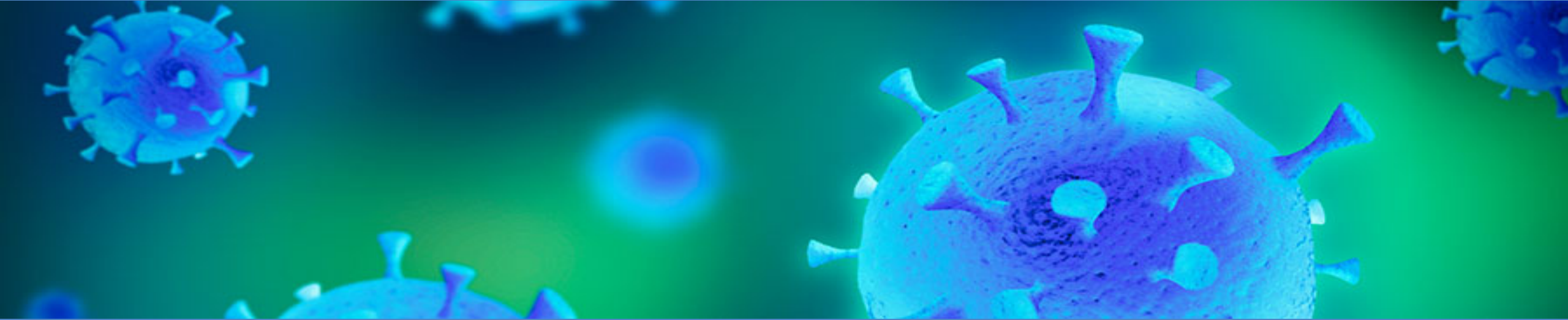


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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 6, 2021



Technology Notes

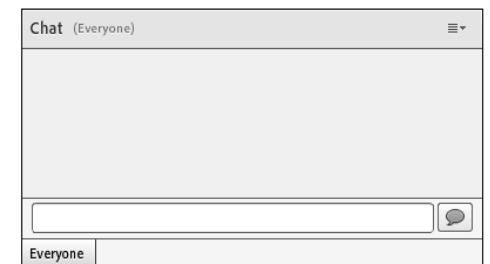
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

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 historic GA runoff win: Rev. Raphael Warnock: first Black Democratic Senator from the South
 - ▣ Jon Meacham: *“hard to imagine a more vivid American 24-36 hrs. than what we’re living through now”*
- Also: **certification of election of Joseph R. Biden, Jr.**
- *Reminder* – weekly event schedule:
 - ▣ **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays**; Gov. Media Briefings Tu/Fri; VMS call with VDH Comm. Levine Thursday.
 - ▣ **This week: back to Mon/Wed/Friday call VCHIP-VDH calls**
- Situation, VDH, vaccine updates; Tues. media briefing
- Practice Issues; Q & A/Discussion



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

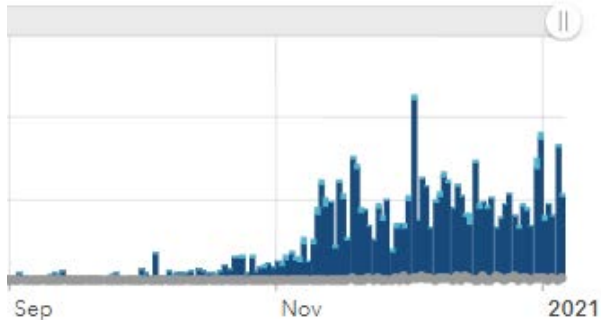
What to Expect this Week



- ❑ The VCHIP “A” Team is BACK!!!
- ❑ Evening emails will continue – please let us know if you are not receiving these!
- ❑ Call recordings and documents will be posted to our web site:
https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_co_vid-19_updates
- ❑ We continue to monitor the CHAMP mailbox.
- ❑ Currently planning on holding a call on 1/18/21 (**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**) but ***NO call January 20*** – celebrate the Inauguration!

