

COVID-19 PERIODIC UPDATE

August 25, 2020

Greetings from the offices of the Bee County Judge and the Mayor of the City of Beeville. In an effort to reduce the length of this update, we have removed information on previous daily updates. Please know that you can access the full text of all prior daily updates on our Bee OEM Facebook page.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF NEW DATA

We wanted to take this opportunity to advise the public that this is our first periodic update since last Thursday, August 20. The new cases reported today encompass 4 days of reporting from the state. So, while 41 as a number in a vacuum is troubling, when we view it in light of the passage of time, our infection rate continues to plateau rather than climb steeply.

Additionally, in the Hospitalization update there were only 5 COVID-19 hospitalizations as of this morning. That, too, is a positive trend much like the levelling off of new cases in our county.

That being said, we caution everyone to not react to this information by letting your guard down. Now is the time to press forward with complying with the mask order and social distancing guidelines. If we have any chance of success in stamping out COVID-19, we must be as vigilant today, and in the future, as we have been over the last 30-45 days.

We have momentum in the right direction. Keep it up Beeville and Bee County!

GUIDANCE FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

The simple steps everyone can take to help prevent spreading the virus:

- Wear a cloth face covering (over the nose and mouth);
- Practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- If soap and water are not available, use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- 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; and

Stay at home and stop the spread of coronavirus.

CASE UPDATE

Total Bee County confirmed community cases (i.e. not TDCJ inmates): **855**

Total new cases reported today: **41**

On August 21, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 5 additional community cases. On August 22, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 13 additional community cases. On August 23, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 4 additional community cases. And, on August 24, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 19 additional community cases. All new cases are listed below:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Female in her 10's | Female in her 80's | Female in her 60's |
| Male in his 10's | Female in her 70's | Female in her 30's |
| Male in his 20's | Male in his 60's | Male in his 50's |
| Female in her 10's | Female in her 50's | Male in his 20's |
| Female in her 30's | Male in his 60's | Female in her 20's |
| Female in her 80's | Male in his 20's | Male in his 60's |
| Male in his 60's | Male in his 60's | Female in her 40's |
| Male in his 20's | Male in his 10's | Female in her 20's |
| Male in his 60's | Male in his 10's | Female in her 30's |
| Female in her 70's | Female in her 60's | Female in her 20's |
| Female in her 70's | Male in his 20's | Female in her 20's |
| Female in her 70's | Male in his 60's | |
| Female in her 20's | Male in his 20's | |
| Female in her 50's | Female in her 40's | |
| Male in his 60's | Male in his 30's | |

DSHS DASHBOARD SUMMARY

As of 4:00 p.m. today, August 25, 2020, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services ("DSHS") Dashboard, Bee County currently has

361 active cases;
 1,094 recovered cases; and
 1,489 total cases (non-prisoner and prisoner) since tracking began.

The Dashboard also reflects 20 fatalities in Bee County.

Bee County is situated in DSHS Region 11. Region 11 tracks non-inmate COVID-19 cases in Bee County, including contact tracing and quarantine management. The DSHS Dashboard, on the other hand, is maintained by DSHS in Austin, and in Austin, DSHS counts both non-inmate and inmate cases together. We understand that the Dashboard numbers do not always align with our **confirmed** cases and, like today, might not even add up. We have no control over the DSHS Dashboard.

Region 11 of DSHS will not provide Bee County with any confirmation or information of Bee County COVID-19 deaths; that information will be published by DSHS on its Dashboard only.

With respect to COVID-19 deaths, DSHS reports the following dates of death for each of the 20 fatalities of Bee Countians: 1 on July 4; 1 on July 6; 2 on July 13; 2 on July 16; 2 on July 21; 1 on July 24; 1 on July 28; 1 on August 1; 1 on August 2; 1 on August 5; 1 on August 6; 2 on August 9; 1 on August 11; 1 on August 16; and 2 that as of yet are unspecified.

TDCJ DASHBOARD SUMMARY

| Unit | Inmates | | Employees | | <i>Totals:</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | Active | Recovered | Active | Recovered | |
| Garza East | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <i>0</i> |
| Garza West | 9 | 134 | 35 | 49 | <i>227</i> |
| McConnell | 6 | 484 | 54 | 90 | <i>634</i> |
| <i>Totals:</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>618</i> | <i>89</i> | <i>139</i> | <i>861</i> |

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (“TDCJ”) Dashboard, reflects a total of 15 active inmate cases as set out above. The TDCJ Dashboard reflects 618 recovered inmate cases. These numbers are fluctuating downward and upward, whereas our community case count only increases, which impacts the confirmed total case count, but the larger data set of total cases means that the impact of the TDCJ fluctuation is less dramatic, but the issue persists.

The TDCJ Dashboard also reflects a total of 89 active employee cases. The TDCJ Dashboard reflects a total of 139 recovered employee cases.

With a total of 633 inmate cases (active and recovered), and 855 community cases, the Bee County total is: **1,488 total cases since tracking began.**

HOSPITALIZATION SUMMARY

As of 2:00 p.m. this afternoon, 5 patients are hospitalized in Bee County with COVID-19, 3 females and 2 males. 5 of these patients are Bee County residents. Age ranges of the patients are:

| Age Range | # of Patients |
|---------------|---------------|
| 0-9 | 0 |
| 10-19 | 0 |
| 20-29 | 0 |
| 30-39 | 0 |
| 40-49 | 0 |
| 50-59 | 1 |
| 60-69 | 2 |
| 70-79 | 2 |
| Over 80 | 0 |
| Total: | 5 |

Of the 5 patients, none are TDCJ Inmates.

Additionally, no patients are on a ventilator at this time.

ADDITIONAL DATA POINT

According to DSHS, the current total confirmed cases per 1,000 persons in Texas is at 19.77. Stated otherwise, 19.77 out of every 1,000 Texans has or have had COVID-19. In Bee County, our ratio is higher, currently 43.23 out of every 1,000 Bee Countians (That equals a 4.323% infection rate). The data used to arrive at our ratio includes TDCJ numbers. This infection rate is “from inception”, not our “current” infection ratio in the County.

Regardless of how one interprets this (and other) data, COVID-19 is present in our community and we should all remain vigilant in mask wearing and social distancing to reduce the chance that any one of us unintentionally spread the virus amongst our family, friends, and fellow Bee Countians.

BEE COUNTY COVID-19 HOTLINE AND DRIVE-THROUGH TESTING FACILITY

Please contact our Hotline—**361-492-5981**—for COVID-19 questions and to conduct pre-screening interviews for COVID-19 testing at our Drive-Through Testing Facility.

PARTING SHOTS

Make no mistake, every time one of us lets our guard down, decides that the guidelines, orders, and reasonable requests do not apply to our particular situation—every time, we become a part of the pathway for COVID-19. Don't be part of the pathway; be a dead end, a stop sign, a barrier.

If you have read to the end, thank you.