



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2020

Joint Crisis Communication Team Press Update

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

COVID-19 Macon County, Illinois
Updated 4/22/2020

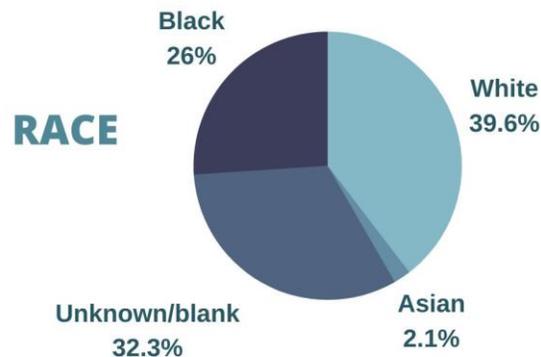
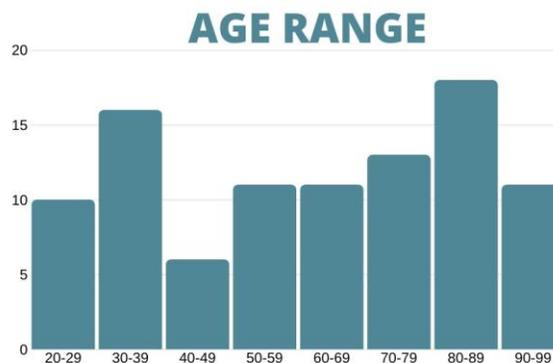
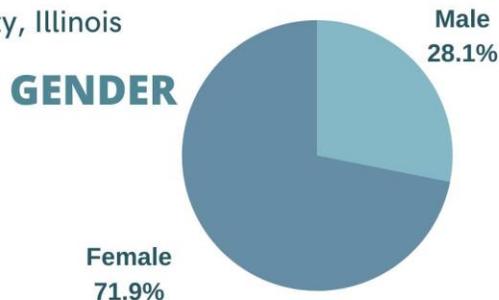
Confirmed Cases
96

Released from Isolation
9

Home Isolation
72

Hospitalized
4

Deaths
11



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.

Since yesterday's press release, there have been 38 newly-confirmed cases, 33 of which are associated with Fair Havens Senior Living facility. Thus far, 23 staff and 48 residents of Fair Havens Senior Living long-term care facility have tested positive for COVID-19. Of the 96 total confirmed cases of COVID-19, 72 are associated with congregate living facilities ("associated with" means staff and residents of facility(ies)).

Our Crisis Communications Team previously informed the community that the Illinois Department of Public Health provided test kits for all residents and staff of Fair Havens Senior Living to be tested. Because of the high volume of tests submitted, there is a higher number of positive test results and there is expected to be more coming in and reported on in the upcoming days. This knowledge empowers the facility to continue appropriate measures and determine next steps and/or additional measures in preventing the spread of illness.

The bulk of positive cases in our community have been related to a congregate living facility. However, the public should not have a false sense of security that only congregate living facilities are at risk. There are symptomatic and asymptomatic people in our community that have COVID-19 and could potentially be spreading it to others. That is one reason why it is so incredibly important that preventive measures continue to be taken by all. Any contact with others is an increased risk of exposure and should be limited whenever possible.

All community members, whether feeling ill or well, must 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: More Tips Regarding Cloth Face Coverings

The most effective measure against the spread and contraction of COVID-19 remains staying at home as often as possible. However, as we have reported before, the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Public Health both recommend wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where proper social distancing (at least six feet of physical separation between you and others) is difficult or impossible to maintain. It is recommended that Illinoisans wear a cloth face covering when they leave the home to perform essential errands or to report to work to provide essential services/operations.

Some examples of instances in which a face covering **does need** be worn include picking up food via drive-thru or curbside services; shopping at essential businesses such as grocery stores and pharmacies; traveling on public transportation; and/or interacting with customers, clients or coworkers.

Some examples of instances in which a face covering **does not need** to be worn (assuming that you are alone or only with members of your immediate household) include spending time in your own home or yard; playing outside with your children, completing yard work or washing your car on your own property; and/or running or walking through your neighborhood;

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For more information, please contact:

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