

County of Jefferson
Office of the County Administrator



Historic Courthouse
195 Arsenal Street, 2nd Floor
Watertown, NY 13601-2567
Phone: (315) 785-3075 Fax: (315) 785-5070

JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY DAILY COVID-19 STATUS REPORT

~ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~

DATE:

December 28, 2020

CONTACTS:

Scott A. Gray, Chairman of the Board of Legislators	scottg@co.jefferson.ny.us	(315) 778-6214
Robert F. Hagemann III, County Administrator	roberth@co.jefferson.ny.us	(315) 785-3075
Stephen A. Jennings, Information Officer	stevej@co.jefferson.ny.us	(315) 786-3710

Jefferson County is participating with the State of New York to manage the outbreak of COVID-19, a.k.a the coronavirus. The strategy for management of the virus is threefold – density reduction, identify and isolate, and lastly, surge capacity for medical services. The actions administered will fit into one of these categories and we encourage the public to follow the guidelines issued by either the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), New York State and/or the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), or the Jefferson County Public Health Service (JCPHS), as well as educate yourself on the current situation and seek the appropriate medical attention from a provider immediately if necessary.

Current statistics for testing and test results received by the Jefferson County Public Health Service, as well as quarantine and isolation status to date:

Total Tested*: 40,831

Positive Tests to Date: 2,024

Mandatory Isolation^^: 377

Hospitalized: 26

Nursing Home: 1

Assisted Living: 11

Deaths: 10

RECOVERED: 1,599

Negative Tests to Date: 38,807

Precautionary Quarantine:** 661

Domestic Traveler: 626

International Traveler: 35

Mandatory Quarantine^: 892

The way to stop the spread of COVID-19 is to isolate those with the disease from others. COVID-19 symptoms can take 2 to 14 days to appear after exposure. Symptoms include:

- **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**

COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice (e.g., while shouting, chanting, or singing). These droplets can land in the mouths or nose of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, people must wear cloth face coverings in public settings when around people outside of their household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. For more information, visit www.jcphs.org.

Positive Tests represent unduplicated individuals (cases), and have always represented unduplicated individuals. If an individual recovers and later tests positive again, the number of positive tests (cases) does not increase. When a case retests positive, depending on the situation, the case may be hospitalized, or placed in mandatory isolation, which will accordingly decrease the RECOVERED statistic.

***Total Tested definition:** The total of Jefferson County, NY Positive and negative cases reported in the New York State Department of Health, Communicable Disease Electronic Surveillance System (CDESS).

****Precautionary Quarantine definition:** 1. Persons whose contact to someone infected with SARS-CoV-2 is known to be proximate, not close, and are not displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19. 2. LHDs who identify healthcare workers, whether direct care providers or other facility staff, who meet criteria in described above, may be allowed to work under the conditions set forth in NYSDOH's Health Advisory: Updated Protocols for Personnel in Healthcare and Other Direct Care Settings to Return to Work Following COVID-19 Exposure or Infection. 3. LHDs who identify individuals employed as essential personnel, as described in NYSDOH's Health Advisory: Protocols for Essential Personnel to Return to Work Following COVID-19 Exposure or Infection, and

who meet criteria described in (1) above, may be allowed to work under the conditions described in the advisory. These individuals must, when not working, remain quarantined. 4. A person tested and awaiting test result confirmation, and is not a candidate for mandatory quarantine. 5. Any person the LHD believes should be quarantined for precautionary reasons.

^Mandatory Quarantine definition: 1. Persons who, while not displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who was infected with SARS-CoV-2, in the past 14 days. 2. Persons who, in the past 14 days, have traveled to a country for which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Level 2 or Level 3 Health Notice, or who were on a cruise ship (including river cruises), and are not displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19. 3. LHDs who identify healthcare workers, whether direct care providers or other facility staff, who meet criteria in described in either (1) or (2) above, may be allowed to work under the conditions set forth in NYSDOH's Health Advisory: Updated Protocols for Personnel in Healthcare and Other Direct Care Settings to Return to Work Following COVID-19 Exposure or Infection. This advisory expands eligibility for healthcare workers to return to work in other healthcare settings, provided the conditions in the advisory are met. The individuals must, when not working, remain quarantined. 4. LHDs who identify individuals employed as essential personnel, as described in the Department's Health Advisory: Protocols for Essential Personnel to Return to Work Following COVID-19 Exposure or Infection, and who meet criteria described in either (1) or (2) above, may be allowed to work under the conditions described in the advisory. These individuals must, when not working, remain quarantined.

^^Mandatory Isolation definition: 1. Persons who have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, regardless of whether or not they are displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19. 2. Persons who have traveled to a country for which CDC has issued a Level 2 or Level 3 Health Notice, or who were on a cruise ship (including river cruises), and are displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19. 3. LHDs who identify healthcare workers, who meet either of the above criteria, may be allowed to work under the conditions set forth in the Department's Health Advisory: Updated Protocols for Personnel in Healthcare and Other Direct Care Settings to Return to Work Following COVID-19 Exposure or Infection. This advisory expands eligibility for healthcare workers to return to work in other healthcare settings, provided the conditions in the advisory are met. These individuals must, when not working, remain isolated.