



**Texas Division of Emergency Management
State Situation Report**

New Information Is In Blue Text

Event Name	20-0003 COVID-19 2020
Date	October 8, 2020
Time	0900
Operational Period	October 7 to October 8, 2020
Report Number	203

Region	
Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
DDCs Active	DDCs 1, 2, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9A, 9B, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16A, 16B, 16C, 16D, 17, 18A, 18B, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24 & Capitol

Current Situation: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is currently reporting a total of 777,556 cases of COVID-19 in the State of Texas which includes an estimated 70,813 active cases, 692,123 individuals have recovered from the virus and 16,230 confirmed COVID-19 related fatalities. Across Texas, a total of 6,664,440 COVID-19 molecular tests have been completed.

Visit the Testing Sites Map online for testing locations near you.

<https://txdps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8bf7c6a436a64bfe9a5ce25be580e4ff>

View the Governor's Executive Orders issued:

<https://irl.texas.gov/legeLeaders/governors/displayDocs.cfm?govdoctypeID=5&governorID=45>

Websites to help Texans during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

The Governor's Report to Open Texas.

<https://open.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>

Texas Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information Page. <https://www.texas.gov/covid19/>

The Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas and a list of guidelines, openings, and relevant dates. <https://open.texas.gov/>

Texas Health and Human Services Family Violence Program.

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/family-violence-program>

Texas Health and Human Services Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) and

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-information-texans/pandemic-ebt-p-ebt-due-covid-19>

Texas Health and Human Services Mental Health and Substance Use Resources.

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-substance-use-resources>

One Star Foundation, Texas COVID Relief Fund. <http://onestarfoundation.org/txcovidfund/>

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Help for Texans.

<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm>

Essential Services. <https://tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices/>

Help essential workers in Texas locate child care and support child care centers.

<https://frontlinechildcare.texas.gov/>

Special WIC Food Updates. <https://texaswic.org/about-wic/special-wic-food-updates>

Comfort Food Care Packages (CFCP). <https://www.txrestaurant.org/news/comfort-food-care-packages-feed-youth-and-families-need-and-stay-open>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. <https://www.cms.gov/>

Texas Health and Human Services. <https://hhs.texas.gov/>

Texans in need can apply for benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid.

<https://www.YourTexasBenefits.com>

To apply for unemployment benefits or to request payment

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/unemployment-benefits-services>

On October 7, Governor Abbott issued an [Executive Order](#) to open bars and similar establishments at up to 50% capacity in conjunction with county officials. In hospital regions with [low COVID-19 hospitalizations](#), County Judges will be able to opt their county into opening bars beginning October 14, provided they assist in enforcing [health protocols](#). The Governor's Executive Order also increases the occupancy levels for all business establishments other than bars to 75%.

For Trauma Service Areas (TSAs) where COVID-19 hospitalizations are less than 15% of hospital capacity, a County Judge may authorize the opening of bars and similar establishments at 50% occupancy. If a County Judge authorizes the opening of these establishments, [certain protocols](#) must be followed. As recommended by trade associations representing bars, dance floors at bars and similar establishments must remain closed. Consistent with protocols for restaurants, all patrons must be seated while eating or drinking (with limited exceptions for sampling at breweries, distilleries, and wineries), and must wear masks when they are not seated at a table. Additionally, tables must be limited to six individuals or less and all establishments must follow specific curfew guidelines.

Beginning Wednesday, October 14, all counties where COVID-19 hospitalizations are less than 15% of hospital capacity can open all businesses other than bars to 75% capacity.

Additionally, the Governor released a web video with his Executive Order, encouraging Texans to continue following best practices to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in their communities. [The video can be viewed on YouTube.](#) [View the Governor's Executive Order.](#)

On October 7, Governor Abbott renewed the State Disaster Declaration for COVID-19.

On October 6, Governor Abbott and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) announced the delivery of 39 pallets of hand sanitizer from Anheuser-Busch to TDEM's central Texas warehouse. TDEM will distribute the hand sanitizer to counties across Texas for use at polling locations during early voting and on Election Day.

On October 2, Governor Abbott and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announced \$3.5 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to purchase plexiglass barriers and tents to allow for safe visitation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Nursing facilities may apply for this funding through HHSC beginning October 5, 2020.

For more details on how to apply for funding, [visit the Texas HHS website.](#)

On September 30, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is partnering with the State of Texas and local officials to offer temporary COVID-19 surge testing in McLennan County. HHS has allocated 40,000 COVID-19 tests for this effort. An initial three testing sites will operate daily from October 7th to October 10th from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and future locations/dates will be announced by local officials. For hours of operation and registration details as well as future testing dates throughout October, visit www.covidwaco.com. Registration will be available on-site.

