

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 15, 2021

Dallas County Reports Total of 285 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 3 Deaths, Including 71 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm July 15, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 285 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 214 confirmed cases and 71 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 265,059 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 44,179 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 4,157 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 496,000 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 will end at Fair Park on Saturday, July 17.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. She expired at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Balch Springs. He expired in a facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 90's who was a resident of the City of Sunnyvale. He expired in a facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.

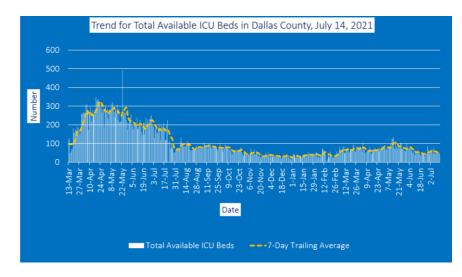
To date, a total of 175 cases with SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern have been identified in residents of Dallas County, including: 139 cases of B.1.1.7 (Alpha) variants; three B.1.351 (Beta) variants; sixteen B.1.617.2 (Delta) variants; and seventeen P.1 (Gamma) variants. Nineteen have been hospitalized and three 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 26 (week ending 7/3/21), was **125**, which is a rate of **4.7** daily new cases per 100,000 residents. Over the past 2 weeks, rates of new COVID-19 diagnoses in the cities of Addison, Lancaster, Sachse and Seagoville have been about 50% higher than county-wide case rates. Rates of new COVID-19 diagnoses in the city of Cedar Hill, Garland and Rowlett have been about 30% higher than county-wide case rates.

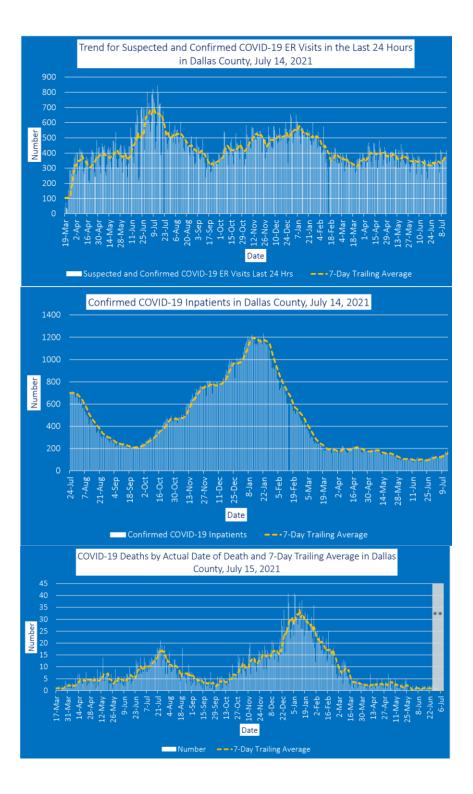
As of the week ending 7/3/2021, about 58% of Dallas County residents age 12 years and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, including: 84% of residents age 65 years and older; 65% of residents between 40-64 years of age; 52% of residents 25-39 years of age; 41% of residents 18-24 years of age; and 28% of residents 12-17 years of age. In the cities of Coppell and Sunnyvale, greater than 87% of residents 18 years of age and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. In the cities of Addison and Highland Park, about 78% of residents 18 years of age and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. (*See below*). About 86% of COVID-19 cases diagnosed in Week 25 were Dallas County residents who were not fully vaccinated. In Dallas County, 1,105 cases of COVID-19 breakthrough COVID-19 infections in fully vaccinated individuals have been confirmed to date, of which 93 (8%) were hospitalized and 14 have died due to COVID-19.

An outbreak of 3 cases of COVID-19 has been reported involving three children between 7-10 years of age, attending a day camp in Dallas County. To date, 68 children have been hospitalized with diagnoses of multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C), a rare but serious complication associated with COVID-19 infection. Of all Dallas County residents tested for COVID-19 by PCR during the week ending 7/3/21 (CDC week 26), **5.3%** of respiratory specimens tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. For week 26, area hospital labs have continued to report elevated numbers and proportions of respiratory specimens that are positive for other respiratory viruses by molecular tests: parainfluenza (10%), rhinovirus/enterovirus (24%) and RSV (29%).

