



## Public Information Release

### Coronavirus Case Update for Madison County

April 21, 2020

COVID-19 data is being used to help public health professionals and healthcare providers monitor the spread of COVID-19 in the county and across Ohio. While these numbers mean a great deal to the healthcare world, it can be confusing to understand the significance and what they mean.

As of April 21, 2020, there are currently 24 lab confirmed COVID-19 cases in Madison County and 13,250 cases in Ohio. There are currently 6 probable COVID-19 cases in the county and 475 probable cases in the state. Probable cases are most often symptomatic contacts of a confirmed positive case. Madison County has had a total of 8 hospitalizations and 3 deaths due to COVID-19.

When we combine probable with lab confirmed, we have a better idea of how many total residents are being affected by the virus. New antibody testing will reveal how many individuals were actually infected at some point and may or may not have experienced symptoms. Those who are mildly ill or do not have symptoms at all can still pass COVID-19 along to other people who may get a severe illness.

The actual number of people who have COVID-19 are far greater than what is being reported. Early in the pandemic there was little to no testing available. Additionally the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 25% of people with COVID-19 may be asymptomatic (have no symptoms at all). Having this data paints a better picture of COVID-19's reach into the community; better data leads to more informed decisions.

On occasion you may find a difference between the numbers reported on the state website and our website. Cases are continuously reported by labs and doctors. These numbers are a snapshot in time. Our team works hard to properly and thoroughly investigate cases and report accurate information.

We learn more about the COVID-19 virus every day. We do not know if people who were sick once with COVID-19 can get sick again or if they will build immunity to the virus. One thing we have learned is that the virus affects everyone differently, including length of illness. There is no accurate way of reporting the number of people who have recovered since that looks different for everyone.

MCPH will continue to provide accurate local data on our website at [covid.madisonph.org](https://covid.madisonph.org) and on social media (@madisoncountyPH). If you have questions about COVID-19 you can contact Madison County Public Health at 740-852-3065 or at [info@madisonpublichealth.org](mailto:info@madisonpublichealth.org). You may also call ODH COVID-19 Hotline for questions at 1-833-4ASK-ODH.

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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.