

**WEEK IN REVIEW**

Friday, March 5, 2021

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review*For the week ending March 5, 2021*

Throughout the week, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted provided updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as other state initiatives.

On **Monday**, Governor DeWine announced that Ohio is expected to receive more than 448,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine this week. Of that total, more than 96,000 doses of the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be delivered to around 200 new independent pharmacy providers as well as chain pharmacies, hospitals, and health departments.

Ohio now offers more than 1,200 provider locations. Ohioans can find vaccine provider locations at vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov. Those who do not have access to the internet or are having trouble managing the online scheduling systems should call their local health department, the 211 helpline center, or the Area Agencies on Aging at 1-866-243-5678.

PHASE 1C AND PHASE 2 VACCINATION ELIGIBILITY

In response to this significant increase in the amount of vaccine coming into Ohio, Governor DeWine outlined the individuals who are included in Phase 1C and Phase 2 of Ohio's vaccination plan which went into effect on March 4.

Phase 1C includes approximately 246,000 eligible Ohioans with certain occupations and with certain medical conditions not addressed in previous phases.

Phase 1C: Medical Groups

- Type 1 diabetes
- Pregnant women
- Bone marrow transplant recipients
- ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease)

Phase 1C: Occupations

Childcare Services - Approximately 40,400 Ohioans:



- Administrators, lead and assistant teachers, and substitutes who are enrolled in Ohio's Professional Registry who are currently working in open childcare and pre-kindergarten programs.
- Licensing specialists employed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services or county job and family services agencies.

This phase does not include parent volunteers, board members, or owners/administrators that do not provide in-classroom supports.

Funeral Services - Approximately 3,600 Ohioans:

- Embalmers/morticians, funeral home directors, crematory operators, and apprentices.

Law Enforcement and Corrections Officers - Approximately 76,000 Ohioans:

Examples of law enforcement occupations included in Phase 1C are police officers; sheriff's deputies; Ohio State Highway Patrol Troopers; other state or federal enforcement officers such as Ohio Department of Natural Resource enforcement staff, pharmacy board investigators, BCI agents, state fire marshal investigators, federal transportation security officers, and other federal law enforcement officers who do not have access to vaccination from federal sources.

Phase 2

Because the risk of more severe reactions and outcomes of COVID-19 increase with age, Phase 2 will open vaccinations based on age, beginning with Ohioans ages 60 and older. This group includes approximately 695,000 eligible Ohioans.

FEDERAL STIMULUS PACKAGE & BIASED FUND ALLOCATION

Lt. Governor Husted outlined provisions in the federal stimulus package recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives that if signed into law would disproportionately and negatively impact Ohio and its recovery.

This \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 Relief Bill provides significant additional relief funding for state and local governments, however, the as-passed version adopted by Congress distributes the \$350 billion in coronavirus relief funding to state and local governments using a formula that incorporates state unemployment rates as of the fourth quarter of 2020, instead of using a solely population-based formula.

As a result, this benefits states with higher unemployment rates during that period.



Under the current proposal, because Ohio's December 2020 unemployment rate was 5.5 percent, the state will miss out on over \$800 million compared to if a more equitable population-based formula was used, as was used for the CARES Act.

Over the weekend, governors across the country, including Governor DeWine, released a joint statement opposing the new standard in the federal stimulus bill for how federal funds would be allocated to states.

There are 33 states expected to lose funding under this proposal.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Governor DeWine on Monday announced that Kim Henderson, director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, will be relocating to North Carolina in the spring. She will remain in the director role until Monday, March 8. Matt Damschroder, current director of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS), will move into an interim director role at that time. Henderson will become a senior advisor to him until her last day on April 30th.

A nationwide search will be launched for Director Henderson's permanent replacement. Until that search concludes, Assistant DAS Director Matt Whatley will work as interim director at DAS.