On September 30, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will provide approximately \$196 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of October as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On September 25, Governor Abbott announced that Texas' major health insurers have agreed to continue reimbursing network health care providers for telehealth appointments at the same rate which they pay for office visits through the end of 2020

On September 25, Governor Abbott announced the allocation of over \$171 million in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which will primarily be used for targeted rental assistance for Texans at risk of becoming homeless due to eviction. The funding will also allow the Supreme Court of Texas, the Office of Court Administration, and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to work in partnership with local governments and non-profits and the newly created Texas Eviction Diversion Program to help renters stay in their homes, catch up on missed rental payments, and avoid an eviction on their records.

On September 17, Governor Abbot issued Executive Orders expanding occupancy levels at 75% for restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms and exercise

facilities and classes, museums, and libraries, and re-authorizing elective surgeries for a majority of the state of Texas beginning September 21. A current list of areas with high hospitalizations will be maintained at www.dshs.texas.gov/ga3031.

Three of the 22 TSAs (S-Victoria, T-Laredo, and V-Lower Rio Grande Valley) must remain at 50% occupancy and continue postponing elective surgeries until the hospitalization metric requirements are met. These three TSAs contain the following counties: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca, Victoria, Jim Hogg, Webb, Zapata, Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy. New visitation guidance for eligible nursing homes, assisted living facilities, intermediate care facilities, home and community-based service providers, and inpatient hospice effective Thursday, September 24 while maintaining health and safety standards to mitigate COVID-19.

On September 7, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation extending his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 31, Governor Abbott announced the Texas HHSC will provide approximately \$188 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of September as Texas continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 21, Governor Abbott issued a statement after the federal government approved nearly \$1.4 billion in initial funds made available through President Trump's Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order. This funding will provide an additional \$300 per week in benefits for qualifying Texans receiving unemployment benefits.

On August 20, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Education Agency (TEA), in partnership with Local Education Agencies, has procured more than 1 million personal devices and internet WiFi hotspots as part of the State's Operation Connectivity initiative

On August 20, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has applied for additional unemployment benefit funding made available through President Trump's Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order.

On August 13, Governor Abbott traveled to El Paso to meet with state representatives and local leaders to discuss the community's response to COVID-19.

On August 12, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has extended operations for four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County.

On August 11, Governor Abbott traveled to Beaumont and Victoria to hold a briefing with local officials and state representatives on the ongoing COVID-19 response in Jefferson County.

On August 8, Governor Abbott extended his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19. Originally issued on March 13th, the Disaster Declaration provides the state a variety of resources to effectively serve Texans.

On August 7, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has established four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites. Two testing sites in Houston and Pasadena began operations August 6th, and two testing sites in Houston and Kingwood began operations on Monday,

August 10th. For hours of operation and registration details, visit www.doineedacovid19test.com.

On August 6, Governor Abbott announced that the Houston Astros and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) have teamed up to open a free COVID-19 testing site at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The testing site will be able to process 2,000 tests per day and began operations on Saturday, August 8. Testing will run from 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM seven days per week. To book an appointment and learn more, visit Texas.curativeinc.com.

On August 5, Governor Abbott and the HHSC announced that the federal government has further extended the deadline to apply for the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund. The deadline has now been extended to Aug. 28, 2020 for Medicaid and CHIP providers as the state responds to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 4, Governor Abbott visited the McAllen Convention Center for the opening of the temporary health care facility which will help increase the Rio Grande Valley's hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 4, Governor Abbott visited the TDEM Warehouse in San Antonio where he provided an update on the state's distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Texas school districts for the 2020-2021 academic year.

On August 4, Governor Abbott announced that President Trump has extended federal funding for the Texas National Guard's mission to help combat COVID-19 in communities across the state.

On July 31, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with Mayors, County Judges, Emergency Managers, Hospital Executives, State Legislators, and other local officials from the cities of Laredo and Eagle Pass to discuss ongoing efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

On July 30, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$185 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of August as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On July 30, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC is extending flexibilities to Medicaid and CHIP recipients and providers through October 23, 2020, as the state continues to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

On July 28, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC is extending the application deadline for the federal Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer program (P-EBT) to August 21 to ensure eligible families have more time to apply for this one-time food benefit.

On July 24, Governor Abbott announced HHSC has received federal authority to extend certifications by six months for SNAP recipients whose benefits are up for renewal in July and August.

On July 24, Governor Abbott and the Texas Military Department (TMD) announced Joint Task Force Texas, a newly formed partnership between the Texas National Guard and Active Duty and Reservists to strengthen COVID-19 response efforts in Texas.

Texas Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Thomas Suelzer, appointed as the dual-status commander, serves as the commander of both Texas National Guard and federal service members.

On July 23, The Office Of The Governor and Guadalupe Zamora, MD, of Zamora Medical Center released a new English-Spanish language public service announcement (PSA) urging communities to work together to protect vulnerable Texans from COVID-19.

On July 22, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will allocate an additional \$118 million in federal funding to support higher education in Texas, including \$93 million to help students continue or restart their progress toward earning a post-secondary credential or degree.

