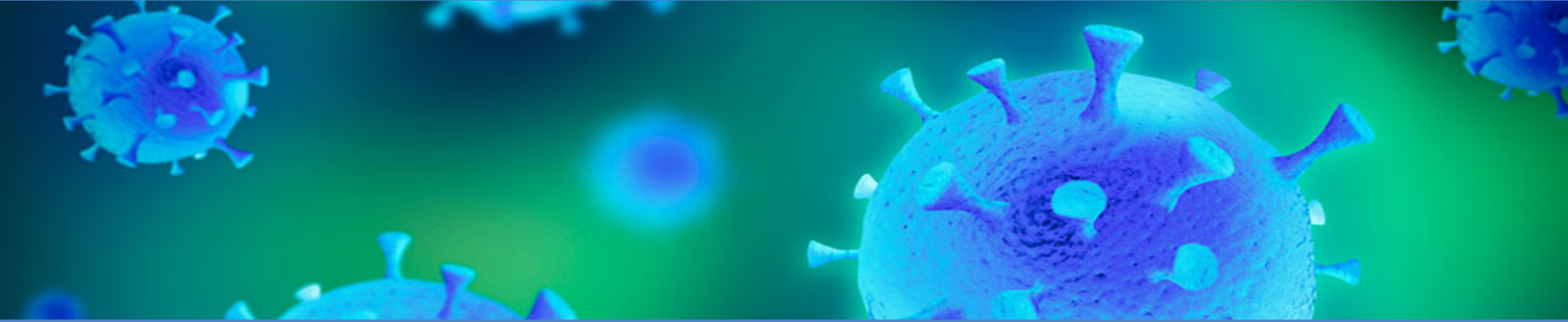


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM
Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH
January 22, 2021


Technology Notes

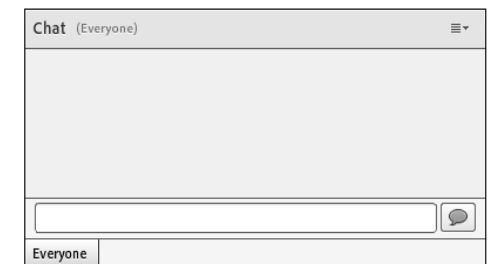
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

Call in number – 1-866-814-9555

Participant Code – 6266787790

Presenters: Please avoid the use of speakerphone and make sure your computer speaker is muted if you dialed in via phone.

- 3) To ask or respond to a question using the **Chat** box, type your question and click the  icon or press Enter to send.



Overview

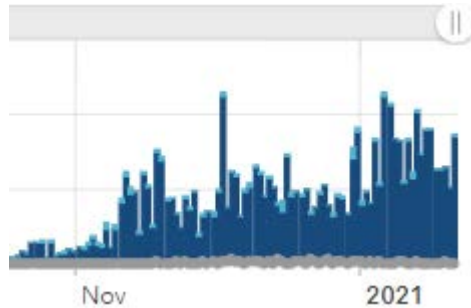
- Celebrating Amanda Gorman, U.S. Youth Poet Laureate – *The Hill We Climb*
 - Also: *National Come in from the Cold Day* – celebrating 2nd-grade teacher Jen Ellis, Essex Junction, VT
- *Reminder* – weekly event schedule:
 - VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W/F; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine Thursday.
 - ***This week:* calls on Monday & Friday only; (NO call Wed., January 20 – Inauguration Day)**
- Situation, VDH, vaccine updates; Friday media briefing
- Practice Issues: Welcoming **Dr. Katrina Ducis**, Ped. Nsurg
- Q & A/Discussion

[Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we're providing today may change quickly]



Situation update

New Cases
174
10,759 Total
Currently Hospitalized
43
Hospitalized In ICU
5
Hospitalized Under Investigation
3
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.
2.5%
People Tested
292,819
Total Tests
834,067
Recovered
7,177
66.7% of Cases
Deaths
169
1.6% of Cases
Travelers Monitored
185
Contacts Monitored
262
People Completed Monitoring
12,396
Last Updated: 1/22/2021, 10:53:18 AM

