



Public Information Release

COVID-19 Update

May 26, 2020

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and Madison County Public Health (MCPH) use indicators to determine how COVID-19 continues to spread in the community as the state reopens. These indicators include the case fatality rate, testing capacity, and contact tracing. Madison County has significantly increased testing and contact tracing capacity but has a case fatality rate of 5% of infected individuals. This means that 5 out of every 100 people that get sick with COVID-19 die. This rate is well above the 1-2% indicator goal from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As of May 26, 2020, there have been 141 total COVID-19 cases in Madison County. Fifty-six (56) of these individuals are incarcerated in Madison County. Madison County houses two state prisons at Madison Correctional Institution and London Correctional Institution; all inmates of these facilities are considered residents of the county.

Madison County's rate of infection among the general population (not incarcerated) is still higher when compared to other counties of similar size. Because our fatality and infection rates remain high, it is critical that everyone continues to practice social distancing, wearing face coverings, and washing hands often in order to protect you, your family, your friends, and your community.

Several studies indicate that the virus can stay suspended in the air for extended periods of times. Indoor facilities remain the highest risk for virus spread especially with large groups of people. Outdoor environments have increased air flow and carry less risk than indoor environments when combined with social distancing, facial coverings, and small groups of people.

Whether indoor or outdoor, mass gatherings such as festivals and concerts will be one of the last things to be permitted during this pandemic. COVID-19 spreads very easily among people who are very close to each other for any extended amount of time.

Elderly people and those who are vulnerable as a result of an illness should continue to take additional intentional precautions. Vulnerable populations include anyone over the age of 65 and those with underlying health conditions including chronic lung disease, asthma, serious heart conditions, immune compromised, obesity, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, or liver disease. MCPH recommends that these people stay at home as much as possible.

Get accurate local data on our website at covid.madisonph.org and on social media (@madisoncountyPH). Connect with us at 740-852-3065 or at info@madisonpublichealth.org. If you are concerned about your mental health, call the COVID CareLine at 1-800-720-9616 to talk to with a licensed mental health professional from 8am to 8pm, 7 days/week.

Chris Cook, MPH, RS
Health Commissioner

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Medical Director

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Our Mission

We are committed to monitoring and responding to our community's health and wellness needs through innovative services, education, collaboration, and compassionate care.