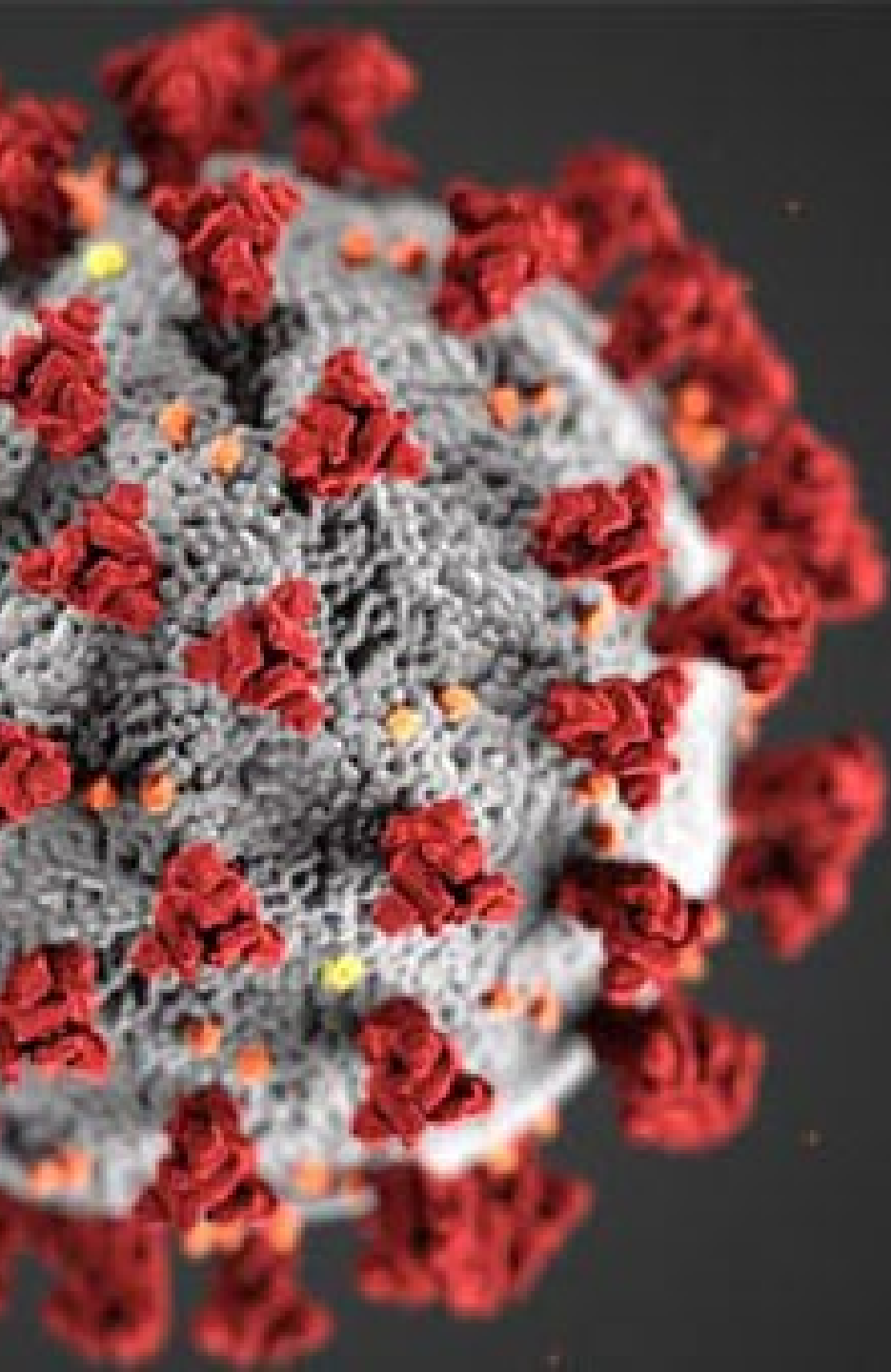




TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**



COVID-19 Situation Update

March 4, 2021

**John W. Hellerstedt, MD, Commissioner
Texas Department of State Health Services**

COVID-19 Timeline

- **December 31, 2019:** Municipal Health Commission reported cases of pneumonia with an unknown cause in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China
- **January 7, 2020:** Chinese authorities identified a new (novel) type of coronavirus
- **January 21:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed first case of novel coronavirus in the U.S. in Washington state
- **January 23:** DSHS launched the dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/ website and prepared #TexasDSHS social media campaigns
- **January 31:** DSHS activated the State Medical Operations Center (SMOC)