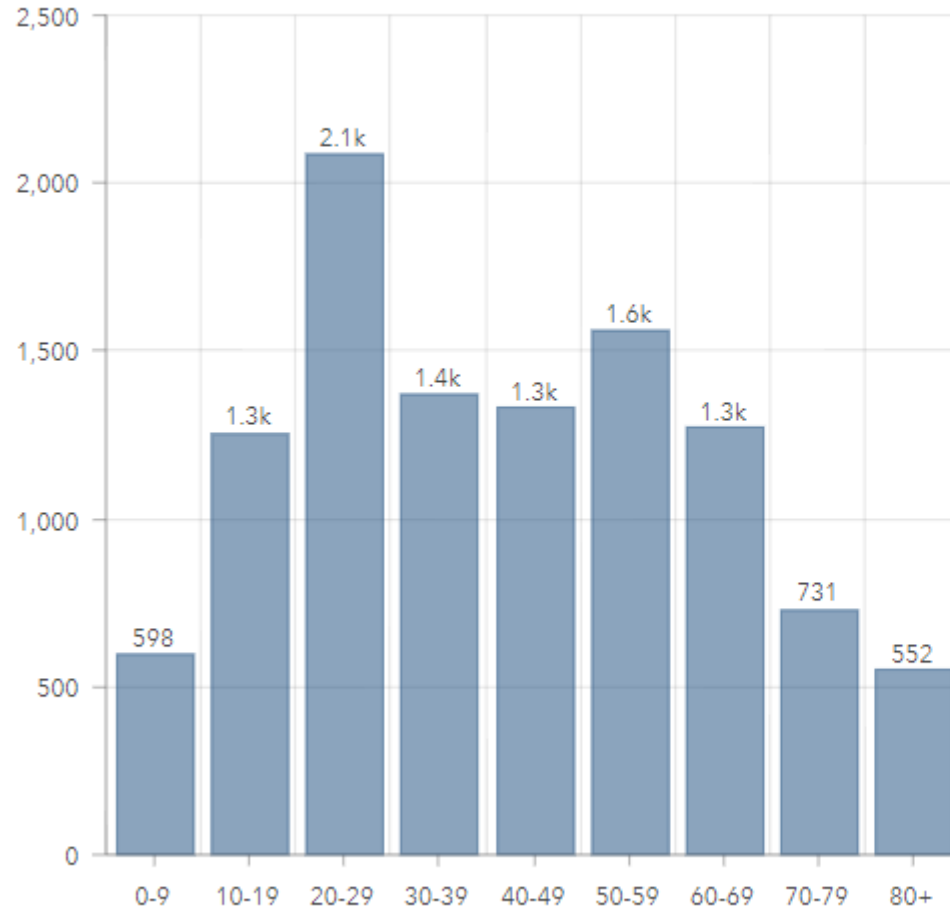


VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

- U.S. 24.6 million+ cases; **410,336 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 1/22/21)
 - 1/17/21: **190,630 new cases; 4,142 d.; 119,927 hosp.**
 - Past week: average 188,110 cases/day (decrease of 21% from average 2 weeks earlier)
 - **2 million+ deaths worldwide** (97.6 million+ cases)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary(1/22/21)**
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Weekly-Data-Summary-1-22-2021.pdf>
 - **Weekly Spotlight Topic:** COVID-19 in Vermont K-12 Schools: # in school while infectious; outbreaks
- Find previous summaries at:
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

