

September 17, 2020

Press Release

Today is Thursday, September 17th and this is an 8:30 am update. The data we are using is from yesterday, September 16th.

From a Covid-19 standpoint, our understanding is that a couple of the goals have been and still are:

- Ensure availability of hospital resources
- Reduce the transmission of the virus
- Ensure that the economy was not destroyed

I think most of us agree that to balance the competing interest has been challenging as the medical profession is still learning about the virus.

As each goal is trying to be accomplished, there were some tradeoffs that cause negative impacts. I will not go into the tradeoffs, but some of those were known at the beginning of the virus, some of them were unknown, and are still unknown.

What we have been trying to do is see if any implemented policies had any significant impact. We have been looking at our neighboring peers, contiguous counties, and here are those statistics.

There are nine (9) counties that are considered; eight (8) counties touch Roane County. Rankings are if all counties had a population of 100,000 allowing an equal comparison.

As of September 16th, these counties rank the same as on September 1st:

<u>County</u>	<u>Positives</u>	<u>Equivalent</u>	<u>Ranking</u>
Morgan	289	1,350	1st
Anderson	1,063	1,381	2nd
Roane	781	1,463	3 rd
Knox	8,484	1,804	5th
McMinn	994	1,848	7 th
Loudon	1,071	1,981	8th
Rhea	751	2,264	9th

Here is where the data and county rankings have changed:

<u>County</u>	<u>Ranking as of September 1st</u>	<u>Current Ranking</u>
Meigs	6th	4 th
Knox	5th	5th
Cumberland	4th	6 th

Meigs County has improved; whereas, Cumberland is the worst, and Knox County has gone from 5th to 4th, and back to 5th.

Here's Roane County's data since day one (1) and until now, August/September of the average positive tests per day:

From Day 1- 4.42%

August/September- 6.4%

Roane County has tested 16,613, which is almost 31% of the Roane County population.

We have 682 recoveries and 96 active cases.

Since March 1st, we have had 28 hospitalizations, and our deaths have dropped from four (4) to three (3).

Let's continue to practice good health hygiene, wear our facial covering/mask, and social distance.

Rw/ba
C:media