



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2021

Dallas County Reports 209 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 5 Deaths, Including 83 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm May 5, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 209 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 126 confirmed cases and 83 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 258,130 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 41,660 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,918 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 445,000 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 are open today through 8pm.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Irving. She expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80'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 80'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 woman in her 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. She expired in a facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.

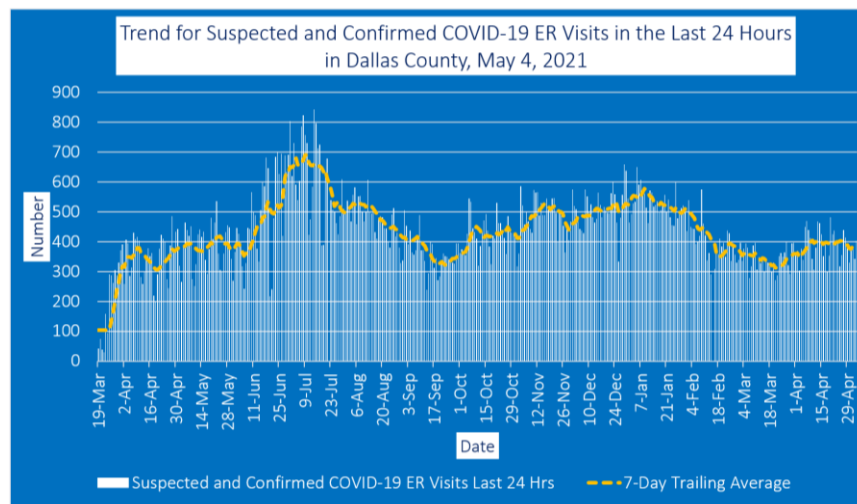
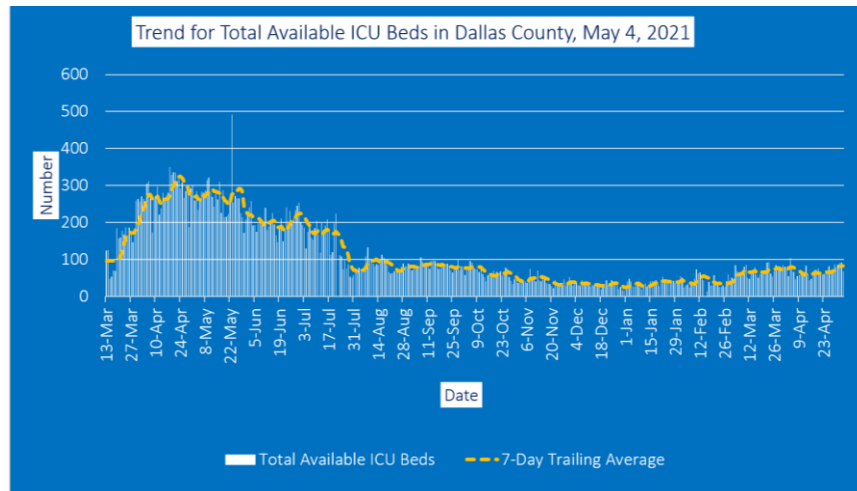
Two additional cases of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variants and one SARS-CoV-2 B.1.526 variant have been newly confirmed in a resident of Dallas County. To date, a total of 61 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six B.1.429 variants; two B.1.526 variants; one P.1 variant; and one P.2 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Five have been hospitalized with 3 requiring intensive care unit admission, and one has died. 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 16 was **207**, which is a rate of **7.9** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals in week 16 (week ending 4/24/21), **9.5%** of respiratory specimens tested positive SARS-CoV-2.

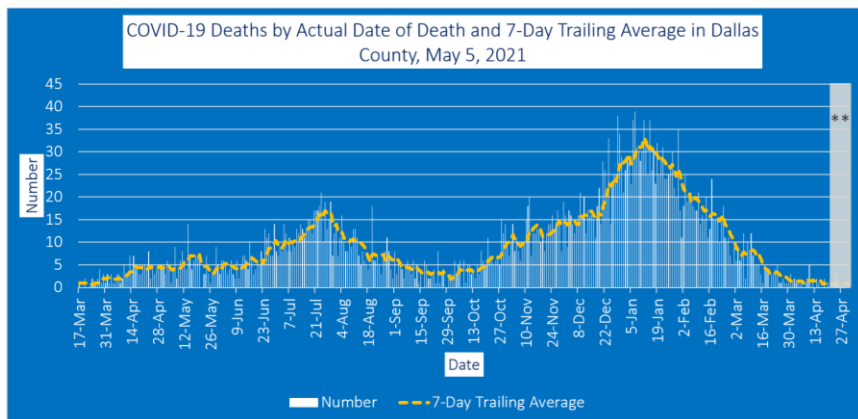
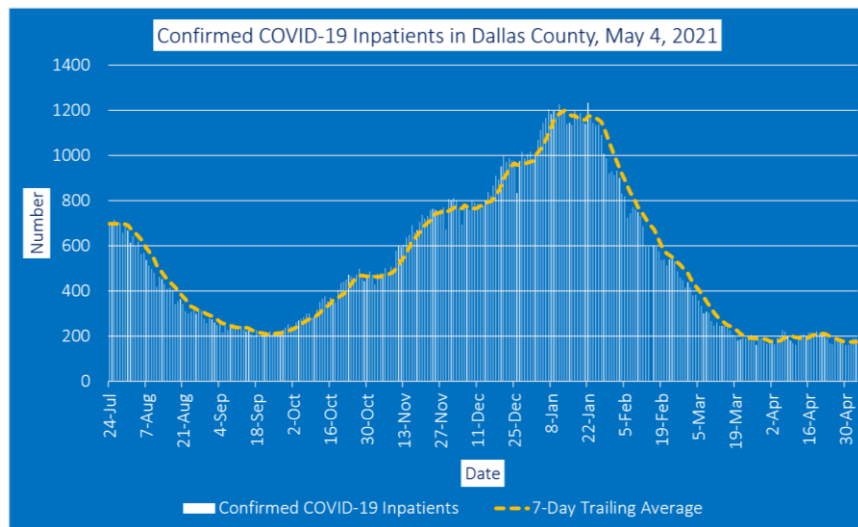
During the past 30 days, there were 1,064 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 390 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. There are currently 28 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,361 residents and 2,455 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,081 have been hospitalized and 769 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Eleven 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 593 residents and 220 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 187 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on May 4. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 404 for the same time-period, which represents around 14 percent of all emergency department visits in the county. Vaccination is the best way to prevent illness and hospitalization from COVID. Protect yourself and your loved ones by getting vaccinated as soon as possible. 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 209 cases of COVID-19 and five additional deaths. There are two additional cases of the B.1.1.7 variant that originated in the United Kingdom and one case of the B.1.526 variant that originated in New York City that have been newly confirmed in residents of Dallas County. The individuals were originally diagnosed with COVID-19 infections about four weeks earlier.

With the increase in the B.1.1.7 variant here, it is more important than ever that people get vaccinated as soon as possible. We all have a role to play and if you’ve already been vaccinated, your role is to continue to make good decisions on following CDC guidelines for the fully vaccinated. You also should tell your story to people in your circle of influence so they can experience the benefit of being vaccinated and avoid the heartache of a serious case of COVID-19.

Tonight, Fair Park is open late for people who have been unable to make first dose appointments before 5pm. We have appointments open until 8pm. Although pre-registration and an appointment isn’t required, it does speed up the process once on-site at Fair Park. We have plenty of vaccine available so there’s no need to wait. Get your vaccine today so you can safely gather with friends and family, while protecting yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19,” 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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