



## Crawford County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 30, 2021

The Delta variant has been identified in Crawford County. This variant is believed to be the most transmissible of all known variants previously monitored by the WHO and CDC. Data collection from India and the UK support evidence this strain is more likely to result in severe illness and require hospitalization. Current evidence indicates that vaccines approved under Emergency Use Authorization in the United States are effective against the variant. New data is showing that a small number of vaccinated people can get Delta and may be contagious, but these cases represent a very small amount of transmission occurring around the country. Those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are significantly less likely to require hospitalizations, or suffer severe illness as a result of contracting this strain.

We currently are experiencing a surge in cases here in Crawford County. The Crawford County Health Department is working with the Illinois Department of Public Health along with community stakeholders to mitigate the spread, but we need the help of the community. We understand that our residents want to return to normalcy and socialization. We also understand that people are tired, but public health measures are not the enemy – they are the roadmap for a faster and more sustainable recovery. Please do your part to mitigate the spread by:

- Wearing a mask indoors and in crowded places
- Keeping your distance
- Washing your hands
- If you develop symptoms, get tested immediately
- Consider one of the safe and effective vaccines

*“Promoting Health, Preventing Illness, and Protecting our Environment.”*