



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 12, 2020

Dallas County Reports 234 Additional Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases

DALLAS -- As of 11:00am August 12, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 234 additional confirmed cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total confirmed case count in Dallas County to 55,787, including 794 confirmed deaths. An additional 88 probable cases of COVID-19 have been reported since yesterday, bringing the total probable case count in Dallas to 2,360, including 7 probable deaths from COVID-19.

The additional 9 deaths being reported today are the following 9 confirmed deaths:

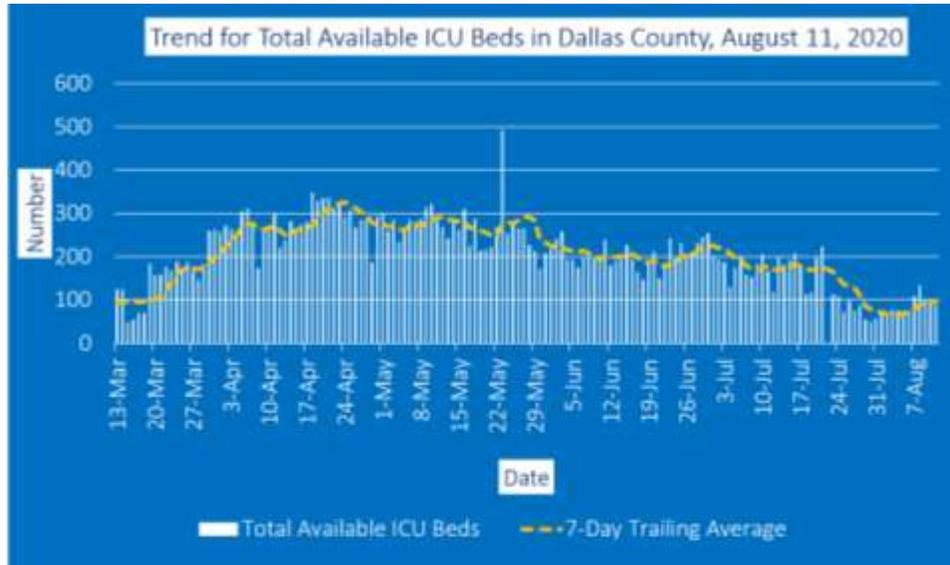
- A man in his 30's who was a resident of the City of Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and did not have underlying high 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 did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60'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 DeSoto. She had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70'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 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 woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She was found deceased at home, and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Duncanville. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.

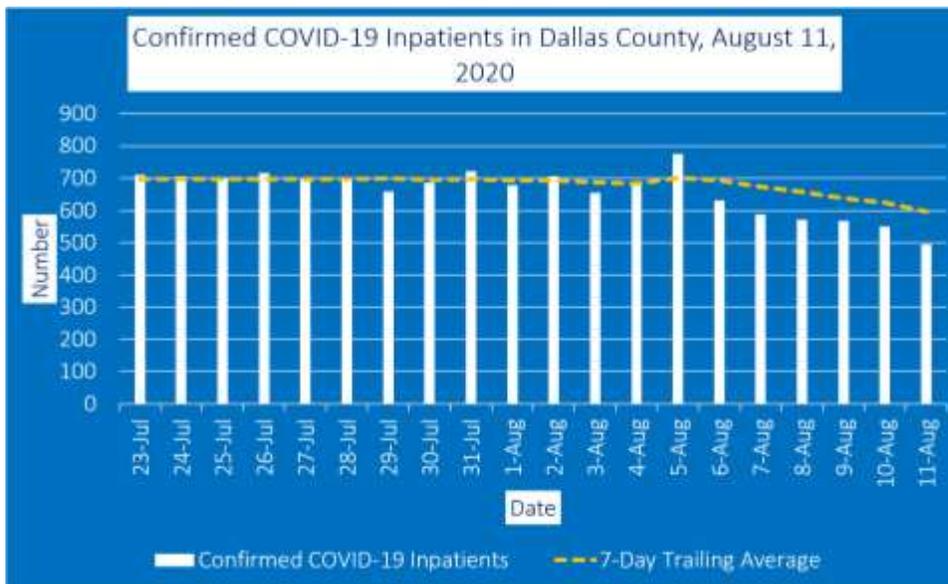
Over 2,833 children under 18 years of age have been diagnosed with confirmed COVID-19 since July 1st, including 65 children who have been hospitalized for COVID-19. Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19.

The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, with about 15.9% of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 30. Of the total confirmed deaths reported to date, about 27% 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.

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. We continue to see high numbers of COVID-19 patients in Dallas County with 494 people in acute care for the period ending Tuesday, August 11. Additionally, the number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 502 in the 24 hour period ending Tuesday, August 11, which represents around 22 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. While COVID-19 hospitalizations are down near levels last seen in late June, the trajectory of decline is much slower than the trajectory of the July to August increase. As confirmed cases increase, hospitalizations can and will increase more rapidly. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today we are reporting 234 new COVID-19 positive cases, our lowest daily total since August 6. We also are reporting nine deaths, including two men in their 50’s who did not have underlying high risk health conditions. The trends that we’re seeing are good and they’re due to your smart and sacrificial decisions to wear masks around others outside your home one hundred percent of the time, maintain six foot distancing from people outside your home, use frequent hand washing, and avoid unnecessary trips around other people and any activity where a mask cannot be worn by everyone one hundred percent of the time.

We’ve seen a roughly 40% decrease in demand for testing at our city/county run sites and we are currently not reaching capacity at those sites. The lines are short and the turnaround times have improved, so if you need testing, please get it. It’s up to all of us to flatten the curve, and the good trends that we’re seeing can quickly change if only a few of us decide to do things that are not recommended by the doctors. For a complete list of doctor recommendations regarding activities and how best to perform them, go to www.DallasCountyCOVID.org. When we have an outbreak, the numbers shoot up quickly but they come down slowly, so continuing to do the things that are proving to be effective is the best way to keep less people from getting sick, to keep more businesses open and to get our students back into school sooner rather than later,” 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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