

March 19, 2020

As the spread of COVID-19 progresses in the state of Missouri, situational awareness is vital for decision making and preparedness. I will try to keep you informed best I can with the information that is available to the health department. As of 7:00 p.m. March 18, per the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website:

### COVID-19 Testing Reported to Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

As of 7:00 p.m. CT, March 18

As commercial testing capacities increase, the coordination of patient and associated contact investigations is paramount to preventing and mitigating the spread of the virus. While performing public health priority activities, including notifying the patient, raising awareness among our communities is valuable. Furthermore, and importantly, as parts of our efforts to be transparent, we will provide data as it is available, verified and pertinent.

#### Confirmed cases in Missouri: 24

Patients Tested at Missouri State Public Health Laboratory and CDC\*

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Negative              | 308              |
| Deaths                | 1 (Boone County) |
| Positive              | 22               |
| Total Patients Tested | 330              |

Counties affected will be updated as information is verified and patients are notified.

Cases by County

| County           | Positive by State Public Health Laboratory | Positive by Commercial or Other Laboratory |
|------------------|--|--|
| Boone            | 1  |  |
| Cass             | 1  | 1  |
| Cole             | 1  |  |
| Greene           | 4  |  |
| Henry            | 1  |  |
| Jackson          |  | 1  |
| St. Louis City   | 1  |  |
| St. Louis County | 4  |  |

## Patients Tested by Commercial or Other Laboratories\*\*

Positive

2

\* Prior to the MSPHL's approval to test for the virus that causes COVID-19 on Feb. 27, the CDC was performing testing for Missourians. The first 9 patients were tested by the CDC.

\*\* COVID-19 is a reportable disease. Regardless of whether the testing is done by the State or commercially, positive results must be reported to state and federal officials. As commercial labs increase their capacities to test for COVID-19, reporting of such cases may be delayed as data is supplied, received and processed. Often, local public health partners may be advised prior to DHSS.

In Macon County, Macon County Health Department and others are actively testing for COVID-19 with NO positive results as yet for the county.

Remember that COVID-19 is a virus that many people will get, and, many people will recover without any difficulty. Practice self-quarantine when getting out isn't necessary, and practice social distancing principles when out in the public.

Please visit our web site [maconmohealth.org](http://maconmohealth.org) for up to date information, press releases, and links to credible web sites.

Together we will get through this ordeal.

Mike Chambers  
Administrator  
Macon County Health Department

