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## COVID-19 Response Summary February 22, 2021

### Incident Command Briefing

COVID-19 cases are starting to decline, however, testing has decreased significantly in the past couple of weeks. With over 100 deaths in the last two weeks, it is critical that we adhere to preventive measures such as the COVID Basics (handwashing, social distancing, and wearing a facemask). The Georgia Department of Public Health continues to provide overflow assistance to the healthcare system by staffing the Georgia World Congress Center as an overflow location for COVID-19 positive patients.

The Communication team continues to provide information on testing and vaccination sites to community partners. Due to the overwhelming response for vaccine in the phase 1a expansion groups, all vaccination clinics will be by appointment only for qualified members. To schedule an appointment call 762-888-8180 on Wednesdays through Fridays from 8:00AM - 5:00 PM. Please check [www.district4health.org](http://www.district4health.org) for the most up-to-date information available.

The District Ops Team continues to staff and manage testing and vaccination sites throughout the district. Currently, every county has a testing site and weekly vaccination sites (dependent on vaccine availability). The Medical Reserve Corps of West Georgia is currently deploying medical and non-medical volunteers to assist with vaccination sites. District 4 has various projects to reach seniors in the counties. District 4 has created a Vaccine Intervention Team (VIT) to provide the vaccine to long-term care facilities and personal care homes. The team will deploy to the location for first and second doses, locations are prioritized based on Epidemiology data. District 4 is also contacting senior centers to identify members that are interested in receiving the vaccine and providing options to receive the vaccine. This outreach effort will be expanded to include African American and Hispanic churches, geriatric physicians, adult day cares, and other publicly-funded senior centers.

The top settings for outbreaks in Georgia are School Settings (24) and Long-Term Care Facilities (15) this past week.

This week's operational focus will be on continuation of vaccination clinics, vaccine hesitancy campaign, the activation of the vaccination intervention team (VIT), staffing of testing and vaccine sites, deployment of MRC volunteers, planning with school districts on vaccinations for staff and communication with local leaders about vaccine rollout.

### **COVID-19 Operations Report for the weeks of 2/8 and 2/15/2021**

**1,721 specimens** collected by District 4 Specimen Points of Collection (SPOCs) over the past 2 weeks. Several locations closed the week of 2/15 due to inclement weather.

- **Butts** – Every other Thurs. (9 am - 11 am) **21** specimens collected
- **Carroll** – Wed. (9 am – 2 pm) **128** specimens collected

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

- **\* Coweta** – Tues. & Thurs. (9 am – 2 pm) & every other Sat. (9 a-12pm) **241** specimens collected
- **Fayette** – Fri. (9 am -2 pm) **299** specimens collected
- **Heard** – Every other Mon. (9 am-11 am) **23** specimens collected
- **\*Henry** – Mon – Thurs. (9am – 3 pm) & Sat. (9 am - 12 pm) **776** specimens collected
- **Lamar** - Thurs. (9 am-2 pm) **31** specimens collected
- **Meriwether-Greenville** – Every other Wed. (9am -11 am) **14** specimens collected
- **Meriwether-Manchester** – Every other Fri. (9 am -11 am) – **34** specimens collected
- **Pike** -Every other Fri. (9 am – 11 am) **14** specimens collected
- **Spalding**- Every other Tues. (9 am – 11 am) **0** specimens collected
- **Troup** – Mon. (9 am – 2 pm) **62** specimens collected
- **Upson**- Wed. (9 am- 2 pm) **78** specimens collected

\* The Henry Heritage SPOC is being operated by Mako Medical Laboratory. This allows the health department personnel to work in the clinic or assist with planning and dispensing vaccine at the COVID point of distribution (POD). There is no cost to participants, but if the person has insurance, the lab will bill for the service. If insurance does not pay, the person does not receive a bill. Henry Heritage SPOC will operate every Saturday from 9 am – 12 pm.

