



**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# St. Joseph County Department of Health

*"Promoting physical and mental health and facilitating the prevention of disease, injury and disability for all St. Joseph County residents"*

**Robert M. Einterz, MD**  
Health Officer

**Mark D. Fox, MD, PhD, MPH**  
Deputy Health Officer

**Heidi Beidinger-Burnett, PhD, MPH**  
President, Board of Health

**Jason Marker, MD**  
Vice President, Board of Health

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 30, 2020**

**CONTACT: Jenny Parcell**  
**(574) 235-9573**

## COVID-19 Cases Update

St. Joseph County- As of today, St. Joseph County is reporting 887 active cases (red as it relates to County metrics), and our average is 69.6 cases per day (red) in the last seven days. The county's R0 estimate is 0.85(yellow). Test positivity rate is 5% (as of 9/23/2020) (yellow).

	New cases per day in SJC, based on a 7-day rolling average	Active cases in SJC (cases diagnosed in preceding 14-day period)	Percent positivity of tests in SJC (from ISDH website)	R0 Estimate (available at covid-19.scientifichpc.com)
<b>Red</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>887</b>		
<b>Yellow</b>			<b>5%</b> (as of 9/23/2020)	<b>0.85</b>
<b>Green</b>				

With the recent increase in cases in St. Joseph County, we want to reiterate the circumstances under which individuals should be in either isolation or quarantine. Any individual who undergoes testing for COVID should "self-isolate" (that is, remain at home and have no interaction in the community except for seeking needed medical care) until their results are known. If the test confirms COVID-19, the individual must remain in isolation for at least 10 days from the date the test was performed. (The test date counts as Day 0.) Individuals may be released from isolation after 10 days provided that they have been without fever for at least 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and their other symptoms are improving. Isolation is designed to keep individuals with a known infection from transmitting it to others.

Quarantine is designed to reduce the risk of transmission from individuals who have had prolonged close contact with a confirmed case or high-risk exposure. For COVID-19, the quarantine period is 14 days from the date of last exposure. Individuals in quarantine may undergo testing (especially if they develop symptoms). If a quarantined individual tests positive, they must remain in isolation for 10 days from the date of the test. Even

with a negative test, individuals in quarantine must remain in quarantine for the full 14 days from the last exposure.

Additionally, individuals who have been tested for COVID and are awaiting test results should not seek repeat testing unless their clinical symptoms have progressed and they require medical evaluation.

For all COVID-19 testing sites in St. Joseph County, you can view an interactive map at <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2524.htm>. Please be aware each site may have different criteria for testing.

The St. Joseph County Department of Health urges the continuation of the following actions:

- **Practice extreme physical distancing.**
  - Maintain at least 6ft between individuals.
  - Wearing a mask does NOT eliminate the need for physical distancing.
- **Practice frequent and proper hand hygiene & cough etiquette.**
  - Wash hands often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap & water; coughing and sneezing into your sleeve.
- **Stay home if ill.**
- **Abide by the current Public Health Order, requiring face coverings when going into an enclosed public space or business and when 6 feet of physical distance cannot be maintained within the enclosed public space or business.**

For more information on COVID-19, visit the Indiana State Department of Health at [www.in.gov/isdh](http://www.in.gov/isdh) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). For general questions as it relates to COVID-19 infection, please call 2-1-1.

###