



November 12, 2020

For Immediate release

Miami County Public Health COVID-19 Update

Miami County – Today, Miami County Public Health found out our community was moving up to a level 3 or red risk level. Moving to the red level is concerning enough, but on top of that news, Miami County is now number 6 out of 88 Ohio counties in the ranking of highest occurrence of COVID 19 cases for a two-week period. For the two-week period from October 28th through November 10th, Miami County has had 620.6 cases per 100,000 population.

Miami County, we can do better. We can and we should be using the tools we have to protect our fellow citizens. Wear a mask, social distance, avoid large gatherings and wash your hands. Now is the time to protect each other. We are so close to having an available vaccine. I know none of us want to be reason someone becomes sick or goes to the hospital or even passes away. We can reduce the risk to our community. We ask you to step up at this time and be accountable to your family, friends and community,-Dennis Propes-Miami County Health Commissioner.

This new Red #3 COVID-19 Risk Level is due to Miami County meeting the criteria for 4 of the 7 Alert Indicators:

- 50+ cases /100,000 population within last 2 weeks
- More than 50% of new cases are from non-congregate care living
- Sustained Increase in Outpatient visits for COVID-like illness
- Sustained New Case trajectory

This risk level indicates very high exposure and spread of COVID-19. It is advised that community members limit activities as much as possible and follow all current health orders. Limit events over ten people and non-essential activities as much as possible. In addition to the 4 indicators met, Miami County is listed as a High Incidence area. This means that a county is



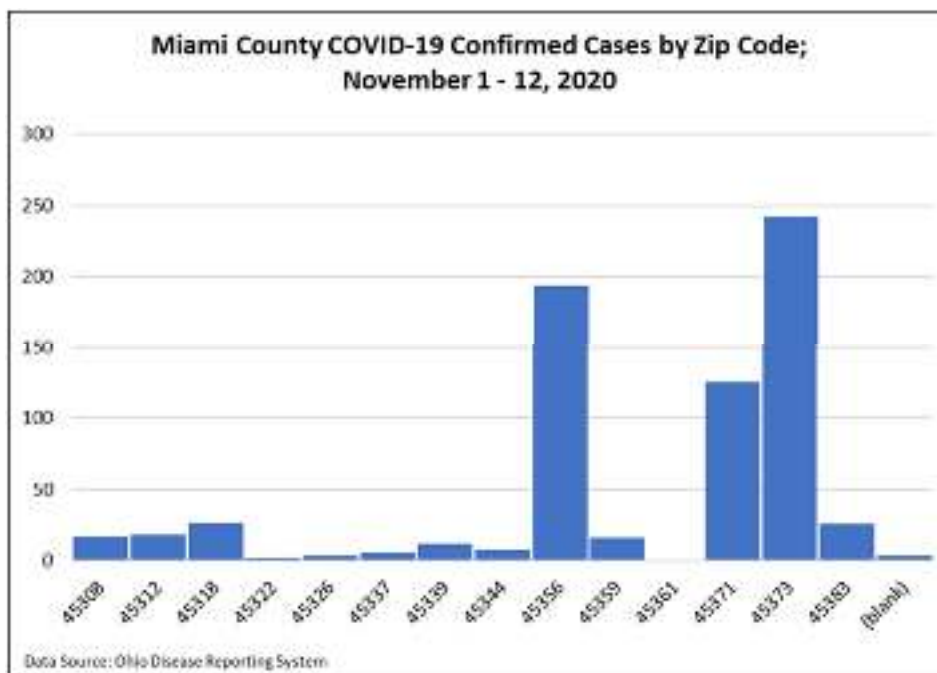


flagged as high incidence when more than 100 cases per 100,000 residents over the last 2 weeks. Miami County will stay at a Red level #3 until we are no longer in the high incidence category.

For more information on the Public Health Advisory System visit:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/>

Since October 29th, 2020 there have been 855 new COVID-19 cases, 37 new hospitalizations and 6 new deaths reported. This brings the total number of COVID-19 cases in Miami County to 3094, with 2808 confirmed cases and 286 probable cases, 234 hospitalizations and 65 deaths, with 2044 presumed recovered.



These cases will lead to more hospitalizations putting a significant strain on our health care system. MCPH is working closely with the 3 hospitals in our community to get messaging out to our community members.



Kettering Troy Hospital President Eric Lunde: *"As positive cases and hospitalizations continue to rise it is imperative to do what we can to minimize the spread - wash hands, wear a mask, and maintain 6 feet of social distance. It truly makes a difference."*

"We're in this together and appreciate each person doing his/her part to keep family, friends, co-workers and neighbors safe and healthy."

UVMC President Kevin Harlan: *"Currently, Upper Valley Medical Center has the capacity and equipment to take care of all patients being admitted to the hospital," said Kevin Harlan, UVMC president. "In collaboration with our community partners, we are actively monitoring admission needs and planning for any potential increase of patients to be in the best position to provide the level of care needed. Our clinical and support teams have trained extensively and are well-prepared to treat patients with COVID-19 while ensuring the safety of all patients and staff."*

"We strongly urge the community to be vigilant about following the recommended guidelines for masking, sanitizing, and social distancing to help prevent further spread and potential overload on our local resources."

It is up to all of us to take the steps necessary to slow the spread of COVID-19. Everyone in the community needs to follow safety guidance and wear a mask or facial covering and maintain proper social distancing when in public. If you are ill or live with someone who is ill, even with mild symptoms, do not attend social events or gatherings. These are the only steps that can be taken to slow the spread of COVID-19.

MCPH will continue working to keep the community safe and informed as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve in Miami County.

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