



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 26, 2021

Dallas County Reports 145 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 8 Deaths, Including 59 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 12:00 pm May 26, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 145 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 86 confirmed cases and 59 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 260,363 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 42,585 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 4,047 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 477,000 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 continue weekly at Fair Park and the full operating schedule can be found [here](#).

- 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 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 man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
 - A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Rowlett. 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 Garland. He expired in hospice and had underlying high risk health conditions.
 - A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite. She expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
 - A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Garland. She expired in hospice 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 Desoto. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.

An additional 7 cases of SARS-CoV-2 variants have been newly confirmed in residents of Dallas County. To date, a total of 94 cases with SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern have been identified in residents of Dallas County, including: 74 cases of variant B.1.1.7; seven B.1.429 variants; two B.1.526 variants; seven P.1 variants; one P.2 variant, and three B.1.617.2 cases. Six have been hospitalized with 4 requiring intensive care unit admission, and two have died. *One fully vaccinated patient subsequently became ill from B.1.1.7 infection and died.* The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 19 was **143**, which is a rate of **5.4** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Over the past 2 weeks, rates of new COVID-19 diagnoses in Addison and Balch Springs have been about 50% higher than county-wide

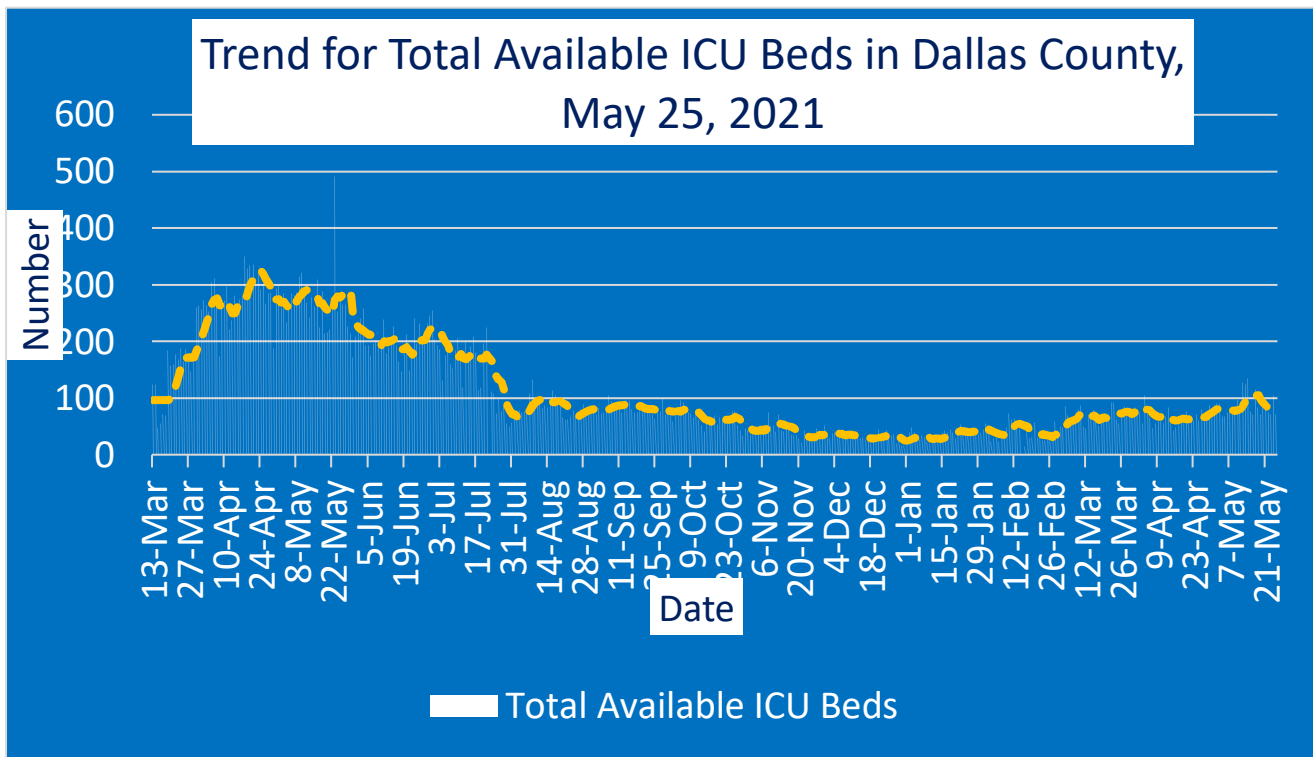
case rates. Rates of new COVID-19 diagnoses in Cedar Hill, Coppell, and Mesquite have been about 30% higher than county-wide case rates. Of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals in week 19 (week ending 5/15/21), **6.2%** of respiratory specimens tested positive SARS-CoV-2.

