



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2020

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 12/18/2020

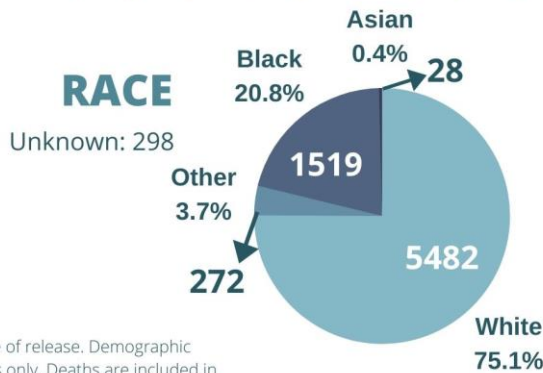
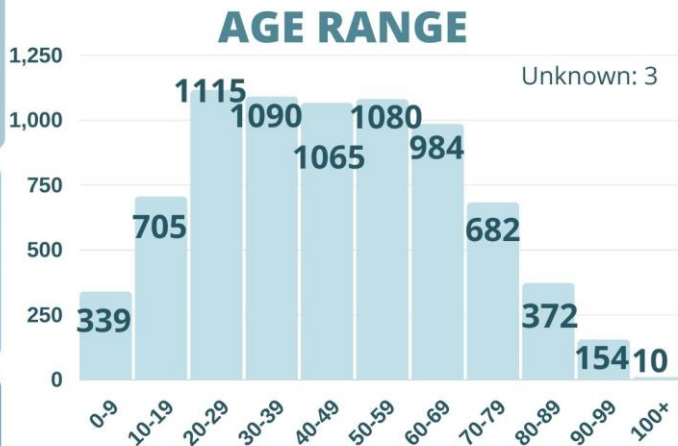
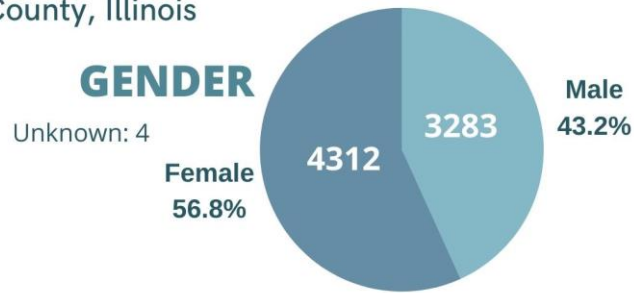
Confirmed Cases
7599

Released from Isolation
6289

Home Isolation
1125

Hospitalized
34

Deaths
151



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.



Starting today, the Macon County Health Department will be providing updated COVID-19 case number reports on weekdays (Monday through Friday) only, with Saturday's and Sunday's numbers being included in Monday's release. However, due to the observation of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays that fall on next two consecutive Fridays, we will release a report on the Saturdays following each of those holidays.

With that being said, we want to be clear that we will still communicate any urgent and time-sensitive updates to the community regardless of the day of the week on which they fall. We appreciate your understanding and support, and we hope that you stay safe and well over this holiday season.

Today, the Joint CCT is reporting 28 newly-confirmed cases of COVID-19. Therefore, since the start of the pandemic, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Macon County residents is 7,599. Please acknowledge that every person affected by this pandemic is a human being with family, friends, and a future that is changed by COVID-19. It is up to every single member of this community to do EVERYTHING that they can do prevent the spread of this virus and the consequences associated.

Community members can refer to the Illinois Department of Public Health's website to view the total number of COVID-19 tests performed. You can find this information at the following link - <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics> - by selecting Macon County in the dropdown box.

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.

COVID-19 Testing:

- Drive-Through COVID-19 Testing in the Decatur Civic Center Parking Lot **through December 20, 2020**
 - 7 days a week, 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
- Crossing Healthcare: Drive-through testing located at 990 N. Water St.
 - Monday- Friday, 8:00 a.m.- noon (appointments are strongly encouraged, but not required)
 - For more information and to schedule an appointment, visit crossinghealthcare.org/COVID19
- SIU: Patients should call (217) 872-3800.
- HSHS Medical Group: Drive-through testing by appointment only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 4965 Lost Bridge Rd., Decatur, IL
 - Registration through MyChart is required for testing.
 - Non-HSHS Patients can visit: HSHSMGCovidTesting.org to set up an account
 - HSHS Patients can visit: HSHSMGCovidTesting.org or their MyChart account
- CVS: Visit www.cvs.com
- Vero Clinics: www.veroclinics.com

###

For more information, please contact:

Emily O'Connell, Health Educator
Macon County Health Department
eoconnell@maconchd.org