



# JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

## NEWS

**FOR RELEASE: Immediately (5/27/20)**

**For more information contact:**

618/684-3143

### FIFTEEN NEW COVID-19 POSITIVES IN JACKSON COUNTY

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

- Female – One preteen/teen, two in their twenties, two in their thirties, one in her forties, and one in her fifties;
- Male - One preteen/teen, four in their twenties, two in their fifties, and one in his sixties.

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

To date there have been 248 laboratory confirmed cases in Jackson County, including ten deaths related to the disease. Eight additional cases were released from isolation in accordance with CDC guidelines, bringing the total released to date to 186 individuals. Fifty-two active cases are currently being managed.

COVID-19 shares many symptoms with more common respiratory diseases. If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, call your health care provider for further guidance. In addition, Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) has established a COVID-19 hotline at 1-844-988-7800, which is open 8am – 8pm. Clinicians there will answer questions, assess each caller and advise on next steps for evaluation or potential testing.

Sunday the State released the “*Phase 3 Guidelines for Reopening Business and Returning People to Work Safely*” at [www2.illinois.gov/dceo](http://www2.illinois.gov/dceo). There are common guidelines listed for all types of businesses, plus industry specific guidance. The Southern Illinois Region, specified in the Restore Illinois plan, is on-track to move to Phase 3 on May 29. Jackson County Health Department recommends that businesses and organizations follow the guidance to help reduce the risk of their employees, customers and clients of contracting COVID-19.

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