



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Newly Confirmed Case of COVID-19 in Smith County **Tyler, Texas (Tuesday, March 31, 2020)**

Earlier this evening, NET Health was notified of a new case of COVID-19 in Smith County, increasing today's total to five (5) and the overall total in Smith County to thirty-seven (37).

Today also included confirmation of the first COVID-19 cases in Wood County and in Anderson County, and the addition of the sixth confirmed case in Gregg County. NET Health provides Disease Surveillance activities within the East Texas counties of Smith, Gregg, Wood, Rains, Van Zandt, Henderson, and Anderson. The full list of counties with confirmed cases of COVID-19 can be accessed by visiting [MyNETHealth.org/Coronavirus](https://www.mynethealth.org/coronavirus).

Most of the individuals whom comprise today's announced cases are within self-isolation at their residences. Three of these individuals had recent travel outside of East Texas, yet the remaining individuals were exposed due to community spread.

“Community spread means there is more than one possible source for COVID-19 to become acquired by any individual,” says George Roberts, Chief Executive Officer of NET Health. “The public has the responsibility, more than ever, to practice physical distancing behaviors and follow recommendations from health officials and from municipalities.”

If you have been exposed to a sick traveler, have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, or are experiencing fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, please contact your healthcare provider. You will also need to self-isolate from the public for 14 days.

Please be sure to call before going to a medical provider, to prevent any potential spread.

Residents are reminded to take the same measures that are recommended to prevent the spread of the flu and other respiratory viruses. More information about the ways all East Texas communities can help to slow disease transmission are maintained at [MyNETHealth.org/coronavirus](https://www.mynethealth.org/coronavirus).