



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2021

Dallas County Reports 557 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 21 Deaths, Including 287 Probable Cases

Today Marks One-Year Anniversary of First COVID-19 Case in Dallas County

DALLAS -- As of 12:00 pm March 10, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 557 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 270 confirmed cases and 287 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 248,495 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 36,837 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,201 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 141,000 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 Garland. 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 Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Balch Springs. 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 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 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 Richardson. 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 Combine. 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 Mesquite. 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 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 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 Garland. 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 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 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 woman in her 70’s who was a resident of the City of Balch Springs. She had been hospitalized 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 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 woman in her 80’s who was a resident of the City of Sunnyvale. 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Farmers Branch. He expired in hospice care 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 **457**, which is a rate of **17.3** 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).

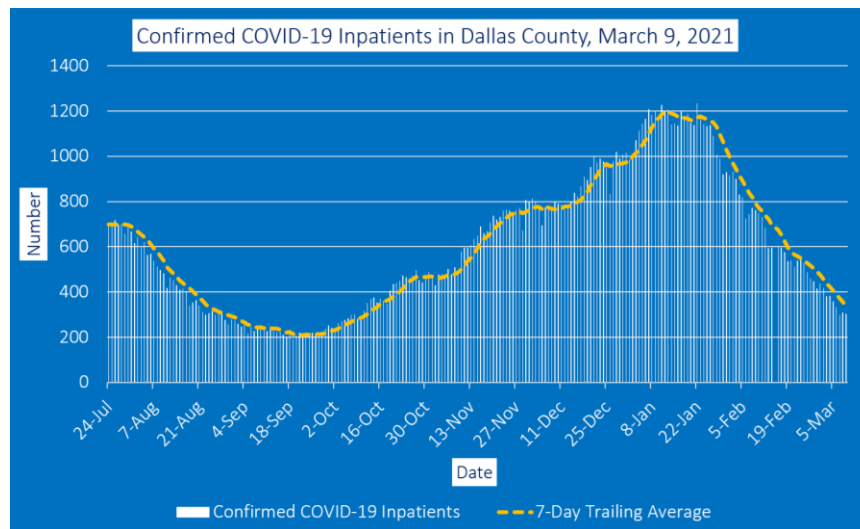
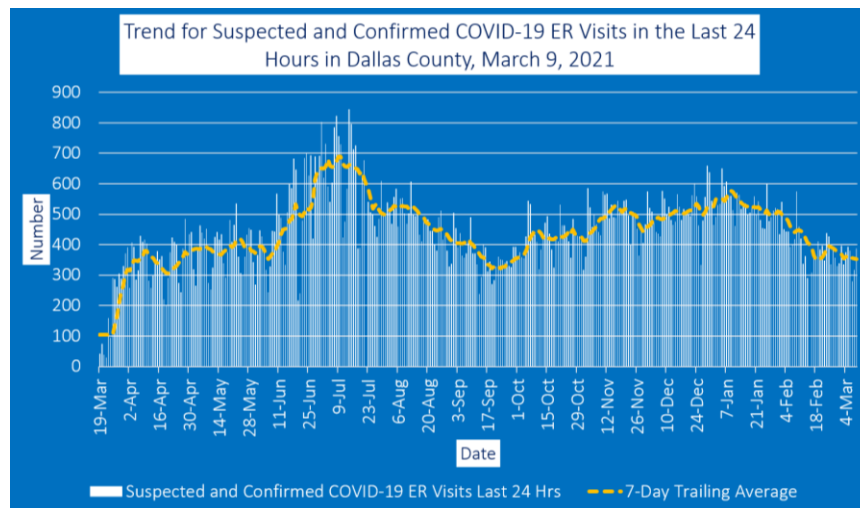
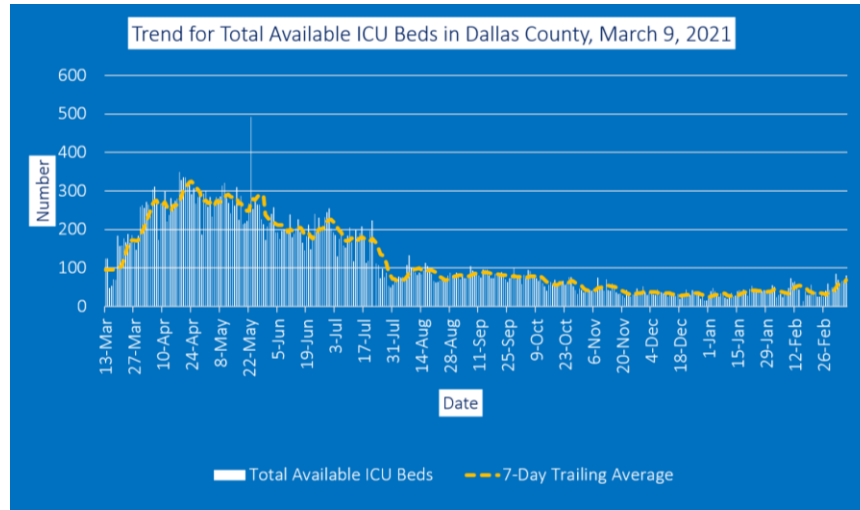
During the past 30 days, there were 1,714 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 504 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. An additional death of a teacher’s assistant in a Dallas County K-12 school from COVID-19 was confirmed this past week.

