

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 22, 2022

Dallas County Reports a Three-Day Total of 711 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 5 Deaths, Including 203 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 12:00 pm March 22, 2022 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 711 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 508 confirmed cases and 203 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 474, 349 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 101,958 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 6,177 Dallas County residents have lost their lives due to COVID-19 illness. Today's press release includes the numbers of new cases from Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) provided more than 500,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which operated January 11 through July 17. A vaccination clinic is open at the Dallas College Eastfield Campus Location on Thursdays – Saturdays from 9am-6pm. A weekly pop-up vaccination clinic will also take place at Fair Park on Tuesdays from 12:30pm-6pm and on Sundays, from 10am – 4pm.

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 was found deceased at home and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Grand Prairie. He was found deceased at home 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 Dallas. He expired in hospice 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 Garland. She had been hospitalized and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.

To date, a total of 1,830 cases with SARS-CoV-2 variants have been identified and investigated in residents of Dallas County, including: 162 cases of B.1.1.7 (Alpha); 4 cases of B.1.351 (Beta); 1,440 cases of B.1.617.2 (Delta); 14 cases of B.1.427 (Epsilon); 20 cases of P.1 (Gamma); 9 cases of B.1.526 (Iota); 4 case of C.37 (Lambda); 2 cases of B.1.621 (Mu); 174 cases of B.1.1.529 (Omicron); and 1 case of P.2 (Zeta). Three hundred and twenty-two cases have been hospitalized and 47 have died. Thirty COVID-19 variant cases were reinfections. Four hundred and seventy-nine people were considered fully vaccinated before infection with a COVID-19 variant.

As of 3/11/2022, a total of **585** confirmed and probable cases were reported in CDC week 9 (week ending 3/5/22), which is a weekly rate of **22.2** new cases per 100,000 residents.

As of the week ending 3/5/2022, about 81% of Dallas County residents age 12 years and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, including: 98% of residents age 65 years and older; 86% of residents between 40-64 years of age; 78% of residents 25-39 years of age; 67% of residents 18-24 years of age; and 62% of residents 12-17 years of age. In the cities of Addison, Coppell, Highland Park, Irving, and Sunnyvale, greater than 92% of residents 18 years of age and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19

vaccine. In the cities of Cedar Hill, Desoto, Farmers Branch, Garland, Lancaster, and University Park, greater than 80% of residents 18 years of age and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

Of all Dallas County residents tested for COVID-19 by PCR during the week ending 3/5/2022 (CDC week 9), **3.9%** of respiratory specimens tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. For week 9, 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 (2.41%), rhinovirus/enterovirus (37.29%) and RSV (2.5%).

There are currently 41 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 6,402 residents and 4,317 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,310 have been hospitalized and 888 have died. About 16% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities.

There have been 4 outbreaks of COVID-19 in a congregate-living facility (e.g. homeless shelters, group homes, and halfway homes) reported within the past 30 days. A cumulative total of 840 residents and 295 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 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. The most recent COVID-19 Data Summaries for Dallas County, TX can be found at the bottom of this page.

"Our numbers continue to go in the right direction. And the threat of COVID has lessened from peaks seen in the Delta and Omicron surges. But that the risk is not so small those who are eligible for a booster or a vaccine should not take advantage of that. People who are immunocompromised or live with someone who's immunocompromised will still want to consider crowd size, distance, and masking to keep themselves or their loved ones safe. Of course, anyone who feels like wearing a mask in any setting should be free and encouraged to do so. It's up to all of us to do what we can to have our best outcome against COVID and to prepare to lessen the effect of any future surges. We do that by getting vaccinated and boosted, and showing grace and understanding to one another. Find a vaccine location near you at vaccines.gov," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

All Dallas County COVID-19 Updates and Information can be found here:

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

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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