On July 21, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with mayors, county judges, emergency managers, hospital executives, state legislators, and other local officials from Cameron and Hidalgo Counties to discuss the unified efforts to combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On July 19, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has sent five U.S. Navy teams to four locations in South and Southwest Texas to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

On July 17, Governor Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Patrick, House Speaker Bonnen, Senate Finance Committee Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Hinojosa, and House Appropriations Committee Chair Capriglione and Vice Chair Longoria announced that the State of Texas will allocate \$200 million in CARES Act funding to the TEA for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity.

On July 15, Governor Abbott announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide \$41 million in federal funds to assist cities and counties throughout the COVID-19 response.

On July 13, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has activated additional U.S. Army Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces (UAMTF) to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19.

On July 10, Governor Abbott extended the COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation to further mitigate the spread of the virus. He also announced that Omnicare, a CVS Health company, is partnering with the State of Texas to provide COVID-19 point of care testing for assisted living facilities and nursing homes throughout the state

On July 9, Governor Abbott issued a Proclamation suspending elective surgeries in hospitals in all counties located within 11 Trauma Service Areas (TSAs) in Texas.

On July 8, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will invest \$57 million in federal funds to maintain the state's need-based financial aid programs and keep more students enrolled at their colleges and universities.

On July 4, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing 448 cases of the antiviral

drug Remdesivir to 157 hospitals across Texas.

On July 2, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases, with few exceptions. The Governor also issued a proclamation giving mayors and county judges the ability to impose restrictions on some outdoor gatherings of over 10 people, and making it mandatory that, with certain exceptions, people cannot be in groups larger than ten and must maintain six feet of social distancing from others.

On July 2, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced that \$2.67 billion in federal funding has been approved to support Texas hospitals that provide care for people receiving Medicaid.

On June 30, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$9 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to implement infection control.

On June 30, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending elective surgeries at hospitals in Cameron, Hidalgo, Nueces, and Webb counties to help ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients in these communities.

On June 26, Governor Abbott issued an executive order limiting certain businesses and services as part of the state's effort to contain the spread of COVID-19.

On June 26, Governor Abbott announced that the federal government has granted his request to extend operations of Community Based Testing Sites across Texas.

On June 25, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission enacted new emergency rules related to health and safety standards for child day care operations.

On June 25, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order to ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients as Texas faces an increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

On June 24, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with the Texas Military Department (TMD), will begin distributing 3-ply surgical masks to every Texan who undergoes COVID-19 testing at state-run mobile test collection sites.

On June 23, As COVID-19 cases rise in Texas, Governor Abbott has expanded the ability of mayors and county judges to impose restrictions on outdoor gatherings of over 100 people.

On June 22, Governor Abbot provided an update on Texas' continued response to COVID-19.

On June 16, Governor Abbott and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs of the University of Texas (UT) System John Zerwas, MD, provided an update on Texas' hospital capacity

On June 11, Governor Abbott extended the Disaster Declaration for all counties in the State of Texas amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

On June 9, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing additional cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 85 hospitals across 34 counties in Texas.

On June 8, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is coordinating with local officials, public health officials, and emergency management offices in cities across the state to identify and rapidly expand COVID-19 testing in underserved and minority communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

On June 3, Governor Abbott announced the third phase of the State of Texas' plan to safely open the economy while containing the spread of COVID-19. Under Phase III, effective immediately, all businesses in Texas will be able to operate at up to 50% capacity, with very limited exceptions.

On May 27, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.6 million in funding for nursing facilities to purchase tablets, webcams, and headphones to connect residents with their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 21, Governor Greg Abbott directed HHSC to expand COVID-19 testing to all patients, residents, and staff at the 23 state-operated inpatient psychiatric hospitals and living centers throughout Texas.

On May 15, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced that local fire departments in Texas are partnering with local public health authorities to provide testing in nursing homes throughout the state.

On May 14, Governor Abbott announced HHSC has received more than \$3 million in federal funding to provide shelter and services to survivors of family and domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Abbott also announced that the Texas National Guard has activated Facilities Disinfection Teams to support Texans in nursing homes and to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

On May 13, Governor Abbott waived license renewal late fees that accrued between March 13 and June 15, 2020 for occupational licenses issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

On May 12, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide more than \$1 billion in food benefits through the federal Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program to families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or discounted school meals due to COVID-19-related school closures.

On May 11, Governor Abbott directed HHSC, TDEM, and DSHS to test 100% of residents and staff in Texas nursing homes.

On May 8, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Category B (Emergency Protective Measures) assistance funding to provide financial support to Texas' network of food banks.

On May 6, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received \$5.8 million in federal funding to provide crisis counseling services to Texans who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On April 30, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has issued new guidance to unemployment claimants concerning their eligibility for unemployment benefits should they choose not to return to work at this time due to COVID-19.

