



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2020

Dallas County Reports 199 Additional Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases

DALLAS -- As of 11:00am May 15, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 199 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total case count in Dallas County to 7,036, including 164 deaths.

The additional 5 deaths are being reported today include:

- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie and had been found deceased at home.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Irving and had been hospitalized.

Of cases requiring hospitalization who reported employment, over 80% have been critical infrastructure workers, with a broad range of affected occupational sectors, including: healthcare, transportation, food and agriculture, public works, finance, communications, clergy, first responders and other essential functions. Of cases requiring hospitalization, two-thirds have been under 65 years of age, and about half do not have high-risk chronic health conditions. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Of the 164 total deaths reported to date, over a third have been associated with long-term care facilities.

New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with a more detailed summary report updated Tuesdays and Fridays.

“Today’s number is significantly lower than yesterday’s. It’s too early to call this a trend but we will anxiously watch for the next few days to see if this is signaling a decline from our plateau of around 250 cases a day that we’ve been at for the last 10 days. Also, worthy of note is yesterday’s release of a UT Southwestern study that says that with our current rate of relaxed social distancing, we will be at 800 cases a day by July. Remember that the effect of more people

moving around after the Governor's Reopen Texas announcement on April 27th has not begun to be felt yet and we don't know what that impact will be. Therefore, it's important that all of us continue to make smart, personal responsibility decisions: avoiding crowds, maintaining social distancing, wearing face coverings on public transportation and at businesses while practicing good hygiene. It's up to all of us #FlattenTheCurve #StayHomeSavesLives," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

All Dallas County COVID-19 Updates and Information can be found here:
<https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends taking everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Stay home when you are sick, except to seek medical care
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and help young children to do the same. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-base hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC Travel Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- DSHS: <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>
- DCHHS: <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php>

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