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Hood County COVID-19 Interim Update - 9-3-2020, 8 pm

889 total COVID-19 cases have been detected in Hood County residents since mid-March (68 cases reported since the 8-25 report, including recovered case reports from DSHS). We currently have 21 active cases hospitalized or under isolation (significantly decreased from 58 on 8-25), with a 6% positive test rate since last week (unchanged).

We have 18 COVID positive deaths reported for Hood County residents. 15/18 (83%) of the deaths were COVID-related (death directly complicated or caused by COVID-19 related illness). 16/18 (89%) were 60 years or older.

48 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. DSHS is the official reporting agency for Hood County, as we do not have a local health department.

Five of the 21 active cases today are under 20 years old (24% of the total active cases right now), and are in isolation away from school and work, decreased from 15 cases in this age group last week. Across the county, any student with possible COVID-19 symptoms is being tested and sent home, rather than being allowed to go to school, in accordance with Texas Educational Agency and U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.

COVID-19 in Hood County - By the Numbers:

- 889 total cases reported in Hood County residents from all sources
- 850 have recovered and were released from isolation, per CDC/DSHS protocols
- 21 active cases remain isolated (positive COVID-19 PCR nasal swab test reported within last 10 days, plus a few who remain symptomatic longer)
- 3 current reported hospitalizations, all other active cases have been directed to self-isolate at home
- 18 total COVID-positive deaths (15 COVID-related, three additional were COVID-positive at time of death)
- 825 positive PCR nasal swab tests reported (some repeated, some positive for residents of other counties)
- 9.6% positive PCR nasal swab test rate since March 2020
- 6.0% positive PCR nasal swab test rate since the last report on 8-25
- 129 cases detected in residents of surrounding counties, reported to DSHS and their county health authorities

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>