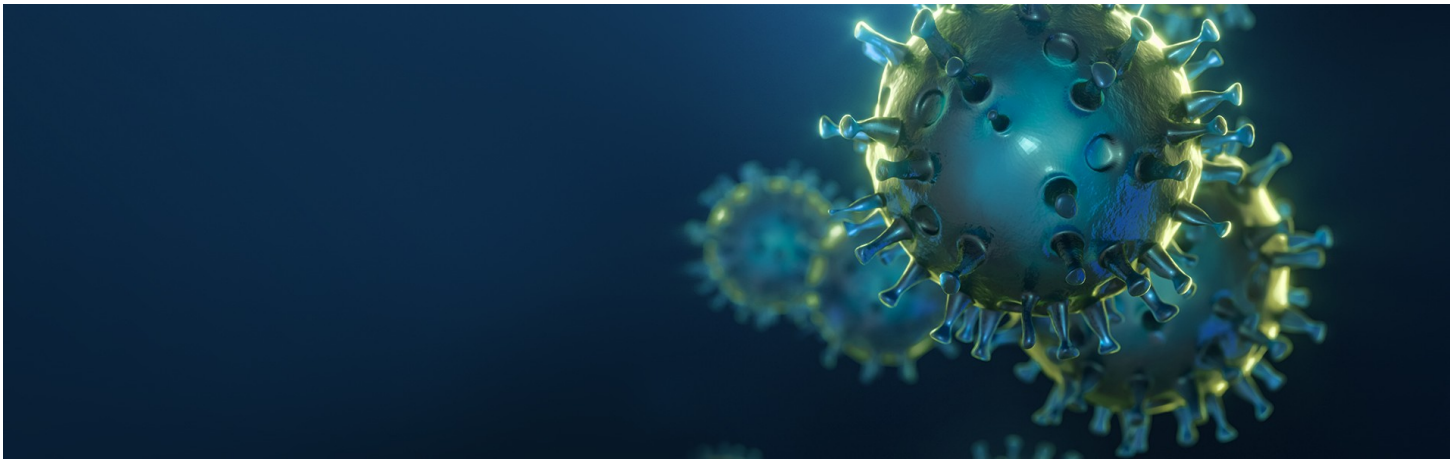
COVID-19 Update: Vaccines, New Advisory System Map, New Nurse PSAs

