



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2021

### **Dallas County Reports 279 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 8 Deaths, Including 141 Probable Cases**

**DALLAS** -- As of 3:00 pm April 21, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 279 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 138 confirmed cases and 141 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 255,782 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 40,824 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,828 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 387,000 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 Friday.](#)

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

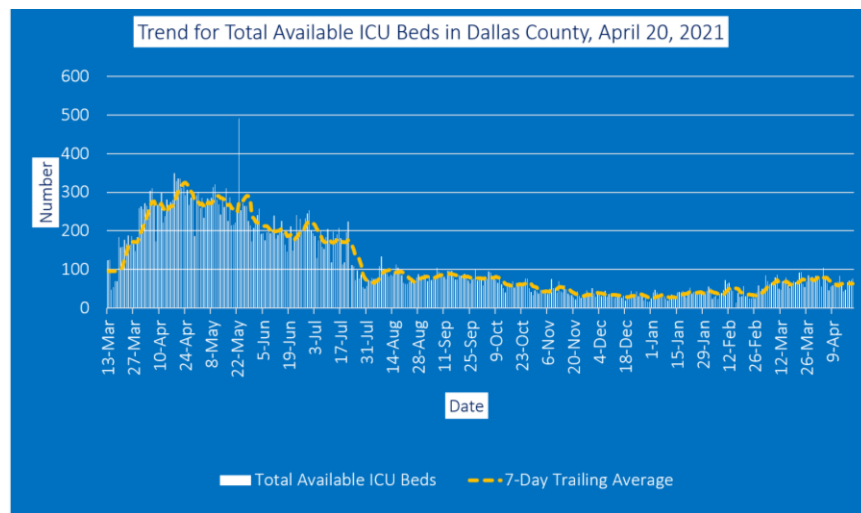
- A man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Garland. He was found deceased at home and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Wilmer. He was found deceased at home and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Garland. 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 Mesquite. He expired in hospice 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 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 man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Irving. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Balch Springs. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.

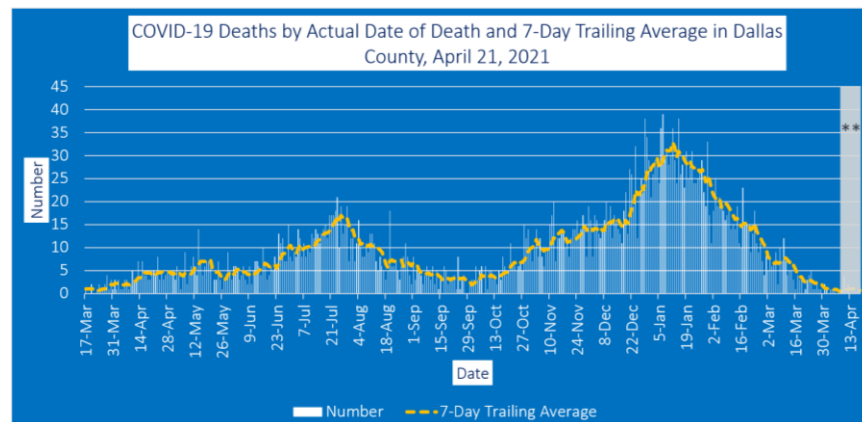
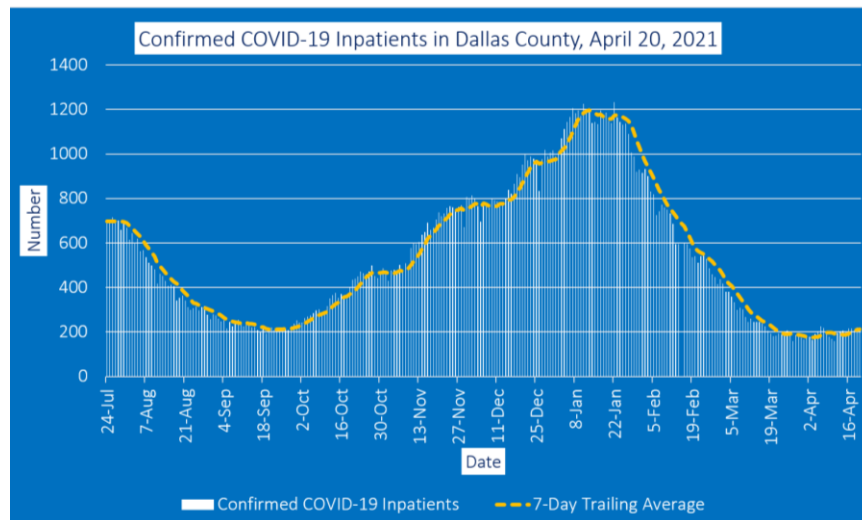
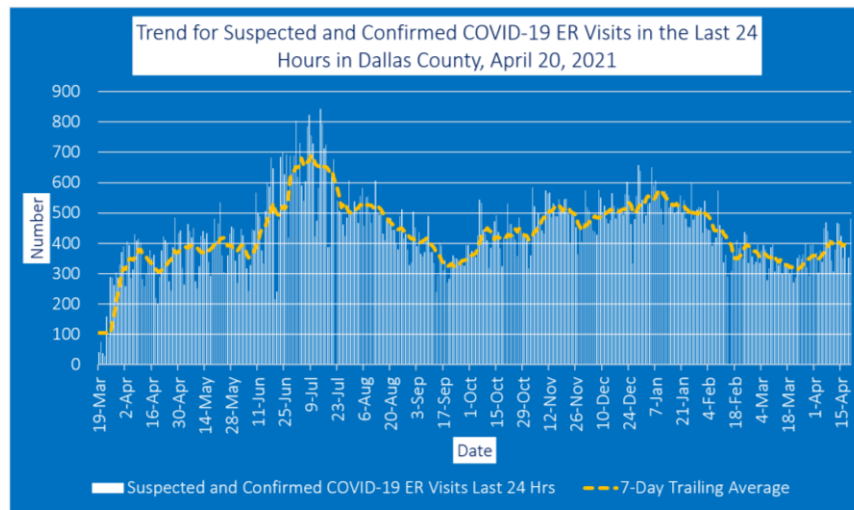
To date, a total of 57 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; and one case of a B.1.526 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Four have been hospitalized with 2 requiring intensive care unit admission. Seven had history of recent domestic travel 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 **250**, which is a rate of **9.5** 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 23 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,330 residents and 2,448 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,064 have been hospitalized and 749 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 564 residents and 216 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 214 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 20. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 482 for the same time-period, which represents around 16 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](#).