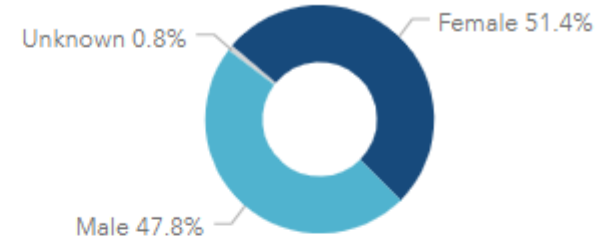
Situation update

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

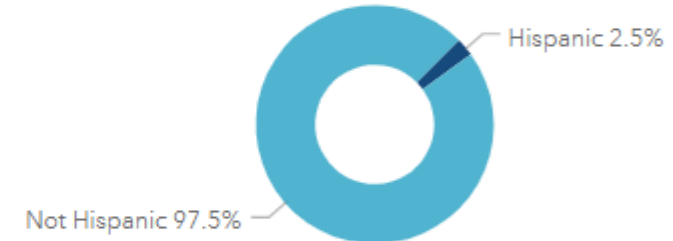


Case Demographics

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



COVID-19 Cases in VT K-12 Learning Communities (While Infectious)

□ COVID-19 Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

- ▣ <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf>
- ▣ Table updated **Tuesday & Friday** w/data through previous Sunday & Wednesday.

January 20, 2021

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	46	373

January 13, 2021

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	45	325

□ VT College & University dashboards:

- ▣ Returning to campus this week: <https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening>

▣ UVM

	Received 01/11/21–01/17/21		Cumulative Totals Since 11/25/20	
Population	Test Results Received	Number Tested Positive*	Test Results Received	Number Tested Positive*
Off-Campus Students	2303	32	13987	82
On-Campus Residential Students	50	2	947	5

Weekly Spotlight: COVID-19 in Vermont K-12 Schools

This section focuses on how K-12 schools are being impacted by COVID-19 by looking at the number of:

- people with COVID-19 who were at school while infectious
- outbreaks in schools

People with COVID-19 in School while Infectious

356

people with COVID-19 were on school grounds or at a school-sanctioned event while infectious.

173

K-12 schools have had people with COVID-19 in the school or at a school-sanctioned event while infectious.

Someone who was at school while infectious means there were opportunities for the virus to spread to others in school. [Read more about the infectious period.](#)

For twice weekly updates, see the [COVID-19 in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities](#) report.

Outbreaks in Schools



There have been **25** outbreaks impacting **22** K-12 schools.



This includes a total of **84** cases.



On average, there are **3** cases per school outbreak.

What is an outbreak in a school?

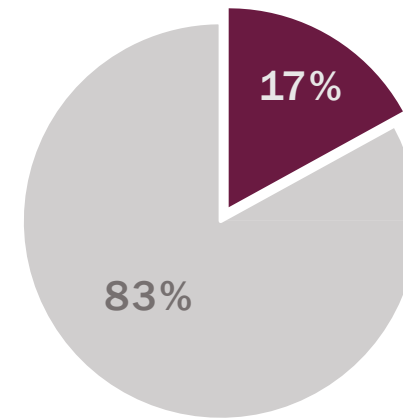
An outbreak is when there are two or more COVID-19 cases among children/students or teachers/staff with known connections in the educational setting, and the cases:

- have an illness start date or a positive test collection date within 14 days, and
- do not live together or have close contact with each other in another setting, and
- there is no other more likely source of exposure.