During the past 30 days, there were 1,013 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 362 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. During the months of April and May, 20% of all COVID-19 cases diagnosed in Dallas County were in children under the age of 18 years—the highest proportion in this age group since the beginning of the pandemic. To date, 67 children have been hospitalized with diagnoses of multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C), a rare but serious complication associated with COVID-19 infection. In Dallas County, 571 cases of COVID-19 breakthrough COVID-19 infections in fully vaccinated individuals have been confirmed to date, of which 95 were hospitalized, and 10 have died.

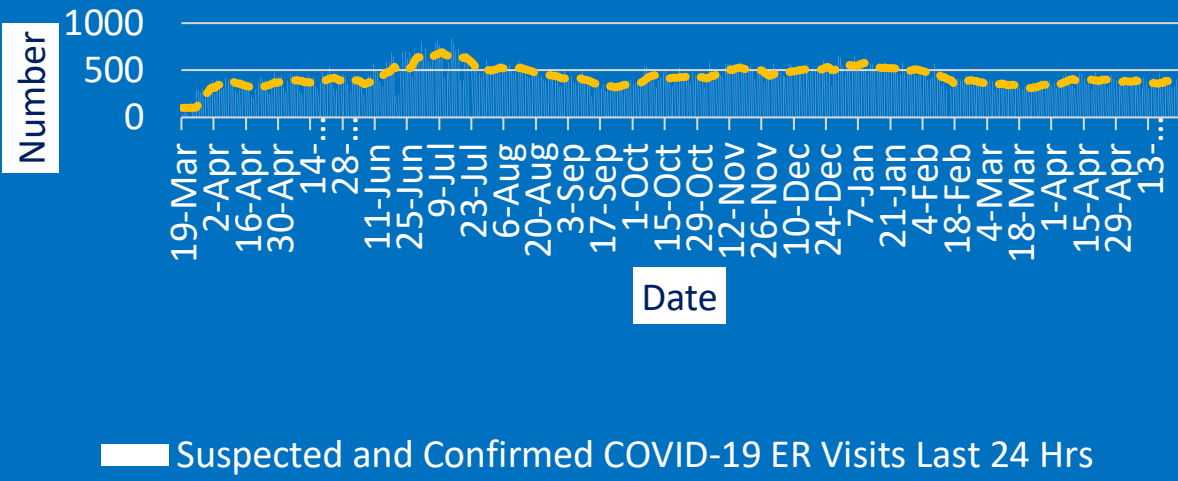
There are currently 22 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,381 residents and 2,473 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,105 have been hospitalized and 792 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Eight 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 635 residents and 223 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>.

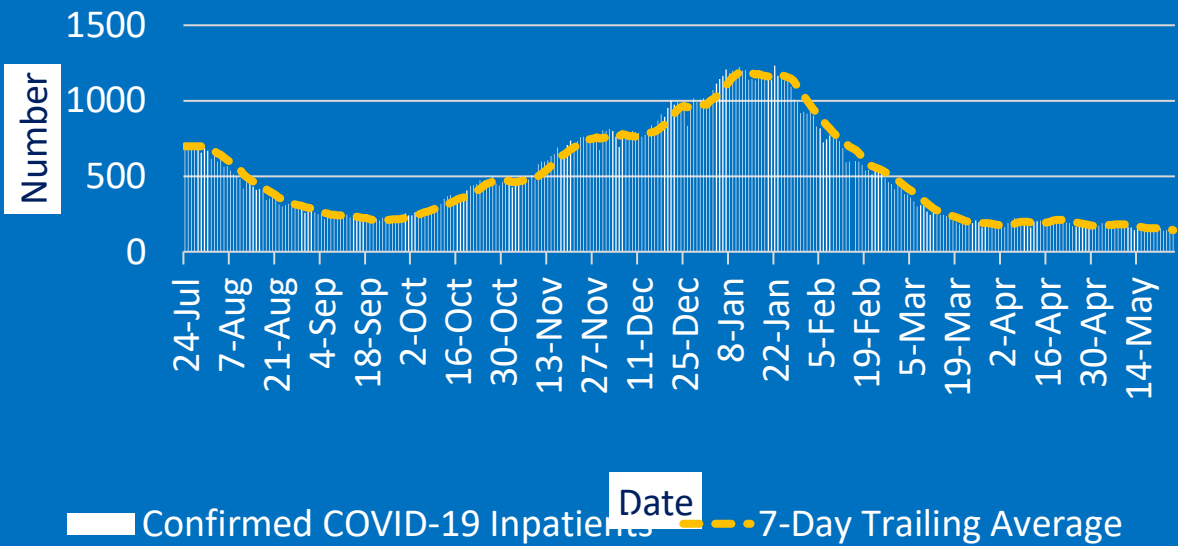
Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators as part of determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. The most recent COVID-19 hospitalization data for Dallas County, as reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council, can be found at www.dallascounty.org/covid-19 under “Monitoring Data,” and is updated regularly. This data includes information on the total available ICU beds, suspected and confirmed COVID-19 ER visits in the last 24 hours, confirmed COVID-19 inpatients, and COVID-19 deaths by actual date of death. The most recent forecasting from UTSW can be found [here](#).

