

July 28, 2020

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN BAY COUNTY PROVIDES COVID-19 UPDATE, ANNOUNCES THREE DEATHS AND 117 CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19**



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**Panama City, Fla.**— The Florida Department of Health in Bay County (DOH-Bay) confirmed today that an 80-year-old Bay County woman, an 82-year-old man, and an 85-year-old man passed away. The dates the cases were counted were July 6, July 7 and July 11 respectively. Eighteen Bay County residents have died from COVID-19, the novel coronavirus.

DOH-Bay offers condolences to the latest victim's family and will continue to work diligently with our community partners to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

DOH-Bay also received confirmation of 117 additional resident cases of COVID-19 with 598 negative test results with 16.4 percent positive for July 27. There are 39 new confirmed cases associated with Long Term Care Facilities. According to the Agency for Health Care Administration as of 10 a.m. today there are 79 persons in Bay County hospitals with COVID-19.

The age range for Bay County residents testing positive for COVID-19 for July 27 is 0-4 years (3), 5-14 years (6), 15-24 years (14), 25-34 (26), 35-44 (18), 45-54 (11), 55-64 (20), 65-74 (8), 75-84 (9), and 85+ (2).

Bay County's total case count is at 3,146 including 3,087 residents and 59 non-residents. Eighteen 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 15 percent. Of the 21,671 tests processed, 18,495 tests are negative.

Cities of Bay County cases based on patient's ZIP Code: Panama City (2,188), Panama City Beach (382), Lynn Haven (321), Southport (52), Youngstown (51), Fountain (32), Missing (22), Callaway (13), Mexico Beach (8), Tyndall Air Force Base (7), Inlet Beach (2), Parker (3), Vernon (3), Bayou George (1), Seacrest (1), and Watersound (1).

The Florida Department of Corrections (DOC) is reporting that there are 293 cases in inmates and 22 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.

## Testing

### *New Bay County Testing Sites*

The first of **three new drive-through, by-appointment COVID-19 testing sites** in Bay County is set to open to the general public at **10 a.m. Thursday, July 30** at the **Lynn Haven Sports Park**, located at 2201 Recreation Drive, Lynn Haven. A second site will open at **7 a.m. Monday** at **Frank Brown Park**, located at 16200 Panama City Beach Parkway on Panama City Beach and the third site will be located in Callaway, with details announced as they are finalized.

Each site will test up to 500 people per day for the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The polymerase chain

reaction (PCR) swab tests will be analyzed at a dedicated lab for these testing sites, and results are expected within 48 hours or less and provided via a secure online portal or by phone.

**To make an appointment** for a test, visit

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/48ad4c8c/jasovy0JMECTneLBI4OeEg?u=https://walkonclinic.apacovid.com/default.aspx>. A short medical questionnaire must be completed before booking an appointment time, and accurate information must be provided to ensure test results are received. Insurance information is not necessary and can be skipped by stating “no insurance” on the questionnaire. Photo identification is required upon arrival for an appointment.

For now, the tests are available at **no cost to anyone 18 and older**, though county officials say they are working to offer the testing to minors as soon as possible. The hours of operation for each testing site are: **Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

*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).

### **COVID-19 Question of the Day**

*What should people with diabetes know about their risk for COVID-19?*

When people with diabetes do not manage their blood sugar levels well, they can have more trouble fighting off illnesses like COVID-19. Because of this, people with poorly controlled diabetes are more likely to become very ill or die if they get COVID-19. People with diabetes should talk to their doctor about how often they should check their blood sugar, what level it should be at, and keep records of results. They should also learn to recognize the signs of high blood sugar, take medications as directed, and stop smoking. Visit [TobaccoFreeFlorida.com](https://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com) for Quit Your Way services. To read the full guidance, visit [http://ww11.doh.state.fl.us/comm/partners/action/covid19\\_and\\_diabetes.pdf](http://ww11.doh.state.fl.us/comm/partners/action/covid19_and_diabetes.pdf).

### **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.

## 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) .



# COVID-19



## Bay County Testing Information

[Bay.FloridaHealth.gov](http://Bay.FloridaHealth.gov) / [FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov](http://FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov) / [BayHealthCOVID19.com](http://BayHealthCOVID19.com)

### SYMPTOMS

Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

### **WHO SHOULD CONSIDER BEING TESTED FOR COVID-19?**

if you have **symptoms of COVID-19**, you should consider being tested for the virus. Your **first step** is to **contact your doctor**. If you are sick, you should make sure to **drink lots of fluid, rest**, and use **over the counter medications** to help manage symptoms.

If you **test positive, notify** anyone you have been in **close contact** with. Keep your doctor updated on any significant changes in your health. You should **call 911** or go to the emergency room if you have **emergency warning signs** such as **difficulty breathing, pain or pressure in the chest, or new confusion**. Most people can resume activities after **10 days since symptom onset** and **24 hours fever-free** without medication and **improvement in symptoms**.

If you have been in close contact, defined as someone who is within **less than 6 feet for at least 15 minutes of a COVID-19 positive**, you should **stay home for 14 days** and monitor for symptoms.. If symptoms develop, follow the steps above.

