



TEXAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION | SINCE 1919

4-30-2021

COVID-19

The below information is compiled to assist you in planning and preparation during this unprecedented time. The status of the COVID-19 pandemic is extremely dynamic with information changing by the minute. Please utilize links for most up-to-date information and contact TXOGA if you have any questions relating to the information provided.

Statistics:

Vaccination Rates (CDC):

Texas:

One Dose: 10,909,580
Fully Vaccinated: 7,617,650
48.66% of Texas State Population is Vaccinated

Nation:

One Dose: 144,894,586 (43.6% of the population)
Fully Vaccinated: 101,407,318 (30.5% of the population)

Texas Case Count (DSHS):

Total cases: 2,879,712
Total deaths: 49,158

National Case Count (CDC):

Total cases: 32,091,429
Total deaths: 572,190

Recent updates:

Executive/Legislative Updates

- None

Federal Updates

- April 29 - [HHS Awards Over \\$32 Million in American Rescue Plan Funding to Expand COVID-19 Training and Support for Health Centers](#)
- April 27 - [CMS proposes to enhance the medical workforce in rural and underserved communities to support COVID-19 recovery and beyond](#)

Restrictions on Travel or Movement

[TEXAS ORDINANCE DOCUMENT](#). TXOGA has developed a spreadsheet to assist in tracking various state, county and city ordinances. This is a dynamic document and can change daily.

COVID-19 Testing

TDEM's [statewide COVID-19 test collection online map](#) to help Texans locate test collection sites within their community.

COVID-19 Company Efforts

Please send any and all examples of both charitable and community work your companies are engaging in with regards to COVID-19, as well as the ways you are working to continue to power the lives of Texans and Americans during these unprecedented times, to Haley Emerson at hemerson@txoga.org. Please continue to send examples of PPE donations to Stephanie Moreno at SMoreno@steer.com.

For a full list of updates and resources, please visit <https://actions.txoga.org/covid-19>

Links and Resources

General

Latest Health Authorities Updates

- [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) Guidance](#)
 - [Recommendation Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings](#)
- [Texas Department of State Health Services \(DSHS\)](#)
 - [Communications toolkits](#)

Federal

- White House
 - President's [30 days to slow the Spread of Corona virus \(COVID-19\)](#)
 - [Guidelines: Opening Up America Again](#) containing three recommended phases to return to business as usual
- Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency
 - [Version 3.0 of CISA Guidance on Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers](#)
 - [Critical Infrastructure Guidance: Version 2.0 of the Essential Critical Infrastructure Worker Guidance](#)
 - [Interim Guidance](#) for implementing safety practices for critical infrastructure workers who may have had exposure to a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19
 - [Do's and Don'ts](#) for employers and employees related to COVID-19 exposures

State

- DSHS [minimum recommended health protocols](#) for safe operation.
- [The Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas](#) has listed the new and updated statuses of businesses, services and activities around Texas.
- Texans Helping Texans: [The Governor's Report to Open Texas](#).
- Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts [Guidance and News Updates](#)
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) [COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- Texas Railroad Commission (RRC) [COVID-19 page](#) outlining agency action
- Texas Supreme Court COVID-19 [court operation guidance](#)
- Shelter in Place [Map](#) for Texas' Counties

Workplace guidance for employers

- DSHS [COVID-19 communication tools](#) to help Texas businesses continue to operate safely.
- OSHA [guidance and resources](#)
- CDC [guidance for workplace](#)

References

TXOGA Information, Outreach and Responses

- TXOGA's Covid-19 [vaccine distribution update for Dec. 22](#)
- TXOGA's Covid-19 [Vaccine Distribution Update from Dec. 18](#)
- TXOGA President Todd Staples was appointed to lead Governor Abbott's Strike Force to Open [Energy Workgroup](#).
- [DPS Screening at Louisiana Border and DPS Response to TXOGA](#)
 - [Regional Office Maps](#) This map outlines the boundaries of the various Highway Patrol offices. Upon identifying the specific region you are looking for, search for the office and a contact name and phone number will update.
- TAM's (with TXOGA and other allied trades) [letter](#) to Mexico's health administration regarding adoption of [CISA guidelines](#) for critical infrastructure industries.
- [Texas' border states and their current statewide orders](#).
- [TXOGA information on PPE donations and/or selling of supplies](#).
 - For specific communities you service, please contact TXOGA's Executive Director of STEER, Stephanie Moreno at smoreno@steer.com.
- [TXOGA GUIDANCE 3.24.20 on CISA guidelines for critical infrastructure workers](#)

