



Matagorda County EOC COVID-19 Week in Review Report of DSHS Data Publicly Reported Tuesday, July 21 through Monday, July 27

1.0 Standing Statement

On Tuesday, July 14th, 2020, Matagorda County began using official COVID-19 data from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) as the sole source for public reporting. This report, though compiled and disseminated by the Matagorda County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), is a county-wide joint effort utilizing expertise and insight from local city and county agencies, elected officials, and health organizations. All data compiled and interpreted in this report originated from official DSHS reports sent to Matagorda County by our assigned DSHS representatives.

1.1 Questions or Comments

Questions or comments about the data used to compile this report should be directed to DSHS by email at pressofficer@dshs.texas.gov. Questions or comments about the compilation or interpretation of the data presented in this report should be sent to the EOC by email at covid19@co.matagorda.tx.us.

2.0 Health Impact Summary

The Health Impact Summary in sections 2.1 through 2.6 below reflect cumulative and weekly data. Weekly summaries use data publicly reported during the 7-day period listed at the top of this report, which is always Tuesday through Monday. Cumulative data, when broken down by week, is always Tuesday through Monday.

2.1 Cumulative COVID-19 Case Information

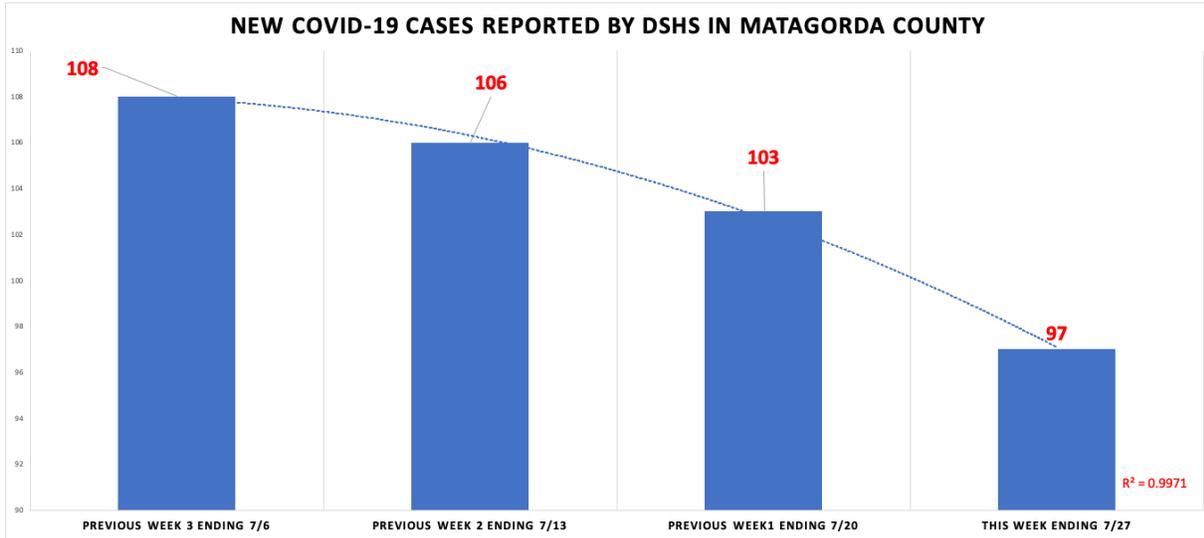
To date, DSHS has reported 572 total cases of COVID-19 in Matagorda County, of which 275 patients have recovered and 5 patients have passed away (fatalities). This leaves us with a total of 292 active COVID-19 cases in Matagorda County.

