



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 22, 2021

ACHD URGES PUBLIC TO CELEBRATE SAFELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON COVID cases in the county are increasing

CUMBERLAND, MD – With Thanksgiving kicking off the holiday season, the Allegheny County Health Department is urging the public to celebrate safely to reduce the spread of COVID-19. COVID cases in Allegheny County are rising again, and exercising a few common-sense precautions can help keep you and your loved ones safer this holiday season:

- Get vaccinated. COVID vaccines are available locally at pharmacies, urgent care clinics, health department clinics, and some primary care providers. Adults should get a booster dose if they were vaccinated at least six months ago with Pfizer or Moderna, or at least two months ago with Johnson & Johnson.
- Get tested for COVID prior to gathering with others, just to be sure you're not exposing friends and family to COVID.
- While indoors, maintain social distancing and wear a well-fitting mask that covers your nose and mouth wherever possible.
- Wash and sanitize your hands frequently.
- If you are sick, STAY HOME and avoid close contact with others. Do not host or attend a holiday gathering if you are ill.

The Allegheny County Health Department will offer walk-in COVID-19 vaccinations at the Allegheny County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, November 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No appointment is needed to receive a first, second, or booster dose of Pfizer vaccine (ages 12 or older) or a first or second dose of Moderna (18 and older). Appointments are required for Moderna booster vaccines, and all appointments are filled for this week.

Free drive-thru testing is available at the Allegheny County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, November 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. However, there will be **no testing** at the fairgrounds on **Friday, November 26** due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Allegheny County COVID-19 case and vaccinations statistics as of November 21:

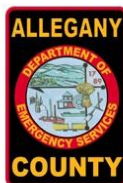
- New COVID Cases: 53 (cumulative total 10,298)
- Additional Deaths: 1 (cumulative total 262)
- Cases Per 100,000 Population: 41.79 (Maryland: 15.38)
- Positivity Rate: 8.23 % (Maryland: 3.62%)

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