

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 30, 2021

Dallas County Reports 361 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 8 Deaths, Including 75 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm April 30, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 361 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 286 confirmed cases and 75 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 257,403 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 41,388 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,895 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 422,000 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 man in his 40's who was a resident of the City of Balch Springs. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 50'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 man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Irving. 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 a long-term care facility in the City of Balch Springs.
 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 Mesquite. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. He 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 Cedar Hill.
 She expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.

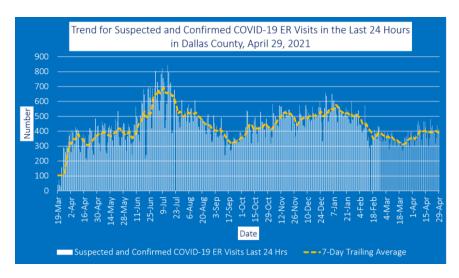
One case of SARS-CoV-2 P.2 variant has been newly confirmed in a resident of Dallas County. To date, a total of 58 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six B.1.429 variants; one B.1.526 variant, one P.1 variant, and one P.2 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Four have been 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.

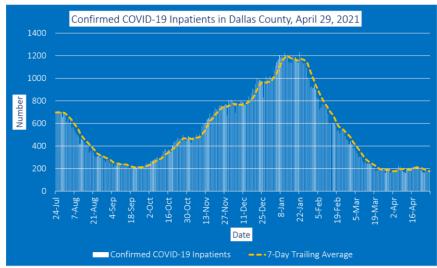
During the past 30 days, there were 1,065 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 381 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Of the cases reported over the past month, 93 have been associated with youth sports. There are currently 25 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A 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 175 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on April 29. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 391 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 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 160-230 and daily case counts of 260 by May 17th. If vaccination rates continue to increase, hospitalizations within the model remain low. With a slower pace of vaccination, the model shows growth in some scenarios You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data here.









"Today we report an additional 361 cases of COVID-19 and eight additional deaths. One of the cases is of the SARS-CoV-2 P.2 variant. The P.2 variant is out of Brazil, and according to the CDC, is a variant of interest versus a variant of concern like the P.1 case that was reported earlier this week. Two of the CDC classifications for variants are variants of interest and variants of concern. Variants of concern generally have a worse profile than variants of interest.

Currently in Dallas County, 47.56% of our residents over the age of 16 have received at least one dose. This compares with 48.66% for the State of Texas. We have ample amount of vaccine here in Dallas County and there's no reason for anyone to wait. At Fair Park, you have the option of getting either a two-shot vaccine, on some days Pfizer and alternating days Moderna, or the Johnson and Johnson one-shot vaccine that is available every day we are open. Next week, Monday and Friday will be Moderna days and Wednesday and Saturday

will be Pfizer days. On all those days, we will give Johnson and Johnson to those who want it. At Fair Park, Dallas College Eastfield Campus, Ellis Davis Field House, and the Potter's House, no appointment is needed to get your vaccine. Simply come at the time most convenient to you during operating hours and we will get you vaccinated.

For a 'fast-pass' experience, spend the one-two minutes pre-registering online at www.DallasCounty.org, so that your information is already in the system before you arrive. You will get a QR code and be moved to the front of the line. If you're unable to do this, you can still be vaccinated and we will do your registration on-site. As a reminder, if you're still looking for a gift for Mother's Day, either because you haven't found the right one or are looking for a little extra something, what better gift for Mom than to give her the peace of mind to know that you are vaccinated and you've done your patriotic part to protect yourself, our community and our country," 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
- <u>Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution's Workforce from COVID-19 Infection:</u> 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
- DSHS: https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/
- DCHHS: https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php

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