



High Population Density Testing

Week 20: October 9-10, 2020

Wood County

Date of Report: October 21, 2020



Background

Under the direction of Gov. Jim Justice, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) established an advisory group to assist in community outreach and education related to COVID-19 in African Americans, Latinos, and other minorities in West Virginia. As part of that effort, the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, DHHR and the West Virginia National Guard developed a plan to increase COVID-19 testing opportunities for minorities and other vulnerable populations. This testing was undertaken in partnership with local health departments and other community partners.

While open to all, the testing initiative focused on counties and communities with high African American populations given the disparities by race being seen with COVID-19 both nationally and in West Virginia. Overall, African Americans comprise the largest of West Virginia's minority populations, making up 3.6% of West Virginia residents.¹

The initiative worked to reach residents who have struggled to be seen by a physician or who do not have insurance to pay for testing. It provided free, optional testing to residents, including asymptomatic individuals, in counties with high minority populations and evidence of COVID-19 transmission.

Week Twenty of testing was held on October 9-10, 2020 in Wood County. The percent of the population who are African American in Wood County is 1.3%.¹

The following data highlights the demographics and test results of individuals tested during the twentieth round. Data from additional rounds of community-based testing will be added subsequently.

Of note is the fact that this effort is meant to be a starting point to addressing the issue at hand. It is our hope that the lessons learned and the tools and partnerships developed through this testing initiative can further build upon relationships and systems at the community level to assure education, outreach, testing and follow up care is available to all.

We extend our thanks to all who have made this effort possible, especially the Advisory Task Force and most importantly, the communities themselves.

¹ Data Item: Population, 2019 Estimate.

[Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program \(PEP\), updated annually. Population and Housing Unit Estimates](#)

Results by County

Wood

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Asian	6	0.98%	0	0.00%	6	100%
Black/African American	5	0.81%	0	0.00%	5	100%
Caucasian/Not Hispanic	574	93.49%	7	1.22%	567	98.78%
Hispanic/Latino	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Mixed	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other	4	0.65%	0	0.00%	4	100%
Unknown/Not Indicated	25	4.07%	1	4.00%	24	96.00%
Total	614	100%	8	1.30%	606	98.70%

Attendance by County by Race

