

LeadingAge Ohio COVID-19 Situation Report 8/13/20

Ohio has had over 1,000 new COVID cases a day for the past several days. The IHME projects 9,041 deaths in the state by December 1, 2020.

CURRENT STATS

Ohio's Older Population

- 17% of Ohioans are age 65 or older
- 13 of Ohio's 88 counties have a higher percentage of people of retirement age than children

Current State of COVID-19 Cases

- 105,426 COVID-19 cases in the state
- Over 1,000 new cases a day on average
- 9,768 nursing home and assisted living residents infected
- 5,266 nursing home and assisted living staff infected
- 24.6% of COVID cases are older adults
- ICU bed capacity is 28.08% (1,227 beds open)

Current State of COVID-19 Deaths

- 3,755 total deaths across the state
 - 3,413 deaths of older adults (91% of total deaths)
 - 2,128 deaths among long-term care residents (57% of total deaths)

Projected Deaths at this Rate

- 9,041 projected COVID deaths in Ohio by December 1, 2020 (IHME)
 - 8,227 of projected deaths are older adults
 (91% of total, corresponding to the ratio above)
 - 5,153 of projected deaths are long-term care residents (57% of total, corresponding to the ratio above)

OHIO AGING SERVICES NEEDS & EXPERIENCES

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- 15% of Ohio's nursing homes lack a one-week supply of N-95 masks.
- 6% lack a one-week supply of surgical masks.
- 9% lack a one-week supply of gowns.
- Nursing homes were promised FEMA shipments of PPE, but many supplies were of substandard quality.
- Providers face significantly higher-than-normal prices, which create significant financial pressures.
- Infection spikes or surges create additional pressure on PPE supplies.

Testing

- All nursing home and assisted living facility workers required to be tested for COVID-19 every two weeks, per state officials.
- The federal government's nursing homes only testing assistance has just begun.
- Conservative monthly cost estimate for a 200-employee nursing home in the U.S. to test staff just once a week is nearly \$160,000 per month.

Staffing

- Nearly all long-term care staff face potential exposure to COVID-19 on a day-to-day basis. This uncertainty places undue physical and emotional stresses on staff.
- Increased numbers of infected employees create additional overtime and staff replacement costs and threaten service delivery.
- Demands in COVID-19 isolation units further depletes already overburdened staff.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Revenues for providers are down, in general, as a result of fewer admissions across the continuum of care.
- As revenues decline and costs continue to soar, long-term care providers will be in a perilous financial position.
- Providers report COVID-related increases are driving operating losses.

Contact: Susan Wallace, swallace@leadingageohio.org

(Updated 8/13)