FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 18, 2022

COVID-19 Update for Montgomery County
Status Update from the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Montgomery County Public Health District, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, continues to encourage eligible populations to be fully vaccinated and receive a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Those who have been vaccinated and/or boosted tend to have mild symptoms and the majority can recover at home. Need to find a vaccine or a vaccine booster shot? Click here for vaccine sites: https://www.vaccines.gov/.

If you are diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19 , please follow the CDC guidance here: https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html.

MCPHD reports weekly on Tuesdays, but DSHS updates daily at this link: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/45e18cba105c478697c76acbbf86a6bc.

Since our last report on 1/11/2022:

- Total cases of COVID-19 increased by 8,608 to 118,833. *Total cases include confirmed (PCR testing) and probable (antigen testing) cases.*

- Deaths of Montgomery County residents have increased by 11 to 1,164 since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, according to data from DSHS.

- 267 confirmed cases of COVID-19 are currently hospitalized in Montgomery County. SETRAC data for regional hospitalizations can be found here: https://bit.ly/3jwhdiV.
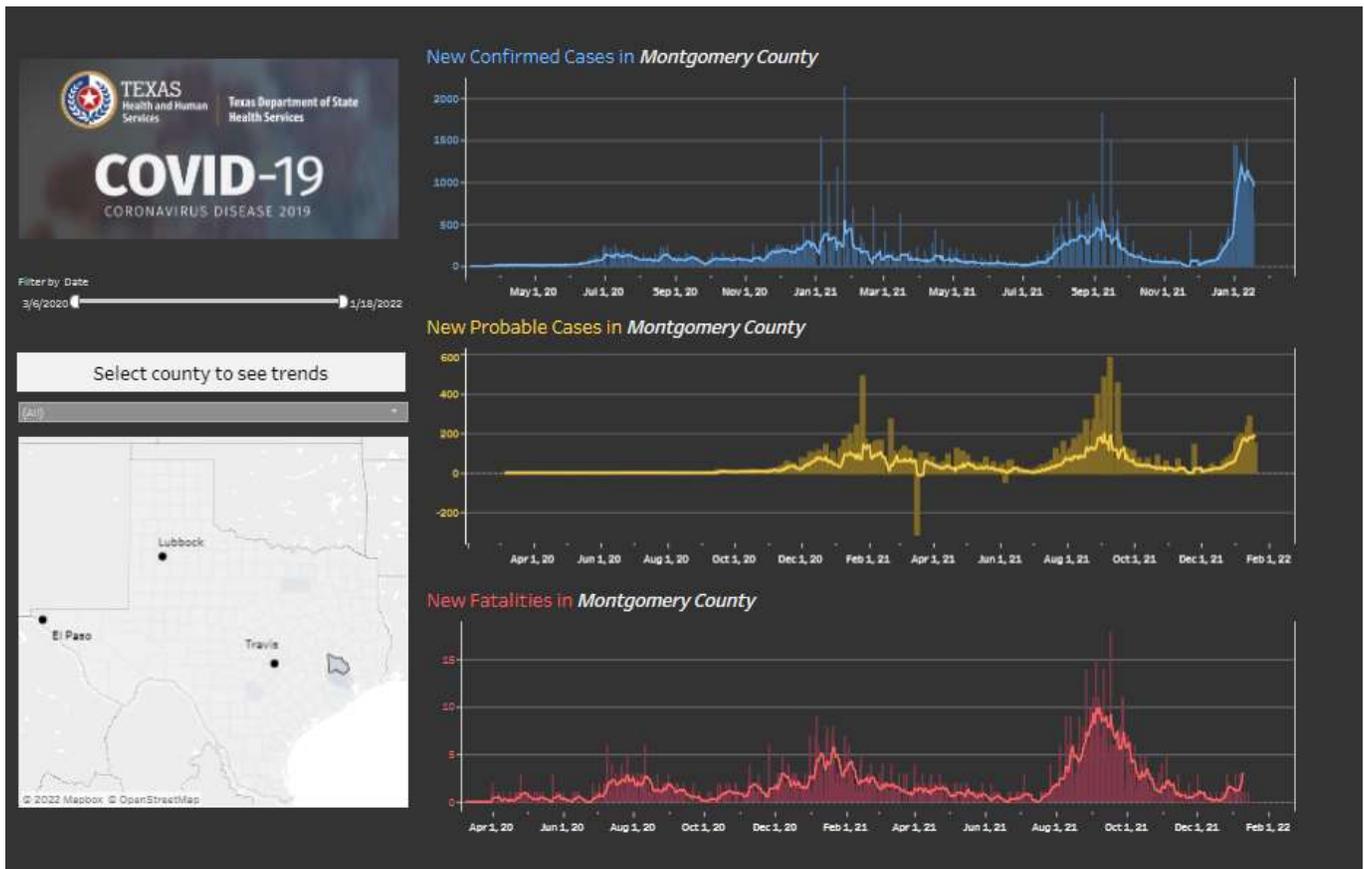
Please note, DSHS is no longer posting active and recovered estimates for a number of reasons.
- *They were estimates based on research from early in the pandemic on the proportion of people who required hospitalization and the length of time it took hospitalized and non-hospitalized people to resolve their symptoms.*
- *With changes in the virus, that proportion and timeline has changed, so the resulting calculations were no longer accurate.*

- *Plus, we now know the risk of transmitting the virus decreases before symptoms are completely resolved.*
- *Recovery estimates are less meaningful when people have gotten infected and recovered multiple times or may have recovered from one infection but not recovered from a second.*
- *In moving to providing annual data, there's no straightforward way to assign active and recovered estimates to a year.*
- *There are no longer any state executive orders that rely on active or recovered cases.*

The Testing Positivity Rate for Montgomery County remains at 38% for the 2nd consecutive week.
Source: UT Health, School of Public Health

The COVID-19 dashboard for Montgomery County can be found here: https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

January 18, 2022
Residents of Montgomery Co., TX

Fully Vaccinated: 326,335*
Total Population 5+: 562,022
Vaccination Rate: 58.06%

* Residents are considered fully vaccinated with two doses at this time.

SOURCE: TX DSHS

Do your part to slow the spread of COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself and those around you is to be vaccinated. You should also:

- *Get tested if you feel sick.*
- *Avoid groups of people.*
- *Practice social distancing.*
- *Wear a mask in public (over your nose and mouth) or with others who live outside your household. Never share a mask with others.*
- *Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently.*
- *Disinfect surfaces in your car and around your home.*

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