2.2 New Weekly COVID-19 Case Information

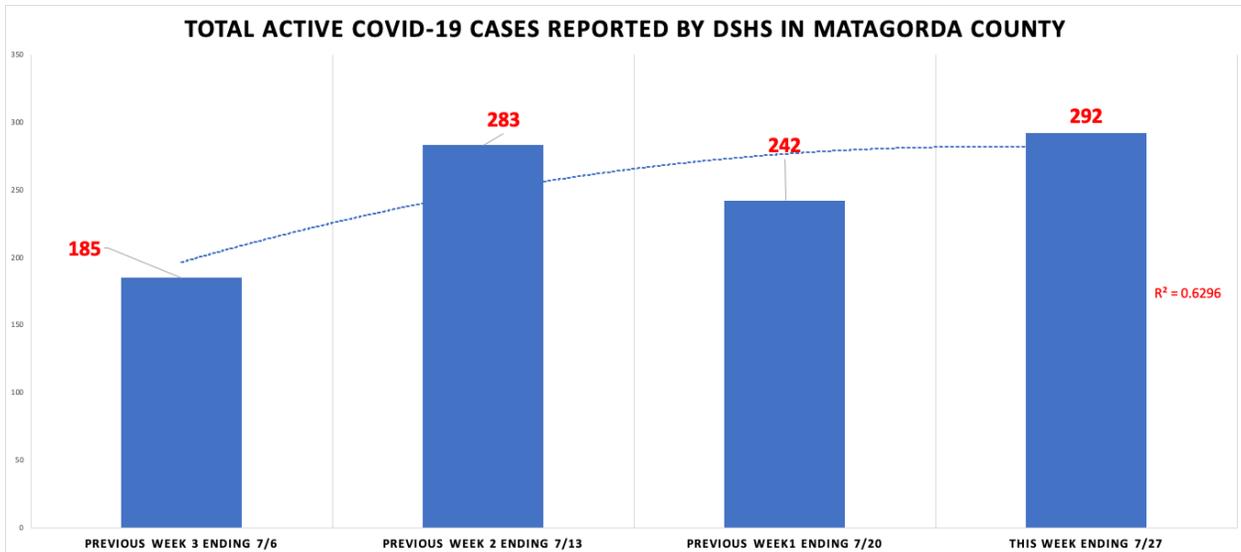
Over the past 7 days, DSHS has reported 97 new cases, 47 new recovered cases, and 0 new fatalities.



