

November 20, 2020

## For Immediate release

## Miami County Public Health COVID-19 Update

**Miami County** – Miami County remains at a Red #3 COVID-19 risk level. 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. Currently, Miami County is ranked 9<sup>th</sup> out of the 88 counties for highest case rate/100,000. 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: <a href="https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/">https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/</a>

Since November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 there have been 1068 new COVID-19 cases, 36 new hospitalizations and 4 new deaths reported. This brings the total number of COVID-19 cases in Miami County to 3693, with 3400 confirmed cases and 293 probable cases, 249 hospitalizations and 65 deaths, with 2299 presumed recovered.



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Thanksgiving is next week and while we all want to celebrate with our friends and family, Miami County public Health encourages everyone to be safe and consider alternative methods of celebration this year. Miami County Public Health recommends not hosting or attending large gatherings. However, if you chose to gather in person here are some ways to stay safe:

- Limit the gathering to those who live in your household
- Host a virtual gathering with friends & family that do not live with you
- Do Not attend or host a Thanksgiving gathering if you are sick or live with someone who
  is sick
- Wear a mask or facial covering when not actively eating or drinking
- Maintain social distancing whenever possible
- Have a small <u>outdoor meal</u> with family and friends
- Limit the number of guests
- Have conversations with guests ahead of time to set expectations for celebrating together
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items between use
- If celebrating indoors, bring in fresh air by opening windows and doors, if possible. You can use a window fan in one of the open windows to blow air out of the window. This will pull fresh air in through the other open windows
- Limit the number of people in food preparation areas
- Have guests bring their own food and drink
- If sharing food, have one person serve food and use single-use options, like plastic utensils

For more information on how to celebrate the holidays safely with COVID-19 visit:



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www.miamicountyhealth.net







## https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html

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 continues to work diligently to keep the community safe and informed as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve in Miami County.

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