

COVID-19 PERIODIC UPDATE

September 9, 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.

Several days have passed since our last update on September 2. The *Case Update* section sets out, day by day, new confirmed cases.

Since our last update, Region 11 of DSHS also notified us that due to a backlog in reporting, it was reporting 149 additional cases from Bee County and that none of these are considered active cases. Region 11 of DSHS explains further that

- “DSHS works with 57 local health departments, 8 public health regions, over 600 hospitals and more than 400 labs to report COVID-19 data on a daily basis.
- “DSHS works with labs daily to assist them with reporting COVID-19 test results. All labs must go through an onboarding process for each disease they test for. We started the process of onboarding labs for COVID-19 testing in March. The length of the onboarding process varies by the method they use to report. It can take as little as a week for electronic lab reports to several months for CSV files to successfully complete the testing phase of the lab onboarding process. Throughout the testing phase, DSHS assists labs with identifying formatting issues that prevent the files they are submitting from uploading into the electronic lab reporting system. It often takes several rounds of test file submissions to identify all of the formatting issues.
- “DSHS has onboarded more than 330 labs since March, and we currently have an additional 46 labs in the testing stage. To provide perspective, the onboarding process for new labs usually takes about 6 – 8 months. DSHS has fast tracked the onboarding of more than 300 labs in 5 months in order to provide testing data as fast as possible.
- “The data posted on DSHS’s dashboard show the overall trends over time. The positive test results from the backlog show that there may have been more confirmed cases in July than we were

previously aware of, however, additional cases would not have changed the overall trend or the recommendations for the public.

- “The additional cases that were identified by older test results added into the lab reporting system last month did not change the overall trend or the recommended actions for the public.”

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): **1177**

Total new cases reported today: **37**

On September 2, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 26 additional community cases. No additional community cases were reported between September 3-5. On September 6, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 5 additional community cases. On September 7, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 1 additional community cases. And, on September 8, 2020, DSHS notified Bee County of 5 additional community cases. All new cases are listed below:

Female in her 30s	Male in his 20s	Male in his 20s
Male in his 40s	Female in her 20s	Male in his 20s
Male in his 20s	Female in her 40s	Male in his 10s
Female in her 50s	Male in his 20s	Male in his 10s

Female in her 10s	Male in his 40s	Female between 0-9
Female in her 50s	Male in his 60s	Male in his 60s
Female between 0-9	Male in his 10s	Female in her 50s
Female in her 30s	Female in her 60s	Female in her 60s
Male in his 50s	Female in her 20s	Male in his 70s
Male in his 10s	Female in her 50s	Male in his 50s
Female in her 10s	Male in his 50s	Male in his 10s
Male in his 10s	Male in his 60s	
Female in her 20s	Female between 0-9	

DSHS DASHBOARD SUMMARY

As of 4:00 p.m. today, September 9, 2020, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services (“DSHS”) Dashboard, Bee County currently has

205 active cases;
1,577 recovered cases; and
1,807 total cases (non-prisoner and prisoner) since tracking began.

The Dashboard also reflects 25 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 25 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 12; 1 on August 13; 1 on August 14; 1 on August 15; 1 on August 16; 1 on August 17; 1 on August 25; and 1 on August 28.

TDCJ DASHBOARD SUMMARY

Unit	Inmates		Employees		<i>Totals:</i>
	Active	Recovered	Active	Recovered	
Garza East	0	0	0	0	<i>0</i>
Garza West	0	131	25	65	<i>221</i>
McConnell	1	477	27	120	<i>625</i>
<i>Totals:</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>608</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>185</i>	<i>846</i>

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (“TDCJ”) Dashboard, reflects a total of 1 active inmate case, as set out above. The TDCJ Dashboard reflects 608 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 52 active employee cases. The TDCJ Dashboard reflects a total of 185 recovered employee cases.

With a total of 609 inmate cases (active and recovered), and 1177 community cases, the Bee County total is: **1,786 total cases since tracking began.**

HOSPITALIZATION SUMMARY

As of 9:00 a.m. this morning, 10 patients are hospitalized in Bee County with COVID-19, 5 females and 5 males. 9 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	2
40-49	1
50-59	4

60-69	1
70-79	2
Over 80	0
<i>Total:</i>	<i>10</i>

Of the 10 patients, 2 are TDCJ Inmates.

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

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.