



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2020

### Dallas County Reports 832 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases Including 162 Probable Cases

**DALLAS** -- As of 3:00 pm October 30, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 832 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County for a cumulative total of 96,072 confirmed cases (PCR test), including 1,114 confirmed deaths. There are 162 additional probable cases (antigen test) to report today for a total of 5,811 probable cases including 14 probable deaths. Of the 670 new confirmed cases we are reporting today, 288 came through the Texas Department of State Health Services' (DSHS) electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) system, and all are from October.

The additional 6 deaths being reported today include the following:

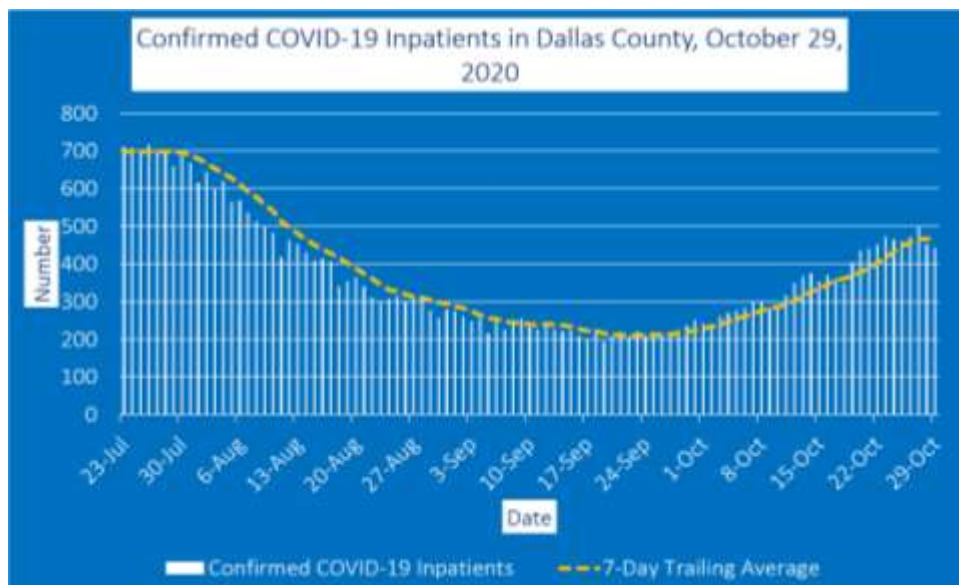
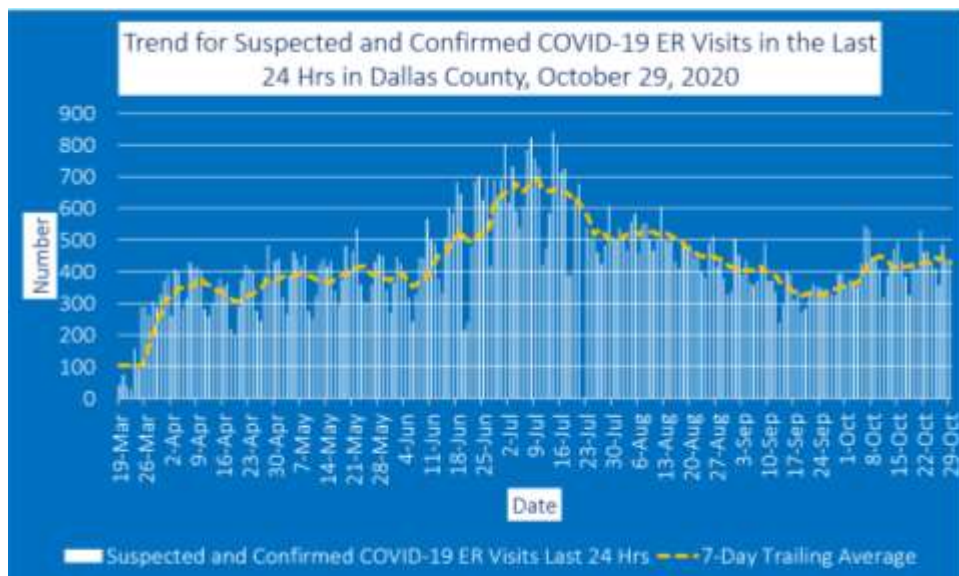
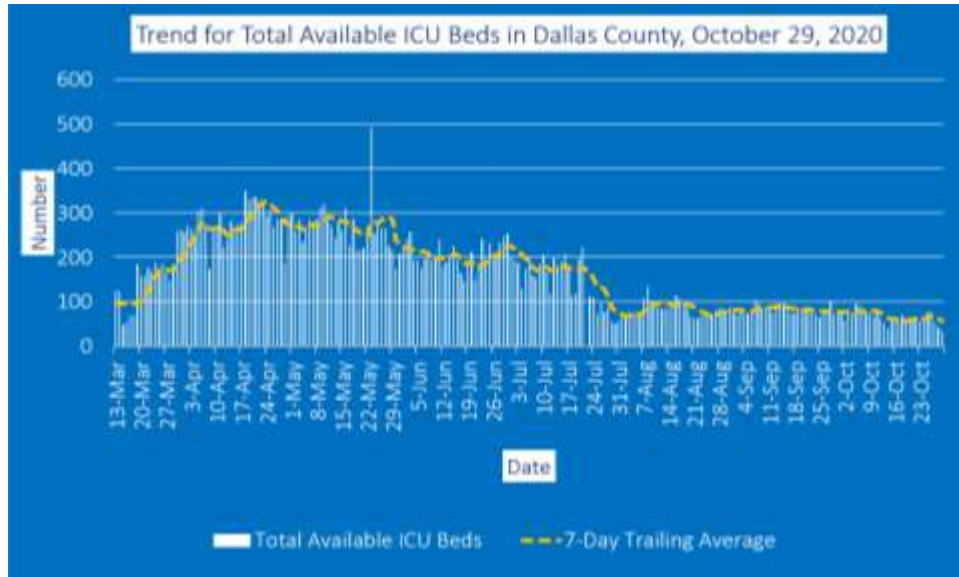
- A woman in her 40's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Irving. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. She 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Garland. 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 Cedar Hill. She had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 42 was **588** -- the highest daily average of new cases since July. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 has increased to **14.2%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 42 (week ending 10/17/20). A provisional total of 493 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases were diagnosed in school-aged children (5 to 17 years) during CDC week 42 – about twice the numbers of children diagnosed in this age group 3 weeks earlier (CDC week ending 9/26/2020).

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 24% 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 forthcoming.

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 442 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Thursday, October 29. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 430 for the same time period, which represents around 19 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory. While these

numbers are slightly lower than the previous two days, UTSW forecasting predicts hospitalization levels of between 460-830 by November 6. Local hospitals also have patients that have been hospitalized for extensive periods due to complications from COVID. These patients are not reflected in current numbers but illustrate the expansive impact of this pandemic on our hospital systems and health care workers. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today is our highest number of new COVID-19 positive cases since August 14 and we have six deaths. This is a stark reminder of the importance of following the protocols that we know will keep us safe. We know what to do, we just need to find the resolve to do it. If we do not turn these numbers around, we will be facing all time high numbers at Thanksgiving and we do not want to start the cold weather months when people are indoors at all-time high numbers. Please avoid trick-or-treating this Halloween and find fun family activities with those you live with. Wear your mask and avoid crowds. It’s up to all of us to flatten the curve so that less people will get sick, fewer will pay the ultimate price, and our economy and schools can survive and thrive,” 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)

###