Executive/Legislative Updates

- [Governor Abbott Announces 24 Participating Counties In Eighth Week Of Save Our Seniors COVID-19 Vaccine Initiative](#)
- [Governor Abbott Announces 35 Participating Counties For Seventh Week Of Save Our Seniors Initiative](#)
- [Governor Abbott Statement On Johnson & Johnson Vaccine](#)
- [Governor Abbott Announces Partial Approval Of FEMA Community Vaccination Sites Extension Request In DFW Metroplex, Houston](#)
- [Governor Abbott Issues Executive Order Prohibiting Government-Mandated Vaccine Passports](#)
- [Governor Abbott Announces 46 Participating Counties For Sixth Week Of Save Our Seniors Initiative](#)
- [Governor Abbott Extends COVID-19 Disaster Declaration - April 2021](#)
- [Governor Abbott, TDEM Announce COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program For Texas Youth Summer Camps](#)
- [Governor Abbott, TDEM Request Extension Of FEMA Community Vaccination Sites In DFW Metroplex, Houston](#)
- [Governor Abbott Announces Outreach Partnership To Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations Among Seniors](#)
- [Texas Open COVID-19 Vaccination to All Adults on March 29](#)
- [Governor Abbott Hosts Small Business Roundtable To Discuss COVID-19 Liability Legislation](#)
- [Governor Abbott Announces Third Week Of Save Our Seniors Initiative In 28 Counties](#)
- [People 50 and older eligible to be vaccinated beginning March 15](#)
- [Governor Abbott Announces 34 Counties Participating In 2nd Week Of Save Our Seniors Initiative](#)
- [Governor Abbott & TEA announced funding for TX schools to support in-person instruction.](#)
- [GA-34, lifting the statewide mask mandate](#)
- [TDEM launched first week of "Save Our Seniors" initiative in 26 counties](#)
- [HHSC announce extension of emergency SNAP benefits for month of March](#)
- ["Save Our Seniors" initiative to vaccinate homebound Texans.](#)
- [USDA disaster designation](#) for counties response to both winter storm and COVID-19 impacts.
- TDEM announced [State Mobile Vaccination Teams \(SMVT\) to serve these counties this week: San Saba, Goliad, Sterling, Jeff Davis, and Crockett.](#)

- GGA [roundtable in Dallas on fostering small businesses](#), and need for COVID-19 related civil liability protections.
- FEMA announced [mass community vaccination sites in Dallas and Houston](#), starting February 24.
- TDHCA announced the [COVID-19 Texas Rental Relief Program](#).
- GGA 2022-2023 budget, [including COVID-19 vaccine/therapeutics access, increasing teleservices availability and expanding broadband](#).
- [State's COVID-19 Disaster Declaration for February 2021](#) extended.
- TDEM announced the deployment of [State Mobile Vaccination Teams \(SMVT\)](#).
- HHSC [extended the emergency SNAP benefits for February 2021](#).
- GGA [2021 State of State Address](#) with mentions of COVID-19 legislation.
- TEA launched [online grant applications for students with cognitive disabilities](#) impacted by COVID-19.
- DOD will [surge resources to Abilene, Lufkin and Eagle Pass](#).
- TDEM announced the creation of the [State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program](#) to rural Texas counties.
- TDEM established an [Alternate Care Site in Lubbock](#) to expand hospital capacity in region.
- TDEM announced the [expansion of therapeutic infusion center in Austin](#).
- TDEM [surged state resources to support Laredo](#).
- TDEM [expansion of the COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses](#).
- TDEM announced a new [COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Lubbock](#).
- GGA [roundtable with Houston healthcare professionals on COVID-19 vaccine update](#).
- DSHS announced [Texas is the national leader in vaccinations with 1 million doses administered](#).
- TDEM announced [additional therapeutic infusion centers in Fort Worth and Irving](#).
- TDEM announced the [launch of a therapeutic infusion center in Laredo](#).
- Jan. 5 [renewal of COVID-19 disaster declaration](#) for month of January.
- [Texas State Preservation Board, Texas Senate and Texas House of Representatives](#) release protocols ahead of the 87th Legislative Session.
- TDEM announced the [establishment of a COVID-19 Therapeutic Infusion Center in Austin](#).
- HHSC announced the [extension of emergency SNAP benefits for the month of January 2021](#).
- TDEM has secured an extension of four Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS) in Houston and Harris County through January 31, 2021 or until the sites reach maximum capacity of conducting 50,000 COVID-19 tests.
- DSHS [encouraging nursing facilities to take advantage of COVID-19 treatments](#).
- [Texas Capitol to reopen](#) January 4, 2021.
- Governor Abbott, FDA and CDC [call with Texas hospitals to discuss COVID-19 therapeutics](#).
- TEA announced [free access to supplemental math computer program for Texas families through Home Learning 3.0 initiative](#).
- TDEM launched a [COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Cameron County](#).
- Dec. 17 TDEM's statewide COVID-19 [vaccine update](#)
- Dec. 17 press conference to provide [an update on COVID-19 vaccine distribution](#).
- Governor Abbott attended [Operation Warp Speed Briefing](#) and meeting with CMS Administrator at White House.
- Texas to participate in [federal COVID-19 vaccination program for long-term care staff and residents](#).
- DSHS' [printable posters](#) and other resources for [new initiative urging employers to encourage their employees to get their flu shot](#).
- TDEM launched [Rapid Testing Pilot Program for front line workers at Texas small business](#).
- Dec. 6 [extension of State's disaster declaration for COVID-19 for the month of December](#).
- HHSC announced the [extension of emergency SNAP benefits for the month of December](#).

