



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 25, 2020**

**Dallas County Reports 297 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases  
1,181 Total Cases Reported Today with 884 Confirmed Cases from Previous Months and 2 Probable Cases**

**DALLAS** -- As of 4:00 pm September 25, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting a total of 1,181 additional cases (1,179 confirmed + 2 probable) of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Of the 1,179 newly reported confirmed cases, 295 were from the month of September. The cumulative confirmed case count in Dallas County is 80,605 including 1,016 confirmed deaths. The cumulative probable case count in Dallas County is 3,880, including 11 probable deaths from COVID-19. Of the 1,179 new reports of positive molecular COVID-19 tests, 967 came through the Texas Department of State Health Services' (DSHS) electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) system and 884 were from previous months. Please see a provisional breakdown below of these newly reported cases by date of collection:

<b>Month</b>	<b># of positive patients</b>
April	24
May	139
June	399
July	301
August	21
Sept	83

The additional 11 deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He was found deceased at home, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Cedar Hill. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Irving. She had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been hospitalized, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She expired in an area hospital ED, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of DeSoto. She expired in an area hospital ED, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

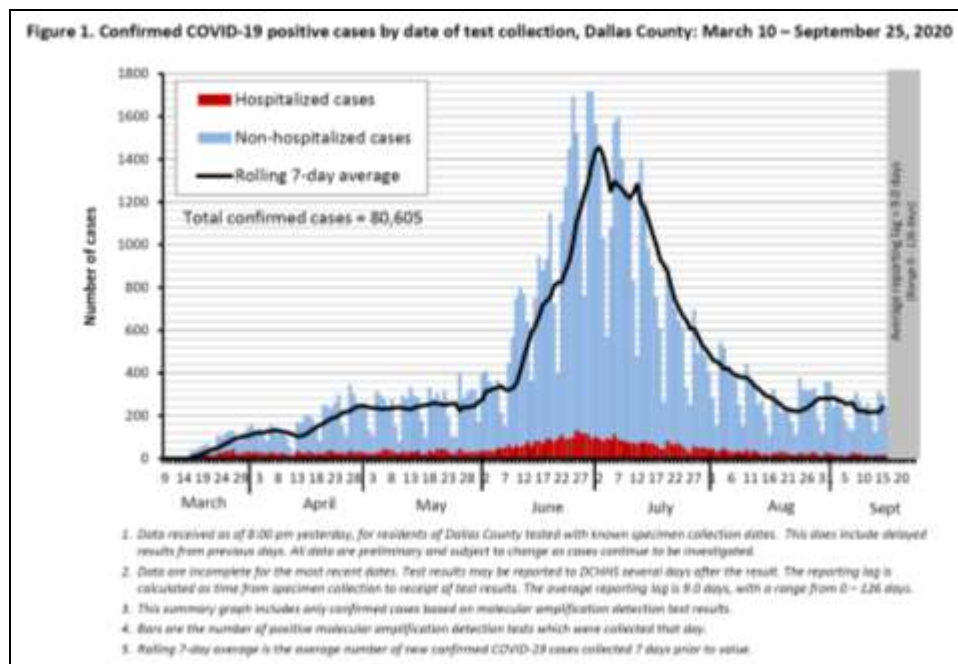
The provisional 7-day average daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 38 was 296, an *increase* from the previous daily average of 258 for CDC week 37. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 has *increased* and remains high with 11.9% of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 38.

A provisional total of 225 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases were diagnosed in school-aged children (5 to 17 years) during CDC week 38 (week ending 9/19/2020), an *increase* from the previous week for this age group. The percentage of cases occurring in young adults aged 18 to 22 years has increased to 14% for the month of September.

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. Of the total confirmed deaths reported to date, about 25% 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. Friday's report is attached.

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. There were 308 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Thursday, September 24. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 350 for the 24 hour period ending on Thursday, September 24, which represents around 15 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. While these numbers represent a significant decline from record highs in July, the disruptive impact of COVID-19 on our populations and health care systems remains. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).