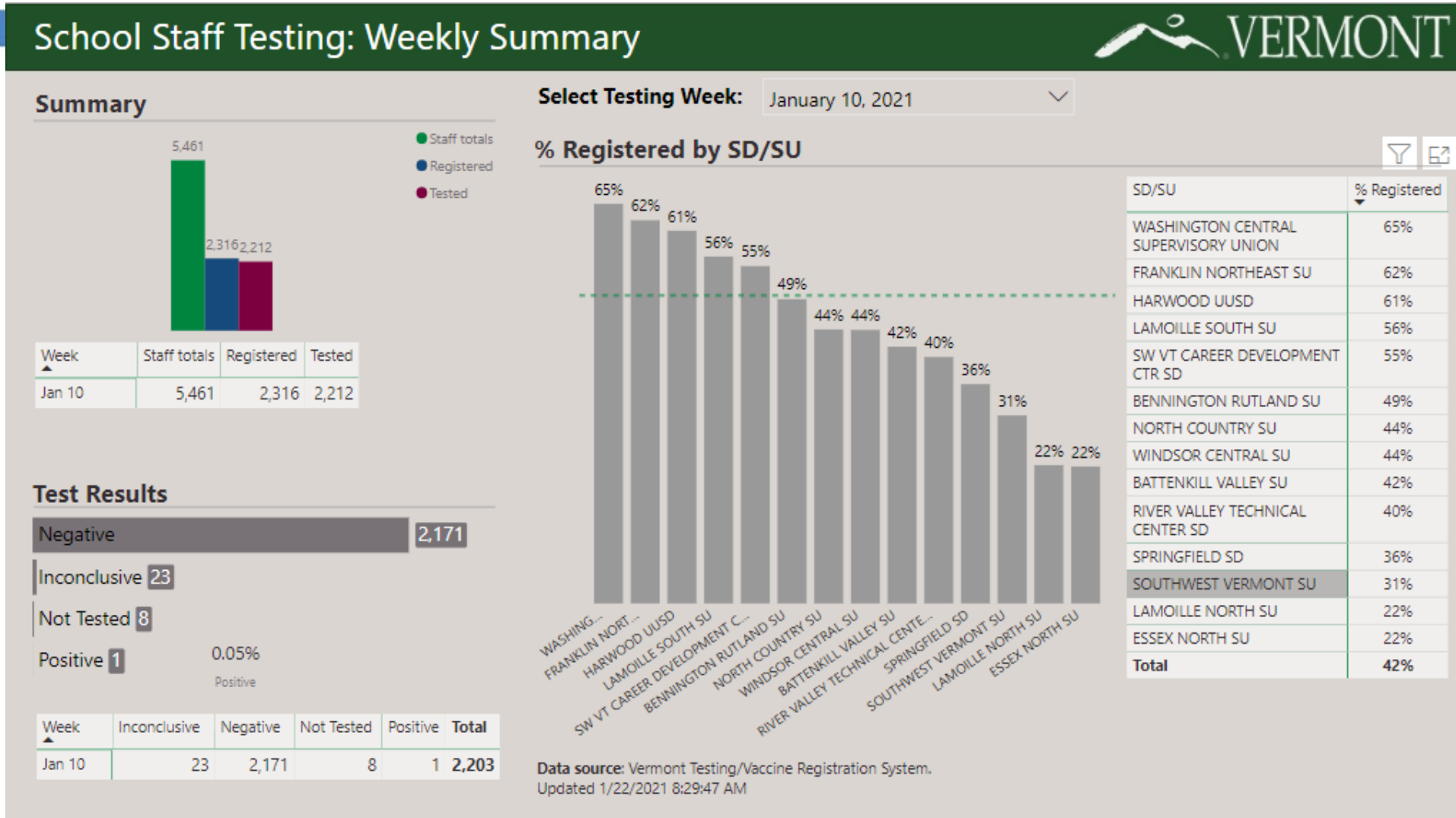
How much school-based transmission is occurring?

- Outbreaks indicate that transmission is occurring within schools.
- School-based transmission is occurring in a limited capacity, since outbreaks at K-12 schools are usually small.
- However, most people with COVID-19 who were at school while infectious **do not spread the others while at school (83%).**

17% of cases present on school grounds or at a school sanctioned event were likely a result of **transmission in schools.**



Dashboards and More Dashboards! (from VT AOE)



VDH Updates: Testing

Testing capacity:

- ❑ Remains very robust: thousands of slots available! (CIC on-demand; pop-ups)
 - ▣ Same-day testing slots now posted all day.
- ❑ **NOTE:** VDH posted testing sites are intended for **asymptomatic** pts.; prefer symptomatic pts. to seek connection to PCP/medical home.
- ❑ CIC locations include:
 - ▣ Bennington, Berlin, Brattleboro Mem. Hosp, Burlington, Fairlee, Hardwick, Island Pond, Middlebury, Morrisville, N. Country Hosp, Northfield, Springfield, RRMC, St. J, Stratton, Waitsfield, Waterbury, Williamstown, Williston, Winooski
 - ▣ Days of the week/hours vary by site

