



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2021

Dallas County Reports 282 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 13 Deaths, Including 45 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 12:00 pm April 20, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 282 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 237 confirmed cases and 45 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 255,644 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 40,683 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,820 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 381,000 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 19 year old man who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 30'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 40'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 50's who was a resident of the City of Lancaster. He was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. 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 Irving. He 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 Grand Prairie. He 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 in a hospital ED 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 expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80'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 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Richardson. He expired in hospice care 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.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.

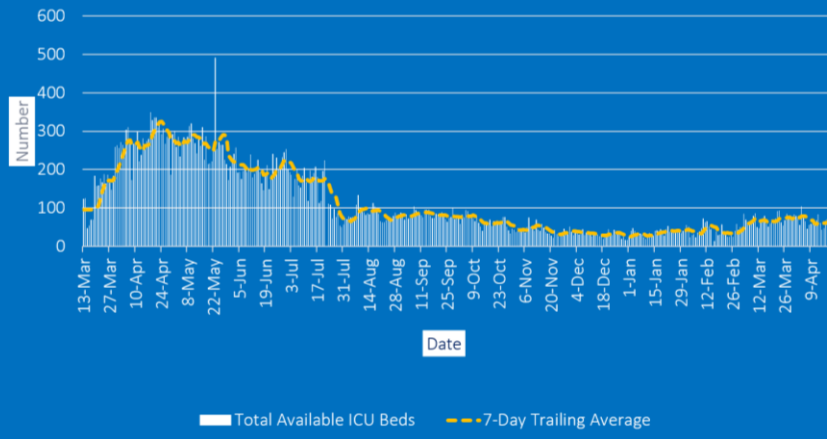
To date, a total of 57 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; and one case of a B.1.526 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Four have been hospitalized with 2 requiring intensive care unit admission. Seven had history of recent domestic travel 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 14 was **224**, which is a rate of **8.5** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals in week 14 (week ending 4/10/21), **9.0%** of respiratory specimens tested positive SARS-CoV-2.

During the past 30 days, there were 1,083 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 359 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Of the cases reported over the past month, 116 have been associated with youth sports. There are currently 25 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, 1,058 have been hospitalized and 740 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Seven 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 530 residents and 215 staff members in congregate-living facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

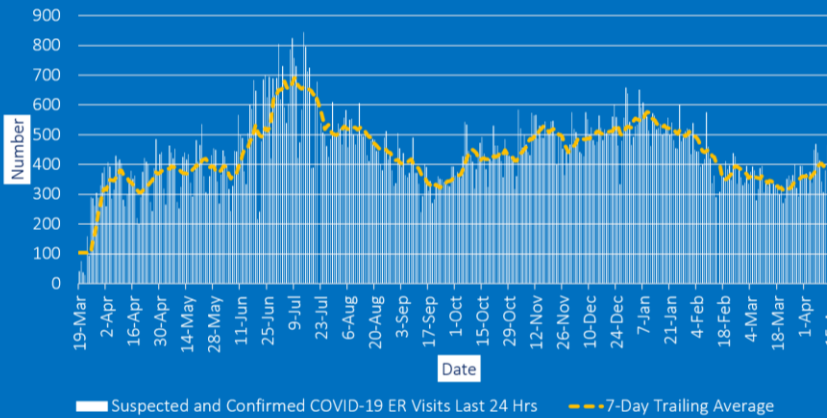
Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more detailed summary reports updated Tuesday and Friday evenings, 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 221 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 19. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 354 for the same time-period, which represents around 15 percent of all emergency department visits in the county. 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](#).

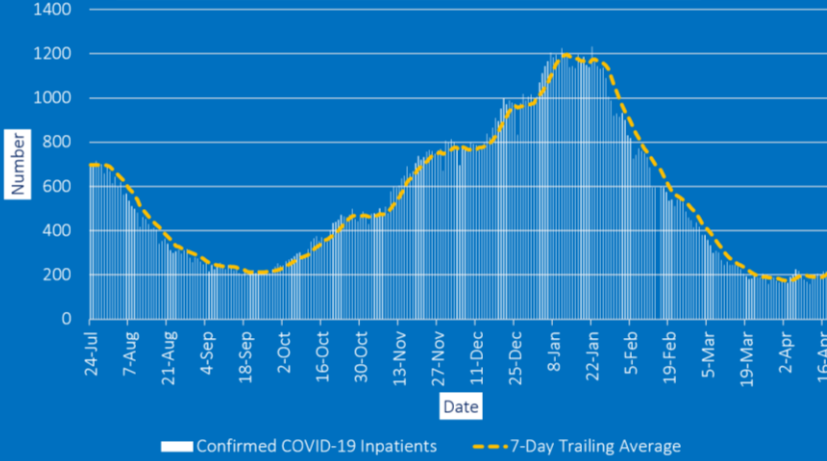
Trend for Total Available ICU Beds in Dallas County, April 19, 2021

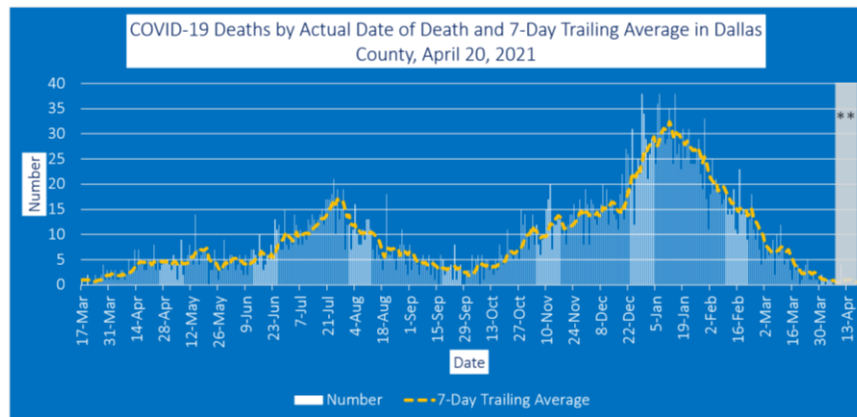


Trend for Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 ER Visits in the Last 24 Hours in Dallas County, April 19, 2021



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





“Today we report an additional 282 cases and 13 deaths. Included in the deaths today is a 19 year-old man who was a resident of the City of Dallas and had been critically ill. He had underlying high-risk health conditions. Also listed in today’s deaths is a woman in her 30’s from the City of Dallas who was found deceased in her home with underlying high-risk health conditions.

The vaccine is very effective and the chances of hospitalization or death, once fully vaccinated, are near zero. Further, each person’s vaccine moves us closer to herd immunity and a victory for America against COVID-19. Please do your part for yourself and your country and get vaccinated as soon as possible.

There’s no longer any reason not to get vaccinated. Over 150 million Americans have received the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine without any serious side effects being reported. There’s now ample enough vaccine for everyone that wants a shot to get one. You can come to Fair Park any day during our hours of operation and get your shot without an appointment or the need to pre-register. For faster service (think FastPass at Disney World) take the two-three minutes to register online at www.DallasCounty.org before driving down to Fair Park so you’ll have a QR code on your phone that will speed you to the front of the line,” 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>

CONTACT:

Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge

Clay.Jenkins@dallascounty.org

[214-653-7949](tel:214-653-7949)

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