



# ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR  
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DANIEL W. GILMORE, PH.D., MPH  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



"PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY"

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## News Release

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Megan Graziano  
315-798-5229 or [mgraziano@ocgov.net](mailto:mgraziano@ocgov.net)

## NYS Dept. of Health Extends Flu Season Cases Persisting Longer Than Previous Seasons

Due to an unusually high number of influenza (flu) cases throughout the state currently, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will be extending the flu surveillance season indefinitely.

Generally, flu reporting is monitored from October through the end of May, when activity has decreased. However, flu cases remain elevated and widespread. During 2021-2022 flu season, cases showed an unusual decline in January and February and began to rise again in March and April and continue to remain high at this time.

All persons aged 6 months or older are eligible for vaccination. If individuals have not been vaccinated during this season, the vaccine can be received through the end of June this year. To find a flu vaccine near you, visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines/> or speak with your health care provider.

Everyone is reminded to continue to practice good hand hygiene and stay home if you feel sick. Symptoms of flu include fever or feeling feverish/chills, cough, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches and fatigue. If you do test positive for flu, treatment options may be available and you are advised to speak to your doctor about options.

For more information NYSDOH flu activity, surveillance, and reports visit <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/flu/surveillance/>.

### ADMINISTRATION

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5<sup>TH</sup> FL.,  
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501  
TEL: (315) 798-6400 • FAX: (315) 266-6138

### SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5<sup>TH</sup> FL.,  
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501  
TEL: (315) 798-5249 • FAX: (315) 731-3491

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 4<sup>TH</sup> FL.,  
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501  
TEL: (315) 798-5064 • FAX: (315) 798-6486

### CLINICAL SERVICES

406 ELIZABETH ST. UTICA, NY 13501  
TEL: (315) 798-5748 • FAX: (315) 798-1057