❑ Pop-up locations listed: Burlington, Colchester, St. Albans, Williston

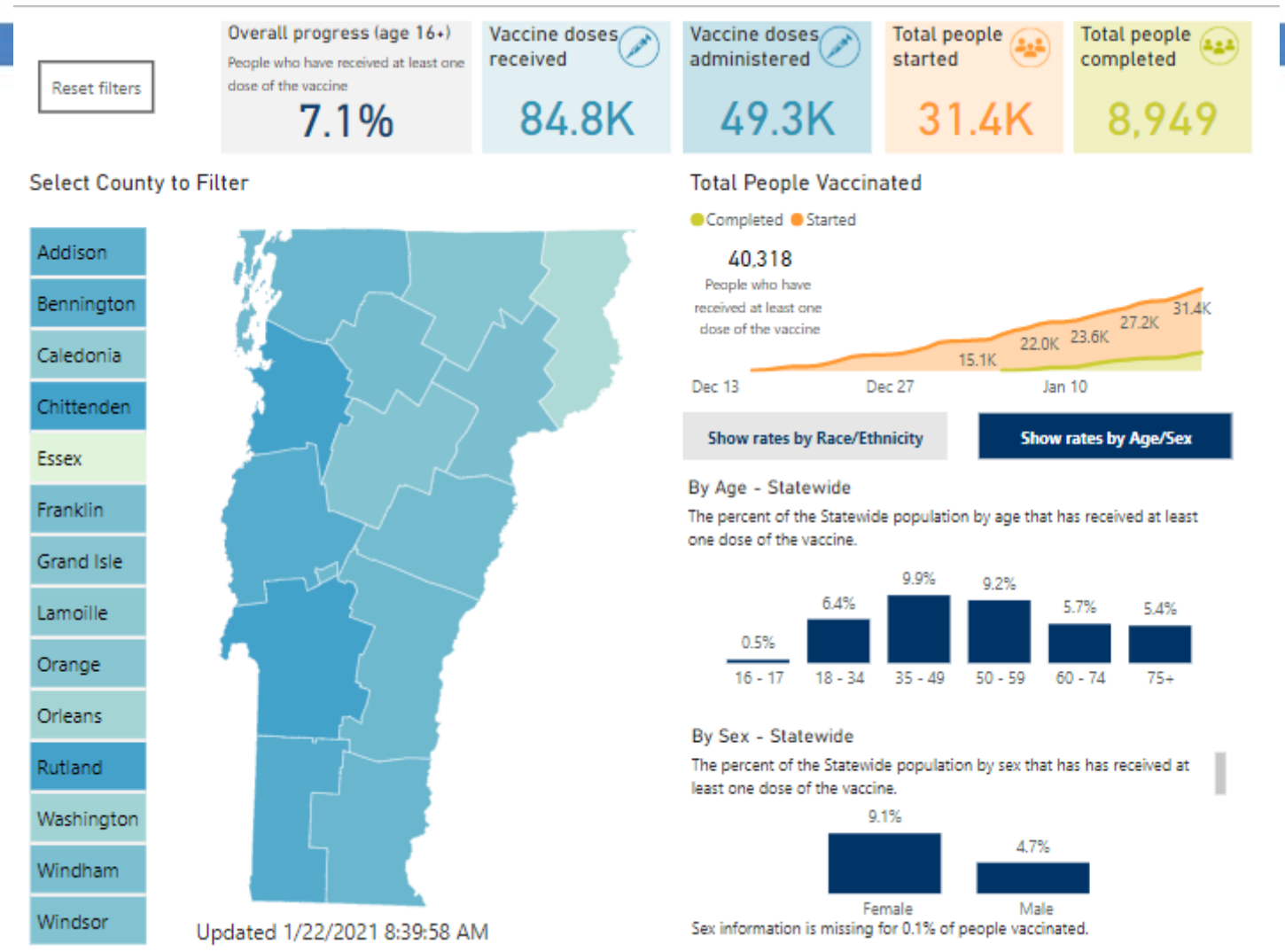
VDH Update: Testing (cont'd.)