As of 2/2, the Coweta SPOC is being operated by Mako Laboratory. Hours of operation Tues. & Thurs. 9-2 and every other Saturday 9 am -12 pm.

### **COVID Vaccine**

Due to the extremely cold weather, the Carroll, Henry, Meriwether, and Pike PODs delayed their opening on 2/16/21. Those who had an appointment received a call informing them of the delay. The 2/19/21 Troup POD was rescheduled to 3/5/21 due to cold temperature and wind; all who had an appointment received a call informing to report for their appointment on 3/5/21. All counties need a plan that includes an indoor location for PODs and SPOCs; this will prevent appointments from being delayed and/or rescheduled. Each county continues to plan so they are ready to move forward with additional PODs upon receiving vaccine for those included in the 1 A expansion which includes all first responders, those 65 and older and the caregivers of those 65 and older. All PODs are by appointment only. A team of district employees and temporary staff are making the appointments upon the counties receiving vaccine. Those in need of an appointment should call 762-888-8180. Callers receive their second dose appointment upon making the first dose appointment. When vaccine is available, the normal operation hours of the appointment call center: 8 a – 5p, Wednesday - Friday. The call center does not operate when all appointments are booked for the available vaccine. Upon being fully booked, it is advertised on-line, and a message is added to the appointment line to make all aware.

First and Second Dose PODs are being scheduled as each county receives vaccine.

### **County Health Departments**

All services being offered, but on a limited basis when the county has a POD scheduled. Employees and all who enter the buildings are encouraged to wear a mask, have temperature checked and screened for illness.

### **Contact Tracing Team Summary for 2/6/2021– 2/20/2021**

- Total # of calls made by District 4 Contact Tracers for the week:
  - Total # of contact attempts (obtained from MTX report) = **3,195**
  - Total # of successful contacts (obtained from MTX report) = **1,685**
- Total # of individuals currently enrolled in monitoring ongoing (these individuals report by SMS or phone daily) = **573**
  - 483 engaged and no symptoms
  - 7 engaged and symptomatic
  - 83 not engaged
- Total # of individuals enrolled in manual monitoring = **66** (DPH calls these individuals daily during the duration of their monitoring/quarantine period per the contact's request)
  - 35 engaged and no symptoms
  - 1 engaged and symptomatic
  - 30 not engaged
- Total # of new contacts pending = **225** (contact for most of these individuals has been initiated/attempted, but no response as of now or they need additional follow-up)
- To date, **24,159** cases have been entered in the DPH Google MTX platform as of 2/20/2021
- Total # of case interviews completed by District 4 Case Investigators = **1,730**

### **Staffing Summary as of 2/20/2021:**

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

### **Continuity of Operations**

District 4 has had 256 employees tested/exposed to COVID-19 since March 2020.

Of those 256 employees:

