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COVID-19 Response Summary December 21, 2020

Incident Command Briefing

Global cases have surpassed 76 million while cases in The United States of America are at 17.8 million. The State of Georgia currently has 509,588 cases and 9,437 deaths. The State of Georgia has completed 5,291,181 COVID-19 tests. District 4 Public Health cumulative COVID-19 cases are at 33,078 cases and 753 deaths.

As the State continues to see an unprecedented surge in cases, District 4 also is experiencing a surge in COVID-19 positive cases, hospitalizations and deaths. All 12 counties have surpassed their predicted positive cases for December. This indicates that the adherence level to the COVID Basics (Face Covering while in public, social distance 6ft, increase hand hygiene) has decreased significantly. As the District Epidemiology Team aggressively tracks and monitors COVID-19, we need the public's assistance in slowing the spread of COVID-19. We need to increase the percentage of the public wearing face coverings while in public, social distancing 6ft or more and increasing hand hygiene. If the percentage of COVID Basics is not increased, the district will continue to see unprecedented numbers in positive cases, hospitalizations, exposures and deaths.

The Communication Team is currently supporting several response operations such as increasing COVID Basics with the Epidemiology Team, increasing testing numbers with the local health departments, and coordinating with Healthcare Partners and Long-Term Care Facilities to disseminate the vaccine. The Communication Team is also working with state and local partners to address vaccine hesitancy. The FDA has recommended and approved the COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna for distribution in the United States of America. Vaccine will be rolled out in several phases over the next few months. Please be patient as we focus our efforts on vaccinating the healthcare community and one of our most vulnerable populations; Long-Term Care Facilities first. The District Incident Command Team is working with the local health departments, EMA office and local government to prepare its Phase 1a population (Healthcare Personnel + Long-Term Care Facilities) to receive the vaccine. It is expected that all Public Health Districts will receive vaccine for its Phase 1a populations the week of Dec 21ST. District 4 did receive Pfizer vaccine for Spalding and Lamar County this past week and both health departments are communicating with the Phase 1a population to distribute the vaccine. As of December 18th, 2020, 84,000 Pfizer vaccines have been distributed across the state of Georgia. The top settings for outbreaks in Georgia are School Settings (20) and Long-Term Care Facilities (23) this past week.

This week's operational focus will be to assist local health departments in distributing the COVID-19 vaccine to Phase 1a partners, continuing testing across the district and meeting with county level leaders to address the drop in COVID Basics.

COVID-19 Operations Report 12/21

Serving Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Henry, Lamar,
Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup, and Upson Counties

2,970 specimens collected by District 4 Specimen Points of Collection (SPOCs) over the past week.

- **Butts** – Every other Thurs. (9 am - 11 am) **36** specimens collected (increase of 33)
- **Carroll** – Wed. (9 am – 2 pm) **130** specimens collected (increase of 19)
- **Coweta** – Mon - Fri. (9 am – 2 pm) **693** specimens collected (decrease of 2)
- **Fayette** –Tues. & Fri. (9 am -2 pm) **281** specimens collected (increase of 40)
- **Heard** – Every other Mon. (9 am-11 am) **45** specimens collected (increase of 40)
- **Henry** – Mon - Fri. (10 am – 3 pm) **843** specimens collected (increase of 47)
- **Lamar** - Thurs. (9 am-2 pm) **93** specimens collected (decrease of 28)
- **Meriwether-Greenville** – Every other Wed. (9am -11 am) **closed**
- **Meriwether-Manchester** – Every other Fri. (9 am -11 am) – **66** (increase of 66)
- **Pike** -Every other Tues. (9 am – 11 am) **52** (increase of 52)
- **Spalding**- Every other Tues. (9 am – 11 am) **58** (increase of 58)
- **Troup** – Mon. (9 am – 2 pm) **143** specimens collected (increase of 31)
- **Upson**- Wed. (9 am- 2 pm) **108** specimens collected (decrease of 4)
- **2 Mobile SPOCs**
 - Stark Methodist Church in Butts – **32** specimens collected
 - Upson County Jail – **56** specimens collected
- **Henry County Government** hosting & staffing SPOCs in three different locations within the county. Mon, Wed, & Fri. (10am – 3 pm) **334** specimens collected

Due to an increase in demand for testing, the average turnaround time for lab results is 2-3 days.

