



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2021

Dallas County Reports 455 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases and 8 Deaths, Including 84 Probable Cases

DALLAS -- As of 2:00 pm May 3, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 455 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 371 confirmed cases and 84 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 257,895 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 41,516 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 3,908 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 437,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Fair Park mega-vaccine clinic, which started operations on Monday, January 11. According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, as of May 2, 60.58% of individuals 65 and older are fully vaccinated in Dallas County. Vaccine operations for both first and second doses at Fair Park resumed today and will continue through Saturday.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. 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 Mesquite. He had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60'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 woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas. 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 Dallas. 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 Richardson. She 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 Irving. She expired in the facility and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been hospitalized and had underlying high risk health conditions.

To date, a total of 58 cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7; six B.1.429 variants; one B.1.526 variant, one P.1 variant, and one P.2 variant have been identified in residents of Dallas County. Four have been hospitalized with 2 requiring intensive care unit admission. 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 **199**, which is a rate of **7.6** 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 1,065 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 381 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County. Of the cases reported over the past month, 93 have been associated with youth sports. There are currently 27 active long-term care facility outbreaks. A cumulative total of 4,358 residents and 2,452 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 1,078 have been hospitalized and 766 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 in determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. Due to weekend reporting, new data will be available on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

“Today we report a two-day total of 455 new COVID-19 diagnoses and eight additional deaths. As we begin the week of Mother’s Day, I want to encourage everyone looking for that special gift for their mother to give her the additional gift of being vaccinated so that your mom knows that you are protected and have done your patriotic part to protect not only yourself but our community and our country. Moms, I hope that as people get together for Mother’s Day, you will encourage everyone in the family to get vaccinated and get protected.

It’s up to all of us to get vaccinated. Each vaccination makes all of us a little safer and a little closer to more freedom. Vaccination rates have slowed but new people are getting vaccinated every day. Today at Fair Park, we’ll vaccinate over 7,000 people. Many of those will be second shots but there will be significant first shots as well.

Currently, 48.8 percent of eligible residents in Dallas County have received at least one dose. There is no reason to wait to get the vaccine. There are many locations, including Fair Park, that are open with or without an appointment to get your shot. Remember that it’s also still important for the vaccinated and unvaccinated to do the extra things to stay safe. Wear your mask when in indoors crowds with people who may not be fully vaccinated. Maintain six-foot distance when exercising outdoors around those who may be unvaccinated. Wash your hands frequently, and whenever possible, choose the safer options like patio dining and curbside pickup.

Our average number of daily new cases has gone down for the last several weeks, and for this to continue, we must continue getting more people vaccinated and continue using the precautions that CDC recommends. CDC’s suggested precautions have loosened to allow more freedom over the last few weeks but it’s still important to follow those loosened precautions to give us the best chance of defeating 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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