



JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

NEWS

FOR RELEASE: Immediately (11/25/20)

For more information contact: 618-684-3143

FIFTY NEW COVID-19 CASES IN JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County Health Department was notified in the past 24 hours of 50 Jackson County residents having contracted COVID-19. The individuals are as follows:

- Female – three under ten, two teens, three in their thirties, three in their forties, two in their fifties, four in their sixties, three in their seventies, and two in their eighties;
- Male – four under ten, one preteen, six in their twenties, two in their thirties, three in their forties, two in their fifties, four in their sixties, five in their seventies, and one in his eighties.

436 active cases are currently being managed. To date, there have been 2,592 cases in the county, including 32 related deaths. Thirty-nine individuals were released from isolation, in accordance with CDC guidelines, bringing the total released to 2,124 individuals.

The risk for exposure locally to COVID-19 remains elevated. Recently the number of new cases, test positivity rates, and hospitalizations has been higher than at any other point during the pandemic. Accordingly, the entire State was placed on [Tier 3 mitigation measures](#) last week. These measures are aimed at reducing potential exposure to COVID-19 in various types of businesses. In order to protect local healthcare services, as well as the most vulnerable in our population, please follow the mitigation measures at this critical time.

In addition, Jackson County Health Department this week renewed its recommendation to schools to consider halting in-person learning, due to spread of the virus in the community and a recent uptick in the number of youth cases (those under 20 years old). Final decisions regarding school operations rest with each school district. Schools that have significant issues successfully conducting remote learning, and have the ability to provide for adequate masking and social distancing throughout the school day, make the best candidates for continuing in-person learning.

To protect themselves and their families, residents of Jackson County should immediately and consistently take the following actions:

- 1) Stay home as much as possible. Only go out for work or essential items, if possible.
- 2) Avoid parties and gatherings of all sizes - crowds are an ideal environment for spreading COVID-19.
- 3) Keep at least 6ft of space between yourself and others as much as possible.
- 4) Wear a face mask when around others. The latest research shows cloth masks protect the wearer, as well as others.
- 5) Stay home if you are sick, even if you only have mild symptoms. Get tested. Self-isolate while awaiting test results. Stay home when placed on isolation or quarantine.

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6) Workplaces should follow all guidance published by IDPH and DCEO, as well as the Restore Illinois Resurgence Mitigations.

7) Return calls to public health officials and follow their instructions.

If you have a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell, nausea, diarrhea, or other symptoms, call your health care provider for further guidance. Two providers are conducting COVID-19 testing in Jackson County: Call either Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) at 1-844-988-7800; or Shawnee Health Service at 618-519-9200.

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