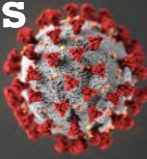


DSHS Region 8

Coronavirus Update 9/24/2020



Region 8 Responds

The Regional Health and Medical Operations Center (RHMOCC) is open 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday. Please send inquiries, questions, subscription requests or reports to Region8COVID-19@dshs.texas.gov or call 210-949-2121. **Please Note: The Region 8 Daily Update is intended for emergency managers, elected officials, infection preventionists and public health stakeholders. We encourage you to share with appropriate entities, but we do not consent to posting the Daily Update on social media platforms. Anyone who would like to receive the Daily Update can request to be added to the distribution list by emailing Region8COVID-19@dshs.texas.gov**

Changing Age Distribution of the COVID-19 Pandemic

As of September 21, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in more than 6,800,000 reported U.S. cases and more than 199,000 associated deaths. Early in the pandemic, COVID-19 incidence was highest among older adults. During June–August, COVID-19 incidence was highest in persons aged 20–29 years, who accounted for >20% of all confirmed cases. The southern United States experienced regional outbreaks of COVID-19 in June. In these regions, increases in the percentage of positive COVID-19 test results among adults aged 20–39 years preceded increases among adults aged ≥60 years by an average of 8.7 days, suggesting that younger adults likely contributed to community transmission of COVID-19.

These findings have important clinical and public health implications. First, occupational and behavioral factors might put younger adults at higher risk for exposure to SARS-CoV-2. Younger adults make up a large proportion of workers in frontline occupations such as retail stores, public transit, child care, and social services and highly exposed industries such as restaurants/bars, entertainment, and personal services, where consistent implementation of prevention strategies might be difficult or not possible. In addition, younger adults might also be less likely to follow community mitigation strategies, such as social distancing and avoiding group gatherings. Second, younger adults, who are more likely to have mild or no symptoms, can unknowingly contribute to presymptomatic or asymptomatic transmission to others, including to persons at higher risk for severe illness. Finally, SARS-CoV-2 infection is not benign in younger adults, especially among those with underlying medical conditions, who are at risk for hospitalization, severe illness, and death.

Click [here](#) for the complete MMWR article.

Teen Vaping in Texas

Vaping, or e-cigarette use, is common among Texas teens, even though the minimum legal age to purchase e-cigarettes is now 21. Teen vaping in Texas is a public health issue. E-cigarettes are now the most commonly used tobacco product among teens according to data from the Texas Adolescent Tobacco and Marketing Surveillance Study (TATAMS).

Here are some facts about the vaping crisis:

- Vaping increases teens' risk for nicotine dependence. Nicotine exposure during adolescence can harm brain development and can alter young people's mood, memory, and learning.
- Teens who vape are more likely to start and continue cigarette smoking. It is estimated that 498,000 Texas teens under the age of 18 will die prematurely from smoking if it is not curbed.
- E-liquids and e-cigarette aerosols contain harmful substances like carcinogens and heavy metals that damage the lungs and body.

Click [here](#) to see the complete study and more information on teen vaping

Announcing Redesigned MentalHealthTX.org

The Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC) through the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is pleased to announce the redesign of the Mental Health Texas website, mentalhealthtx.org.

This website is a resource to help people locate mental health and substance use disorder services, get information about common mental health conditions and social services, and find crisis hotline services. The website also includes mental health resources related to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Testing Sites

Registration for mobile testing sites is now available at <https://Texas.curativeinc.com/welcome>. For walk-up sites, registration can be completed on site. For more information on additional test sites state-wide, visit <https://txcovidtest.org>. For more information on San Antonio testing sites, click [here](#). Hospitals and doctors' offices may also provide testing.

Date/Time	County	Location
September 27 8 to 4 pm	Gillespie	Pioneer Village 432 Lady Bird Dr., Fredericksburg (walk-up)
September 29 8 to 4	Dimmit	Carrizo Springs Civic Center 405 N. 7th Street, Carrizo Springs (walk-up)



TEXAS
Health and Human
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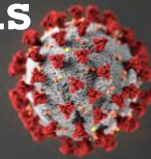
Texas Department of State
Health Services

Dept. of State Health Services
7430 Louis Pasteur
San Antonio, TX 78229
(210) 949-2000 phone
(210) 949-2015 fax

dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus

DSHS Region 8

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COVID-19 Cases at a Glance

Texas				USA			World	
719,599				6,916,292			31,798,308	
REGION 8	Case Type			Status			Summary	
	Pending Investigation	Confirmed	Probable	Active	Recovered	Deaths	Total	New
	1699	71338	11328	4268	69729	1758	84365	+276
Counties								
Atascosa	152	991	74	16	1185	16	1217	+1
Bandera	19	140	8	1	163	3	167	-
Bexar	0	44008	9786	3220	40896	1068	53794	+155
Calhoun	130	689	7	20	798	8	826	+1
Comal	0	2694	716	235	3059	116	3410	+49
DeWitt	0	936	0	50	840	46	936	-
Dimmit	20	221	2	5	235	3	243	+1
Edwards	7	60	0	0	67	0	67	-
Frio	52	711	17	8	767	5	780	-
Gillespie	21	289	9	4	313	2	319	-
Goliad	0	154	40	1	190	3	194	-
Gonzales	80	977	20	2	1066	9	1077	-
Guadalupe	629	2935	180	22	3680	42	3744	-
Jackson	61	544	2	9	591	7	607	-
Karnes	79	409	6	2	483	9	494	-
Kendall	32	301	39	0	369	3	372	+1
Kerr	66	524	21	3	599	9	611	-
Kinney	7	37	0	1	43	0	44	-
LaSalle	0	104	9	4	106	3	113	-
Lavaca	147	827	14	30	946	12	988	+1
Maverick	0	3698	0	331	3243	124	3698	+46
Medina	13	824	294	33	1070	28	1131	-
Real	6	112	1	1	117	1	119	-
Uvalde	0	772	31	16	756	31	803	+1
Val Verde	0	2153	0	146	1915	92	2153	-
Victoria	0	4041	7	76	3878	94	4048	+14
Wilson	116	773	37	11	895	20	926	+1
Zavala	23	325	8	14	338	4	356	+1
Correctional/ICE Facilities								
TDCJ†	0	793	0	6	787	0	793	+3
ICE‡	27	268	0	1	294	0	295	+1
Other§	12	28	0	0	40	0	40	-
†DeWitt: Stevenson Unit (60); Frio: Briscoe Unit (24); Medina: Ney Unit (179), Torres Unit (191); Karnes: Connally Unit (339); LaSalle: Cotulla Unit (253)								
‡Frio County (187), Karnes County (108), LaSalle County (3)								
§Atascosa County Jail (14), Dimmit County Jail (15), Guadalupe County Jail (7), Jackson County Jail (1), Karnes County Jail (2), Uvalde County Jail (1)								
Region 8 Case Summary							Total	New
RHMOC							16019	+12
Community Cases							14891	+8
Inmate†/Detainee‡ Cases							1128	+4
Local Health Entities*							68346	+264
*Bexar, Comal, DeWitt, Goliad, LaSalle, Maverick, Val Verde & Victoria Counties								
TOTAL							84365	+276

Recovery Counts: Region 8 is no longer conducting active case monitoring and will report estimated recovery counts using a time-based strategy to determine the date that a case is no longer likely to be infectious.



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