

Press Release – 08/23/2021

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is now reporting that 43 Callahan County citizens have died from COVID-19. As of August 21st, DSHS reported 27 active cases in the county and 28 new cases in the last 14 days. Both are down from last week's report. DSHS reported a total of 693 confirmed and 666 probable cases since they started tracking data.

Hospitalization information available from the DSHS disclosed that the percentage of hospital beds allocated to COVID-19 patients in the Abilene Trauma Service Area is 14.76% as of August 21st, a slight increase. On July 18th, DSHS reported that 2.72% of the hospitalizations were COVID patients. On August 2nd, that percentage was at 8%. More comprehensive information on these statistics can be found at <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/AdditionalData.aspx>.

DSHS reports that 76.30% of the residents of Texas over 65 have received both doses of the vaccine. Of those 12 and older, 55.42% have been fully vaccinated.

In Callahan County, 58.05% of our residents over 65 have received both doses of the vaccine and 32.84% of those over 12 have been fully vaccinated. We will continue to work with the cities throughout the county to identify those who want to receive the vaccination and try to get the National Guard to assist if needed.

Please continue to be diligent in your efforts to prevent infections using good sanitation practices and following recommended protocols. Although masks are not required, some businesses may still require them.

As always, please remember all these victims and their families in your prayers.