



# JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

## NEWS

**FOR RELEASE: Immediately (1/8/21)**

**For more information contact: 618-684-3143**

### **ONE DEATH & THIRTY-NINE NEW COVID-19 CASES IN JACKSON COUNTY**

#### *Vaccination Efforts Ongoing, in Accordance with State Plan*

Jackson County Health Department sadly announces the Covid-related death of a female in her nineties. Public health staff express our condolences to her loved ones.

JCHD was notified in the past 24 hours of thirty-nine Jackson County residents having contracted COVID-19. The individuals are as follows:

- Female – four teens, four in their twenties, three in their thirties, two in their forties, three in their fifties, and five in their sixties.
- Male – one under ten, one teen, five in their twenties, three in their thirties, two in their forties, two in their fifties, two in their sixties, one in his seventies, and one in his nineties.

293 active cases are currently being managed. To date, there have been 3,934 cases in the county, including 63 related deaths. Thirty-four individuals were released from isolation, in accordance with CDC guidelines, bringing the total released to 3,578 individuals.

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 in Jackson County: Call either Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) at 1-844-988-7800; or Shawnee Health Service at 618-519-9200.

***The following weekly COVID-19 vaccination update*** will be provided every Friday moving forward, it will be posted our website and social media sites. Continue to follow our sites for the most current information.

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**JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**COVID-19 VACCINATION WEEKLY UPDATE**

**January 8, 2021**

**Public Health**

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Jackson County Health Department

The goal of Jackson County Health Department (JCHD) is to vaccinate as many people as possible, as quickly as possible. However, we must also conduct the vaccination program within the parameters established by CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health.

**Vaccination Phases, Eligible Individuals, Estimated Timeline:**

<b>2021 IDPH COVID-19 Vaccination Plan</b> For More Detailed Info: <a href="https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine/faq">DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19/VACCINE.FAQ</a> PHASE 1 - Limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses are available. Efforts are focused on reaching critical populations.		
Phase 1a	<b>HealthCare Personnel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical and non-clinic staff with direct patient care in a hospital, clinic or provider office</li> </ul> <b>Long term Care Facility/Staff</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skilled Nursing Facilities, Assisted Living Facilities and residential treatment center for substance abuse</li> </ul>	<u>Estimated Vaccination Timeline</u>  December - January
Phase 1b	<b>Frontline Essential Workers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First responders, Corrections, Education (Pre-K - 12 teachers/supports staff), Food Processing &amp; Agriculture, Postal Service, Manufacturing, Grocery Stores, Daycare, &amp; Public Transit</li> </ul> <b>Persons age 65 years and older</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anyone 65 years of age or older – no restrictions</li> </ul>	<u>Estimated Vaccination Timeline</u>  Mid-Late January - February
Phase 1c	<b>Persons 16 – 64 with High Risk Medical Conditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conditions include: obesity, diabetes, pulmonary disease, heart condition, including hypertension, kidney disease, cancer, immunocompromised, sickle cell and pregnancy.</li> </ul> <b>Other Essential Workers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workers in transportation &amp; logistics, water &amp; wastewater, food service, shelter &amp; housing (e.g., construction), finance (e.g., bank tellers), information technology &amp; communications, energy, legal, media, and public safety (e.g., engineers).</li> </ul>	<u>Estimated Vaccination Timeline</u>  March - April
<b>As published by Jackson County Health Department.</b> <b>All information above subject to change without notice.</b>		

**Vaccine Supply, Need for Priority Groups:** Currently, local health departments are receiving vaccine shipments weekly. The number of doses allotted to Jackson County each week continues to fluctuate, which hampers local planning efforts. JCHD does not control what brand of vaccine it receives.

While vaccine supply remains limited, only individuals eligible in the current (or previous) priority group can be vaccinated. Priority groups are developed by a CDC advisory group (ACIP), adopted by CDC, then adopted (with or without changes) by the State of Illinois. Those administering vaccine must follow the State guidance, and cannot independently choose who to vaccinate or not vaccinate. The State of Illinois vaccination plan can be found at <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine-faq>, and it may be supplemented by additional information sent to local health departments.

