



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



(as of 5:45 p.m., April 27, 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. Consult St. Charles County's [COVID-19 website](#) for information on the disease pandemic and the county's response activities.

Masks:

How they Help How to Wear Them and How to Make Them



ST. CHARLES COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Nick Kohlberg
Public Health Response Planner

For additional St. Charles County COVID-19 video tips, please visit our [website](#).

Additional Help and Available Resources

To help St. Charles County residents and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, [a web page](#) offers links and phone numbers for organizations offering assistance.. St. Charles County also operates a COVID-19 Information Hotline (636-949-1899) that is answered from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., daily.

Updated COVID-19 Report

The Department of Public Health reports the following:

Persons being quarantined	685
Persons who have completed quarantine period	1,096
Number of tests pending at the Missouri State Laboratory*	2
Number of negative tests*	78
Number of positive tests	572
COVID-19 deaths	32

**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:

- The Department of Public Health was notified today of the 32nd reported COVID-19 death involving a St. Charles County resident — a male in his 70s.
- Missouri Governor Mike Parson [outlined the guidelines for the first phase](#) in the state's re-opening plan.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) added six additionally reported possible symptoms for COVID-19, including:
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills.
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - New loss of taste or smell.
- Today's briefing from the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force - <https://www.facebook.com/StLouisMetropolitanPandemicTaskForce/videos/1523838997775301/>.

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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Separating COVID-19 Fact from Fiction

With the volume of COVID-19 information in the news, online and on social media, facts often mix with fiction. Do you know what is fact or fiction when it comes to COVID-19?

FACT: The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, dry cough and shortness of breath. However, some individuals can be asymptomatic, which means they are infected and can spread the virus but do not show symptoms.

FICTION: If you can hold your breath for 10 seconds or more without coughing or feeling discomfort, you don't have COVID-19. **This is NOT true.** The only way to confirm the virus is through a lab test.

FACT: One of the best ways to protect yourself from COVID-19 is to frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Dry them thoroughly with a paper towel. Hand dryers are not more effective in killing the virus. If you cannot wash your hands, using a hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol is effective.

FICTION: Drinking alcohol protects against COVID-19. **This is NOT true.** Drinking alcohol does not kill the COVID-19 virus in your body. And, frequent or excessive alcohol consumption can increase your risk of other health problems.

FACT: There is no vaccine to prevent COVID-19, nor is there a recommended treatment for those who become infected. The best way to protect yourself is to avoid exposure to the virus by practicing social distancing, staying home except for essential needs, and following good hygiene/sanitization habits.

FICTION: COVID-19 only affects people of certain ages or ethnic backgrounds. **This is NOT true.** People of all ages, genders, races, nationalities, and backgrounds have been infected by this virus across the globe. However, vulnerable populations, including those with medical conditions and seniors, appear to be more susceptible to serious complications from COVID-19.

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