# JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Public Health
### Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# NEWs

**FOR RELEASE: Immediately (5/3/20)**
**For more information contact:**
618/684-3143

## TWELVE NEW COVID-19 POSITIVES IN JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County Health Department was notified in the past 24 hours of twelve Jackson County residents confirmed to have contracted COVID-19.  These individuals include:

- Females – One pre-teen/teen, three in their twenties, one in her thirties, two in their forties, and one in her fifties;
- Males – Four in their thirties.

All of these individuals are believed to have acquired the disease through either local contact with known cases, or through transmission in the community (i.e., unable to trace back to a known source).  All are being placed in isolation.  Most Jackson County residents who have tested positive within the past two weeks are tied to outbreaks at workplaces outside of Jackson County.

To date, there have been 147 laboratory confirmed cases in Jackson County.  Forty-five of the positive individuals have been released from isolation, in accordance with CDC guidelines.

Public health officials are investigating cases, placing positive individuals on isolation and finding out who they may have encountered before their diagnosis.  Other individuals may be placed on home quarantine if they are determined to have had significant exposure.  Such individuals may not be symptomatic, but are quarantined for a period of time which allows symptoms to develop and pass, without posing risk to others.  If you are contacted by public health officials, please respond promptly.

People can reduce the likelihood of contracting the disease by adhering to the Governor's stay at home order, washing hands frequently, disinfecting commonly touched surfaces, and maintaining space from others when in public.

COVID-19 shares many symptoms with more common respiratory diseases.  If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, call your health care provider for further guidance.  In addition, Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) has established a COVID-19 hotline at 1-844-988-7800, which is open 8am – 8pm.  Clinicians there will answer questions, assess each caller and advise on next steps for evaluation or potential testing.

The Illinois Department of Public Health website lists the number of cases by zip code, when any one zip code has greater than five cases.  Data on the site, www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics, is a few days behind.

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