

Press Release – 02/23/2021

Data from the Texas Department of State Health Services disclosed the following Callahan County information, effective February 22, 2021:

Fatalities from COVID-19 - 37

Confirmed cases - 583

Probable cases - 539

Active cases (confirmed and probable) - 6

14-day new case total - 15

As of February 21st, DSHS reported that the percentage of hospital beds in the Abilene Trauma Service Area (TSA) utilized by COVID-19 patients is 4.36%. This percentage has been under 15% for 26 days. It was over 15% more than 14 days which resulted in mandatory closure of bars and restrictions on restaurants to 50% capacity. Our 14-day new case total is under 30 and has been for 11 days. Thus, effective this date, we will be able to reopen our bars and increase capacity in restaurants and other affected businesses to 75%.

I have submitted the required attestation form to DSHS and sent the necessary document to TABC regarding the reopening or expansion of capacity.

Information on getting on vaccinations, registration for vaccinations, and transportation to vaccination sites has been printed in previous press releases and has not changed as of this date. Please contact us if you need this information.

While the percentage of beds used by COVID-19 patients in our TSA, our active cases, and our 14-day new case total are lower, we cannot reduce our diligence. Please remember to wear your masks, particularly when inside and when you are not able to maintain at least six feet distance from others. Continue to use good disinfectant practices and use hand sanitizer. Utilize the curbside, delivery, or drive-through options when possible.

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