



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2021

Dallas County Reports 781 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 27 Deaths, Including 382 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm March 4, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 781 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 399 confirmed cases and 382 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 247,026 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 36,154 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,071 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 108,124 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. Dallas County has completed first and second doses from the DCHHS allotment for the week. The Community Vaccination Center at Fair Park will continue to provide first doses of the Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines on Friday and Saturday by invite and appointment only.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 30's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Lancaster. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50'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 50'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 50's who was a resident of the City of Desoto. 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 Dallas. He had been hospitalized 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 Garland. She had been hospitalized.
- 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 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 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 woman in her 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Grand Prairie. She expired in an area hospital ED 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 woman in her 70’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 woman in her 70’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 woman in her 70’s who was a resident of the City of Garland. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70’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 70’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 70’s who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Garland. He expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70’s who was a resident of the City of Garland. 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 Garland. 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 Garland. 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 expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80’s who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80’s who was a resident of the City of Irving. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 90’s who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90’s who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 100’s who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 100’s who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Lancaster. She expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.

Nine cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7 have been identified in residents of Dallas County. One was hospitalized and five had history of recent domestic travel outside of Texas. Of the five newly reported cases this week, 2 are residents of the City of Dallas, 2 are residents of the City of Garland and 1 is a resident of the City of Sachse. The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 7 was **230**, which is a rate of **8.7** 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).

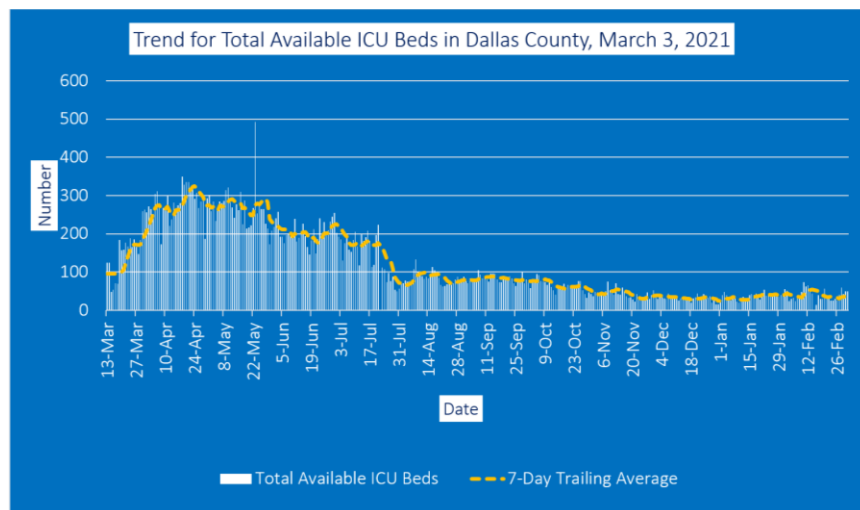
During the past 30 days, there were 2,668 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 553 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. An additional death of a teacher in a Dallas County K-12 school from COVID-19 was confirmed this past week. A total of 466 children in Dallas County under 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.

