



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 4, 2021

Dallas County Reports 1,570 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 17 Deaths Including 150 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 12:00 pm January 4, 2021, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 1,570 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 1,420 confirmed cases and 150 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 179,594 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 21,987 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 1,678 Dallas County residents have lost their lives due to COVID-19 illness.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A woman in her 20's who was a resident of the city of Dallas. She expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 30's who was a resident of the city of Dallas. She expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 40's who was a resident of the city of Mesquite. She was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the city of Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the city of Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had high risk underlying health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the city of Glenn Heights. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the city of Garland. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the city of Garland. She expired in an area hospital ED and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the city of Dallas. He expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the city of Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the city of Sachse. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the city of Garland. He expired in hospice and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the city of Sunnyvale. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the city of Garland. He had been hospitalized and had high risk underlying health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the city of Dallas. He expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.

- A man in his 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the city of Dallas. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the city of Sachse. She expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.

The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 51 was to **1,787**, which is a rate of **67.8** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, with **26.5%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 51 (week ending 12/19/20). Since the beginning of the pandemic, over 3,864 healthcare workers and first responders have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in Dallas County.

Over the past 30 days, there have been 5,971 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 756 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County, including 569 staff members. Since the beginning of the pandemic, 21 school nurses have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

There are currently 102 active long-term care facility outbreaks. This is the highest number of long-term care facilities with active outbreaks reported in Dallas County since the beginning of the pandemic. A total of 2,954 residents and 1,687 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 665 have been hospitalized and 352 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Forty-two outbreaks of COVID-19 in congregate-living facilities (e.g. homeless shelters, group homes, and halfway homes) have been reported in the past 30 days associated with 115 cases. One facility has reported 93 COVID-19 outbreak cases since October.

Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more detailed summary reports updated Tuesday and Friday evenings are available at: <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus/daily-updates.php>.

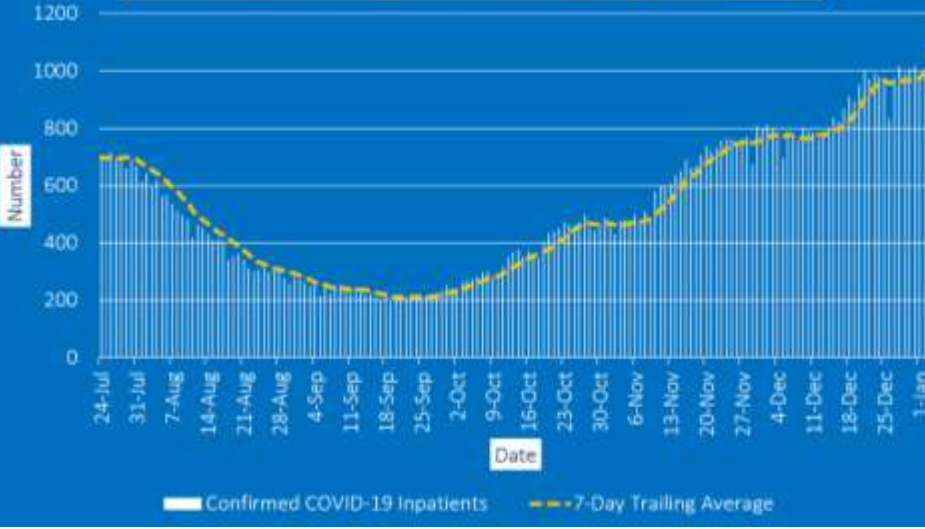
Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators in determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. Due to weekend reporting, new data will be available on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.



Trend for Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 ER Visits in the Last 24 Hrs in Dallas County, January 3, 2021



Confirmed COVID-19 Inpatients in Dallas County, January 3, 2021





“Today we report 1,570 new cases and 17 deaths, including women in their 20s, 30s, 40s and two men in their 40s as well as 12 other individuals above age 50. January and February will likely be our highest months for hospitalizations and new cases. With the vaccinations in nursing homes and other high-risk populations occurring now and accelerating in the next few days, by March we will begin to see a decline in some of our most vulnerable populations finding themselves in hospital beds. It is critical for the next 60 days that everyone continue to wear their mask and make good, smart decisions: avoid crowds, forgo get-togethers and wash their hands frequently. Just as it’s always the darkest before the dawn, these first two months will be difficult, but my hope is that by the end of February, things will begin to improve and continue to improve as more and more people are vaccinated. This will only happen though if we all do our part in following the proven facts that doctors tell us can help control the spread of COVID-19,” said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

All Dallas County COVID-19 Updates and Information can be found here:

<https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/> and all guidance documents can be found here:
<https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/guidance-health.php>

Specific Guidance for the Public:

- [Dallas County COVID-19 Related Health Guidance for the Public](#)
- [Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution’s Workforce from COVID-19 Infection: Employer/Employee Guidance](#)
- [Dallas County Guidance for Individuals at High-Risk for Severe COVID-19](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends taking everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact outside your home: Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don’t live in your household.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others and continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to seek medical care
- Wash your hands often and with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and help young children to do the same. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-base hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces daily using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands. Immediately wash your hands.
- Monitor your health daily. Be alert for symptoms. Take your temperature and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC Travel Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- DSHS: <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>
- DCHHS: <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php>

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