

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 10, 2020

# Dallas County Reports 581 Additional Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases

**DALLAS** -- As of 11:00am August 10, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 581 additional confirmed cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total confirmed case count in Dallas County to 55,255, including 756 confirmed deaths. An additional 40 probable cases of COVID-19 have been reported since yesterday, bringing the total probable case count in Dallas to 2,242, including 6 probable deaths from COVID-19. The additional confirmed death being reported today is of a woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Seagoville. She had been sent to hospice care where she passed away, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

Over 2,514 children under 18 years of age have been diagnosed with confirmed COVID-19 since July 1<sup>st</sup>, including 61 children who have been hospitalized for COVID-19. Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19.

The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, with about 15.9% of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 30. Of the total confirmed deaths reported to date, about 28% 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.

Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators in determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. Due to weekend reporting, new data will be available on Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

"Today continues a trend of lower hospitalizations, lower ICU admissions and lower ED visits for COVID-19. Our new cases are in line with the trajectory that we've seen which is markedly lower than our high. We only had one death reported today but every life is precious and our hearts go out to the family of the person whose death was announced today.

The limited success we're seeing is due to masking, six foot social distancing, avoiding unnecessary trips as well as handwashing. We must not lose our resolve that has brought us to a better place than we were in the middle of last month. We are still far higher in all numbers than we were before the Governor's *Open Texas* plan began. With the opening of schools soon, there will be more people around one another and it's imperative that we continue to do those things that are proven to be successful when we are around people outside of our home," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

## All Dallas County COVID-19 Updates and Information can be found here:

https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/ and all guidance documents can be found here: https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/guidance-health.php

#### Specific Guidance for the Public:

- Dallas County COVID-19 Related Health Guidance for the Public
- Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution's Workforce from COVID-19 Infection: <u>Employer/Employee Guidance</u>
- Dallas County Guidance for Individuals at High-Risk for Severe COVID-19

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

- Avoid close contact outside your home: Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others and continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to seek medical care
- Wash your hands often and 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 daily 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. Immediately wash your hands.
- Monitor your health daily. Be alert for symptoms. Take your temperature and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

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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