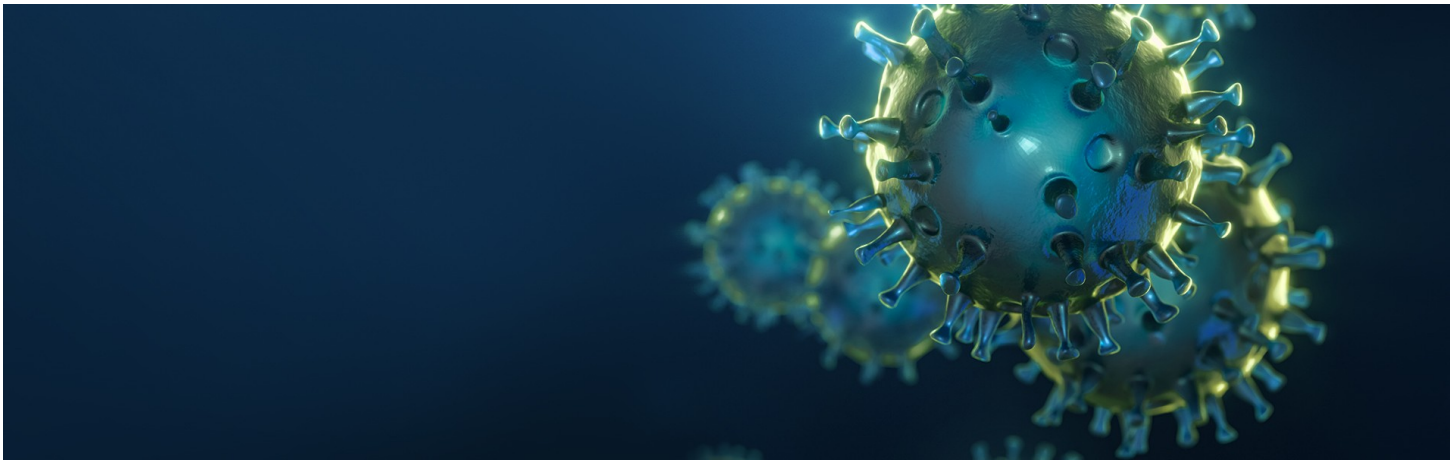
COVID-19 Update: Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer Program, Non-Congregate Sheltering Order, Sports Spectator Variance

September 08, 2020



(COLUMBUS, Ohio)—Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted today gave the following updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PANDEMIC ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER PROGRAM

Governor DeWine announced today that thousands of Ohio children, who qualify for free or reduced-price meals but are currently learning remotely, will soon receive additional money to purchase nutritious foods through the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program made possible by the Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services will issue this second round of benefits later this month to eligible children. Ohio previously issued more than $250 million in P-EBT benefits to more than 850,000 students through the program in the spring.

Parents do not need to apply to receive these benefits. The benefits will be automatically loaded onto existing Ohio Direction cards or a pre-loaded card will be sent in the mail.

NON-CONGREGATE SHELTERING ORDER

In response to a barrage of rumors surrounding Ohio's latest non-congregate sheltering order, Governor DeWine today stressed that there are no orders in Ohio to create "FEMA camps" to quarantine citizens against their will.

"This is not in our order, and there is no truth to the rumor," said Governor DeWine. "Families will not be separated, and kids will not be away from their loved ones."

The order, which was first issued on March 31 and then renewed on April 29 and August 31, creates a funding mechanism to allow for federal reimbursement for communities that choose to offer alternate locations for people to safely isolate or quarantine outside of their homes. If a citizen chooses to recover in a quarantine housing location, others in the household can remain at home and unexposed.

This option has been used in a handful of cases in Ohio.

SPORTS SPECTATOR VARIANCE

The Ohio Department of Health has granted a spectator variance to Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course for the Honda Indy 200 at Mid-Ohio taking place September 11-13, 2020. Attendance will be limited to 6,000 spectators, and social distancing and masks will be required in accordance with state health guidelines.

The variance for Mid-Ohio was granted, in part, due to its unique, large outdoor facility that can accommodate social distancing.

Governor DeWine previously announced 6,000 spectator variances for the Browns and Bengals for two upcoming games each.