December 17, 2020

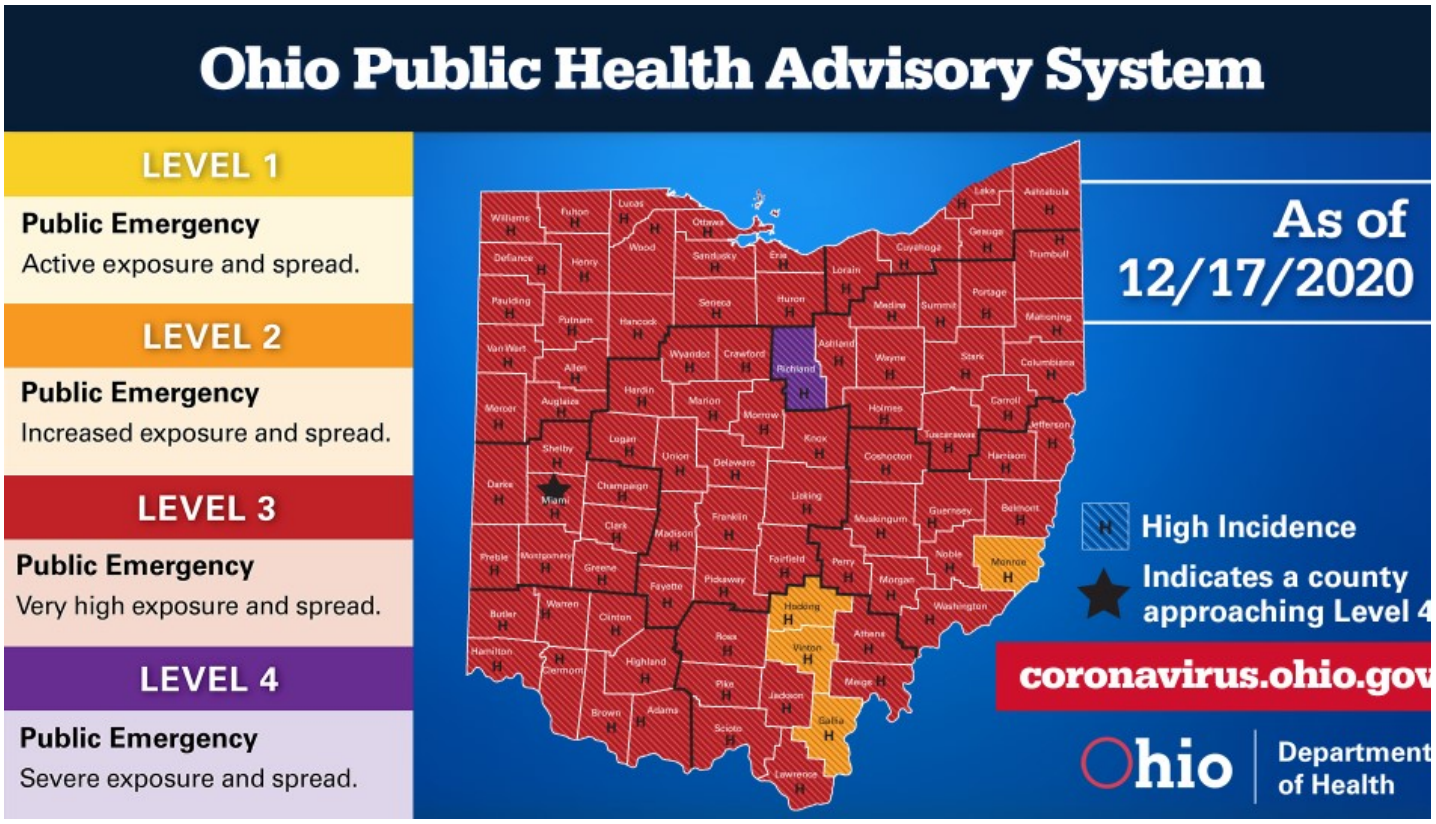


(COLUMBUS, Ohio)—Ohio Governor Mike DeWine today provided the following updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OHIO PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY SYSTEM

New health data compiled by the Ohio Department of Health shows sustained severe exposure and spread (Purple Level 4) in Richland County. Medina, Portage, Stark, and Summit counties all moved from Purple Level 4 to Red Level 3 this week. Governor DeWine cautioned that a decrease from Level 4 to Level 3 does not indicate that the situation in these counties is improving, but rather that healthcare indicators, such as hospitalizations, are plateauing at a very critical level.

"Red and purple are not all that different," said Governor DeWine. "They both mean that a county has a very high level of cases and a very high level of COVID activity in the healthcare system. Purple simply indicates counties where things are worsening noticeably, but red counties are also at very worrisome and unsustainable levels."



A county-by-county breakdown outlining the presence of COVID-19 in all of Ohio's 88 counties can be found on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System's website.

When seeking to determine the level of risk in each county, Governor DeWine encouraged Ohioans to look more closely at the chart below which shows the number of positive cases per 1,000 residents. All 88 counties have a level of spread that is at least three times more than what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) considers high incidence. The top 20 counties show rates of nine to 13 times the high-incidence level.

All 88 Ohio Counties Ranked by Highest Occurrence
COVID-19 Cases

The 14-day period used for this table covers data from Dec. 2 to Dec. 15. The data were pulled on Dec. 16 and exclude incarcerated individuals.
Shaded counties meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention definition of "high incidence" of COVID-19.