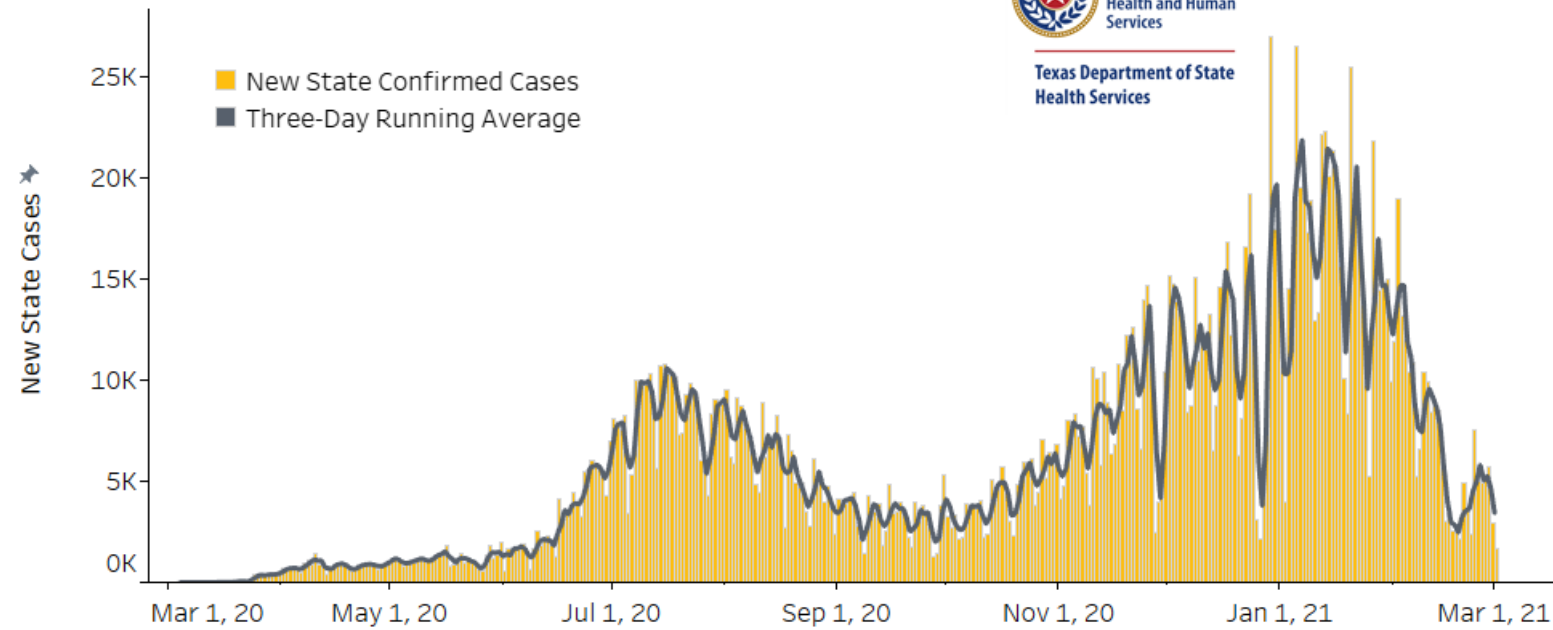


Texas COVID-19 Timeline

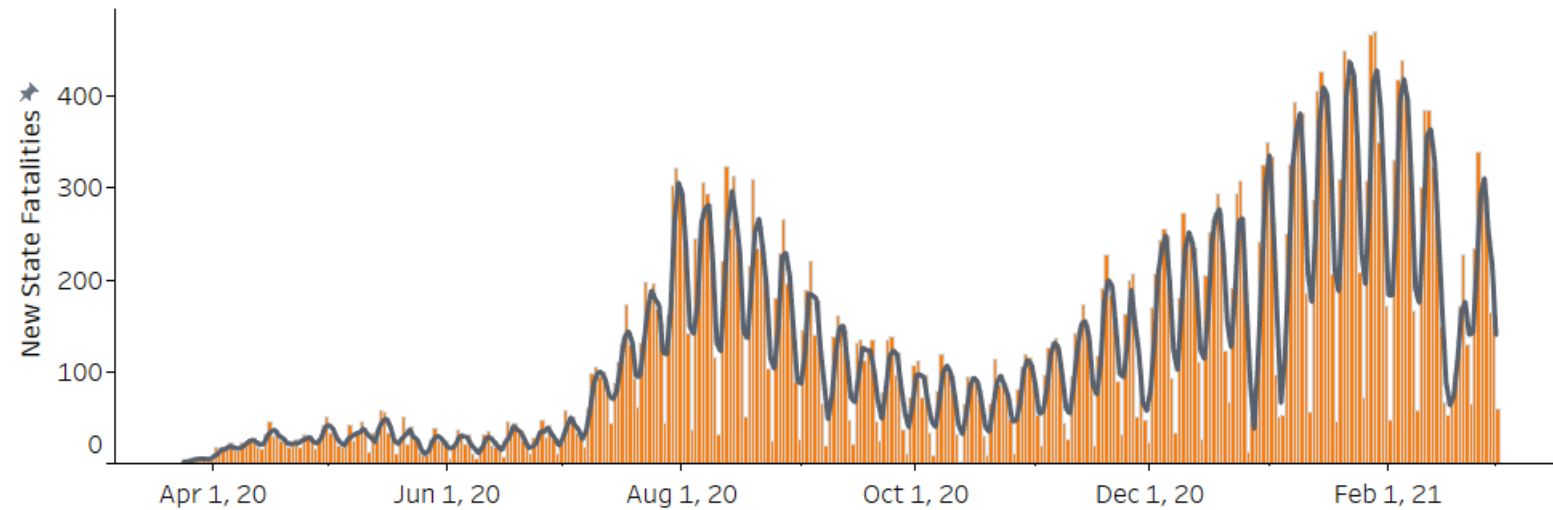
- **March 4:** DSHS announced the first positive test result for COVID-19
- **March 17:** DSHS announced the first lab-confirmed COVID-19 death
- **March 19:** DSHS Commissioner Hellerstedt declared a Public Health Disaster for Texas
- **October:** DSHS assembled the Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP)
- **November 10:** DSHS launched a COVID-19 Vaccine Information Website
- **December 14:** DSHS distributed the first COVID-19 vaccine doses
- **March 2, 2021:** 2,292,092 confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in all 254 Texas counties with 43,266 fatalities



New Confirmed Texas Cases by Day



New Texas Fatalities by Day



These preliminary data are current as of 1:00pm on 3/1/2021.

Note: As of July 27, DSHS is reporting COVID-19 fatality data based on death certificates. The metric used in these charts reports total newly reported fatalities (as opposed to the date of death).

Note: During the week of Feb. 14-Feb. 21, 2021, case and fatality reporting was significantly impacted across the majority of Texas counties due to weather-related issues.

