



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2020

Death of an Individual with COVID-19 and 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 5/7/2020

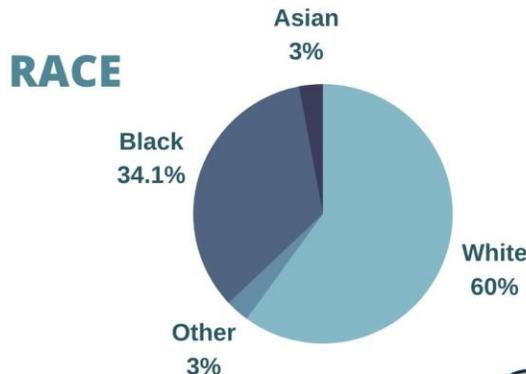
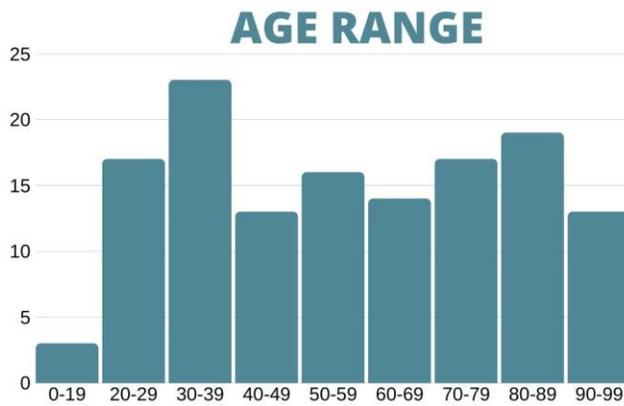
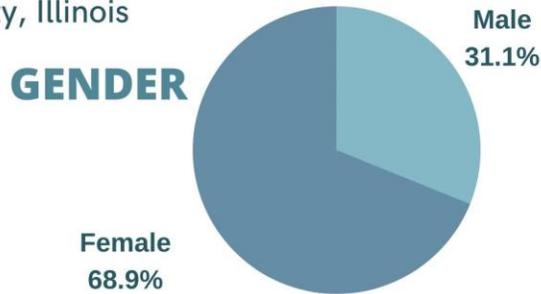
Confirmed Cases
135

Released from Isolation
30

Home Isolation
84

Hospitalized
6

Deaths
15



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 three newly-confirmed cases of COVID-19. Therefore, our overall number is 135 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Macon County. Unfortunately, we are saddened to announce the death of a 15th Macon County resident with COVID-19. This resident was a female in her 50s. Please respect the privacy of this person's family and friends as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

We encourage all community members to implement social distancing and face covering best practices to limit the spread of COVID-19. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms. If you experience symptoms of COVID-19 with which you are concerned, please call your primary care physician first. Do not show up at a hospital emergency room or doctor's office unless it is a true emergency.

Individuals without a primary care physician can call:

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

For COVID-19 screening, please call one of the following:

- DMH Express Care East respiratory screening: (217) 876-1200
- Crossing Healthcare: (217) 877-9117
- HSHS St. Mary's Hospital 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline: (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 Preventing COVID-19

Below are some helpful tips on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and how to prevent contracting COVID-19.

Shopping for food and other household essentials:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Order online or curbside pickup.
 - By limiting the amount of times you are entering a business, you are limiting your potential exposure to others and the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Protect yourself while shopping if you must go into a business.
 - Stay at least 6 feet from others when possible.
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a face covering.
 - Visit during non-peak hours. (early morning or late night)
 - Disinfect the shopping cart, using disinfecting wipes if available.
 - Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.
 - Use touchless payment if available. If you must handle money, a card, or use a keypad, use hand sanitizer right after paying.

Once leaving the business, use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. When arriving home wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Accepting deliveries and takeout orders:

- Limit in person contact if possible.
 - Pay online or over the phone.
 - Ask deliveries to be left in a safe place like your front porch or lobby, with no person-to-person interaction. Otherwise, stay 6 feet from the delivery person.

After collecting your mail, accepting deliveries, or bring home takeout, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.

Banking:

- Bank online when possible.
 - Use drive-through ATM if one is available. Clean the ATM keyboard with disinfecting wipe before use.

Getting Gasoline:

- Use disinfecting wipes on handles and buttons before you touch them (if available).

After banking and fueling, use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds when you arrive home.

Doctors Appointment or Getting Medication:

- Take to your doctor online, by phone, or e-mail.
 - Reschedule when possible.
- If you must visit in-person, protect yourself and others.
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a face covering.
 - Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.
 - Stay at least 6 feet from others when possible.
- Limit in-person visits to the pharmacy.
 - Plan to order and pick up all your prescriptions at the same time.
 - When available, use drive-thru windows, curbside services, mail- order or other delivery services.
 - Check with your doctor or pharmacist to see if you can get a larger supply of your medicines so you do not have to visit the pharmacy as often.

Once leaving the doctor's office or pharmacy, use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds when you arrive home.

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For more information, please contact:

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