

STATE OF INDIANA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 21-31

**FOR: TWENTY-FIRST RENEWAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
DECLARATION FOR THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-02 which declared a public health emergency exists throughout the State of Indiana as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and a confirmed report that the disease had spread to the State of Indiana;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic, and, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency with respect to this dangerous virus;

WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 10-14-3-12(a) provides that a state of disaster emergency shall continue until the Governor: (1) determines that the threat or danger has passed or that the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist; and (2) terminates the state of disaster emergency by executive order or proclamation;

WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 10-14-3-12(a) also provides that a state of disaster emergency may not continue for longer than thirty (30) days unless the state of disaster emergency is renewed by the Governor;

WHEREAS, since the initial declaration of emergency I have issued subsequent Executive Orders renewing the state of disaster emergency for additional thirty (30) day periods as set forth in Executive Orders 20-17, - 25, -30, -34, -38, -41, -44, -47, -49, -52, 21-03, -05, -08, -11, -14, -16, -18, -22, -26 and -28;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 21-28, issued on October 29, 2021, and effective November 1, 2021, is the most recent renewal of the state of disaster emergency and is currently set to expire on December 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Executive Order, the virus remains in every county throughout Indiana with over 1,101,000 confirmed cases and over 16,900 deaths;

WHEREAS, our vaccination program and efforts continue with over 3.3 million Hoosiers fully vaccinated out of 6.3 million eligible. However, only 52.8% of eligible Hoosiers are fully vaccinated;

WHEREAS, throughout the Hoosier state, we are seeing a steady increase in new confirmed cases and hospitalizations following a decline throughout the month of October and are currently experiencing a 7-day average positivity rate of over 12.2%, the highest since January 2021; over 1,000 Hoosiers have been diagnosed daily with COVID for the past four months, and tragically we are currently averaging 19 deaths per day from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, for the week ending November 13, 2021, 975 of the 1,013 new COVID-19 patients admitted to the hospital were unvaccinated; 161 of 169 COVID-19 patients admitted to intensive care units (ICU) were unvaccinated; and 123 of 164 COVID-19 deaths were unvaccinated individuals;

WHEREAS, despite significant steps being taken in our State, the virus remains a threat to the health, safety and welfare of all residents of Indiana such that emergency conditions continue to exist, and efforts are needed to continue to address, control and reduce the threat posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in light of the above, it is necessary and proper to take further action to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Hoosiers in connection with COVID-19 and, specifically, to renew the state of disaster emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor by the Indiana Constitution and the laws of the State of Indiana, do hereby order that:

1. The declaration of a public health disaster emergency set forth in Executive Order 20-02 as renewed in Executive Orders 20-17, -25, -30, -34, -38, -41, -44, -47, -49, -52, 21-03, -05, -08, -11, -14, -16, -18, -22, 26 & 28 is hereby renewed for an additional thirty (30) day period beyond its current expiration date of December 1, 2021.
2. This renewal of the COVID-19 public health emergency shall become effective on December 2, 2021, and shall now expire on January 1, 2022, unless further renewed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Eric J. Holcomb, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana, on this 1st day of December 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Holcomb", written over a horizontal line.

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor of Indiana

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Hoffmeyer", written over a horizontal line.
ATTEST: Holli Sullivan
 Secretary of State