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Hood County COVID-19 Interim Update - 8-21-2020, 9 am

778 total COVID-19 cases have been detected in Hood County residents since mid-March (69 new cases reported since my 8-17 report). We currently have 75 active cases hospitalized or under isolation (increased from 44 on 8-17), and an 10.3% positive test rate (unchanged).

We now have 16 COVID positive deaths reported for Hood County residents, 2 new deaths reported this week, all over the age of 60. 13/16 (81%) of the deaths were COVID-related (death directly complicated or caused by COVID-19 related illness). 14/16 (88%) were 60 years or older.

23 local COVID-19 PCR nasal swab tests (looking for active COVID-19 infection) are waiting for laboratory results.

Texas Health Trace website has now been in effect for about three months, and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is confirming these self-reports and adding to county numbers across the state. There are differences between local county reports and DSHS website numbers because of delays in processing local cases to DSHS and their need to ultimately deconflict multiple reporting sources across the state.

Five of the active cases today are under 20 years old, and are in isolation away from school and work (two more added this week).

I remain in close collaboration with public school leadership across the county; they are all in compliance with Texas Educational Agency Public Health guidance for reopening. I have also been in coordination with private and charter schools in Hood County. We will continue to monitor closely and support as needed for any issues.

<https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/covid/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>

COVID-19 in Hood County - By the Numbers:

- 778 total cases reported in Hood County residents from all sources
- 687 have recovered and were released from isolation, per CDC/DSHS protocols
- 75 active cases remain isolated (positive COVID-19 PCR nasal swab test reported within last 10 days, plus a few who remain symptomatic longer)
- 4 current reported hospitalizations, all other active cases have been directed to self-isolate at home
- 16 total COVID-positive deaths (13 COVID-related, three additional were COVID-positive at time of death)
- 748 positive PCR nasal swab tests reported (some repeated, some positive for residents of other counties)
- 10.3% positive PCR nasal swab test rate since March 2020
- 111 cases detected in residents of surrounding counties, reported to DSHS and their county health authorities

Hood County COVID-19 Confirmed Cases by Reported Age (out of 778 cases as of 8-21)

- 9 are less than 10 years old (1%)
- 67 are 10-19 years old (9%)
 - 76 are under age 20 (10%)
- 129 are 20-29 years old (17%)
- 99 are 30-39 years old (13%)
 - 228 are ages 20-39 (30%)
- 120 are 40-49 years old (15%)
- 117 are 50-59 years old (15%)
 - 237 are ages 40-59 (30%)
- 91 are 60-69 years old (12%)
- 67 are 70-79 years old (9%)
- 57 are 80-89 years old (7%)
- 19 are 90-99 years old (2%)
- 2 are more than 100 years old (less than 1%)
 - 236 are aged 60 or older (30%)
- 55% have been female, 45% male

Hood County COVID-19 Confirmed Cases by Reported Contact Type (Out of 778 Cases as of 8-21)

- 6 contracted by Travel (less than 1%)
- 107 contracted from Family (14%)
- 77 contracted at Work (10%)
- 435 contracted from Community/Unknown Source (56%)
- 153 contact type was unreported (20%)

Hood County remains at SUBSTANTIAL risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Prevention is Key!

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

- Social distancing is best - if you need to get close to others, "mask up"
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>
- COVER coughs and sneezes with a mask or a sleeve
- Wash or sanitize hands and surfaces often

Review the Department of State Health Services "Open Texas," Hood County, and City of Granbury websites for the latest Executive Orders, reports and guidance on COVID-19:

- <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/opentexas.aspx>
- <https://co.hood.tx.us/772/Infectious-Diseases>
- <http://granbury.org/996/COVID-19-Coronavirus>

Texas Workforce Commission and DSHS recommendations for repeat COVID testing (7-23-2020):

COVID-19 testing is NOT required or recommended for most for people to return to work or regular activities following mild COVID-19 illness.

Criteria include at least ten days since the onset of symptoms consistent with coronavirus illness (or date of positive test if no symptoms), complete RESOLUTION of those symptoms, and more than 24 hours fever-free without the use of fever reducing medication.

Download the letter and other resources for businesses from DSHS:

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/business.aspx>