On April 27, Governor Abbott announced the first phase of the State of Texas' ongoing plan to safely and strategically open Texas while minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

On April 24, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM and DSHS have launched an online COVID-19 test collection map to help Texans locate test collection sites within their community.

On April 24, Governor Abbott and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) announced that Texas will provide Home Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) to Texans experiencing housing challenges due to COVID-19.

On April 23, Governor Abbott announced that Texas A&M Service will provide a series of free online trainings to help local officials understand, acquire, and administer federal assistance available to the state of Texas and municipalities through the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and recently passed CARES Act.

On April 23, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will receive nearly \$54 million in federal funds to support older Texans and people with disabilities during the COVID-19 response.

On April 22, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain restrictions to allow Texas higher education institutions to transfer all unexpended student financial aid funds from the Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) program to other financial aid programs that do not have a work-study requirement to ensure students will continue receiving financial assistance.

On April 20, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard will be mobilizing more than 1,200 personnel as part of COVID-19 mobile testing teams (MTT). With reports of elevated scams and fraudulent activity preying on the public and consumers disguised as COVID-19 relief and assistance, local, state and federal response includes guidance, investigation, and prosecution. See links below:

- Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus>
- Federal Bureau of Investigation: <https://www.fbi.gov/coronavirus>
- Texas Attorney General: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov>
- US Attorney's Office: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/report-covid-19-fraud>
- Federal Communications Commission: <https://www.fcc.gov/covid-scams>

On April 13, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton filed a motion to intervene into a federal lawsuit seeking to stop the release of inmates from the Dallas County Jail, including killers, rapists, arsonists and armed robbers.

On April 9, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has adopted an emergency rule to temporarily allow more nurse aides to serve residents in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 response.

On April 8, Governor Abbott suspended certain statutes concerning appearance before a notary public to execute a self-proved will, a durable power of attorney, a medical power of attorney, a directive to physician, or an oath of an executor, administrator, or guardian.

On April 8, Governor Abbott announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide a one-time emergency waiver of the federally required cash or in-kind match contribution required for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant funds.

On April 8, Governor Abbott announced that Texas HHSC will provide more than \$168 million in emergency SNAP food benefits to help Texans during the COVID-19 response.

On April 6, Texas Health and Human Services announces Texas WIC, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, is expanding the number of food items eligible for purchase through the program.

On April 5, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain regulations to expand the health care workforce to assist with Texas' COVID-19 response.

On April 3, Governor Abbott held a press conference to provide an update on Texas hospital capacity. Texas has increased by over 140% since March 18.

On April 1, Governor Abbott and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) took initial action to provide tenant-based rental assistance for Texans experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

On March 31, Governor Abbott announced the Comfort Food Care Package (CFCP) program to provide meals for at-risk youth and families in communities across Texas as the state responds to COVID-19.

On March 28, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations allowing for an expedited licensing reactivation process for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) in Texas. The Governor also waived certain licensing renewal regulations for Texas pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy technician trainees.

On March 27, Governor Abbott announced the deployment of three National Guard Joint Task Force Brigades. The 72nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 56th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and the 176th Engineer Brigade.

On March 27, Governor Abbott waived certain Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) regulations to preserve and extend child care capacity for front line workers.

On March 25, Governor Abbott released a statement thanking President Trump for issuing a Major Disaster Declaration (DR-4485) for the State of Texas.

On March 23, Governor Abbott sent a letter to President Trump requesting a presidential declaration of a major disaster in Texas based on the continued impact of COVID-19.

Chief Nim Kidd has been designated the Governor's Authorized Representative and State Coordinating Officer, tasked with continuing his coordination with FEMA on all matters related

to COVID-19.

On March 20, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) warned consumers about unauthorized fraudulent coronavirus tests. Governor Abbott also announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has included the entire state of Texas in its Economic Injury Disaster Declaration and granted access to its Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program.

On March 19, the Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services, Dr. John Hellerstedt, issued a Public Health Disaster Declaration in Texas. Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending provisions of the Texas Election Code to allow political subdivisions to postpone their 2020 local elections. Governor Abbott and TEA announced a collaboration with Local Education Agencies (LEA) on the Texas Students Meal Finder Map which will allow Texas parents to locate LEA facilities serving meals in their communities.

On March 17, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations and directed that the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) issue an emergency rule, relating to telemedicine care for patients with state-regulated insurance plans.

On March 14, Governor Abbott, directed the Texas Medical Board (TMB) and the Texas Board of Nursing (TBN) to fast-track the temporary licensing of out-of-state physicians, physician assistants, certain retired physicians, nurses, and other license types to assist in Texas' response to COVID-19.

On March 13, the President of the United States Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 global pandemic is a national emergency. On the same day, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat in the state and declared a state of disaster for all 254 counties in Texas.

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Commissioner Sid Miller announced TDA has been granted flexibility from the federal school meal program to allow Texas schools to continue to provide meals to students even if temporarily closed.

