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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN BAY COUNTY PROVIDES COVID-19 UPDATE, ANNOUNCES 46 CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19



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**Panama City, Fla.**— The Florida Department of Health in Bay County (DOH-Bay) received confirmation of 45 additional resident cases of COVID-19 with 480 negative test results with 8.6 percent positive for July 26. There is one non-Florida resident case. According to the Agency for Health Care Administration as of 10 a.m. today there are 82 persons in Bay County hospitals with COVID-19.

The age range for Bay County residents testing positive for COVID-19 for July 26 is 0-4 years (0), 5-14 years (0), 15-24 years (5), 25-34 (6), 35-44 (9), 45-54 (6), 55-64 (10), 65-74 (8), 75-84 (1), and 85+ (0).

Bay County's total case count is at 3,026 including 2,967 residents and 59 non-residents. Fifteen Bay County residents have died from COVID-19. There has been one death associated with a long-term care facility. Bay County's overall COVID-19 positive testing rate is 14 percent. Of the 21,118 tests processed, 18,131 tests are negative.

Cities of Bay County cases based on patient's ZIP Code: Panama City (2,116), Panama City Beach (366), Lynn Haven (296), Southport (50), Youngstown (49), Fountain (31), Missing (21), Callaway (13), Mexico Beach (8), Tyndall Air Force Base (7), Inlet Beach (2), Parker (2), Vernon (3), Bayou George (1), Seacrest (1), and Watersound (1).

The Florida Department of Corrections (DOC) is reporting that there are 292 cases in inmates and 21 staff members at Bay Correctional Facility. You can view cases in Correctional Facilities as they are confirmed by visiting <http://www.dc.state.fl.us/comm/covid-19.html#stats>.

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

### COVID-19 Question of the Day

*What do I need to know about the new Panama City Beach emergency ordinance?*

The Panama City Beach City Council amended last week's emergency order requiring employees of indoor businesses, including restaurants, bars, retail and indoor amusements, to wear masks. The new ordinance requires customers and employees in businesses to wear a face mask. This goes into effect on **Monday, July 27 at 5 p.m.** The first offense is education and a mask is provided, the second offense is a \$50 fine, and the third and subsequent offenses are a \$100 fine. More details can be found at the City of Panama City Beach's website at <http://www.pcbgov.com/>.

### New Public Health Advisory

- All individuals in Florida should wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in any setting where social distancing is not possible, both indoors and outdoors, unless any of the following apply:
  - A child is under two years of age;
  - An individual has one or more medical conditions or disabilities that prevent wearing a face covering;
  - An individual is obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
  - An individual works in a profession where use of a face covering will not be compatible with the duties of the profession; or

- An individual is engaged in outdoor work or recreation with appropriate social distancing.
- Businesses and organizations are encouraged to require individuals who enter the premises to wear a face covering.
- All individuals should refrain from participation in social or recreational gatherings of more than 10 people. For all gatherings of fewer than 10 people, individuals should practice social distancing by maintaining a distance of at least six feet from each other and wearing a face covering.

This is a reinforcement of the previously issued advisory as well as direction that has been provided in the task force report for a *Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery*.

Click [here](#) to review this Public Health Advisory.

## Prevention

Protect the vulnerable by avoiding the Three Cs: Closed Spaces, Crowded Places and Close-Contact Settings and by wearing a mask in public:

1. **Closed Spaces.** Avoid closed spaces with poor ventilation that could allow contagious droplets to linger in the air.
2. **Crowded Places.** Avoid crowded places with many people nearby; the greater the number of individuals in an area, the greater the chances of COVID-19 spreading from person-to-person.
3. **Close-Contact Settings.** Avoid close-range conversations and stay at least six-feet from others.

## Testing

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).

## DOH-Bay Test Results

If you have been tested by DOH-Bay, **please answer** the call from the Florida Department of Health's COVID-19 results line at **(833) 917-2880**. They will ask for a name and date of birth to provide you with a negative test result. This number is legitimate and is a Department of Health sponsored initiative. Caller ID should identify the call as FL DOH. This will provide support to DOH-Bay so that we can focus on contacting positives persons and case investigations. Please note callers will not ask for social security numbers or medical information.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov).