

The purpose of this brief is to provide an update on coronavirus activity in the City of Cleveland, Ohio. This brief uses data from April 1, 2023 through September 14, 2024, representing approximately the past 18 months.

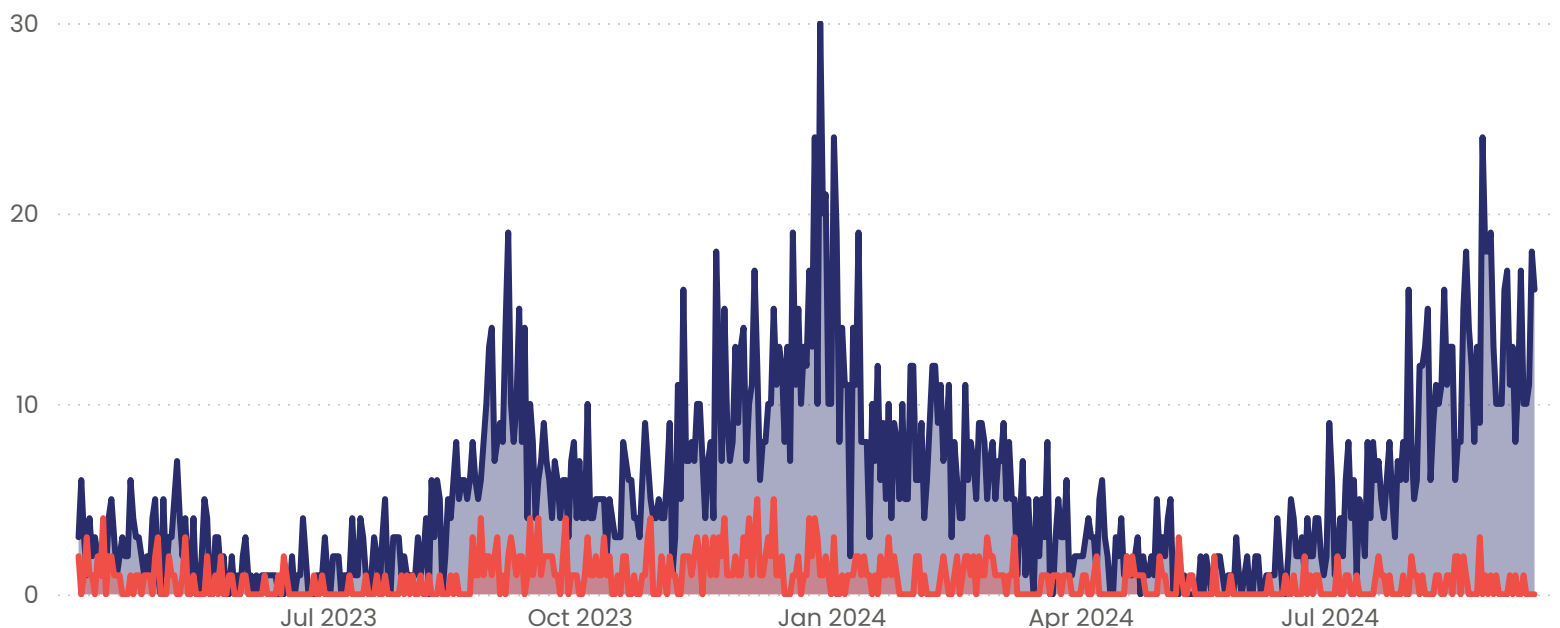
## What Matters Most

- Staying up to date with your COVID-19 vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and those around you. Everyone ages 6 months and older should get the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine. This includes people who have received a COVID-19 vaccine before and people who have had COVID-19.
- When you are sick and experiencing respiratory symptoms, staying home and away from others can limit the spread of many illness like COVID-19, influenza, and RSV.
- Using additional prevention strategies, such a choosing to wearing a mask and practicing good hand hygiene can further lower the risk of COVID-19 infection. Even mild COVID can lead to Post-Acute COVID-19 Syndrome (also called long COVID), so it's best to avoid infection altogether.
- Seek health care promptly for testing and/or treatment if you have risk factors for severe illness. Treatment may help lower your risk of hospitalization and death, but it needs to be started within a few days of when your symptoms begin.

