



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 12, 2021**

### **Dallas County Reports 239 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 10 Deaths, Including 78 Probable Cases**

**DALLAS** -- As of 12:00 pm May 12, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 239 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 161 confirmed cases and 78 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 259,030 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 41,995 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,952 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 461,000 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 with extended hours until 8:00pm today.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 40'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 60's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. 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 the City of Irving. He expired at home 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 70's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Lancaster. She expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Desoto. He expired in a facility 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 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He was found deceased 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 did not have 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 Garland. He expired in hospice care and had underlying high risk health conditions.

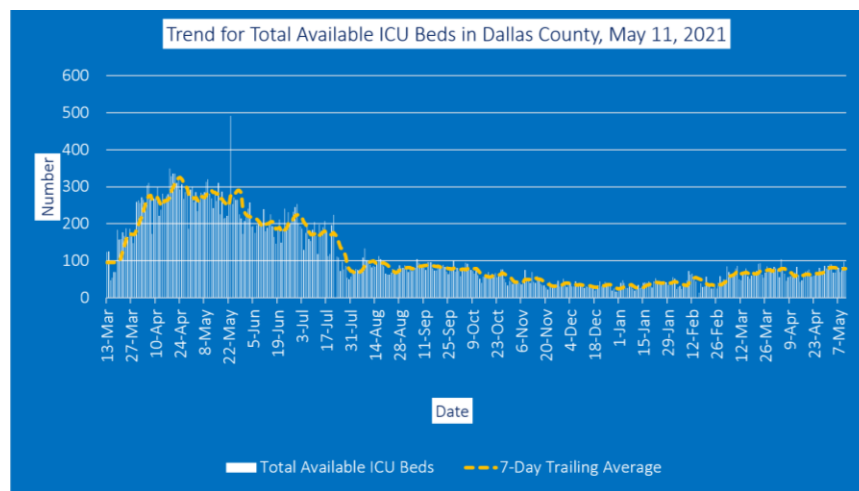
To date, a total of 81 cases with SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern have been identified in residents of Dallas County, including: 69 cases of variant B.1.1.7; seven B.1.429 variants; two B.1.526 variants; two P.1 variants; and one P.2 variant. Five have been hospitalized with 3 requiring intensive care 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