### COVID-19 MOLECULAR (PCR) VIRAL TESTING

Uses respiratory samples—such as a swab from the inside of your nose or at the back of your throat— to find out if you have COVID-19. Samples are collected and sent to a laboratory. Results come back in 2 days to one-week depending on the volume of samples the laboratory is processing.

### COVID-19 ANTIGEN VIRAL TESTING

Uses respiratory samples—such as a swab from the inside of your nose or at the back of your throat— to find out if you have COVID-19. Results are available at the point of care in less than one-hour. Antigen tests may produce false negatives. Your healthcare provider will determine if a molecular COVID-19 test is needed in addition to antigen testing.

### COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING

A blood test that can tell you if you've had COVID-19 or a related coronavirus. Antibodies usually develop 1-3 weeks after symptoms start. We do not know how long antibodies last.



# COVID-19



## Bay County Testing Information

[Bay.FloridaHealth.gov](http://Bay.FloridaHealth.gov) / [FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov](http://FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov) / [BayHealthCOVID19.com](http://BayHealthCOVID19.com)

### COUNTY AND STATE SUPPORTED TESTING

*Note: No fees or insurance required.*



#### **Bay County Drive-Thru Testing**



**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Location: Lynn Haven Sports Park  
Address: 2201 Recreation Drive  
Start Date: Thursday, July 30

Location: Frank Brown Park  
Address: 16200 Panama City Beach Parkway  
Start Date: Monday, August 3

**Testing type:** Molecular (PCR)

**Criteria:** Adults 18+

**Process:** To make an appointment for a test, visit  
[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/48ad4c8c/jasovy0JMECTneLBI4OeEg?](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/48ad4c8c/jasovy0JMECTneLBI4OeEg?u=https://walkonclinic.apacovid.com/default.aspx)  
[u=https://walkonclinic.apacovid.com/default.aspx](https://walkonclinic.apacovid.com/default.aspx).

Each site will be able to test 500 persons per day.



#### **Florida Department of Health in Bay County**

597 W. 11th ST, Panama City

**Criteria:** Testing persons **with symptoms**.

**Testing type:** Molecular (PCR)

**Process:** Call DOH-Bay at (850) 872-4455  
Mon. - Fri. from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. for screening.

**OneBlood** is testing all blood donations for the COVID-19 antibody. The **antibody** test is authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to the virus, regardless of whether they ever showed symptoms. They are also accepting donations of convalescent plasma. For more information or an appointment, **visit [OneBlood.org](http://OneBlood.org) or call +1 (888) 936-6283.**



# COVID-19



## Bay County Testing Information

[Bay.FloridaHealth.gov](http://Bay.FloridaHealth.gov) / [FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov](http://FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov) / [BayHealthCOVID19.com](http://BayHealthCOVID19.com)

### PRIVATE PROVIDERS

*Note: If you do not have insurance or they don't accept your provider, there may be an office visit fees between \$115 - \$150. Some fees may not be fully covered by insurance. Please check with the office and your insurance company for additional information.*

**CVS Health** is now offering no-cost drive-thru COVID-19 testing at select CVS Pharmacy locations. Tests are available by appointment only at the drive-thru window. Results will be available in 2-4 days. To find testing locations, determine eligibility and schedule an appointment click [here](#).

**Testing type:** Molecular (PCR)

#### **Nations Best Family Health Care**

1514 W 23rd ST, Panama City

**Criteria:** Prioritizing healthcare workers, first responders, persons with symptoms, and persons with exposure by appointment.

**Testing type;** Molecular (PCR)

**Process:** Book online at

<https://nationsbesthealth.com/covid-testing/>.

#### **PanCare Health**

Testing at the Panama City Mall and Arnold High School

**Criteria:** Testing all persons with or without symptoms by appointment.

**Process:** Book online at [pancarefl.org/covid-19](http://pancarefl.org/covid-19).

**Testing type:** Antigen and molecular (PCR)

*Note: PanCare uses the Quidel Sofia antigen test. You can read the patient instructions for this test [here](#).*

#### **Coastal Internal Medicine**

12007 Panama City Beach PKWY

**Criteria:** Testing persons **with symptoms**

Testing types: Molecular (PCR)

**Process:** Call (850) 234-5151

Mon. - Thurs. from 8 a.m. - Noon and  
1 - 5 p.m. and Fri. 8 a.m. - Noon.

#### **American Family Care Panama City Beach**

15415 Panama City Beach Parkway

**Criteria and Process:** Call (850) 583-9747 for information 7 days a week 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Testing type:** Molecular (PCR)

#### **Emerald Coast Urgent Care**

2704 Thomas Dr.

**Criteria and Process:** Call (850) 236-8655 for information 7 days a week 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Testing type:** Molecular (PCR) and antibody

#### **Nu Wave Medical Center**

10800 Panama City Beach Pkwy

**Criteria and Process:** Call (850) 666-4726 for information Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday 7:30 .m. - 3 p.m.

**Testing type:** Molecular (PCR)