

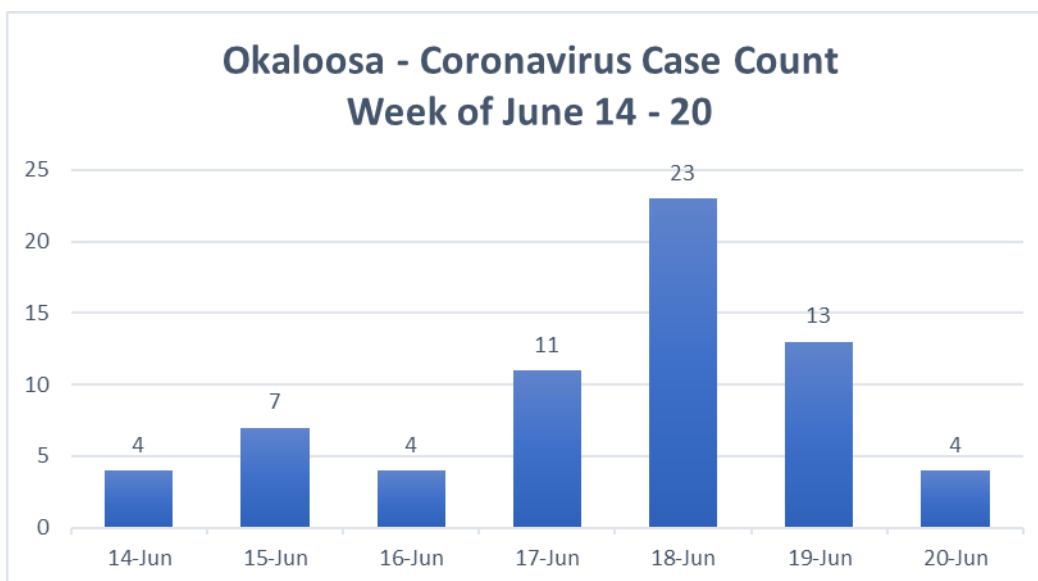
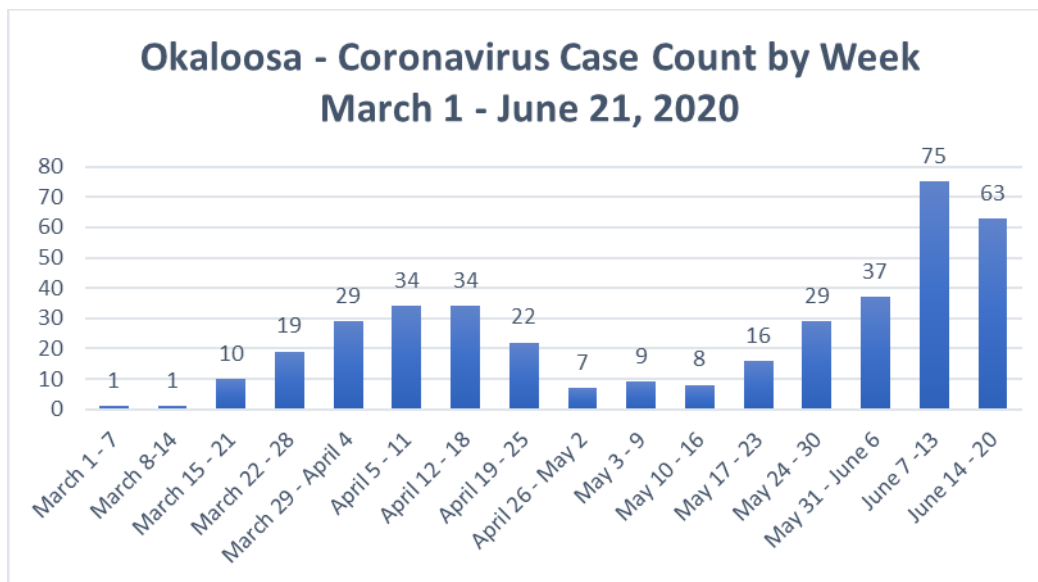
OKALOOSA COUNTY COVID-19 CASES SINCE REOPENING

As of June 22, 2020

As of 10 AM on June 22, 2020, Okaloosa County has 421 cases of confirmed SARS-CoV-2. For the first nine (9) weeks of the pandemic (March 1 – May 2, 2020), Okaloosa had 159 confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2. We have added more cases in the past 7 weeks, post re-opening, then occurred during the first two months of the pandemic.

