

## **FIVE NEWS CASES OF COVID-19 CONFIRMED IN ADAIR COUNTY**

**Kirkville, MO 9/17/2020** – Adair County’s year-to-date case count rose to 328 today after confirmation of five new cases, four of which are in the higher education sector. Cases include females ages 19, two age 20 and 79. The fifth case is a 22-year-old male. Two cases reside at addresses where at least one previous case has been confirmed. There are now 37 active cases and 291 individuals who have left isolation.

In the Missouri State Report authored by the White House Coronavirus Task Force weekly, Missouri remained in the red zone for the September 3-9 seven-day period with 146 new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population. That rate moved the state from the 7<sup>th</sup> highest rate the week before to the 4<sup>th</sup> highest rate based on last week’s numbers, despite the fact that Missouri’s overall rate fell from 150 to 146. The average for all states last week was 74. Rates of 100 or more per 100,000 population, or .001%, places a state in the red zone.

In today’s report, Kirkville landed on the list in the yellow zone. From September 3 through September 9, Adair County had 38 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 32 of those in Kirkville.

“Missouri is starting to do slightly better in overall cases but not good enough. And the addition of Kirkville on this week’s list of yellow and red zones within the state is not good news,” said Jim LeBaron, administrator of the Adair County Health Department. “We’re nearing the 14-day mark since the Labor Day weekend and hope we don’t experience yet another holiday-related uptick in cases.”

“The virus is alive and well in our community. The only hope we have to lower our case counts is if every resident will start wearing a mask, avoiding close contact with others, washing hands, and disinfecting surfaces and objects used by others,” LeBaron said. “We’re asking, again, that every individual commit to protecting everyone else in Adair County. Do it for your family, friends, neighbors and that stranger who might be highly vulnerable to COVID-19.”

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