



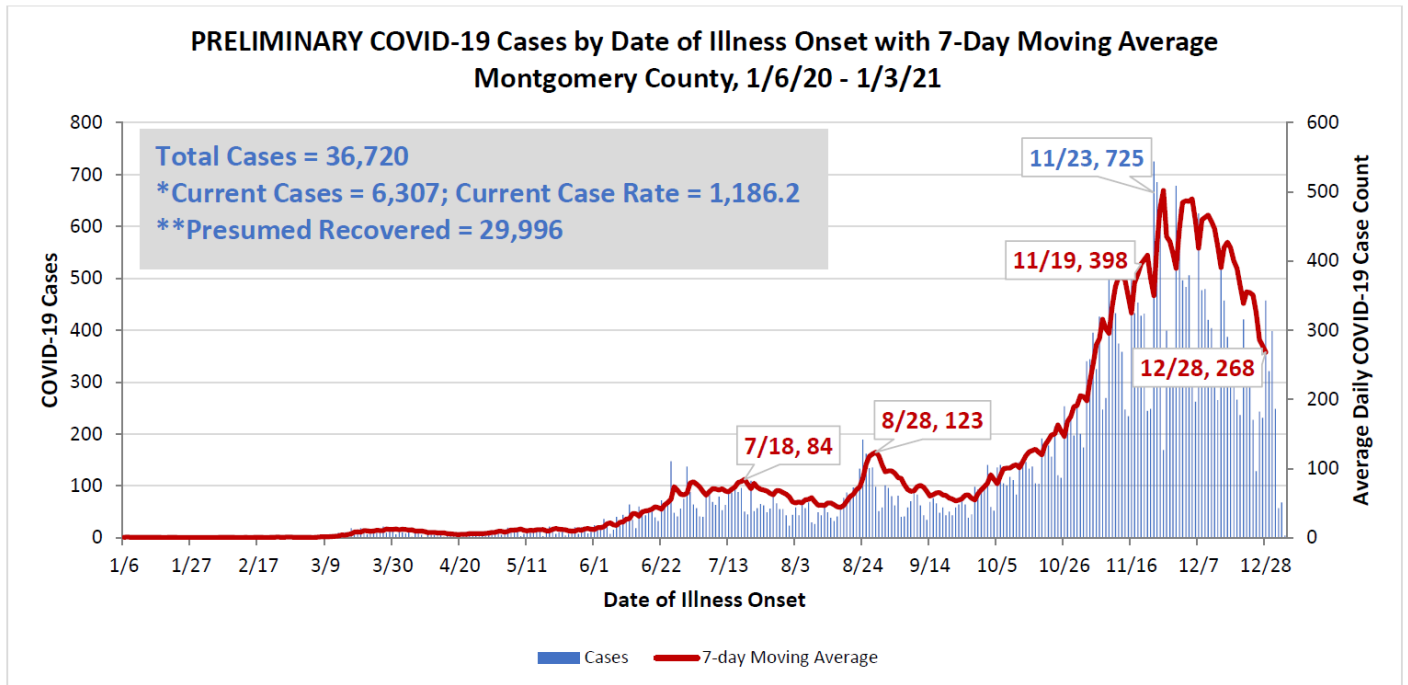
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Dayton & Montgomery County

Montgomery County K-12 Schools COVID-19 Framework – January 2021



Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County has developed a framework for K-12 schools to use for decision-making on the mode of learning and the delivery of extracurricular activities and sports during the COVID-19 pandemic. The framework incorporates the Ohio Public Health Advisory System indicators and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicators for risk of transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The framework is not a mandate. It is intended to be used as a guide for limiting the spread of the virus within our schools and community.

A review of the graph below illustrates the timeline of COVID-19 cases in Montgomery County from March 2020 to January 3, 2021. The average daily COVID-19 case count peaked at 725 cases per day on November 23, 2020, and since then has been decreasing.



As of January 3, 2021, children ages 5-18 represent 8% of the cumulative total of Montgomery County COVID-19 cases. The highest percentage of cases (6.6%) within this age group is among children ages 15-18, as reported in Montgomery County K-12 in the [State of Ohio Children’s COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

Additional Public Health K-12 school guidance documents are available at:

<https://www.phdmc.org/coronavirus-updates/391-covid-19-schools-and-childcare-programs>



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Public Health has prepared this evidence-based framework on school reopening to balance the risk of virus transmission with the benefits of normal educational activities. The framework is built upon the premise that higher community spread equates to a greater risk of exposure / transmission; student age is a key driver of virus transmission. And cohorting for in-person learning limits transmission, facilitates contact tracing and minimizes the number of individuals meeting the criteria for “close contact” and quarantine.

When Montgomery County is designated as a Risk Level 4 in the Ohio Public Health Advisory System, Public Health recommends remote learning and the suspension of extracurricular activities and sports.

When Montgomery County is at Risk Level 3 (Red) in the Ohio Public Health Advisory System. Public Health recommends each School District evaluate the mode of learning and extracurricular activities based on the spread in their schools and the ability to maintain a healthy workforce.

Public Health supports in-person learning and extracurricular activities for a sustained designation of Risk Level 1 (Yellow) and 2 (Orange), dependent on schools implementing the following mitigation strategies:

- ✓ Consistent and correct use of masks as outlined in the August 13, 2020 ODH Director’s Order
- ✓ Compliance with social distancing requirements
- ✓ Cohorting into smaller groups than a traditional size classroom to the extent possible
- ✓ Adherence to hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- ✓ Cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces
- ✓ Collaboration with Public Health on case identification, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine
- ✓ Compliance with ODH mandatory standards for sports participants and extra-curricular activities

K-12 School Reopening Indicators and Thresholds

	Ohio Public Health Advisory System Risk Level 1	Ohio Public Health Advisory System Risk Level 2	Ohio Public Health Advisory System Risk Level 3	Ohio Public Health Advisory System Risk Level 4
Learning Mode	in-person	in-person	school district decision	remote
Extracurricular Activities	in-person	in-person	school district decision	suspend activities