Texas COVID-19 Cases, October 7, 2020

County of Residence	Cases						
Anderson	2,849	Donley	69	Kaufman	3,236	Reeves	216
Andrews	477	Duval	463	Kendall	372	Refugio	310
Angelina	2,205	Eastland	200	Kenedy	7	Roberts	12
Aransas	335	Ector	3,259	Kent	9	Robertson	338
Archer	89	Edwards	68	Kerr	624	Rockwall	1,712
Armstrong	13	El Paso	26,432	Kimble	17	Runnels	285
Atascosa	1,240	Ellis	4,523	Kinney	58	Rusk	958
Austin	503	Erath	902	Kleberg	1,022	Sabine	82
Bailey	231	Falls	565	Knox	106	San Augustine	207
Bandera	176	Fannin	705	La Salle	349	San Jacinto	228
Bastrop	1,882	Fayette	495	Lamar	1,320	San Patricio	1,501

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Baylor	31	Fisher	70	Lamb	353	San Saba	79
Bee	1,819	Floyd	113	Lampasas	275	Schleicher	53
Bell	5,721	Foard	18	Lavaca	1,033	Scurry	834
Bexar	48,287	Fort Bend	16,642	Lee	232	Shackelford	29
Blanco	148	Franklin	152	Leon	269	Shelby	495
Borden	1	Freestone	422	Liberty	2,264	Sherman	66
Bosque	358	Frio	994	Limestone	600	Smith	3,953
Bowie	1,488	Gaines	403	Lipscomb	44	Somervell	150
Brazoria	11,658	Galveston	11,833	Live Oak	374	Starr	3,465
Brazos	6,725	Garza	106	Llano	143	Stephens	142
Brewster	223	Gillespie	337	Lubbock	12,939	Sterling	7
Briscoe	15	Glasscock	9	Lynn	113	Stonewall	16
Brooks	329	Goliad	156	Madison	733	Sutton	85
Brown	594	Gonzales	1,071	Marion	156	Swisher	112
Burleson	370	Gray	336	Martin	79	Tarrant	48,707
Burnet	785	Grayson	2,009	Mason	79	Taylor	1,574
Caldwell	1,669	Gregg	2,328	Matagorda	1,063	Terrell	3
Calhoun	854	Grimes	1,101	Maverick	3,829	Terry	320
Callahan	98	Guadalupe	3,727	McCulloch	172	Throckmorton	10
Cameron	23,084	Hale	2,009	McLennan	8,642	Titus	1,496
Camp	369	Hall	35	McMullen	24	Tom Green	2,349
Carson	33	Hamilton	162	Medina	1,241	Travis	29,952
Cass	404	Hansford	168	Menard	31	Trinity	199
Castro	263	Hardeman	36	Midland	4,035	Tyler	236
Chambers	1,414	Hardin	1,358	Milam	517	Upshur	412
Cherokee	1,575	Harris	148,769	Mills	62	Upton	25
Childress	79	Harrison	939	Mitchell	106	Uvalde	805
Clay	83	Hartley	145	Montague	195	Val Verde	2,269
Cochran	60	Haskell	72	Montgomery	11,337	Van Zandt	606
Coke	54	Hays	5,995	Moore	1,206	Victoria	4,115
Coleman	81	Hemphill	88	Morris	194	Walker	3,788
Collin	15,814	Henderson	1,041	Motley	10	Waller	923
Collingsworth	19	Hidalgo	32,813	Nacogdoches	1,658	Ward	140
Colorado	490	Hill	723	Navarro	1,340	Washington	653
Comal	2,766	Hockley	387	Newton	187	Webb	14,287
Comanche	327	Hood	1,013	Nolan	282	Wharton	1,392
Concho	138	Hopkins	408	Nueces	16,022	Wheeler	50
Cooke	477	Houston	385	Ochiltree	165	Wichita	2,051
Coryell	1,854	Howard	965	Oldham	20	Wilbarger	230
Cottle	32	Hudspeth	64	Orange	2,008	Willacy	1,211

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Crane	72	Hunt	1,709	Palo Pinto	620	Williamson	8,861
Crockett	165	Hutchinson	243	Panola	411	Wilson	961
Crosby	90	Irion	12	Parker	2,085	Winkler	121
Culberson	58	Jack	144	Parmer	449	Wise	799
Dallam	283	Jackson	626	Pecos	403	Wood	561
Dallas	84,491	Jasper	496	Polk	876	Yoakum	265
Dawson	552	Jeff Davis	14	Potter	6,260	Young	371
DeWitt	1,034	Jefferson	7,708	Presidio	97	Zapata	338
Deaf Smith	917	Jim Hogg	113	Rains	76	Zavala	400
Delta	30	Jim Wells	1,541	Randall	3,335	Total	777,556
Denton	12,567	Johnson	3,234	Reagan	90		
Dickens	50	Jones	565	Real	120		
Dimmit	266	Karnes	946	Red River	169		