- State of Texas [COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan for the month of December](#).
- TDEM's [Bamlanivimab infusion wing at the state-run alternate care site \(ACS\) in El Paso](#)
- [Holiday Comfort Food Care Package \(CFCP\) program](#) to provide holiday meals for at-risk youth and families in communities across Texas, while also supporting local restaurants.
- DSHS announced the [guiding principles for Texas' COVID-19 vaccine allocation process](#).
- [Update on Bamlanivimab distribution to hospitals across Texas](#).
- [TEA and TDEM announce \\$420 million reimbursement program to continue supporting remote learning during COVID-19](#).
- [DSHS announced the distribution of antibody therapy to hospitals across Texas](#).
- [Deployment of additional COVID-19 resources to El Paso & Lubbock](#).
- [State of Texas has prepared allocation plans to swiftly distribute medicine and vaccines](#)
- [DOD has deployed 3 U.S. Air Force Medical Specialty Teams to assist the state's efforts in El Paso](#).
- [PProclamation](#) renewing state disaster declaration for COVID-19.
- [HHSC announced the extension of emergency SNAP benefits for month of November](#).
- 10/25 [additional HHS resources to mitigate COVID-19 in El Paso](#).
- [TDEM is establishing an alternate care site in El Paso to expand hospital capacity in the region](#).
- [Request to HHS to use William Beaumont Army Medical Center for non-COVID patients in El Paso](#).
- DSHS has [secured 2.8 million doses of flu vaccine for the Texas Vaccines for Children Program and the new Adult Influenza Vaccine Initiative](#).
- [\(TEA\) establish targeted education funds for families of students with cognitive disabilities to help offset learning disruptions related to COVID-19](#).
- DSHS & TDEM announced the [surge of resources to Amarillo and Lubbock to support COVID-19 response](#).
- TEA and TDEM announced the [creation of COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for Texas school systems](#).
- DSHS) and TDEM have [surged resources to support COVID-19 response in El Paso](#).
- [\(HHSC\) will receive more than \\$20 million for disaster crisis counseling services for Texans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- October 8 [update to disaster declaration for regions with high COVID-19 hospitalizations](#).
- [EO-32](#): which allows [bars to open in qualifying counties](#).
- GGA [encourages health care providers to enroll in DSHS immunization program in preparation for COVID-19 vaccine](#).
- [TDEM announced the delivery of hand sanitizer from Anheuser-Busch in preparation for election day](#).
- [HHSC announced \\$3.5 million in federal funding for nursing facility safety projects](#).
- [Proclamation](#) enhancing [ballot security protocols for the in-person delivery of marked mail ballots](#)
- [HHS is offering temporary COVID-19 surge testing in McLennan County](#). October 7 - October 10
- [Extension of emergency SNAP benefits through the month of October](#).
- [\\$171 million in funding from CARES Act for rental assistance and Texas Eviction Diversion Program](#) due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Announcement](#) on Texas' health insurers to continue payments parity on telehealth appointments.
- September 17 [press conference on the state's response to COVID-19](#) with new guidelines.
- [E-31](#): Hospitals can return to elective surgeries
- [E-30](#): Occupancy levels can increase to 75% capacity (if already at 50%): Retail stores, restaurants, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms/exercise facilities, museums and libraries
- [11 members appointed to the Task Force on Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response](#).
- [PSA encouraging Texans to get a flu shot, especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic](#).

- Governor Greg Abbott and other Texas leaders issued a [statement on President Trump's decision to withdraw the Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Regulation \(MFAR\)](#) alleviating challenges to the healthcare system because of COVID-19.
- Sept. 7 [statewide disaster declaration for COVID-19 extended.](#)
- [\(SBA\) has approved Texas' request for emergency designation for small business disaster loans following Hurricane Hanna.](#)
- [\(HHSC\) will extend emergency SNAP benefits for month of September in response to COVID-19 pandemic.](#)
- [\(HHSC\) received federal approval to allow SNAP recipients to apply for replacement benefits for food lost or destroyed by Hurricane Laura](#) that were provided in response to COVID-19.
- [GGA press conference to survey Hurricane Laura damage in Orange.](#)
- [Suspension of certain commercial truck regulations ahead of Hurricane Laura landfall](#)
- [Mobilization of Texas National Guard in response to tropical storm threats the Texas coast will face](#) within a COVID-19 environment.
- [\(FEMA\) has granted a Public Assistance Category B request](#) ahead of tropical storm threats the Texas coast will face.
- [Proclamation setting emergency special election for Texas Senate District 30 on Tuesday, September 29, 2020.](#)
- GGA [statement regarding the federal government approving \\$1.4 billion in funds made available for Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order.](#)
- [\(TEA\) has procured over 1 million devices and WiFi hotspots](#) through the state's [Operation Connectivity.](#)
- TWC [applied for additional unemployment benefit through Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order.](#)
- DSHS created [COVID-19 communication tools](#) to help Texas businesses continue to operate safely.
- DSHS [minimum recommended health protocols](#) for safe operation.
- Press conference in [Lubbock & El Paso](#) with local leaders and update on COVID-19 response.
- [\(HHS\) has extended federal-funded COVID-19 testing sites in Harris County.](#)
- Press conference in [Beaumont](#) and [Victoria](#) with local leadership on COVID-19 response.
- Aug. 14 [renewal and extension of state's disaster declaration for COVID-19.](#)
- HHSC announced [\\$1.1 billion in Quality Incentive Payment Program \(QIPP\) to support Texas nursing facilities](#)
- [\(HHS\) has established four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County.](#)
- [Houston Astros to open a free COVID-19 testing site at Minute Maid Park in Houston.](#)
- [Press conference on the upcoming flu season](#) and mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and the flu.
- HHSC [deadline extension to Aug. 28, 2020 for Medicaid and CHIP Providers to apply for federal COVID-19 relief funds.](#)
- [PPE distribution to Texas schools for the 2020-2021 academic year](#)
- [Extension of federal funding for the Texas National Guard's mission to combat COVID-19.](#)
- HHSC [federal approval for SNAP benefit replacements for Hurricane Hanna disaster counties.](#)
- **7.31.20** Governor Greg Abbott [held a virtual meeting with local community leaders in Laredo & Eagle Pass](#) to discuss ongoing efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.
- July 31 [statement on school re-openings across the State of Texas due to the COVID-19 pandemic.](#)
- HHSC [to extend the emergency SNAP benefits for the month of August](#)
- HHSC [extending flexibilities for Medicaid and CHIP recipients and providers through October 23.](#)
- RGV visit after Hurricane Hanna and [additional COVID-19 resources for RGV](#)
- HHSC [extending the application for pandemic food benefits for families affected by school closures to August 21.](#)
- [Certain truck regulations waiver](#) to expedite Hurricane Hanna recovery in RGV and Coastal Bend.