Hospitalizations Over Time

Total Texas Proportion of Lab-Confirmed COVID-19 Occupancy of General and ICU Beds out of Total Hospital Beds as of:

Sunday, February 28, 2021 Totals

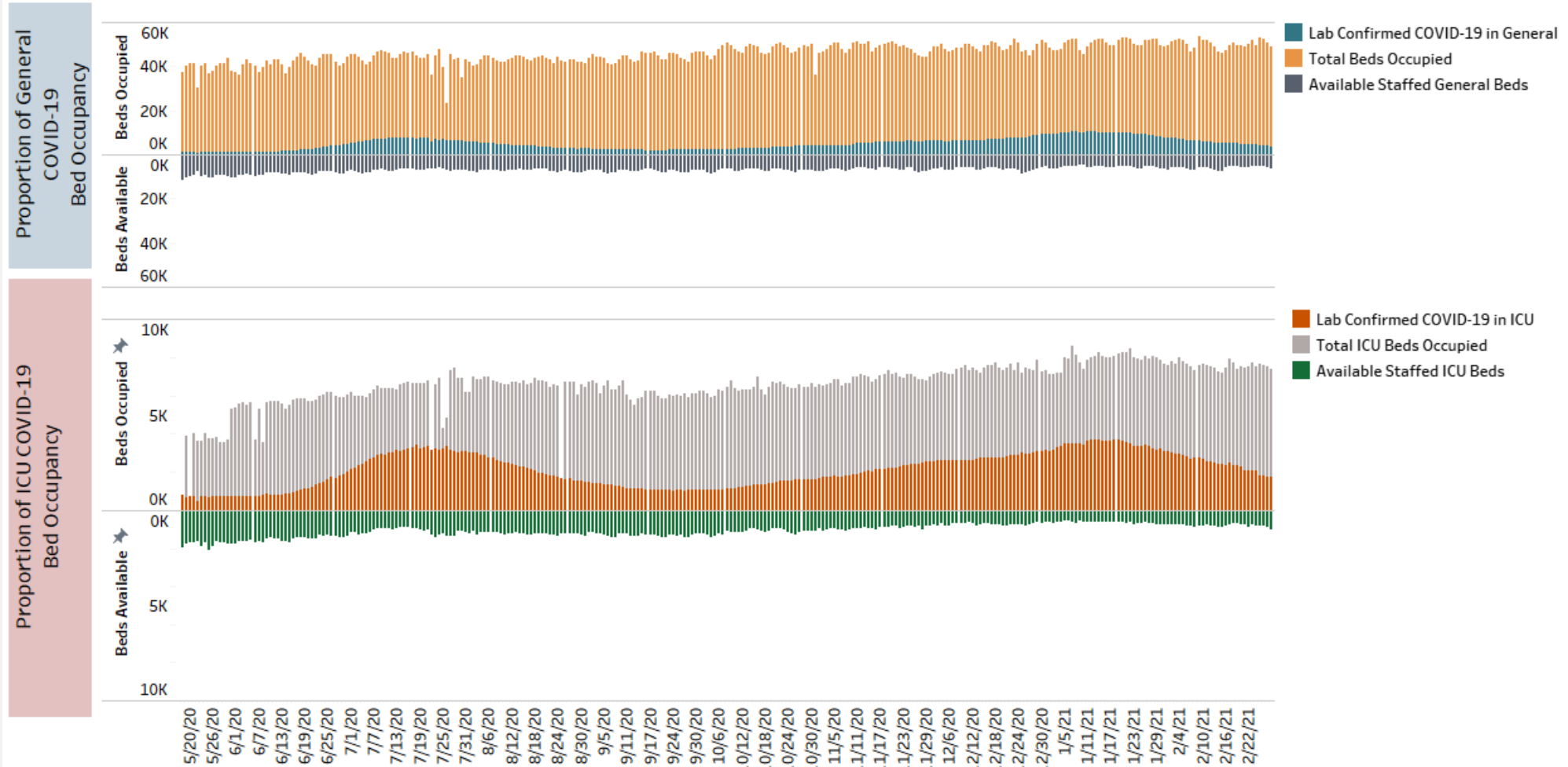
Lab Confirmed COVID-19 in General	3,782
Lab Confirmed COVID-19 in ICU	1,747
Total Lab Confirmed COVID-19 Gen + ICU	5,529

Notes:

- The most recent hospital data is reported for the day prior.
- After 7/23/2020, DSHS reported incomplete hospitalization numbers due to a transition in reporting to comply with new federal requirements.