DSHS will update the state case count each day by 4:00 PM Central Time.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Protect vulnerable populations.
3. Support rapid & effective response.
4. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
5. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.
6. Expand and maximize bed capacity.
7. Develop alternative care sites to support local governments and the health care systems.
8. Acquire supplies/equipment to support health care and testing.
9. Ensure visibility on progression of the disease.
10. Support local governments

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 4A – Hurst (Includes Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise Counties)

Tarrant County:

City of Fort Worth: Fort Worth Fire Department has opened a COVID-19 testing center available to front line health care workers including physicians, nurses, medical assistants and other health professionals. Call the Infections Disease Coordinator at the Joint Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the City of Fort Worth at 817-714-9709. This number is answered from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily.

DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood Counties)

2-1-1 is open to the public 24/7 to answer questions about COVID-19 symptoms, and related resources are online at <http://www.211.org/services/covid19>. There are two additional ways to connect: people can text “211Help” to 484848, or visit www.211texas.org to web chat with a

Community Resource Specialist. This is a local United Way initiative.

Smith County:

City of Tyler: The City's phased re-open plan for services and facilities is active. A complete list of open/closed services is on the City website: <https://www.cityoftyler.org/>.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and 16 Rosenberg)

DDC 15 – Beaumont (Includes Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties)

The Southeast Texas Regional Emergency Operations Center launched a website summarizing and consolidating all information related to COVID-19 activities in Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, and Tyler counties. <https://covid-19-jeffco.hub.arcgis.com/>

DDC 16 – Houston (Includes Chambers and Harris Counties)

Harris County:

City of Houston: Houstonians should visit HoustonEmergency.org/covid19 for the latest local information about COVID-19 and ways to protect their family and community.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas State Operations Center remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff processing disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as severe weather messages, and preparing Snapshots and the state SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners and various members of the public health community to assist with unmet needs and resources.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): [Pony Express Team members made the following deliveries/retrievals yesterday:](#)

- [176 bundles or pallets prepared at Armories](#)
- [34 PPE deliveries to schools, county/governmental facilities, Fire Dept](#)
- [2 Deliveries of equipment](#)
- [2 Pick-ups or deliveries of test specimen kits](#)
- [1 Coolers picked-up from Labs](#)
- [1 Coolers transported to Armory or TDEM Warehouse](#)

[Two DAR agents received specimens at armories/airports from one QRF collection site after closing and transferred them to airports or reefer trucks to be taken to Austin for distribution to laboratories. Curative samples were delivered to FedEx by testing teams. Fourteen DAR agents are coordinating with test sites to ensure deliveries of kits to the Courier.](#)

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): TEEX continues to coordinate operations from the SOC and the 8 IST Resource Staging Areas (RSA) throughout Texas in 10 distribution locations. TEEX currently has 74 personnel deployed to support ongoing response activities throughout the state.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): TFS currently has 26 personnel committed to COVID-19 response and is providing planning, logistical support and other functional areas as needed to the TDEM, DSHS and local entities. Response activities include Situation Reports, STAR processing, logistical support for shipping and receiving medical supplies, and incident management support.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): TAHC is activated virtually in support of the state response to the outbreak of COVID-19. The TAHC is working with state and federal One Health partners to ensure consistent public information messaging for how to deal with animals in the context of potential COVID-19 exposure. The TAHC supports assessing Texas animals for COVID-19 testing and tracks testing results: to date, 17 animals in Texas have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. TAHC has conducted 72 Animal Assessments.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage.

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/covid-19/tceq-preparedness-responsibilities-covid-19>

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR):

- TDLR continues to update their website's COVID-19 page (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/covid19.htm>) with the latest developments affecting their licensees and the public.
- TDLR has extended their agency's current work from home initiative through November 1, 2020.
- TDLR will start accepting applications for combative sports events in the state in preparation for a phased-in reopening with a limited number of events. Events will be able to include spectators, with a cap of 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the venue. Event promoters must follow TDLR COVID-19 protocols that were developed with input from the TDLR Combative Sports Advisory Board's Medical, Health, and Safety Workgroup, ringside physicians, and other medical professionals. TDLR's protocols include COVID-19 testing for all athletes, seconds and event support staff. In addition, promoters must submit their own operational plan to TDLR and to the Texas Department of State Health Services. The operational plan must detail the promoter's plans for daily COVID-19 screenings, providing protective equipment and staffing, as well as cleaning and disinfecting the event venue and athlete delegation housing. When deciding whether to allow an event to proceed, TDLR will monitor factors including positive test rates and hospitalization rates in the area where the event is scheduled. If there's a localized spike in cases, the agency may cancel an event any time up to the beginning of the bouts.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): DPS Texas Highway Patrol (THP) is currently providing:

- DPS CCG Command Trailer has been made available to TDEM Daily Operations for off-site COOP.
- One Sergeant, three Troopers are assigned to assist with the COVID-19 testing site in Dallas.

