



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 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 4/29/2020

Confirmed Cases

110

Released from Isolation

17

Home Isolation

76

Hospitalized

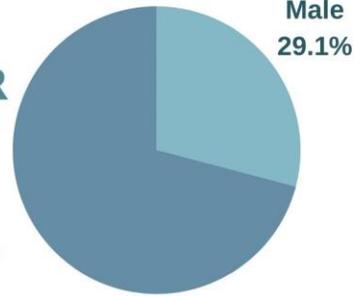
6

Deaths

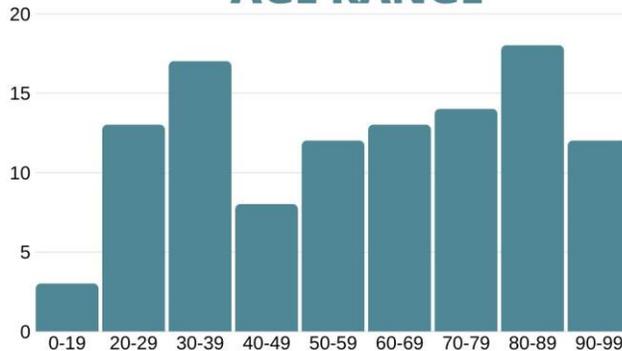
11



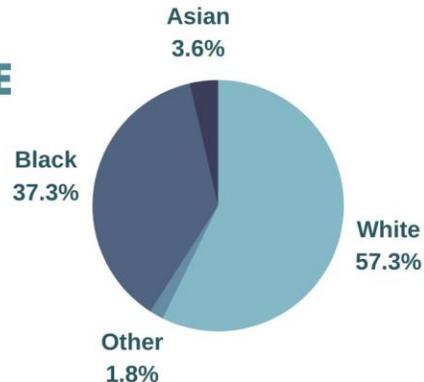
GENDER



AGE RANGE



RACE



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, we have had two newly-confirmed cases of COVID-19. Therefore, our overall number is 110 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Macon County.

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.

People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms leading to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to update the list of symptoms. Symptoms may appear two to fourteen days after exposure to the virus. People with the following symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19: cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Additionally, those with **at least two** of the following symptoms may have COVID-19: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and/or new loss of taste or smell. This list is not all inclusive. If you experience symptoms with which you are concerned, 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.

PSA: Tips for Obtaining Essential Items for Your Household

Below you will find guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health on measures that can be taken when you need groceries, essential items, or meals for your household.

- Consider food or meal delivery or curbside pickup services. Delivery services allow you to place an order and have items delivered to your home rather than you going out to obtain them. Curbside options allow you to select items and then pull up to a designated retailer at a scheduled time to receive the items without having to enter the store. You'll most likely have to plan well in advance to take advantage of these options.
- Consider limiting trips to the grocery store (for example: instead of multiple trips per week; plan to only make one trip) or have family or friends shop for you and then leave your groceries on your front step. You could also do this for a family member or friend who is in need of help or is at a higher risk of becoming seriously ill if they contract COVID-19.

- Be sure to wear your face mask or cloth face covering when you must make essential trips to places where proper social distance is hard or impossible to maintain.
- Shop for your items outside of peak store hours.
- Use sanitizing wipes to clean and disinfect carts and shopping baskets.
- Use “Tap and Pay” or credit/debit cards for purchase to reduce the risk of transmission through money.
- While in a store, maintain proper social distance (at least six feet of space between one another) from other shoppers and grocery store staff.
- Bring hand sanitizer for your hands to use before and after shopping.
- Use self-checkout lanes where possible to limit contact with employees and others.
- Don’t bring reusable bags from home to use in the store.
- When you return home, wash your hands after handling packages and when finished putting items away.

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For more information, please contact:

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