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## **Hood County COVID-19 Update**

### **April 15, 2020, 11 am**

Two Hood County COVID-related deaths were reported last night. One resident died from COVID-related illness following prolonged hospitalization, and another resident was reported positive with COVID-19 following death from other causes last week. Out of 17 confirmed cases, three have now died and five local residents have recovered. Other cases remain under investigation in coordination with Texas Dept of State Health Services (DSHS) but unconfirmed at this time.

#### **Hood County Has Substantial Impact from COVID-19**

I have recommended to County and City leaders that we continue community mitigation strategies in our schools, workplaces, and community consistent with CDC guidelines for communities with "substantial" impact or transmission of COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>

Hood County has physical proximity and intimate ties to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex of over seven million people, where significant spread of COVID-19 illness continues along with numerous deaths and community-wide transmission due to international ties to travel and commerce. In addition, the Hood County population is at higher risk for serious illness or death from COVID-19 transmission. Approximately 25% of our county population are 65 years of age or older, many have medical conditions which worsen complications from COVID-19, and we have a higher than average number of senior living communities, multigenerational families, long-term care and nursing home facilities.

#### **Hood County COVID-19 test results to date**

As of 11:00 am on April 15th, 243 total COVID-19 tests have been reported for Hood County residents, with 17 positive cases, 216 negative, and 10 pending laboratory confirmation. Three have died and five have fully recovered. Others remain under monitoring along with close contacts and family members, in accordance with CDC and DSHS guidance and collaboration.

#### **Where did these people contract COVID-19?**

Seven people are believed to have contracted the highly contagious virus from travel, four from work contacts in Dallas Fort Worth area, and five contracted the illness from infected family members. One does not yet have an identified source for COVID-19 transmission. Due to

concerns for patient privacy in our small community, we are no longer reporting statistics on hospitalized patients.

**Want to know more?**

Hood County and City of Granbury websites have the latest guidance on social distancing and public health emergency measures enacted to protect our local communities.

Texas DSHS website and Texas 2-1-1 remain the best sources of information for Hood County residents regarding COVID-19 testing and self-protection measures. DSHS updates their county-by-county tracking map daily at <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>.