



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 9, 2021**

**Dallas County Reports 294 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 18 Deaths, Including 72 Probable Cases**

**DALLAS** -- As of 2:00 pm April 9, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 294 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 222 confirmed cases and 72 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 253,668 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 39,991 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,687 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 328,000 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 20'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 30'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 Grand Prairie. 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 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 expired at home 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 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 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 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 Balch Springs. She expired at home 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 woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Irving. She expired in a facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.

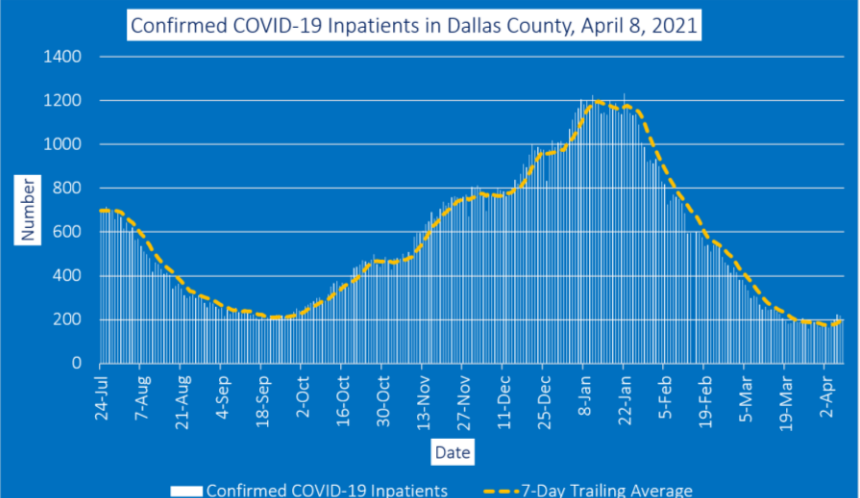
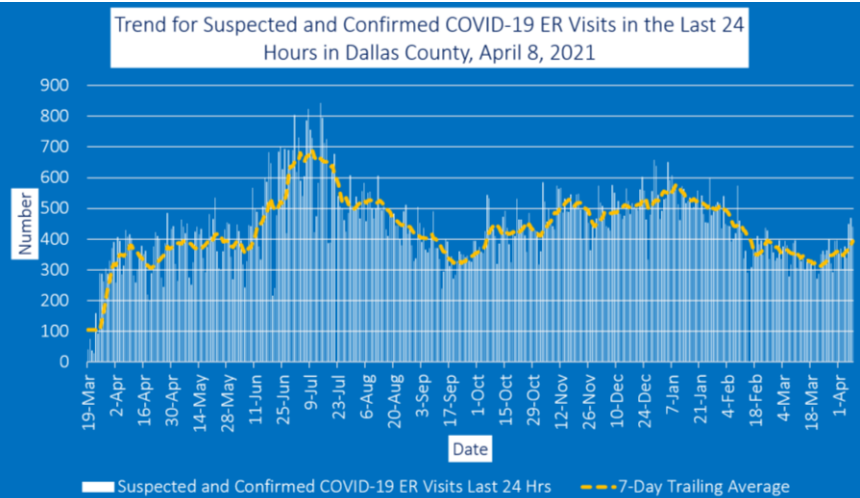
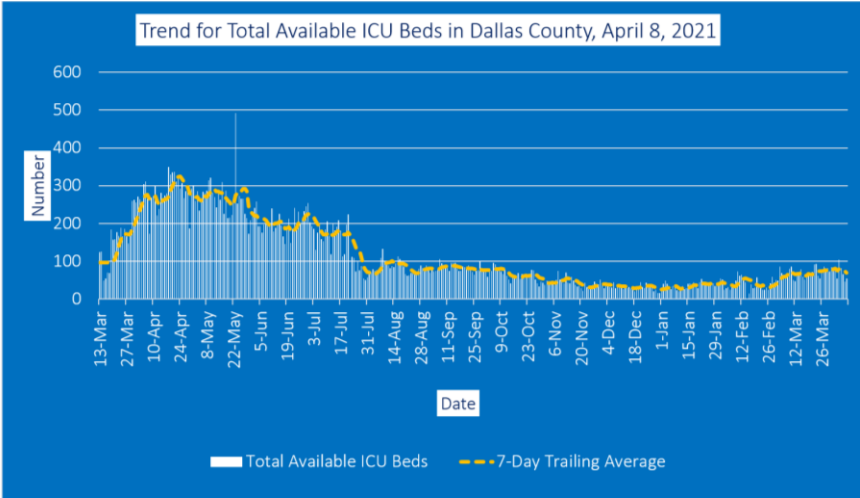
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Desoto. She was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 90's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. He expired in a facility 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 Dallas. She had been hospitalized 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.

