



# COVID-19 OUTBREAK

## COVID-19 BRIEFING - 271.1

AUGUST 23, 2021

For Operational Period: August 16—August 22, 2021

### WORLDWIDE

212,761,775 Cases

4,447,907 Deaths

### UNITED STATES

38,545,144 Cases

645,058 Deaths

### MICHIGAN

1,040,673 Cases

21,393 Deaths

### OUT-WAYNE COUNTY

106,842 Cases

2,581 Deaths

## SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- COVID-19 vaccine booster shots will be made widely available to Americans starting Sept. 20, U.S. health officials said on Wednesday, August 18th, citing data showing diminishing protection from the initial vaccinations as infections rise from the Delta variant. Those who received a two-dose shot of either Moderna or Pfizer would be eligible for the booster eight months after the date of their second dose. "It's the best way to protect ourselves from new variants that may arise," said United States President Joe Biden to White House reporters. —**Reuters**
- On Wednesday, President Joe Biden spoke out against governors working to prevent local schools from instituting mask mandates. "They're setting a dangerous tone," Biden cautioned, adding "we're not going to sit by as governors try to block and intimidate educators protecting our children." The President said he will offer financial aid to educators who have had their salaries cut for their decision to require masks in schools/classrooms. The funding will come from the American Rescue Plan. —**The Hill**
- President Biden said Wednesday that nursing homes and long-term care facilities must vaccinate their staff against COVID-19 in order to continue to receive federal Medicare and Medicaid funding in response to lagging vaccination rates and a surge of new cases from the Delta variant. Nationally, about 60% of nursing home staff are vaccinated – much lower than the 82.4% of residents who have gotten the shots, according to data compiled by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. —**Axios, CNBC**
- Hospitalization rates in the ten states with the lowest percentage of vaccinated residents are nearly four times higher, and death rates more than 5.5 times higher, than in the top ten states with the highest percentage of vaccinated residents. "We continue to see a rise in cases driven by the more transmissible Delta variant with cases concentrated in communities with lower vaccination rates," Jeff Zients, White House coronavirus response coordinator, said Wednesday. —**CNN Health**

## ACTIONS TAKEN

- The Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHOC) is at FULL ACTIVATION.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

[MI COVID Alert](#)

[Find a Testing Site Near You](#)

[Return to School Roadmap](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Wayne County](#)

[Michigan.gov/coronavirus](#)

[Small Business Best Practices](#)

[MDHHS Epidemic Orders](#)

[COVID-19 Educational Materials](#)

[Find a Vaccine Site Near You](#)

**Disaster Distress Helpline:** 1-800-985-5990

**National Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1-800-799-7233 and TTY 1-800-787-3224

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Wayne County Department of  
Health, Human & Veterans Services  
Public Health Division