



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 15, 2021**

**Dallas County Reports 202 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 21 Deaths, Including 62 Probable Cases**

**DALLAS** -- As of 12:00 pm April 15, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 202 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 140 confirmed cases and 62 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 254,731 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 40,368 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,768 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 362,000 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 woman in her 40'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 man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. He was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 50'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 50'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 expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60'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 60'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 60's who was a resident of the City of Addison. 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 Irving. 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 Grand Prairie. She expired in hospice care 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 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 Garland. He expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.

- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. 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 Irving. He expired in hospice care 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 woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She expired in a facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Richardson. He expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She 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 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 Grand Prairie. He expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.

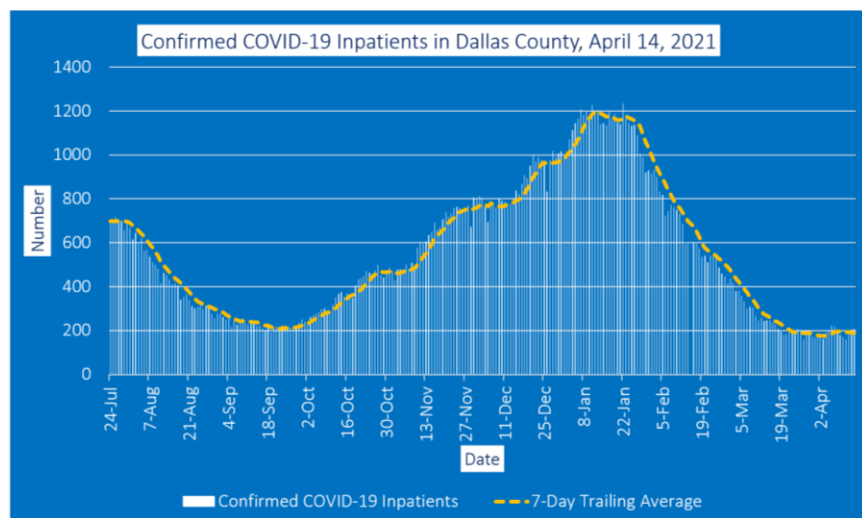
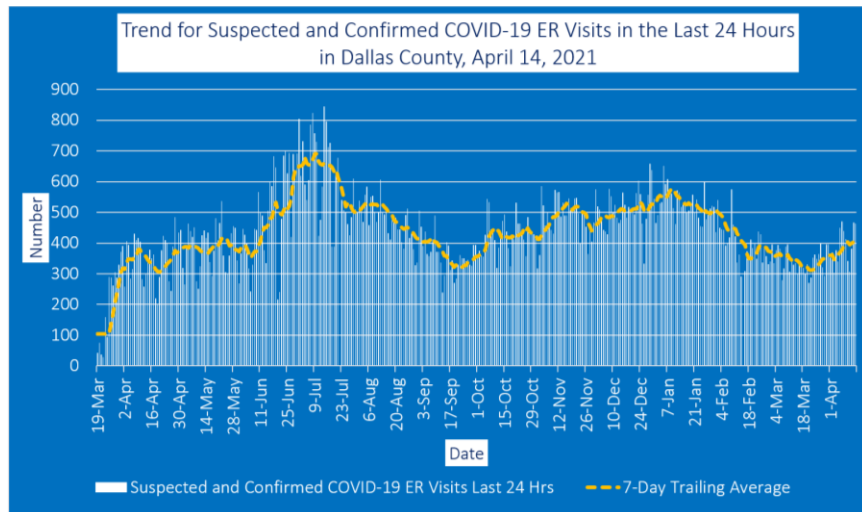
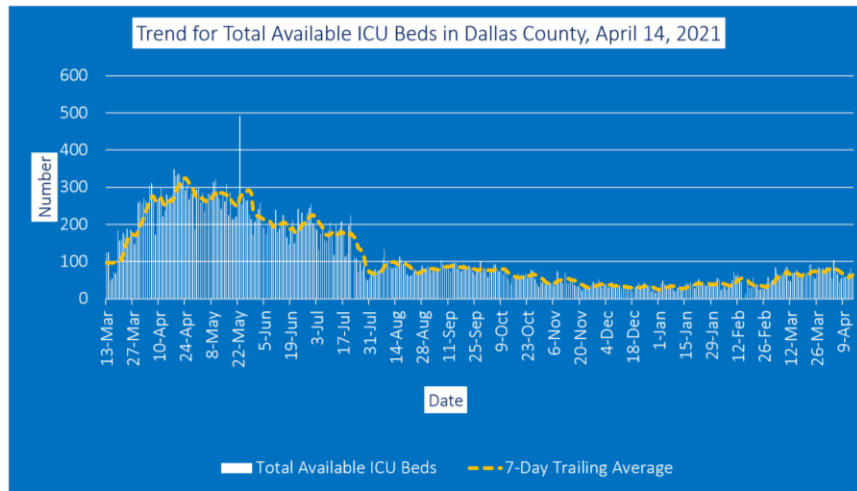
To date, a total of 57 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; and one case of a B.1.526 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Four have been hospitalized with 2 requiring intensive care unit admission. Seven had history of recent domestic travel 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 **202**, which is a rate of **7.7** 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).

