

**August 18, 2020**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN BAY COUNTY PROVIDES COVID-19 UPDATE, ANNOUNCES THREE DEATHS RELATED TO COVID-19 AND 51 CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19**



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**Panama City, Fla.**— The Florida Department of Health in Bay County (DOH-Bay) confirmed three COVID-19 related deaths; a 93-year-old man (case confirmed July 28), a 59-year-old woman (case confirmed July 28), and an 81-year-old man (case confirmed August 6).

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 50 additional cases of COVID-19 in Bay County residents with 145 negative test results and a 25.6% positive rate for August 17. There is one non-Florida resident case. According to the Agency for Health Care Administration as of 10 a.m. today there are 64 persons in Bay County hospitals with a primary diagnosis of COVID-19.

The age range for Bay County residents testing positive for COVID-19 for August 15 and 16 is 0-4 years (0), 5-14 years (3), 15-24 years (3), 25-34 (17), 35-44 (13), 45-54 (5), 55-64 (3), 65-74 (3), 75-84 (0), 85+ (0), and unknown (3).

Bay County's total case count is at 4,886 including 4,808 residents and 78 non-residents. There have been 67 COVID-19 related deaths of Bay County residents. There have been 13 deaths associated with long-term care facilities. Bay County's overall COVID-19 positive testing rate is 17 percent. Of the 28,621 tests processed, 23,755 tests are negative.

Cities of Bay County cases based on patient's ZIP Code: Panama City (3,132), Lynn Haven (744), Panama City Beach (634), Youngstown (90), Southport (67), Fountain (54), Missing (34), Callaway (18), Mexico Beach (11), Tyndall Air Force Base (10), Parker (5), Vernon (3), Inlet Beach (2), Bayou George (2), Seacrest (1), Rosemary Beach (1), and Watersound (1).

Beginning, August 15, DOH-Bay will not provide COVID-19 news releases on the weekends. Monday's release will include data from Saturday and Sunday. The <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/#latest-stats> has links to State and County reports, line lists of cases, and the COVID-19 dashboard and will continue to be updated at approximately 10 a.m. daily. Please refer to those for updates for Bay County on Saturdays and Sundays.

**Return to School Safely**

What can parents do to help keep COVID-19 out of schools?

Parents should screen their children prior to going to school each day for the following:

1. Fever >100.4 F.
2. New uncontrolled cough causing difficulty breathing.
3. Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain.
4. Sore throat.
5. New onset severe headache, especially with fever.

Children exhibiting any of the above symptoms should not go to school and you should consult with your healthcare provider.

**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

The Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) mobile testing bus will be at the Youngstown-Fountain Recreational Complex located at 12321 E Hwy 20.

The temporary walk-up site will be open on today, August 18 from 1 – 4 p.m. and Wednesday, August 19 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. or while supplies last. The mobile bus will be able to test up to 200 persons daily. No appointment is necessary. All adults 18 and older with or without symptoms can be tested.

You will need your photo ID, insurance card (insurance not required), and a pen. The testing provided is molecular (PCR) testing. A soft swab will be used to take a sample from your nose or throat. Information on when and how you will receive results will be provided at the testing site.

### Lynn Haven Sports Park

2201 Recreation Drive

### Frank Brown Park

16200 Panama City Beach 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, photo identification required upon arrival for appointment

**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 (844) 625-6522 or email [info@makomedical.com](mailto: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*

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](https://www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19). 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).