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June 12, 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COVID-19 DAILY STATUS REPORT

PLEASE NOTE: This is an evolving situation. More information will be distributed as it becomes available. For the most up to date information, please visit: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. Additional information is available at www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus. **Beginning next week, these status reports will be released once a week on Wednesdays only.** Statistics will continue to be updated daily at www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirusstats.
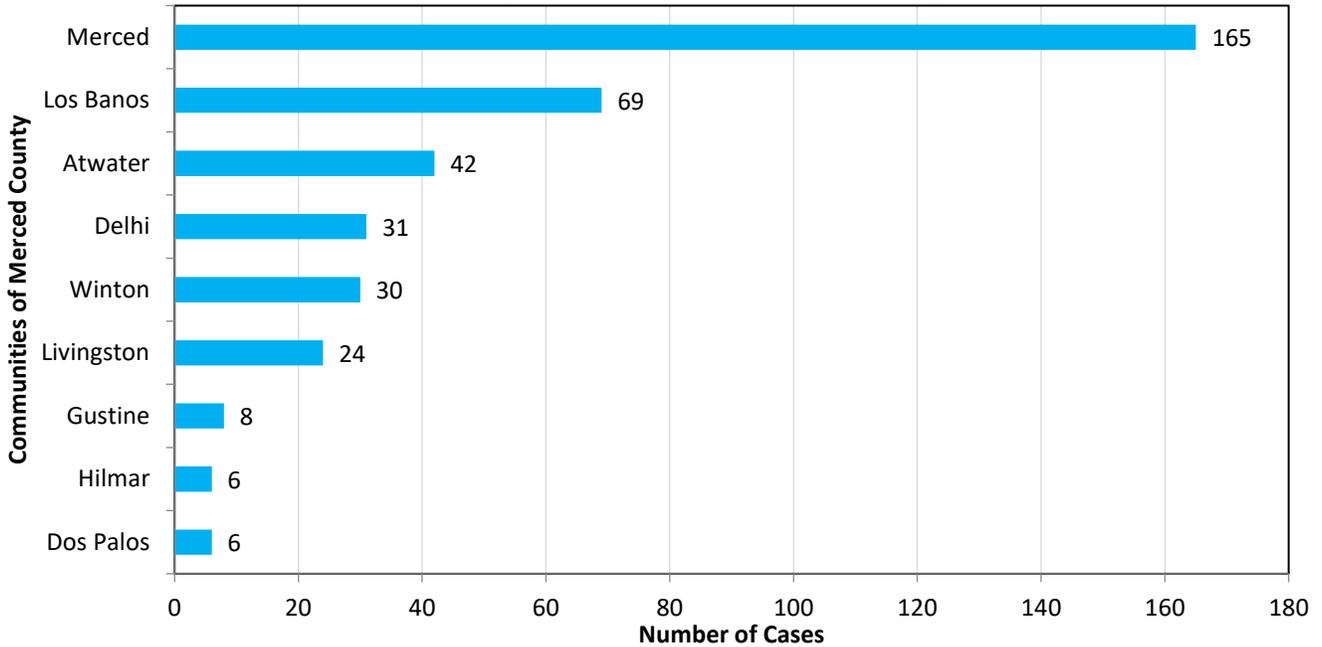
CURRENT STATUS:

- As of 2 p.m. Friday, June 12, 2020, there are 409 confirmed cases (116 active) of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) in Merced County. Of that number, 286 have recovered and seven have died.
- Please see "COVID-19 Testing Update" section for latest testing figures.

TOTAL COVID-19 CASE COUNT FOR MERCED COUNTY
Current as of June 12, 2020, 2 p.m.

