



COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH
Office of the Assistant Commissioner

COVID-19 Metrics for Schools Dutchess County, New York

1 Absenteeism

Measure absenteeism among students and staff by school. Absenteeism numbers should include general illness in addition to individuals in quarantine and isolation due to COVID-19.

- Establish baseline for normal flu season (i.e. average percent from Oct-March)
- Monitor trend (i.e. weekly)
- Determine threshold (i.e. 10% greater than baseline)

2 Community Spread of COVID-19

Monitor trends of COVID-19 in local municipalities, Dutchess County, the Mid-Hudson Region, and New York State. The following metrics have been identified by New York State as indicators that schools may need to close.

- **PERCENT OF POSITIVE TESTS, 7-DAY AVERAGE**
 - Low Risk: 0-4%
 - Medium Risk: 5-8%
 - High Risk: 9%+
- **DAILY INCIDENCE RATE PER 100,000, 7-DAY AVERAGE**
 - Low Risk: Under 5 per 100K
 - Medium Risk: 5-9 per 100K
 - High Risk: 10+ per 100K

Low risk circumstances should be monitored but are unlikely to necessitate closure. Medium risk circumstances may warrant building, partial, or full district closure depending upon situations. In High risk circumstances closure is likely.

3 Containment Level of School Outbreak

Schools must assess the extent to which each positive case/cluster is contained and controlled. In instances where close contacts of a positive case are rapidly identified and isolated, and proper disinfecting protocols are followed, and the risk of broad school-wide exposure is low. In such cases, schools may choose to remain open. In instances where positive cases have high levels of exposure to large groups in an uncontrolled manner, and contact tracing and exposure identification is complex and/or ambiguous, schools may wish to close until the outbreak concerns can be contained and properly mitigated. In the event of a public health emergency and/or broad public health risk the local Commissioner of Health can issue an order of closure as needed in order to protect the public health.