COUNTY	Cases Per 100K (12/02 to 12/15)	Case Count (12/02 to 12/15)	POPULATION
Wyandot	1,318.2	287	21,772
Brown	1,261.7	548	43,432
Jefferson	1,261.4	824	65,325
Jackson	1,190.9	386	32,413
Sandusky	1,115.9	653	58,518
Gallia	1,113.8	333	29,898
Muskingum	1,113.5	960	86,215
Richland	1,096.1	1,328	121,154
Williams	1,038.4	381	36,692
Marion	1,030.8	671	65,093
Fulton	1,020.7	430	42,126
Erie	1,015.3	754	74,266
Warren	988.9	2,320	234,602
Darke	984.1	503	51,113
Scioto	978.6	737	75,314
Stark	974.4	3,611	370,606
Fayette	971.1	277	28,525
Mahoning	965.1	2,207	228,683
Clinton	962.6	404	41,968
Huron	954.2	556	58,266
Summit	950.1	5,140	541,013
Highland	945.3	408	43,161
Putnam	936.2	317	33,861
Henry	933.1	252	27,006
Butler	929.7	3,562	383,134
Miami	924.4	989	106,987
Allen	921.3	943	102,351
Crawford	918.2	381	41,494
Cuyahoga	907.6	11,210	1,235,072
Clermont	905.4	1,869	206,428
Delaware	899.7	1,882	209,177
Shelby	897.3	436	48,590
Morgan	896.1	130	14,508
Perry	893.9	323	36,134
Washington	893.0	535	59,911
Ashland	884.4	473	53,484
Defiance	882.2	336	38,087
Licking	880.9	1,558	176,862
Monroe	878.9	120	13,654
Seneca	875.3	483	55,178
Harrison	871.0	131	15,040
Tuscarawas	867.5	798	91,987
Lorain	864.0	2,677	309,833
Montgomery	862.9	4,588	531,687
Greene	860.7	1,454	168,937
Fairfield	860.5	1,356	157,574
Clark	858.4	1,151	134,083
Hamilton	851.4	6,960	817,473
Pickaway	836.5	489	58,457
Madison	836.1	374	44,731
Noble	825.0	119	14,424
Wood	814.1	1,065	130,817
Ross	813.9	624	76,666
Lucas	812.7	3,481	428,348
Ottawa	809.4	328	40,525
Preble	804.8	329	40,882
Lawrence	797.1	474	59,463
Portage	794.0	1,290	162,466
Guernsey	784.6	305	38,875
Hancock	770.6	584	75,783
Columbiana	769.5	784	101,883
Hocking	764.2	216	28,264
Logan	762.0	348	45,672
Medina	742.7	1,335	179,746
Franklin	726.7	9,569	1,316,756
Trumbull	723.8	1,433	197,974
Paulding	706.9	132	18,672
Morrow	702.0	248	35,328
Van Wert	696.7	197	28,275
Auglaize	696.5	318	45,656
Mercer	680.1	280	41,172
Lake	671.3	1,545	230,149
Wayne	652.5	755	115,710
Union	649.3	383	58,988
Meigs	641.7	147	22,907
Coshocton	628.4	230	36,600
Hardin	593.0	186	31,365
Geauga	588.4	551	93,649
Pike	572.5	159	27,772
Knox	560.0	349	62,322
Adams	552.4	153	27,698
Champaign	545.2	212	38,885
Athens	500.6	327	65,327
Vinton	496.8	65	13,085
Carroll	490.5	132	26,914
Ashtabula	476.1	463	97,241
Belmont	468.6	314	67,006
Holmes	325.3	143	43,960

VACCINE UPDATE

Tomorrow, as part of the federal program to vaccinate nursing home residents and staff, facilities in Ohio will be among the first in the nation to receive vaccines through Walgreen's, CVS, PharmScript, and Absolute Pharmacy. Ohio was invited by the CDC to participate in the scaling up of the federal program.

NEW PSA FEATURING OHIO NURSES

Governor DeWine unveiled a new public service announcement featuring four of Ohio's frontline nurses. The nurses describe what it's like taking care of COVID patients in Ohio's hospitals.

The featured nurses are Erin Russo of Memorial Hospital in Marysville, Dara Pence of OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital, Jasmine Shavers of Miami Valley Hospital, and Lisa Burich of St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital.

CURRENT CASE DATA

In total, there are 596,178 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 reported in Ohio and 7,894 confirmed and probable COVID-19 deaths. A total of 33,745 people have been hospitalized throughout the pandemic, including 5,382 admissions to intensive care units. In-depth data can be accessed by visiting coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Video of today's full update, including versions with foreign language translation, can be viewed on the Ohio Channel's YouTube page.

For more information on Ohio's response to COVID-19, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.