- [Waiving of grade promotion requirement related to the STAAR test for students in grades 5 and 8](#), providing an opportunity to overcome the disruptions caused by COVID-19.
- [Proclamation for early voting period extended for November 3rd election](#) to vote and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- July 25 [press conference on the state's response to Hurricane Hanna](#) and [disaster declaration for affected areas](#).
- TDEM [move resources into position as Tropical Storm, Hanna, approaches Texas Gulf Coast](#).
- HHSC encourage eligible [Medicaid and CHIP providers to apply for federal COVID-19 relief funds before August 3 deadline](#).
- [New Bilingual COVID-19 PSA with Dr. Guadalupe Zamora, MD, of Zamora Medical Center](#).
- [Additional \\$118 million in federal funding to support Texas' higher education](#),
- GGA participated in [TXOGA's Virtual Energy Summit, Powering Forward - Texas Oil & Natural Gas](#), and provided remarks regarding the energy sector's pivotal role in the state's economy, COVID related updates in large producing areas and upcoming school re-opening strategies.
- [Virtual meeting with RGV leaders](#) on the unified efforts to combat COVID-19 in these communities.
- [New Spanish-language COVID-19 PSA with Dr. Francisco Cigarroa, MD, of UT Health San Antonio](#).
- [U.S. Navy's support in the RGV and Southwest Texas to help combat COVID-19](#).
- \$200M in CARES Act funding to TEA for [eLearning devices and home internet for Texas Students to enable remote learning during COVID-19](#).
- TEA's [additional reopening guidance](#), including [local option for online-only start to the 2020-2021 school year](#).
- [DOD will surge response to the Rio Grande Valley](#) to help combat COVID-19.
- [PSO will provide \\$41 million in federal funds to assist cities and counties in COVID-19 response](#).
- [Additional Department of Defense Resources to mitigate COVID-19](#).
- [Additional extension of federally supported COVID-19 testing sites in Texas](#).
- [Additional federal resources activated to combat COVID-19 in the Houston Region](#).
- Ominicare [testing for patients and staff of assisted living facilities and nursing homes](#).
- June 10 [proclamation](#) renewing/extending [COVID-19 disaster declaration for all Texas counties](#).
- June 9 [proclamation expanding hospital capacity in 11 trauma service areas](#).
- State's [\\$57 million investment in federal funds to maintain the state's need-based financial aid programs](#) mitigating the adverse impacts of COVID-19.
- [HHS launched a COVID-10 surge testing site in Edinburg](#) July 9 – July 14.
- DSHS [announced the distribution of additional cases of Remdesivir](#), the antiviral drug for COVID-19.
- [Extension of disaster declaration for all counties in State of Texas](#).
 - This proclamation [amends paragraph 5 and 12 of EO-28](#) to:
- [EO-29](#) requiring [face covering over the nose and mouth](#) in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases.
- [HHSC extension of emergency SNAP benefits during COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- [Proclamation](#) adding additional counties to [\(GA-27\)](#) relating to the need for increased hospital
- [Proclamation](#) renewing and certifying that threats and incidents of violence constitute and continue to pose an imminent threat of disaster in the State of Texas.
- UT Head Football Coach Tom Herman [COVID-19 PSA: "The Power of Teamwork"](#)
- [HHSC extension deadline for pandemic food benefits for families affected by school closures](#).
- June 26 [extension of federally supported COVID-19 testing sites in Texas](#).
- [GA-28](#) limiting certain businesses and services: [re-closing bars, rafting/tubing, limiting outdoor gatherings to 100 or more and restaurants inside capacity at no more than 50%](#)
- June 25 [temporary pause of additional reopening phases](#)
- [GA-27](#) relating to the [need for increased hospital capacity](#).

