

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 3, 2021

Dallas County Reports 1,356 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 50 Deaths, Including 340 Probable Cases

Highest Daily Number of Reported Deaths since the Beginning of the Pandemic

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm February 3, 2021, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 1,356 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 1,016 confirmed cases and 340 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 231,411 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 31,327 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 2,320 Dallas County residents have lost their lives due to COVID-19 illness.

Dallas County Health and Human Services is providing initial vaccinations to those most at risk of exposure to COVID-19 and 34,165 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. With the additional allotment from the State of Texas for Week 8, there are a little over 3,000 doses remaining for the week

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 40's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She 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 Dallas. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident if the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the city of Duncanville.
 She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Balch Springs.
 He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.

- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Garland. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Irving. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite. He expired in the facility.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Carrollton. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Irving. She expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Irving. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60'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 woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She 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 Dallas. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. 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 Dallas. She 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 Irving. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Richardson.
 She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She 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 Dallas. He had been critically ill and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Carrollton.
 She expired in the facility.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Garland. He expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Carrollton.
 She expired in a facility.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She had been hospitalized.

- 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 man in his 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Duncanville. He expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Farmers Branch. She had been hospitalized 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 Mesquite. He expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Lancaster. She
 had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the city of Dallas. She expired in the facility.
- A man in his 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. He expired in an area hospital ED.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Coppell. She expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Richardson. He expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 90'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 a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She expired in a facility.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite. She expired in a facility.
- A woman in her 100's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.

Four cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7 have been identified in residents of Dallas County who did not have recent travel outside of the US. The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 3 was **1,595**, which is a rate of **60.5** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, with **25.7%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 3 (week ending 1/23/21).

Over the past 30 days, there have been 8,556 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 739 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. A total of 420 children in Dallas County under 18 years of age have been hospitalized since the beginning of the pandemic, including 32 patients diagnosed with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children (MIS-C). Over 80% of reported MIS-C cases in Dallas have occurred in children who are Hispanic or Latino or Black.

There are currently 112 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 3,838 residents and 2,169 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 817 have been hospitalized and 448 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Sixteen 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. A cumulative total of 378 residents and 187 staff members in congregate-living facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

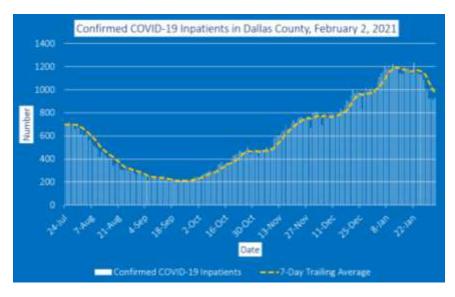
Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more 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 as part of determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. There were 932 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Tuesday, February 2. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 540 for the same time-period, which represents around 20 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. Updated modeling from UTSW shows hospitalizations between 600-920 by February 12. Until we can see substantial decreases in case counts and overall better control of the pandemic, hospitals will continue providing substantial care to COVID patients. Avoiding gatherings, including small family gatherings, masking, distancing, and taking other precautions, can also help us continue to reduce spread and hopefully further reduce hospitalizations. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data here.

On December 3, Trauma Service Area E (TSA E), which includes Dallas County and the greater Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, reached seven consecutive days where the percentage of COVID-19 confirmed patients in regional hospitals, as a percentage of available hospital beds, exceeded 15 percent. According to Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32 (GA-32), this makes TSA E an area with high hospitalizations and certain occupancy reductions are automatically triggered by reaching this threshold.









"Today I sadly report another record in deaths, with 50 residents who've lost their battle with COVID-19, along with 1,356 new cases. As we have said, these will be our darkest months for deaths thus far. But, if we make good choices, if we register to be vaccinated in as many places as we're willing to drive to if we qualify under 1B, and if we wear our mask, maintain our distance, avoid crowds including Super Bowl parties, and forgo gettogethers, we will have a better March and get better every month thereafter in our battle against COVID and these new strains. If we lose our resolve, and stop doing the things that we're doing to keep ourselves and our community strong, then the battle will prolong and we run the risk of not reaching herd immunity before new strains set us back for a long time.

Now is the time to strengthen our resolve, trade fear for faith in the science and the facts that have proven to be effective in keeping us safer, and focus not on what your neighbor could do but on what each one of us can do to be just a little bit stronger in the battle against COVID. Together, we will overcome this pandemic. Brighter days are ahead if we follow the science and the facts together," 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
- <u>Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution's Workforce from COVID-19 Infection:</u> 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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