

OH Gov. DeWine COVID-19 – 3.26.2020

Thursday, March 25	867 Confirmed Cases	60 Number of Counties in Ohio	223 Number of Hospitalizations	15 Number of Deaths
Wednesday, March 25	704 Confirmed Cases	55 Number of Counties in Ohio	182 Number of Hospitalizations	10 Number of Deaths
Tuesday, March 24	564 Confirmed Cases	49 Number of Counties in Ohio	145 Number of Hospitalizations	8 Number of Deaths

Last Updated: 03/26/20 (Updated daily at 2 p.m.) - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>

New orders/actions/measurements

- No new orders were announced.

The Governor started with an update on the eviction process. He said that House Bill 197, the pandemic emergency bill passed yesterday and which the Governor will be signing tomorrow, includes a provision tolling the statute of limitations in all criminal and civil cases. Specifically, the bill:

Requires the criminal statutes of limitations, the civil statutes of limitations, and the administrative statutes of limitations and other court time limitations and deadlines that are set to expire between March 9, 2020, and July 30, 2020, be tolled. The act is retroactive to March 9, 2020 and it expires on the date the period of emergency ends or July 30, 2020, whichever is sooner.

Evictions can still be filed and courts continue to have discretion on what matters they choose to hear. The Governor again stressed, concurring with the Chief Justice, that it is important that courts have the flexibility to act. There are facts and circumstances that warrant eviction – ex. criminal acts, domestic violence - even during the pandemic. After the signing, Chief Justice O'Connor will be issuing guidance to courts on this issue.

The state has established an email address for Ohioans wanting to provide help. Interested parties should email together@governor.ohio.gov with their name, contact information and how they are interested in helping. Some examples of Ohioans stepping up:

- Dozens of schools that provide career-tech education have donated thousands of items, from cleaning supplies to masks to gowns. School nurses are collecting and donating similar items from schools where they serve.
- Colleges and universities have donated supplies from healthcare-related programs.
- The United Way of Central Ohio COVID-19 Community Response Fund is helping to shore up food pantries, emergency relief programs, and other community resources.
- Members serving in the Ohio National Guard are helping to distribute food and supplies from banks and similar organizations.

In response to a question, the Governor said he could not comment on whether schools would open again this academic year – that it was too early to make that decision. He noted that they are working with education officials on this and that the General Assembly acted yesterday to cancel end of grade tests and ensure that seniors that were on track to graduate will be able to do so.

Dr. Acton unveiled the state's new data dashboard - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard>. It provides a breakdown of the data on a county basis. She also showed a preliminary model from Ohio State's Infectious Disease Institute showing that Ohio is flattening the curve and pushing the peak further out based on the measures instituted thus far. Dr. Acton stressed that this was very preliminary data. From that look, she believes that at peak there may be 6,000-8,000 new cases a day in Ohio. Further, the initial projection for the peak is May 1. Additionally, she acknowledged that the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department is under self-quarantine and its building is closed for two days for cleaning after some staffers tested positive.

The Lt. Governor began his update by acknowledging that the state's unemployment benefit site is struggling to keep pace. They are adding servers to expand capacity – to approximately 15x normal. But the problem is also on the individual's end as internet providers are struggling with increased demand. He asked people to have patience with the system and keep trying. Husted assured everyone that once an individual is successful, the benefits will be retroactive to the correct date. For the self-employed and 1099 workers, he highlighted that the federal legislation will make benefits available and the state will act as quickly as it can to implement.

Finally, the Lt. Governor again stressed that businesses do not need a certification to operate but suggested that businesses be prepared to show their compliance, including having documentation ready if necessary to outline how they are essential and how they are complying with the safe workplace protocols. He again told businesses not to call law enforcement or the

health department to ask compliance questions – they should only be called to report enforcement issues.

On the new voting procedures for the primary, Lt. Governor Husted urged people to go to VoteOhio.gov for the latest information on the primary election and on how to receive an absentee ballot if you have not already voted.

Note: For an archive of all COVID-19 related First Alerts from Calfee, which are separate from these emails and focused on specific business topics, please visit the Calfee COVID-19 Resource Center: <https://www.calfee.com/covid-19-resource-center>

Other items of note

- Ohio reported 187,780 initial claims for unemployment compensation last week – a weekly figure that, by itself, exceeded the totals for all but one month all-time. That total reflects claims filed March 15-21, the Department of Job and Family Services reported Thursday. The state received 7,042 jobless claims the week before. Nationwide, the U.S. Department of Labor reported 3.28 million initial claims for unemployment, the highest level in the history of the seasonally adjusted data. The previous high was 695,000 in October 1982.
- The confirmed coronavirus death toll in Italy rose to 8,165, the highest in the world, after officials on Thursday announced another 662 fatalities. Much of the world's population is living under some sort of pandemic-related restrictions as the total number of coronavirus cases worldwide surged past 500,000.

Key websites – New resources in red

General state updates - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>

Data dashboard - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard>

Election information - <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/>

Closure order FAQ - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/Stay-at-Home-Information/Stay-At-Home-Order-Frequently-Asked-Questions>

Unemployment compensation - <http://ifs.ohio.gov/ouio/CoronavirusAndUI.stm>

Mental health resources - <https://mha.ohio.gov/Health-Professionals/About-Mental-Health-and-Addiction-Treatment/Emergency-Preparedness/Coronavirus>

Ohio benefits application - <https://benefits.ohio.gov/>

SharedWork Ohio - <http://ifs.ohio.gov/ouio/SharedWorkOhio/>

Support resources for adults - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/resources/resources-for-adults-coping-with-the-covid-19-pandemic>

Find your local health district - <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/find-local-health-districts>

Job openings - <https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/home.aspx>

COVID-19 checklists - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/COVID-19-Checklists/>

Business resources - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/resources-for-economic-support>

Banking pandemic resources and relief programs - <https://www.ohiobankersleague.com/customers>

Pandemic child care center information - <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcareForFamilies/>