## COVID-associated Emergency Room Visits and Hospitalizations

April 1, 2023 – September 14, 2024

● ER Visits ● Hospitalizations



There was an increase in the number of COVID-associated emergency room visits among Cleveland residents over the summer. This increase peaked in late August and has since leveled off. This same pattern has been observed in previous years. COVID-associated hospitalizations remain low indicating that the overall severity of acute COVID among the Cleveland population is low.

## Wastewater Surveillance

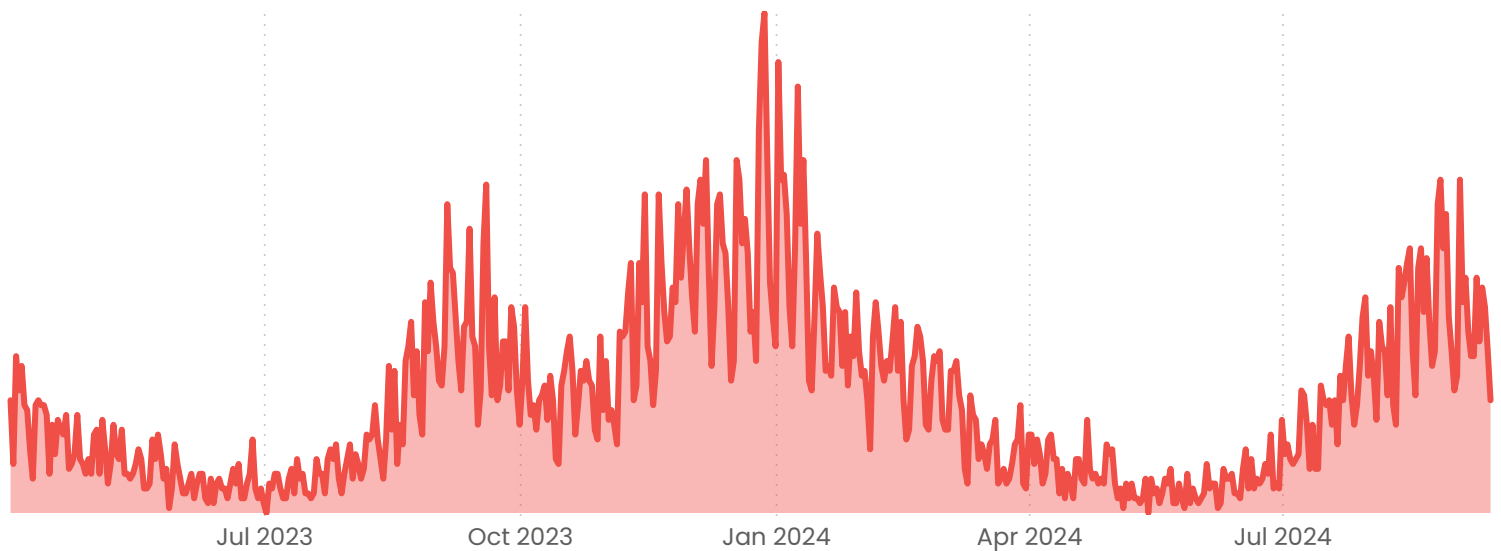
The most recent wastewater testing results at all 3 Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District facilities indicate that COVID activity in Cleveland is holding steady.

### Wastewater Treatment Facility Levels of COVID Gene Copies

Wastewater Treatment Facility	Levels of COVID Gene Copies
NEORSD Easterly WWTP	Steady
NEORSD Southerly WWTC	Steady
NEORSD Westerly WWTC	Steady

## Reported COVID Cases

April 1, 2023 - September 14, 2024



COVID-19 case counts are no longer a reliable metric for several reasons, most notably the widespread use of unreported at-home tests and a reduction in testing overall. However, monitoring the general patterns of the rise and fall of reported cases can add to our understanding of local COVID activity. There was an increase in the number reported cases over the summer that leveled off in late August and is now beginning to decrease. This pattern is typical for this time of year. Following the trends of previous years, we expect a slightly larger wave of reported cases during the winter months.

## Meta Data

Data is preliminary and subject to change.

Data was extracted on September 18, 2024 via dataohio.gov and EpiCenter Version 3.5.18.

Wastewater data represents the most recent testing period from August 20th, 2024 through September 8th, 2024. More information of wastewater testing and analysis can be found at <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/ohio-wastewater-monitoring-network/welcome>