

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Sept. 8, 2020**

**Rock Island County Health Department reports 3 deaths, 26 new cases of COVID-19**

The Rock Island County Health Department reports three additional deaths from COVID-19: a man in his 70s and a man in his 60s, both of whom had been hospitalized, and a woman in her 70s, who had been living in a long-term care facility. The total number of deaths in Rock Island County from this virus is now 71.

“We send our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of these people,” said Nita Ludwig, administrator of the Rock Island County Health Department. “To help keep all of us as safe as possible, please continue follow public health guidelines of wearing a mask, keeping at least 6 feet between us and others and washing our hands frequently.”

In addition, the health department reports 26 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the total number to 2,556. Currently, 14 patients are hospitalized in Rock Island County.

“Two cases today are associated with the outbreak at the prison in East Moline, which means that 24 more people living in our community became infected with COVID-19,” Ludwig said. “The prison has reported dozens of cases in the last few days, but the total number associated with the prison accounts for only about 10 percent of the cases in Rock Island County. Overall community spread remains a larger issue.”

The new cases are:

- 2 men in their 60s
- 1 man in his 50s
- 3 men in their 40s
- 3 men in their 30s
- 2 men in their 20s
- 2 men in their teens
- 1 boy in his teens
- 1 boy younger than 13
- 3 women in their 60s
- 1 woman in her 50s
- 4 women in their 40s
- 2 women in their 20s
- 1 girl in her teens

No additional information regarding these cases is available due to federal privacy laws.

We all must continue to do our part to prevent further spread of COVID-19 by:

- Washing your hands frequently
- Watching your distance Keep at least 6 feet between you and anyone else
- Wearing a face covering when you must go out

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