

Delaware County Health Department

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FIRST CASE OF COVID-19 IDENTIFIED IN DELAWARE COUNTY

DELAWARE COUNTY, IN- The Delaware County Health Department (DCHD) reported late Friday that an individual within Delaware County has tested positive through lab testing for SAR-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 infection.

This comes after the Indiana State Department of Health reported earlier today on a rise of total cases statewide from 56 cases to 79 total cases. The Delaware County case is believed to be in addition to the previously reported statewide total.

The DCHD is working closely with the local and state officials to ensure that contacts of the patient are identified and that all infection control protocols are being followed.

The patient is self-isolating at home, and will be monitored as necessary by the DCHD. No additional information about the patient will be released due to privacy laws.

Human coronaviruses most commonly spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets released into the air by coughing and sneezing;
 - Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands;
 - Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands;
- and
- Rarely, fecal contamination.

The best way to protect yourself from any respiratory illness, including the flu, is to:

- Wash your hands often w/ soap & water for at least 20 seconds. If soap & water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact (within 6 feet) with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) provides statewide updates as new information becomes available. Visit the ISDH website at in.gov/coronavirus for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Indiana.

For updated local information: The Delaware County Emergency Management Agency, in collaboration with the Delaware County GIS Department, have created and are maintaining a central location for local updates. Please visit the Delaware County, Indiana Coronavirus Hub at www.dcema.com.