12 were Exposed but not Tested

183 tested negative

59 tested positive

2 tests still pending

87 employees have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

**Epidemiology**

35 Confirmed Outbreaks from 2/7/21 – 2/21/21

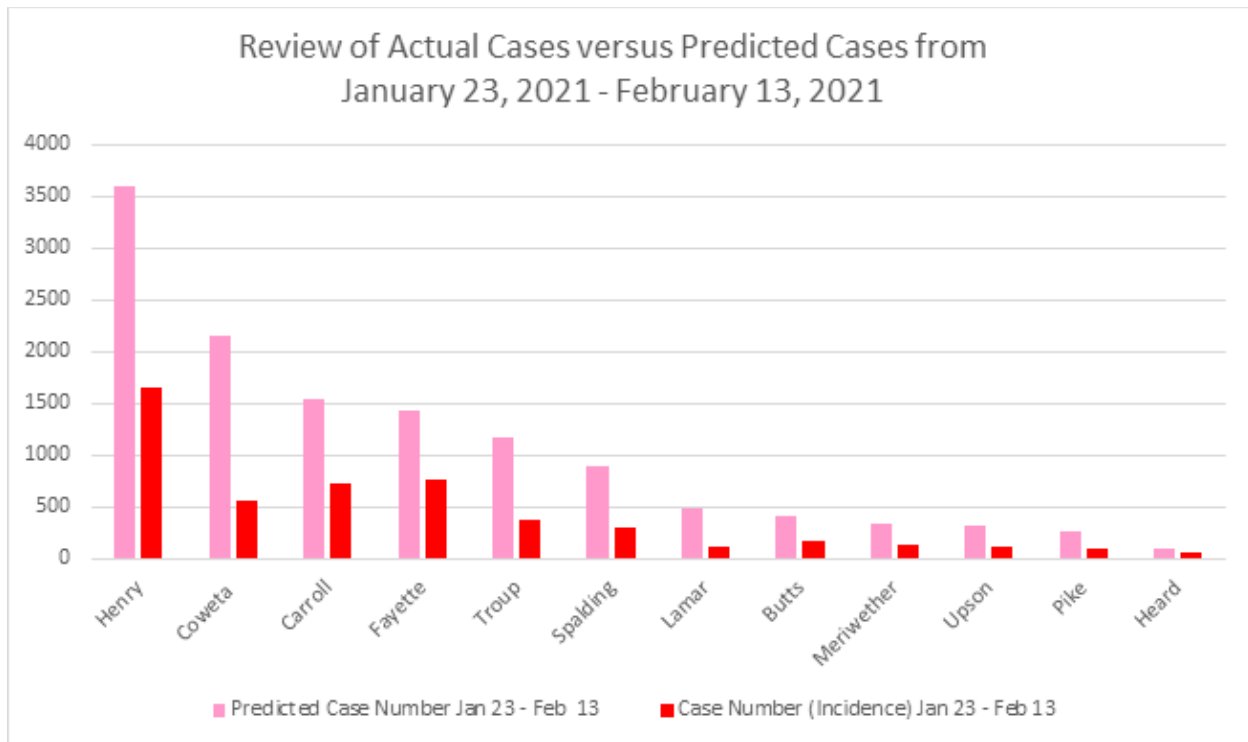
Numbers as of 4:00PM 2/21/2021

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases: 54098 median age: 42

Confirmed and Presumptive COVID-19 Deaths: 1179 median age: 76

Numbers as of 2:50PM 2/21/2021

	CASES	NEW CASES PAST TWO WEEKS	DEATHS	NEW DEATHS PAST TWO WEEKS
BUTTS	1949	+91	67	+6
CARROLL	6881	+228	117	+2
COWETA	7778	+364	143	+22
FAYETTE	5841	+412	124	+16
HEARD	589	+32	13	+1
HENRY	16768	+748	236	+29
LAMAR	1223	+40	37	+4
MERIWETHER	1403	+61	43	+8
PIKE	965	+41	21	+2
SPALDING	3665	+144	124	+11
TROUP	5457	+178	158	+7
UPSON	1689	+61	96	+5
Total	54099	+2400	1179	+113



The graph above shows the predicted cases as well as the actual number of cases for December 23, 2020 – January 24, 2021 (based on CDC’s mathematical modeling) for District 4 counties. 100% of counties had cases below the prediction (red bar). Although cases are decreasing, it is important to remember that underreporting of cases as well as lack of testing still occurs.

Demographics		No. Confirmed Cases	% Cases	No. Confirmed Cases (Last 30 days)	% Cases (Last 30 Days)	No. Hospitalized	% Hospitalized
Age	< 1	194	0.36	27	0.39	5	0.19
	1 to 4	764	1.42	136	1.95	13	0.49
	5 to 9	1118	2.07	201	2.89	6	0.23
	10 to 17	4050	7.51	660	9.48	35	1.31
	18-29	10519	19.49	1201	17.25	136	5.11
	30-39	7954	14.74	988	14.19	197	7.40
	40-49	8664	16.06	1080	15.51	303	11.38
	50-59	8901	16.50	1115	16.01	500	18.78
	60-69	6095	11.30	871	12.51	547	20.54
	70-79	3595	6.66	472	6.78	552	20.73