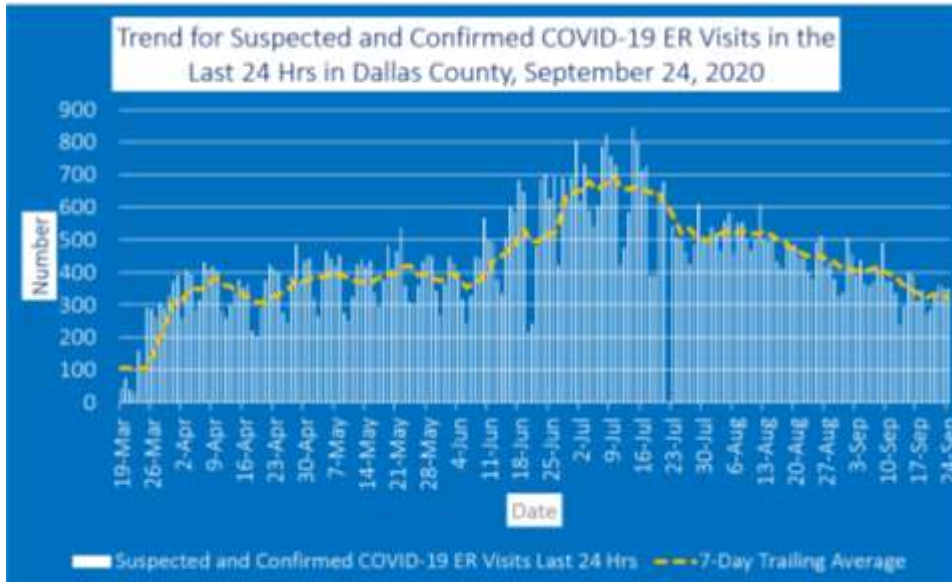
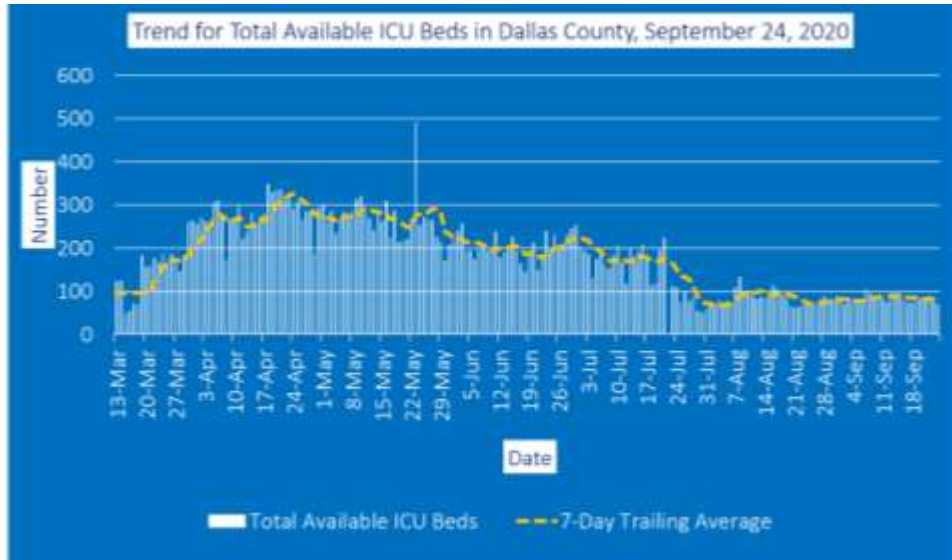
Additionally, Figure 1 and Table 11 below are from the September 25, 2020 Dallas County Health and Human Services 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Summary. Figure 1 shows the confirmed COVID-19 positive cases by date of test collection. This chart includes all delayed results that were received by DCHHS as of 8:00pm Thursday. Table 11 is a summary of confirmed and probable cases and deaths over the past five weeks in Dallas County.

