



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 16, 2021**

**Dallas County Reports 152 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 15 Deaths, Including 61 Probable Cases**

**DALLAS** -- As of 12:00 pm April 16, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 152 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 91 confirmed cases and 61 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 254,822 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 40,429 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,783 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 368,000 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 are closed today due to weather but will resume tomorrow at Fair Park.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- 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 woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. She 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 Desoto. She 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 expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Duncanville. 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 Grand Prairie. He was found deceased at home and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Desoto. He expired in hospice care 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 Garland. 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 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 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 Desoto. He expired in hospice care 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 Richardson. She expired in the 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 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 Desoto. He expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.

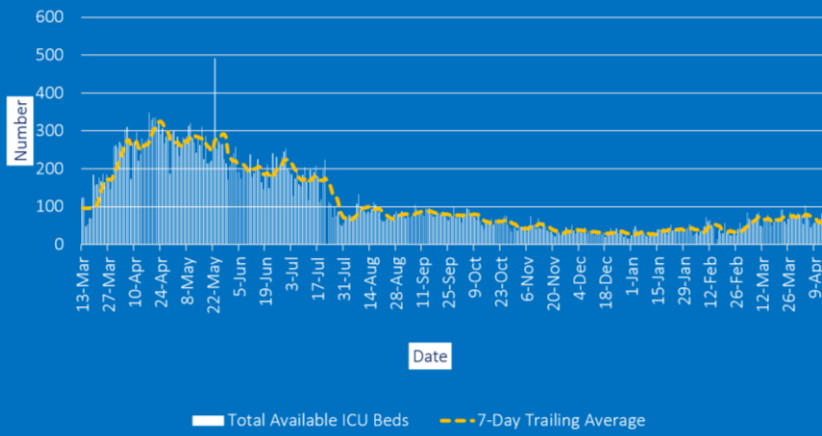
One death reported today was of a person who received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine but was a solid organ transplant patient. To date, a total of 57 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; and one case of a B.1.526 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas 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.

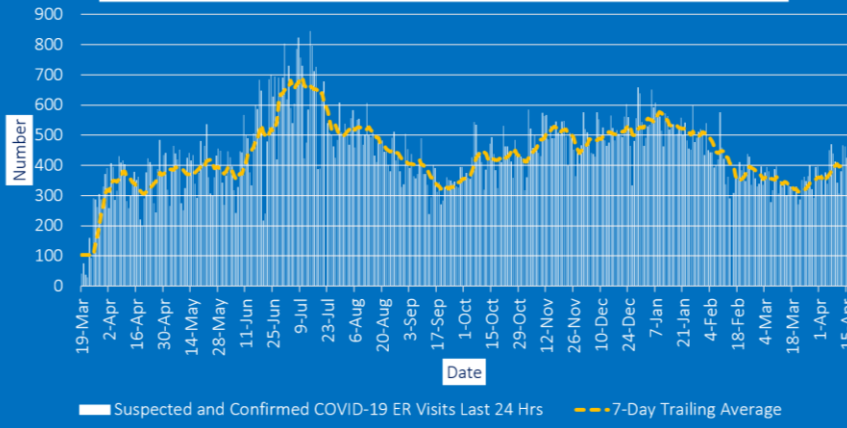
Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more 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 198 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 15. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 425 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 a decrease within their model with hospitalizations between 130-170 and daily case counts of 250 by May 3rd. 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](#).

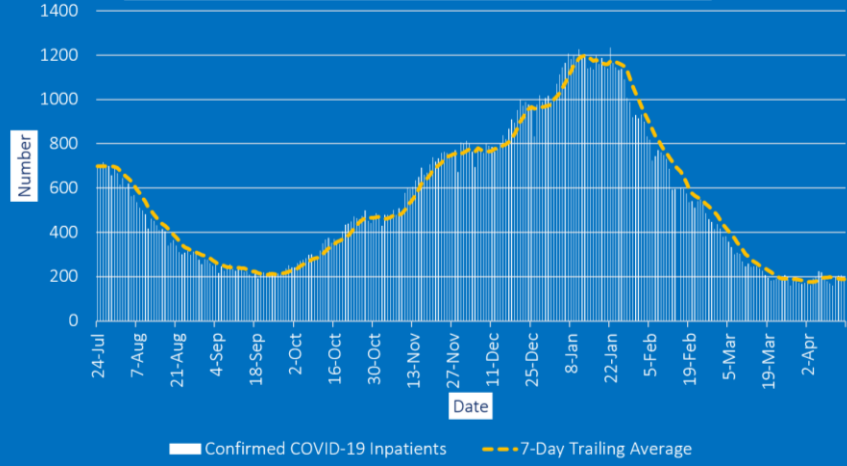
Trend for Total Available ICU Beds in Dallas County, April 15, 2021

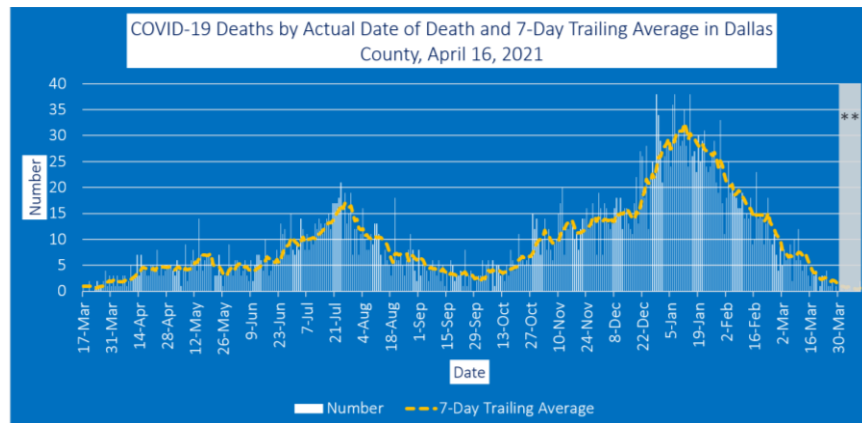


Trend for Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 ER Visits in the Last 24 Hours in Dallas County, April 15, 2021



Confirmed COVID-19 Inpatients in Dallas County, April 15, 2021





“Today we report 152 new COVID-19 positive cases and 15 deaths. The number of new cases today is likely low due to an issue with the state’s reporting system. Additionally, one of the deaths we are reporting today is of an immunocompromised individual who had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine but was a solid organ transplant patient. Immunocompromised individuals are still vulnerable to this deadly virus even after vaccination. If you have family members who are high-risk, it’s critical that you get the vaccine and avoid large crowds so that you can best protect them.

We closed our Fair Park site today due to weather but we’ll be open tomorrow. It is extremely important that everyone get vaccinated as soon as possible and we currently have more vaccine than we do people making appointments. Simply register online at [www.DallasCounty.org](http://www.DallasCounty.org) and make your way to Fair Park tomorrow to claim your shot. If you’re over 55, you may come to Fair Park with or without an appointment and we will handle your registration for you when you arrive. We are in a race against time with the virus to reach herd immunity before the virus mutates into forms that make the vaccine less effective. Getting vaccinated is not only a way to protect yourself and those you love, but also an act of patriotism to help our community and country defeat the scourge of COVID-19,” 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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