



TO: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

FROM: SALINE COUNTY, SALINE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SALINE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND THE CITY OF SALINA

DATE: May 8th, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Saline County Health Department does not have any additional cases of COVID-19 to report today.

At 11 am, KDHE reported the following in their daily release:

- A total of 6,501 (6,431 confirmed and 70 probable) cases and 152 deaths.
- 40,276 negative tests have been received through the KDHE and private labs.
- The age range is 0 years to 99 years (median 42 years of age).

Yesterday, KDHE began reporting “probable” case numbers; which will be included in case totals. A confirmed case is defined as a person who tested positive by testing for COVID-19. A probable case is defined as a person with: a) presumptive lab evidence (serology test) and has COVID-19 symptoms or directly linked to a confirmed case, or b) no lab testing but has COVID-19 symptoms and is also linked to a confirmed case. The two additional cases that were added to Saline County’s total are ones from back in March and early April that were directly linked to a confirmed case; but were not tested. These are not new confirmed positive cases in Saline County. Saline County has 21 confirmed cases and 2 probable cases.

We are working on being able to report on the number of cases that have recovered from COVID-19. KDHE issued new criteria on how a person is released from isolation and quarantine. We intend to begin to report those numbers of recovered in Saline County by Monday.

Announcements:

- KDHE announced that beginning Monday, May 11th, the Daily Case Summary will only be released on Monday’s, Wednesday’s, and Friday’s.
- KDHE issued guidance on instructions for cleaning and disinfection of common spaces in businesses and workplaces.
- Updated Frequently Asked Questions were issued today relating to the Governor’s Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen and answers to many questions about Phase 1.

As we attempt to reopen Saline County, the entire community is counting on each person to follow the below recommendations to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- It is highly encouraged to continue to wear cloth masks and maintain social distancing.
- It is highly encouraged for people to only leave their homes for essentials.

- It is highly recommended those employees in any service industry wear PPE (especially cloth masks).
- It is highly encouraged to continue telework.
- Avoid socializing in person with groups of 10 or more individuals in both indoor and outdoor settings.
- Any employees exhibiting symptoms should be required to stay at home and asked to call their health care provider.
- It will take the effort to follow the above recommendations from everyone in our community to continue our reopening.

Help our community in slowing the spread of this virus. Only follow official sources to obtain information: www.saline.org/coronavirus or www.kdheks.gov Stay Safe & Stay Healthy.

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