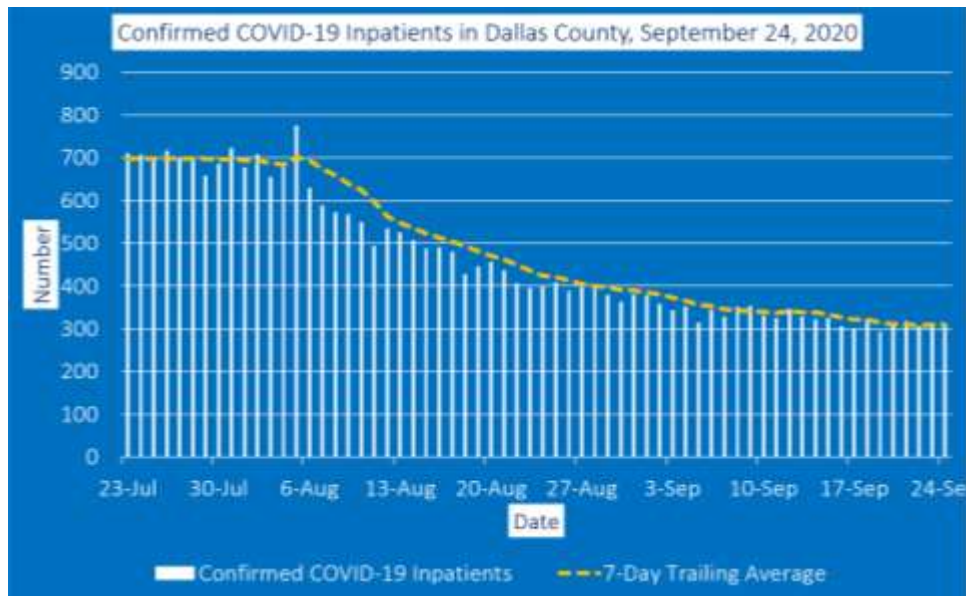


**Table 11. Summary of weekly COVID-19 confirmed and probable cases and deaths, Dallas County (CDC Weeks 34 - 38)**

CDC Week	Week Ending	Total Confirmed and Probable Cases	Total School-Aged Cases (5 to 17 years)	Daily Average New Confirmed and Probable Cases*	Daily Average New Confirmed and Probable Deaths**	Percentage of Tests Positive for SARS-CoV-2***
34	8/22/2020	1,714	182	245	6	11.3%
35	8/29/2020	2,196	189	314	5	10.8%
36	9/5/2020	2,053	149	293	2	10.8%
37	9/12/2020	1,807	180	258	1	10.0%
38	9/19/2020	2,070	225	296	1	11.9%

\* For 7-day time period for respective CDC week by date of test collection.  
 \*\* For 7-day time period for respective CDC week by date of death.  
 \*\*\* See Table 4 for historical data.





“Today’s COVID-19 numbers contain a lot of old cases and 295 new confirmed cases as well as two probable cases. We also report 11 new deaths today. The numbers from the just ending CDC week are concerning as the average number of cases per day has climbed for the first time in several weeks. The number of school-aged children diagnosed with COVID-19 has increased from the previous week, and our positivity rate, which had been going down for several weeks, has now shot back up to 11.9%.

The County will remain in ‘orange’ at this time but it is very important that with some of the indicators now going in the wrong direction, that we focus on one hundred percent mask compliance when outside of our nuclear family. This includes when you have people over to your home or go visit in their home. Is it equally important that you maintain six-foot distance and frequent hand washing, and that you avoid unnecessary trips, and doctors strongly encourage you to avoid indoor activity where masks are not being worn one hundred percent of the time. Many outbreaks have been traced back to family get-togethers, birthday parties and backyard barbeques, so it is very important as people visit your home or you visit their home that you protect yourself and our community. If we put the community health above our own desire to not practice the simple things that doctors tell us will give us our best chance of protecting ourselves, our community and our economy, we can see less people getting sick, more businesses strengthening and job opportunities increasing, and more of our kids back in school safely,” 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: Employer/Employee Guidance](#)
- [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: <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>

***CONTACT:***

Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge

[Clay.Jenkins@dallascounty.org](mailto:Clay.Jenkins@dallascounty.org)

[214-653-7949](tel:214-653-7949)

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