- Eight THP Troopers assigned to assist with the COVID-19 testing sites in Harris County.
- One DPS HSOC GIS Specialist assigned to assist with GIS efforts in support of COVID-19.
- DPS Troopers continue providing security to the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) location in Dallas.
- THP continues to have a liaison at the State Operations Center currently assisting with “Pony Express” Rural COVID-19 Testing Sites by coordinating ground transportation of the collected samples for THP/CID to transport to the designated labs for processing.
- Since April 24, DPS Aviation has performed 357 flights, transported 1,561 coolers of samples and has 1,126 hours of flight time.
- On October 6, DPS Aviation made flights from Lubbock to Austin, transporting samples from numerous collection points.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS is supporting Alternate Care Site operations across the state. DSHS is training volunteers online and is also working with Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to deploy volunteers to needed areas.

Regional Activities:

- Regional EPI Emergency Response Teams have been conducting daily monitoring of PUM/PUI within the region in collaboration with LHDs.
- Mobile test sites have opened throughout the regions and are operating one day testing by appointment only. Status of mobile test sites can be viewed [here](#).
- All RHMOCs are at full activation.
- All eight HPP Providers have activated Medical Operations Centers and are distributing PPE to healthcare entities in the region.

State Medical Operations Center (SMOC) Activities:

- A total of 1,576 LTC facilities have been tested by Rapid Assessment (RA) teams in response to the Governor’s orders to test all nursing home staff and residents.
- DSHS is also leading efforts to support regions with alternate care sites throughout Texas.

DSHS Call Center Activities:

[The Call Center has received 26,379 calls and 24,004 emails to date.](#) The Call Center will operate Monday-Friday from 8:00AM -6:00PM and Saturday-Sunday from 8:00AM -5:00PM.

Texas Education Agency (TEA): To view TEA support and guidance for school districts regarding COVID-19 please visit <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/safe-and-healthy-schools/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): HHSC temporarily suspended non- essential visits to State Hospitals and State Supported Living Centers.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD currently has 1,435 personnel in support of the COVID-19 Response. TMD General Support Units are staged in Tyler, Dallas, Lubbock, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Corpus Christi, Weslaco, and Midland to implement the TDEM distribution plan to the RACs and have distributed 8,810 pallets. TMD is assisting TDEM with warehouse distribution of PPE. TMD has supported Community Based Test site operations, testing a total of 463,765 people, and currently testing in Houston, Presidio, McAllen, Corpus Christi, Falfurrias, San Juan, Laredo, Mission, Alice, Horizon City, and Brownfield. TMD has disinfected a total of 10,173,414 square feet.

TMD personnel are supporting the Rio Grande Valley Food Bank, the South Texas Food Bank, the North Texas Food Bank, the Coastal Bend Food Bank, the San Antonio Food Bank, Houston Area Food Bank, and the Tarrant Area Food Bank.

TMD personnel are supporting surge testing operations in McLennan County by providing traffic/crowd control and registration assistance.

Texas Public Utilities Commission (PUC): PUC has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage. <http://www.puc.texas.gov/covid-19/>

Texas Wing Civil Air Patrol (CAP): On October 4, CAP delivered one box with 93 samples from Corpus Christi to Austin, flying two sorties with one aircraft.

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC):

Unemployment Insurance:

- Call centers are open 7 days a week 7:00 AM-7:00 PM.
- TWC Website, Information for COVID-19 [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- Expanded the number of people doing pin and password resets.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
AgriLife, TAMUS	Specialists/Admin	22		Activated	College Station
AgriLife, TAMUS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
AgriLife, TAMUS	DAR Extension Agents	15	15	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife, TAMUS	Incident Support Teams	16	16	Assigned	Regional Advisory Council Areas
TEEX, TAMUS	SOC Liaisons	5		Assigned	Remote SOC/Austin
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	9		Assigned	Austin
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	13		Assigned	Corpus Christi / Weslaco
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	3		Assigned	Dallas
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	10		Assigned	El Paso / Midland
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	17		Assigned	San Antonio
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	5		Assigned	Tyler
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	5		Assigned	Lubbock
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	7		Assigned	Houston