- TDEM [providing free mask to all Texans who are tested at state-run COVID-19 mobile testing sites.](#)
- [New Spanish-Language COVID-19 PSA](#) with Dr. Amneris Luque, Professor of Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease and Geographic.
- June 23 [press conference](#) to discuss additional steps the state is taking in recent weeks.
- [Proclamation](#) allowing [HHCS to enact further safety for childcare centers and expanding the ability of local authority to impose restrictions](#)
- DSHS is [distributing additional cases of the antiviral drug, Remdesivir, across Texas.](#)
- [Press conference on June 16](#) update on COVID-19 response and hospital capacity across the state.
- Cowboys Linebacker Jaylon Smith [release COVID-10 PSA: "Wear A Mask On And Off The Field"](#)
- [Proclamation](#) extending disaster declaration in June 2020 amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Proclamation](#) extending disaster declaration in June 2020 for Texas counties affected by Hurricane Harvey.
- Office of the Governor and Nolan Ryan [release new PSA for COVID-19: "Don't Be A Knucklehead."](#)
- [DSHS distributing additional rounds of antiviral drug, Remdesivir, across the state.](#)
- [Expanded testing in underserved communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.](#)
- [Tropical Depression Cristobal preparedness and COVID-19 considerations.](#)
- [Extension of emergency SNAP benefits during COVID-19 pandemic.](#)
- [Phase III](#) to reopen Texas
- [GA-26](#) relating to the expanded services allowed to reopen in Phase III.
- [Update on State's response to protests](#)
- [Prosecution](#) For protest agitators violating federal law
- [Proclamation](#) declaring [State of Disaster for all Texas counties](#) and [surges state resources in response to protests.](#)
- [COVID surge response in Amarillo](#)
- [Proclamation](#) expanding the enumerated list of Covered Services in GA-23.
- [GA-25](#) suspending [in-person visitations in county and municipal jails.](#)
- [GA-24](#) relating to the [termination of air travel restrictions](#) & [GA-20](#)
- (HHSC) [expansion of testing to all state hospitals and state supported living centers.](#)
- [Additional drive-thru testing sites in Texas at CVS Health stores.](#)
- [Letter](#) to all state agencies and institutions of higher education directing them to reduce budgets by five percent.
- [GGA statement to local governments against increasing property taxes for Texas.](#)
- [GA-23](#) was issued for the expanded opening of Texas.
- [Partnership with local fire departments to expand testing in nursing homes.](#)
- [Extension](#) of federally supported [community-based testing sites in Texas.](#)
- [Extension of COVID-19 disaster declaration for all Texas counties.](#)
- [Letter](#) to Congressional Leaders asking them to [support liability protections for Texas employers.](#)
- [Proclamation](#) concerning early voting for special elections to occur on July 14, 2020. Early voting by personal appearance shall begin on Monday, June 29, 2020.
- [Letter](#) sent to [city and county leaders regarding the \\$5.06 billing available funds](#)
- [Texas Education Agency launch operation to deliver internet connectivity for children across state](#)
- [Application for FEMA assistance funds to support Texas food banks.](#)
- [GA-22](#) relating to [confinement during the COVID- 19 disaster.](#)
- [Texas COVID Relief Fund with Texas OneStar Foundation](#)
- The Texans Back to Work Task Force [presented its final report](#) to Lt. Gov. Patrick.
- [GA-21](#) relating to the expanded reopening of services (hair salons, barbershops, etc.) and an [update on the reopening of Texas.](#)
- Governor Abbott [announces phase one to Open Texas and establishes statewide minimum health protocols](#) and issued the following new executive orders [GA 18](#), [GA 19](#), [GA 20](#) (REPEALED), and

the Governor's Report to [Open Texas](#) which outline the ability for Texas to begin opening for business on May 1st.

- TDEM's [statewide COVID-19 test collection online map](#) to help Texans locate test collection sites within their community.
- TDHCA [will provide HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance \(TBRA\) to Texans experiencing housing challenges due to COVID-19.](#)
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension 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](#)
- Temporarily [waiver](#) for certain testing requirements for advanced practice registered nurses
- [Update on job openings](#) in Texas and resources for Texans seeking employment
- Texas National Guard will be organizing and constructing [mobile testing sites around the state.](#)
- [GA-17](#) relating to the establishment of the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas.
- [GA-16](#) relates to the safe, strategic reopening of select services and activities in Texas. This order establishes a temporary "Retail-To-Go" model that will allow retail outlets in Texas to reopen beginning Friday, April 24.
- [GA-15](#) relates to hospital capacity and personal protective equipment (PPE) needed for the COVID-19 response. The order loosens restrictions on surgeries [put in place by Governor Abbott in March.](#)
- Office of Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) [launches small business webinar series.](#)
- [\\$38 million in federal COVID-19 emergency funding for local governments](#)
- [Governor Abbott, Goldman Sachs, LiftFund announce \\$50 million in loans for small businesses](#)
- [Extension of disaster declaration.](#)
- Online [Frontline Child Care Website](#) to help essential workers in Texas locate child care and support child care centers who are caring for these children during the outbreak.
- [Update on incoming shipments of PPE and distribution in Texas](#)
- [Update on State's Robust Hospital Capacity.](#)
- [TDEM Guidance to Sectors under CISA on GA-12 , GA-11 and GA-14](#)
- [GA-14](#) relating to statewide continuity of essential services and activities through April 30, 2020.
- [GA-12](#) mandates a 14-day quarantine for road travelers arriving from any location in Louisiana. REPEALED
- [GA-11](#) mandating 14-day quarantine for air travelers. REPEALED
- [Deployment of three National Guard Joint Task Force Brigades.](#)
- [Waiver for certain licensing renewal regulations and fees for nurses.](#)
- [GA-10](#) relating to swift submission of daily testing information
- [Major Disaster Declaration](#)
- Department of Public Health's [Declaration of a Public Health Disaster](#)
- [GA-08](#) relating to COVID- 19 preparedness and mitigation.

Regulatory Updates

Texas Attorney General's Office

- AG's [Guidance Letter About Reopening Non-Essential Businesses Regarding GA-18.](#)
 - Attorney General Paxton opines that "*the Governor's order is neither vague nor unenforceable, and local governments are prohibited from allowing businesses to reopen unless they are recognized as essential or reopened services under the Governor's order.*"
- [Application of the temporary exemption for qualified property damaged by a disaster does not apply to COVID-19 losses](#)
- [Letter on local governments restricting state employees/contractors from conducting services](#)

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

- [Comptroller issues April release on tax collections](#) and was down significantly
- [Comptroller Hegar's response](#) to TXOGA's letters on [4.11.20](#) and [3.30.20](#) asking the **Comptroller's Office** use the described price scenario in performing the school district value study and, that under the authority of the Comptroller under the Tax Code, the proposed pricing be used by the state's Central Appraisal Districts for the current tax year. The Comptroller has determined the agency does not have flexibility regarding the January 1 valuation date. Keep in mind, operators continue to have the ability to take their valuation protests to the ARBs and if appropriate, to court.
- [Due date extending for 2020 Texas franchise tax reports](#)

Texas General Land Office

- [Royalty and lease relief on state lands](#)

Public Utility Commission

- Public Utility Commission (PUC) [will consider its COVID-19 Emergency Relief Program again](#).

