

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2021

Department of Health Provides Update on COVID-19: 5,630 Patients Hospitalized and 1,182 Patients in the Intensive Care Unit

8,818 Additional Positive Cases of COVID-19, Hospitalizations Remain Near Double Peak in the Spring

Harrisburg, PA - The Pennsylvania Department of Health today confirmed as of 12:00 a.m., January 5, that there were 8,818 additional positive cases of COVID-19, bringing the statewide total to 673,915. Due to technical maintenance to the data server on Sunday, case counts today include data from the time the server was down on Sunday. This technical maintenance did not impact the death reporting system as the death data comes from a different server.

There are 5,630 individuals hospitalized with COVID-19, near double the peak in the spring. Of that number, 1,182 patients are in the intensive care unit with COVID-19. Most of the patients hospitalized are ages 65 or older, and most of the deaths have occurred in patients 65 or older. More data is available [here](#).

The trend in the 14-day moving average of number of hospitalized patients per day has increased by nearly 5,400 since the end of September.

Statewide percent positivity for the week of December 25 – December 31 stood at 15.0%.

The most accurate [daily data is available on the website](#), with [archived data also available](#).

As of 11:59 p.m. Monday, January 4, there were 185 new deaths reported for a total of 16,546 deaths attributed to COVID-19. County-specific information and a statewide map are available on the [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).

Mask-wearing is required in all businesses and whenever leaving home. Consistent mask-wearing is critical to preventing the spread of COVID-19.

There are 59,660 individuals who have a positive viral antigen test and are considered probable cases and 637 individuals who have a positive serology test and either COVID-19 symptoms or a high-risk exposure.

There are 3,315,134 individuals who have tested negative to date.

In nursing and personal care homes, there are 54,956 resident cases of COVID-19, and 10,042 cases among employees, for a total of 64,998 at 1,482 distinct facilities in all 67 counties. Out of our total deaths, 9,079 have occurred in residents from nursing or personal care facilities. A county breakdown can be found [here](#).

Approximately 19,731 of our total cases are among health care workers.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

Pennsylvania hospitals began receiving shipments of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine the week of Dec. 14 and Moderna COVID-19 vaccine the week of Dec. 21.

Through Jan. 4:

- 144,863 doses of the vaccine have been administered.

A spreadsheet of facilities that have received vaccine can be found [here](#).

Statewide – The Wolf Administration has since noon, Jan. 4:

- Provided an [update to the COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring dashboard](#).
- Provided latest [Pennsylvania State Police enforcement](#) efforts.

The Wolf Administration stresses the role Pennsylvanians play in helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover any coughs or sneezes with your elbow, not your hands.
- Clean surfaces frequently.
- Stay home to avoid spreading COVID-19, especially if you are unwell.
- If you must go out, you are required to wear a mask when in a business or where it is difficult to maintain proper social distancing.
- Download the COVID Alert PA app and make your phone part of the fight. The free app can be found in the [Google Play Store](#) and the [Apple App Store](#) by searching for “covid alert pa”.

Updated Coronavirus Links: Press Releases, State Lab Photos, Graphics

- [Daily COVID-19 Report](#)
- [Press releases regarding coronavirus](#)
- [Latest information on the coronavirus](#)
- [Photos of the state's lab in Exton](#) (for download and use)
- [Coronavirus and preparedness graphics](#) (located at the bottom of the page)
- [Community preparedness and procedures materials](#)

All Pennsylvania residents are encouraged to sign up for AlertPA, a text notification system for health, weather, and other important alerts like COVID-19 updates from commonwealth agencies. Residents can sign up online at www.ready.pa.gov/BeInformed/Signup-For-Alerts.