# Confirmed*	# Active	# Recovered**	# Deaths	# Ever Hospitalized
409	116	Total: 286 East County: 202 West County: 72	7	45

CASE SUMMARY DETAILS

EXPOSURE TYPE	East County	West County
Acquired Out of Jurisdiction	31	15
Community Spread	100	25
Healthcare Exposure***	23	22
Known Exposure	156	25
Under Investigation	10	2
GENDER	**East County**	**West County**
Female	168	54
Male	152	35
AGE	**East County**	**West County**
<18 years	39	4
18-49	185	55
50-64	63	20
65+	33	10

Notes:
1. *Total confirmed cases include total recovered and total deaths.
2. **Recovered defined as symptom free with no medication for 72 hours.
3. ***Healthcare exposure includes exposure in and out of jurisdiction.
4. East Merced County includes: Atwater, Ballico, Bear Creek, Calpack, Cressey, Delhi, El Nido, Hilmar, Irwin, Le Grand, Livingston, Merced, Planada, Snelling, Stevinson, Tuttle, and Winton
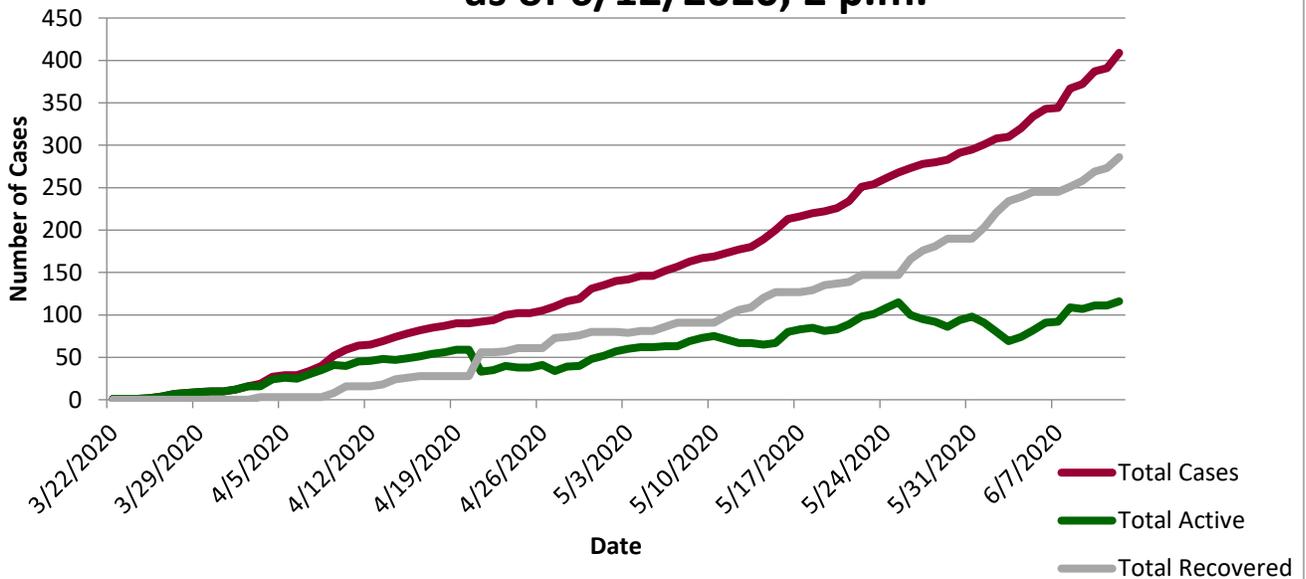5. West Merced County includes: Dos Palos, Gustine, Los Banos, Santa Nella, and Volta

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Merced County COVID-19 Positive Cases by Community* as of 6/12/2020, 2 p.m.

Communities of Merced County

Community	Number of Cases
Merced	165
Los Banos	69
Atwater	42
Delhi	31
Winton	30
Livingston	24
Gustine	8
Hilmar	6
Dos Palos	6

Number of Cases

*Note: *Only communities with five or more cases are reported in this graph.*
The figures in the top chart on this page represent <u>confirmed cases</u>, which includes active cases, recoveries, and deaths.

