



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2020

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Over the past two weeks there has been an increase in COVID-19 cases locally, as well as in other parts of Iowa, and the United States. With the upcoming holiday weekend we ask residents and visitors to be vigilant. Staying home is still the best way to protect yourself and other, and if you are sick or have been in close contact with someone who is sick you should stay home. If you are planning to go out please continue to wear a face covering, and practice social distancing (6ft). For those who are planning a gathering it is important to keep social distancing and food service guidelines in mind. Have plenty of space for you and your guests, gather outdoors instead of indoors, stay away from self-serve food menus and communal bowls, use disposable dishes and silverware, and make sure guests are able to wash their hands regularly. Those considering travel should be aware of how COVID-19 is spreading at your destination, and follow the CDC guidelines for traveling.

The Black Hawk County Health Department continues to review and manage the COVID-19 data for Black Hawk County. These efforts have been aided by a reporting tool recently provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health. This tool allowed the health department to conduct a thorough review of cases, our review revealed additional serology positive cases during the month of April 2020. With the addition of these serology cases the total number of reported cases in Black Hawk County is 2,695 cases as of June 30th. Going forward the health department will also be changing the way data is reported on the www.blackhawkcovid19.com website to better align with state reporting, and to make additional data available on the website. As of July 1st, COVID-19 data on the website will be categorized and communicated by:

- PCR positive cases
- Serology positive cases
- Recovered cases
- Related deaths.

The Black Hawk County Health Department strives to provide transparency and understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on our community. In addition to these changes, we will continue to report the total number of reported cases, case trends, and summary demographic information on cases through the additional data portal on the www.blackhawkcovid19.com website.

We are asking all residents and visitors to be vigilant, continue to wear a face covering, wash your hands frequently at least 20 seconds, and practice physical distancing (6ft).

For information and updates related to COVID-19:

Black Hawk County: <https://www.blackhawkcovid19.com/>

Social media: Follow on [Facebook](#) and @BHCHD on [Twitter](#)

Iowa Department of Public Health: <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>

Social Media: [Facebook](#) and @IAPublicHealth on [Twitter](#)

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