“Today we report an additional 279 COVID-19 cases and eight additional deaths. We're seeing a decrease in the number of people seeking new shots and are accordingly changing our days and hours of operations at Fair Park to account for that decrease.

We're open tomorrow 8:00am - 5:00pm for Pfizer first and second shots and open Friday 8:00am - 5:00 for Moderna first and second shots. However, there is an increasing risk of thunderstorms in the afternoon on Friday so we are encouraging everyone to come to Fair Park before noon to ensure that we can get your appointment in before potential bad weather forces suspension or early closure.

We will be closed on Saturday, April 24, and Sunday, April 25. We will be open on Monday, April 26 from 8:00am - 5:00pm for Moderna first and second shots. We will close on Tuesday, April 27. We will be open on Wednesday, April 28 from 8:00am - 5:00pm for Pfizer first and second shots. On Thursday, April 29, we will open from 12:00 to 9:00 p.m. for Pfizer first and second shots in an effort to provide another option to people who are unable to get their shots during normal business hours. Our full schedule can be found [here](#).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Vaccine</u>
Thursday (4/22)	8am-5pm	Pfizer (First and Second Doses)
Friday (4/23)	8am-5pm *weather permitting, come before noon to be safe	Moderna (First and Second Doses)
Saturday (4/24)	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sunday (4/25)	CLOSED	CLOSED
Monday (4/26)	8am-5pm	Moderna (First and Second Doses)
Tuesday (4/27)	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wednesday (4/28)	8am-5pm	Pfizer (First and Second Doses)
Thursday (4/29)	noon-9pm	Pfizer (First and Second Doses)
Friday (4/30)	8am-5pm	Moderna (First and Second Doses)
Saturday (5/1)	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sunday (5/2)	CLOSED	CLOSED

Please don't delay in getting your vaccine. There's more vaccine available now and no eligible person is being turned away at Dallas County locations. We are in a race against time and the virus to vaccinate enough people to reach herd immunity to deny the virus enough hosts to successfully mutate outside of the protections of the vaccine.

This is not only a battle for your health and our community's health, but also for the economic vibrancy of our country. Getting the vaccine is the right thing to do for public health and the patriotic thing to do for America," 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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