

Emerging Health Issues

Mar 17th, 2020

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**Tarrant County
Public Health**

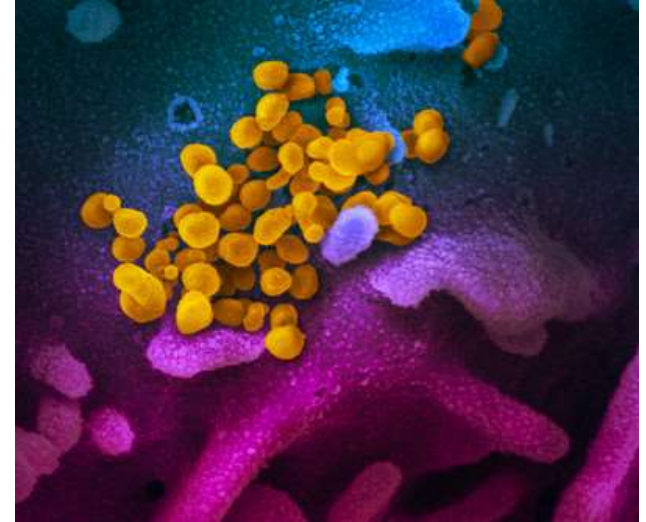
Updated: Mar 16th, 2020



Global Situational awareness COVID-19

- COVID-19 cases have crossed over 180K
- WHO has asked governments worldwide to pull out all the stops to fight this Pandemic
- Global Case Counts:

coronavirus.tarrantcounty.com

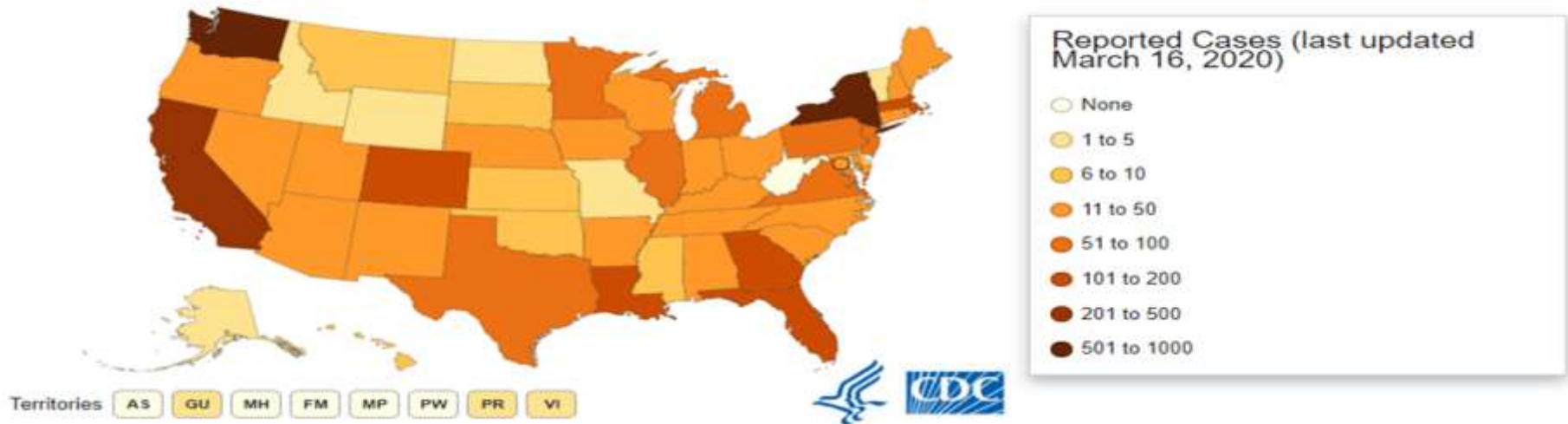


*image credit NIAID-RML

US Situational awareness

- Over 4600 cases
- 85 Deaths

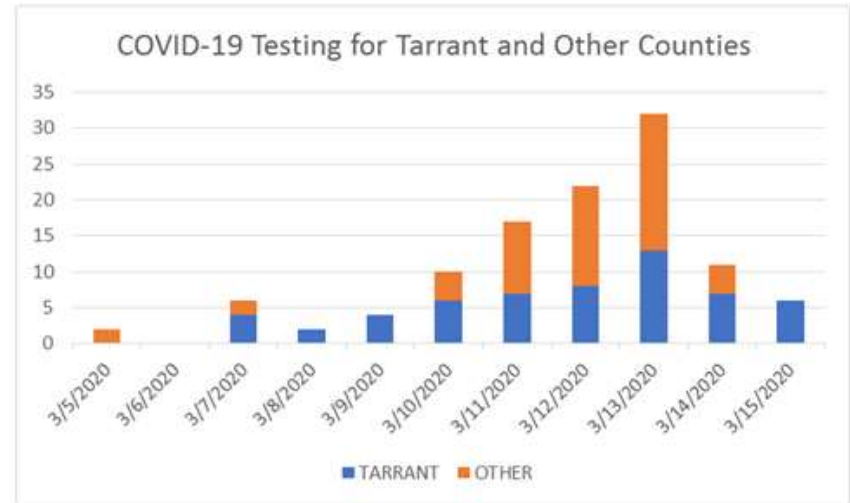
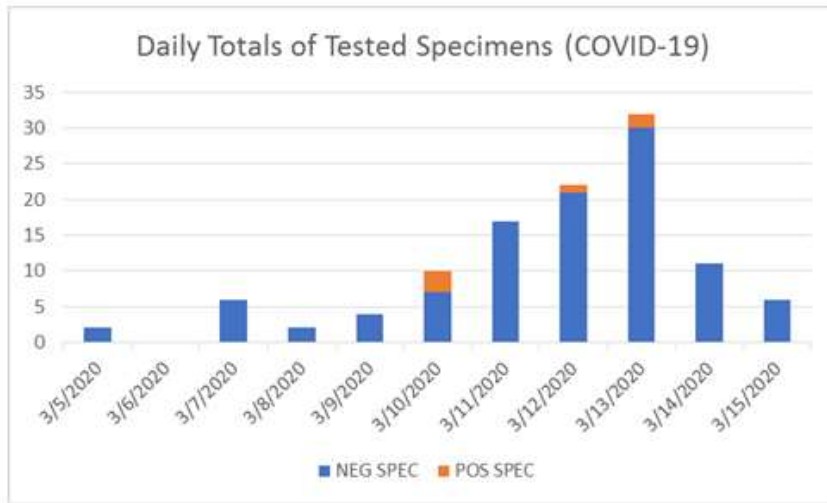
States Reporting Cases of COVID-19 to CDC*



TCPH Updates

- TC has 5 cases including 2 limited local transmission
- TCPH has very limited testing available via our Lab
- TCPH Webpage on novel Corona Virus:
coronavirus.tarrantcounty.com

Lab Testing so far!

