



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

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

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Dan Tierney: 614-644-0957
Breann Almos: 614-799-6480

(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)	Cases Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION	COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Cases Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION	COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Cases Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION	COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (8/25 to 9/7)	Cases Count (8/25 to 9/7)	POPULATION
Putnam	301.2	102	33,861	Scioto	89.0	87	75,314	Columbiana	64.0	56	101,893	Ottawa	27.1	11	40,525
Butler	240.1	943	383,134	Wayne	86.4	100	116,710	Hardin	40.8	55	31,365	Paulding	26.8	5	18,672
Meigs	236.7	54	22,807	Athens	84.2	55	65,327	Stark	45.9	570	370,606	Mahoning	26.7	61	228,683
Mercer	201.6	83	41,172	Allen	82.1	84	102,351	Van Wert	42.4	52	28,275	Ashtabula	24.7	24	97,241
Montgomery	196.4	1,644	531,087	Fairfield	81.9	129	157,574	Logan	41.6	39	45,672	Ashtabula	24.3	13	53,484
Shelby	187.3	91	48,590	DeWane	81.4	31	38,087	Fulton	40.4	57	42,126	Knox	24.1	15	62,322
Auglaize	189.9	73	45,696	Perry	74.7	27	30,134	Seneca	39.9	22	55,176	Richland	23.9	28	121,154
Darke	190.6	77	51,113	Cuyahoga	74.4	919	1,235,072	Marion	38.4	25	65,093	Champaign	23.1	9	38,986
Franklin	142.1	1,871	1,316,756	Erie	74.1	85	74,266	Jefferson	36.7	24	65,325	Tuscarawas	21.7	20	91,907
Henry	129.6	35	22,056	Hancock	71.3	64	75,783	Madison	35.5	55	44,731	Adams	21.7	6	27,698
Warren	116.8	274	234,802	Medina	71.2	128	179,746	Huron	34.3	20	58,266	Lorain	21.6	67	308,833
Ross	112.2	86	76,686	Licking	70.1	124	176,862	Union	33.9	20	58,989	Highland	20.9	9	43,161
Wood	110.1	144	130,817	Clermont	67.3	139	204,426	Carroll	33.4	9	26,914	Washington	16.4	11	69,811
Hamilton	108.4	886	812,473	Gallia	66.9	20	29,898	Sandusky	32.5	19	58,518	Trumbull	17.2	34	197,874
Miami	103.5	111	106,987	Pickaway	65.0	38	58,457	Vinton	30.5	4	13,085	Belmont	16.4	11	67,006
Greene	98.9	167	168,937	Fayette	63.1	18	28,525	Williams	30.0	11	36,092	Monroe	14.6	2	13,064
Jackson	96.7	32	32,413	Geauga	61.9	58	93,649	Crawford	28.9	12	41,484	Noble	13.9	2	14,424
Clark	96.4	132	134,083	Lake	60.0	138	230,149	Plata	28.5	8	27,772	Morgan	13.6	2	14,008
Peebles	97.8	40	40,882	Brown	57.6	25	43,432	Morrow	28.3	10	35,328	Hartman	13.3	2	15,940
Lucas	93.1	399	428,345	Portage	55.4	90	162,486	Hocking	28.3	8	28,284	Guernsey	12.9	5	38,875
Lawrence	90.8	54	59,403	Clinton	54.8	23	41,968	Muskingum	27.8	24	86,215	Holmes	11.4	5	43,990
Delaware	89.4	187	209,177	Summit	54.3	294	541,013	Wyandot	27.6	6	21,772	Coshocton	8.2	3	36,600

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.