



Mayor
Jerome A. Prince
City Of Gary, IN



4-16-20

City of Gary COVID-19 Update
Mayor Jerome Prince

Greetings. This is Mayor Jerome A. Prince with your daily City of Gary COVID-19 report for Thursday, Apr. 16, 2020.

We continue under an extended Stay-Home order from Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb. Many of our friends and neighbors have been heeding my message to stay home, but, we still have too many people who either do not understand the need to stay home or who have decided to flaunt the Governor's Stay-Home order.

Our Gary Police will continue to patrol our public facilities, including parks and basketball courts, and, they will continue to disperse groups of 10 or more people. If the groups leave of their own accord, they will suffer no additional consequences. If those groups do not disperse, additional measures will be applied.

Unfortunately, I must report we have one Gary Police officer, a patrolman, who has tested positive for COVID-19. The officer is being treated and is doing well. Other officers, who may have been exposed, have quarantined themselves.

I remind all of you our police officers, firefighters and EMTs are facing dangers every time they put on those uniforms and carry out their duties. Those dangers include exposure to the potentially deadly COVID-19 virus. That is why is it so important we respect them and the work they do and STAY HOME to limit their exposure to the virus.

Before sharing updates from the Indiana State Department of Health, I want to point to two interesting statistics from that department:

- African-Americans make up 9.8% of Indiana's population, but they make up 17.5% of the state's infections; and,
- People who identify their race as "Other" (identify with two or more racial groups) make up 2.6% of Indiana's population, but, they make up 12.7% of the state's infections.

Along with City of Gary Health Commissioner Dr. Roland Walker, I remain in constant contact with state and federal officials to prepare the Genesis Convention Center as an ideal location for a COVID-19 field hospital. We are confident the site will be chosen

Gary has recorded more than 200 COVID-19 infections, and, we already have lost five of our citizens to the disease. Because of that, we will continue to articulate and stress the needs of our communities to state and federal officials.

Updates

Total number of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested:	51,115
Total number of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive:	9,543
Total number of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths:	477
Total number of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested:	4,442
Total number of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive:	978
Total number of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths:	41
Total number of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested:	1,095
Total number of Porter County residents COVID-19 positive:	143
Total number of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths:	2
Total number of Gary residents COVID-19 tested:	202
Total number of Gary COVID-19 related deaths:	5

Information

Anyone with health or medical related questions about the COVID-19 virus can call the Indiana State Department of Health Hotline at 877-826-0011 or visit [coronavirus.IN.gov](https://www.in.gov/coronavirus).

Anyone with business or industry related questions only may call the Critical Industries Hotline at 877-820-0890 or e-mail questions to covidresponse@iedc.IN.gov.

Closing

Now is not the time to become complacent in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now is the time to protect ourselves by using proven social distancing techniques like staying home, unless absolutely necessary, avoiding groups of more than 10 people and staying six feet away from each other.

Even a single death in our city, county, state and nation due to this virus is too much. On behalf of the City of Gary, I offer our condolences and our prayers for our lost loved ones.

Please remain patient and calm. If we stick together, we will get through this together.