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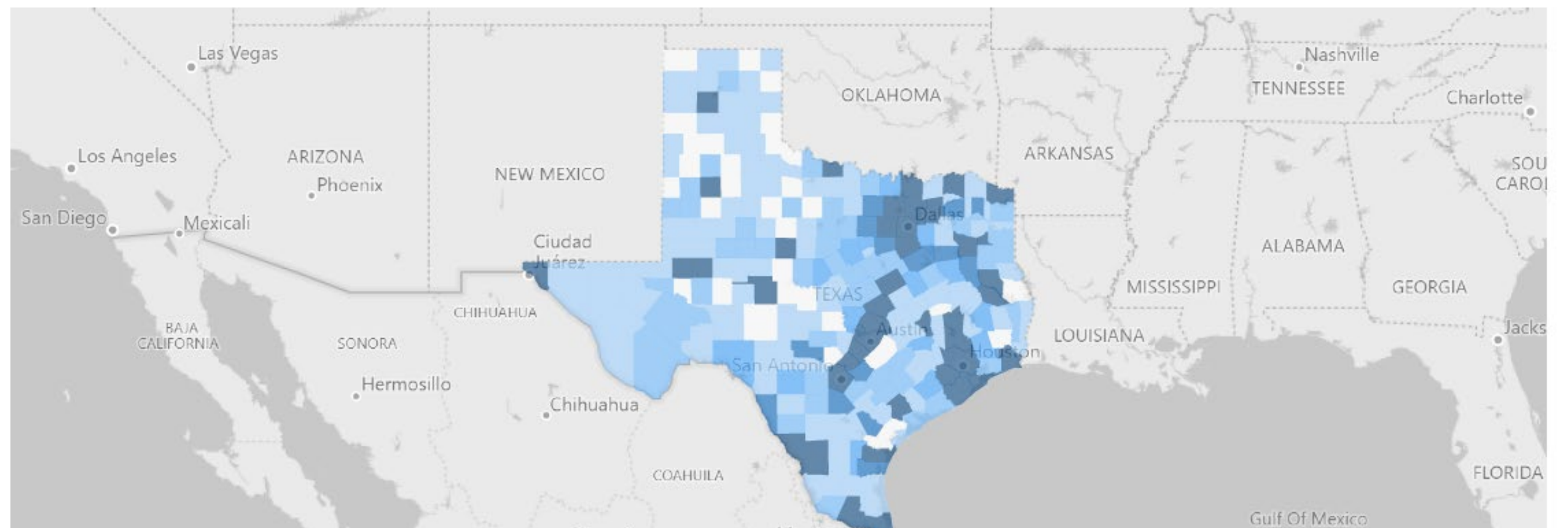
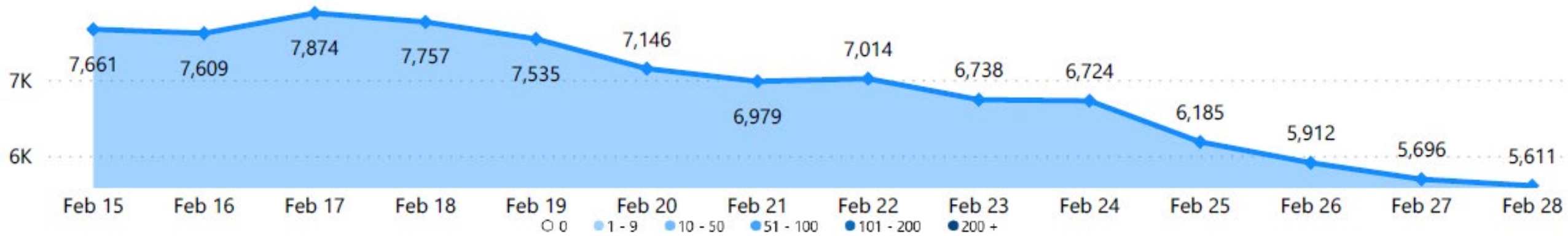


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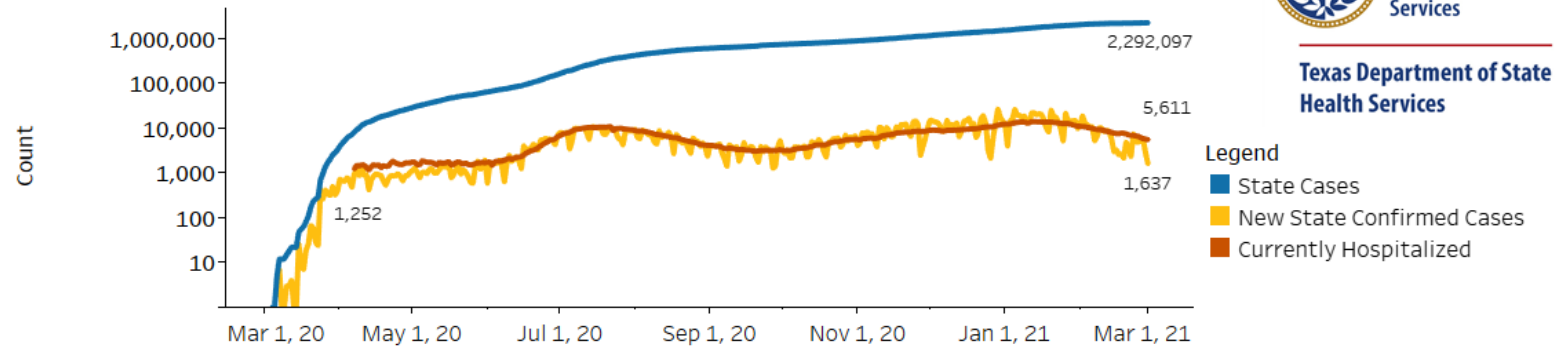
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Total Lab Confirmed Patients in Hospital



Texas COVID-19 Trends: A Full Picture

Total Texas Covid-19 Confirmed Cases, Confirmed New Cases, and Current Confirmed Hospitalizations

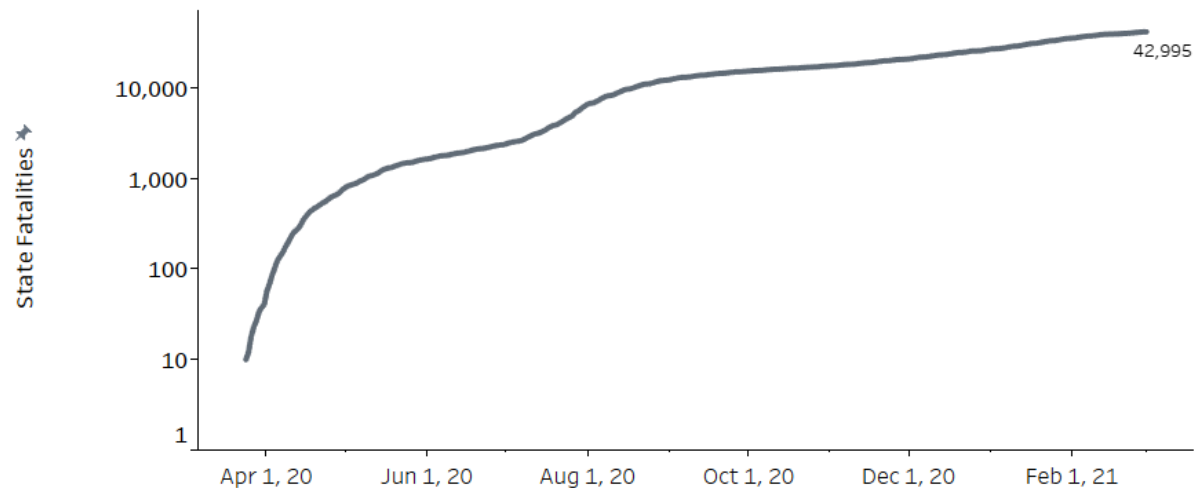


These preliminary data are current as of 1:00pm on 3/1/2021.

