

Holidays 2020

Evaluating Risk during COVID-19

Is it safe to gather this holiday season and celebrate with family and friends? Should my family still travel across the country to visit relatives? Now is the time to start making tough choices and considering how your holiday plans can be modified to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to keep your friends, families, and communities healthy and safe.

Experts at Akron Children's recommend that you consider holiday festivities and traditions on a risk scale, taking into account crowds, community spread, ability to keep a safe 6 feet distance from others, compliance with mask guidelines, personal and family health history, and current virus activity levels in your community.



LOW RISK

- Sharing a holiday meal virtually with distant family.
- Wrapping gifts with your family.
- Decorating your house inside and out.
- Baking cookies or building gingerbread house with your family.
- Driving around and looking at lights and exterior home decorations throughout your neighborhood.
- Watching classic holiday movies at home.
- Writing holiday cards and sending them to loved ones.
- Cooking traditional holiday recipes with your family at home.
- Shopping online and waiting for packages to arrive at home.
- Recording a video caroling and posting it on your social media profiles.
- Driving through holiday light exhibits.

MODERATE RISK

- Traveling by car is less risk than flying.
- Wearing a mask while gathering with those outside your immediate family.
- Riding on a train or other crowded public transportation if it is not essential.
- Visiting holiday exhibits or performances.

HIGH RISK

- Sitting on Santa's lap.
- Hosting or attending private holiday parties, especially those that are indoors or crowded.
- Traveling from a busy airport and staying with distant family without quarantining or wearing a mask.
- Shopping in busy stores where people are not all wearing masks.
- Shuffling between multiple small gatherings while visiting away from home.
- Participating in pot luck meals at work or at your place of worship.

Wearing a mask is the most meaningful thing you can do this holiday season. We are at a critical moment in this pandemic, and your actions make a difference. If you do choose to gather, it is critical that you still wear a mask, maintain a 6 foot distance, and wash your hands.