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11/20/2020 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DeWitt County reports additional COVID-19 infections and recoveries

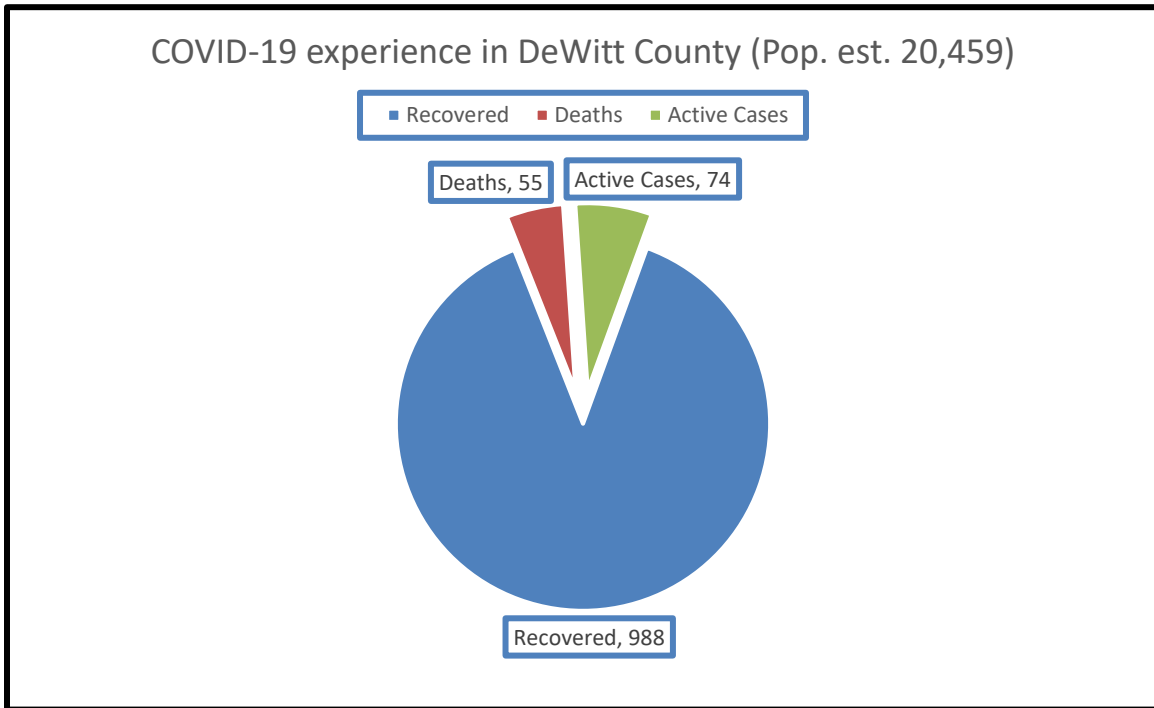
County officials are reporting changes since the November 18, 2020 update. There are **twelve (12)** new cases to report since Wednesday. **All twelve (12)** of the individuals live in the Cuero zip code. As of today, there are **seventy-four (74)** active cases. **Three (3)** of these patients are hospitalized. **Seventy-one (71)** are recovering at home. **Four (4)** additional previously diagnosed patients have recovered.

Although a total of **1,117 cases** have been diagnosed in DeWitt County and reported to the Department of State Health Statistics since Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of emergency on March 13, 2020, the case count may vary due to different reporting deadlines. Of this total, **twenty-nine (29)** are known to be duplicated entries. **Ten (10)** are known to be reported in the wrong county. This error typically occurs when test results are received from the Yoakum area and the patient’s residence in is Lavaca County. Taking into account the above-referenced errors, the county believes the correct number of recoveries stands at **nine hundred eighty-eight (988)**. The deaths reported to the state stand at **fifty-five (55)**.

Table 1. COVID-19 Case Count and Patient Status

2020 DeWitt County Population	20,459 (estimate)
DIAGNOSED CASES REPORTED TO DSHS SINCE 3/13/2020	1,117
REMOVED (duplicates)	(29)
REMOVED (wrong county)	(10)
NET TOTAL DIAGNOSED SINCE 3/13/2020	1,078
TOTAL DEATHS REPORTED	55
RECOVERED	988
ACTIVE CASES (at home)	71
ACTIVE CASES (in a hospital)	3
TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	74
14-DAY (NEW) CASE COUNT <30 FOR GA-32 FACE MASK WAIVER	ineligible

Chart 1. COVID-19 Experience



Approximately **63 percent** of the **93,990** confirmed cases and approximately **62 percent** of the **2,113** deaths attributable to COVID-19 in DSHS Region 8 have occurred in Bexar County where the county judge has issued an executive order requiring retail business employees and customers to wear face masks when social distancing is not possible. There are approximately 3.1 million people in the 28 counties that make up Region 8. DSHS data is current through **November 19, 2020**.

In an effort to slow the spread of this infectious disease, Texas Governor Greg Abbott has issued Executive Orders during this period of emergency. Following the governor’s order, Judge Fowler signed documents allowing bars and related establishments to open October 14, 2020. If hospitalizations begin to rise in the future in Trauma Service Area S, bars can be closed to foot traffic under the governor’s executive order. The list of trauma service areas can be obtained at www.dshs.texas.gov/ga3031.

DeWitt County does not meet the governor’s criteria for a waiver of the requirement to wear a face mask in public when social distancing cannot be achieved. Before a county becomes eligible, the rolling 14-day case count must be under 30 new cases during the previous 14 days.

The public can find up-to-date coronavirus information at the Texas Department for State Health Services dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus> and DeWitt County at www.co.dewitt.tx.us and on the Facebook Page of DeWitt County Office of Emergency Management. The governor’s office is also providing information and links to the Executive Orders through the website www.governor.texas.gov

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