Also on [Monday](#), Site Selection, a leading corporate real estate economic development magazine, announced that Ohio ranked No. 1 in its Governor's Cup 2020 state economic and business attraction rankings for bringing more new corporate facility projects per capita than any other state in the nation. Ohio also ranked No. 2 among the nation for total projects overall.

"Ohio continues to attract new corporate facilities and businesses to invest here," said Governor DeWine. "In Ohio, we have a strong business community that will work alongside new companies who are looking to invest and utilize our skilled workforce."

The state stayed at No. 1 for projects per capital based on Site Selection criteria, which measures new business projects with significant impact, including headquarters, manufacturing plants, R&D operations, logistics sites and others. Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted, and JobsOhio, as well as state and local economic development and community partners across the state, were responsible for bringing many of those projects to Ohio.

"We are number one for a reason, and that reason is we strive to have the best business and workforce friendly environment in the Midwest," Lt. Governor Husted said. "Even in the



midst of a pandemic, businesses knew they could count on Ohio as a great place to invest, now and for the future.”

The Governor’s Cup 2020 rankings also place many of Ohio’s metropolitans and smaller cities and villages at the top of the nation in attracting new businesses and investments. Cincinnati, Cleveland-Elyria, and Columbus placed in the Top 10 of projects per capita with populations over 1 million.

Toledo tied as No. 1 for total projects among areas with populations between 200,000 and 1 million. Additionally, Dayton-Kettering ranked as No. 5 and Akron tied for No. 10 in the same category.

On [Tuesday](#), Governor DeWine announced that Ohio Department of Health Director Stephanie McCloud signed the following public health orders:

[First Amended Revised Order to Limit and/or Prohibit Mass Gatherings in the State of Ohio, with Exceptions](#). Changes include:

- Wedding receptions, funeral repasts, proms, and other events, whether or not food is served, at banquet facilities shall comply with previously signed health orders, including those regarding restaurants and facial coverings.
- Events at banquet centers no longer have a 300-person limitation, so long as they comply with other health orders.

[Addenda to Director’s Second Amended Order that Provides Mandatory Requirements for Youth, Collegiate, Amateur, Club, and Professional Sports and Provides Mandatory Requirements for Entertainment Venues](#). Changes include:

- The maximum number of spectators in any indoor sports venue shall be 25% of fixed, seated capacity.
- The maximum number of spectators permitted in any outdoor sports venue shall be 30% of fixed, seated capacity.
- The maximum number of patrons permitted in any indoor entertainment venue shall be 25% of fixed, seated capacity.
- The maximum number of patrons gathered in any outdoor entertainment venue shall be 30% fixed, seated capacity.

Both orders are effective beginning 12:01 p.m. on March 2, 2021.



In a statewide address on [Thursday](#) evening, Governor DeWine urged Ohioans to remain committed to following COVID-19 safety practices as Ohio cases trend downward, and detailed the measurement needed to lift all Ohio Department of Health orders.

"This has been a very tough year for Ohioans, yet we did what Ohioans always do-- we rallied together to protect the most vulnerable," said Governor DeWine. "The end of our fight is now in view, but we must continue pressing forward. We can set realistic goals that we are within reach for lifting health orders."

Governor DeWine announced that when Ohio reaches 50 cases per 100,000 people for two weeks, all health orders will be lifted. Cases per 100,000 people for a two-week period is a measurement that Governor DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health have utilized since early in the pandemic.

Governor DeWine also detailed the success that Ohio has seen recently in the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's stay-at-home order and curfew have been lifted, and restaurants, bars and gyms are open. In February, Ohio vaccinated over 200,000 educators for students to return to in-person learning. As of Thursday, nearly 95 percent of Ohio's K-12 students have returned to school for in-person learning.

