

635 North Erie Street Toledo, Ohio 43604-5317 419.213.4100 419.213.4017 Fax boardofhealth@co.lucas.oh.us



Eric J. Zgodzinski, DrPH, MPH, RS, CPH Health Commissioner

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shannon Lands, PIO (419) 213-4143

September 10, 2020

## Lucas County Downgraded to Orange Level 2 on Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert System

After eight weeks as a Red Level 3 county, Governor Mike DeWine announced today, Lucas County has moved to Orange Level 2 on the Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert System. Lucas County currently meets the following two indicators:

- New cases per capita (over 50/100,000)
- Proportion of cases not in a congregate setting

In addition to the indicators Lucas County's per capita case rate dropped to 84.51 cases/100,000, below the benchmark of 100/100,000 that has kept Lucas County in Red Level 3.

Lucas County's status as an orange level 2 alert confirms that we still meet 2-3 indicators and citizens should continue to exercise a high degree of caution. A Lucas County profile highlighting case trends and hospital activity related to COVID-19 can be found on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System link at <a href="https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system">https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system</a>.

The state-wide order for wearing a facial covering is still a requirement (with exceptions) despite transitioning from red to orange.

It is imperative to continue taking preventive actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 within our community and to lower our risk level. Social distancing, wearing face coverings, frequently washing hands, limiting gatherings to no more than 10 people, and avoiding travel to COVID-19 "hot spots" will help slow the spread.

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