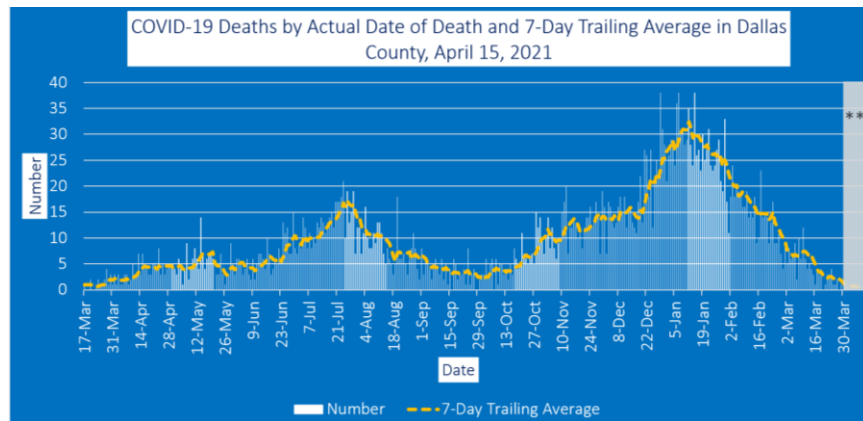
During the past 30 days, there were 1,118 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 353 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Eighteen of the newly reported cases over the past week have been associated with youth sports. There are currently 21 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,315 residents and 2,440 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,051 have been hospitalized and 733 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Eight 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 498 residents and 215 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 207 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 14. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 463 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. Updated UTSW forecasting reflects an increase within their model with hospitalizations

between 140-180 and daily case counts of 350 by April 29th. 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 202 COVID-19 cases and 21 deaths, a somber reminder of the continued toll of COVID in our community. We are at a point now where we have more vaccine than we do people who are registered to get the vaccine. You may now come to Fair Park if you are 55 years or older without an appointment and without pre-registering and get a shot at any time that we are open. For faster service, pre-register at [www.DallasCounty.org](http://www.DallasCounty.org) which takes all of two to three minutes.

For everyone under the age of 55 and over the age of 16, you can simply register at [www.DallasCounty.org](http://www.DallasCounty.org) and get an appointment for the same day or the following day for your vaccine. Again, registration takes two to three minutes, is very easy, and there is no reason not to get the vaccine. Over 120 million Americans have received either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine without any serious complications. We are giving the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines at our locations at Fair Park, Potter’s House, Parkland, and others who use the list. Simply go to [www.DallasCounty.org](http://www.DallasCounty.org) or call 1-888-IMMUNE9 and claim your shot today. Getting vaccinated is the most important patriotic act you can take at this time to protect yourself, your community, and your country,” 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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