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

- TCEQ [response letter](#) to the HDC Committee on Clean Air, Clean Water, and Climate Change.
- HDC Committee on Clean Air, Clean Water, and Climate Change [letter](#) to TCEQ regarding the decision to exercise enforcement discretion on a case-by-case basis for rule or permit violations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Guidance on bulk crude oil storage](#)
- [Letter addressing COVID-19 response and requests to rescind the agency's enforcement discretion and administrative relief policies](#)
- [Air Permits New Sign Variance Form](#)

Texas Railroad Commission (RRC)

- [RRC Energy Minute](#) summarizing the latest round of relief items
- Chairman Wayne Christian participated in the [Consumer Energy Alliance \(CEA\)'s Tele-Townhall](#) to discuss the challenges and opportunities for the Texas Railroad Commission in 2020 and beyond.
- Comm. Christi Craddick [participated in The Texas Tribune Series: Coronavirus in Texas](#) discussing the coronavirus impact, Texas oil prices and the economy.
- [Adopted revisions to form PS-48](#), new construction report.
- May 5 hearing [commissioners discussed](#) proration, the report produced by the Blue Ribbon Task Force for Oil Economic Recovery and common carrier pipeline and refinery storage capacity.
 - [The Blue Ribbon Task Force for Oil Economic Recovery report and letter to the commission](#)
 - In response, several statewide rule exceptions and fee waivers were introduced.
 - [Temporary exceptions to statewide rules 8, 13, 14 and 107](#)
 - [Temporary exception to certain fees & surcharges required by statewide rule 78](#)
 - [Temporary exception to statewide rule 95](#)
- Commission meeting on April 21 [discussed](#) motion to delay proration vote until May 5th and the formation of the Blue Ribbon Task Force for Oil Economic Recovery.
- Commissioner Craddick's [letter](#) to Comptroller requesting extension for monthly deadline on crude oil and natural gas production taxes.
- [RRC CASES](#): an on-line portal that allows the public and practitioners to view and access documents for complaints and other matters going through RRC's hearings process.
- Pipeline operators and local distribution companies
 - [State of Disaster in Texas Waiver Requests](#) for gas pipeline operators on April 28
 - [State of Disaster in Texas Waiver Requests](#).

- Oil and gas operating companies
 - [File form H-15, Test on an Inactive Well More than 25 Years Old, online using the RRC Online System.](#)
 - [extension of certain expirations and filing requirements](#)
 - [waiver requests to the district director and assistant district director](#)

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

- [TWC extensions to payment deadline for certain employers.](#)
- [New TWC guidance for unemployment claimants.](#)
- [\\$40,000,000 approved for supplemental childcare](#) for families/communities during COVID-19

Judicial Updates

- [Emergency Order 22:](#) Extends and amends the 18th Emergency Order, prohibits jury proceedings until October 1 but authorizes limited number of jury proceedings under certain conditions.
- [Emergency Order 19:](#) Cancels the July bar exam, leaves in place the in-person September 9-10 and approves an online bar exam on October 5-6.
- [Emergency Order 20:](#) Renews and amends 15th Emergency Order covering residential evictions.
- [Emergency Order 21:](#) Extends case filings until September 15 for limitations on civil case filings and service of them for deadlines that fall between March 13, 2020, and September 1.
- 6.29 [emergency order 18](#) amending existing provisions from the previous [May 26](#) order.
- [Emergency order 17](#) amending existing provisions from the omnibus emergency [April 27 order](#).
- Updated and clarified many of its [emergency orders](#) addressing Texas courts' pandemic issues.
- [Texas Supreme Court Coronavirus Update and Court Guidance](#)
- TCJL's [outreach](#) to members on a potential increase in lawsuits during COVID-19 outbreak.
- [State Bar of Texas Updates and Resources](#)

County/City Updates

- [Harris County](#) reaches threshold that requires tighter restrictions under GA-32.
- [Extension of community based COVID-19 testing sites in Houston and Harris County.](#)
- Dec. 8 Bexar County EO NW-18 [prohibiting outdoor gatherings of 10 people or more and closing bars and similar establishments](#), until further notice.
- Nov. 25 [City of San Antonio and Bexar County imposed a Thanksgiving weekend curfew.](#)
- [Dec. 3 City of Laredo order:](#) curfew for social activities, parties and gatherings and closes city buildings.
- October 6 RGV counties remain closed, but 3 ([Cameron, Starr and Willacy](#)) [move onto higher occupancy standards.](#)
- Aug. 12 Harris County has [new guidance and a roadmap](#) for reopening schools.
- Harris County and the City of Houston's LHA ordered all public and non-religious private schools remain closed to in-person instruction until at least September 8, 2020.
- Officials in all five of the state's largest counties — [Dallas](#), [Tarrant](#), [Bexar](#), [Travis](#) and [Harris](#) — have ordered the closure of public schools through at least Labor Day
- **July 20** Hidalgo enacted a [shelter-at-home order Monday](#), which mandates residents to remain at home, establishes curfews and enforces facial coverings in public.
- **June 26** Harris County moved to "level one" on the [County's COVID-19 threat level system.](#)
- Harris County [COVID-19 Alert System](#)
- Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo issued [new order requiring mandatory mask order.](#)
- [State Representative Armando Walle to serve as the COVID-19 recovery czar for Harris County.](#)
- [Marvin Odum, former president of Shell Oil, named recovery czar for City of Houston.](#)

