

111 N. County Farm Rd., Wheaton, IL 60187

Media Inquiries:

(630) 221-7374
media@dupagehealth.org

DuPage County Board of Health

Sam Tornatore, J.D.
President

Lanny Wilson, M.D.
Vice President

Robert Spadoni, J.D.
Secretary/Treasurer

Lori Bottoms

Melinda Finch

Paula Garcia

Janice Guider

Nadeem N. Hussain, M.D.

Uzma Muneer, D.O.

Lawrence J. Schouten, M.D.

Karen Ayala, M.P.H.
Executive Director

September 15, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COVID-19 Cases and Related Hospitalizations Decrease in DuPage County

DuPage County— This week, COVID-19 cases and related hospitalizations are headed in the right direction as decreases are reported across DuPage County. Still, community transmission remains at a “High” level with a 7-day average of 145 new cases per 100,000 reported, per the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#). The DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) encourages residents to continue following the mask guidance, maintain physical distancing, and get vaccinated at the earliest opportunity to prevent further community transmission.

“The decrease in COVID-19 case activity is encouraging and an early sign that the prevention actions we are taking are working,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “I want to thank the municipalities, businesses, schools, community organizations, and residents who have done their part, including the more than 500,000 residents who have been fully vaccinated and all those who continue wearing a mask in indoor public settings. Our message now is for everyone to keep working together to help our community emerge from this pandemic.”

According to the latest [CDC COVID-19 vaccination data](#), DuPage County ranks 218th out of 3,283 counties, which is in the top 10 percent among U.S. counties with residents fully vaccinated. Currently, 88 percent of eligible residents 12 years and older in DuPage County have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and 70 percent are fully vaccinated. Of residents 65 years and older, 99.9 percent have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and 85 percent are fully vaccinated. However, among 12 to 17-year-olds in DuPage County, 77 percent have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and only 58 percent are fully vaccinated. To help reduce spread in schools and the community, all unvaccinated persons aged 12 years and older are urged to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible.

Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

-More-

**STAY SAFE
DUPAGE**



111 N. County Farm Rd., Wheaton, IL 60187

Media Inquiries:

(630) 221-7374
media@dupagehealth.org

DuPage County Board of Health

Sam Tornatore, J.D.
President
Lanny Wilson, M.D.
Vice President
Robert Spadoni, J.D.
Secretary/Treasurer
Lori Bottoms
Melinda Finch
Paula Garcia
Janice Guider
Nadeem N. Hussain, M.D.
Uzma Muneer, D.O.
Lawrence J. Schouten, M.D.
Karen Ayala, M.P.H.
Executive Director

Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

-Page 2-

Currently, people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems are recommended to receive a third dose of a mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. Those who believe they are eligible for a third vaccine dose should talk to their healthcare provider. Third-dose vaccinations are available through local pharmacies or healthcare providers and can be given 28 days after receiving the second dose.

DCHD is actively monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19 boosters for fully vaccinated people. Although booster shots are expected to begin this fall, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) must first authorize a third dose of the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) must issue booster dose recommendations based on the evidence presented. The FDA has scheduled a meeting with its vaccine advisers this Friday, Sept. 17 to discuss booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. As more information becomes available, DCHD will share additional updates.

For more information on COVID-19 in DuPage County, visit www.dupagehealth.org/covid19. Anyone age 12 or older can find free vaccination opportunities near them by visiting www.vaccines.gov. No-cost testing is also available; visit www.dupagehealth.org/covid19testing for more information.

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, call 1-800-889-3931 or email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV.

###