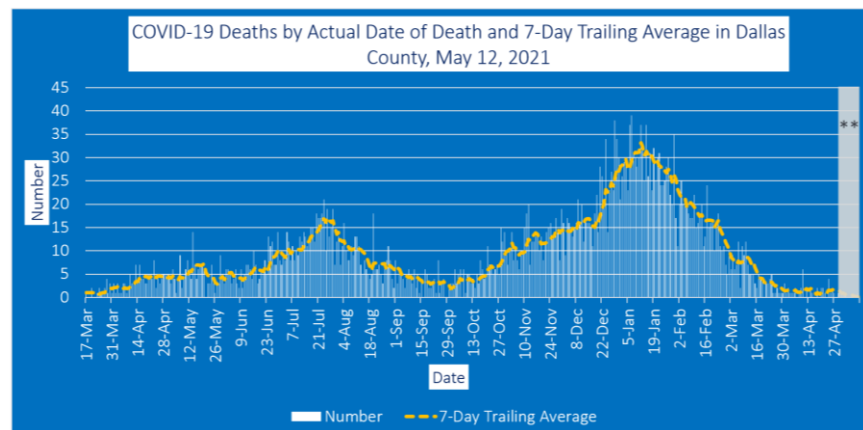
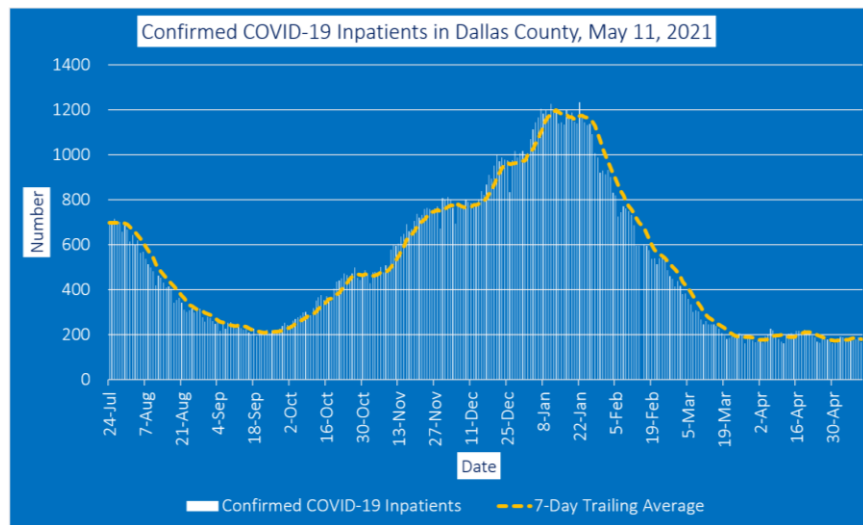
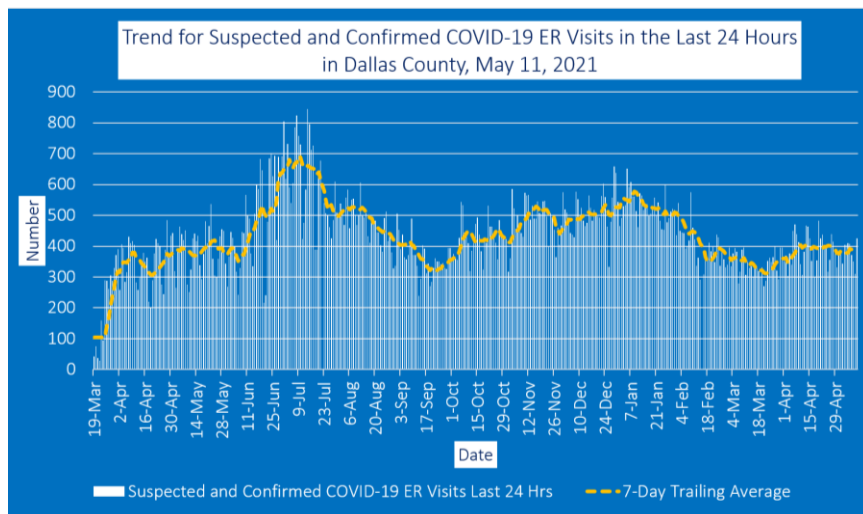
seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 17 was **214**, which is a rate of **8.2** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals in week 17 (week ending 5/1/21), **10.8%** of respiratory specimens tested positive SARS-CoV-2.

During the past 30 days, there were 1,106 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 417 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. There are currently 31 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,370 residents and 2,462 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,089 have been hospitalized and 775 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Twelve 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 598 residents and 221 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 165 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on May 11. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 425 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 a minor decrease within their model with hospitalizations between 140-220 and daily case counts of 210 by May 24th. If vaccination rates continue to increase, hospitalizations within the model remain low. With a slower pace of vaccination and reduced personal protective measures, the model shows growth. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).





“Today we report 239 cases of COVID-19 and 10 additional deaths. Each day, the deaths remind us that COVID is still a very serious threat to people who are unvaccinated, and 98% of the people that we are seeing with serious cases of COVID requiring hospitalization, are people who have not yet received a vaccination.

Vaccine is now available to anyone who wants it and Pfizer will soon be available to people 12 years of age and older. It’s very important that we all do our part. The first part is to get vaccinated. With every vaccine, we help not only ourselves but our community and our country defeat COVID. The second important part is to reach out to our circle of friends that we can influence and encourage them also to get vaccinated. Share your story and why you got the vaccine. Share your experience in getting vaccinated and encourage them to do the same.

If we keep vaccinating at the same rate that we're vaccinating now, Dr. Fauci expects that we will see a tremendous drop off in cases by July. We are walking blocks and messaging to people as best we can to get vaccinated but the person that is the most persuasive on vaccination is going to be a person that someone knows and trusts. For your circle, that's you. Please help us in the battle to defeat COVID," 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](mailto:Clay.Jenkins@dallascounty.org)  
[214-653-7949](tel:214-653-7949)

###