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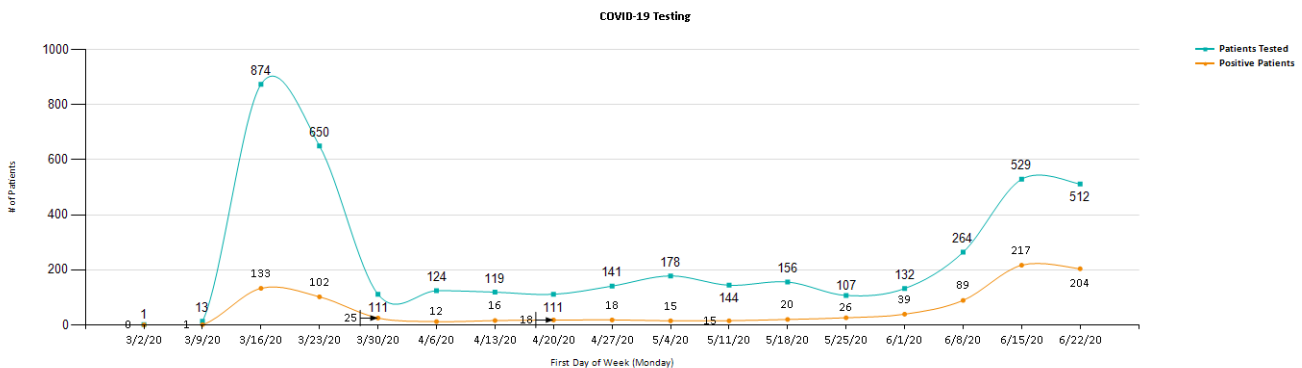
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Legacy Sees Dramatic Increase in COVID-19 Testing, Positive Rate in June

COVID-related calls, tests causing longer wait times

HOUSTON (July 1, 2020) – During the month of June, [Legacy Community Health](http://LegacyCommunityHealth.org) saw a marked increase in the number of COVID-19 tests and positive rates. While testing for the coronavirus remained steady through April and May, Legacy saw a peak during the week of June 15 testing 529 patients that had a COVID-positive rate of 40%. In March, the highest peak during the week of March 16 saw 874 patients with a COVID-positive rate of 15%.

“Our testing numbers pretty much doubled every week since the first of the month,” commented Dr. Vian Nguyen, chief medical officer at Legacy Community Health. “It’s important to note that we are testing symptomatic Legacy patients, not the general public nor those who are asymptomatic, and that affects our results to reflect higher rates. Our experience reflects the dramatic increases reported in the Houston and Beaumont regions.”



With the increase in testing across the Houston area, lab results are now taking longer to return. Whereas before it took 2-4 days for results, it is now taking 7-10 days for Legacy patients to get their results back. Additionally, calls to the Legacy call center have increased as well, causing longer wait times on the phones. All updates to Legacy’s operations, including screening requirements, are [provided on the Legacy website](http://www.legacycommunityhealth.org).

Throughout the novel coronavirus pandemic, Legacy clinics have proactively changed procedures and patient visits to help promote maximum protection at our facilities, such as [appointments via telemedicine](#) and [drive-thru for sick pediatric patients in need of lab testing](#). Anyone who enters a Legacy clinic is required to wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines.

Legacy also continues to offer adult and pediatric primary care and sick visits, HIV/AIDS care, OB/GYN services, free HIV and pregnancy testing, and virtual behavioral health services for adults and children. Locations and their hours of operation are always listed at www.legacycommunityhealth.org. Patients can also call **832-548-5000** with questions or to make an appointment. Health providers who speak Spanish or other languages are available.

Legacy accepts most HMOs/PPOs, Medicaid, Medicare and CHIP plans. Legacy also utilizes a sliding scale fee to lower the cost of services for uninsured patients.

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About Legacy Community Health

Legacy Community Health (Legacy) is a full-service network of community medical clinics offering primary and specialty care in the Texas Gulf Coast region. Services include adult primary care, pediatrics, dental care, vision services, behavioral health services, OB/GYN and maternity, vaccinations and immunizations, health promotion and community outreach, wellness and nutrition, and comprehensive HIV/AIDS care. With 36 locations across Houston, Baytown, Deer Park, and Beaumont, Legacy is the largest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Texas. Legacy has been a United Way-affiliated agency since 1990. To learn more, visit www.legacycommunityhealth.org.