



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2021

Dallas County Reports 244 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 22 Deaths, Including 29 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm April 8, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 244 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 215 confirmed cases and 29 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 253,446 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 39,919 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,669 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 319,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. Vaccine operations for both first and second doses at Fair Park will continue through Saturday.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. He was found deceased 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 Carrollton. 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 Dallas. She expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. 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 expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Coppell. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She expired in the facility 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Balch Springs. She expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Coppell. She 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 Mesquite. He expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80’s who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Coppell. 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 was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80’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 a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She expired in the facility 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 a facility 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 had been hospitalized and did not have 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 Irving. She expired in the facility and did not have 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 Irving. He expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.

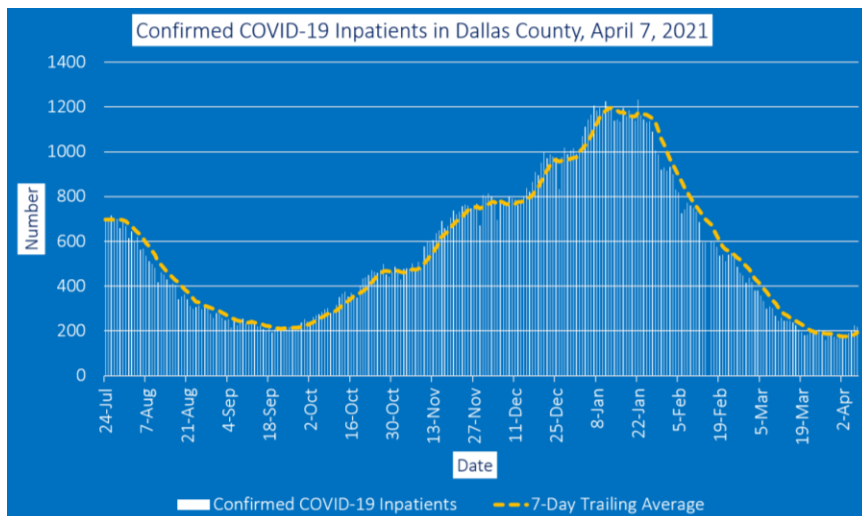
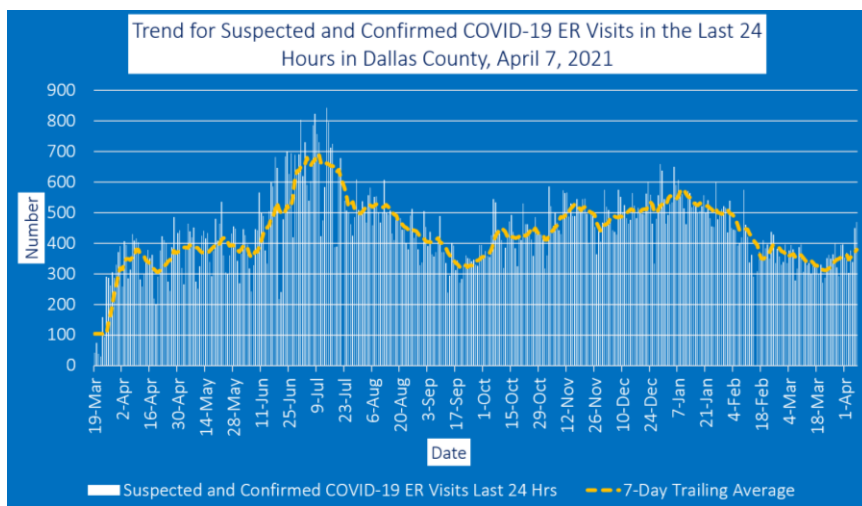
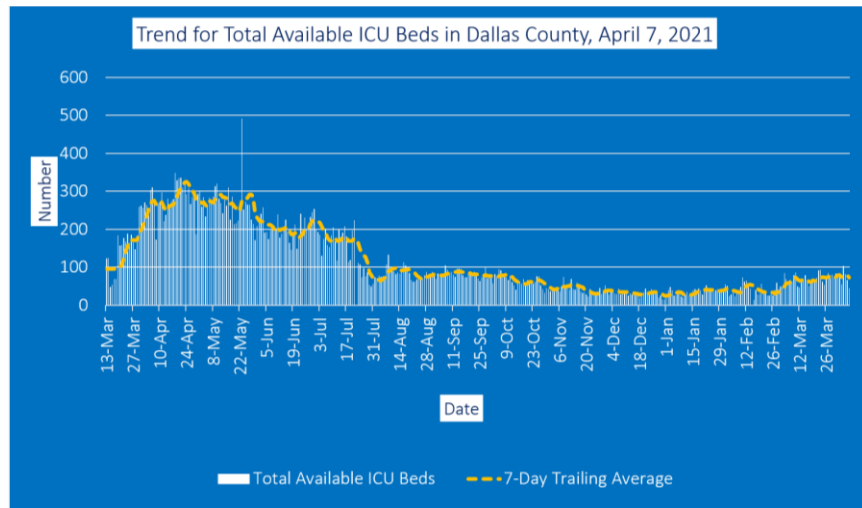
To date, a total of 19 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; two cases of B.1.429 variants; and one case of a B.1.526 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Two have been hospitalized and five had history of recent domestic travel outside of Texas. One case of B.1.1.7 is a likely instance of reinfection with COVID-19, occurring over 6 months after an initial PCR-confirmed infection. The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 12 was **218**, which is a rate of **8.3** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, and with **7.6%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 12 (week ending 3/27/21).

