



**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
SPRINGFIELD 62702

## **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

**JB PRITZKER**  
Governor

**ROB JEFFREYS**  
Director

### **Memorandum**

**To: All Men and Women in Custody**

**From: Alyssa Williams, Chief of Programs and Support Services**

**Date: May 21, 2020**

**Subject: COVID-19 Update**

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The Illinois Department of Corrections is committed to providing you with information and transparency regarding the Department's COVID-19 (coronavirus) response.

As of May 21, 2020, the Department confirmed a total of 212 incarcerated individuals who have tested positive for the coronavirus – 165 at Stateville Correctional Center, 17 at Sheridan Correctional Center, 14 at Hill Correctional Center, 5 at North Lawndale Adult Transition Center, 4 at Fox Valley Adult Transition Center, 3 at Crossroads Adult Transition Center, 1 at Logan Correctional Center, 2 at Pontiac Correctional Center, and 1 at Stateville NRC. Thirteen of those individuals, twelve men incarcerated at Stateville and one at Pontiac, have succumbed to the disease.

Thanks to the efforts of our staff, the Illinois National Guard, and each of you, a total of 171 incarcerated individuals have recovered – 138 at Stateville Correctional Center, 1 at Stateville NRC, 12 at Sheridan Correctional Center, 1 at Pontiac Correctional Center, 7 at Hill Correctional Center, 1 at Logan Correctional Center, 3 at Crossroads Adult Transition Center, 3 at Fox Valley Adult Transition Center, and 5 at North Lawndale Adult Transition Center.

There are staff who have tested positive for the coronavirus at Crossroads, Fox Valley, and North Lawndale Adult Transition Centers, Elgin and Joliet Treatment Centers, Kewanee Life Skills Re-



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Entry Center, Danville, Dixon, East Moline, Graham, Hill, Jacksonville, Logan, Menard, Pontiac, Sheridan, Southwestern, Stateville, Stateville NRC, Western, General Office and Parole.

The current recommendations from the CDC include wearing a mask where social distancing may be difficult to maintain. The Department will continue following these guidelines by issuing each of you a mask on a weekly basis for the purpose of universal source control. Each individual facility's unique needs continue to be evaluated with recommendations from the Office of Health Services. The Department will implement changes as new information becomes available.

As of May 21, 2020, the number of COVID-19 cases in the State of Illinois are as follows:



Illinois Governor J. B. Pritzker has announced his five-phase plan to reopen the state:

- ❖ **Phase One:** This will be a strict stay at home and social distancing stage of the plan. Only essential businesses remain open.
- ❖ **Phase Two:** This will allow non-essential retail stores to reopen for curbside pickup and delivery. Residents in the state will be directed to wear a face-covering when outside the home and will be able to enjoy outdoor activities like golf, boating and fishing as long as



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social distancing is adhered to. **This is the current achieved phase, but if a second wave hits, it could send the state back to phase one.**

- ❖ Phase Three: This stage will see manufacturing, offices, retail, barbershops and salons reopen to the public with capacity and other limits and safety precautions. Gatherings of no more than 10 people will be allowed, while face covering, and social distancing will continue.
- ❖ Phase Four: Gathering of 50 people or fewer will be allowed with restaurants and bars to reopen. Travel can resume as well as childcare and schools, under the guidance of the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- ❖ Phase Five: The economy will be fully reopened with safety precautions in place. Conventions, festivals and large events will be permitted, and all businesses, schools and places of recreation can open with new safety guidelines and procedures.

To move to phase three, case positivity rates must be at or under 20 percent. Hospital capacity benchmarks will also need to be met. Contact tracing and monitoring will begin within 24 hours of diagnosis and testing will be available for patients, healthcare workers and at-risk residents.

The Department of Corrections is committed to taking all the necessary actions to ensure your safety and health. You must continue to maintain focus and have constant situational awareness to protect yourself. Please continue to adhere to social distancing, wear your mask, clean and disinfect high-touch areas, do not touch your face with unwashed hands and practice proper and frequent hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds. Together, through a combined effort, we will overcome this COVID-19 situation.