

COVID Numbers

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

The Good

The good news is we have test results back both from St. Matthias and Consolata Missions and the infection rate is remarkably low.

At St. Matthias (July 27 testing) 545 people were tested from all over. For Franklin addresses 390 people were tested and zero were COVID (nasal swab, PCR) positive. Also for Franklin, there were 425 antibody (blood) tests with 44 positives. That means 10.4% have had it in the past and zero were currently infected.

Keep in mind there were some who did not take both tests, but in general of that group 44 were infected in the past and none were infected currently.

At Consolata Mission (July 31 testing) for all people, regardless of address, 450 had antibody testing with 84 positives and 366 negatives. That's 18.7%. COVID testing had 4 out of 433 testing positive or 0.9%.

	St Matthias		Consolata		Aggregate	
	COVID	Antibody	COVID	Antibody	COVID	Antibody
Pos	0	44	4	84	4	128
Neg	390	381	433	366	823	747
Total	390	425	437	450	827	875
% Pos	0%	10.4%	0.9%	18.7%	0.48%	14.6%

We can compare the aggregate to [model](#) I've been following. COVID positives (0.48%) would be those who are currently infected. The model predicts (5th one down, blue, Currently Infected estimate) 0.35% COVID positive so we are pretty close. Total infected would be comparable to the antibody positives. The model predicts 21.3% and we are at 14.6%. WAY TO GO FRANKLIN.

When I saw 0 for St. Matthias, I must admit I was skeptical, but the numbers match the predictive model reasonably well. Caveat: This is a limited nonrandom sample.

Some might say, "Ok open things up, we are doing great." I say we are doing great because we worked hard. We need to keep working hard. Remember, in the world, 19M people are confirmed positive but this all started with one person. Franklin, Somerset and NJ have done a great job. We need to keep it up and follow the science on opening up.

The Bad

It took 10 days for everyone to get their results for St. Matthias and 7 days for Consolata. Some had results sooner. Not good. Both Friendly Urgent Care (the group performing the tests) and I are pressing the lab for better. Nationally turn around has been 7-14 days. We will keep pressing.

The Ugly

This would better be titled The Confusing. I'm talking about the test results as they come to us from the county. The results above are direct from Friendly Urgent Care.

I'll try to explain this but it's confusing. The state has a database. Hundreds of people from labs to individual doctor offices enter data. In the fog of war there has been poor standardization. You can enter a result as Confirmed, Probable or Negative. Our county considered only positive PCR (saliva or nasal swab) as Confirmed. Positive antigen or antibody results were considered Probable. People entering the data however, had their own definitions. Some were putting positive antigen or antibody as confirmed. This has led to confusion. The county is now including all positive tests as confirmed. That is why you may have seen a jump of 24 reported. It makes the totals reported very confusing. Unfortunately, this leaves the data with a lot of noise in it.