



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2020

Joint Press Communication Update

As of today's release, the Joint Crisis Communication Team (CCT) reports the following numbers:

COVID-19 Macon County, Illinois
Updated 4/20/2020

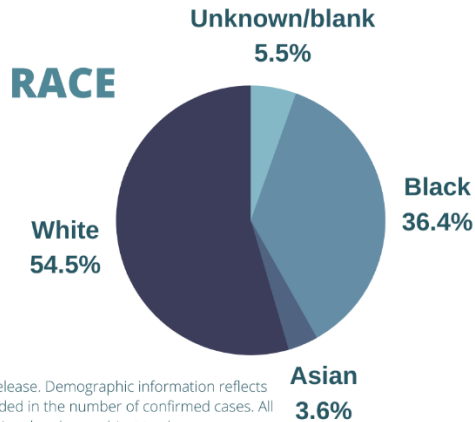
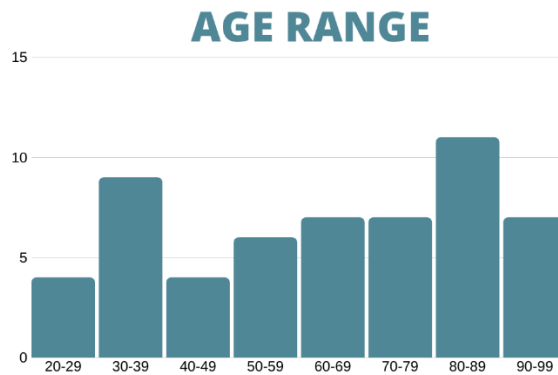
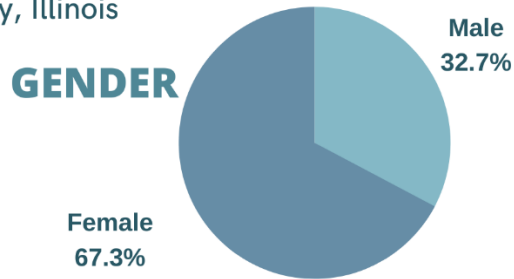
Confirmed Cases
55

Released from Isolation
9

Home Isolation
34

Hospitalized
3

Deaths
9



All numbers reflect status at time of release. Demographic information reflects confirmed cases only. Deaths are included in the number of confirmed cases. All numbers displayed are provisional and are subject to change.

There have been 333 COVID-19 tests administered in Macon County. Of the 55 confirmed cases, there has been one newly-confirmed case since yesterday's release. Thirty-seven cases are associated with congregate living facilities.

As a reminder, testing is not widely available to the general public, it is **imperative** that community members, whether feeling ill or well, implement social distancing best practices to limit the spread and contraction of COVID-19. This means staying home and away from as many people as possible as often as possible. Follow the precautionary measures – thorough and frequent hand washing; using a mask to cover your face in public and congregate settings; self-monitoring your own health condition – at every opportunity.

If you experience symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath, do not present at a hospital emergency room or doctor's office unless it is a true emergency. Call your primary care physician first. Individuals without a primary care physician can call:

- DMH Medical Group at (217) 876-2856.
- HSHS Medical Group Patient Advocate at 844-520-8897.
- Crossing Healthcare at (217) 877-9117.
- SIU at (217) 872-3800.

For COVID-19 screening, the following resources are available:

- Memorial Health System's respiratory screening clinic located at DMH Express Care East (4455 U.S. Route 36 East); open seven days a week, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Before coming to the respiratory clinic, individuals should call (217) 876-1200.
- Crossing Healthcare, 320 East Central Avenue in Decatur. Call (217) 877-9117 for an appointment.
- HSHS St. Mary's Hospital 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline at (217) 464-2966
- HSHS Medical Group offers free virtual assessments for COVID-19 at www.anytimecare.com.

Anyone entering healthcare facilities should be prepared to be screened before entering.

Daily PSA: A Message from the Economic Development Corporation of Decatur-Macon County

A new \$5,000 grant is being introduced today by the Save Small Business Fund, which is administered by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. The Save Small Business Fund is a grantmaking initiative offering short-term relief for small employers in the United States and its territories. Each grant is for \$5,000 and must be applied toward business expenses. They will send a follow-up survey to all grantees to learn how it was spent and the impact that it made.

TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST:

- Employ between 3 and 20 people
- Be located in an economically vulnerable community

- Some, but not all Macon County zip codes are eligible. Enter the zip code associated with your business (as listed on your W9 Form) to see if you are eligible [by clicking here](#).
- Have been harmed financially by the COVID-19 pandemic

Visit the [Save Small Business Fund website for more details and for the short application that will go live on this page today, April 20, 2020, at 2:00 PM CST: https://savesmallbusiness.com/](https://savesmallbusiness.com/)

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

- The application is short. It will take about 10 minutes to complete.
- All you will need is your business's W-9 form.
- Grants will be awarded on a weekly basis, but you only need to apply one time to be eligible for funding.

For more information, including the Frequently Asked Questions [click here](#).

For this and other COVID-19 Business Resources, visit our page [here](#).

###

For more information, please contact:

Marisa Hosier
Director of Health Promotion and Public Relations
Macon County Health Department
mhosier@maconchd.org