





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE April 13, 2020

### Number of confirmed coronavirus cases

United States: 554,849 Wisconsin: 3,428

Central Racine County Health Department: 74 (4 deaths)

City of Racine Health Department: 58 (1 death)

Racine County total: 132

#### **City of Racine Health Department**

The City of Racine Public Health Department is releasing demographic information relating to the City's COVID cases. <u>Click here</u> for the April 13 update. This information is updated every Monday and Friday and will be posted at <u>www.racinecoronavirus.org</u>. The Central Racine County Health Department's demographic data can be found at <u>www.crchd.com/covid-19</u>.

The City of Racine Public Health Department wants the public to be aware of the risks that smoking and vaping have in relation to COVID-19. Those who smoke and/or vape have decreased respiratory function, which can contribute to more serious infections of COVID-19. These practices also increase hand-to-mouth/face activity, which may lead to infection.

## **Central Racine County Health Department**

The CDC has released a new <u>social media toolkit here</u>. The CDC has also released guidance on a couple of topics:

- How to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 when visiting parks and recreational facilities.
- Implementing safety practices for critical infrarstructure workers who may have been exposed to a person with COVID-19.

The Wisconsin DHS has <u>put out a new call for volunteers</u>. In an effort to plan for the surge of patients that is expected to hit our heath care systems in the coming weeks, the state DHS is creating a wide network of volunteers to increase capacity at hospitals and clinics across Wisconsin. Both active and retired health care professionals can volunteer for these critical roles.

The state is looking for licensed professionals including physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, certified nursing assistants, social workers, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, respiratory therapists, and

behavioral health professionals. <u>Click here to register to volunteer</u>. If you are interested in helping but are not a licensed health care professional, you can sign up to volunteer as well.

## Hospitals

Ascension Medical Group Wisconsin has launched 13 Respiratory Care Sites, including seven in Southeast Wisconsin, that are dedicated to caring for COVID-19 suspected or confirmed patients. Read more in Ascension's news release.

#### Resources

For Racine County updates on the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit <a href="https://www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus">www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus</a>. The City of Racine coronavirus webpage can be found at <a href="https://www.racinecoronavirus.org">www.racinecoronavirus.org</a>.

For national information on COVID-19, please go to the Centers for Disease Control's website: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus</a>.

You can also find current information on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website, which has guidance that is updated regularly for travel, self-quarantine, and school districts, among other important information: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm</a>.

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