

WCOEM: March 25, 2020 COVID-19 Update for Walker County

County Stakeholders continue to meet daily to discuss current conditions, unmet needs and operational procedures for every sector.

We are continually monitoring conditions locally, regionally, statewide and at the national level.

The CDC and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) coronavirus webpages are reliable sources of information. DSHS is monitoring the Texas situation seven days a week. They are working closely with emergency response agencies, local health departments and the CDC. The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. The Coronavirus Task Force continues holding frequent national briefings. DSHS COVID-19 Call Center 1-877-570-9779 Hours 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Below are the latest statistics reported by Department of State Health Services (DSHS) DSHS will update the state case count each day by 8 PM Central Time.

Texas total testing – 13,235

Public Labs – 1,758

Private Labs – 11,477*

*number does not include the total tested by all private labs.

Texas COVID-19 cases – 715

Deaths – 11

Cases by county:

(65 of 254 counties reporting cases)

Bell – 16

Bexar – 57

Blanco - 1

Bowie – 1

Brazoria – 18

Brazos – 12

Brown – 2

Burnet - 1

Cameron – 6

Cass - 1

Castro – 2

Chambers – 2

Collin – 38

Comal – 4

Coryell - 1

Crane – 1

Dallas – 131

Deaf Smith – 2

Denton – 30

DeWitt – 1

Eastland - 2

El Paso – 7
Ellis – 7
Erath - 1
Falls - 1
Fannin – 1
Fayette - 1
Fort Bend – 29
Galveston – 18
Grayson - 1
Gregg – 1
Grimes - 2
Harris – 54
Hays – 7
Hidalgo - 2
Hockley – 3
Hopkins – 1
Hunt - 1
Johnson – 3
Kaufman – 2
Lamar - 1
Lavaca – 1
Limestone - 1
Lubbock – 11
Matagorda – 3
McLennon – 20
Medina – 1
Midland – 1
Montgomery – 19
Morris - 1
Nueces - 1
Oldham – 1
Parker - 1
Potter – 2
Robertson - 1
Rusk – 2
Smith – 14
Tarrant – 57
Tom Green - 1
Travis – 79
Upshur – 1
Van Zandt - 1
Webb – 5
Wichita – 5
Williamson – 14

Does not include repatriation cases.

Why did the case counts reported by DSHS increase suddenly?

DSHS updated the method of reporting COVID-19 cases in Texas to provide the public with more timely information. The DSHS daily case count now includes all cases reported publicly by local health departments around the state. With the change, Texas is now reporting an additional 305 cases of COVID-19.

Why are DSHS's case counts different from what other sources are reporting?

Other dashboards may be using media reports to gather information about new cases, which may result in some cases being counted more than once.

Walker County has one confirmed case but has not been added to DSHS report, as may other counties that have positives cases. Reported above are only the cases listed with DSHS.

National COVID-19 cases – 44,183

Total Deaths – 544

Jurisdictions reporting cases – 54 (50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and U.S. Virgin Island)

Walker County ordered test kits several weeks ago and are waiting for the state to fill that request so we can test here. Information will be provided as we receive it.

Harris County is now testing for coronavirus for the entire region. Access their online screening tool to help with testing at www.readyharris.org and click on the “coronavirus testing” button. You will answer some screening questions and be given an identifier number. They will prioritize tests based on symptoms. You must have symptoms to be considered for testing. If you do not have access to the internet, call 832-927-7575.

For Statewide case numbers and information, visit <https://dshs.texas.gov/news/updates.shtm#coronavirus>

For National case numbers and information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov>

Walker County OEM will provide this update each weekday after the statewide and national numbers are updated.