



COVID-19 OUTBREAK

COVID-19 BRIEFING - 295.1

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

For Operational Period: February 22, 2022—February 28, 2022

WORLDWIDE

438,131,055 Cases

5,980,824 Deaths

UNITED STATES

80,665,325 Cases

976,171 Deaths

MICHIGAN

2,360,399 Cases

34,505 Deaths

OUT-WAYNE COUNTY

262,273 Cases

4,251 Deaths

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- The low-dose version of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine given to children ages 5 to 11 is less effective at protecting against infection than the higher-dose version of the vaccine given to older children and adults, a new study shows. Researchers from the New York State Department of Health found the effectiveness of the low-dose vaccine at preventing disease dropped from about 68% to 12% since the emergence of the Omicron variant. The effectiveness in children ages 12 to 17, who got the same 30-milligram dose as adults, showed a smaller decline, dropping from 66% to 51%. The results of the study come just days after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention eased masking guidelines in many parts of the U.S. — **NPR**
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced Friday it is relaxing its mask guidance for communities where hospitals aren't under high strain. Under the CDC's new risk metrics, which bases risk level on the numbers of COVID-19 hospital admissions and hospital bed occupancy, rather than new cases, less than 30% of the U.S. population lives in an area considered to be high risk. Under the previous risk criteria, around 95% of counties are still seeing enough new cases to place them in "substantial" or "high" risk levels. Health officials emphasized that people should still wear face coverings if they wish or if they are personally at high risk. People should also mask if they have COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, regardless of local conditions. — **NPR**
- Michigan's chief medical executive, Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, says residents should prepare for COVID to continue to come in waves. Bagdasarian said the change is being driven by lower case numbers, low hospitalizations and more ways to treat and prevent the spread of the virus, including vaccination. Currently, daily average case counts in Michigan are at their lowest since July. Michigan is dropping the mask mandate for most state employees starting on March 3. Mask mandates have recently ended in Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne County schools. Detroit Public Schools will wait until mid-March before it considers lifting its mask mandate. — **WDIV Detroit**

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

Prepared by: Wayne County Emergency Preparedness

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