



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2, 2020

**Dallas County Reports 712 Additional Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases
508 Confirmed Cases and 204 Probable Cases Reported from Past Two Days**

DALLAS -- As of 8:00 pm October 2, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting a total of 712 additional cases (508 confirmed + 204 probable) of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The cumulative confirmed case count in Dallas County is 82,918 including 1,026 confirmed deaths. The cumulative probable case count in Dallas County is 4,294 including 13 probable deaths from COVID-19.

The additional 2 deaths being reported today include the following:

- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She 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 Garland. She expired in a healthcare facility, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators as part of determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. There were 242 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Thursday, October 1. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 362 for the 24 hour period ending on Thursday, October 1, 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 (RAC). The inpatient census number reported on October 1 represents a decline from the COVID-19 inpatient census number on September 28 (317), however, that decline is due to a data reporting error.

In reviewing data submissions by hospitals in the 19 county area covered by the RAC, the RAC determined that there may have been an overcount in the inpatient hospital census for Dallas County in August and September. The reduced inpatient COVID-19 census number for October 1 reflects an elimination of that overcount for prior dates. The August and September COVID-19 inpatient census numbers for August and September in Dallas County are being reviewed and will be re-stated at a later date. Notwithstanding this data correction, inpatient COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to be elevated, and are increasing both in Dallas County and across the RAC area. Additionally, nearly one-third of COVID-19 admissions in Dallas County are requiring care at the intensive care unit (ICU) level. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).

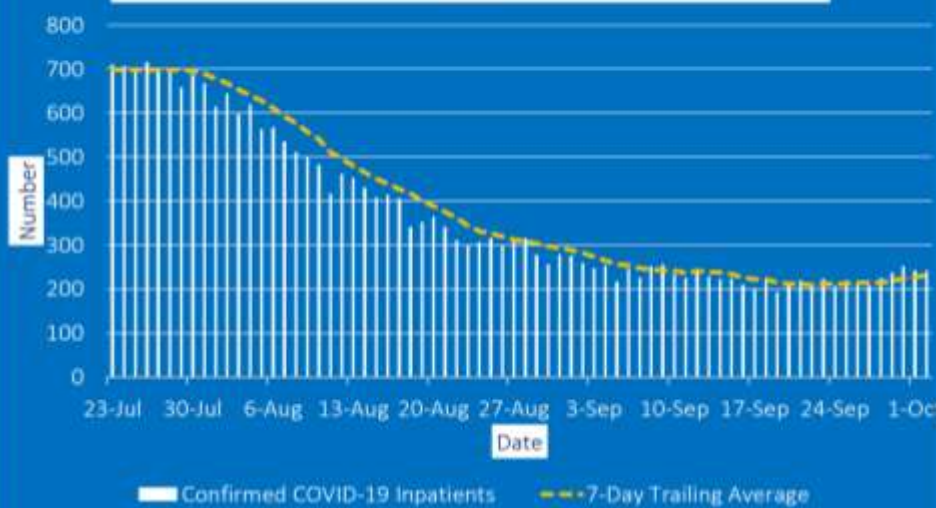
Trend for Total Available ICU Beds in Dallas County, October 2, 2020

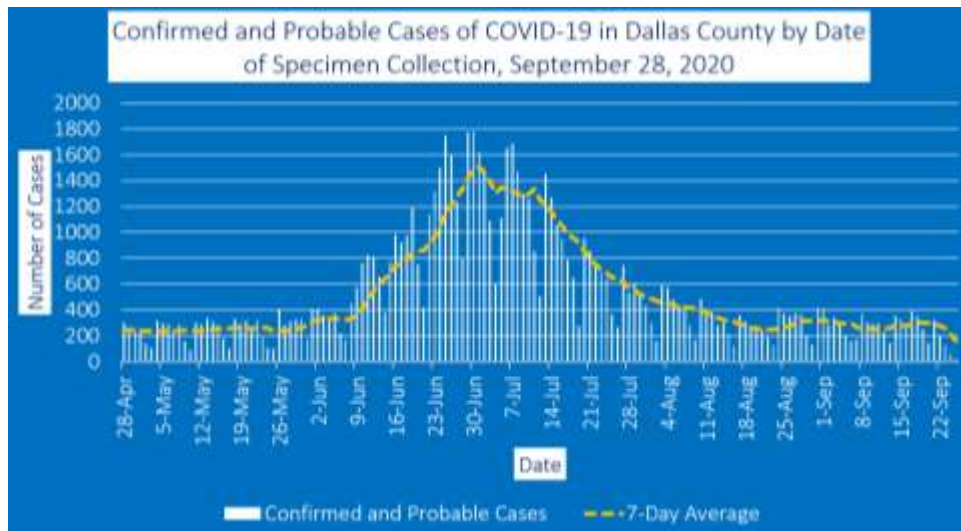


Trend for Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 ER Visits in the Last 24 Hrs in Dallas County, October 2, 2020



Confirmed COVID-19 Inpatients in Dallas County, October 2, 2020





“Today we continued our transition over into the Accenture system. We are able to get these numbers out, albeit later than usual, but the week 39 CDC report that normally comes out on Friday will come out tomorrow due to the numbers getting in so late. We expect that this transition, that has led to a disruption in our reporting numbers but strengthened our tracing efforts, will be leveled out and resolved over the weekend and the timeliness of the numbers will hopefully resume tomorrow or the next day. Enjoy the pretty weather on the weekend but please do it responsibly. With the uptick in our numbers, it’s more important now than ever that you mask, maintain six-foot distance, and wash your hands. This includes at parties at your residence or at other people’s residence. COVID-19 does not discriminate between businesses and private events, so please enjoy your weekend but stay safe,” 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>

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