



KENT CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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January 28-28, 2021 COVID-19 Testing Pop-Up Site Review

February 3, 2021

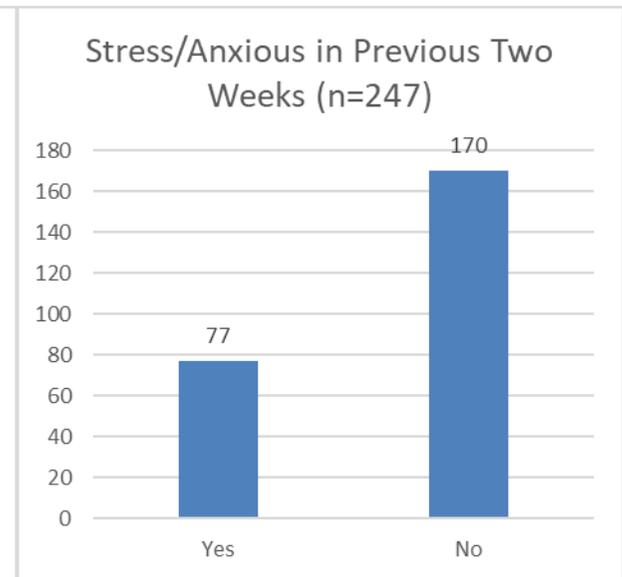
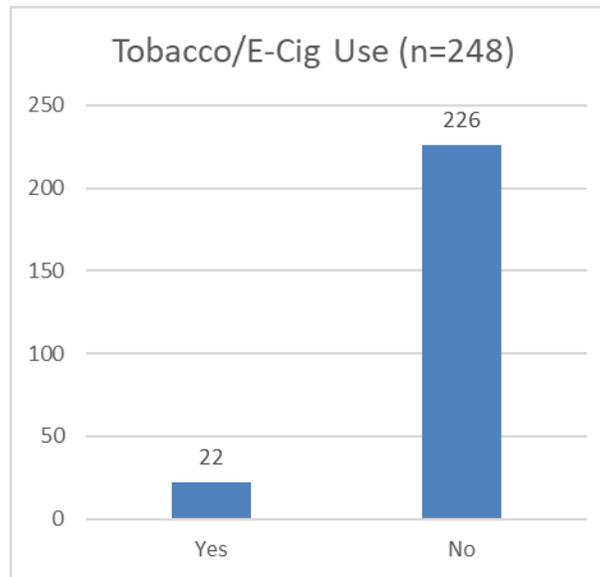
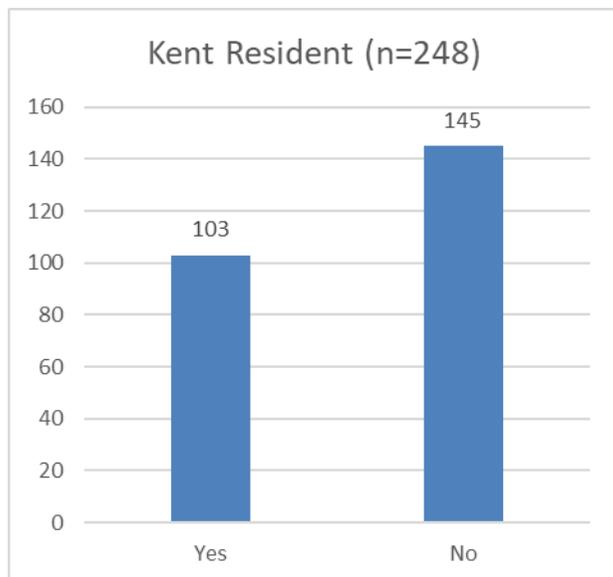
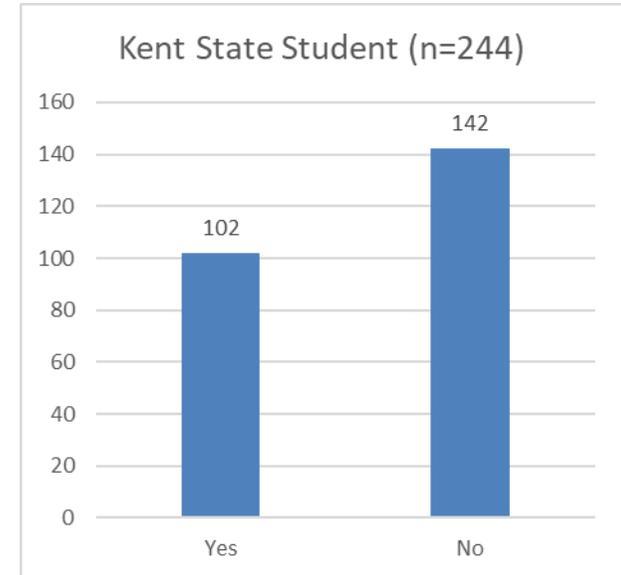
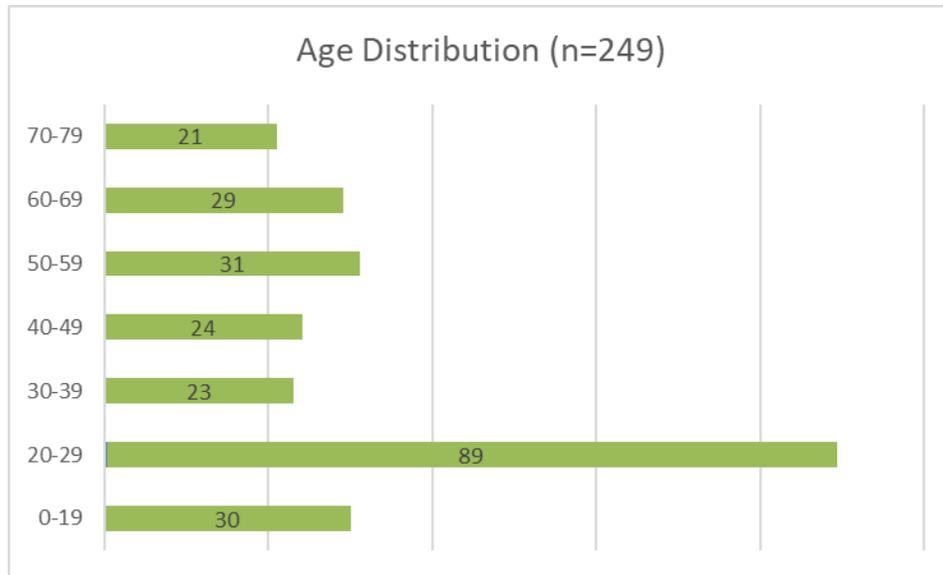
In collaboration with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), the Ohio National Guard (ONG), Kent City School District (KCSO), and Kent State University (KSU), Kent City Health Department hosted a COVID-19 pop-up testing site on Thursday, January 28, 2021 and Friday, January 29, 2021 at the Kent State Fieldhouse. The ONG conducted the testing, which was a nasopharyngeal swab test. Swab analysis was conducted by MAKO labs, with results provided back to KCHD on Monday, February 1, 2021. In total, 293 individuals were tested for COVID-19 with 27 individuals coming back positive for a positivity rate of 9.2%. A total of nine Kent residents returned positive. Portage County, including Kent City, had 23 confirmed positive results.

