



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2021

Dallas County Reports 350 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 9 Deaths, Including 120 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 4:00 pm April 28, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 350 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 230 confirmed cases and 120 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 256,923 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 41,239 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,881 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 410,000 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 resumed today.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 50'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 woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of the City of Irving. 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 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 Lancaster. 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 the City of Mesquite. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Garland. 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite. He expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.

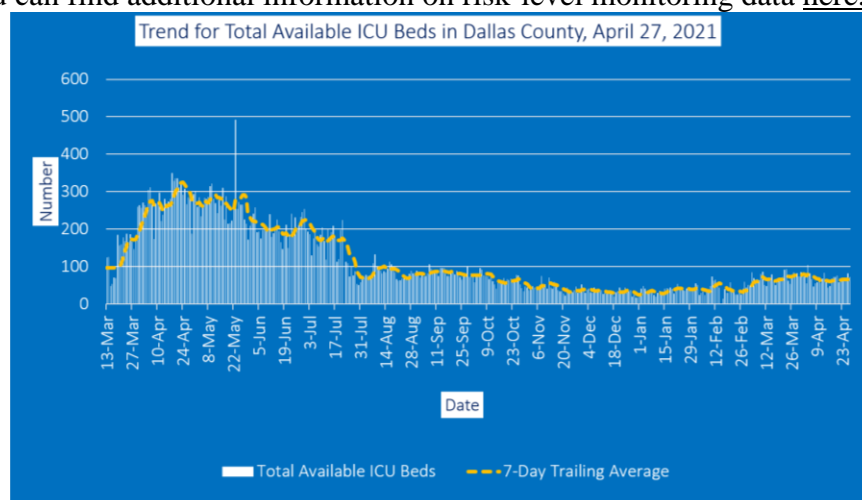
One death reported today was of a person who received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine but had several underlying high risk health conditions. One case of SARS-CoV-2 P.1 variant and one additional case of a SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant have been newly confirmed in residents of Dallas County. To date, a total of 58 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; one case of a B.1.526 variant, and one case of a P.1 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-

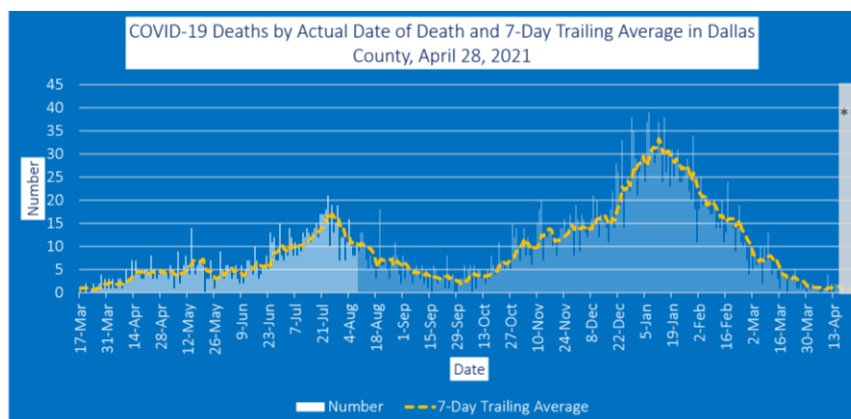
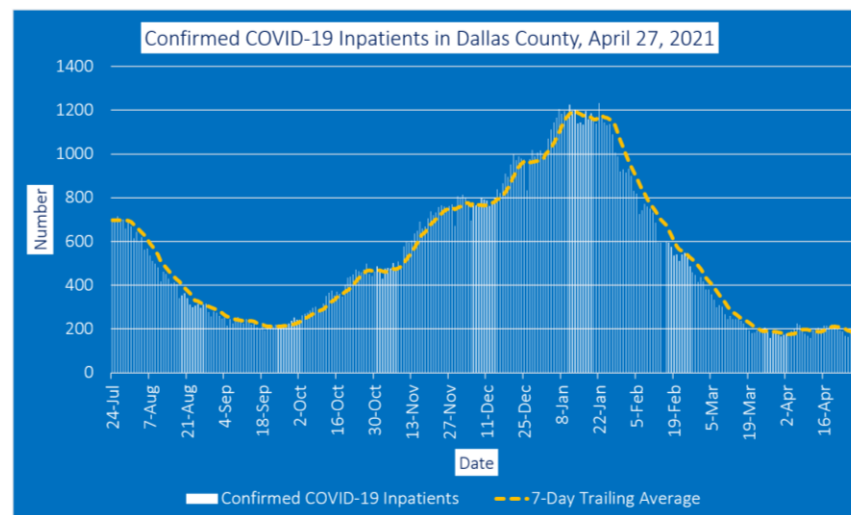
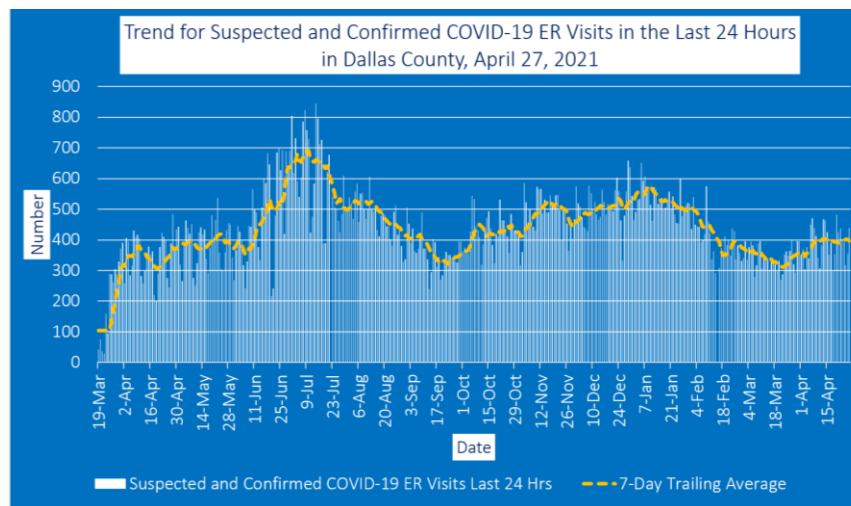
confirmed infection. The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 15 was **226**, which is a rate of **8.6** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals in week 15 (week ending 4/17/21), **10.8%** of respiratory specimens tested positive SARS-CoV-2.