	80+	2104	4.30	212	3.04	369	13.86
TOTAL		<b>53958</b>	100.00	<b>6963</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2663</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Race	White	23451	47.89	2728	45.69	1314	49.77
	Black or African American	16638	33.97	1731	28.99	1157	43.83
	Asian	690	1.41	118	1.98	18	0.68
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	41	0.08	9	0.15	1	0.00
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	47	0.10	0	0.00	2	0.00
	Other	2691	5.49	514	8.61	90	3.41
	Unknown	5415	11.06	871	14.59	58	2.20
TOTAL		<b>48973</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5971</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2640</b>	<b>99.88636364</b>
Ethnicity	Hispanic	2956	5.46	362	5.16	98	3.67
	Non-Hispanic	34778	64.28	4189	59.77	2314	86.70
	Not Specified	11040	20.40	1769	25.24	139	5.21
	Other	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
	Unknown	5332	9.85	689	9.83	118	4.42
TOTAL		<b>54106</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7009</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2669</b>	<b>100</b>

Demographics		No. Hospitalized (in cases from 30 day)	% Hospitalized (in cases from 30 day)	No. Confirmed Deaths	% Deaths	No. Confirmed Deaths (last in cases from 30 days)	% Deaths (in cases from 30 days)
Age	< 1	3.00	1.46	0	0.00	0	0
	1 to 4	3	1.46	0	0.00	0	0
	5 to 9	1.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
	10 to 17	8.00	3.88	0	0.00	0	0
	18-29	6.00	2.91	6	0.51	0	0
	30-39	9.00	4.37	27	2.31	0	0

	40-49	20.00	9.71	41	3.51	0	0
	50-59	26.00	0.00	97	8.30	1	3.3333333
	60-69	49.00	23.79	221	18.91	9	30
	70-79	52.00	2.00	337	28.83	10	33.3333333
	80+	29.00	14.08	440	37.64	10	33.3333333
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>206.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1169</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>
Race	White	117.00	55.71	764	66.03	28	87.5
	Black or African American	77.00	36.67	370	31.98	4	12.5
	Asian	0.00	0.00	9	0.78	0	0
	Native Hawaiiin or Other Pacific Islander	5.00	2.38	0	0.00	0.00	0
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	3.00	1.43	0	0.00	0.00	0
	Other	5.00	2.38	13	1.12	0	0
	Unknown	3.00	1.43	1	0	0.00	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>210.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>99.91356958</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100</b>
Ethnicity	Hispanic	6.00	2.91	24	2.06%	1.00	3.125
	Non-Hispanic	185.00	89.81	1125	96.91%	28.00	87.5
	Not Specified	7.00	3.40	4	0.47%	1.00	3.125
	Other	0.00	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00	0
	Unknown	8.00	3.88	4	0.56%	2.00	6.25
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>206.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>32.00</b>	<b>100</b>

\*\* The colors above illustrate the burden in each category. A darker color indicates a higher burden.

The table above shows the cumulative case count, hospitalizations, and deaths based upon age range, race, and ethnicity specific to District 4 Public Health. Also shown is the case count, hospitalizations, and deaths among these groups. It is important to note that this data is limited to what is reported into SENDSS, our electronic notifiable disease surveillance system. Therefore all numbers may not match exactly in each category due to incomplete records in SENDSS. This data illustrates that District 4 is seeing the majority of cases in young and middle aged adults; however, our deaths are still among the elderly. Therefore, it is likely that the younger population are contracting and spreading illness to the elderly, who experience more severe illness that may result in hospitalization and potentially death.

Cases are declining in many of the district's counties; however, cases are still extremely high. Due to the continued high level of cases, we are continuing to see a significant number of deaths. Please remember to follow the COVID basics when going out in your community. Although many are beginning to be vaccinated, the best defense we have to prevent spread of COVID is social distancing, wearing face coverings, and washing hands frequently.