

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 6, 2020

Dallas County Reports 1,269 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases Including 402 Probable Cases and 2 Probable Deaths

DALLAS -- As of 5:00 pm November 6, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 1,269 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 867 confirmed cases and 402 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 100,628 confirmed cases (PCR test), including 1,127 confirmed deaths. There is a cumulative total of 8,003 probable cases (antigen test), including 18 probable deaths.

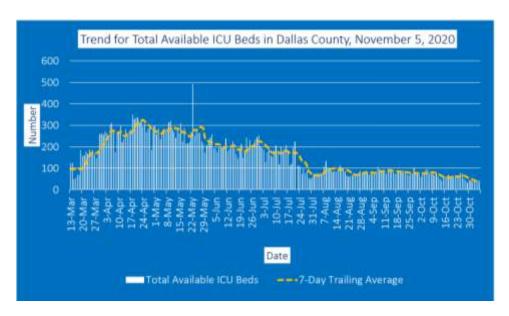
The additional deaths being reported today includes the following:

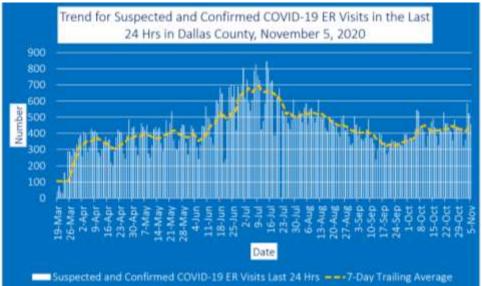
- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

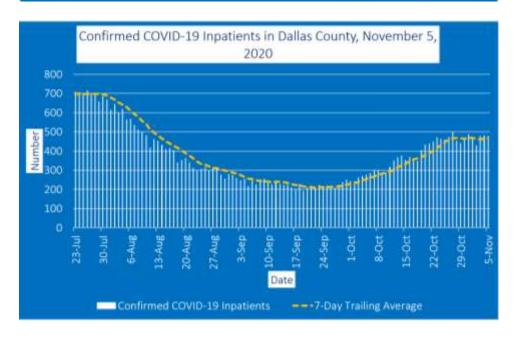
The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 43 has increased to **733** -- the highest daily average of new cases since July. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 has increased to **15.4%** of 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. 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 478 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Thursday, November 5. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 457 for the same time period, which represents around 18 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data here.









"Today we've reached the grim milestone of 100,000 Dallas County residents who have been sickened with COVID-19. Our daily numbers continue to increase with today's total of 1,269 being the highest daily total we've seen since our peaks in July that could not be attributed to a backlog or data release like we saw earlier this week when 80% of our probable cases on the day that we reported 1500 cases were attributable to antigen tests that had been done over the last 15 days. Today's numbers are from recent cases. Additionally, we have two deaths to report today, a person in their 50's and a person in their 60's.

We are seeing too many people relax their resolve due to COVID fatigue and now is not the time to stop wearing masks or being around more people when we are in a dangerous fall wave. We must get these numbers under control as Thanksgiving and Christmas are the two holidays when people are around more people and the cold winter months bring us indoors where spread is easier. We know what to do, we just need to do it. Wear your mask, avoid crowds, and renew your focus on moving from our understandable selfish desires to resume our pre-COVID activities to sacrifice for the community health and economy for a little while longer. This won't last forever but unfortunately it will last a little while longer and it's up to all of us to do our part to flatten the curve," 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
- <u>Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution's Workforce from COVID-19 Infection:</u> 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 214-653-7949

###