



# JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## NEWS

**FOR RELEASE: Immediately (10/9/20)**  
**For more information contact: 618/684-3143**

### **SIXTEEN NEW COVID-19 CASES REPORTED IN JACKSON COUNTY** ***IDPH MOVES JACKSON COUNTY TO WARNING LEVEL***

Jackson County Health Department was notified in the past 24 hours of sixteen Jackson County residents confirmed to have contracted COVID-19. The individuals are as follows:

- Female – two under ten years old, one pre-teen, one teen, one in her twenties, one in her thirties, four in their fifties and one in her sixties;
- Male – one under ten years old, one teen, two in their thirties and one in his sixties.

They acquired the disease either through contact with known cases or through transmission in the community (i.e., unable to trace back to a known source). They are being placed in isolation.

Sixty-three active cases are currently being managed. To date, there have been 1,341 confirmed cases in the county, including 24 related deaths. Five individuals were released from isolation, in accordance with CDC guidelines, bringing the total released to 1,254 individuals.

Also, today Jackson County returned to the COVID-19 warning list published by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The list is updated every Friday, based upon data from the prior Sunday-Saturday. IDPH established county-level metrics to promote local level awareness and to help the public make informed decisions about activities they undertake.

JCHD Administrator, Bart Hagston, had this to say regarding the return to the warning list: “The incidence of COVID-19 has been relatively low the past three weeks in Jackson County. Overall, Jackson County residents have been doing well at wearing masks, social distancing and limiting social gatherings. However, we are beginning to see an increase in cases this week, and emergency room visits for COVID-19 symptoms are up. Now is definitely not the time to let up – please keep taking all the recommended precautions.” See more details on the county warning list at [www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics).

In addition, the COVID-19 indicators being tracked for IDPH Region 5, a 20-county region which includes Jackson County, are not trending favorably. For example, over the past two weeks, hospitalizations for COVID-like illness in the region have increased 21%. When a region does not meet thresholds set

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for various indicators, a region may be moved into further mitigation measures, beyond the Phase 4 measures already in place. These additional measures, implemented by IDPH, would include advanced restrictions on various activities, including indoor dining and social gatherings. To avoid the potential for such an occurrence, residents in Region 5 counties should be heeding all necessary public health precautions. See more details at [www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics).

If you have a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell, nausea, diarrhea, or other symptoms, call your health care provider for further guidance. Two providers are conducting COVID-19 testing of eligible individuals in Jackson County: Call either Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) at 1-844-988-7800; or Shawnee Health Service at 618-519-9200.

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