VDH preferred protocol for obtaining COVID-19 results for patients tested at CIC on-demand or VDH pop-up sites:

- *Providers should first check VITL for any testing completed through Dr. Levine's orders – this will be the most expedient and immediate way to access results. If they do not have access to VITL, and cannot gain access to VITL, then the provider may contact:*
 - ahs.vdhoccovidresultsletters@vermont.gov – provide the name & DOB of their patient and the request for their results in order to help treat that patient.
- Many thanks to those who responded to our brief survey (1/15/21) which confirmed that many Vermont PCPs do not have access nor regularly use VITL, which adds a layer of complexity and administrative burden to office systems already stretched thin in the current context.

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

- Now updated Tues. thru Sat.
- Data = counts reported by end previous day; subject to change.
- Expect enhancements as more info available.
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>



(VT) Resources on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Thank you, Melissa Kaufold

- VPR/Vermont Edition (1/19/21): *Is Vermont Doing Enough to Address Racial Inequities in Its Vaccine Program?*
 - ▣ Guests: **Mohamed Abdullahi**, Somali refugee & interpreter (community health liaison w/Burlington's Trusted Community Voices program) & **Tracy Dolan**, VDH Deputy Commissioner
 - ▣ <https://www.vpr.org/post/vermont-doing-enough-address-racial-inequities-its-vaccine-program#stream/0>
- VT House and Senate training on implicit bias prevention (1/19/21)
 - ▣ Presented by **Bor Yang**, Exec. Director VT Human Rights Commission, and **Xusana Davis**, VT Executive Director of Racial Equity (focus on policymaking)
 - ▣ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxvaXDrHa44&feature=youtu.be>

Multilingual Resources

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3zjPpeFnXqvESr1y3d4DvQ>



Vermont Multilingual Coronavirus Task Force

157 subscribers

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ARABIC: Facts about the Covid-19 vaccine.

Vermont Multilingual Coronavi...
205 views • 5 days ago



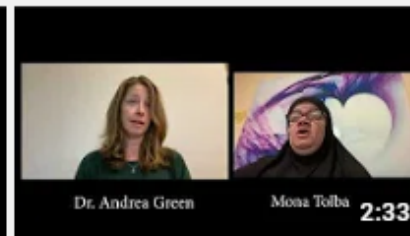
ARABIC: Self test for Covid-19. How to do it!

Vermont Multilingual Coronavi...
53 views • 1 month ago



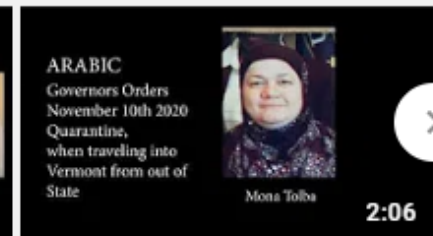
ARABIC: Free coronavirus testing in Winooski and...

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ARABIC: An important message from Dr Andrea...

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ARABIC: Governors orders re travel into Vermont from...

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BURMESE

▶ PLAY ALL

In Case You Missed It...



UVM/LCOM Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Event (presented 1/20/21)

- Offices of the President; VP for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Department of Student Life
 - ▣ Topic – ***Health Deficit: The Journey to Health Parity***
 - ▣ Keynote Speaker: **Leon McDougale, MD, MPH** – 1st African American Professor w/tenure, Ohio State University Department of Family Medicine; 1st Chief Diversity Officer for the OSU Wexner Medical Center; 121st President of the National Medical Association/NMA
- **We will share link as soon as recording available**



In Case You Missed It...

