



Kathleen Cuddy, MPH
Public Health Director
Cayuga County Health Department
8 Dill St.
Auburn, NY 13021



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COVID-19 Vaccination Update

Over the past two weeks, the Cayuga County Health Department has seen an increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases. Currently, there are 28 positive cases in mandatory isolation in Cayuga County. Over 65% of these new cases were in unvaccinated persons.

New York State guidance recommends unvaccinated persons continue to wear their face covers/masks in public settings. This includes all children under the age of 12, since those children are not eligible to receive a COVID vaccine at this time. With approximately half of Cayuga County residents who are fully vaccinated, this means about half the population in Cayuga County should still be wearing a mask when in public, but they are not. To put this into perspective, when you are at a grocery store or out shopping, do you see half of the individuals in the store wearing masks?

When unvaccinated individuals do not wear their masks, they are increasing their chances of exposure to COVID-19. Many of the recent positive cases were unvaccinated people who disclosed not wearing their face covers around others when gathering as a family or when socializing. This is alarming. The evidence points to unvaccinated individuals directly exposing others, including vulnerable members of the community.

If you are unvaccinated we are asking that you be responsible and wear your mask when you are in public or around people you do not reside with. If you are a parent and your child is not vaccinated, we ask that you keep them safe by having them wear a mask when gathering with others and when in public settings. For unvaccinated adults who are caregivers to their elderly parents or young children, please wear the mask so that you do not expose them.

The Cayuga County Health Department is urging our residents to get vaccinated to reduce the chances of contracting and spreading the virus.

The COVID-19 pandemic is not over yet. We need to protect each other. Continue to follow the common sense guidance of:

- Stay home if you are ill or have symptoms of illness and seek health care if needed
- Wear a mask around others if you are unvaccinated
- Routinely wash your hands
- Get your COVID-19 vaccine.

