COVID-19 Update

January 26, 2021

Brandon Scott Bennett, Public Health Officer/Code Compliance Director
James Davis, Fire Chief
# Tarrant County COVID-19 Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Last Council Presentation (01/12/21)</th>
<th>Today’s Presentation</th>
<th>Percentage (Inc./Dec)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Cases</td>
<td>176,790</td>
<td>207,065</td>
<td>17% ▲</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Cases - 7 Day Total</td>
<td>16,859</td>
<td>19,202</td>
<td>14% ▲</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>2,048</td>
<td>17% ▲</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Global Confirmed: 99,301,242  
Global Deaths: 2,131,532  
Source: John’s Hopkins University (1/25/21)  

U.S. Confirmed: 25,137,632  
U.S. Deaths: 419,263  
Source: John’s Hopkins University (1/25/21)
Healthcare systems are reporting that the recent number of discharges are higher than admitting = less patients in hospital and more available beds.
# COVID-19 Current Risk Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Public Health Metrics</th>
<th>Are We Meeting Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reproduction Number (R Naught) Less Than 1.0</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustained or declining virus numbers over 14 days</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sufficient/available hospital beds/resources</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widely available viral testing and lab capacity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective Contact Tracing to contain viral spread</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 Vaccines</td>
<td>Yes: Phase 1A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vaccine Eligibility – Tier System

Phase 1A First Tier

- Paid and unpaid workers in hospital settings working directly with patients who are positive or at high risk for COVID-19. Such as but not limited to:
  - Physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and other support staff (custodial staff, etc.)
  - Additional clinical staff providing supporting laboratory, pharmacy, diagnostic and/or rehabilitation services
  - Others having direct contact with patients or infectious materials

- Long-term care staff working directly with vulnerable residents. Includes:
  - Direct care providers at nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and state supported living centers
  - Physicians, nurses, personal care assistants, custodial, food service staff

- EMS providers who engage in 9-1-1 emergency services like pre-hospital care and transport

- Home health care workers, including hospice care, who directly interface with vulnerable and high-risk patients

- Residents of long-term care facilities
Vaccine Eligibility – Tier System

Phase 1A Second Tier

• **Staff in outpatient care settings who interact with symptomatic patients.** Such as but not limited to:
  - Physicians, nurses, and other support staff (custodial staff, etc.)
  - Clinical staff providing diagnostic, laboratory, and/or rehabilitation services
  - Non-9-1-1 transport for routine care
  - Healthcare workers in corrections and detention facilities

• **Direct care staff in freestanding emergency medical care facilities** and urgent care clinics

• **Community pharmacy staff** who may provide direct services to clients, including vaccination or testing for individuals who may have COVID

• **Public health and emergency response staff** directly involved in administration of COVID testing and vaccinations

• **Last responders** who provide mortuary or death services to decedents with COVID-19. Includes:
  - Embalmers and funeral home workers who have direct contact with decedents
  - Medical examiners and other medical certifiers who have direct contact with decedents

• **School nurses** who provide health care to students and teachers
Vaccine Eligibility – Tier System

**Phase 1B**

- People 65 years of age and older
- **People 16 years of age and older with at least one chronic medical condition** that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19, such as but not limited to:
  - Cancer
  - Chronic kidney disease
  - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
  - Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies
  - Solid organ transplantation
  - Obesity and severe obesity (body mass index of 30 kg/m² or higher)
  - Pregnancy
  - Sickle cell disease
  - Type 2 diabetes mellitus
Tarrant County Vaccine and Registration Update

Vaccine Coverage by 10 Year Age Group

Registrations by Race
- White: 77%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 0%
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 1%
- Unknown/Refused to Answer: 2%
- Unknown Not Answered: 2%
- Other: 4%
- Black or African American: 6%
- Asian: 3%
Vaccine Update

- Tarrant County/City of Fort Worth have been receiving recognition for coordinating vaccination efforts and expediting the dispensing of vaccines
  - Single registration system (best practice)
  - TCPH scheduling appointments with various providers, including Texas Health Resources
- Vaccine supply is being exhausted each week
- Capacity exceeds supply with additional site locations being developed in preparation for more supply in the coming months
- 500+ vaccines dispensed daily at Bob Bolen (closed POD)
- 3000+ vaccines dispensed daily at Hurst and Resource Connection (combined)
- 63,000 doses administered between TCPH and Arlington sites
Medstar & Other Agency Partnerships

• **MedStar**
  - Partnership with FWFD for **trial “mobile” vaccine program** similar to the remote testing program
  - Medstar and FWFD delivered vaccines to approximately 40 citizens last week at Fire Station 3 (Stop Six area)
  - **Looking to expand to various areas of the City depending on Medstar’s vaccine availability**

• **Denton County Public Health**
  - Exploring TMS, Alliance Airport and other locations for a large scale drive through vaccination project

• **Private Contractors**
  - Turnkey solutions for walkup and drive through operations throughout the city

• **Partnership Development**
  - Working on plan to implement a pilot drive through vaccinations at Farrington Field
Key White House Vaccination Objectives

• Decision making is driven by **science and equity**
• Establish a COVID-19 **National Response Structure**
• **Build clear channels of communication** with state and local leaders
• Conduct regular **expert-led and science based public briefings**
• Ensure **high-quality COVID-19 data is available**
• **Fill urgent gaps to spur vaccination production**
• Defense Production Act – Increase FEMA support and establish effective supply line development and distribution
• Provide more **support for state and local community vaccination clinics**
Monoclonal Antibody Treatments

- JEOC/FWFD continue to work with the Texas Department of Emergency Management to **add two public facing sites** to supplement hospitals and healthcare systems.
- Area hospitals are reporting an **uptick in supply and supply chain predictability**, e.g., additional supplies can be ordered and arrive in a reasonable amount of time.
- FWFD **continues to provide treatments for area first-responders and essential personnel**.
- **Pre-qualified conditions required**, which include:
  - COVID-positive fewer than 10 days
  - 65 years or older
  - Any of the following: chronic kidney disease, diabetes, immunosuppressed, BMI at or above 35
  - 55 years or older **and any** of the following: cardiovascular disease, hypertension, COPD/other chronic respiratory disease.
- Two-hour process with tremendous results: **IV infusion (1 hour) and observation (1 hour)**
Vaccine Education

- ACM Valerie Washington is leading an effort to coordinate public education, messaging and outreach with Tarrant County Public Health.
- As more vaccine become available, more targeted messaging and outreach will occur.
- **Current focus is 65 and older and under 65 with high risk medical conditions.**
- Dispelling Mis-Information:
  - **Myth:** The COVID-19 vaccine is unsafe because it was developed so quickly.
  - **Myth:** You can get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
  - **Myth:** The COVID-19 vaccine includes a tracking device.
  - **Myth:** I’m not at risk for severe complications of COVID-19 so I don’t need the vaccine.
  - **Myth:** I’ve already been diagnosed with COVID-19, so I don’t need to receive the vaccine.
  - **Myth:** Once I receive the COVID-19 vaccine, I no longer need to wear a mask.
Thank you and please remember to keep wearing your masks and practicing social distancing!