Limited amount of COVID vaccine was received by Lamar and Spalding Counties. We are unsure of how the state determines the shipping order and amount. Each county is working with community partners to provide COVID Vaccine Points of Dispensing (POD) upon receiving vaccine for those in Phase 1A which includes Healthcare Personnel and First Responders. Spalding hosted their first POD 12/19, with second POD scheduled for today (12/21). Lamar hosting POD on today and 12/23. District staff are assisting with PODs.

All SPOCS will be closed for holidays on December 24 & 25 and on January 1. One SPOC will operate on Saturday 12/26/20 & 1/2/2021.

Saturday SPOCs 12/26 – Fayette 1/2 - Carroll

County Health Departments

All services being offered. Employees and all who enter the buildings are encouraged to wear a mask, have temperature checked and screened for illness. Flu vaccine is being promoted throughout the communities.

Contact Tracing Team Summary for 12/12/2020 @ 1229 – 12/19/2020 @ 1647

- Total # of calls made by District 4 Contact Tracers for the week:
 - Total # of contact attempts (obtained from MTX report) = **2,079**
 - Total # of successful contacts (obtained from MTX report) = **987**

- Total # of individuals currently enrolled in monitoring ongoing (these individuals report by SMS or phone daily) = **612**
 - 539 engaged and no symptoms
 - 32 engaged and symptomatic
 - 41 not engaged
- Total # of individuals enrolled in manual monitoring = **43** (DPH calls these individuals daily during the duration of their monitoring/quarantine period per the contact's request)
 - 17 engaged and no symptoms
 - 0 engaged and symptomatic
 - 26 not engaged
- Total # of new contacts pending = **758** (contact for most of these individuals has been initiated/attempted, but no response as of now or they need additional follow-up)
- To date, **15,741** cases have been entered in the DPH Google MTX platform as of 12/19/2020
- Total # of case interviews completed by District 4 Case Investigators = **744**

Staffing Summary as of 12/19/2020:

- 1 PH RN
- 2 EPI
- 1 Resource Coordinator
- 1 Regional Coordinator (CDC/DPH)
- 64 Contact Tracers
- 5 Contact Tracer Supervisors
- 54 Case Investigators
- 23 Outbreak Case Investigators
- 6 Case Investigator Supervisors

Temporary SPOC Staffing Summary as of 11/30/2020

- 11 administrative staff
- 5 clinical staff

Continuity of Operations

As of Sunday, December 20, 2020:

224 employees have been exposed/tested for COVID-19.

Of those 224 employees the results are as follows:

Negative: 167

Positive: 43

Pending: 5

Exposed Not Tested: 9

NOTE: This is an increase of 27 employee exposures since 12/13/2020.