Notes:

- After 7/23/2020, DSHS reported incomplete hospitalization numbers due to a transition in reporting to comply with new federal requirements. As of 8/19/2020, 91% of hospitals were reporting.
- During the week of Feb. 14-Feb. 21, 2021, case and fatality reporting was significantly impacted across the majority of Texas counties due to weather-related issues.

Total Texas Covid-19 Fatalities



Note: As of July 27, 2020, DSHS is reporting COVID-19 fatality data based on death certificates. The metric used in these charts reports total newly reported fatalities (as opposed to the date of death).



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DSHS Roles during the Pandemic

- Coordination of local and state public health efforts
- Management and provision of lab testing and capacity
- Data collection, analysis, and reporting
- Health care system support and deployment of medical staffing to hospitals and nursing facilities
- Communication for public awareness
- Guidance for individuals and businesses, and consultation with local elected leaders
- Allocation and sourcing of therapeutics and medications, medical supplies, and personal protective equipment
- Establishment of infrastructure to safely and appropriately disseminate vaccine



DSHS Outputs during the Pandemic

- Health system support: more than 3,000 State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs) filled
 - Over 20,000 staff deployed throughout state
 - 1,340 Alternate care beds secured
 - 140 Isolation and Quarantine Sites
- Call Center: 39,077 calls and 35,114 emails received
- Contact Tracing
 - 2,790 State and local contact tracers active in Texas Health Trace
 - 47 Local and 8 regional health entities voluntarily participating in Texas Health Trace
 - 28 Local Health Authorities (14 performing contact tracing)



Testing

- 3 tests available to detect SARS-CoV-2
 - Polymerase chain reaction (PCR): most sensitive and specific (active infection)
 - Antigen: less sensitive than PCR tests—more false negatives, but less expensive and faster than PCR (active infection)
 - Antibody (serology): less sensitive and specific, may not produce reliable results, detects evidence of past infection
- PCR and antigen tests detect whether a person is currently infected, serology detects whether a person had an infection in the past
- Go to www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/testing.aspx for more information



COVID-19 Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP)

- Established October 2020
- Team of DSHS internal and external subject matter experts
- Meets weekly
- Develops vaccine distribution strategies that are sent to DSHS Commissioner to approve



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Texas Vaccine Allocation Guiding Principles

Texas will initially allocate COVID-19 vaccines based on:



Protecting health care workers who treat COVID-19 patients and provide health care for all who need it.



Data-driven allocations using the best available science and epidemiology.



Protecting frontline workers who provide essential services and are at greater risk of getting and spreading COVID-19.



Geographic diversity across urban and rural communities.



Protecting vulnerable populations at greater risk of severe COVID-19 illness.



Transparency with the public and seeking their feedback.



Mitigating health inequities due to demographics, poverty, insurance and more.

COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS RELEASE: 2020

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For updates and more information, visit dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus

Current Vaccine Situation

- Priority populations while vaccine supply is limited:

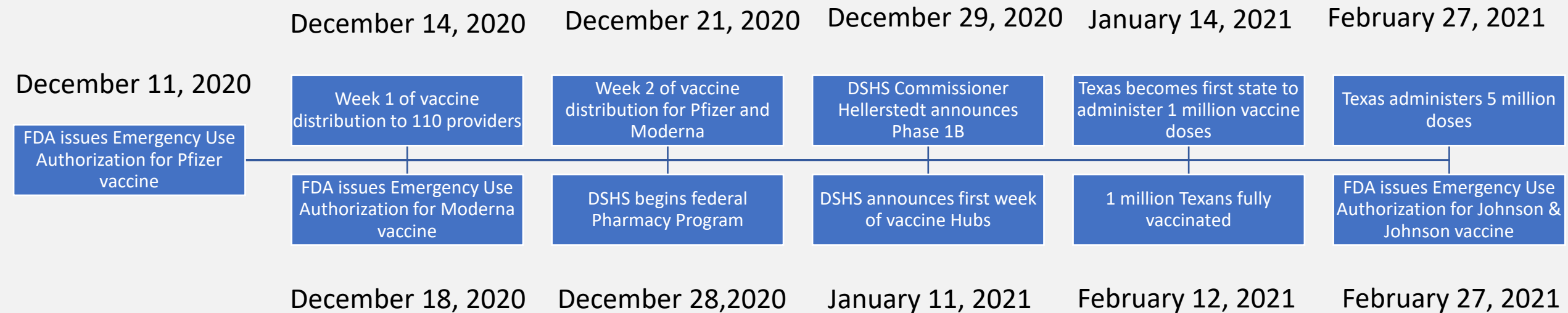
- Phase 1A: healthcare personnel
- Phase 1B: people 65+ or people 16+ with certain comorbidities



