

## COVID-19 Facts

Many of you have asked for unbiased facts.

### **Texas Medical Center: TMC.edu as of June 28, 2020**

They have treated 8108 cases to date. Of those, 5988 have been discharged and 575 deaths have been assigned to COVID-19. They could not answer me by phone as to how many counties are represented, but they stated multiple counties send people to the med Center, not just Harris County. This is why the Med |Center death toll is higher than Harris County's death toll.

There are currently 821 non-COVID-19 patients in the ICU beds of the Med Center and 445 COVID-19 patients in negative pressure rooms. There are a total of 2207 current ICU beds available but not all of them can be used for COVID-19. COVID-19 beds are the medical surgical bed units which requires much more staffing to patient ratio, and requires negative air pressure in rooms to contain the possibility of airborne spread of the virus in mucous droplets. These beds are maxed out. Once patients are stable enough, they transfer to positive pressure rooms in the ICU, which is approximately only half full. This is why hospitals are converting their rooms to handle the more urgent med surgical negative pressure rooms.

### **Harris County Health Department data as of June 29, 2020**

There are 30,729 confirmed positive cases. Of those, 10,398 are recovered cases and 376 deaths have occurred in Harris County from COVID-19. Remember, not every patient goes to the Med Center from Harris County, and many more people from many counties go to the Med Center for care. Females represent 50% of the infections and males represent 48% of the infections. Ages 20 – 29 make up 6,400 cases and ages 30 – 39 make up 6,600 cases as the two largest age groups infected.

The total death rate in Harris County is 1.2 percent today and dropping quickly as the positive cases rise. The death toll will increase, but the rate of increase is uncertain.

### **CDC:**

Can virus spread on surfaces? Unknown.

Can virus spread amongst asymptomatic patients? Unknown.

Can you get the virus more than once? Unknown.

Can you test positive on the PCR test for active infections after you have been recovered and symptom free? Yes. What does it mean? Unsure, testing method might be too sensitive.

What is asymptomatic? Test positive for virus but no symptom development after infection.

What is pre-symptomatic? Test positive and no symptoms yet, but usually they will develop in 2-14 days post-exposure.

Total confirmed cases in US, including post mortem patients with respiratory symptoms who did not test positive for COVID-19, and including symptom deceased patients who did test positive for COVID-19 after they died: 2,545,250. Deaths in US attributed under these criteria: 126,369. Death rate = 4.9%.

**Comparison:** Our most common seasonal virus is Flu. The 2017-2018 flu season recorded around 11,000 deaths in Texas and, last year, around 9,500 deaths in 6 months of recorded flu data. By comparison, Texas has 2,403 COVID-19 deaths as of yesterday, tracking over approximately 3.5 months, averaging 686 deaths per month, compared to the flu, which averaged 1,583 deaths per month last year.

According to The Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity, 45% of total COVID-19 deaths in the US came from nursing homes.