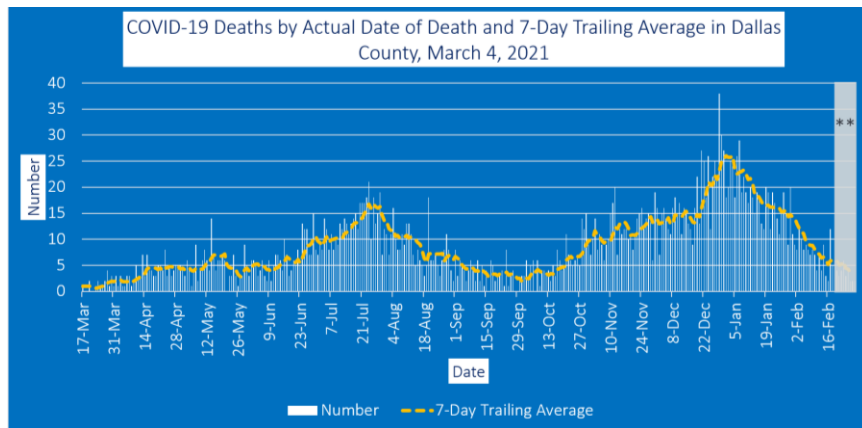
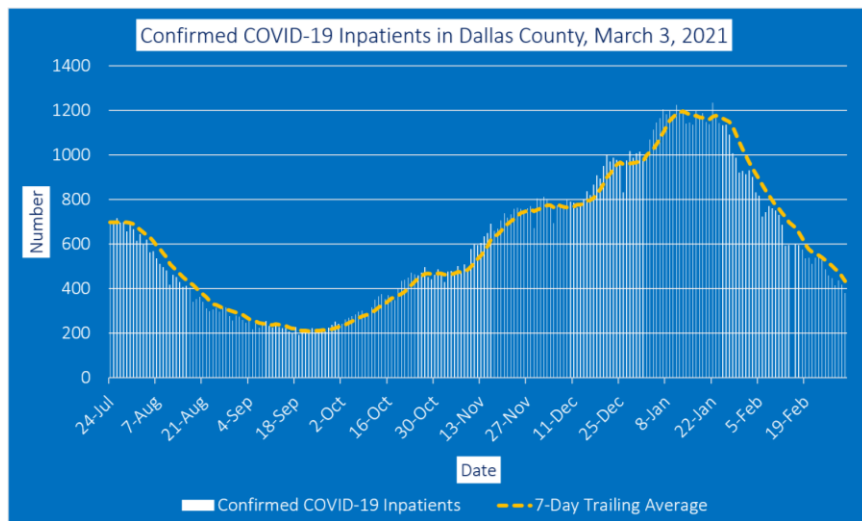
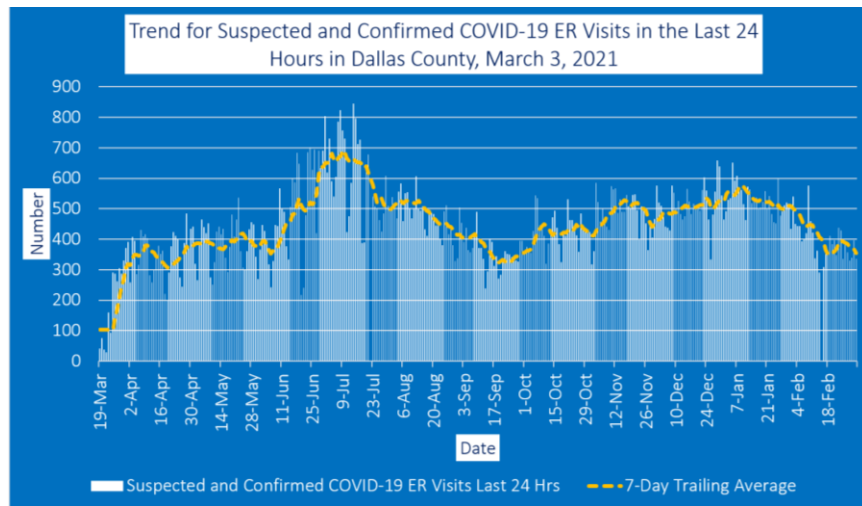
There are currently 65 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,216 residents and 2,330 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 961 have

been hospitalized and 616 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Eleven 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 397 residents and 198 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 381 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Wednesday, March 3. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 335 for the same time-period, which represents around 14 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 substantially since peak highs after the winter holidays, these numbers still represent a substantial impact on our health care facilities, most of which have been stretched due to COVID for close to a year. We remain concerned for additional waves due to a potential rise in variants and because community spread remains high creating an environment for cases to reignite. We encourage everyone to follow public health guidance, continue masking and avoid crowded and non-essential indoor settings. Updated UTSW forecasting indicates hospitalizations between 270-480 by March 12th and daily case counts of around 500. They also predict an increasing number of patients in the ICU illustrating the ongoing severity of this disease. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today we report 781 new COVID-19 cases and 27 deaths, including a man in his 30’s with no underlying high-risk health conditions. The COVID virus is still in our community and we must continue to take precautions to protect ourselves, our family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. We should follow the advice of doctors and public health experts and continue wearing our mask, washing our hands, avoiding crowds and forgoing get-togethers at this time.

Thank you to President Biden and his administration for directing states to expand vaccine eligibility to include teachers, childcare workers and staff. We will begin vaccinating that important group at Fair Park through our Community Vaccination Center if they live in one of our 17 priority zip codes. They will receive an invite directly from DCHHS to make an appointment. Please encourage all family and friends who are teachers and school staff to register on the county registration site,” 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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