**Receiving Vaccination Updates:** JCHD does NOT maintain a registry or sign-up list for individuals interested in being vaccinated. Information related to those individuals eligible under various vaccination phases is provided in this *Weekly Update*, and on [www.ichdonline.org](http://www.ichdonline.org). JCHD has also partnered with Jackson County Emergency Management Agency to utilize the Nixle messaging system to send out vaccination updates by text and/or email. For registration online, please go to [nixle.com](http://nixle.com) and insert your mailing zip code. If your zip code is not registered, please use “62966”. Make sure that you are selecting “Jackson County Emergency Management Agency” for the correct alerts. For registration by text messaging, please text your mailing zip code to 888777. If your zip code is not registered, please use “62966”. Make sure that you are selecting “Jackson County Emergency Management Agency” for the correct alerts.

It will likely be at least April 2021 before vaccine becomes available to the general public (i.e. anyone not eligible under one of the priority groups). At an undetermined point, the Federal government will begin distributing vaccine to other medical providers and pharmacies for them to administer, as well.

**Vaccination Clinics:** As of Jan. 8, approx. 2,000 eligible individuals in Jackson County have been vaccinated. JCHD is currently holding vaccination clinics twice a week for Phase 1a-eligible individuals. These clinics are restricted to healthcare workers and are NOT open to the general public. Once clinics are opened up to larger portions of the population, JCHD will be posting more public information about clinic times, locations, etc. Online appointment scheduling will be available.

**Vaccination Records and Second Doses:** Those vaccinated are given a paper record which shows the patient’s name, date administered, and the brand of vaccine. Those who receive Pfizer vaccine can get a second dose at least 21 days after the first dose. Those receiving Moderna vaccine must wait at least 28 days. The paper record should be retained and brought when receiving a second dose to speed up the process. Illinois residents receiving vaccinations are entered into the I-CARE statewide immunization registry, as well. **TIP: Take a photo of the front and back of your paper record, in case you lose it.**

**Post-Vaccination Reactions, Potential Side Effects:** A few individuals may feel flush or have other mild reactions right after being vaccinated. A 15-minute post-vaccination monitoring period is recommended for that reason. At JCHD clinics staff observe those who have a seat in the observation area to ensure they are well before departing.

Beyond that period, mild side effects are a normal sign that your body is building protection against the COVID-19 virus. These side effects may affect your ability to perform regular daily activities, but should go away in a day or two. To read more about potential side-effects from the vaccine, [click here](#).

The vaccine will not cause someone to test positive for COVID-19. Someone who tests positive after being vaccinated likely was exposed prior to, or right after, vaccination. The act of receiving a vaccination does not create a need for someone to quarantine or isolate. It takes up to two weeks for a person's immune system to realize the full benefit from each dose.

**Length of Immunity:** There is no definitive data on how long immunity will last with a vaccine. A COVID-19 vaccine will trigger an immune system response to develop active immunity. Active immunity results when exposure to a disease organism triggers the immune system to produce antibodies to that disease. If an immune person comes into contact with that disease in the future, their immune system will recognize it and immediately produce the antibodies needed to fight it. Although we don't know exactly how long immunity will last for the specific vaccines in trial, active immunity can be long-lasting.

**Other Factors Impacting Vaccinations:** At whatever point you are otherwise eligible to be vaccinated, if any of the following conditions currently exist you cannot be vaccinated:

- You are currently ill with COVID or have COVID-like symptoms, you have received another vaccination in the two weeks prior or expect another vaccination in the two weeks afterward, or you have received monoclonal antibody treatment or convalescent plasma treatment within the past 90 days.

**Post-Vaccination Precautions:** Continue to wear a mask, social distance and practice other precautions following vaccination. The recommendation to take such precautions will likely be in effect until health authorities determine public health risks have been minimized sufficiently through vaccination efforts ("her immunity").

***All of the information provided remains subject to change. Any timelines provided are only estimations.***

**Links:**

[IDPH COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[CDC COVID-19 Vaccine](#)