

# Ohio Public Health Advisory System

The Ohio Public Health Advisory System was released by the state of Ohio on July 2. The issuance of this system is not only a great tool for local governments, but also for Ohio employers. Mandated public precautions are based on local conditions versus a one size fits all approach. Alert levels and associated actions are determined by the number of risk indicators present in each county:

INDICATES A COUNTY ALERT LEVEL			
LEVEL 1 0-1 Indicators Triggered	LEVEL 2 2-3 Indicators Triggered	LEVEL 3 4-5 Indicators Triggered	LEVEL 4 6-7 Indicators Triggered
<b>Public Emergency</b> Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.

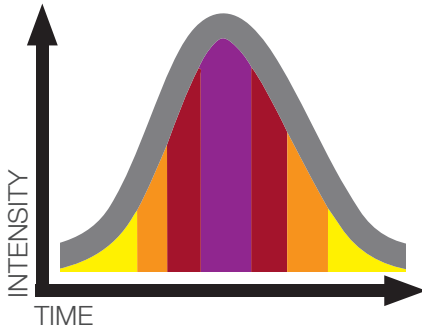
- Ohio Public Health Advisory System - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/public-health-advisory-system>
- Risk indicators - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/OPHASM/Summary-Alert-Indicators.pdf>
- Health Orders by Risk Level - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/OPHASM/COVID-19-Risk-Level-Guidelines-GP.pdf>
- State of Ohio Industry Specific Guidance - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/responsible-restart-ohio/Sector-Specific-Operating-Requirements/>

This system provides a foundation for the development of organization's specific COVID-19 Pandemic Plans. Organizations can use the objective alert levels to develop short term business priorities, level of health precautions and type of operational modifications needed at their respective location(s). During higher alert levels, the focus can be placed on the most time sensitive/critical operations while other operations can potentially be postponed or performed remotely. Aligning company actions and strategies with the State of Ohio defined alert levels provides an organization the opportunity to look ahead and plan for the remainder of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

## How to Leverage this System for Your Business

Since the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Oswald has been encouraging clients to plan by each stage within the pandemic waves. The challenge with this approach has been the difficulty of objectively defining each stage based on local conditions. Fortunately, the State of Ohio has solved this challenge for organizations. The Health Alert Levels provide the objective criteria to determine when to move from one action level to the next. The sample pandemic wave chart and planning tool on the following page provide a format that can be utilized to help companies plan for act locally for the remainder of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

# Pandemic Waves and Planning



## INSIDE A PANDEMIC WAVE

Breaking each pandemic “wave” into stages provides the ability to plan for periods of escalating and deescalating risk. Understanding the conditions that will likely be present during each stage within a “wave” provides the opportunity to create plans minimize the threat to employees and impact to the business.

## SAMPLE PLANNING TOOL

LEVEL*	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<b>Description*</b>	Public Emergency Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	Public Emergency Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	Public Emergency Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	Public Emergency Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders.
<b>Health Order Compliance*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a daily health/symptom self-evaluation and stay at home if symptomatic.</li> <li>Maintain social distancing of at least six feet from non-household members</li> <li>Wear face coverings in public, especially when social distancing is difficult to maintain.</li> <li>Increase caution when interacting with others not practicing social distancing or wearing face covers.</li> <li>Avoid traveling to high-risk areas.</li> <li>Follow good hygiene standards, including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds</li> <li>Use hand sanitizer frequently</li> <li>Avoid touching your face. Cover coughs or sneezes (e.g., into a tissue, or elbow).</li> <li>Symptom self-evaluation monitoring</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same guidelines as in Level 1.</li> <li>Avoid contact with anyone who is considered high-risk.</li> <li>High-risk individuals* should take extra care to follow precautions</li> <li>Decrease in-person interactions outside household.</li> <li>Seek medical care as needed, but limit or avoid unnecessary visits to hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities to see others as much as possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same guidelines as in Levels 1-2.</li> <li>Decrease in-person interactions with others</li> <li>Consider necessary travel only.</li> <li>Limit attending gatherings of any number.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same guidelines as in Level 1-3.</li> <li>Stay at home/necessary travel only.</li> </ul>

### COMPANY SPECIFIC ACTIONS

High Level Strategy				
Department A				
Department B				
Department C				
Department D, etc.				



For more information, please contact:

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