



# JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

## NEWS

**FOR RELEASE: Immediately (5/7/20)**

**For more information contact:**

618/684-3143

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

Jackson County Health Department was notified in the past 24 hours of three Jackson County residents confirmed to have contracted COVID-19. These individuals include:

- Female – one in her forties;
- Males – one in his thirties, and one in his sixties.

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

To date, there have been 158 laboratory confirmed cases in Jackson County, including ten deaths related to the disease. Seventy-one of the positive individuals have been released from isolation, in accordance with CDC guidelines.

Public health officials are investigating cases, placing positive individuals on isolation and finding out who they may have encountered before their diagnosis. Other individuals may be placed on home quarantine if they are determined to have had significant exposure. Such individuals may not be symptomatic, but are quarantined for a period of time which allows symptoms to develop and pass, without posing risk to others. If you are contacted by public health officials, please respond promptly.

People can reduce the likelihood of contracting the disease by adhering to the Governor's stay at home order, washing hands frequently, disinfecting commonly touched surfaces, wearing face coverings when inside public spaces, and maintaining space from others as much as possible.

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.

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