



June 9, 2020

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Finney County Economic Development Corporation (FCEDC) recently compiled data and analyzed the economic impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic to date.

In reviewing unemployment rates (moderately increased) and commuter patterns into Finney County (significantly decreased), it is obvious that there has been at least a temporary economic impact. Anecdotally, many businesses have had consumers report to them directly that they are not intending to shop in Garden City "as long as the COVID-19 case counts are so high".

"Because we have had these reports of consumers from our trade area who are concerned by the case counts, we felt it was necessary to explore the *active* cases and not just the cumulative case counts. KDHE and the media are only reporting cumulative case counts and that paints a very inaccurate picture of the current situation," said Lona DuVall, President/CEO of FCEDC.

By utilizing the best epidemiological estimates provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), FCEDC is able to analyze the testing rates for Finney County, other selected counties, and the state of Kansas as a whole. Further, FCEDC has created a tracking mechanism for active case counts.

Shannon Dick, Strategic Analyst for FCEDC, said "we feel confident that the positive case counts in Finney County and Ford County are very close to the estimates that utilizing the CDC best estimates would predict. This tells us that these counties have had somewhat adequate testing. However, analysis of data from other counties and the state of Kansas as a whole, indicate that testing in other areas of Kansas has been inadequate and that most likely many counties are reporting gross undercounts of COVID-19 cases."

The attached chart shows that estimated number of active cases as of June 2, 2020 were somewhere between 53 and 89 for Finney County. (The chart calculates active case counts on the following parameters 1) 7 day contagious period-no asymptomatic estimate, 2) 7 day contagious period including 35% asymptomatic estimate, 3) 10 day contagious period-no asymptomatic estimate, 4) 10 day contagious period including 35% asymptomatic estimate).