

Delaware County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEW TOTALS: 217 CASES OF COVID-19 IDENTIFIED IN DELAWARE COUNTY; 20 TOTAL DEATHS

DELAWARE COUNTY, IN- The Delaware County Health Department (DCHD) reports Thursday of 2 additional individual within Delaware County having tested positive through lab testing for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19 infection); bringing the latest totals to 217 confirmed cases and 20 attributed deaths.

The DCHD continues 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 most recently confirmed cases being reported since yesterday's Press Release include 2 males over 50.

At the time of COVID-19 testing and positive result confirmation, 167 Delaware County cases were managed under home-isolation and 50 were hospitalized.

Of those hospitalized, 36 of these individuals have been discharged home.

Of our 20 Delaware County deaths, 12 passed away in a hospital setting, 1 passed outside of Delaware County and 7 were never hospitalized and passed away at their long-term care facility residence.

Currently, there are 3 Delaware County resident COVID-19 cases currently hospitalized.

Delaware County Health Officer Donna Wilkins, MD reported on Wednesday that 13 out of Delaware County's 20 COVID-19 attributed deaths having occurred among residents of long-term care facilities. The average age of these residents being 78, with an age range of 62-95 years. This data remains current today.

No additional information about the patients will be released at this time 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.

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