



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 27, 2021

Dallas County Reports 570 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 10 Deaths, Including 154 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm February 27, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 570 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 416 confirmed cases and 154 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 245,278 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 35,126 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 2,951 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 45,643 first doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. Dallas County is currently administering second doses.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 50'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 Desoto. 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 Grand Prairie. 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 expired in hospice care 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 Dallas. He expired in an area hospital Emergency Department 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 80's who was a resident of the City of Cedar Hill. 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 Cedar Hill. 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 Dallas. He expired in the facility and did not have 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 7 was **226**, which is a rate of **8.6** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Case reporting for this week ending 2/20/21 was likely significantly impacted by reduced testing due to the severe weather conditions in Texas. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-

CoV-2 remains high, with **16.0%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 7 (week ending 2/20/21).

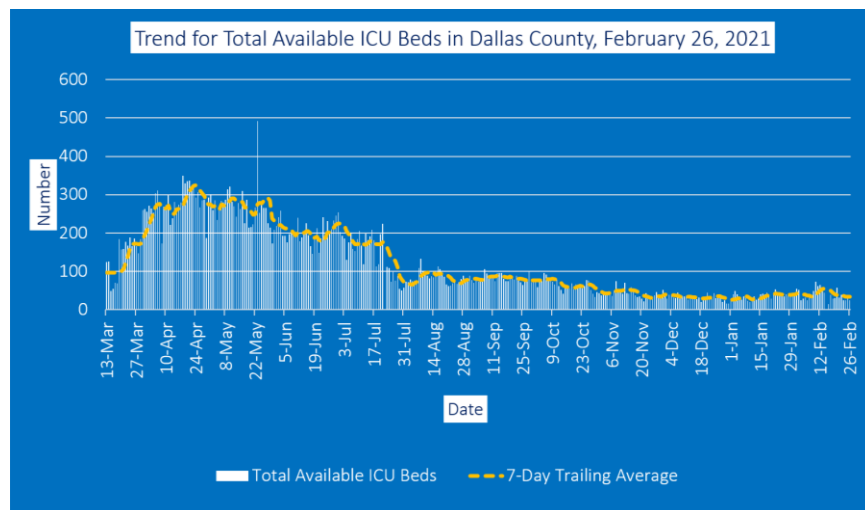
During the past 30 days, there were 4,098 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 650 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. A total of 466 children in Dallas County under 18 years of age have been hospitalized since the beginning of the pandemic, including 37 patients diagnosed 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.

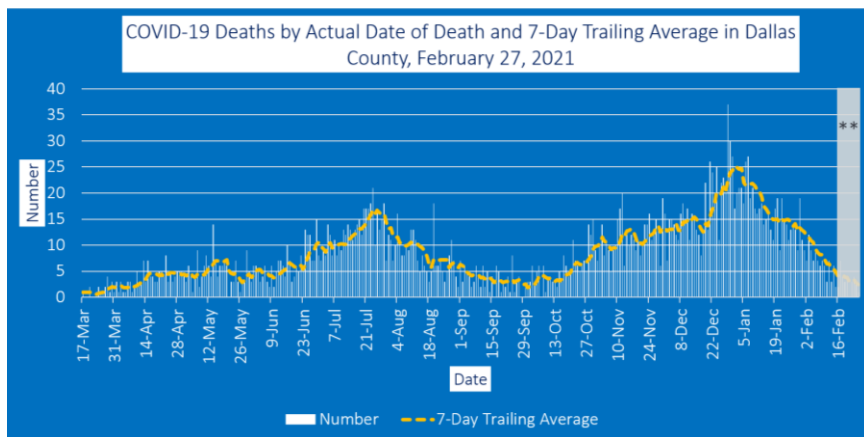
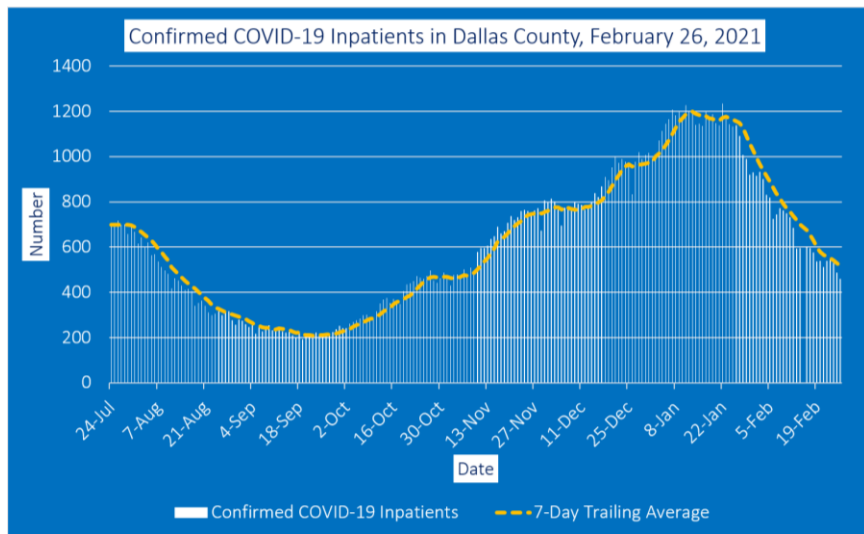
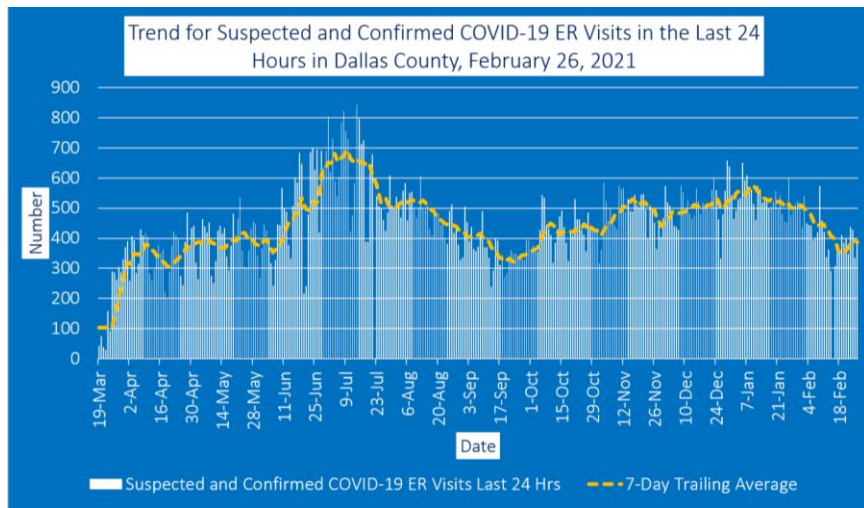
There are currently 68 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,189 residents and 2,324 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 950 have been hospitalized and 608 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Ten 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 394 residents and 196 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 in determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. There were 460 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Friday, February 26. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 382 for the same time-period, which represents around 16 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. While these numbers have declined since peak highs after the winter holidays, these are still much higher than the lows we experienced over the summer and represent a substantial and ongoing impact on our hospitals.

