

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Healthcare

10/1/2021

ONEIDA COUNTY IS SEEING ANOTHER COVID-19 SPIKE. YESTERDAY OFFICIALS REPORTED 133 NEW CASES, THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF NEW INFECTIONS SINCE JANUARY. AT THE SAME TIME, 50 PEOPLE ARE CURRENTLY HOSPITALIZED WITH THE DISEASE, THE LARGEST NUMBER SINCE APRIL. OVER A THIRD OF THOSE CASES ARE BREAKTHROUGH INFECTIONS WHERE THE PATIENT HAD ALREADY BEEN VACCINATED. OVER 2-THOUSAND RESIDENTS ARE IN QUARANTINE. HEALTH OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED ONE NEW DEATH, BRINGING THE COUNTY'S TOTAL TO 474 FATALITIES.

10/12/2021

ONEIDA COUNTY'S COVID CASES ARE CLIMBING ONCE AGAIN. THE LATEST FIGURES FROM HEALTH OFFICIALS SHOW 104 NEW INFECTIONS FOR A TOTAL OF 1075 CURRENT CASES. THAT COMES AS THE AREA'S POSITIVITY RATE HAS JUMPED UP TO 4-POINT-2 PERCENT. 64 PEOPLE ARE HOSPITALIZED WITH THE DISEASE, WITH NEARLY FORTY PERCENT OF THOSE PATIENTS VACCINATED AND SUFFERING FROM BREAKTHROUGH CASES. THE VAST MAJORITY OF HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS CONTINUE TO BE SENIOR CITIZENS SIXTY YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

10/13/2021

ONEIDA COUNTY IS THE RECIPIENT OF A FOUR POINT TWO MILLION DOLLAR GRANT TO FIGHT OPIOID ADDICTION. STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL LETITIA JAMES WAS ON HAND YESTERDAY TO PRESENT THE FUNDS TO COUNTY OFFICIALS. THE MONEY COMES FROM A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES THAT PRODUCE PRESCRIPTION OPIATES. THE PAYOUT WILL HELP FINANCE A VARIETY OF ADDICTION PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS ACROSS THE COUNTY.

10/19/2021

ONEIDA COUNTY'S COVID CASES ARE CLIMBING ONCE AGAIN. THE LATEST FIGURES FROM HEALTH OFFICIALS SHOW 247 NEW INFECTIONS FOR A TOTAL OF 984 CURRENT CASES. THAT COMES AS THE AREA'S POSITIVITY RATE HAS JUMPED UP TO 4-POINT-8 PERCENT, OVER DOUBLE THE STATE AVERAGE. 51 PEOPLE ARE HOSPITALIZED WITH THE DISEASE, WITH NEARLY FORTY PERCENT OF THOSE PATIENTS VACCINATED AND SUFFERING FROM BREAKTHROUGH CASES. THE VAST MAJORITY OF HOSPITALIZED CASES CONTINUE TO BE SENIOR CITIZENS SIXTY YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

10/26/2021

THIS PAST WEEKEND WAS ONE OF THE DEADLIEST FOR COVID PATIENTS IN ONEIDA COUNTY. FROM FRIDAY TO SUNDAY SIX PEOPLE DIED FROM THE DISEASE, BRINGING THE COUNTY'S TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS UP TO 498. THE LATEST FIGURES FROM HEALTH OFFICIALS SHOW 208 NEW INFECTIONS FOR A TOTAL OF 769 CURRENT CASES. 49 PEOPLE ARE HOSPITALIZED, WITH A THIRD OF THOSE PATIENTS VACCINATED AND SUFFERING FROM BREAKTHROUGH CASES. THE ONE BRIGHT SPOT IN THE LATEST FIGURES IS THAT THE POSITIVITY RATE HAS DROPPED DOWN TO THREE PERCENT.

11/18/2021

ONEIDA COUNTY'S COVID-19 NUMBERS ARE CLIMBING ONCE AGAIN. THE MOST TROUBLING NUMBER IS A POSITIVITY RATE OF 7-POINT-2 PERCENT. HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY 187 NEW CASES WERE IDENTIFIED YESTERDAY, BRINGING THE CURRENT TOTAL TO 1,419. IN ALL 57 PEOPLE ARE HOSPITALIZED FOR THE DISEASE. THE MAJORITY CONTINUE TO BE SENIORS OVER THE AGE OF SIXTY, BUT HOSPITALS ARE SEEING AN INCREASING NUMBER OF YOUNGER PATIENTS. COUNTY EXECUTIVE ANTHONY PICENTE WILL HOLD A LIVE COVID BRIEFING THIS AFTERNOON AT 2-30.

OPEN ENROLLMENT ON THE STATE'S INSURANCE EXCHANGE IS NOW UNDERWAY FOR 2022. THAT COMES AS THE NUMBER OF NEW YORKERS OBTAINING PLANS THROUGH THE SYSTEM SOARED AS A RESULT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. THE ONLINE MARKETPLACE PROVIDES HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. BUT MOST NEW YORKERS USING THE EXCHANGE END UP GOING ON MEDICAID. THAT INCLUDES ONEIDA AND HERKIMER COUNTIES, WHICH HAVE SOME OF THE HIGHEST MEDICAID ENROLLMENT RATES IN THE NATION.

12/13/2021

THE RED CROSS NEEDS YOUR HELP. SPECIFICALLY, IT NEEDS YOUR BLOOD. THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY DROUGHT OF BLOOD DONATIONS HAS ARRIVED, CREATING A MAJOR SHORTFALL IN THE AREA'S BLOOD SUPPLIES. THAT INCLUDES A CRITICAL NEED FOR O-NEGATIVE, A-NEGATIVE, AND B-NEGATIVE BLOOD. THE SEASONAL DIP IN DONATIONS HAPPENS EVERY YEAR AS REGULAR DONORS MISS BLOOD DRIVES BECAUSE OF HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES. YOU CAN FIND A FULL LIST OF THE AREA'S LOCATIONS FOR DONATING BLOOD AT RED-CROSS-DOT-ORG.

12/17/2021

THE LATEST CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK COULD BRING DIRE CONSEQUENCES TO NEW YORK. THAT'S ACCORDING TO GOVERNOR HOCHUL AND STATE HEALTH

OFFICIALS. YESTERDAY SHE WARNED A WINTER SURGE OF CASES IS NOW STRAINING THE STATE'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, AND IT'S LIKELY TO GET EVEN WORSE. THAT COMES AS EVEN AREAS WITH HIGH VACCINATION LEVELS BEGAN REPORTING A MASSIVE SPIKE IN CASES. HOCHUL URGED NEW YORKERS TO GET VACCINATED, GET A BOOSTER IF YOU'RE ELIGIBLE, AND KEEP USING MASKS.

12/24/2021

COVID INFECTIONS ARE EXPLODING ACROSS NEW YORK. YESTERDAY THE STATE RECORDED OVER 38-THOUSAND NEW CASES, ONCE AGAIN SETTING A NEW RECORD. THAT'S AN INCREASE OF OVER 35 PERCENT IN JUST ONE DAY, ONE OF FASTEST RATES OF INFECTION FOR THE ENTIRE PANDEMIC. LOCALLY, THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE CASES CONTINUES TO CLIMB, BUT SO FAR WE'VE DODGED THE MASSIVE SPIKE PLAGUING DOWNSTATE. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE HOSPITALIZED WITH THE DISEASE TICKED UP TO 79.