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Press Release

COVID-19 Updates for Woodbury County

Woodbury County Testing Data	5/12/20
New Confirmed Cases	314
Total Confirmed Positive Cases	1,988
Total Tests Completed	6,775
Total Hospitalizations	134
Hospitalized and Discharged	68
Recovered	594
Deaths	13

Siouxland District Health Department is reporting a higher than anticipated number of COVID-19 positive cases today, with 314 newly reported confirmed cases. Most of these positives are a result of targeted testing of meat packing plant workers conducted in Nebraska at the end of April.

On Monday, May 11, 2020, Siouxland District Health Department discovered that there were a number of results from tests that had been conducted in Nebraska on residents of Woodbury County that had failed to be reported to the Iowa disease reporting system as required under Iowa's mandatory reporting order. Upon discovery, SDHD staff reached out to the Nebraska Department of Public Health and they verified that this was the case. They then worked with Iowa to get these transferred and loaded into the Iowa system.

Even though many of the tests being reported today were collected over 10 days ago, positive cases should still be isolating at home until released by public health. According to Health Director Kevin Grieme, "Siouxland District Health Department has continually been challenged in navigating between three state's systems to assure that we are able to follow-up with all positive cases. We will now be contacting these additional individuals for contact investigations as soon as we can, just as we do with all positive cases reported."

SDHD is also announcing 4 additional deaths today. 1 elderly male (81+), 1 older adult female (61-80), 1 middle age female (41-60), and 1 middle age male (41-60). COVID-19 has caused grief for many families and our sympathies go out especially to the families that have lost loved ones.

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About Siouxland District Health Department

Siouxland District Health Department, the public health agency for Woodbury County, is creating "A healthy community for all" by "leading a collaborative effort to build a healthier community through improved access to health services, education and disease prevention." They provide public health nursing, nutrition, laboratory, health planning and environmental services. For more information on Siouxland District Health Department visit www.siouxlanddistricthealth.org.

No additional details will be provided about these recent deaths or cases. Moving forward the SDHD COVID-19 update will come out later in the morning, typically at or prior to 11:00 AM. This will allow SDHD to obtain the updated recovery numbers and share those within our report, as a better report of these numbers at the county level has finally been corrected and made available.

For further information about novel coronavirus and case counts, visit the Siouxland District Health Department website at <http://www.sioxlanddistricthealth.org/home.html> or the Iowa Department of Public Health at <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>. In addition, a public hotline has been established for Iowans with questions about COVID-19. The line is available 24/7 by calling 2-1-1.

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