GET IN LINE, ONLINE

Lt. Governor Husted today announced that the Ohio BMV was awarded the Customer Convenience Award for their Get in Line, Online virtual queuing system, which allows a customer to secure a spot in line at the agency without actually being physically present. Once customers arrive to check-in, they move to the front of the line with minimal wait time.

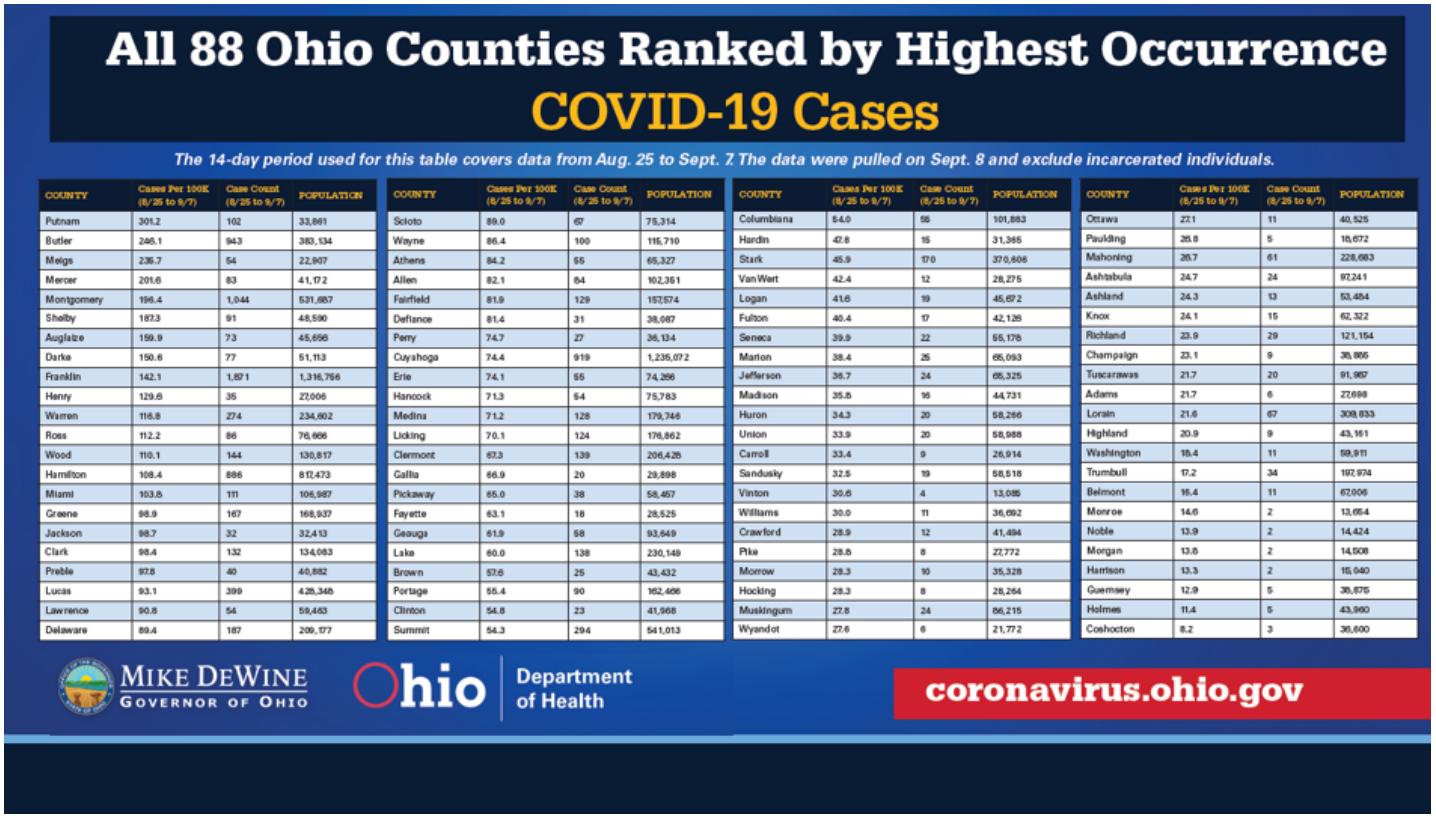
InnovateOhio, which Lt. Governor Husted leads, worked in partnership with the Ohio BMV on this project.

“InnovateOhio and the Ohio BMV collaborated on the ‘Get in Line, Online’ system with the goal of using technology to improve customer service,” said Lt. Governor Husted. “This award is a recognition that we are on our way to making Ohio the most innovative and creative state in the Midwest.”