In an effort to collect information regarding social determinants of health and health equity, KCHD created a six-question survey regarding cigarette/e-cigarette use, access to stable housing, access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and stress/anxiety levels.

- **Question 1: What age range are you in?**
 - **0-19**
 - **20-29**
 - **30-39**
 - **40-49**
 - **50-59**
 - **60-69**
 - **70-79**
 - **80+**
- **Question 2: Are you a Kent State student?**
- **Question 3: Are you a Kent resident?**
- **Question 4: Do you use tobacco or e-cigarettes?**
- **Question 5: In the last two weeks, have you felt more stressed, anxious, or worried than normal?**
- **Question 6: Do you have difficulty accessing stable housing?**
- **Question 7: Do you have difficulty accessing fresh fruits and vegetables?**

KCHD collected a total of 249 surveys (84.9% of the total number of those tested) and aggregated the feedback.

January 2021 COVID-19 Pop-Up Testing Event Survey Results



Analysis of Survey

In contrast to the two previous testing events, online pre-registration was strongly recommended to help speed up the process. This included the creation of a QR code that smartphones would be able to scan and a direct link to the MAKO portal. In line with recommendations from the previous COVID-19 testing report, this step was added in order to allow for attendees to have more control over their test results. Additionally, unlike the October testing event, those who were symptomatic were sent to a different line away from those who were not experiencing symptoms. For safety reason, those who identified as symptomatic were not given the survey.

Kent City Health Department marketed the pop-up testing site through the communication guidelines standard operating procedure. This entails the creation of a press release and submitting it to those people and organizations on the media contact list. The press release and corresponding graphics were also posted three times each on social media platforms for the two weeks leading up to the event. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Ohio National Guard postponed the testing from its initial dates (January 21 and 22) to one week later. This required participants to re-register for the event.

The age ranges are fairly distributed, though nobody over age 80 and over attended the event. Those ages 20-29 represented the largest proportion of attendees with 89. However, there were at least 21 people among all other age categories aside from 80 and over.

Of the 293 people who responded to the survey, only 41.5% of them were city of Kent residents – down from 44% at the October testing event. Brimfield and Franklin Township, despite having the same zip code as Kent, were not included as Kent residents. Kent State students comprised 41.8% of those who were surveyed.

With regards to stress levels, 31.2% of respondents said they have been more stressed, anxious, or worried than normal over the previous two weeks. Stress was not restricted to being only COVID-19 related.

The remaining three questions reported very low results. Only 8.8% of respondents reported using cigarettes or e-cigarettes. Five people reported having difficult accessing stable housing and only one person reported having difficulty accessing fresh fruits and vegetables. Interventions should still be pursued to work within these social determinant of health constructs. Stable housing was defined to the participants as moving around frequently, being unable to pay rent/housing bills on time, or having to live with someone due to an inability to acquire housing.

Survey Points of Error

- KCHD would be better served to provide testing in areas where people with a low socioeconomic status reside. The low response rate for housing, food access, and tobacco/e-cigarette use does not indicate there is a lack of a problem, but a lack of reach from KCHD.
- Survey results are not entirely indicative of Kent residents. There should be a greater emphasis to encourage Kent residents to attend the testing so KCHD can better tune interventions.
- Acquiring surveys for 100% of the individuals who attended the testing event should be a goal. KCHD should coordinate with those working the symptomatic line to get survey results from those who are symptomatic.

Analysis of Testing Reporting Measures

KCHD received the results of the testing on Monday, February 1, 2021 and proceeded to call the individuals who had tested positive for COVID-19. Those individuals who resided outside of the city of Kent were called and referred to the health department in their jurisdiction. All participants were able to check their results on their own through the MAKO pre-registration process.

Kent State University assisted in contract tracing efforts for those tested positive on campus. This alleviated pressure on KCHD contact tracers

Testing Procedure and Reporting Points of Error

- More of an emphasis needs to be placed on marketing the testing to Kent residents, particularly those in at-risk populations.
- Technological barriers for those unable to pre-register for the event and either did not get tested or had to register at the event

Conclusion

KCHD helped provide free COVID-19 testing to Kent State students, faculty, and the Kent community with very few issues on the day of the testing event. Multiple partnerships were leveraged to make this event possible and KCHD acquired simple, yet valuable, quantitative data regarding social determinants of health. For the next testing event, KCHD should provide more outreach to at-risk populations and those lower on the socioeconomic scale for health equity considerations.