Merced County COVID-19 Case Curve as of 6/12/2020, 2 p.m.

Number of Cases

Date

— Total Cases
— Total Active
— Total Recovered

- Based on information provided by individuals who test positive, Public Health staff will continue to assess risks of exposure and contact any affected individuals.
- Due to privacy laws, the Public Health Department cannot release identifying information related to positive cases.
- In California, there are 143,179 confirmed cases and 4,928 deaths.

RECENT ACTIVITIES & UPDATES:

- Merced County Public Health continues to coordinate with federal, state and local partners to further prepare us for future impacts. This includes working with the California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to monitor COVID-19.
- #StaySafeStayOpen: As Merced County continues to move through the reopening process, it's important that everyone continues to practice preventative measures to avoid large spikes in cases that could jeopardize that effort. In response, the Merced County Department of Public Health has launched a new public awareness campaign called #StaySafeStayOpen. Here's how to get involved:
  - On social media, post pictures of yourself practicing preventative measures (social distancing, hand-washing, mask-wearing, etc.) using the hashtag: #StaySafeStayOpen. You can also tag Public Health on Facebook and Instagram: @mercedcountypublichealth
  - Promote the use of cloth face coverings when in public and post your mask-wearing photos on Mondays using the hashtag: #MaskMonday. Be sure to tag Public Health using the handle @mercedcountypublichealth on Facebook and Instagram.
  - Encourage your friends, family and neighbors to participate as well!
- The Merced County Department of Public Health provided a COVID-19 update to the Board of Supervisors during its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 9. That update can be viewed here: https://mercedcountyca.new.swagit.com/videos/63057?ts=1114
- Lake Yosemite remains open to the public with various precautions in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Beginning today, the park will start closing at 8 p.m. to allow for additional cleaning and disinfecting. While the park typically closes an hour after sunset, the earlier closure will allow park staff to clean and disinfect tables, restrooms, and other commonly-used areas of the park. Both playgrounds, the walking pier, and large group picnic areas remain closed to prevent large group gatherings. Individual picnic tables and barbecues are still available for use, and the bathrooms are open.
- The Merced County Office of Emergency Services and Merced County Department of Public Health proclaimed a local and public health emergency March 13 in order to help address the outbreak. The Board of Supervisors ratified those actions during a March 16 special meeting.
- On March 19, Governor Gavin Newsom announced Executive Order N-33-20, asking California residents to stay at home. On March 20, Merced County's Health Officer also issued an Order directing County residents to remain in their places of residence except to perform or receive essential services.
- The Merced County Public Health Department Operations Center was activated Jan. 27, 2020 (138 days) in order to prepare for COVID-19 in and around our community. The Merced County Emergency Operations Center and Human Services Agency Department Operations Center are also currently active.

COVID-19 TESTING UPDATE:

- A total of 8,135 tests have been performed in Merced County: 7,639 negatives, 409 positives, and 87 still pending. These figures include testing through both the commercial and public health lab systems.
- COVID-19 Testing Available for All Merced County Residents:
  - Merced County Fairgrounds: 900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Merced
  - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday—Friday
  - Register at www.lhi.care/covidtesting or by calling 1-888-634-1123
  - Testing availability is by appointment only in order to prevent unnecessarily-long wait times for clients. Walk-ins are not accepted at this time.