Key Metric: Case Count

During the week ending June 20, 2020, Okaloosa County saw its second highest weekly case count since the pandemic began. By the end of the Safer at Home period, DOH-Okaloosa had been able to rein in the virus through intensive case finding and contact tracing. At the end of April, more than half of new cases that occurred in Week 26 (April 26 – May 2) were household contacts to a case. Within three weeks of reopening the case count doubled. Since May 24, the case count has grown substantially. In Week 25, Okaloosa logged its second highest weekly case count at 63 individuals.

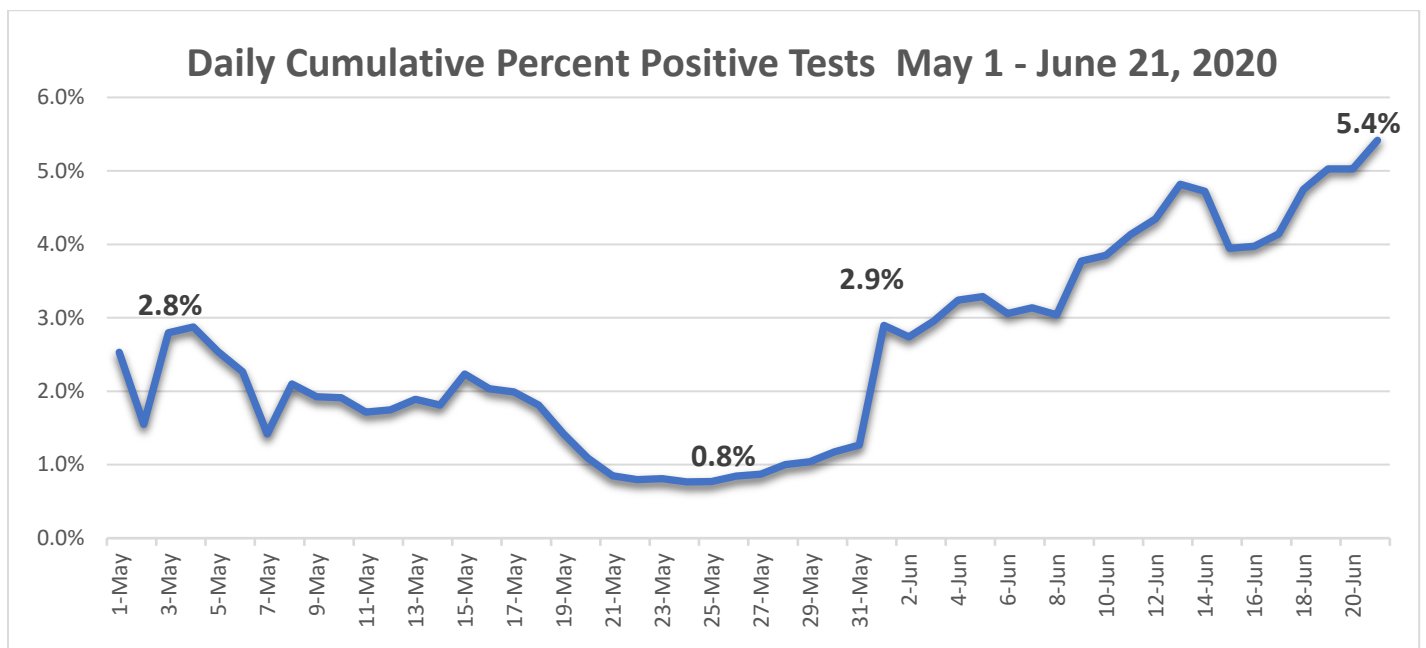


Key Metric: COVID-19 Testing – Positivity Rate

An important indicator for monitoring the trend of the pandemic is the percent of all tests performed that are positive. People who get multiple tests and remain positive are not counted more than once. While our cumulative percent positive tests (3.5%) since the beginning of the pandemic is interesting, it is not sufficient to understand the current status of the pandemic in our community.