[Find slides, call recording at: https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates]

AAP-VT TASK FORCE ON RACE & HEALTH EQUITY

Rebecca Bell, MD, MPH
AAP-VT Chapter
1.18.21

Practice Issue: *Welcoming Dr. Katrina Ducis*

Pediatric Neurosurgery

University of Vermont Medical Center

Referrals:

Phone: 802-847-4590

Fax: 802-847-0654

Epic to EP4 PEDI NEUROSURGERY-please be sure to select "Authorization not required" for status

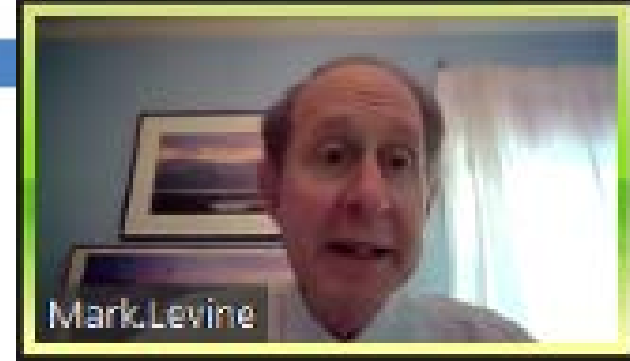


THE
University of Vermont
Children's Hospital

VDH Call with Commissioner Levine (1/21/21)

[Selected remarks/questions]

- Have not seen significant post-holiday case surge
 - Outbreak assoc. with Victory Baptist Church at 130 cases
- No known cases associated with bus to DC (1/6/21)
- Starting to watch data from returning college/univ. students
- May be “idealistic” to think all schools will be fully in person by spring
- Recent CDC guidance advises “cannot discriminate re: giving vaccine (e.g., if requested by out-of-state resident) – still processing.



Friday Media Briefing (1/22/21)

Governor Phil Scott (a different look today!)

- Quarantining (also: Levine, Smith, Schirling, Pieciak)
 - Close contacts of “contractor” at media briefing, 1/19/21
- Governor has tested negative once; will test again on day 7 (last exposure was Tuesday, 1/19/21)
- Today: describe Phase 2 vaccine rollout: 75+ yo (next week)
- Science clear; if more doses, could vaccinate broader group
- Prioritize saving lives; believe this will get us out of State of Emergency faster
- We want all to be vaccinated: if more supply available, will scale up quickly



Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)

AHS Secretary Mike Smith:

- Phase 2: first age band **only** 75+ yo; then move to 70+, then 65+, then people with certain conditions.
- “Moral obligation to take age-based approach first”
- When registration opens Monday (1/25/21), “will be enough slots for all in first age group to obtain appointment.”
- Everyone must have patience:
 - ▣ Appointment may not be immediate or day you would prefer – but **will** be w/in designated 5-week period for this age group.
 - ▣ When you make an appointment, please keep it – avoid delaying vaccine for others & vaccine wastage.



Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)

AHS Secretary Mike Smith:

- ❑ 54 sites in 39 towns – details will be final Monday, 1/25/21.
- ❑ From 1/27 – 3/2, appointments available in PODs, pharmacies, health care partner sites.
- ❑ Registration begins 1/25; appts. begin 1/27 – please register at site close to your home; sites are based on regional population in age grps.
- ❑ ***Will release web site & phone number on Monday morning.***
 - ▣ Available on VDH web site, social media, news releases.
- ❑ Please go online to register if able; call-in option w/~400 operators.
- ❑ Don't call anywhere else! VDH web site: materials, video, FAQs, tips



Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



- At registration: name, DOB, address, phone, email if available
- Verify residency in Vermont.
- ***If not 75+ yo, do not register.***
 - ▣ If spouse/partner also 75+ yo, each must register separately
- Series of health questions impt. for vaccination process.
- Insurance info if avail. – but not required for registration.
- Select vaccine clinic site – nearest to home and date/time from menu of options.
- Will receive ***verification letter*** sent to email.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)

AHS Secretary Mike Smith – what to expect at sites:

