



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2021

Dallas County Reports 265 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 31 Deaths, Including 14 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm March 9, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 265 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 251 confirmed cases and 14 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 248,225 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 36,710 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,180 Dallas County residents have lost their lives due to COVID-19 illness.

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is providing initial vaccinations to those most at risk of exposure to COVID-19 and over 132,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. At Fair Park, first doses through the Community Vaccination Center and second doses through DCHHS will continue this week.

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 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 expired in hospice 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 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 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 Seagoville. He was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Cedar Hill. 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 Desoto. 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 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Richardson. He had been hospitalized 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 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 Balch Springs. 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 the City of Irving. 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 woman in her 70'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 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 woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. 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 Desoto. He expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. He expired in a facility.
- 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 Grand Prairie. 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 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 Dallas. He 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 man in his 80'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 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She expired at home 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 in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80'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 90'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 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite. She expired in a facility 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. The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 8 was **452**, which is a rate of **17.2** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, with **12.1%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 8 (week ending 2/27/21).

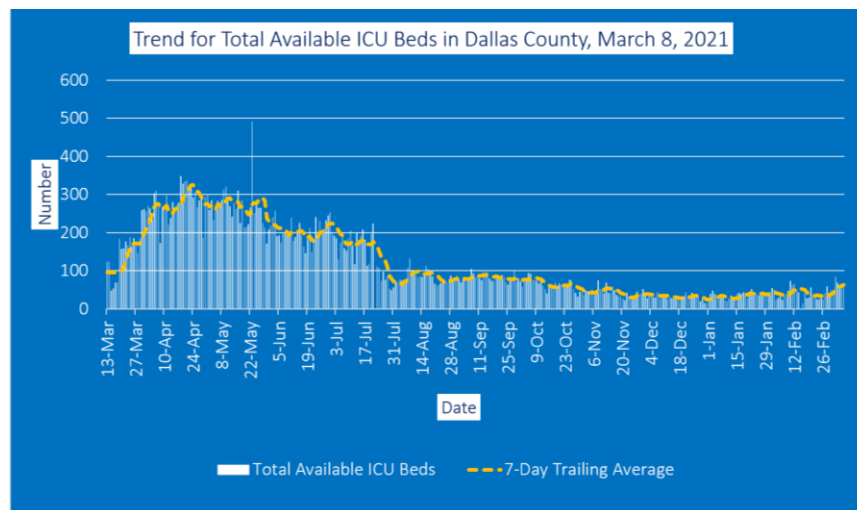
During the past 30 days, there were 2,668 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 553 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. An additional death of a teacher's assistant in a Dallas County K-12 school from COVID-19 was confirmed this past week. A total of 466 children in Dallas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

