



Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, September 29, 2023

Two deaths related to COVID-19 reported in Hidalgo County along with 777 newly reported positive cases. One of the deceased individuals was not vaccinated and the other deceased individual was not up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines.

Reporting Period: September 22, 2023 – September 28, 2023

Total COVID-19 Positive Cases for Reporting Period		777		
Confirmed	161			
Probable	616			
COVID-19 Positive Cases by Age Group for Reporting Period				
0-19	186			
20s	109			
30s	113			
40s	97			
50s	80			
60s	72			
70+	120			
Total COVID-19 Related Fatalities for Reporting Period		2		
	Age Range	Gender	City	
1.	70+	Male	Edinburg	
2.	70+	Male	Mission	
Current Total COVID-19 Patients Hospitalized in Hidalgo County		28		
Adult	23			
Pediatric	5			
Current Total COVID-19 Patients in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in Hidalgo County		6		
Adult	6			
Pediatric	0			

**Due to differences in data processing, timing, and methodology, there may be discrepancies between the information presented in this report and the Texas DSHS dashboard.*



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Yearly Summary					
	2020 ¹	2021 ¹	2022 ²	2023 ²	Cumulative Total ²
Total Cases	52,107	72,092	128,435	23,046	281,691
Confirmed	36,231	36,081	80,852	7,299	175,875
Probable	15,054	33,729	47,583	15,499	105,816
Total Fatalities³	2,208	1,323	529	126	4,178

Hidalgo County uses the case status definition provided by the Texas Department of State Health Service's 2022 Epi Case Criteria Guide revised May 2022.

1. *Confirmed:* A person who has tested positive through a molecular test (PCR) that looks for the virus's genetic material.
2. *Probable:* A person who has either tested positive through an antigen test or has a combination of symptoms and a known exposure to someone with COVID-19 without a more likely diagnosis.
3. *Fatality:* Deaths for which COVID-19 is listed as a direct cause of death on the death certificate. A medical certifier, usually a doctor, determines the cause(s) of death. Deaths of people who had COVID-19 but died of an unrelated cause are not included.

For more information of case status definition for COVID-19, please refer to:

<https://dshs.texas.gov/IDCU/investigation/epi-case-criteria-guide/2022-Epi-Case-Criteria-Guide.pdf>

According to the CDC, you are up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines if you have completed a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and received the most recent booster dose recommended for you by CDC.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccination status, please refer to:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

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¹ Yearly case summary values for 2020 and 2021 were retrieved from internal Hidalgo County records. For this reason, numbers may not match DSHS dashboard and will not match when added across.

² Summary values for 2022, 2023 and cumulative total are retrieved from the Texas National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) and may not match the DSHS dashboard due to differences in data processing, timing, and methodology.

³ Fatalities are retrieved from Hidalgo County records, including medical records reviews, to confirm COVID-19 related fatalities. For this reason, numbers may not match DSHS dashboard.