Fuel Waivers

- [TDLR temporarily waives ASTM requirements](#). Disaster declarations are anticipated to be renewed in May and June and likely beyond that date.
- Governor Greg Abbott, along with governors from Utah, Oklahoma and Wyoming, [sent a letter to EPA Administrator Wheeler](#) requesting a waiver for the renewable volume obligation (RVO) under the federal Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). This was not a TXOGA initiated request.
- [State Fuel waivers Tracker](#) for April, May and June listed by date issued. *Courtesy of API*
- [Texas TCEQ Low RPV Fuel Waiver](#)
- [EPA Fuel Waiver for gasoline transition from winter-grade, high volatility to summer-grade, low vapor pressure](#).
- [TDLR RVP waiver language](#)

Federal News/Updates

- April 23 - [Statement of President Joe Biden on Senate Passage of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act](#)
- April 22 - [HHS Launches 'We Can Do This: Live' Initiative to Increase COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence](#)
- April 21 - [FDA Continues Important Steps to Ensure Quality, Safety and Effectiveness of Authorized COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- April 20 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: April 20, 2021](#)
- April 20 - [FDA Announces New Streamlined Approach to Add Pooled Serial Screening Claims to Certain Authorized Tests for Use in Serial Testing Programs](#)
- April 19 - [HHS Announces Nearly \\$150 Million from American Rescue Plan to Support Community-Based Health Care Providers with COVID-19 Response](#)
- April 16 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Revokes Emergency Use Authorization for Monoclonal Antibody Bamlanivimab](#)
- April 14 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- April 13 - [Readout of the Second COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force Meeting](#)
- April 13 - [New Legal Guidance and Resources to Ensure -- and Expand -- Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for People with Disabilities and Older Adults](#)
- April 13 - [Statement from Jeff Zients, White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator on Johnson & Johnson Vaccine](#)
- April 12 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- April 12 - [Pandemic Prices: Assessing Inflation in the Months and Years Ahead](#)
- April 12 - [Vaccine Ready: Addressing COVID-19 Health Disparities among Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities](#)
- April 8 - [Civilian and Contractors Vaccine FAQ](#)
- April 7 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- April 7 - [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Announces Expansion of COVID-19 Vaccine Program to All Community Health Centers Across the Country](#)
- April 7 - [FEMA COVID-19 Vaccinations Update](#)
- April 6 - [Remarks by President Biden Marking the 150 Millionth COVID-19 Vaccine Shot](#)
- April 6 - [Remarks by President Biden During Tour of Vaccination Site](#)
- April 6 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: April 6, 2021](#)
- April 6 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Issues Emergency Use Authorization for the Symbiotica COVID-19 Self-Collected Antibody Test System](#)
- April 5 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- April 1 - [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Launches Nationwide Network of Trusted Voices to Encourage Vaccination in Next Phase of COVID-19 Public Education Campaign](#)

- March 29 - [HHS to Expand Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for Older Adults and People with Disabilities](#)
- March 26, 2021 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 25, 2021 - [FACT SHEET: Biden Administration Announces Historic \\$10 Billion Investment to Expand Access to COVID-19 Vaccines and Build Vaccine Confidence in Hardest-Hit and Highest-Risk Communities](#)
- March 24, 2021 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 24, 2021 - [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Individuals and Households Program Policy \(Interim\)](#)
- March 24, 2021 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 24, 2021 - [FEMA to Help Pay Funeral Costs for COVID-19-Related Deaths](#)
- March 23, 2021 - [FEMA Announces Cost Share Adjustment for Two U.S. Territories](#)
- March 23, 2021- [COVID-19 has exacerbated the economic inequality and caregiving crisis facing women of color. Here's how the American Rescue Plan helps.](#)
- March 19,- [Statement by President Biden on the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act](#)
- March 19 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: March 19, 2021](#)
- March 18 - [FDA authorizes revisions to fact sheets to address SARS-CoV-2 variants for monoclonal antibody products under emergency use authorization](#)
- March 18 - [FDA's Ongoing Use of Inspectional Tools for Ensuring Access to Safe, Quality Food and Medical Products During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- March 18- [Examining Our COVID-19 Response: An Update from Federal Official](#)
- March 18 - [Remarks by President Biden on the 100 Million Shot Goal](#)
- March 17 - [Biden Administration to Invest \\$150 Million to Expand Access to COVID-19 Treatments in Underserved Communities](#)
- March 17 - [Biden Administration to Invest More Than \\$12 Billion to Expand COVID-19 Testing](#)
- March 17 - [FDA Permits Marketing of First SARS-CoV-2 Diagnostic Test Using Traditional Premarket Review Process](#)
- March 17 - [HEARING ON "LEADING THE WAY FORWARD: BIDEN ADMINISTRATION ACTIONS TO INCREASE COVID-19 VACCINATIONS"](#)
- March 17 - [FEMA Covid-19 Vaccination Update](#)
- March 17 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 16 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: March 16, 2021](#)
- March 16 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA takes steps to streamline path for COVID-19 screening tools, provides information to help groups establishing testing programs](#)
- March 15 - [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 11 [Fact Sheet: President Biden to Announce All Americans to be Eligible for Vaccinations by May 1, Puts the Nation on a Path to Get Closer to Normal by July 4th](#)
- March 11 FDA - [Know Your Treatment Options for COVID-19](#)
- March 10 [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 10 [Remarks by President Biden at Event with the CEOs of Johnson & Johnson and Merck](#)
- March 9 [U.S. Food & Drug Administration Announcement](#)
- March 8 [Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials](#)
- March 3 White House [press conference](#) on COVID-19 response.
- March 2 White House announces manufacturing [collaboration between Merck and Johnson & Johnson](#) to expand production of COVID-19 vaccines.
- March 1 FDA issues authorization for [Quidel QuickVue at-home COVID-19 test](#).
- Feb. 27 FDA issued an [emergency use authorization \(EUA\) for the third COVID-19 vaccine](#).
- Feb. 26 White House [press conference on COVID-19 response](#).

