



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
SPRINGFIELD 62702

COVID-19 RESPONSE

JB PRITZKER
Governor

ROB JEFFREYS
Director

Memorandum

To: Men and Women in Custody

From: Alyssa Williams, Chief of Programs and Support Services

Date: June 9, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 Update 4

For nearly 90 days, the Illinois Department of Corrections has been laser focused on responding, mitigating, and controlling COVID-19 (coronavirus) in our facilities. The Department, like the State of Illinois, is remaining vigilant to help keep everyone safe and healthy. Our response is guided by science and public health experts and new discoveries are occurring constantly. As a result, we are adjusting our procedures as necessary.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID-19 is spread mainly from person-to-person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. To protect yourself and others, it is critical you continue to wear your mask when you are out of your cell, wash your hands often, and comply with temperature checks.

COVID-19 symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

As of June 9, 2020, the Department confirmed a total of 231 incarcerated individuals who have tested positive for the coronavirus – 176 at Stateville Correctional Center, 18 at Sheridan Correctional Center, 15 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, 6 at Pontiac Correctional Center, 2 at East Moline 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.



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A total of 214 incarcerated individuals have recovered – 166 at Stateville Correctional Center, 1 at Stateville NRC, 18 at Sheridan Correctional Center, 3 at Pontiac Correctional Center, 14 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-Entry Center, Danville, Dixon, East Moline, Graham, Hill, Jacksonville, Logan, Menard, Pontiac, Sheridan, Southwestern, Stateville, Stateville NRC, Western, General Office and Parole.

There have been approximately 900 men and women in custody who have received COVID-19 tests. The Department is conducting targeted and deliberate testing, based on CDC guidance and the most recent evidence available, with the goal of properly and adequately responding to results and providing the best care possible within a correctional health care environment. If an incarcerated individual becomes symptomatic with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing (influenza like illness) they are assumed to be at high risk for COVID-19. Pursuant to CDC and IDPH guidelines, these individuals are isolated and tested. Exposed asymptomatic individuals are quarantined and monitored for symptoms.

As of June 9, 2020, the number of COVID-19 cases in the State of Illinois are as follows:

129,212
CONFIRMED
CASES

6,018
DEATHS

1,079,182
TOTAL TESTS
PERFORMED



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The State is currently in phase three of Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker's five-phase plan to open the state. On May 29, manufacturing, offices, retail, barbershops and salons reopened to the public with capacity limits and other safety precautions. Gatherings of no more than 10 people are allowed while face covering and social distancing continues.

Phase four will permit the gathering of 50 people or fewer and restaurants and bars will reopen. Travel can resume as well as childcare and schools. To move to phase four, case positivity rates must be at or under 20 percent and increasing no more than 10 percentage points over a 14-day period. There must be no overall increase in hospital admissions for COVID-19 like illness for 28-days. Hospital capacity benchmarks will also need to be met.

The Illinois Department of Corrections is in the process of launching its own plan to begin loosening restrictions. We know you are anxious for operations to return to normal, but please be patient as we work through each phase. Our medical task force is currently reviewing a number of privileges, including yard, to determine when it is safe to resume those activities.

We will continue to keep you updated as new information becomes available. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we weather these uncertain times together.