- Within the public health system, every person who has met CDC criteria for severe disease within Merced County has been tested.
- Public Health is actively identifying other methods to enhance testing capability for providers throughout the community and increase testing county-wide. We will continue to be notified should positive tests come through either system (public health or commercial).
- In late March, Merced County opened two "mobile specimen collection sites" for COVID-19 in order to streamline testing capabilities. Initially, there will be two collection days per week, one on the westside of the County, and one on the eastside of the County. Each site will remain open for four hours per day. Additional hours per day and days per week may become more frequent if supply and personnel availability increase.
    - **PLEASE NOTE**: Use of these mobile specimen collection sites are <u>by appointment only, and you must have a prescription from a physician and prior approval from the Merced County Department of Public Health</u>. If you do not have a provider and have symptoms call 209-381-1180 for a phone consultation. Anyone without prior approval will not be tested. Locations will be provided to clients once appointments are made. Call 209-381-1180 for more information.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND PRECAUTIONS:
- Coronavirus symptoms include: mild to severe respiratory illness, fever, cough, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and loss of taste or smell. If symptoms develop, individuals should stay at home to limit exposure to others.
- Anyone who has had contact with a person with possible COVID-19 infection and has the above symptoms should call his/her local health department/health care provider immediately.
- Do not go to your provider's office without calling ahead. Do not call 911 for suspected COVID-19 unless you are having a medical emergency.
- During the flu season, there are steps you can take to protect your health and the health of those around you:
    - Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds.
    - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
    - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
    - Stay away from work, school or other people if you become sick with respiratory symptoms such as fever and cough.
    - Cover sneezes or coughs with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
- **Sign up for COVID-19 alerts: www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus**
- Merced County Public Health COVID-19 **Information Webpage**:
    - www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus
- Merced County Public Health **Information Line**:
    - 209-381-1180 (English, Spanish, and Hmong. Live reps. available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- **Email** COVID-19-specific questions to Merced County Public Health:
    - COVID19@countyofmerced.com.
- Updated **CDC Information**:
    - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html
- CDC **Resources for Households**:
    - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/index.html
- How to **talk to your kids** about the coronavirus:
    - https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus

- Guidance for **Businesses and Employers**:
  - https://bit.ly/2IH2G2u
  - www.covid19.ca.gov
- Report **Price Gouging**:
  - http://www.countyofmerced.com/3381/Price-Gouging
- Report **Consumer Fraud**:
  - www.countyofmerced.com/2322/Consumer-Fraud
- Report **non-essential business activity** and large group gatherings that violate the Stay-at-Home Order:
  - Hotline: 209-381-1100 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday)
  - Email: COVIDcomplaint@countyofmerced.com
- **Free Virtual Care** options through Dignity Health for those with COVID-19 symptoms:
  - Patients can receive a free Virtual Care Anywhere visit if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Symptoms can include fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
  - To access a free virtual urgent care visit, visit www.dignityhealth.org/virtualcareanywhere, download the Virtual Care Anywhere app in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or call 855-356-8053 and use the coupon code COVID19.
- **Get Help/Give Help**:
  - www.gethelpgivehelpmerced.com
- **Donations**—help community members impacted by COVID-19:
  - www.countyofmerced.com/donations
- Exclusive **Shopping for Vulnerable Populations**:
  - www.countyofmerced.com/3396/Exclusive-Shopping-for-Vulnerable-Popula
- Make and donate **face masks**:
  - www.rccmercedcounty.org
- Apply for **benefits**— Individuals experiencing financial hardship may qualify for cash assistance through CalWORKs, food nutrition assistance through CalFresh, and medical assistance through MediCal:
  - www.getcalfresh.org (CalFresh only)
  - www.C4yourself.com (CalWORKs and MediCal)
  - 1-855-421-6770
- **Unemployment Insurance** questions to local Merced County EDD Office:
  - WSBModestoFieldOffice@edd.ca.gov
- Information regarding **tenant protections**:
  - www.countyofmerced.com/3412/Real-Estate
- 24/7 **Warm Line for Youth** (emotional support):
  - 209-381-6800 or 1-888-334-0163 (toll free)
  - Additional Behavioral Health resources: www.countyofmerced.com/3395/Behavioral-Health-Resources
- **Reopen Merced County**:
  - www.reopenmercedcounty.com
  - www.reopenmercedcounty.com/survey
  - COVID-19 Reopen Merced County Fund: www.ReopenMercedCounty.com/RMCFund

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