COVID-19 Pandemic Updates - April 6, 2021

COMMUNITY RISK LEVEL: Moderate	Prior Reporting Period (as of 3/30/21)	Current Reporting Period (as of 4/6/21)
Total Confirmed Cases	54,738	55,324
Deaths in FBC	576	587
Case Fatality Rate	1.3%	1.06%
Test % Positive Rate: NOTE: Testing for the week of 3 22–27 in Fort Bend County was too low to generate a reliable test positivity for comparison. Please be advised that hospitals reporting to Fort Bend County had an average test positivity rate of **6.5%** **Goal is to sustain a rate of <5% for at least 14 days*		
SETRAC / FBC Hospital Data (Current as of 4/6/2021)		
FBC General Bed Usage	63	60
FBC ICU Bed Usage	15	17
% FBC ICU bed occupied by COVID+ Pts	14.4%	15.3%
TMC Data (Current as of 4/6/2021)		
Effective Reproduction Rate R(t)** ***R(t) >1: indicates increasing viral transmission* *R(t) <1: indicates viral transmission is slowing down*	1.03	0.9%
TMC % Positive Rate	4.6%	4.8%
% TMC ICU beds occupied by COVID+ Pts	14%	16%
TMC ICU Capacity (non-pandemic, Phase 1)	100%	99%
TMC ICU Capacity (combined, Phase 1&2)	79%	---

Assessment/Comments

1. COVID-19 cases continue to decline and hospitalizations appear to be declining, both statewide and locally.
2. Current concerns:
   - Four of the COVID-19 variant strains/mutations have already been identified in the Houston area
   - Many schools just finished their Spring Break, and we really won't know the full impact with respect to COVID-19 cases for about 1-2 weeks from now

3. Currently, we have 3 vaccines approved to provide protection from SARS–CoV–2, and more than likely the variants
4. All adults will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine in Texas beginning Monday, March 29
5. Our goal is to reach a minimum heard immunity of 70%. So until then, we should continue with the same negation strategies and precautions that have been shown to have slowed the spread of the original virus-the 3W's (**W**ashing hands, **W**earing a properly fitted mask, **W**atching physical distancing)

Vaccination Updates:

Record 2.5 Million Doses Coming to Texas: Another 1,094,920 first doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be delivered to 2,011 facilities across Texas this week, along with more than 900,000 doses to be delivered directly from the federal government to pharmacies and federally qualified health centers, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) said. The state also has ordered 626,290 doses intended as the second dose. Read more information

25% of Americans Are Now Fully Vaccinated, 40% Have Received 1 Dose

In the United States, 25% of the population is now fully vaccinated, and 40% have received at least 1 dose. Over the weekend, the country broke its own records, administering 3.37 million doses of vaccines on Sunday, making it the fourth consecutive day where at least 3 million shots were given out. President Biden has asked all states to drop restrictions and make vaccines available to all by May.

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine is 91% Effective at 6 Months

In new data presenting 927 confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 cases through March 13, investigators reported BNT162b2 was associated with a 91.3% efficacy against COVID-19, when gauged as cases 7 days to 6 months after the second vaccine dose.

Pfizer Reports 100% Efficacy in Adolescents Given COVID-19 Vaccine

Pfizer has reported topline results of a pivotal phase 3 trial showing 100% vaccine efficacy with BNT162b2 in the prevention of Covid-19 among adolescents aged 12-15 years old.

B.1.1.7 in US (CDC)

- B.1.17 variant of SARS-CoV-2, first detected in the U.K., now accounts for 20% to 30% of SARS-CoV-2 infections in the U.S. The variant is about 50% more transmissible than older strains of the virus, and evidence suggests it is associated with increase in mortality.

- But the current authorized vaccines appear to be just effective and may be even effective in the prevention of asymptomatic disease. Hopefully with the increased production, distribution and allocation of our current vaccines, this may not prove to be a major problem.

Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People

Updated Apr. 2, 2021

- **Definition:** People are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥2 weeks after they have received the 2nd dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna), or ≥2 week after they have received a single-dose vaccine (J&J/Janssen)
- Fully vaccinated people can resume domestic travel and do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- Fully vaccinated people do not need to get tested before leaving the United States (unless required by the destination) or self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States.

Fully vaccinated people can:

- Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Visit with unvaccinated people from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Refrain from quarantine and testing following a known exposure if asymptomatic
- Resume domestic travel and refrain from testing before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- Refrain from testing before leaving the United States for international travel (unless required by the destination) and refrain from self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States.

Fully vaccinated people should continue to (for now):

- Take precautions in public like wearing a well-fitted mask and physical distancing
- Wear masks, practice physical distancing, and adhere to other prevention measures when visiting with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease or who have an unvaccinated household member who is at increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease
- Wear masks, maintain physical distance, and practice other prevention measures when visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households
- Avoid medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings
- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Follow guidance issued by individual employers
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations

Domestic travel (within the United States or to a U.S. territory)

- Fully vaccinated travelers do not need to get a SARS-CoV-2 viral test before or after domestic travel, unless testing is required by local, state, or territorial health authorities.
- Fully vaccinated travelers do not need to self-quarantine following domestic travel.
- Note: People who are not fully vaccinated should receive a COVID-19 test 1 to 3 days before traveling within the U.S., as well as 3 to 5 days after traveling. They should also continue to self-quarantine for 7 days after travel, or 10 days if they choose to not receive a COVID-19 test after returning.

International travel

- Fully vaccinated travelers do not need to get tested before leaving the United States unless required by their destination.
- Fully vaccinated air travelers coming to the United States from abroad, including U.S. citizens, are still required to have a negative SARS-CoV-2 viral test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before they board a flight to the United States.
- International travelers arriving in the United States are still recommended to get a SARS-CoV-2 viral test 3-5 days after travel regardless of vaccination status.
- Fully vaccinated travelers do not need to self-quarantine in the United States following international travel.