



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2021

Dallas County Reports 268 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 6 Deaths, Including 74 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm April 29, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 268 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 194 confirmed cases and 74 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 257,117 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 41,313 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,887 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 417,000 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 continue through Saturday.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Seagoville. She 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 Mesquite. She 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 Seagoville. 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 Highland Park. 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 Sunnyvale. 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 Irving. She expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.

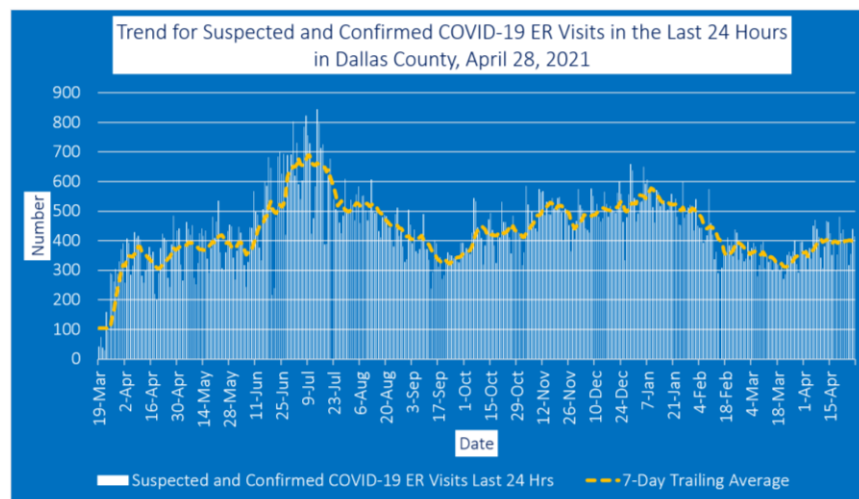
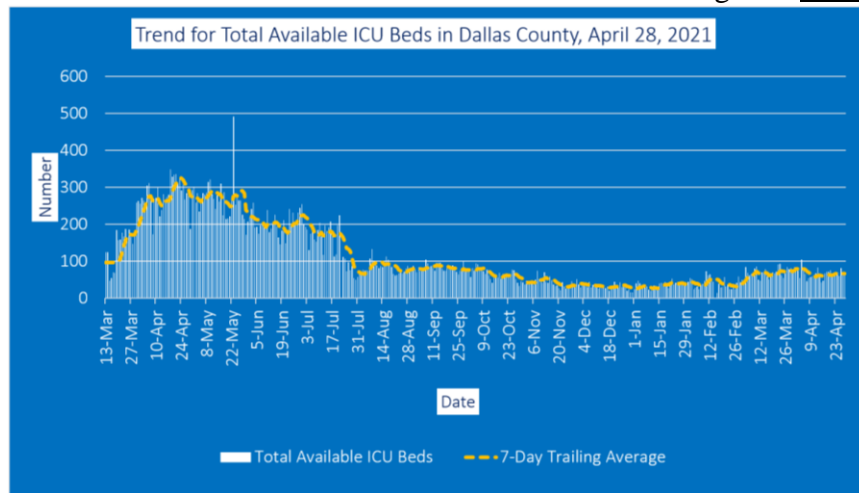
One death reported today was of a person who received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine but was on immunosuppressant medication. To date, a total of 58 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six cases of B.1.429 variants; one case of a B.1.526 variant, and one case of a P.1 variant have been identified 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.

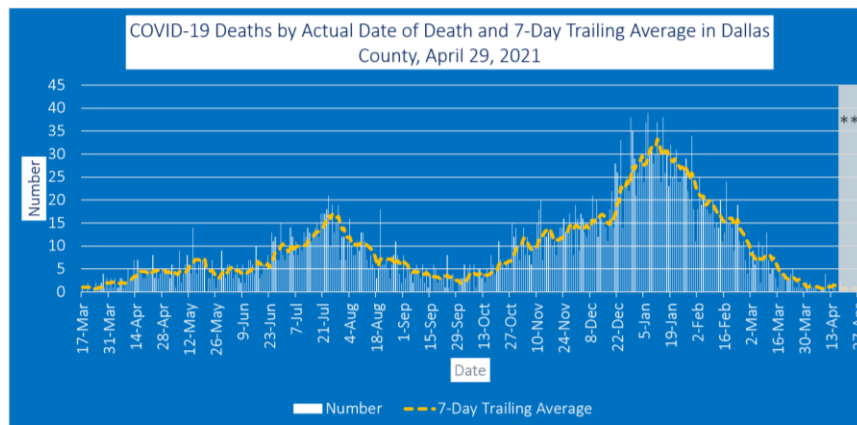
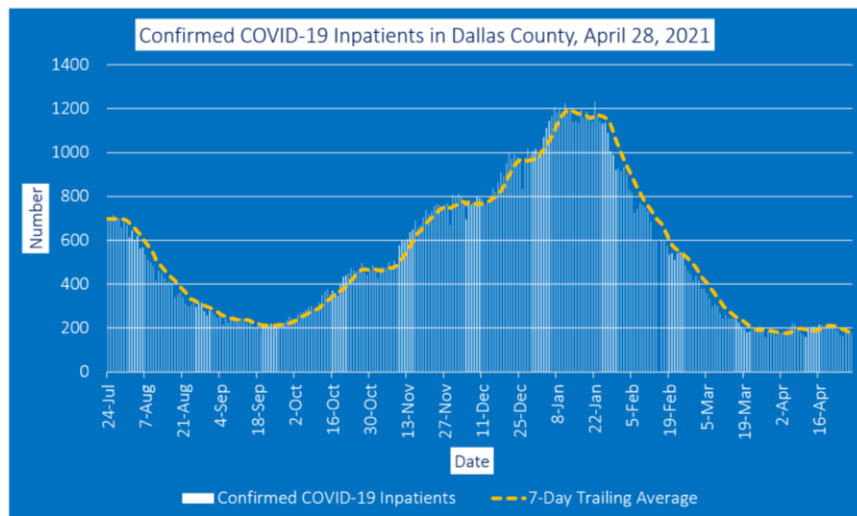
During the past 30 days, there were 1,065 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 381 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Of the cases reported over the past month, 93 have been associated with youth sports. There are currently 25 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A 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 177 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 28. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 415 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 as soon as possible. The CDC has indicated additional activities are safe for those that 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 another 268 COVID positive cases and six additional deaths. One of those deaths is a COVID vaccine breakthrough case. The person was on immunosuppressant medication and vaccine efficacy is significantly degraded in this population.

Getting a vaccine is the most important thing you can do to protect yourself and your community from COVID. Need a gift for Mother’s Day? Give Mom the peace of mind of knowing that you are vaccinated and protected and have done your patriotic part to end COVID-19 pandemic.

Vaccine is available without an appointment at Dallas College Eastfield Campus, Ellis Davis Field House, Fair Park and Potter’s House on any day that we are open. Today we are open until 9pm at Fair Park to accommodate people who have been unable to get their vaccine during the workday. At Fair Park, there will be an option for the Johnson and Johnson ‘one and done’ vaccine along with a ‘two-dose’ vaccine on each day that we are open. Today, those choices are the Pfizer vaccine or the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Tomorrow on Friday, the choice will be between the Moderna two-dose vaccine and the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, and on Saturday, we will have Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson available at Fair Park.

The rate of vaccination has slowed in Dallas County and North Texas and is currently falling behind other metro areas. In order for us to come out of the COVID pandemic strong and maintain our place at the top for employment opportunities here in Dallas and North Texas, we need everyone to please do your part and get vaccinated as soon as possible,” 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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