

## Macon County Health Department

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Macon County, MO) - During the week of June 30 - July 6, 2021, there were 7 new cases of COVID-19. Currently, there are 19 active cases with 5 residents hospitalized. Of these 7 new cases, none were vaccinated and none were reinfection. DHSS did test another Macon County resident positive for the Delta variant.

Macon County cases are down this week and hopefully there will not be a surge in cases from the holiday weekend. Of the last 135 new cases, only 6 were vaccinated. We have seen the Delta variant present in our sewershed (wastewater) and have now had two residents test positive for the variant per DHSS although not all cases are being tested for the variant. Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are safe, free of charge, and proving effective against variants or minimizing health effects for those few vaccinated people who become infected.

For several months we had not had any new cases of reinfection, where a person who once had COVID-19 become reinfected at a later date. However, we may be seeing an early indication of reinfection in residents. In a June 28 article from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Dr. Jane O'Halloran stated, "If you've already been infected and then you get vaccinated, you get a boost to your antibody levels. The vaccine clearly adds benefit, even in the context of prior infection, which is why we recommend that people who have had COVID-19 get the vaccine."

The following reflects COVID-19 in Macon County as of the end of the day on July 6, 2021 -

- 19 active cases
- 5 hospitalized
- 18 deaths
- 1,733 total cases since March 2020

