



# COVID-19 OUTBREAK

## COVID-19 BRIEFING - 287.1

DECEMBER 20, 2021

For Operational Period: December 13, 2021—December 20, 2021

### WORLDWIDE

275,965,101 Cases

5,380,269 Deaths

### UNITED STATES

52,059,667 Cases

828,836 Deaths

### MICHIGAN

1,629,362 Cases

27,901 Deaths

### OUT-WAYNE COUNTY

170,919 Cases

3,442 Deaths

## SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- More than 800,000 Americans have now died from the coronavirus, the highest recorded national death toll from the global pandemic. It comes as the U.S. reached 50 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Monday. Most deaths have been recorded among the unvaccinated and the elderly, and more Americans died in 2021 than in 2020. The U.S. is again seeing deaths rising at an alarming rate. The last 100,000 deaths came in just the past 11 weeks, a quicker pace than at any other point, aside from last winter's surge. With death rates rising once again in much of the country, Delta remains a serious problem. Public health experts are still figuring out what impact the new Omicron variant may have this winter, but officials are urging Americans to get booster shots to combat waning protection. —**BBC**
- Moderna Inc. said a third dose of its COVID-19 vaccine increased immune responses against the Omicron coronavirus variant compared with two doses in lab tests, signaling the shot could still offer protection despite the variant's mutations. The findings, reported by Moderna on Monday, were the latest positive—though preliminary—results from lab tests suggesting boosters can protect against the worrisome new strain. The new data may reinforce calls by public-health officials for vaccinated people to get booster shots. In the U.S., only about 29.5% of fully vaccinated people have received booster doses, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Moderna expects to start clinical trials of an Omicron-specific booster in early 2022. The new data on Moderna's booster and Omicron came from lab tests that mix blood samples from vaccinated people with an engineered virus that resembles the Omicron variant. — **The Wall Street Journal**
- Omicron will lead to a spike in cases in the upcoming weeks, but those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated will have a "stark difference" in experience, U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy told CBS Mornings Monday. For now, Moderna plans to focus its "immediate efforts" around Omicron on advancing the current vaccine that is already available. Moderna's current coronavirus vaccine booster is authorized for emergency use in the United States and administered as a half-dose at 50 micrograms. Moderna announced Monday that preliminary data suggests its half-dose booster shot increased antibody levels 37-fold against Omicron compared with the levels seen when a fully vaccinated person does not receive a booster – but a larger-sized dose of the booster, at 100 micrograms, increases antibody levels 83-fold.—**CNN**

## 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](#)



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

Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990



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