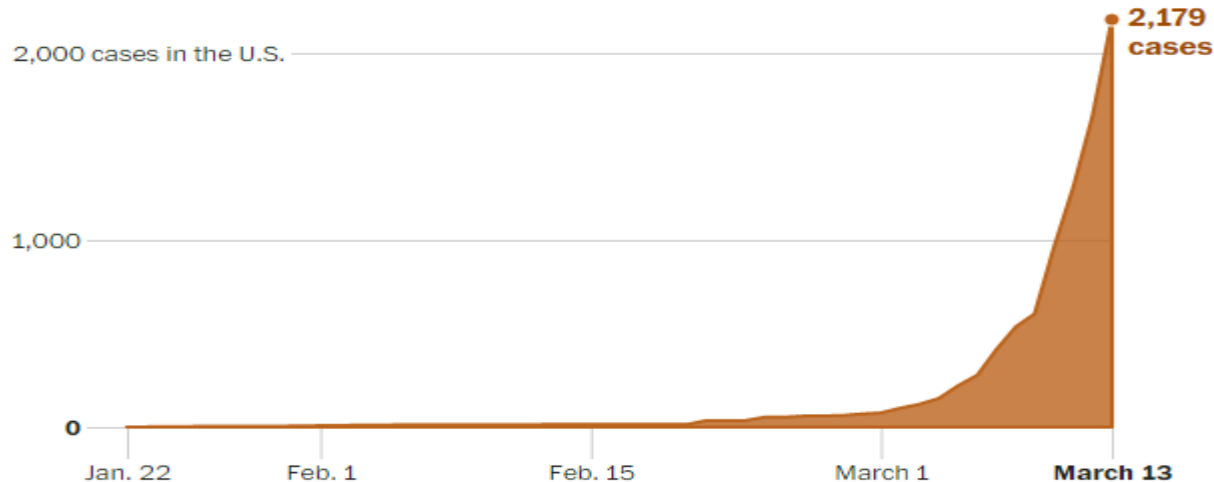


Tarrant County Actions

- Tarrant County Declared a local emergency on Friday March 13th
- TCPH issued guidance on Social distancing
 - Including school closures
 - Large social gatherings etc.
- **GUIDANCE WILL BE RAPIDLY CHANGING!**

Why did we do it?

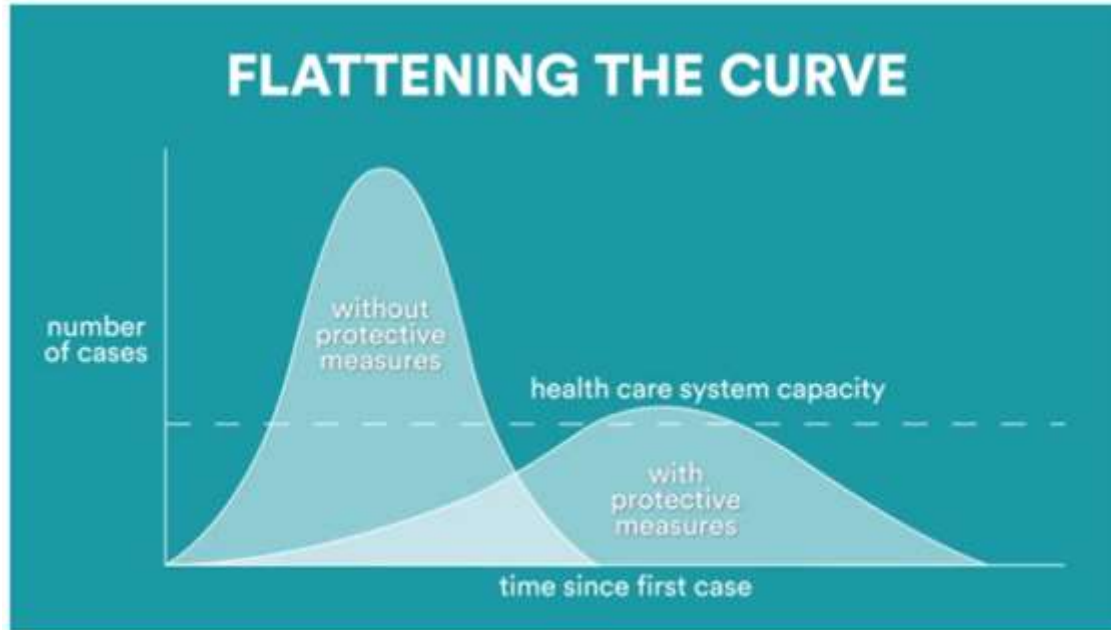
- Dallas had their first local transmission case
- US showed exponential expansion



Why Social Distancing?

- There is no vaccine or treatment
- Social Distancing is a time tested method that has worked
- Proven through several Pandemics!
 - 1917 flu: cities who did this early had better results

What is flattening the Epidemic Curve?



Source: Carl Bergstrom, UW & Esther Kim

ALEX HOGAN/STAT

What does all this really mean?

- Prepare for an increase in cases
- We got an early start so we have a good chance to flatten the curve for our community
- Social Distancing only works if EVERYONE does it.
 - We all need to take responsible actions for us and the community

Take Away Messages

- Spread facts, not fear about COVID-19
- Learn from the experts and take action
- Our community is resilient and volunteers at heart. We will work through this together!

Data Sources

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
- <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/IDCU/disease/influenza/surveillance/2019.aspx>
- flu.tarrantcounty.com
- <http://www.tarrantcounty.com/content/main/en/public-health/disease-control---prevention/coronaviruas.html?linklocation=departmentcarousel&linkname=Public%20Health:Coronavirus>

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