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TFS, A&M	ESB/ESF 4 Representative	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TFS, A&M	EOC Support	3		Assigned	College Station
TFS, A&M	Logistical Support	10		Assigned	San Antonio Warehouse
TFS, A&M	TIFMAS Logistical Support	4	4	Assigned	Grand Prairie
TFS, A&M	TIFMAS Logistical Support	8	8	Assigned	Fort Worth
DPS-THP	Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
DPS-THP	Personnel	4	4	Assigned	Dallas County
DPS-THP	HSOC GIS Specialist	1	1	Assigned	SOC/Austin
DPS THP	Troopers			Assigned	Statewide
DPS CID	Special Agents			Assigned	Statewide
DPS COMMS	Command Trailer		1	Assigned	Austin
DPS Aviation	Aviation			Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Task Force Leader	1		Assigned	Hidalgo County
DSHS	AMB Staging Team	5		Assigned	Hidalgo County
DSHS	MIST, MTTs & RA-QRF	17		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	EMTF State Coordinating Office (SCO)	4		Assigned	SOC
DSHS	Angel Med Surge	622		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Maxim Med Surge	1,026		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	BCFS Med Surge	4,264		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Case Investigators	17		Assigned	PHR 1
DSHS	Infection Control Practitioner	10		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Epidemiologists	168		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Data Entry Spec	46		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Fatality Management Trailer (FMT) - HPP		16	Assigned	HPPs
DSHS	FMT - DSHS		3	Assigned	Hidalgo, Webb, Bexar Counties
DSHS	FMT - FEMA		39	Assigned	Bexar, Cameron, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Hidalgo, Lubbock, Montgomery, Nueces, Randall, Smith, Starr, Travis Counties
HHSC	SOC Liaison	4		Assigned	SOC/Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Virtual
TAHC	AROCC Operations	6		Assigned	Virtual
TDA	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TDLR	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TEA	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Remote
TMD	SOC Military Desk	3		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TMD	SOC Food Unit	2		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TMD	SOC Logs Veters	11		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TMD	ABS MRP	2		Assigned	Austin
TMD	GSU Surge Testing Support	64		Activated	Waco
TMD	Hospital Support	6		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	DHR Ambulance	12		Assigned	Edinburg
TMD	Lone Star HQ	42		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RHQ East	34		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RHQ North	17		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RHQ West	32		Assigned	Austin
TMD	MTS #1	15		Assigned	Houston
TMD	MTS #2	18		Assigned	Waco
TMD	MTS #3	16		Assigned	Corsicana
TMD	MTS #4	16		Assigned	Presidio
TMD	MTS #5	15		Assigned	McAllen
TMD	MTS #6	16		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	MTS #7	16		Assigned	Houston
TMD	MTS #8	16		Assigned	Waco
TMD	MTS #9	16		Assigned	Brownfield
TMD	MTS #10	16		Assigned	McAllen
TMD	MTS #11	14		Assigned	Falfurrias
TMD	MTS #12	15		Assigned	San Juan
TMD	MTS #13	16		Assigned	Houston
TMD	MTS #14	16		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	MTS #15	16		Assigned	Tyler
TMD	MTS #16	14		Assigned	Laredo
TMD	MTS #17	16		Assigned	Houston
TMD	MTS #18	16		Assigned	Edinburg
TMD	MTS #19	15		Assigned	Waco
TMD	MTS #20	16		Assigned	Mission
TMD	MTS #21	16		Assigned	Houston

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TMD	MTS #22	15		Assigned	Alice
TMD	MTS #23	14		Assigned	Horizon City
TMD	MTS #24	16		Assigned	Houston
TMD	TF RED HQ (TF LONESTAR)	15		Assigned	Austin
TMD	FDT #1	16		Assigned	Dallas
TMD	FDT #2	14		Assigned	Austin
TMD	FDT #3	15		Assigned	Midland
TMD	FDT #4	16		Assigned	Houston
TMD	FDT #5	14		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	FDT #6	13		Assigned	Baytown
TMD	FDT #7	15		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	FDT #8	15		Assigned	Marshall
TMD	FDT #9	15		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	TF RSA HQ	15		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-GSU Tyler	37		Assigned	Tyler
TMD	RSA-GSU Redbird	34		Assigned	Redbird
TMD	RSA-GSU Lubbock	34		Assigned	Lubbock
TMD	RSA-GSU El Paso	34		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	RSA-GSU TDEM SSA	72		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-GSU ABIA	39		Assigned	Austin-ABIA
TMD	RSA-GSU San Antonio	49		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-GSU Westheimer	27		Assigned	Westheimer
TMD	RSA-GSU Corpus	25		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	RSA-GSU Weslaco	28		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	RSA-GSU Midland	9		Assigned	Midland
TMD	TF Longhorn HQ	45		Assigned	Austin
TMD	TF GS HQ	10		Assigned	Houston
TMD	HQ North	6		Assigned	Tarrant
TMD	North Texas Food Bank	44		Assigned	Dallas
TMD	Tarrant Area Food Bank	30		Assigned	Tarrant
TMD	San Antonio Food Bank	30		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	HQ South	6		Assigned	Houston
TMD	Coastal Bend Food Bank	14		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	Houston Food Bank	60		Assigned	Houston
TMD	South Texas Food Bank	12		Assigned	Laredo
TMD	Rio Grande Valley Food Bank	11		Assigned	RGV

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TMD	MAU 1A (GSU 1C)	16		Assigned	Weslaco
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: <https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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