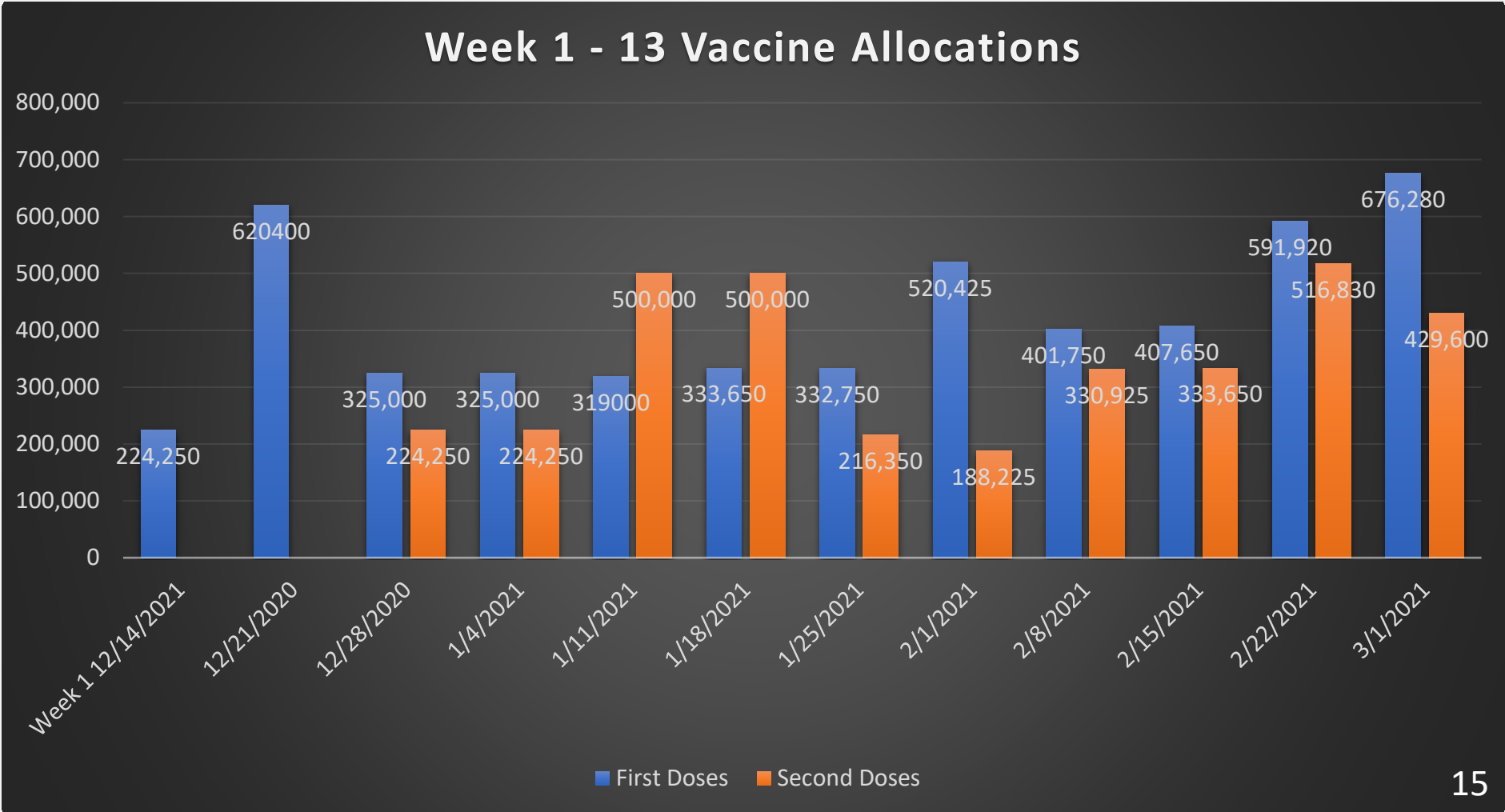
~ 13.5 million Texans in Phase 1A and 1B



