

# St. Charles County Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) UPDATE



(as of 5 p.m., April 16, 2020)

St. Charles County Government and the Department of Public Health staff are working closely with local, regional, state and federal partners to investigate COVID-19, monitor individuals who may have been exposed to the virus and implement procedures to reduce the spread of illness. Staff is also connecting with community partners in health care, education, businesses, community services and other areas to provide support to those organizations and the clients they serve.

St. Charles County has launched [an online dashboard](#) with updated information on COVID-19 cases in the county, including a Zip Code map and breakouts listing cases by date reported, age, gender and race.

As of this update, the Department of Public Health reports the following:

<b>Persons being monitored</b>	515
<b>Persons who have completed monitoring period</b>	851
<b>Number of tests pending at the Missouri State Laboratory*</b>	7
<b>Number of negative tests*</b>	62
<b>Number of positive tests</b>	426
<b>COVID-19 deaths</b>	17

\*Tests are being performed at both the Missouri State Laboratory and through private testing laboratories. The number of negative and pending tests is reported to the Department of Public Health by the Missouri State Laboratory only; private labs do not report pending or negative tests to the health department.

### Today's News:

- Today, Missouri Governor Mike Parson extended his “Stay Home Missouri” Order through May 3, 2020 - <https://governor.mo.gov/priorities/extension-stay-home-order-covid-19>.
- Today’s briefing from the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force - <https://www.facebook.com/StLouisMetropolitanPandemicTaskForce/videos/260061515035842/> .

For more updates and links to COVID-19 news releases, visit our Latest News web page - <https://www.sccmo.org/COVIDNews>.

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## **Recommendations for Wearing and Caring For Masks**

The CDC recommends wearing face coverings in public settings where additional social distancing methods are difficult to maintain, especially in areas where community spread is present. Using cloth face coverings or approved medical masks can slow the spread of the virus and will help minimize opportunities for transmission by those who may be infected but do not know it. Please note: face coverings should not be worn by children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing or anyone who cannot remove a mask without assistance.

Face coverings should:

- Fit snugly, but comfortably, against the side of the face.
- Cover both the mouth and nose. Allow for clear vision.
- Be secured with ties or ear loops.
- Include multiple layers of fabric.
- Allow for breathing without restriction.
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage (for cloth coverings).



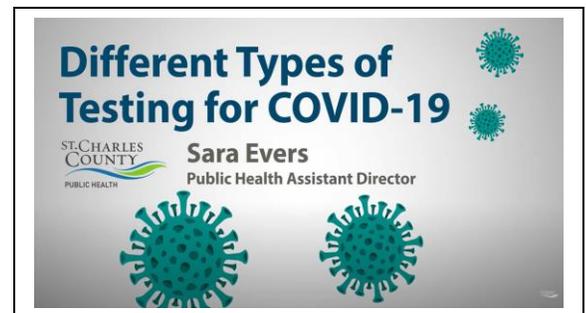
The CDC website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>) offers templates for creating cloth face coverings.

## **COVID-19 Testing**

Several types of laboratory tests can be conducted to confirm that a person has been infected by the SARS-Cov-2 virus that causes COVID-19. A screening is required to determine testing eligibility. Those who display COVID-19 symptoms should call the St. Charles County COVID-19 Information Hotline at 636-949-1899 or speak to a health care provider about testing options.

Depending on the test and the laboratory, test results can be received within one day to one week. For those waiting for test results, the Department of Public Health recommends that they:

- Stay Home!
- Stay away from others inside the home.
- Practice good hygiene and sanitization habits.
- Contact a medical provider if symptoms change.
- Call 9-1-1 in emergency situations and alert dispatch to COVID-19 concerns
  - Trouble breathing
  - Pain or heavy pressure in the chest
  - Confusion or lethargy
  - Bluish lips or face



## **Additional Help and Available Resources**

To help St. Charles County residents and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, a web page (<https://www.sccmo.org/CommunityResources>) is updated regularly.

For questions about the pandemic disease, testing and resources available, St. Charles County's COVID-19 Information Hotline (636-949-1899) is answered from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., daily or the St. Charles County COVID-19 website is available at <https://www.sccmo.org/COVID>.

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