



Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2, 2020

Current COVID-19 case count

Scott County – Total of 696

Total deaths in Scott County: 10

Rock Island County – 20 new cases since Wednesday; total of 995

Currently in hospital: 6

Total deaths in Rock Island County: 29

Today's call

Dr. Ngozi Ezike, the director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, spoke during today's media briefing. A video recording can be found at

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

Highest count to date in Scott County

Remarks from Ed Rivers, director of the Scott County Health Department

We continue to see very high numbers of positive COVID-19 cases in the Quad Cities since the surge that began last week.

According to numbers released by the Iowa Department of Public Health, today we will see the highest daily case count to date. Additional testing is not driving this spike. Transmission of the illness is driving this spike. A majority of the cases in the last week have been individuals experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

Based on information gathered during interviews, we are seeing community spread from individuals who become infected, then go to work or attend group activities, and spread the virus to others they are near. All the coronavirus needs to move from person to person is close proximity and no barriers.

We are also finding that some COVID-19 positive individuals have 10-20 close contacts. Each of these individuals is now considered an exposed contact of the positive case. As contacts, they are now required to self-quarantine for 14 days to prevent them from spreading the virus, should they become infected.

Recently we have heard reports of shoulder-to-shoulder patrons, without masks, in bars, businesses requiring employees who have tested positive to come into work, large gatherings at parties without deference to social distancing, business gatherings of a large number of people in close quarters without masks: these are not behaviors that will keep the virus from spreading.

We must all take responsibility for the risks we take and present to others when we are in public places and around other individuals from outside our households. You have heard from us, time and time again, that we each have the tools to help prevent the spread of illness.

- If you're seated in a public space and you aren't 6 feet away from others, ask to be moved. If you can't be moved, don't stay!
- If you're at work and have close contact with others but you're not being required to wear a mask, wear one voluntarily!
- If you attend a party or a gathering of friends to just forget about the craziness of things for a while, know that the gathering has risk, no matter how harmless it may seem. You could be carrying coronavirus away with you and exposing each and every person with whom you come into contact — your grandparents, your co-workers, your friends, your team — and you might not even know you're infected.

We must do everything in our power as a community to get control of the spread **NOW**. Yes, establishments in our community are allowed to be open under the Governor's most recent proclamation — but even with establishments taking precautions, each of us as members of our community **MUST** do our part to keep distance between ourselves and others, wear a face covering when we can't, wash our hands often, and **STAY HOME** when we're sick or have been identified as a contact.

Testing remains available in Rock Island

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator of the Rock Island County Health Department

Testing at the Illinois Department of Public Health state testing site in Rock Island has been robust. In the first three days, almost 800 people were tested. We've learned a few things since the team has been on-site that we want to pass on to you:

- Patients will receive results, both positive or negative, by a phone call. Results now are taking 3-4 days to be reported because of increased testing.
- Personnel from the state lab will call tested patients twice from this phone number: 888-297-7208. No message will be left because of privacy reasons.
- Patients can call back that toll-free number and talk to a person. They will need to provide their name and date of birth to receive test results.

Testing is available every day through July 10, except the Fourth of July. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The site is located at the QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave., Rock Island. Due to the demand for this service, there could be significant wait times. We ask for your patience.

More information

- www.TogetherQC.com
- coronavirus.iowa.gov
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>

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