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**NEWS
RELEASE**

05 / 22 / 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE

City Reports Another Triple Digit Spike

EL PASO, Texas — The City of El Paso Department of Public Health (DPH) is reporting **one (1)** COVID-19 death, and another spike in positive cases.

The 58th death is a male in his 60s with underlying health conditions.

For the second day in a row, El Paso is reporting another large spike in positive COVID-19 cases with **114 new cases**, bringing the county’s cumulative total to **2,160** cases.

For a comprehensive list of COVID-19 data please visit the [COVID-19 Data](#) page found at www.EPStrong.org. The data will also posted later today on all of our social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)).

“Our hearts go out to this gentleman who lost his battle against this devastating virus, and to his family we send our sincerest condolences,” said Dr. Hector Ocaranza, City/County Health Authority. “While we are concerned about this week’s spike in cases we are also not surprised in part because we are increasing our testing, which is a great measure for identifying and isolating these cases. However, as I’ve said this spike also clearly shows that many people did not heed our warnings during Mother’s Day weekend. We must each acknowledge that we are responsible for our own actions, which affects our friends and family. Why risk yours or their lives?”

The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our community. Community members should continue to observe practices that protect everyone, especially those who are the most vulnerable (person 65 or older and/or with pre-existing health conditions).

Health officials strongly advise to continue practicing social distancing, wear a face covering, stay home if you’re sick, and wash your hands with soap and water. Wearing a face covering is not a substitute for maintaining 6-foot social distancing and hand washing, as these remain important steps to slowing the spread of the virus.

Health questions about COVID-19 can be made by calling the 21-COVID hotline, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For referrals to services, contact 2-1-1 and select option six (6). For more information, visit www.epstrong.org.

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