There are currently 6 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,406 residents and 2,483 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,128 have been hospitalized and 811 have died. About 20% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. One outbreak of COVID-19 in a congregate-living facility (e.g. homeless shelters, group homes, and halfway homes) has been reported in the past 30 days. A cumulative total of 640 residents and 225 staff members in congregate-living facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more detailed data dashboards and summary reports updated on 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 <u>www.dallascounty.org/covid-19</u> 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 <u>here</u>.





Number and Percentage of Residents ≥18 Years Vaccinated for COVID-19 by City, Dallas County

City	Population of City ≥18 years of age ²	Cumulative Residents ≥18 Years who Received≥1 Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine ¹	Percent of Residents ≥18 Years Vaccinated with at Least 1 Dose ³	Cumulative Residents ≥18 Years Fully Vaccinated ⁴	Percent of Residents ≥18 Years Fully Vaccinated ^{3,4}
Addison	13,061	10,209	78%	7,771	60%
Balch Springs	16,590	8,409	51%	6,267	38%
Carrollton	105,102	24,436	N/A	18,521	N/A
Cedar Hill	34,268	20,580	60%	16,022	47%
Cockrell Hill	2,995	1,379	46%	1,087	36%
Coppell	30,387	26,556	87%	21,304	70%
Dallas	997,547	554,748	56%	423,112	42%
Desoto	38,930	24,148	62%	18,375	47%
Duncanville	28,841	16,676	58%	12,513	43%
Farmers Branch	30,624	20,461	67%	15,746	51%
Garland	173,595	110,940	64%	85,728	49%
Glenn Heights	8,975	493	N/A	374	N/A
Grand Prairie	138,103	51,214	N/A	37,485	N/A
Highland Park	6,789	5,382	79%	4,355	64%
Hutchins	4,423	2,098	47%	1,488	34%
Irving	175,226	123,131	70%	91,956	53%
Lancaster	26,977	15,218	56%	11,505	43%
Mesquite	101,641	56,656	56%	43,043	42%
Richardson	90,645	42,012	N/A	33,007	N/A
Rowlett	47,915	27,024	56%	21,370	45%
Sachse	19,007	8,613	N/A	6,833	N/A
Seagoville	11,828	5,683	48%	4,244	36%
Sunnyvale	4,699	4,191	89%	3,416	73%
University Park	18,073	12,582	70%	10,067	56%
Wilmer	3,178	1,529	48%	1,106	35%
ountywide Total ⁵	1,940,671	1,174,827	61%	897,680	46%

¹Does not include vaccinated persons who reside in portions of these cities which are not within Dallas County.

²U.S. Census 2019 estimates of populations of city residents 18 years and older, inclusive of portions of cities located outside of Dallas County. ³Not Available (N/A): vaccine coverage not calculated for cities in which >20% of the city population resides outside of Dallas County. ⁴Fully vaccinated = persons who have received 2 doses of mRNA vaccines or 1 dose of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. ⁵Includes only residents with Dallas County--does not include persons who reside in portions of these cities which are not within Dallas County.

"Today our number of COVID positive cases has increased to 285 cases and we report three additional deaths. The cause for the increasing numbers is due to the Delta variant and unvaccinated people. Current cases of COVID do not give you protection against the Delta variant. However, the vaccines provide excellent protection against all variants and have been proven to be safe and effective for everyone 12 and older. It's important that those of us who can be vaccinated get vaccinated to protect children under age 12 who cannot be vaccinated and to protect our oldest residents. While our oldest residents may be vaccinated, the vaccine may not be as effective due to underlying conditions or age and therefore they need your help to protect them from the virus. We're all in this together and we're stronger when we stand together. Don't delay, get vaccinated today," 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: <u>Employer/Employee Guidance</u>
- 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:

- If you're unvaccinated, avoid close contact outside your home and 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: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u>
- CDC Travel Information: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html</u>
- DSHS: <u>https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/</u>
- DCHHS: <u>https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php</u>

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