



# NEWS RELEASE

Kylee Harless  
Public Health Communication Specialist  
(970) 522-3741 x1246  
kyleeh@nchd.org

October 20, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Logan County Moves on COVID-19 Dial

Sterling, Colo. – October 20, 2020: According to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Logan County has been moved back one level on the COVID-19 Safer-at-Home Dial. Logan County had been situated at Level 2 since the dial was initially introduced. Because of the significant increase in case numbers over the past month, the county has been moved to Level 3: High Risk. This means a greater level of restrictions and requirements are in place effective immediately. Specifics can be found by visiting: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/data/covid-19-dial>.

This is not new news for the county. Conversations began between CDPHE, the Northeast Colorado Health Department and the commissioners on September 16th, where a number of plans were initiated in the hopes of bringing the case increases under better control.

The numbers for the county at the time of the letter are as follows:

- Two-week cumulative incidence rate: 634.3/100,000 people
- Percent positivity: 5.22%
- 2-week COVID-19 case count (new cases): 139

What does this mean for the county? This ultimately means we have no wiggle room to continue to ignore the virus. The county's new guidance is that our churches, restaurants, offices go to a smaller capacity of 25%. Other services and events have a 25-person cap or could have a lower cap depending on the events. Our long-term care facilities are now closed except for compassionate visitation. This process will require the county to implement restrictions across all sectors as described in Section II C of Public Health Order 20-35, as amended.

We all need to work together to start getting our numbers back down. To be able to move back to level 2, we need to demonstrate two consecutive weeks where:

- 10% positivity rate or less.
- 75-175 cases per 100,000.

- No more than two new COVID-19 hospital admissions per day

These numbers are not impossible; the county has shown and maintained them for many weeks prior to the recent increase. We believe everyone needs to work together and get the numbers down. If the numbers continue to increase at the rate they have, it is possible that CDPHE may shift the county back into a Stay At Home phase, which is what we began back in March. This can mean closures for schools and our businesses, and many people are expected to stay home; obviously no one wants this.

We need to come together and change the atmosphere and follow the Big 3. We have the power, and it is time we use that power and lead by example and get this trend reversed. We have until October 29 to get our numbers down. It is then that the county commissioners and CDPHE will have a meeting to see if we can move up on the dial. We need to stop the numbers from continuing to go up, and we need to stop it now.

For more on what you can do, go here: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/prevention>

###