In April, Okaloosa did not have enough access to testing supplies to provide testing to at least 2% of the population per month. By May, testing supplies were easier to access. In May, nearly 6,000 tests were performed. The goal is to continue testing at least 2% of the population each month in each county. In June, Okaloosa is on track to exceed the 2% testing goal. Of importance, the testing done at the DOH-Okaloosa at our clinic in Fort Walton Beach and at drive-thru sites, manned by DOH-Okaloosa and Okaloosa EMS, allows all comers – no prescription or symptoms necessary.

Florida entered Phase 1 on May 3. The graph below shows the daily cumulative percent positive tests since May 1. Okaloosa positivity rate was 2.8% on May 3. By late May, positivity in the population had dropped to less than 1%. One week after Memorial Day, the positivity rate had increased to 2.9%. Positivity rate has increased steadily over the past three weeks culminating in a positivity rate on June 21 of 5.4%. This level of positivity indicates that SARS-CoV-2 is in widespread and sustained circulation in Okaloosa County. This pattern is also being seen statewide. As of June 21, 2020, the statewide positivity rate is 7.74%. The DOH goal is to remain below 5% positive tests. However, countries that have been successful in containing the pandemic have had positivity rates at or below 3%.



Key Metric: Infection Rate

Infection rate, the number of contacts exposed per case is hovering at two. To be considered low risk for ongoing transmission this number must be below 1.

WEEK	Number of Cases	Number of Contacts	Infection Rate
Week 21: May 17 – 23, 2020	8	17	2.1
Week 22: May 24 – 30, 2020	16	45	2.8
Week 23: May 31 – 6, 2020	29	62	2.1
Week 24: June 7 – 13, 2020	75	133	1.7
Week 25: June 14 – 20, 2020	63	157	2.5

Key Metric: Population Impacted

Since May 3, 2020, the average age of cases has dropped to 39.0 years. This shift in the pandemic is also reported statewide. The average age in Okaloosa prior to May 3 was 55 years. After re-opening, 55.6% of cases are under 40 years. Prior to May 3, only 23.2% of cases were under 40 years. Cases by age groups between May 3 and June 21 are:

Age Group	Number of Cases	Percent of Cases
< 18 years	25	10.4%
18 – 24 years	28	11.7%
25 – 34 years	59	24.6%
35 – 44 years	44	18.3%
45 – 54 years	34	14.2%
55 – 64 years	28	11.7%
65 – 74 years	12	5.0%
75 years and older	10	4.2%

Persons 65 years and older remain less than 10% of the total cases since re-opening. This generally reflects the caution those in this age group are taking per the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Florida Department of Health. No additional children under 18 years were diagnosed with the virus between Week 24 and 25. This week we saw a 100% increase in the number of people age 18-24 years diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 and a 44% increase to those age 25-35 years. The shift to persons under 40 years shows the effect of increased social interaction, decline in the practice of social distancing, and the failure to wear face masks, especially when social distancing is difficult.

Key Metric: Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Cases

Okaloosa has 22 long-term care facilities. In Week 25, one facility identified two cases (resident and staff). As of June 21, 2020, there is only one case of COVID-19 in a staff member at one facility.

The Health Department is working with the LTC facilities to assure that there is at least every two-week testing of all staff. With the current widespread transmission of the virus in Okaloosa, there is significant concern that LTC staff will have an increased risk of exposure when not at work. This reinforces the need for at least every two-week testing. In Week 25, the Agency for Health Care Administration mandated every two-week testing for all staff of long-term care

facilities. This testing is critical since many staff members at LTC facilities are young and live in Okaloosa or surrounding counties. Ongoing testing of staff is vital now that SARS-CoV-2 is freely circulating, especially among the population under 40 years of age, in Okaloosa County. Reintroduction of the virus into LTC facilities could increase serious illness and death for LTC residents.