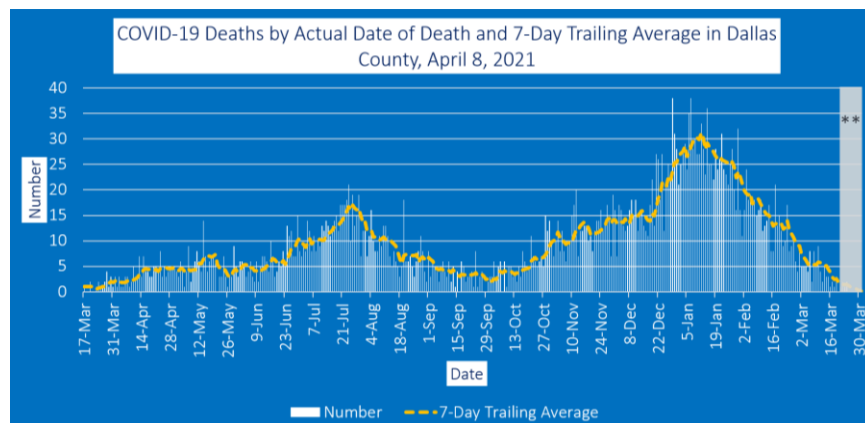
An outbreak of over 70 cases of COVID-19 has been reported associated with attendees at a high school dance and dinner on March 13th, including subsequent spread into their household members. During the past 30 days, there were 1,223 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 380 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. There are currently 18 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,298 residents and 2,396 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,034 have been hospitalized and 701 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Twelve 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 434 residents and 208 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 219 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 7. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 470 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. 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, especially if compliance with personal actions such as masking and social distancing decline. Removal of some restrictions by the CDC is still very limited for those who are vaccinated, and medium and large gatherings, especially indoors, should still be avoided. UTSW forecasting reflects an increase within their model with hospitalizations between 140-190 and daily case counts of 480 by April 22nd. Modeling indicates if there are major changes to personal behaviors, such as not masking or social distancing, that we could see substantial surge. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today we report an additional 244 COVID-19 cases and 22 additional deaths, including a man in his 40’s who did not have underlying health conditions. Almost 37% of eligible Dallas County residents have now received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and almost 21% are fully vaccinated according to data from the Texas Department of State Health Services. While I’m glad these numbers are increasing with each passing day, we still have a large number of our residents who are either unvaccinated or are not yet fully vaccinated. It’s important that we continue to wear our masks, keep our distance, wash our hands, avoid crowds, register for the vaccine and get vaccinated as soon as we can. If you haven’t received your vaccine, please register at www.DallasCounty.org and we’ll get you an appointment very quickly and encourage your friends and family to do the same,” 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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