

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
August 5, 2021

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Carranco compared data from the week of July 26, 2021, to data from the week of July 19, 2021.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts increased from 3,804 to 7,186 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 14 to 16.5 percent;
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts increased from 111 to 262, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 9.7 to 15.7 percent;
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts increased from 172 to 365 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 9.6 to 14.5 percent; and
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts increased from 46 to 100 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 10.6 to 14.7 percent. Hays county also reported 45 COVID-19 related hospitalizations.

Texas State had 18 positive tests out of 359 tests for a positivity rate of five percent. As of August 2, 2021, there were 37 active cases at Texas State.

The University of Texas and Texas A&M University recently reported positivity rates of 2.4 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively.

As of July 26, 2021, fully vaccinated rates of those who are 12 years of age and older are:

- 53 percent of the Texas population,
- 55 percent of Hays county,
- 61.8 percent of Williamson county,
- 63.5 percent of Travis county,
- 58.1 percent of the U. S. population, and
- 43.9 percent among young adults (18-24 years of age).

Dr. Carranco discussed the highly transmissible delta variant, underscoring the importance of vaccination. While COVID-19 vaccines are not 100 percent effective in preventing illness, they are highly effective in lowering a vaccinated person's risk for severe illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19.

Cabinet members discussed the data-informed health and safety measures that will take place as Texas State returns to offering in-person classes, services, and activities at full capacity in the fall. The latest COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness research suggests that fully vaccinated individuals have less than a four percent chance of infection, and this risk can be further reduced

with mask wearing. Accordingly, messaging will focus on getting vaccinated and wearing a mask indoors, regardless of vaccination status. Additional measures were discussed and will be shared on the Roadmap and in a variety of communications.

Dr. Hernandez discussed the fall 2021 housing plan and temporary guidelines for event organizers. Feedback from Cabinet members will be integrated and a final version will be added to the Roadmap and shared with event organizers before the start of the fall semester.

Significant Issues (#01)

Dr. Lloyd led a discussion on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Star Award application process.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on August 16, 2021.