2.3 Rolling 4-Week Trend of New COVID-19 Cases

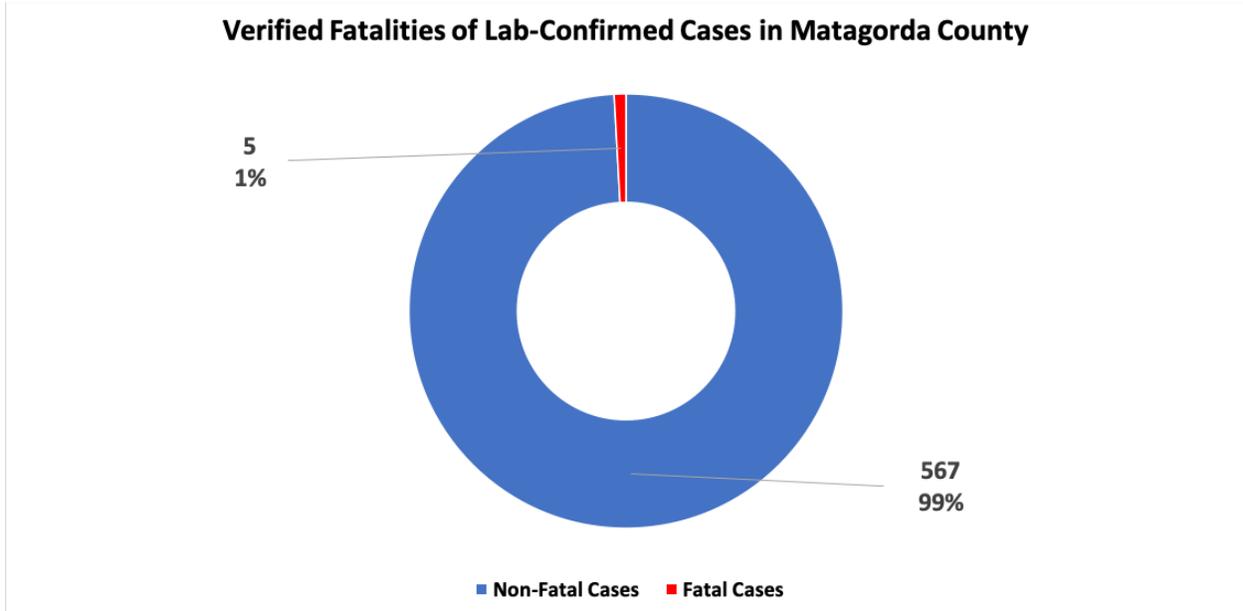


2.4 Rolling 4-Week Trend of Total Active COVID-19 Cases



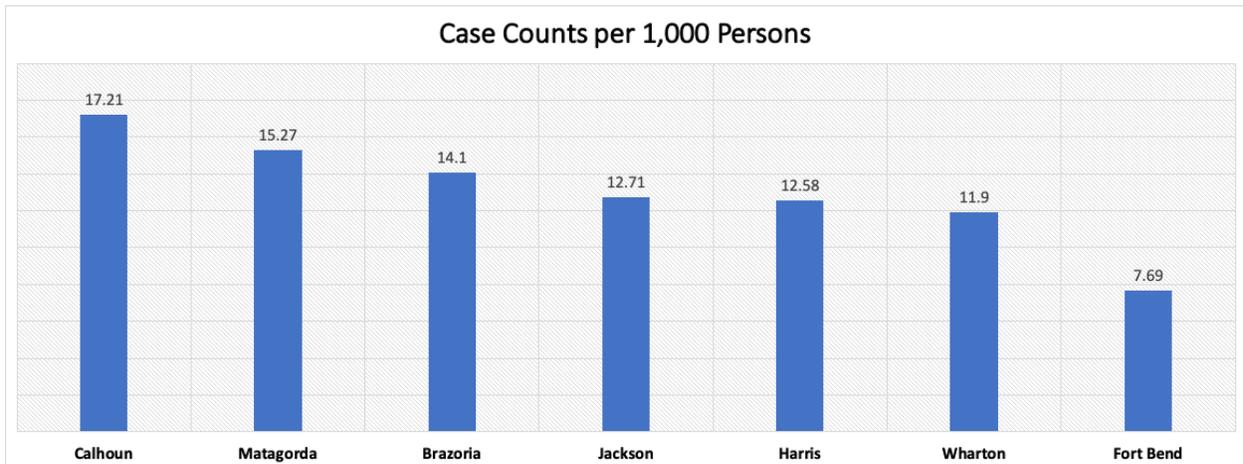


2.5 DSHS Confirmed COVID-19 Fatalities



For an EOC update on fatality information, see section 3.2 on page 4 of this document.

2.6 Surrounding County Comparison of Total Confirmed Cases per 1,000 Persons





3.0 Additional Comments

3.1 *Comment by Aaron Fox, Chief Business Development Officer and Public Information Officer, Matagorda County Hospital District:* “Matagorda County has experienced a slight downward trend in the number of total cases reported each week over the past four weeks, which is encouraging. But during that same period, the trend of total active cases increased, meaning more people have become ill than have recovered during the trended period.

The good news is that if we continue seeing a decrease in the number of new cases like we are now, the number of active cases will naturally decline over the next 14 days. Time is on our side and the trend of new cases is currently in our favor, so let’s remain vigilant in our efforts to slow and reduce the spread of this virus.”

3.2 *Comment by Mitch Thames, Matagorda County Public Information Officer:* “At this time, the EOC estimates the total number of past and current investigations into the deaths of Matagorda County residents who were COVID-19 positive at the time of their passing to be 16, which is an increase of 2 since the last weekly report. We have contacted DSHS to gain more insight on how COVID-19 fatalities are certified, including whether or not the fatality certification process has changed. We expect to have answers from DSHS later this week, and we will share their response at that time.

As previously stated, the EOC’s estimate of deaths under investigation simply reflects the number of cases we know of and may not include information on residents who pass away at home, in LTACHs, SNFs, or nursing homes, or anywhere outside of our county.”

3.3 *Comment by J. Warren Robicheaux, CEO, Matagorda County Hospital District:* “Though we remain near capacity, our hospital has had a decrease in the number of COVID-19 patients seeking care this past week. We hope this trend continues, and we’re using this time to prepare for another possible surge during the upcoming flu season.”