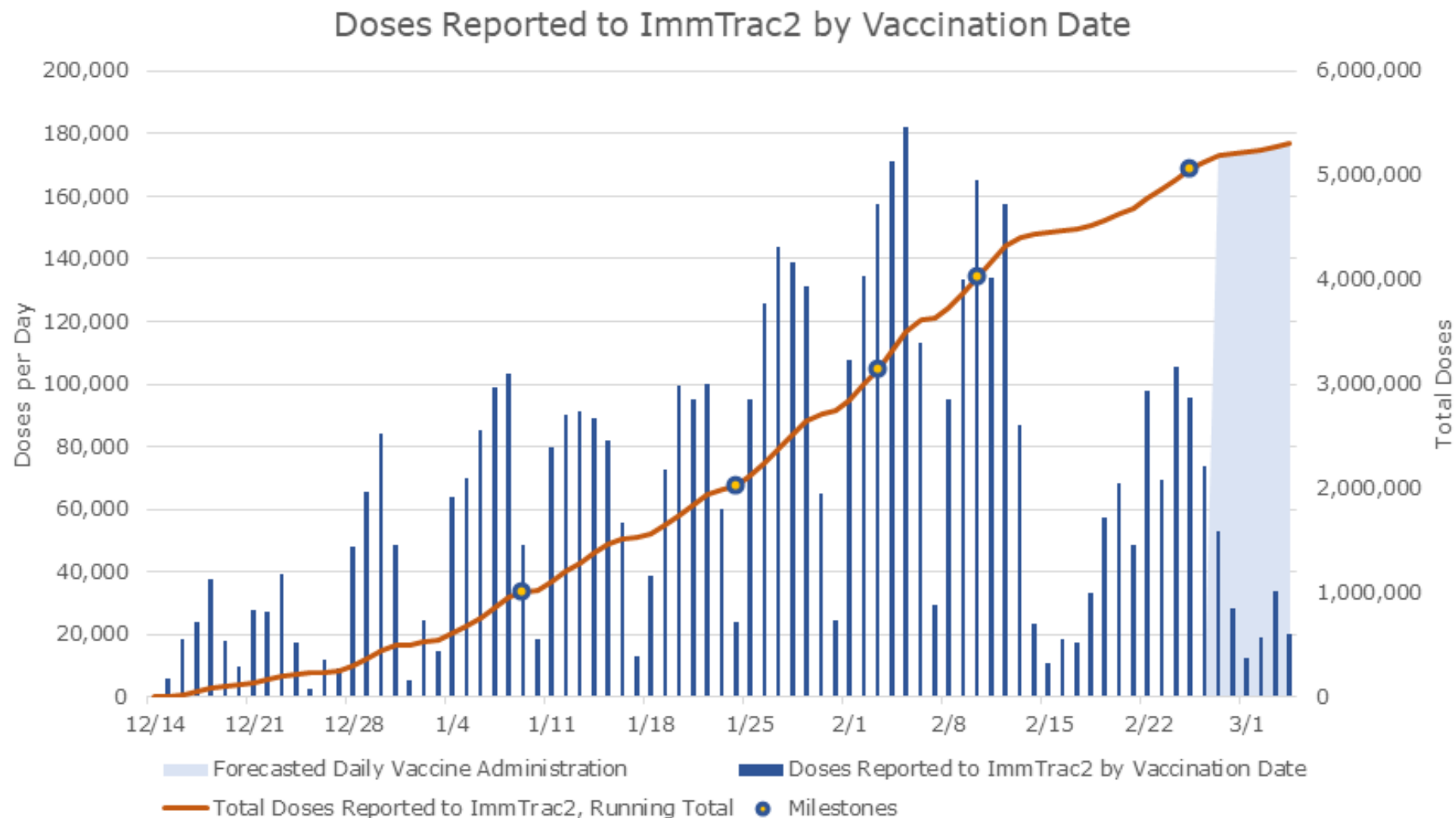
COVID-19 Vaccine Timeline



Vaccine Allocations Per Week



Vaccine Administration in Texas



Vaccine Distribution Process



COVID-19 Vaccine Manufacturers

- Limited supply
- Ships allocated amounts to providers designated by DSHS
- Ships to local providers directly or through a CDC contractor



CDC

- Allocates overall vaccine supply for all U.S. States and Territories



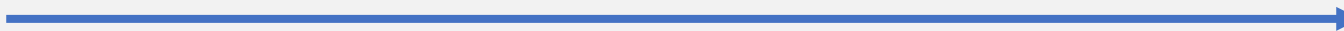
DSHS

- Tells the CDC and manufacturers how many doses to send to each local provider out of the overall state allocation
- Gives local providers recommendations for vaccinating priority populations



Local Vaccine Provider

- Enrolled with DSHS
- Implements recommendations to vaccinate priority populations



Vaccine Distribution Strategies

Community Based Providers

- Ensure that rural communities and underserved areas have access to vaccine
- Providers enroll with DSHS: health departments, federally qualified health centers, community health centers, rural health clinics and medical practices
- Register with individual provider

Pharmacy Program for Long-Term Care Facilities

- Federal program to vaccinate staff and residents of nursing homes and long-term care
- Partnership with DSHS, HHSC, Walgreens and CVS

Vaccine Hubs

- Mass efforts to quickly vaccinate 1,000s of Phase 1A and 1B individuals each week
- Must use all doses and report doses administered to DSHS and TDEM
- Register online or by phone

Provisional Pilot Programs

- State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program:
 - Vaccine teams deployed to certain rural counties
- FEMA mass community vaccination sites
- Save our Seniors Initiative
- Other short-term programs

Federal Retail Pharmacy Program

- Vaccines sent to pharmacies nationwide
- Doses shipped directly to Texas pharmacies will not be deducted from Texas allocations

Accessing Vaccines

How to Sign Up for a **COVID-19 Vaccine** in Texas

People can sign up with a vaccination hub or a community vaccine provider.

★ **Sign up with a vaccination hub. Hubs are available across the state**

- Find a hub near you by checking dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus. Sign up on the hub's website or by calling if a website isn't available.
- Hubs may have long waiting lists. Do not sign up on multiple waiting lists or vaccine could be wasted.
- You can get a vaccine at any hub, regardless of where you live.

★ **Sign up with a community vaccine provider**

- Local vaccine providers, like pharmacies, may have vaccine available.
- Use the Texas COVID-19 vaccine provider map to find a provider near you with vaccine available.
- Check the provider's website for how to best sign up for a vaccine. Call only if the provider's website doesn't answer your question.

Who can get a vaccine:

Front-line
healthcare workers

People 65 and older

People 16+ with a health
condition that increases risk
of severe COVID-19 illness

Reminders:



DON'T JUST SHOW UP

Do not show up at a vaccine provider without first signing up or checking the provider's instructions for vaccination.



**BE PATIENT -
SUPPLY IS LIMITED**

Vaccine supply is limited. Do not expect every provider to have vaccine available. Texas gets more vaccines each week.



VISIT DSHS WEBSITE

Find vaccination hubs and the Texas COVID-19 vaccine provider map at dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus.

COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019



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For updates and more information, visit dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Information \(texas.gov\)](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus)

- People without internet access can call 2-1-1 and select option 6

DSHS Regional and Local Health Operations

- DSHS works with counties by:
 - Communicate key public health information
 - Updates on COVID-19 response
 - Coordinate testing, infusion centers, and vaccine distribution
 - Address outbreak investigations and support with cross-jurisdictional teams
 - Participate in specialty workgroups
 - Local Health Authority calls
 - Pediatric COVID-19 teams
- DSHS Regional Offices: RLHO@dshs.Texas.gov



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Elevating DSHS and County Level Collaboration

- Expedite communication on county level efforts
- Institute mechanisms to improve bi-directional data sharing
- Establish regular communication
- Collaborate on public health messaging and joint health advisories
- Host regular forums to discuss cross-jurisdictional outbreaks
- Participate in leadership meetings with various partner representatives to discuss state and regional concerns
- Maintain transparency



DSHS COVID-19 Website

- Main gate to all DSHS COVID-19 related activities and data
www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/
- Available in Spanish
- Texas Case Counts
 - County by county data
 - Filters: probable cases, estimated active, estimated recovered cases, fatalities
- Resources for the public, community leaders, elected officials, and healthcare providers
- Weekly News Releases



Texas Department of State
Health Services

A screenshot of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) COVID-19 website. The page features a blue header with the DSHS logo and navigation links. The main content area is titled "Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)" and includes a large image of a virus particle. Below the image, there are sections for "COVID-19 Vaccine Information", "COVID-19 Therapeutics", "Contact Tracing - Answer the call, Texans!", "Flu & COVID-19", and "Opening the State of Texas". A sidebar on the right contains links to "Case Counts", "Test and Hospital Data", "County Trends", "Vaccine Data", "Public Schools", and "Additional Data". The page also includes a search bar and social media links.

