



## WHARTON COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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### ***Wharton County, TX Thursday, January 13, 2022 1330 hours***

The Wharton County Office of Emergency Management has been notified that cases continue to climb significantly in our County, as well as the state. Here are some updates:

On January 4, the County had an estimated 301 active cases; today that number is 596.

On January 5, the hospitalization rate for our Trauma Service Area ("Q") was 16.19%; today that rate is 21.55%.

On January 4, approximately 331,000 Texas were suffering with COVID-19; today that number is over 689,000.

The medical professionals continue to remind us that the Omicron variant is ***highly contagious*** and the comparisons above support that fact. PLEASE use every precaution to avoid getting infected with the disease. Avoid crowds. Mask up, if indoors. Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly. And plan to get vaccinated, if you haven't already and are eligible to do so. ***There are two more scheduled opportunities to get VACCINATED - Jan 18 at the Fire Training Field in El Campo, from 12 - 4 PM and both Pfizer & Moderna vaccines will be available; the second is February 4 at the Wharton Civic Center, 12-4 pm. For those folks interested in getting TESTED, we will have two opportunities coming up - the first next Monday, January 17, from 8-5, in the parking lot of the Wharton Campus of Oakbend Hospital and the second on January 31, same time, same location.***

Let's protect each other, as much as possible. Testing is hard to get and antiviral medications and antibody drug infusions are extremely limited if you get infected. The medical community is very weary and overburdened.

Be safe.

***Submitted by Debbie Cenko, Deputy EMC    [debbie.cenko@co.wharton.tx.us](mailto:debbie.cenko@co.wharton.tx.us)***

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