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SOLUTIONS

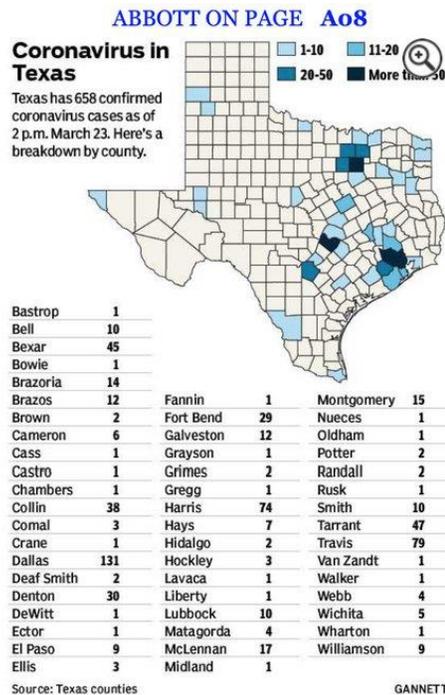
# COVID-19: Texas Update

March 25, 2020

## 1. The day of the shelter-in-place order ...

Several of Texas' large urban areas are now under shelter-in-place orders ... including Harris County (Houston) and the City of Dallas. [In all, at least 11 counties and 5 cities have issued similar orders.](#)

Meanwhile, Governor Abbott has not issued a statewide shelter-in-place order, citing among other things, that the number of counties *without* a case (189 counties) vastly outnumbers those *with* a confirmed case (65 counties) of COVID-19. See below ...



The Governor's balancing act has [drawn praise](#) from rural counties ...

The White House has advised any [travelers from NY should self-quarantine](#) ... [In a tweet](#), Governor Abbott says he'll address the issue this week.

## 2. Confirmed cases rise ... so do deaths ...

[In his press conference today](#), Governor Abbott updated the public on the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the state – 715 – and the number of deaths – 11. Both numbers represent significant increases since the Governor's last press conference on Sunday.

Flanked by medical professionals and pallets of medical equipment, the Governor also announced that his recently formed [Supply Chain Strike Force has procured \\$83 million in Personal Protective Equipment](#). The order includes the future receipt of approximately 200,000 masks per day by next week.

The Governor also announced an additional [executive order](#) which requires hospitals to send daily reports to the state detailing hospital bed capacity and obliges any testing facility to send daily reports concerning COVID-19 testing.

The Governor directed all Texans interested in donating PPE or in volunteering to pitch in via [www.texas.gov](http://www.texas.gov).

## 3. Trump aims to lift lockdown by Easter ...

Echoing comments from the past several days, [President Trump continues to voice concern over a prolonged lockdown](#) ... going so far today as to say he is aiming to restart the economy by Easter.

In Texas, the unemployment rate has likely already ballooned to 9%, up from an all-time low of 3.5% in January ... [the Comptroller warns we could see double digits soon](#).

The Dow Jones Industrial Average surged in its [largest percentage jump since 1933](#) (more than 11 percent) ...

Meanwhile, parts of the nation's economic engine pivot to providing solutions to the medical supply shortage ... [Ford is working with 3M and GE Healthcare to retrofit its factories to help with the supply of respirators](#) ... and [GM is looking to join forces with ventilator maker Ventec Life Systems](#).

Abroad, [Prime Minister Modi has put India on lockdown](#) ... 1.3 billion Indians will be on lockdown for at least 21 days.

#### 4. BREAKING ... Congress agrees to \$2 trillion stimulus ...

Late last night, Republicans and Democrats finally agreed to a [3<sup>rd</sup> stimulus bill](#) ... the bill is expected to pass later today.

Although the bill's text had not been made public, the bill is expected to have:

- Direct payments to individuals ...
- Loans for distressed companies ...
- Funding for hospitals ...
- Relief for cash-strapped state and local governments.

That is all today ...