



Since March of 2020, COVID has had a continual impact on our community - from healthcare workers to school children to business owners, everyone has felt the impact of the virus. We've seen bad spikes in the summer of 2020, early 2021 after the holidays, and our worst spike of all is happening right now. Through this hardship, the culture of Austin shone - our collective action and strong adherence to the guidelines of the CDC and Austin Public Health saved lives.

Case, Hospitalization, and Death Rates

- **Death rates in Austin are the lowest in Texas.** [At this point in time](#), we've had over 100,000 reported cases of COVID and about 1000 COVID deaths in Austin-Travis County. The current COVID death rate for Texas is 183 per 100K people. **Travis County's death rate, however, is less than half of that, at 88.4 deaths per 100K people).** This data suggests that stricter health guidelines are having a very positive impact. (Source: [ATC dashboard](#))
- The current COVID death rate for Texas is 183 per 100K people.
 - **If the State of Texas (population just over 29 million) had the same death rate as Austin-Travis County, over 25,000 Texans would not have died of COVID.** (Source: [US News](#))
- **COVID death rates in comparison to other counties in the state.** The [research shows](#) protections like Austin/Travis County's save lives. Travis County has the lowest death rate of counties with big cities in Texas. (Source: [US News](#))
 - **Travis County: 88.4 deaths/100,000**
 - Harris County: 145.3 deaths/100,000
 - Tarrant County: 153.5 deaths/100,000
 - Dallas County: 161.1 deaths/100,000
 - Bexar County: 188.2 deaths/100,000
 - Lubbock County: 262.1 deaths/100,000
 - El Paso County: 329.7 deaths/100,000

- **Vaccination rates.** Over 1.4M doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Travis County so far, meaning that at least 59% of Austin residents are fully vaccinated and 69% have had at least one shot. Cumulatively, more than 450,000 doses of the vaccine have been [administered by APH](#), the rest by other community providers.
- **COVID-related hospitalizations.** Since April, COVID death rates in Travis County have [continued to decline](#), and this month reached a rate of 1.4% from 3.6% in April. This past month, we've repeatedly hit record highs for people in the [ICU and people on ventilators](#). ICU capacity has been extremely limited throughout the month of August, often leaving the Austin area with fewer than 10 available ICU beds.

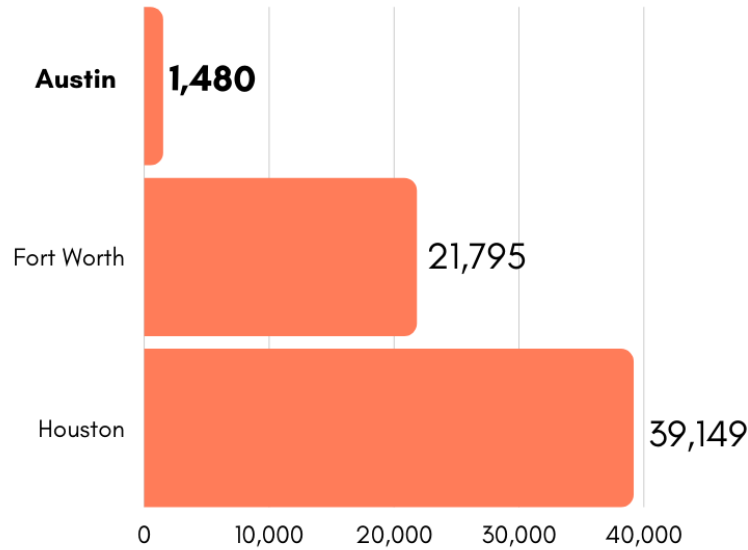
Resources for Residents and Businesses

- **Support for Businesses.** [DECA](#) urged for immediate action from their members organizations regarding masking in their businesses. [Economic support](#) programs were made available to small businesses, musicians/artists, non-profits, such as the Austin Small Business Relief Grant and a COVID relief package passed by Council in October 2020 - \$15M toward businesses.
- **COVID Resiliency as part of the 2021-2022 City Budget.** Councilmember Fuentes sponsored funding for [hiring new community health workers](#), whose main focus would be on combating vaccine hesitancy in our community. A pilot program called Resilient Communities/Resilient Schools, which would help connect families with COVID resiliency resources through schools, was funded in the budget process as well, created

Preventing Evictions

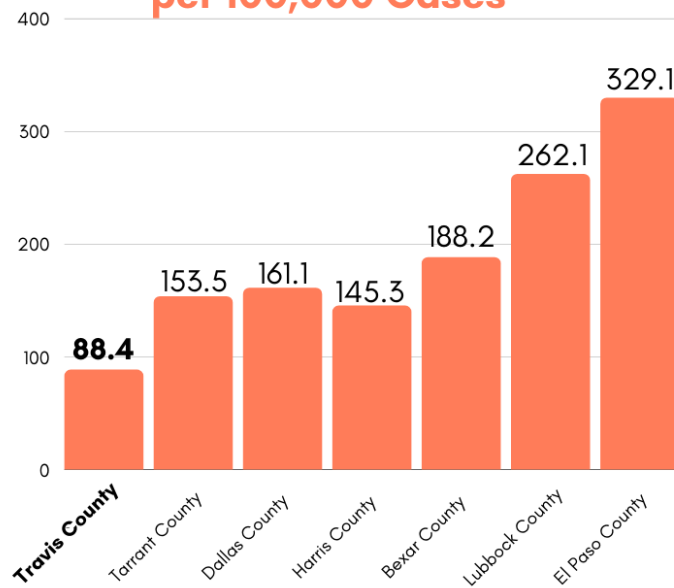
- **Eviction prevention and COVID case rates.** [Recent research](#) shows that evictions have been associated with hundreds of thousands of additional COVID-19 cases in cities without protections. In addition, according to data from the [Princeton University Eviction Lab](#), U.S. cities with additional protections for renters, like Austin, saw far fewer evictions filed during the COVID-19 pandemic. **In fact, Austin leads big cities in Texas in lowest pandemic-related evictions, and has some of the fewest filings in the nation.**
 - Austin, TX: 1,480 Eviction Filings since 03/15/20
 - Fort Worth, TX: 21,795 Eviction Filings since 03/15/20
 - Houston, TX: 39,149 Eviction Filings since 03/15/20

Eviction Filings Since March 15, 2020



Source: Eviction Lab at Princeton University

COVID-Related Deaths per 100,000 Cases



Source: US News & World Report