

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 22, 2020

## Dallas County Reports 204 Additional Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases

**DALLAS --** As of 11:00am May 22, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 204 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total case count in Dallas County to 8,477, including 207 deaths.

The additional 4 deaths are being reported today include:

-A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Dallas and had been critically ill in an area hospital.

-A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas and had been critically ill in an area hospital.

-A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas 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 207 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 follows a trend of this week having a lower number of positive cases than last week, and our hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and ICU admissions staying relatively flat. Unfortunately, none of this leads to the 14 day decline that the doctors have talked about, so we are still at that red 'stay home stay safe' zone. The doctors recommend that although bars and restaurants have opened that we avoid in-person dining, and rather do our celebrating with takeout and at home. If we'll all make smart decisions, we can make it to a lower threat level where more opportunities for entertainment and commerce are open to us, and where less people are getting sick and dying. It's up to all of us to flatten the curve. Remember that especially until we see a decline, #StayHomeSavesLives," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

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

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

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