



# JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

## NEWS

**FOR RELEASE: Immediately (7/31/20)**  
**For more information contact: 618/684-3143**

### **TWENTY-FIVE 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 25 Jackson County residents confirmed to have contracted COVID-19. The individuals are as follows:

- Female – two under ten, one teen, five in their twenties, one in her thirties, one in her fifties, and one in her eighties;
- Male – two under ten, one teen, four in their twenties, three in their thirties, three in their forties, and one in his fifties.

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.

To date, there have been 613 confirmed cases in the county, including 19 related deaths. Twenty-seven individuals were released from isolation, in accordance with CDC guidelines, bringing the total released to 444 individuals. 150 active cases are currently being managed.

Also, today Jackson County was included on a list released by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) showing counties now at a COVID-9 warning status. The list is updated every Friday, based upon data from the prior Sunday-Saturday. These metrics are intended to be used for local level awareness to help local leaders, businesses, local health departments, and the public make informed decisions about personal and family gatherings, as well as what activities they choose to do.

Jackson County exceeded the thresholds established on the following metrics:

- **New cases per 100,000 people.** If there are 50 or more new cases per 100,000 people in the county, this triggers a warning. ***Jackson County was at 226 new cases per 100,000 population last week.***
- **Weekly test positivity.** This metric indicates a warning when the 7-day test positivity rate rises above 8%. ***Jackson County was at 8.8% test positivity last week.***

A map and information of each county's status can be found on the IDPH website at <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics>.

**Page Two**

**JCHD News Release – 7/31/20**

According to Bart Hagston, Health Department Administrator, “This warning helps to amplify the Public Health Alert issued by Jackson County Health Department on July 25. What we have been seeing at ground level, specifically rising case numbers and 65% of July cases being in young adults, is not welcome. We hope this warning grabs people’s attention and results in more individuals reducing their own exposures and following public health precautions.”

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

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