

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 12, 2021

Dallas County Reports 416 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 9 Deaths, Including 90 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm April 12, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 416 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 326 confirmed cases and 90 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 254,215 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 40,135 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,706 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 343,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, as of April 11, 51.2% of individuals 65 and older are fully vaccinated in Dallas County. Vaccine operations for both first and second doses at Fair Park resumed today and will continue through Saturday.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

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

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 13 was **197**,

which is a rate of **7.5** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, and with **8.3%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 13 (week ending 4/3/21).

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 22 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,307 residents and 2,435 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,044 have been hospitalized and 716 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Nine 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 486 residents and 214 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. Due to weekend reporting, new data will be available on Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

"Today we report 416 positive Covid-19 cases and nine deaths for the two-day total of Sunday and Monday. It is a busy day for vaccinations across Dallas County. At Fair Park, we are likely to break 10,000 shots given today and this scene is playing itself out at vaccinations sites across North Texas. If you have not already been vaccinated, please register to do so. The wait time for a vaccine is now over and it is simply a matter of registering and getting your vaccine.

If you've already gotten your vaccine, please encourage others to do the same. The most important thing that we can do now is get vaccinated. It's also important that we continue to do the things that have proven effective in stopping and curbing the spread of COVID so far. Washing our hands, maintaining distance and avoiding large crowds are imperative, particularly if we or members of our family are un-vaccinated.

With the increasing amount of older adults being vaccinated, the increase in the percentage of the COVID cases that we are seeing is in the younger population. If you are 16 or older, now is the time for you to get your vaccination. Please don't delay," 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
- <u>Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution's Workforce from COVID-19 Infection:</u> 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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