April 21, 2020

**Metrics:** The metrics are a framework for data elements to consider when implementing or discontinuing public health mitigation measures for COVID-19. This guidance is subject to change as new information about COVID-19 is incorporated. This guidance can be used to inform decision-making but is not the only factor to consider when making these decisions.

- **Percent of population greater than 65 years of age:** high risk population
- **Percent of identified cases requiring hospitalization:** informs the severity of case patients in a population.
- **Rate per 100,000 population in the past 14 days:** informs the number of cases in the community.
- **Long term care number of outbreaks:** informs on clusters of illness among a vulnerable population in a shared community setting. IDPH will release the name of a long-term care facility if such facility is experiencing an outbreak of three or more cases at the facility.

**Measures in place for all Iowa Regions (current proclamation through April 30)**

All Iowans are being asked to stay home as much as possible, and only go out for essential trips. Schools, and many businesses, including restaurants, bars, theaters, and salons are closed. Events of more than 10 people are prohibited.

**Special measures in regions at a level 10 are:**

- Weddings, funerals, and other spiritual and religious gatherings may be held ONLY if there are 10 or fewer people AND all people stay at least 6 feet away from each other.
- All other social, community, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings of any size with people outside of the same household are prohibited.
- Any person leaving their home must stay at least six feet away from anyone who does not live in their household whenever possible.
- Employers must evaluate if employees can work from home and take steps to enable work from home for those who can.
- All businesses who remain open must take reasonable measures to protect employees and the public, including employee screening, social distancing, and increased cleaning.

**Outbreaks**

- Normally, IDPH releases very limited identifiable information related to infectious disease investigations as the Department is required by law to protect the identity of individuals and businesses involved in a disease outbreak. See Iowa code section 139A.3(2).
- The name of a business or entity involved in an outbreak can be released to the public only if the IDPH director or state medical director determines such a disclosure is necessary to protect the public.
• Information will not be released about businesses which request assistance for prevention, mitigation or surveillance testing unless they are determined to have an outbreak and such disclosure is made under the conditions below.
  o Employers: IDPH will release the name of an employer where there has been an outbreak (10% absenteeism or 10% of workforce is a confirmed case or identified as a close contact) in a single location of an employment setting which constitutes a high-risk environment for the potential of COVID-transmission. This applies to a congregate setting in which social distancing is impossible or impracticable, including but not limited to meatpacking plants, food and beverage processing plants, factories with production lines, and warehouses.
  o Long term care facilities. IDPH will release the name of a long-term care facility if such facility is experiencing an outbreak of three or more cases at the facility.

https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/