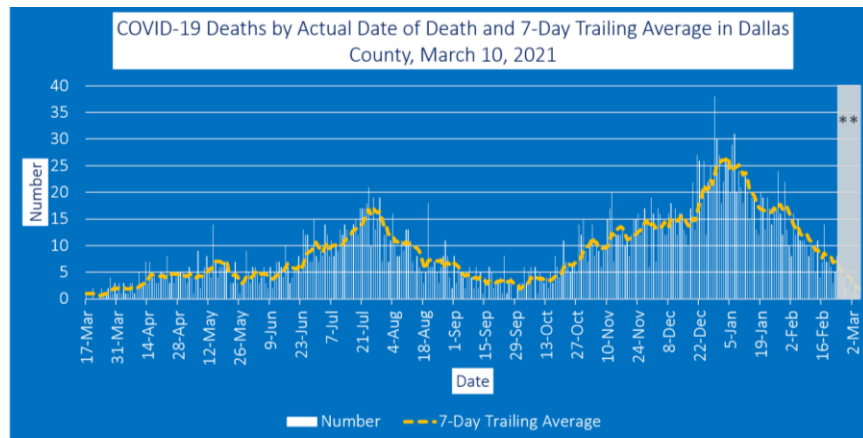
There are currently 43 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,225 residents and 2,332 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 969 have been hospitalized and 624 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have 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 402 residents and 203 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 303 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Tuesday, March 9. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 388 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 130-220 and daily case counts between 240-500 by March 25th. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today marks the one-year anniversary from the day we announced the first COVID-19 case. To mark this grim anniversary, we announce 557 new COVID-19 cases and an additional 21 deaths. In this last year, 3,201 Dallas County residents have lost their battle with COVID-19 and over 285,000 have been stricken with COVID-19 with many more cases going undiagnosed.

It has been a long year, but I am so thankful for the resolve and resiliency of the people of Dallas County and North Texas. You followed the science and the facts. You have done what you can to help curb the spread of COVID-19. You've helped one another whether volunteering at food banks, vaccination sites or donating to a worthy cause. So many North Texans have been a part of this fight. The fight is not over but we are now turning the tide and winning it.

We all have a role to play and your role is to continue doing those things that the facts and the science proved to be effective to stop the curb of COVID-19. Continue to wear your mask and avoid crowds of unvaccinated strangers. Disregard politicians who conflict with local and national health leaders. Help one another and show grace toward your fellow man whether he agrees or disagrees with you.

It is very important that everyone register for vaccine even if you are not currently eligible. Once you become eligible, the sooner you register the faster you will be able to receive your vaccine. Most counties including Dallas and Tarrant now allow anyone to register. Please register anywhere you are willing to drive to get your vaccine and get it as soon as it is your turn. If we all take these common-sense steps, we can reach herd immunity and get to a new normal this summer. I am blessed to represent such a great community and humbled by the support you’ve shown throughout this very difficult year to me, our first responders and your fellow residents,” 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>

CONTACT:

Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge

Clay.Jenkins@dallascounty.org

[214-653-7949](tel:214-653-7949)

###