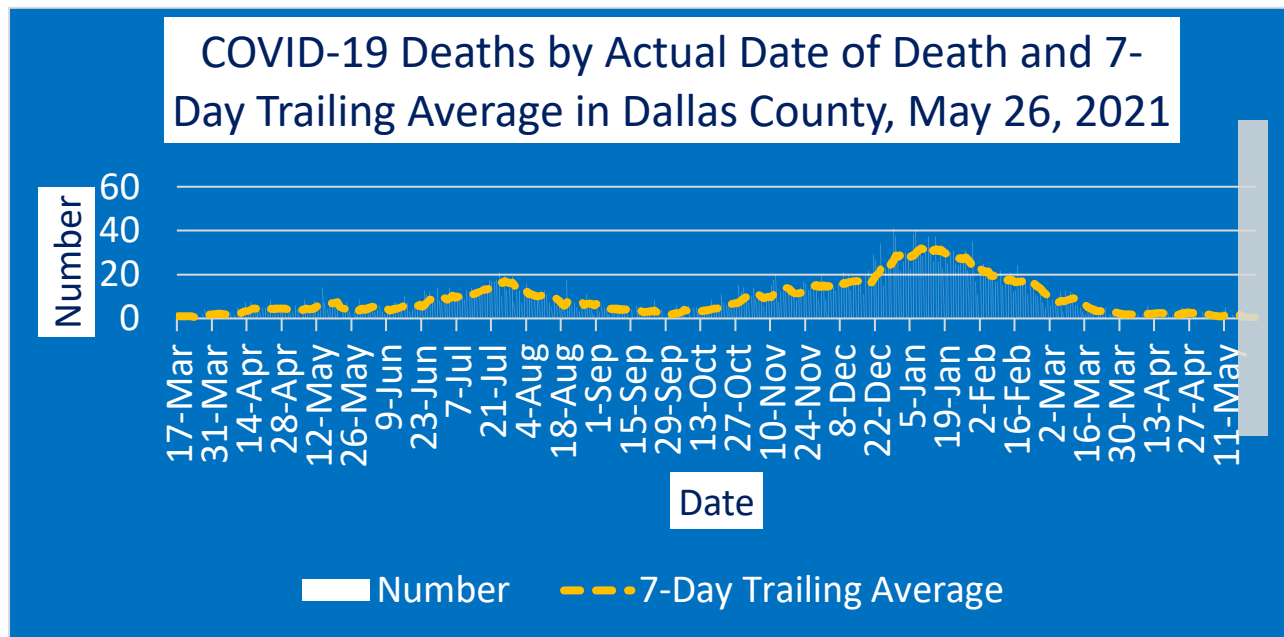


Trend for Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 ER Visits in the Last 24 Hours in Dallas County, May 25, 2021



Confirmed COVID-19 Inpatients in Dallas County, May 25, 2021





“Today we report an additional 145 new cases of COVID-19 and eight additional deaths. The numbers continue to improve but when you look at them closely, it's really a tale of two cities, the city of the vaccinated and the city that has not been vaccinated. In our region today, 300 people are fighting COVID-19 in the hospital, 140 of those hospitalized individuals were right here in Dallas County.

COVID-19 continues to exact a hard toll on the unvaccinated. If you are unvaccinated, the safest thing to do for yourself and those you care about is to become vaccinated. But if you're unable or unwilling to do so, it's very important that you continue doing the things the CDC instructed us to do throughout this pandemic: wear your mask, maintain six-foot distance, avoid crowds, and wash your hands frequently. Based on the science, the CDC now says it's safe for vaccinated people to be in crowds of any size without a mask, however, it hasn't changed its position on the risk to unvaccinated people. If you've been vaccinated, please take the time to talk to your friends and really listen to their concerns and those you over whom you have influence.

There are people out there who value greatly your opinion. Really listen to their concerns and give them the facts on vaccine, which can be at [dallascounty.org](https://www.dallascounty.org) or [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Hopefully if we all work together, we can avoid the heartache of families in the hospital and people losing their lives from what is now a preventable illness,” 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)

###