CURRENT COVID-19 DATA

There are 131,992 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Ohio and 4,298 confirmed and probable COVID-19 deaths. A total of 13,967 people have been hospitalized, including 3,042 admissions to intensive care units. In-depth data can be accessed by visiting coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Rankings of Ohio's 88 counties by highest occurrence can be found below.



All 88 Ohio Counties Ranked by Highest Occurrence
COVID-19 Cases

The 14-day period used for this table covers data from Aug. 25 to Sept. 7. The data were pulled on Sept. 8 and exclude incarcerated individuals.

COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Case Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION
Putnam	301.2	102	33,861
Butler	246.1	943	383,134
Meigs	236.7	54	22,907
Mercer	201.6	83	41,172
Montgomery	196.4	1,044	531,687
Shelby	187.3	91	48,590
Auglaize	159.9	73	45,656
Darke	150.6	77	51,113
Franklin	142.1	1,871	1,316,756
Henry	129.6	35	27,006
Warren	116.8	274	234,602
Ross	112.2	86	76,666
Wood	110.1	144	130,817
Hamilton	108.4	886	817,473
Miami	103.5	111	106,987
Greene	98.9	167	168,937
Jackson	98.7	32	32,413
Clark	98.4	132	134,083
Preble	97.8	40	40,882
Lucas	93.1	399	428,348
Lawrence	90.8	54	59,463
Delaware	89.4	187	209,177

COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Case Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION
Scioto	89.0	67	75,314
Wayne	86.4	100	115,710
Athens	84.2	55	65,327
Allen	82.1	84	102,351
Fairfield	81.9	129	157,574
Defiance	81.4	31	38,087
Perry	74.7	27	36,134
Cuyahoga	74.4	919	1,235,072
Erie	74.1	55	74,266
Hancock	71.3	54	75,783
Medina	71.2	128	179,746
Licking	70.1	124	176,862
Clermont	67.3	139	206,425
Gallia	66.9	20	29,898
Pickaway	65.0	38	58,457
Fayette	63.1	18	28,525
Geauga	61.9	58	93,649
Lake	60.0	138	230,149
Brown	57.6	25	43,432
Portage	55.4	90	162,466
Clinton	54.8	23	41,968
Summit	54.3	294	541,013

COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Case Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION
Columbiana	54.0	55	101,883
Hardin	47.8	15	31,365
Stark	45.9	170	370,606
Van Wert	42.4	12	28,275
Logan	41.6	19	45,672
Fulton	40.4	17	42,126
Seneca	39.9	22	55,178
Marion	38.4	25	65,093
Jefferson	36.7	24	65,325
Madison	35.5	16	44,731
Huron	34.3	20	58,266
Union	33.9	20	58,988
Carroll	33.4	9	26,914
Sandusky	32.5	19	58,518
Vinton	30.6	4	13,085
Williams	30.0	11	36,692
Crawford	28.9	12	41,494
Pike	28.5	6	22,772
Morrow	28.3	10	35,328
Hocking	28.3	8	28,264
Muskingum	27.8	24	86,215
Wyandot	27.6	6	21,772

COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Case Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION
Ottawa	27.1	11	40,525
Paulding	26.8	5	18,672
Mahoning	26.7	61	228,683
Ashtabula	24.7	24	97,241
Ashland	24.3	13	53,484
Knox	24.1	15	62,322
Richland	23.9	29	121,154
Champaign	23.1	9	38,866
Tuscarawas	21.7	20	91,987
Adams	21.7	6	27,698
Lorain	21.6	67	309,833
Highland	20.9	9	43,161
Washington	18.4	11	59,911
Trumbull	17.2	34	197,974
Belmont	16.4	11	67,006
Monroe	14.6	2	13,654
Noble	13.9	2	14,424
Morgan	13.8	2	14,508
Harrison	13.3	2	15,040
Guernsey	12.9	5	38,875
Holmes	11.4	5	43,960
Coshocton	8.2	3	36,600

MIKE DEWINE GOVERNOR OF OHIO Ohio Department of Health coronavirus.ohio.gov

Video of today's full update, including versions with foreign language translation, can be viewed on the Ohio Channel's YouTube page.

For more information on Ohio's response to COVID-19, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

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