

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 5, 2021

## Dallas County Reports 1,424 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 42 Deaths, Including 271 Probable Cases

Over 37,000 Residents Vaccinated by Dallas County in Last Four Weeks

**DALLAS** -- As of 1:00 pm February 5, 2021, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 1,424 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 1,153 confirmed cases and 271 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 233,353 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 31,958 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 2,397 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 37,243 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. DCHHS is expecting an allotment of 9,000 doses from the State of Texas for next week's operations.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 30'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 of the City of Dallas. He had been hospitalized.
- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Coppell. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. He had been critically ill and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Desoto. He had been critically ill and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. He had been critically ill and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. He expired at home.
- A woman in her 50'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 expired at home 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 hospitalized 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 hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Garland. He expired at home.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He expired at home 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 hospitalized.

- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Lancaster. He had been critically ill and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He expired at home.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill 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 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Carrollton. He had been hospitalized 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 Dallas. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. She had been hospitalized and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Lancaster. She expired at home 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 critically ill and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70'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 woman in her 70's who was a resident of 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Sunnyvale. She expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Irving. She had been hospitalized.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He expired in a facility 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 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 had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. She had been hospitalized.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. She expired in a facility and did not have 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 Irving. 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 Grand Prairie. She had been critically ill 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 Lancaster. He expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80'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 Garland. He had been hospitalized 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. She expired in hospice 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 and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.

 A man in his 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in Mesquite. He had been hospitalized.

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).

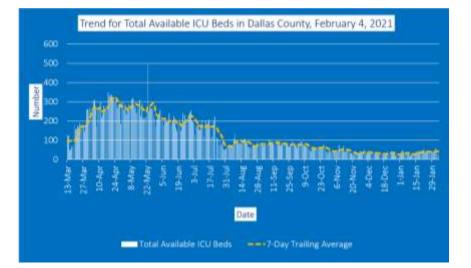
Over the past 30 days, there have been 8,556 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 739 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. A total of 420 children in Dallas County under 18 years of age have been hospitalized since the beginning of the pandemic, including 32 patients diagnosed 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.

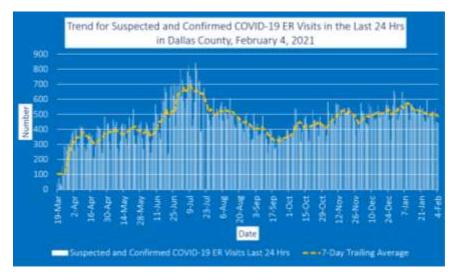
There are currently 112 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 3,838 residents and 2,169 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 817 have been hospitalized and 448 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have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

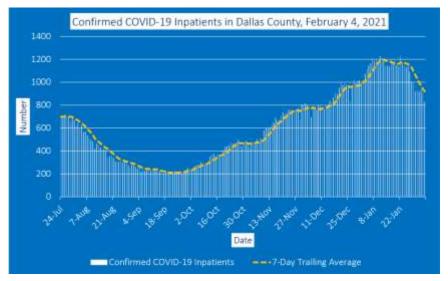
Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more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

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 832 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Thursday, February 4. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 444 for the same time-period, which represents around 18 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 500-770 by February 16. The recent decreases seem related to reductions in gatherings from the high level of interaction we saw around the winter holidays. Please help us continue this progress by avoiding attending and not hosting gatherings with anyone outside your immediate household. Please continue masking, distancing, and other protective measures, these remain critically important even if you have received COVID-19 vaccination. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data <u>here</u>.

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 we report 1,424 new COVID cases and another 42 deaths, bringing our total so far for the week to 218 deaths, the deadliest week on record with one more day of reporting. We knew January and February would be tough months as a result of holiday gatherings and high case numbers at the end of 2020. The good news is that those case numbers are coming down, hospitalizations are decreasing, and we are vaccinating thousands of more North Texans every day.

As individuals are vaccinated, it's critical that we don't let up our guard and that we continue using those personal protective measures until we reach herd immunity to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe. Once you receive the vaccine, you still need to wear your mask, wash your hands, stay at least six feet away from others, and avoid crowds. We will get through this North Texas if we keep making those small sacrifices to protect ourselves and others. And remember, this weekend we don't want Super Bowl parties to become super spreader events just as we're seeing these downward trends, so please follow the advice of doctors and keep those gatherings to only those you live with," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

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

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

## **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: <u>Employer/Employee Guidance</u>
- 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: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html</u>
- DSHS: <u>https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/</u>
- DCHHS: <u>https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php</u>

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