- White House renews [national emergency concerning COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- Feb. 24 White House [press conference on COVID-19 response](#).
- New actions to [deliver mask to communities hit hard by pandemic](#).
- Feb. 22 White House [press conference on COVID-19 response](#).
- FDA issues [policies to guide medical product developers](#) addressing COVID-19 virus variants.
- Federal [increase of lending to small businesses and changes to PPP distribution to promote equitable access](#).
- White House administration [announces actions to expand COVID-19 testing](#).
- DHS [prevents counterfeit N95 masks from reaching hospital workers and first responders](#).
- Biden Administration announces [extension of COVID-19 forbearance and foreclosure protections for homeowners](#).
- Feb. 10 [Press Briefing](#) by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials.
- Biden Administration [purchases additional doses of COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna](#).
- Biden Administration announces [members of COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force](#).
- [Community Health Centers Vaccination Program to provide earlier access to under-served communities](#).
- Feb. 9 [Press briefing](#) by White House COVID-19 response team and public health officials.
- FDA authorizes [monoclonal antibodies for treatment of COVID-19](#).
- Feb. 8 [Press briefing](#) by White House COVID-19 response team and public health officials.
- FDA preparing to release [new standards for Covid-19 vaccine booster shots, tests and drugs](#)
- White House Administration held a [press briefing on updates to U.S. response to COVID-19](#).
- White House Administration [increased vaccine supply to states, initial launch of Federal Retail Pharmacy Program and expansion of FEMA reimbursements to states](#).
- HHS' [Marketplace Special Enrollment Period \(SEP\) in response to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#).
- HHS amended [the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act \(PREP Act\) to increase workforce authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccine](#).
- OCR announced [notification of enforcement discretion for use of online or web-based scheduling applications for the scheduling of COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#).
- HHS announced [funding to expand immunization information sharing collaboration](#).
- CDC expanded the [negative COVID-19 test requirement to all air passengers entering the U.S.](#)
- HHS launched [web-based locator for COVID-19 outpatient treatment sites for monoc. antibodies](#).
- FDA [issues alert regarding potential impact of viral mutations](#) and, that the impact remains low.
- HHS announced the [extension of Community Based Testing Site program](#), through national pharmacy and retail chains.
- HHS announces \$22 billion in [funding to support expanded testing and vaccine distribution](#).
- HHS [statement on Trump Administration's executive order further supporting emergency learning scholarships to disadvantaged families](#)
- CDC and Trump Administration announce the [requirement of negative COVID-19 test for air travelers from the United Kingdom to the US](#).
- Trump Administration [purchases additional 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine from Pfizer](#).
- HHS and DOD announced an [agreement with Merck to continue the development and large-scale manufacturing of investigational COVID-19 treatment](#).
- CDC Director's [statement](#) on signing the Advisory Committee on Immunization's Practice's recommendation to use Pfizer's vaccine for people 16 years or older.
- FDA issues emergency use authorization (EUA) [for a vaccine for first COVID-19 vaccine](#).
- Trump Administration [purchases additional 100 million doses of COVID-19 investigational vaccine from Moderna](#).
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce's [7 resources to navigate through the PPP Loan forgiveness process](#).

- [FEMA and President Trump approved Federal Emergency Declaration following Hurricane Hanna landfall.](#)
- Congressman Michael Cloud provided constituents with a [video update](#) regarding the Coastal Bend's recent surge in COVID-19 cases.
- [Press conference](#) June 5 on vaccine update, economy growth and new PPP flexibility act.
- [America Together: Returning to Work Town Hall with President Trump](#) on Sunday, President Trump believes there will be a coronavirus vaccine available by the end of the year and announced that 2.2 million small business loans worth \$175 billion have been made in the second round of the Payroll Protection Program.
- [New testing plan](#) laying out the roles and responsibilities to enhance the partnership between the private sector and the public sector, bringing together state and local governments with the federal government to accomplish and achieve the core principles and objectives.
- President Trump [signs \\$484 billion relief package](#)
- FEMA has published the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: addressing PPE needs in non-healthcare setting.](#)
- [Senate approves new \\$484B Relief Package.](#)
- [President Trump stated he is looking into solutions for American oil during current price concerns.](#)
- Both Governor Abbott and [President Trump anticipate releasing details on plans to get back to work later this week.](#)
- [CARES Act and Paycheck Protection Program](#) to help small businesses keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic turndown.
- The Energy Information Agency has released its monthly [Short-Term Energy Outlook.](#)
- [Republican Congressional letter to White House](#) on prioritizing oil and natural gas producers/workforce.
- [Petition for emergency rulemaking in response to EPA guidance](#) from coalition of environmental and public interest groups
- [EPA's letter](#) regarding EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program during COVID-19.