- Upon arrival: provide name & DOB; sign consent
- Vaccine administered
- Remain at site for ~15 minutes (30 mins. if h/o certain allergies)
- 2nd/follow-up appt. will be scheduled before leaving.
- **Cannot accommodate walk-ins.**
- Equity team working w/key partners to support BIPOC populations.
- Separate logistics (EMS, HHA) for homebound.
- ***“Please respect the rules”***



Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- Case counts continue to fluctuate. Recent average only 10% cases associated w/outbreaks; >50% had contact w/known case; only 1 in 4 have unknown source of exposure
- Outbreaks w/o as great impact as in Oct.
- 52 outbreaks: 21 in LTCFs/senior living; 19 workplaces; 5 in schools.
- Of 6 more deaths, all older Vermonters – half in LTCFs, half at home/hosp.
- Watching returning college students data; already impacting student athletes.
- **Vaccine uptake in Group 1a:** Bi-State/FQHCs, 70-92% HC staff received vaccine. Surveys of hospitals/calls w/CEOs indicate similar rates (only 1 65%; several 90-92%). LTCFs: “astounding” 92% of residents; staff at 60%.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine: “My Quarantine Experience”

- Thank-you for well wishes – I’m doing what we’ve asked every Vermonter to do when potentially exposed
- Our exposure clearly fit definition worthy of quarantine.
- VDH MMWR publication (re: VT Corrections experience: informed CDC guidance revision to incorporate cumulative exposure into the equation)
- I had opportunity to d/w very patient/professional contact tracer & received great/practical guidance, responses to all questions, reference materials.
- Had to rethink daily patterns of life; mask-wearing at home to limit exposure
- Continuity of State of Vermont business: all working remotely effectively
- Can’t wait to test VDH trend-setting alteration: test out of quar d. 7 if well.

Friday Media Briefing: Q & A

- When even the media support people have “technical difficulties”:
 - ▣ [Q & A moderator Rebecca] *taking questions by text, “even though you might prefer to do the grilling yourselves...”*
- Teacher petition re: requesting defined position in vaccine queue
- Governor Scott: not enough vaccine at this point – moral obligation to care for those who have cared for us.
- Other Governors “have overpromised”



(National) AAP Updates

- **Next AAP COVID-19 Town Hall:** Thursday, 1/21/21
- **Ask the Red Book About COVID-19**
 - ▣ Opportunity to have questions answered re: virus variants, vaccine, & more by Red Book Committee leaders
 - ▣ Previous Town Hall (1/7/21) **COVID-19 and Safe Return to School Q & A**
 - ▣ Summary article in AAP News:
<https://www.aappublications.org/news/2021/01/08/covid19-schools-qa-010821>
- **Revised COVID-19 interim guidance: *Safe Schools*** – now posted on AAP COVID-19 page
 - ▣ <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

Happening Now



- Big Change Roundup: bigchangeroundup.org
 - Largest fundraiser for the UVMCH; funds raised support patients and families.
 - Examples: some child life services; new program startup (e.g., Transgender Program; safe sleep program on Mother Baby Unit); injury prevention initiatives; food insecurity initiative (CSC); support for inpatient families (ferry passes, gas cards, meal vouchers)
- Please help to promote personally as you are able and through your practices/organizations

Questions/Discussion

- ❑ Q & A Goal: monitor/respond in real time; record/disseminate/revisit later as needed.
- ❑ **For additional questions, please e-mail:** vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu
 - ❑ What do you need – how can we be helpful (specific guidance)?
- ❑ **VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19 website:**
https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates
- ❑ Next CHAMP call: ***Monday, January 25, 2021 – 12:15-12:45***
- ❑ Generally back to **Monday/Wednesday/Friday** schedule
- ❑ Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:
Thursday, January 28, 2021 - 12:30-1:00 p.m. – Zoom platform & call information:
- ❑ **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdIJ2ZG4yQT09>
 - ❑ Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684
- ❑ One tap mobile - +1 646 876 9923,,86726253105#,,,0#,,540684#