During the past 30 days, there were 1,065 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 381 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Of the cases reported over the past month, 93 have been associated with youth sports. There are currently 25 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,340 residents and 2,448 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,074 have been hospitalized and 757 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Ten 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 574 residents and 219 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 179 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 27. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 440 for the same time-period, which represents around 14 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 as soon as possible. The CDC has indicated additional activities are safe for those who are fully vaccinated. Getting your vaccine protects you and your family and friends and is the path forward. Updated UTSW forecasting reflects an increase within their model with hospitalizations between 150-190 and daily case counts of 260 by May 10th. Modeling indicates if there are major changes to personal behaviors, such as not masking or social distancing, or a drop off in the rate of vaccination, that we could see a substantial surge. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today we report 350 new cases of COVID-19 and nine deaths, including one vaccine breakthrough death in a person who was fully vaccinated but had several underlying high risk health conditions. Additionally, two of the reported cases today are of concerning variants. One is of the B.1.1.7 that originated in the United Kingdom and the other is the P.1 variant that originated in Brazil.

We are seeing an increase of COVID-19 in younger populations, and here in Dallas County, only one quarter of those 18-29 years of age have received at least one dose of a vaccine. Getting vaccinated, particularly in young healthy people, makes the chance of contracting COVID much less and having a serious case highly unlikely. Even a mild case of COVID has a more serious risk to your health than any of the urban myths you can find on the internet about vaccines. When it comes to vaccines, just as when it comes to other health advice, it is best to listen to the doctors who have trained their entire adult lives to advise you of the situation. In this case, those

doctors are infectious disease specialists, public health experts, and epidemiologists, and they unanimously urge everyone who is old enough to get the vaccine to do so as soon as possible. This is how together we'll keep one another safe and perform an act of community service and patriotism that will help North Texas and America defeat COVID.

Tomorrow, we are open at Fair Park from noon to 9pm with both the Pfizer vaccine and the Johnson and Johnson one-and-done vaccine. This change in hours was to accommodate people who were unable to make it in during our normal operational hours of 8-5. If this helps you, please take advantage of it tomorrow and come get your vaccine at Fair Park," 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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