Texas COVID-19 Data Tools

- COVID-19 Texas Case Counts
 - County by county data
 - Filters that display probable cases, estimated active, and estimated recovered cases
 - [ArcGIS Dashboards](#)
- Texas Data Vaccine Dashboard
 - Displays vaccine allocation throughout the state
 - [Workbook: COVID-19 Vaccine in Texas \(Dashboard\)](#)
- Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Availability Map
 - Displays location and information for vaccine providers
 - [Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Availability \(arcgis.com\)](#)



COVID-19 Vaccine Information

- Launched November 2020:
www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine
- Updated consistently
- Find Vaccine
 - Local Vaccine Providers
 - Hubs
 - Weekly Allocations
- Vaccine FAQs for public and vaccine providers



Texas Department of State
Health Services

A screenshot of the Texas Department of State Health Services' COVID-19 Vaccine Information website. The page features a blue header with the Texas Department of State Health Services logo and navigation links. A search bar is in the top right. The main content area includes a large image of a coronavirus particle and the text "COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019". Below this are buttons for "WHO'S ELIGIBLE NOW?", "WHERE TO GET VACCINATED", "IMPORTANT TO KNOW", and "TX VACCINE TIMELINE". The "Who's Eligible to Get the Vaccine Now?" section details Phase 1A (front-line healthcare workers) and Phase 1B (people 65+ or with certain health conditions). A sidebar on the right lists "MORE INFORMATION" links like "Texas Vaccination Plan" and "Vaccine FAQs". At the bottom, there are buttons for "LARGE VACCINATION HUBS", "VACCINE AVAILABILITY MAP", and "LIST OF ALL PROVIDERS".

DSHS Provider Support

- DSHS provides technical support to providers
- Vaccine Provider FAQs
dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine/providerfaq.aspx
- Information for Public Health
dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/public-health.aspx
- Bilingual Vaccine Communications Tools
dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/tools/vaccine-comm.aspx
- DSHS Local Health Entities
dshs.texas.gov/regions/2019-nCoV-Local-Health-Entities/
- Email coronavirus@dshs.texas.gov



Texas Department of State
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Sobre la vacuna contra el COVID-19

¿Por qué debo ponerme la vacuna contra el COVID-19?

- Para protegerse y proteger a su familia.
- Para prevenir enfermarse gravemente y morir.
- Para ayudar a que Texas vuelva a la normalidad.

¿Quién puede recibir la vacuna ahora?

Pase 1A: Trabajadores de la salud de primera línea
Pase 1B: Personas mayores de 65 años o mayores de 16 años con una condición médica que aumenta su riesgo de enfermarse gravemente por el COVID-19, entre ellas:

- Diabetes tipo 2
- Cáncer
- Enfermedad renal crónica
- Enfermedad pulmonar obstructiva crónica (COPD)
- Síndrome de Down
- Trasplante de órganos
- Obesidad
- Embarazo
- Enfermedad de células falciformes
- Ciertas enfermedades cardíacas

Dependiendo de los suministros, la vacuna podría estar disponible para todos en la primavera de 2021.

Las vacunas contra el COVID-19 de Moderna y Pfizer requieren de dosis.

MODERNA
Si recibió la primera dosis de la vacuna de Moderna, lo mejor es que reciba la segunda dosis de Moderna 4 a 6 semanas después de la primera.

PFIZER
Si recibió la primera dosis de la vacuna de Pfizer, lo mejor es que reciba la segunda dosis de Pfizer 3 a 6 semanas después de la primera.

Probablemente sea más fácil, aunque no es obligatorio, recibir ambas dosis del mismo centro o proveedor de la comunidad.

¿Dónde me inscribo para recibir la vacuna?

Inscríbese en un centro de vacunación o con un proveedor de la vacuna en la comunidad, como una farmacia.

Visite la página dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus-sp para encontrar un centro o proveedor. Si no tiene internet, llame al 2-1-1.

Recuerde:
Los suministros de la vacuna son bajos: no todos los proveedores de la comunidad tienen la vacuna todas las semanas, y es posible que los centros de vacunación tengan largas listas de espera.

No se presente en un centro de vacunación o con un proveedor en busca de la vacuna.

Más bien, revise el sitio web del proveedor y llame solo en caso de que no encuentre respuesta a sus dudas en el sitio web.

¿Qué más debo saber?

- ☒ La vacuna le brinda una protección del 95% contra el COVID-19, muy posiblemente 1 o 2 semanas después de la segunda dosis.
- ☒ Todavía no se sabe si las personas que se vacunan contra el COVID-19 pueden seguir contagiando el virus a otros.
- ☒ Entonces, continúe usando mascarilla, manténgase a seis pies de los demás, lévese las manos con frecuencia y tome todas las medidas para combatir el COVID-19.
- ☒ Los efectos secundarios leves son señales normales de que su cuerpo está desarrollando la protección, y suelen desaparecer después de unos días.
- ☒ La probabilidad de que se presente una reacción severa es menor al 0.5%. No hay pruebas de que las vacunas causen problemas de salud a largo plazo.

COVID-19
en español para los hispanos

Visite dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus-sp para ver los sitios donde se ponen las vacunas y más.

La vacuna es muy segura y puede salvarle la vida.

as of 02/04/21

COVID-19 Prevention Messaging

- Get a vaccine as soon as you can
- Continue prevention steps even after vaccination
- Wear a face covering
- Limit contact with others, maintain a physical distance, and avoid crowds
- Fight pandemic fatigue!



Wash hands with soap and water.



Wear a face covering.



Cover coughs and sneezes.



Avoid touching face.



Disinfect often touched surfaces.



Stay 6 feet apart.



Texas Department of State Health Services

Thank you!



dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus

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