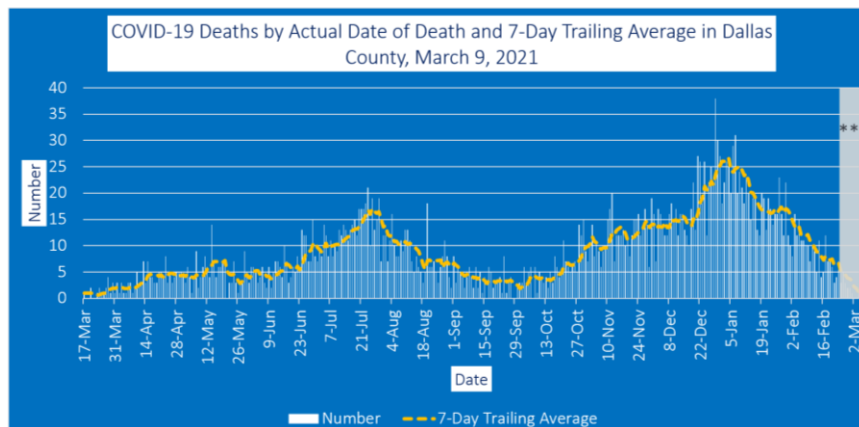
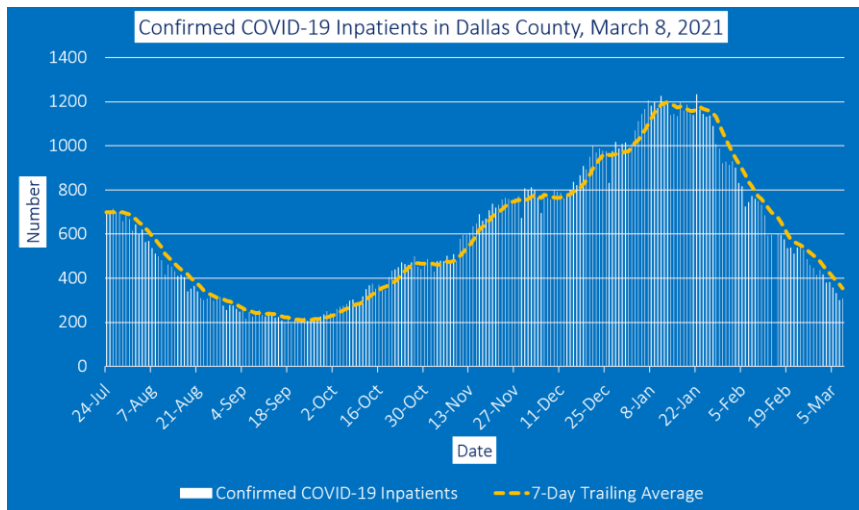
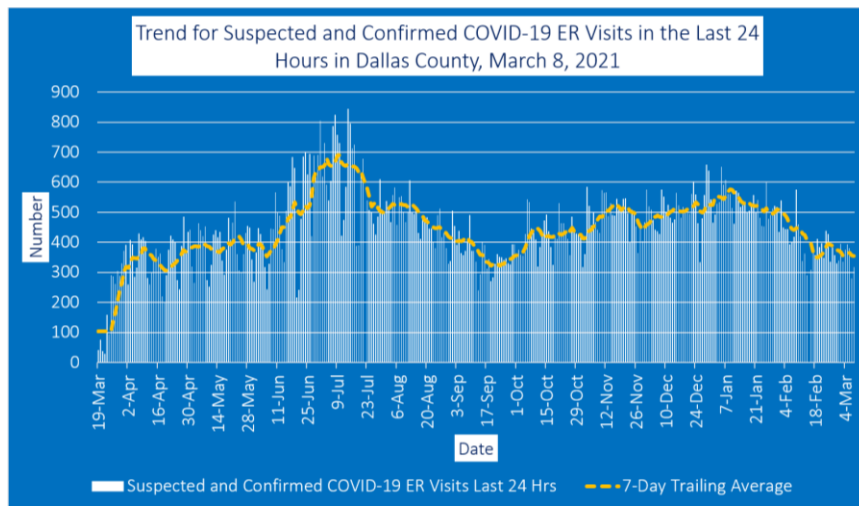
There are currently 52 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,221 residents and 2,331 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 967 have

been hospitalized and 624 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 399 residents and 199 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 309 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Monday, March 8. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 318 for the same time-period, which represents around 15 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 daily hospitalizations between 130-220 and daily case counts between 240-500 by March 25. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today we report 265 new cases of COVID-19 and 31 deaths. Although the numbers of new cases are trending down, the deaths remain stubbornly high and I'm hopeful that they will go down soon which they should based on the number of new cases that were seeing. Remember death is a trailing indicator and a lot of the deaths we're experiencing now are of people who became sick when case counts were very high.

Vaccination continues each day at many locations throughout the Metroplex. For instance, today 5,500 people are receiving their first shot of Pfizer at Fair Park and thousands more are receiving their second shot of Moderna at Fair Park. Yesterday, thousands received the one-and-done Johnson & Johnson shot at Fair Park. This scene is taking place on a smaller scale at numerous sites throughout the Metroplex every single day and moving us closer to herd immunity and a brighter future in the near term.

Tomorrow, the Governor's mask mandate ends, but it is important for all of us to continue doing the things that have been proven to be successful in curbing the spread of COVID-19. Chief among those is to continue wearing your mask when you are around people outside your home, wash your hands frequently, avoid crowds, maintain distance and forego get-togethers at least for now. However, for those who are fully vaccinated, which is defined as two weeks after your last shot (in the case of Johnson & Johnson, it is two weeks after the shot), the CDC now advises that in-house, maskless get-togethers with family and friends who are also fully vaccinated are allowed. The CDC also states those who are fully vaccinated may also 'refrain from quarantine and testing if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19 after contact with someone who has COVID-19.'

These are just more reasons why everyone should sign up in as many places as they're willing to drive and get their vaccine as soon as you are eligible. For a vaccine in Dallas County sign up at [dallascounty.org](https://www.dallascounty.org)," 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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