



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 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 4/27/2020

Confirmed Cases

**107**

Released from Isolation

**17**

Home Isolation

**72**

Hospitalized

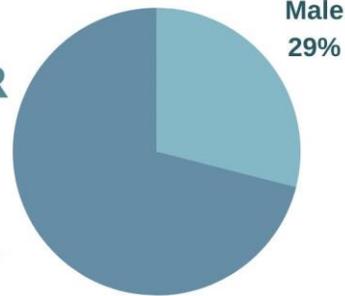
**7**

Deaths

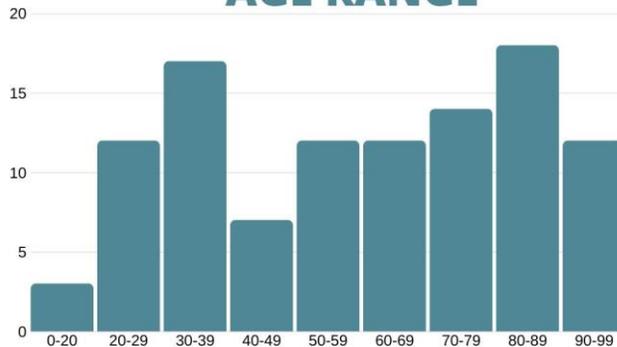
**11**



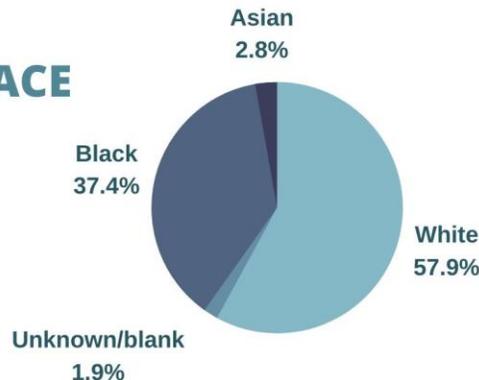
#### GENDER



#### 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 had zero newly-confirmed cases of COVID-19. Therefore, our overall number remains 107 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Of the 107 total confirmed cases of COVID-19, 75 are associated with congregate living facilities ("associated with" means staff and residents of facility(ies)).

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](http://www.anytimecare.com).

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

### **Daily PSA: Small Business Support**

During this time, it is especially difficult for small businesses to stay afloat. However, there are many things that we can do to support these members of our community in these difficult times.

- Eat local. In addition to drive-thru options, some restaurants have been able to establish curbside pick-up opportunities. You and your family can plan ahead to order meals, desserts, or other treats from local restaurants when you are looking to eat something from outside your home.

- Order online from small businesses. Instead of going to Amazon as your first choice, try to buy from your local businesses that may not be able to be open during this time but are still offering shipping. Also, beginning May 1, retail stores not originally listed as essential may now take orders via phone or online and may begin offering curbside pickup and/or delivery for said items. Be sure to check out their websites and Facebook pages to stay up-to-date with ordering options.
- Buy gift cards for future use toward meals, goods, or services for yourself or others. For businesses that are closed or have limited services, gift cards can be a great way to help small businesses stay afloat and cover expenses.
- Help support small businesses by following their social media accounts and by sharing their posts with your friends and families.
- Pre-order. If something is coming out soon, pre-order the item. It helps businesses know how much to order in these difficult times and also gives them resources to cover expenses.
- Be patient! We are all going through this together, and that includes businesses, too!

When you choose to support small, local businesses, you are supporting your friends, your neighbors, the families of your child's classmates, and more. Let's all do our part to help one another.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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