



COVID-19 OUTBREAK

COVID-19 BRIEFING - 286.1

DECEMBER 13, 2021

For Operational Period: December 07, 2021—December 13, 2021

WORLDWIDE

270,569,081 Cases

5,324,894 Deaths

UNITED STATES

50,801,455 Cases

817,956 Deaths

MICHIGAN

1,567,578 Cases

26,194 Deaths

OUT-WAYNE COUNTY

163,414 Cases

3,341 Deaths

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Two doses of a Covid vaccine are not enough to stop an individual from catching the Omicron variant. Early analysis of Omicron and Delta cases showed the vaccines were less effective at stopping the new variant. But a third booster prevents around 75% of people getting any Covid symptoms. The government has said it is updating its guidance for care homes in England - limiting the number of visitors allowed per resident, and increasing testing "in order to balance the current Covid-19 risk". One of the main concerns since the heavily-mutated Omicron variant first emerged was that it would make vaccines less effective. There is optimism that vaccines will still keep many people out of hospital even if more do get Covid. Data on severity could be published next week. —**BBC**
- Covid-19 is a moving target. In autumn the rollout of boosters to older age groups was contentious. Now they're the single biggest focus. So why do boosters help so significantly compared with first and second jabs, and are we on a conveyor belt towards needing an ever-increasing number of top-ups? Even before Omicron, it was clear boosters would be required to maintain the levels of protection against infection, although protection against severe illness appeared to be holding up well. Vaccines prompt the body to make neutralizing antibodies that intercept Covid before the virus infects our cells, but circulating antibodies can wane over time. Even if most people remain protected against serious illness, this waning immunity presents a significant public health issue when a proportion of adults remain unvaccinated or have immune conditions that leave them vulnerable. Omicron has made the need for boosters more urgent. Mutations in the virus mean its spike protein now looks quite different from that of the original Wuhan strain that all current vaccines were designed to target. That in turn means antibodies from previous infection and vaccination will be less efficient at intercepting Omicron. Because they stick to the virus less vigorously, a higher quantity of antibodies is also required to compensate for them being less well matched —**The Guardian**
- The entire world remains unprepared for the next pandemic and most countries are underprepared even for small outbreaks of disease, researchers reported Wednesday. Not a single country scored well on the Global Health Security index. The 2021 GHS Index continues to show that all countries still lack some critical capacities, which hinders their ability to respond effectively to COVID-19 and reduces their preparedness for future epidemic and pandemic threats. The average country score in 2021 was 38.9 out of 100, which is essentially unchanged from 2019. The highest overall score was just under 76—achieved by the United States. The worst area of preparedness is in preventing the emergence of new pathogens such as the virus that has caused the current pandemic. The global average for the prevention of the emergence or release of pathogens is 28.4 out of 100, making it the lowest-scoring category within the GHS Index. Around 113 countries "show little to no attention" to diseases transmitted from animals to humans.—**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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