MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: June 29, 2020
EVENT: Kenosha County Emergency Management COVID-19 Virus
LOCATION: County of Kenosha

The Kenosha County Division of Health last week made changes to the COVID-19 data that it provides to the public, in an effort to better represent how the virus is affecting the community.

These changes were made to the Kenosha County Kickstart dashboard, available at https://kenoshacounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/a315d3dff65e4ae88e74ce7b43c0e070.

In place of the gating criteria that were listed previously, graphs now illustrate Kenosha County's daily and weekly number of positive cases, the daily percent of positive COVID-19 tests, daily numbers of new hospitalizations and the number of daily positive and negative tests.

The gating criteria were eliminated because it has become clear that the county will not soon meet most of them, as new cases are continuing to flow in at a stable rate of five to 20 per day, said Kenosha County Health Officer Dr. Jen Freiheit. Freiheit said she does not expect the county will meet all of the former gating criteria until a COVID-19 vaccine becomes available.

"These new charts show a better representation of what is happening in the community, and they are there to help individuals and businesses to make the best decisions for their families and the community," Freiheit said. "It is still important to remain out of gatherings and minimize time spent with others as time (15 minutes or more) and distance (within six feet of others) are how this virus spreads."

This information will be updated twice a week at minimum.

Links to the Kickstart dashboard, the county's general COVID-19 data dashboard and other related resources are all available at www.kenoshacounty.org/covid-19.

The local changes come as the Wisconsin Department of Health Services this week launched its own new data dashboard, providing information on COVID-19 activity level by county and region.

On the state dashboard, counties and regions are color-coded to indicate overall COVID-19 activity status — low, medium or high. This activity status is based on two data points: Burden

of cases (the total number of cases per 100,000 residents in the past two weeks) and trajectory (the percent change of cases in the last two weeks).

As of this week, Kenosha County is listed as having a high activity status, with a moderately high burden of 76 cases per 100,000 residents and a trajectory of minus 27 percent.

The state dashboard may be found at https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm.

Together, we can and will slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

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