libraries are available on a first come, first served basis, while supplies last.

Area emergency departments are overwhelmed with people seeking care for COVID-19 and other medical emergencies. Please only seek care at an emergency department if it is an urgent medical need. Please utilize these free testing resources rather than going to the Emergency Department for testing.

Updated 12/9/2021

Location	Address Phone Number Website (if applicable)	Appointment or Walk-In	PCR or Rapid Test
Klinger Pharmacy	102 W. Jackson St. West Unity, OH 43570 419-924-2444	Appointment only	Rapid
Bryan Community Health Center	228 S. Main St. Bryan, OH 43506 567-239-4562	Appointment only	PCR
Rings Pharmacy	221 W. Main St. Montpelier, OH 43543 419-485-5115	Call ahead (Insurance can't be billed, test costs \$56)	Rapid
Walgreens Pharmacy	403 S. Main St. Bryan, OH 43506 419-636-0613 https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/covid19/testing?ban=covid_vanity_testing	Appointment only (schedule online)	PCR or Rapid
PPG Urgent Care	442 W. High St. Bryan, OH 43506 419-636-4517	Appointment or walk-in (expect a wait if walk-in)	PCR or Rapid
Williams County Public Libraries	Bryan, Edgerton, Edon, Pioneer, Stryker, & West Unity Branches https://www.mywcpl.org/content/free-covid-19-test-kits-available-curbside-pickup	Curbside pick up during normal operating hours	At-home rapid (FREE)
Montpelier Public Library	216 E. Main St., Montpelier, OH 43543 419-485-3287	Test kits located inside the front and rear entrance beyond the first set of doors	At-home rapid (FREE)
Rite Aid Pharmacy	618 N. Clinton St. Defiance, OH 43512 419-782-0155 https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing	Appointment only (schedule online)	PCR
CVS Pharmacy	700 North Wayne St. Angola, IN 46703 260-665-2106 https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing/?icid=locator_banner_testing_button	Appointment only (schedule online)	PCR

- If you have an established healthcare provider, you can reach out to them about testing.
- If you complete an at-home test, you must use the app to connect with a provider to have a valid test result. After the provider has verified the result, it will be sent to you.
- While waiting for test results, please remain at home and limit close contact with others. If the result is positive, stay home and separate yourself from others. You can end isolation 10 days after your symptoms started or 10 days from the test date if you are not experiencing symptoms.