



Kearny County

COVID-19 Public Risk Level Guidelines

Kearny County has adopted these Public Risk Level Guidelines which outline the various alert levels along with triggering indicators. These indicators are monitored on a regular basis by the Kearny County Health Officer, the Kearny County Health Department and Kearny County Emergency Management. It is our intent to announce changes in the counties level weekly on Friday, to go into effect on Monday of the following week. More frequent changes may occur if the circumstances are determined to be of enough significance to warrant an expedited change in level.

LEVEL 1 0-1 Indicators Triggered	LEVEL 2 2-3 Indicators Triggered	LEVEL 3 4-6 Indicators Triggered	LEVEL 4 7+ Indicators Triggered
Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	High exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders.
LEVEL 1 - 4 REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH ALL HEALTH ORDERS			

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Conduct a daily health / symptom self-evaluation and stay home if symptomatic. * Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet from non-household members. * Wear face coverings in public, especially when social distancing is difficult to maintain. * Increase caution when interacting with others not practicing social distancing or wearing face coverings. * Avoid traveling to high-risk areas. * Follow good hygiene standards, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. - Use hand sanitizer frequently. - Cover coughs and sneezes (into a tissue or elbow). - Symptom self-evaluation monitoring. 	Follow all Level 1 Guidelines AND: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Avoid contact with anyone who is considered high-risk. * High-risk individuals should take extra care to follow precautions. * Decrease in-person interactions outside household. * Seek medical care as needed, but limit or avoid unnecessary visits to hospitals and nursing homes. 	Follow all Level 1 & 2 Guidelines AND: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Decrease in-person interactions with others. * Consider necessary travel ONLY. * Limit attending gatherings of any number. 	Follow all Level 1, 2 & 3 Guidelines AND: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Stay at home. * Necessary travel ONLY.

SUMMARY OF ALERT INDICATORS	
INDICATOR	WHAT IT TELLS US
New Cases Per Capita	Flagged if > than 50 cases per 100,000 residents over the last two weeks. Kearny County has a population of 3838 based off the most recent census data, equating to 2 new cases.
Sustained Increase in New Cases	Flagged if increasing trend of at least 5 days in overall cases by onset date. Reflects disease spread in the population.
Sustained Increase in Emergency Room Visits	Flagged if increasing trend of at least 5 days in the number of visits to the emergency department with COVID-like illness or diagnosis.
Sustained Increase in Outpatient Visits	Flagged if increasing trend of at least 5 days in the number of people going to a healthcare provider with COVID symptoms who then receive a COVID confirmed or suspected diagnosis.
COVID Related Hospitalizations	Flagged if Kearny County Hospital has 2 or more concurrent COVID related admissions / transfers within the previous 2 weeks.
Percent Positivity	Flagged if >10% of COVID tests performed return with positive results.
ICU Bed Occupancy	Flagged if percentage of occupied ICU beds at St Catherine Hospital exceeds 80% (< 2 beds available).
COVID Bed Availability	Flagged if < 5 COVID hospital beds available at Kearny County Hospital.

Drew Miller, MD
Health Officer

Amanda Peterson, RN
Health Nurse

Jerrad Webb, EMT-P
Emergency Manager