Updated UTSW forecasting indicates hospitalizations between 320-530 by March 9th and daily case counts of around 700. They also predict an increasing number of patients in the ICU illustrating the ongoing severity of this disease. Please continue masking, distancing, and other protective measures, as these remain critically important even if you have received COVID-19 vaccination. With high community spread, uncertainty regarding the variant strains, and upcoming spring holidays, we remain at risk for additional waves. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





CDC Week	Week Ending	Total Confirmed and Probable Cases	Total School-Aged Cases (5 to 17 years)	Daily Average New Confirmed and Probable Cases*	Daily Average New Confirmed and Probable Deaths**	Percentage of Tests Positive for SARS-CoV-2***
25	6/20/2020	5,818	471	831	6	26.9%
26	6/27/2020	8,544	642	1221	9	30.5%
27	7/4/2020	8,884	695	1269	10	30.0%
28	7/11/2020	9,140	861	1306	10	26.6%
29	7/18/2020	6,551	687	936	13	21.7%
30	7/25/2020	4,524	493	646	16	19.3%
31	8/1/2020	3,358	422	480	13	15.9%
32	8/8/2020	2,842	323	406	10	14.0%
33	8/15/2020	2,160	183	309	9	13.2%
34	8/22/2020	1,763	188	252	7	11.2%
35	8/29/2020	2,203	186	315	7	10.8%
36	9/5/2020	2,082	162	297	4	10.5%
37	9/12/2020	1,879	200	268	4	9.7%
38	9/19/2020	2,246	238	321	3	11.4%
39	9/26/2020	2,491	262	356	3	10.7%
40	10/3/2020	2,709	306	387	3	10.0%
41	10/10/2020	3,649	458	521	4	11.5%
42	10/17/2020	4,480	555	640	4	14.3%
43	10/24/2020	5,338	697	763	6	15.1%
44	10/31/2020	5,418	616	774	10	15.0%
45	11/7/2020	7,727	942	1,104	9	15.3%
46	11/14/2020	10,073	1,304	1,439	13	20.3%
47	11/21/2020	10,097	1,225	1,442	11	21.2%
48	11/28/2020	8,622	910	1,232	14	21.4%
49	12/5/2020	12,233	1,708	1,748	13	25.0%
50	12/12/2020	12,429	1,688	1,776	14	23.4%
51	12/19/2020	13,221	1,662	1,889	15	26.6%
52	12/26/2020	12,299	1,348	1,757	20	27.7%
53	1/2/2021	16,225	1,892	2,318	26	31.3%
1	1/9/2021	18,900	2,510	2,700	22	31.5%
2	1/16/2021	13,648	1,904	1,950	16	27.5%
3	1/23/2021	11,580	1,642	1,654	15	25.7%
4	1/30/2021	9,835	1,444	1,405	13	24.7%
5	2/6/2021	7,324	1,082	1,046	9	21.1%
6	2/13/2021	4,708	566	673	5	19.7%
7	2/20/2021	1,582	107	226	4	16.0%

“The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 7 was 226, but that number was significantly impacted by reduced testing due to the severe weather conditions and power grid collapse in Texas. Next week we should have a better handle on our actual numbers. I am hopeful that based on the number of hospitalizations that we have seen this week, our numbers of new COVID positive cases are continuing to trend down.

Not is not a time to lose our resolve. We must continue doing the things that science and the facts indicate will keep us safe like wearing a mask, maintaining distance and avoiding crowds. It is also important for those who are eligible, to register for a vaccine in as many places as they are willing to drive, and for those in government, to get those vaccines out to eligible persons as quickly as possible,” 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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