For Governor DeWine's entire address, visit ohiochannel.org or read his prepared remarks at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

On [Friday](#), Governor DeWine announced that an eight-week mass vaccination clinic with the capacity to administer 6,000 COVID-19 vaccines a day will open in Cleveland this month with support from the Biden administration and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The mass vaccination clinic will launch on March 17 at Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center in downtown Cleveland. The location was recommended by Ohio and selected by FEMA based on its proximity to a large number of Ohio's high-risk citizens and medically underserved populations. Approximately 1.1 million Ohioans ages 60 and older live in northeast Ohio, and of the more than 25,000 total Ohioans who live within one mile of the site, nearly 45 percent live below the poverty level.

Vaccine doses administered at the Wolstein Center Mass Vaccination Clinic will be in addition to Ohio's regular statewide vaccine allotment that is distributed weekly to Ohio's more than 1,250 established vaccine providers.



The Wolstein Center Mass Vaccination Clinic will operate seven days a week and will offer first doses of the Pfizer vaccine during the first three weeks of operations. Those vaccinated during that timeframe will be guaranteed a second dose during the fourth, fifth, and sixth weeks of the clinic. The brand of vaccine that will be supplied during the final two weeks of the clinic has not yet been determined.

REGIONAL MASS VACCINATION CLINICS

Governor DeWine also announced on [Friday](#) that 15 long-term mass vaccination clinics will open throughout Ohio to significantly expand regional access to COVID-19 vaccines.

The state-sponsored mass vaccination clinics will be located in Lima, Maumee, Dayton, Columbus, Akron, Youngstown, Cincinnati, Chillicothe, Marietta, Wilmington, and Zanesville. Four mobile mass vaccination clinics will also make rounds in the areas of northwestern and west-central Ohio (Ada), southeastern Ohio (Athens), north-central Ohio (Mansfield), and east-central Ohio (Steubenville).

“Mass vaccination clinics have always been part of our plan, but adequate supply is necessary for larger sites, so it was crucial that we first established local provider sites in all 88 counties to ensure that every citizen in every community has a provider nearby,” said Governor DeWine. “Now that we have more than 1,250 local vaccine providers and a significant increase in vaccine supply expected at the end of March, this is the right time to finalize and prepare to launch these large-scale regional clinics.”

The regional mass vaccination clinics, which will begin opening in the coming weeks as supply becomes available, will operate until they are no longer necessary.

The regional mass vaccination sites will be locally operated with support from the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Emergency Management Agency. Clinics will be equipped to administer between 300 and 3,000 vaccines a day depending on location, supply, and demand. Ohio’s established vaccine providers can also expect to see an increase in their vaccine allotment as supply increases, and vaccine doses may also be allotted to new providers.

Any Ohioan who is eligible to receive the vaccine under the [Ohio Department of Health’s vaccination plan](#) may be vaccinated at any of Ohio’s mass vaccination clinics. Ohio will also work closely with the clinics to ensure equitable access for high-risk residents and medically underserved communities that could be disproportionately impacted by the virus.

Governor DeWine also announced that 50,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine will be dedicated to two pop-up mass vaccination sites in Columbus and Cincinnati. The pop-up clinics will open shortly after the March 17 start date of Cleveland’s mass vaccination site and will offer 12,500



first doses at each location. Those vaccinated during the Columbus and Cincinnati pop-up mass vaccination sites will be guaranteed a second dose. Exact site locations are pending.

A complete list of the selected regional mass vaccination clinic sites and associated local partners can be found at governor.ohio.gov.

For more information on Ohio's vaccination plan, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine.

Governor DeWine on Friday morning visited a COVID-19 vaccination site at the Salvation Army of East Cleveland in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and the City of East Cleveland.

As of Friday, there have been 976,230 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Ohio and 17,656* confirmed and probable COVID-19 deaths. A total of 50,782 people have been hospitalized, including 7,184 admissions to intensive care units.

* Of the 752 deaths being reported on Friday, 428 are deaths of Ohio residents who died out of state. Other states do not send these death certificates to ODH's Bureau of Vital Statistics on a regular schedule and therefore fluctuations will be reflected in reported mortality data. Deaths are assigned to their appropriate date of death.

In-depth data can be accessed by visiting coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For more information on Ohio's response to COVID-19, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.