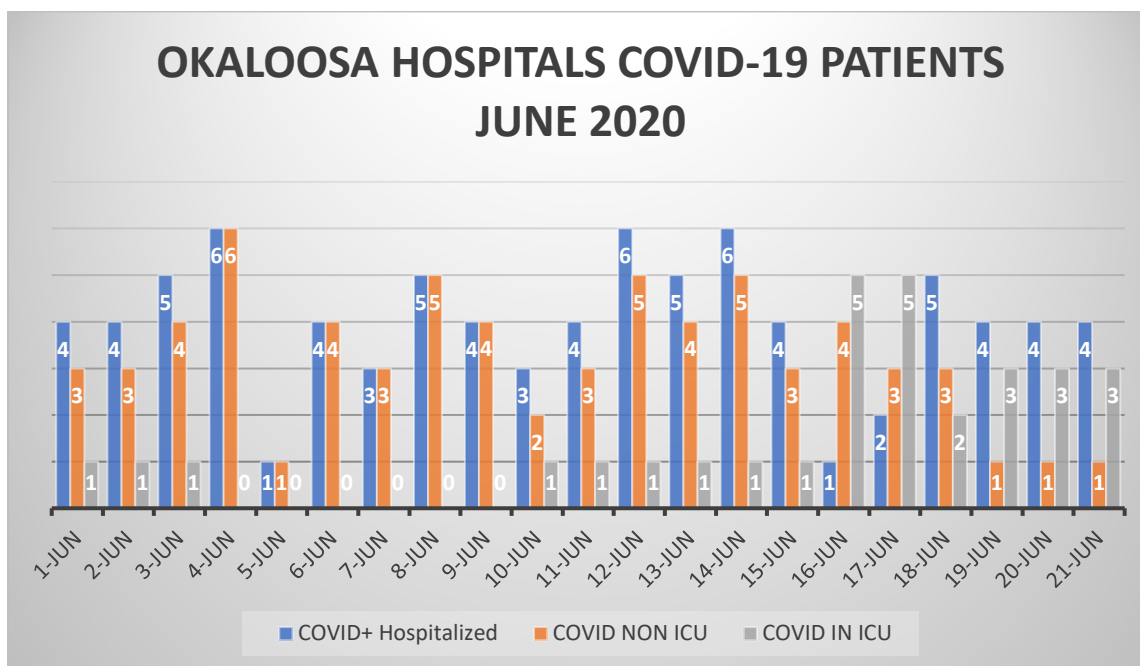
Key Metric: Hospital Capacity

Through June 20, as during this entire pandemic, Okaloosa hospitals have not been strained by the number of persons hospitalized with SARS-CoV-2. For the month of June through the 21th our hospitals reported on average:

- 79% total bed capacity occupied for all types of admissions.
 - On average 95 total bed are unoccupied on any day.
 - ICU beds occupied beds range from 78% to 94% on any day.
- 16% of ventilators utilized on any day.
 - In the month of June, no COVID-19 patients were place on a ventilator.

Okaloosa hospitals have contingency plans for case surge as they have significant experience with addressing moderate to severe influenza seasons. The DOH-Okaloosa has alternative care site plans which can augment hospital preparedness plans in the event it is needed.

Hospital COVID-19 admissions for the month of June:



Key Metric: Cluster Investigations

A summary of cluster investigations is provided in a separate document due to length.

SUMMARY

Okaloosa has sustained and widespread transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Okaloosa County. The hospital system is fully functional and not strained by the pandemic at this point. Okaloosa long-term care facilities are at risk for reintroduction of the virus into their facilities. Every two-week testing will be critical to early identification of the virus into this segment of our community.

For the general public, the failure to maintain physical distancing while socializing (work, shopping, entertainment, etc.) and the failure to wear cloth face masks, especially when maintaining physical distancing is difficult, is significantly contributing to the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in Okaloosa County. While the pandemic shift to those under 40 years of age generally means less serious illness, each case affords the virus a route back to older parents or family members or other non-household contacts who are at greater risk of serious illness or death. It is vital that physical distancing and the wearing of cloth face masks be supported and demonstrated by the leadership of the county, whether that be state, local or city government, schools, military, private business, faith-based, or non-profit agency leaders.