Epidemiology

18 Confirmed Outbreaks

Numbers as of 5:00PM 12/20/20

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases: 33087 median age: 42

Confirmed and Presumptive COVID-19 Deaths: 753 median age: 76

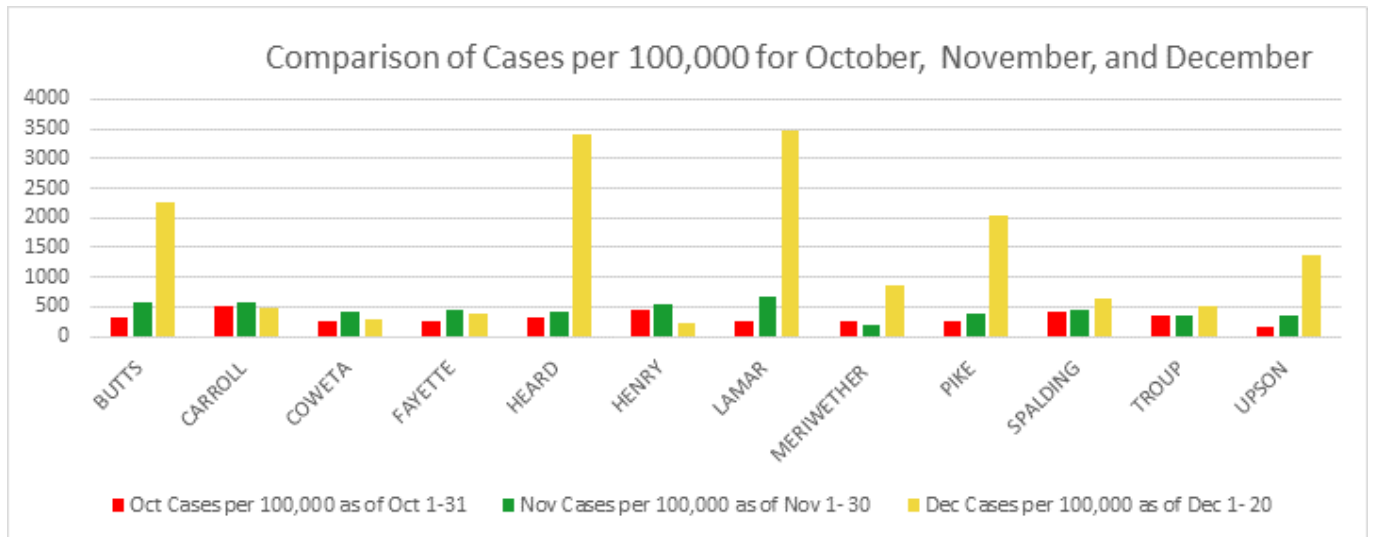
Numbers as of 2:50PM 12/20/20

	CASES	INCREASE CASES SINCE LAST WEEK	DEATHS	INCREASE DEATHS SINCE LAST WEEK
BUTTS	1141	+119	46	+0
CARROLL	4858	+229	91	+1
COWETA	4570	+405	72	+0
FAYETTE	3294	+191	65	1+3
HEARD	383	+21	9	+1
HENRY	9687	+759	140	+4
LAMAR	710	+67	25	+1
MERIWETHER	753	+61	19	+0
PIKE	571	+51	12	+0
SPALDING	2333	+181	81	+1
TROUP	3730	+191	121	+3
UPSON	1048	+62	72	+1
Total	33078	+2337	753	+14