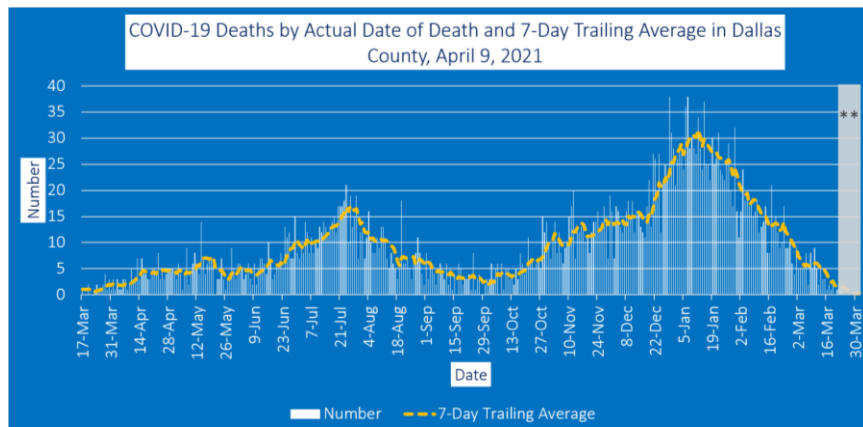
Twenty-seven additional cases of SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7 and 4 additional cases of B.1.429 variants have been identified in residents of Dallas County. To date, a total of 46 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; and one case of a B.1.526 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Three have been hospitalized and seven 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 13<sup>th</sup>, including subsequent spread into their household members. During the past 30 days, there were 1,110 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 351 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Fifteen of the newly reported cases over the past week have been associated with youth sports. 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 197 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 8. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 440 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. Please continue to do your part to reduce spread. Masking, social distancing and avoiding gatherings, as well as getting your vaccination. 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 by all individuals regardless of vaccination status. 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 294 cases of COVID-19 and 18 additional deaths. Of the additional cases, 27 are the B.1.1.7 variant and four of the additional cases are of the B.1.429 variant.

The B.1.1.7 variant is becoming the more common strain in the United States. It was originally discovered in the United Kingdom and is more contagious and more deadly than the strains we have dealt with up until this time. The B.1.429 variant was first discovered in California and accounts for more than 50 percent of cases there. The vaccine is effective against all of these variants and we are in a race against mutations to get to herd immunity before the vaccine mutates to move beyond the efficacy of the current vaccine. In order to successfully mutate, the vaccine must have hosts and each person who gets vaccinated is one less host for the virus.

It’s up to all of us to do our part and get vaccinated as soon as we are able. For those of us who are already vaccinated, it’s imperative that we tell our stories and encourage our circle of influence to get their vaccine as soon as possible. Currently, nearly 38% of the eligible people over the age of 16 in Dallas County have had their first shot. Don’t delay. Register at [www.DallasCounty.org](http://www.DallasCounty.org) or call 1-855- IMMUNE9 (1-855-466-8639) and get vaccinated,” 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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