



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 3, 2020

**Dallas County Reports 719 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases
Including 121 Probable Cases**

DALLAS -- As of 3:00 pm November 3, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 719 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County. There is a cumulative total of 98,473 confirmed cases (PCR test), including 1,120 confirmed deaths. There are 121 additional probable cases (antigen test) to report today for a total of 7,155 probable cases including 15 probable deaths. Of the 598 new confirmed cases we are reporting today, 320 came through the Texas Department of State Health Services' (DSHS) electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) system and all were from October.

The additional death being reported today includes the following:

- 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.

The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 43 has increased to **733** -- the highest daily average of new cases since July. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 has increased to **15.4%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 43 (week ending 10/24/20). A provisional total of 693 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases were diagnosed in school-aged children (5 to 17 years) during CDC week 43 – over twice the numbers of children diagnosed in this age group 3 weeks earlier (CDC week ending 10/3/2020).

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. Tuesday's report is attached.

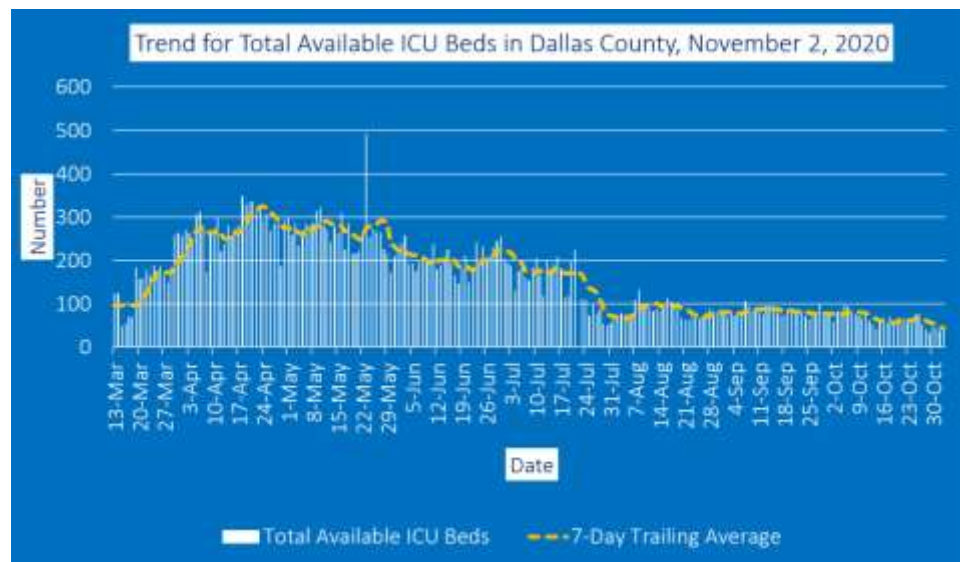
Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators as part of determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. There were 429 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Monday, November 2. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 361 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 Council. Due to a reporting omission, we believe these numbers are actually higher than reflected. Forecasting from UTSW still shows potential for substantial growth in hospitalizations. Personal choices to follow good public health guidance can help us reduce the spread. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).

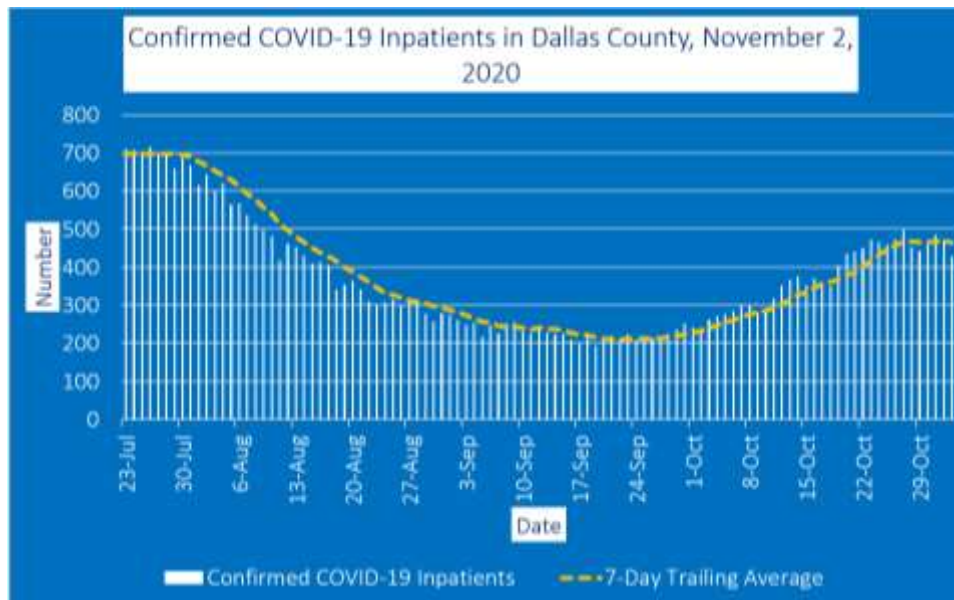
Additionally, Table 12 below is from the November 3, 2020 Dallas County Health and Human Services 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Summary. Table 12 is a summary of confirmed and probable cases and deaths over the past 15 weeks in Dallas County.

Table 12. Summary of weekly COVID-19 confirmed and probable cases and deaths, Dallas County (CDC Weeks 29 - 43)

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***
29	7/18/2020	6,620	675	946	11	21.7%
30	7/25/2020	4,516	482	645	15	19.3%
31	8/1/2020	3,363	415	480	12	15.9%
32	8/8/2020	2,888	313	413	9	13.8%
33	8/15/2020	2,178	182	311	9	13.0%
34	8/22/2020	1,738	187	248	6	11.0%
35	8/29/2020	2,202	184	315	6	10.6%
36	9/5/2020	2,050	150	293	3	10.6%
37	9/12/2020	1,853	183	265	2	9.6%
38	9/19/2020	2,203	234	315	2	11.5%
39	9/26/2020	2,440	253	349	2	10.6%
40	10/3/2020	2,710	310	387	2	10.1%
41	10/10/2020	3,547	458	507	2	11.5%
42	10/17/2020	4,421	556	632	2	14.0%
43	10/24/2020	5,134	693	733	1	15.4%

* 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 9 for historical data





“For the seventh week in a row, we’ve seen our average number of daily cases on the CDC weekly report increase, and for the last three weeks it has increased more than 100 per week. It now stands at 733 average

daily cases for the week ending October 24, the highest week on record since July. Our positivity rate has risen to 15.4% and our number of positive COVID-19 cases in school-aged children is twice as high as it was three weeks ago. We know what we need to do to curve the spread of this virus, we just need to summon the community resolve to do it. Increasingly we are seeing cases come from home gatherings and it's very important to wear a mask and engage in social distancing. Avoid gatherings of people outside your home and find other ways to stay close. Together we can flatten the curve, decrease the number of COVID-19 cases, strengthen our economy, and protect our residents, schools, and businesses," 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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