

September 8, 2020

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN BAY COUNTY PROVIDES COVID-19 UPDATE, ANNOUNCES TWO COVID-19 RELATED DEATHS AND 64 CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19 FROM SATURDAY THROUGH TODAY



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Panama City, Fla.— The Florida Department of Health in Bay County (DOH-Bay) confirmed two COVID-19 related deaths over the holiday weekend. DOH-Bay offers condolences to the families and will continue to work diligently with our community partners to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please note that although these deaths are being reported today that does not mean these deaths occurred in the last 24 hours, rather, they were confirmed in the past 24 hours.

DOH-Bay received confirmation of 18 additional cases of COVID-19 with 427 negative test results and a 4.04% positive rate for September 4, 20 additional cases of COVID-19 with 383 negative test results and a 4.96% positive rate for September 5, 16 additional cases of COVID-19 with 206 negative test results and a 7.21% positive rate for September 6, and 10 additional cases of COVID-19 with 144 negative test results and a 6.49% positive rate for September 7.

According to the Agency for Health Care Administration, as of 10 a.m. today there are 25 persons in Bay County hospitals with a primary diagnosis of COVID-19.

Bay County's total case count is at 5,534 including 5,448 residents and 86 non-residents. There have been 86 COVID-19 related deaths of Bay County residents. There have been 19 deaths associated with long-term care facilities. Bay County's overall COVID-19 positive testing rate is 17 percent. Of the 31,788 tests processed, 26,272 tests are negative.

Cities of Bay County cases based on patient's ZIP Code: Panama City (3,533), Lynn Haven (843), Panama City Beach (705), Youngstown (114), Southport (79), Fountain (61), Missing (53), Callaway (21), Tyndall Air Force Base (12), Mexico Beach (12), Parker (5), Vernon (3), Inlet Beach (2), Bayou George (2), Seacrest (1), Rosemary Beach (1), and Watersound (1).

Data is preliminary and subject to change based on public health investigations.

COVID-19 Question of the Day

If I am pregnant, are there any additional precautions I should take against COVID-19?

Based on what is known at this time, pregnant women might be at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 compared to non-pregnant women. Additionally, pregnant women with COVID-19 might have an increased risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as [preterm birth](#). Some of the changes that occur in women's bodies during pregnancy may increase their risk for some infections. It is always important for pregnant women to protect themselves from illnesses.

An *MMWR* study suggests that pregnant women with COVID-19 are more likely to be hospitalized and are at increased risk for intensive care unit (ICU) admission and receipt of mechanical ventilation than nonpregnant women. Risk of death is similar for both groups. But much remains unknown.

Take care of your health:

- Continue to attend prenatal care visits.
- Keep up healthy habits; healthy eating, exercise, getting enough sleep and managing stress.

- If you have cough or shortness of breath, stay home and contact your health care provider.
- Practice social distancing.
- Wash your hands and sanitize surfaces and objects daily.

To read more, visit http://ww11.doh.state.fl.us/comm/partners/action/covid19_and_maternal_health.pdf or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/special-populations/pregnancy-data-on-covid-19.html>.

Prevention

One Goal One Florida asks all Floridians to join this important initiative by following these simple, yet effective steps to mitigate and slow the spread of the virus:

1. **Protect the vulnerable**, including the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions
2. **Practice proper hygiene**, including washing your hands
3. **Practice social distancing**, avoiding closed spaces and crowded places
4. **Wear a mask**, if you are in close contact with others

Testing

Bay County

Lynn Haven Sports Park
2201 Recreation Drive

Callaway Recreational Complex
500 Callaway Parkway

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Criteria: 18 and older with photo identification required upon arrival for appointment and Children 5-17 can be tested with a parent or guardian

Cost: Free

Appointments recommended. To make an appointment for a test, visit <https://makoexchangedev.com/baycounty/>. While appointments are encouraged, walk-in clients are being accepted at both testing locations after 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and after 1 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

DOH-Bay

DOH-Bay is testing anyone **with symptoms** of COVID-19. For screening, please call DOH-Bay at (850) 872-4455 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and follow the prompts. Testing is by **appointment only**. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, new loss of taste or smell, vomiting or diarrhea, and/or sore throat. The CDC has a symptom checker available at [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/). For additional testing options and information, visit [Bay.FloridaHealth.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov/).

Test Results

Bay County Testing Sites

To contact the testing lab to inquire about your results, please call (919) 390-3060 or email info@makomedical.com. You will **receive a text message** when your **results** are ready. You will **access your test results** through the same website where you registered for testing. Simply visit <https://makoexchangedev.com/baycounty/>, log-in, and there is a link to get results.

DOH-Bay

Exposed or tested positive? Look out for an official call from COVID-19 contact tracers. Answer calls from **833-673-0864 (0865,0866, 0867, 0868), 833-443-5364, or 850-583-2419**, or county health departments

to discuss potential exposure to COVID-19 with a contact tracer. Contact tracers will NEVER ask for your Social Security number or financial information. Save the numbers in your contacts so you never miss the call.

If you need physical copies of your COVID-19 test results, please follow the directions below:

Phone: Call (850) 872-4455 and follow the prompts to COVID test results prompts and request the status with the representative. You will be provided with the option to obtain your results in person (if negative) or electronically (negative or positive).

Office: If you come to our office, do not get out of your car. Please **call (850) 872-4455 and follow the COVID test results prompts**. Please let us know you are in the parking lot and we will **deliver your results to you in your vehicle**.

Email: You can make your request by emailing baymedicalrecords@flhealth.gov. After you complete the authorization form, you will need to respond with a picture of your photo ID and we will send your result to you via an encrypted email. The email must be viewed on a desktop or laptop PC as the encryption is not mobile friendly.

Additional Data

The state provides a report detailing surveillance data for every Florida county, which is available [here](#).

In order to make the daily COVID-19 report easier to download and more accessible, the daily report will now separate case line data in a separate PDF. Both reports will continue to be updated daily. The case line data report is available [here](#).

Florida long-term care facility data:

- The list of long-term care facilities with active COVID-19 cases is available [here](#).
- The list of long-term care facilities with deaths is available [here](#), which is updated weekly.

The antibody COVID-19 test results report will be provided once a week and contains county, race and lab information on antibody COVID-19 tests conducted in Florida. The report for antibody tests conducted by private health care providers is available [here](#) and the report for antibody tests conducted at state-supported COVID-19 testing sites is available [here](#).

The Agency for Health Care Administration added an additional tab to the [Hospital Bed Capacity Dashboard](#) to reflect hospitalizations with the primary diagnosis of COVID-19.

More information on a case-by-case basis can also be found [here](#).

For more Information on COVID-19

For text alert updates from the Florida Department of Health in Bay County, text "bayhealth" to 888-777. For additional information specific to Bay County, visit <http://bay.floridahealth.gov/> or BayHealthCOVID19.com. Contact the Citizens Information Center seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at (850) 248-6090, or email ask@baycountyfl.gov.

To find the most up-to-date information and guidance on COVID-19, please visit the Department of Health's dedicated COVID-19 website at FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov. For any other questions related to COVID-19 in Florida, call (866) 779-6121. The Call Center is available 24 hours per day or email COVID-19@flhealth.gov.

The free *StrongerThanC19* app is available to both iOS and Android users and can be downloaded from the Apple or Google app stores. The *StrongerThanC19* app and [website](#) are designed to gather information to help the Department of Health track and slow the spread of COVID-19 in Florida; they are not intended to be used as a symptom checker designed to dispense medical advice.

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About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at @HealthyFla. For more information about the Florida Department of Health, please visit www.FloridaHealth.gov.