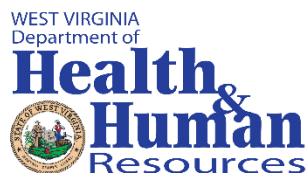




High Population Density Testing Week 1: May 15 and 16, 2020

Berkeley, Jefferson, Mercer and Raleigh counties

Date of Report: May 28, 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 the state of 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 anyone in the community, this testing initiative focused on counties and communities with high African American populations given the disparities by race being seen with COVID19 both nationally and in West Virginia. Overall, African Americans comprise the largest of West Virginia's minority populations, making up 3.6% of West Virginian 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 One of testing was held on May 15 and 16, 2020 in Berkeley, Jefferson, Mercer and Raleigh counties. The percent of the population who are African American among these counties is as follows: Berkeley County (7.8%), Jefferson (6.4%), Raleigh (8.1%), and Mercer (6.1%).¹

The following data highlights the demographics and test results of individuals tested during the first round. Data from additional rounds of community-based testing will be reported 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, 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 are readily available to all.

Our thanks go 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

Berkeley County

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Asian	10	1.1%	1	10.0%	9	90.0%
Black/African American	226	25.6%	6	2.7%	220	97.4%
White/Caucasian	546	61.8%	7	1.3%	539	98.7%
Other	21	2.4%	1	4.8%	20	95.2%
Unknown/Not Indicated	79	98.9%	0	0.0%	79	100.0%
Total	884	100.0%	15	1.7%	869	98.3%

Jefferson County

Race (% County Population)	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	4	0.5%	0	0.0%	4	100.0%
Black/African American	139	18.2%	2	1.4%	137	98.6%
White/Caucasian	573	74.8%	10	1.8%	563	98.3%
Other	25	3.3%	3	12.0%	22	88.0%
Unknown/Not Indicated	25	3.3%	0	0.0%	25	100.0%
Total	766	100.0%	15	2.0%	751	98.0%

Mercer County

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Black/African American	166	41.2%	0	0.0%	166	100.0%
White/Caucasian	235	58.3%	0	0.0%	235	100.0%
Other (Hispanic)	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Unknown/Not Indicated	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	403	100.0%	0	0.0%	403	100.0%

Raleigh County

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	2	0.5%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Black/African American	150	40.2%	0	0.0%	150	100.0%
White/Caucasian	218	58.5%	1	0.5%	217	99.5%
Other	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unknown/Not Indicated	3	0.8%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%
Total	373	100.0%	1	0.3%	372	99.7%

Attendance by County by Race