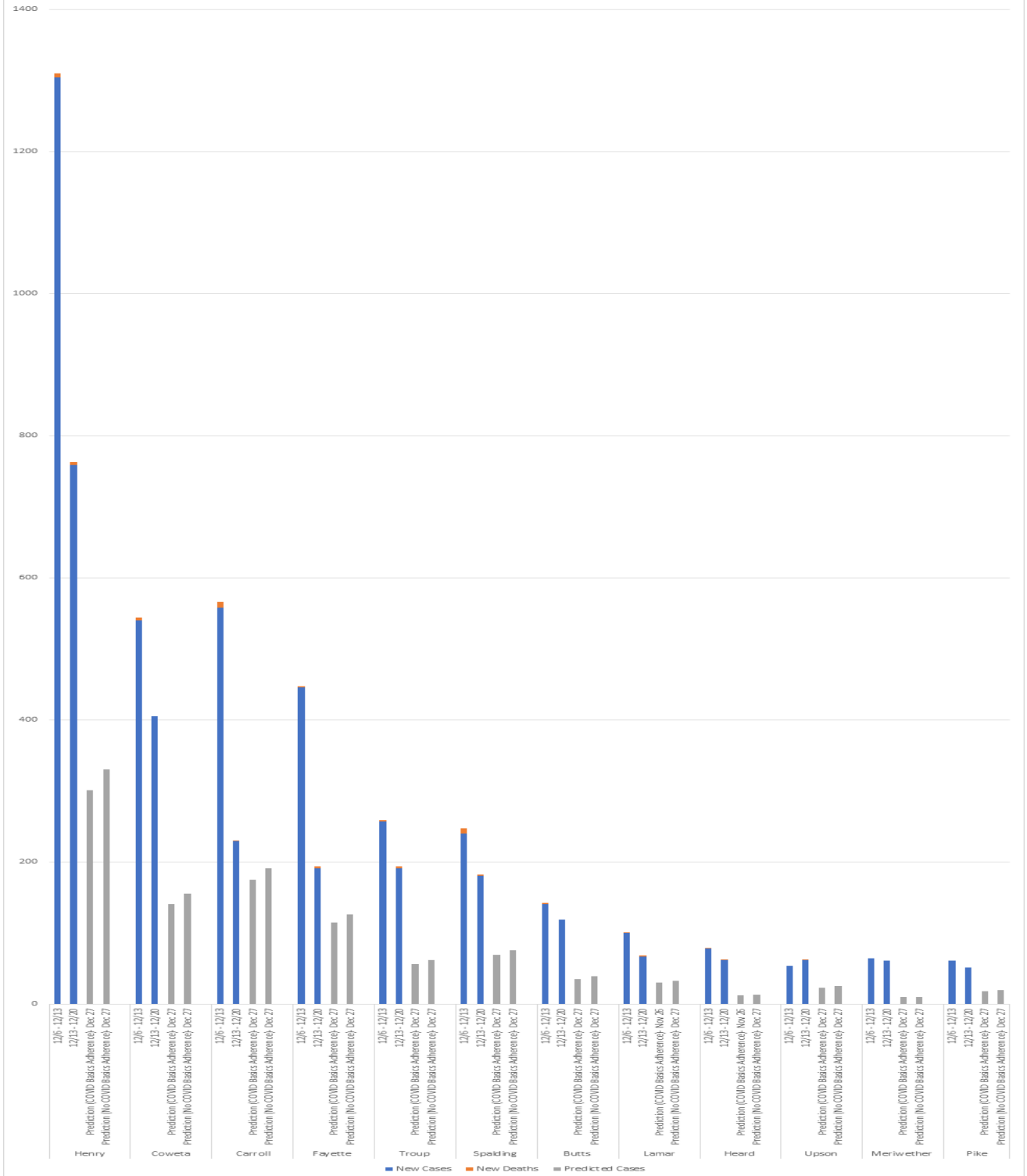
	October Incidence (New Cases)	Oct Cases per 100,000 as of Oct 1- 31	November Incidence (New Cases)	Nov Cases per 100,000 as of Nov 1- 30	Current Cases (Dec 1-20)	Current Cases per 100,000 (Dec 1-20)
BUTTS	79	316	141	564	241	964
CARROLL	609	508	695	579	709	591
COWETA	376	247	637	419	817	538
FAYETTE	286	242	517	438	571	484

HEARD	39	325	49	408	83	692
HENRY	1046	436	1275	531	1806	753
LAMAR	49	258	125	658	149	784
MERIWETHER	52	248	38	181	102	486
PIKE	49	258	74	389	95	500
SPALDING	278	403	306	443	378	458
TROUP	242	346	244	349	404	577
UPSON	42	162	93	358	96	369

As can be seen in the chart above, almost all of the counties are increasing significantly. We are a little over halfway through the month, but we are already seeing case counts well over the total amount that was seen for the entire month of November. Georgia and District 4 are seeing a surge in cases currently, which makes it even more important to follow and promote the COVID basics in your communities – wear face coverings, social distance at least 6 feet, and use proper hand hygiene and cough etiquette.



District 4 County-Level Incidence Data (New Cases) - Change Analysis from 12/13 - 12/20



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*COVID basics adherence refers to the use of social distancing (6 feet apart), good hand hygiene, and wearing face coverings in public.

Note: the predicted cases shown in the graph above (the grey bars) are those cases that were projected for the observed week (Nov 15- Nov 22). It illustrates the number of expected cases for the week based on the Nov 1-26 projection. It can be seen that for some counties, the confirmed cases for the week were greater than the projected cases for the week.

Communication

The safest way to celebrate winter holidays is to celebrate at home with the people who live with you. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others.

Travel and gatherings with family and friends who do not live with you can increase your chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu.

Moderna received [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) for COVID-19 vaccine December 18, 2020.

[Frequently asked questions about COVID-19 vaccines.](#)



Spalding County Health Department Vaccine POD

Serving Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Henry, Lamar,
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