



Press Release

Purchase District Health Department

July 31, 2020

Purchase District Health Department Confirms Additional cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Purchase District Health Department has received notification of nine additional confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in McCracken County, two cases in Hickman County, twelve cases in Carlisle County and two cases in Fulton County.

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>AGE</b>	<b>SEX</b>
Hickman	61	F
Hickman	36	F
Fulton	68	M
Fulton	66	F
Carlisle	45	M
Carlisle	29	M
Carlisle	38	F
Carlisle	56	M
Carlisle	22	M
Carlisle	51	M
Carlisle	61	F
Carlisle	17	M
Carlisle	37	M
Carlisle	34	F
Carlisle	24	F
Carlisle	47	F
McCracken	22	M
McCracken	18	F
McCracken	32	M
McCracken	25	M
McCracken	45	M
McCracken	18	M
McCracken	23	F
McCracken	45	M
McCracken	26	F

McCracken County has 317 individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, Ballard has 36, Carlisle has 32, Hickman has 32, and Fulton has 47. There have been 4 deaths in McCracken County, 1 death in Fulton County, and 1 death in Carlisle County. Additional details about these individuals cannot be provided because of medical privacy laws. While the risk to the general public is low, we are working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) to identify and contact all those who may have been exposed. Close contacts will be asked to quarantine and be monitored for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

The Purchase District Health Department offers these tips:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

## CONTRACT TRACING

The PDHD performs contact tracing as part of our routine communicable disease investigation process. Contact tracing has been around since the beginning of public health. The use of contact tracing to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities is crucial. Contact tracing is essential for our us as the counties resume work and school.

Local public health workers reach out to individuals who have COVID-19 to assess their situation, provide helpful resources, and ask about any recent in-person contacts who may have been exposed to the virus. In-person close contacts are notified that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. Close contacts are offered instructions and connected to local resources. Help stop the spread of COVID-19 and save the lives of Kentuckians by answering and talking to contact tracing public health workers.

To protect patients' confidentiality, contacts will not be told the identity of the person who may have exposed them. They will be told what they need to do to care for themselves, reduce the risk to others, and protect their communities from any further exposure only.

This virus can be spread by respiratory droplets. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever, cough, loss of taste, or shortness of breath. Individuals who are experiencing symptoms should first contact their primary care medical provider.

If you are worried or concerned, but otherwise healthy, please see [kycovid19.ky.gov](https://www.ky.gov/covid19) for additional information or call the Ky Covid-19 hotline at 1-800-722-5725. Call your medical provider if you develop signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Call the Purchase District Health Department at 270-444-9631 or visit our website [www.purchasehealth.org](https://www.purchasehealth.org) for more information.