



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
Burnett, PhD, MPH
Health Officer

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

Heidi Beidinger-

President, Board of Health

Jason Marker, MD
Vice President, Board of Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 30, 2020

CONTACT: Jenny Parcell
(574) 235-9573

COVID-19 Cases Update & Limit on Social Gatherings

St. Joseph County- As of today, St. Joseph County is reporting 1,651 active cases (red as it relates to County metrics), and our average is 119 cases per day (red) in the last seven days. Test positivity rate is 6.7% (as of 10/23/2020) (yellow). The R0 is 1.14 (as of 10/24/2020).

Individuals who have been identified as a close personal contact, due to exposure to someone positive for COVID-19, must quarantine for 14 days per Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the Indiana Department of Health. An individual cannot "test out" of quarantine; the incubation period can be anywhere from 2-14 days following exposure, meaning that someone can be infectious (regardless of whether they have symptoms or not) as early as 2 days post exposure or as late as 14 days after. Therefore, close contacts must remain in quarantine for the 14-day period.

With community transmission increasing, we want to strongly urge our residents to take precautions this Halloween weekend. If your family chooses to participate in events, please do not congregate with those outside of your family unit, mask up, and practice physical distancing. Hand hygiene is an essential piece of prevention so hands should be washed/sanitized frequently.

	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 http://metrics.covid19-analysis.org/)
Red	119	1,651		
Yellow			6.7% (as of 10/23/2020)	1.14 (as of 10/24/2020)
Green				

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

- **Practice extreme physical distancing.**

227 W. Jefferson Blvd. | 8th Fl. | South Bend, IN 46601
P: (574) 235-9750 | F: (574) 235-9960

- 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.**
- **Limit indoor social gatherings to less than ten people.**
- **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 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 and may not be up to date.

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

###