Situation update

New Cases 106 8,158 Total
Currently Hospitalized 33
Hospitalized In ICU 6
Hospitalized Under Investigation 7
Percent Positive 7-day Avg. 2.8%
People Tested 269,690
Total Tests 722,745
Recovered 5,546 68% of Cases
Deaths 152 1.9% of Cases
Travelers Monitored 320
Contacts Monitored 182
People Completed Monitoring 11,911
Last Updated: 1/6/2021, 10:48:51 AM



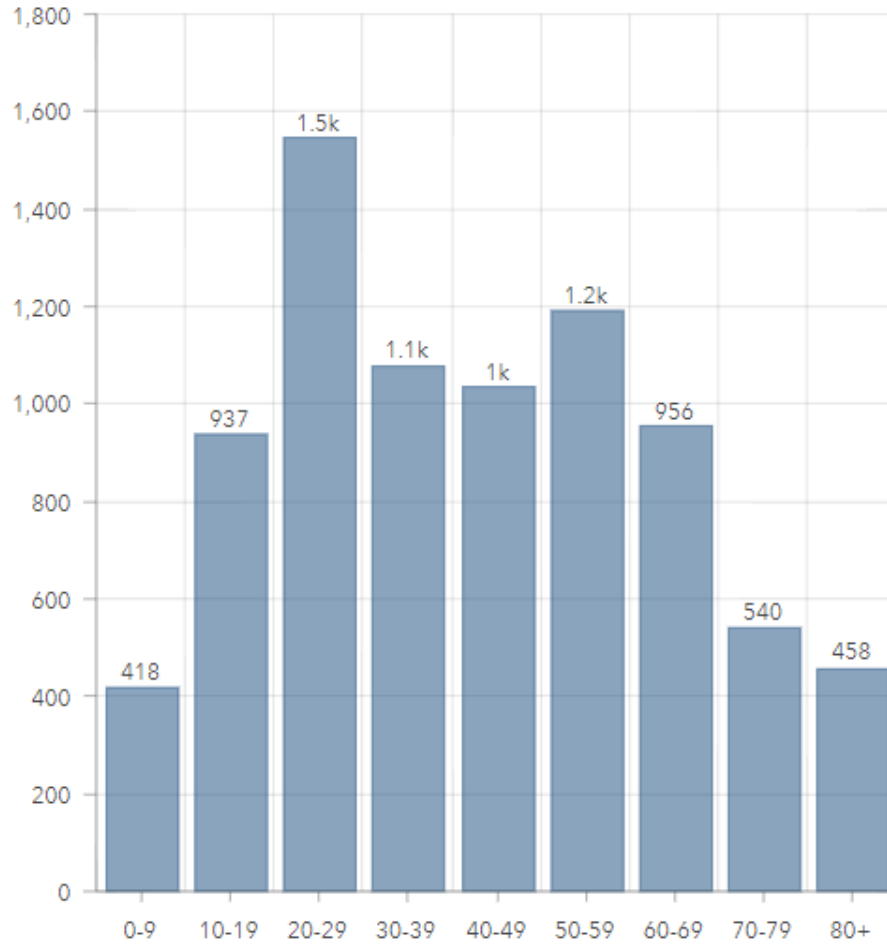
VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

- U.S. 21.1 million+ cases; **357,394 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 1/6/21)
 - 1/3/21: **201,980 new cases; 1,353 d.; 131,195 hosp.**
 - Past week: average 219,684 cases/day (increase of 2% from average 2 weeks earlier)
 - **1.8 million+ deaths worldwide** (86.5 million+ cases)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary(12/18/20)**
 - **Weekly Spotlight Topic: Percent Positivity by County**
 - Expect resumption **this Friday, 1/8/21.**
- Find previous summaries at:
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

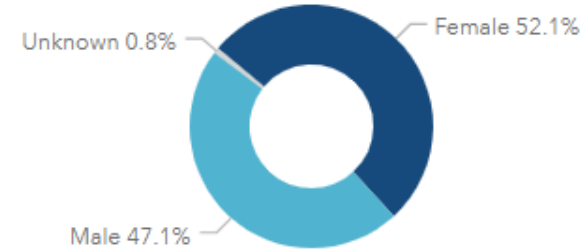
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>

Situation update

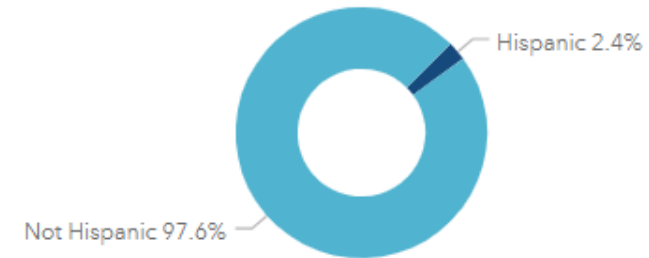
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



Case Demographics

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>

January 6, 2021

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

- COVID-19 Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious (dashboard)
 - ▣ <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf>
 - ▣ Table updated **Tuesday & Friday** w/data through previous Sunday & Wednesday. As posted **1/5/21: 275** total cases; 7 cases reported in preceding 7 days.

January 3, 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	7	275

December 29, 2020

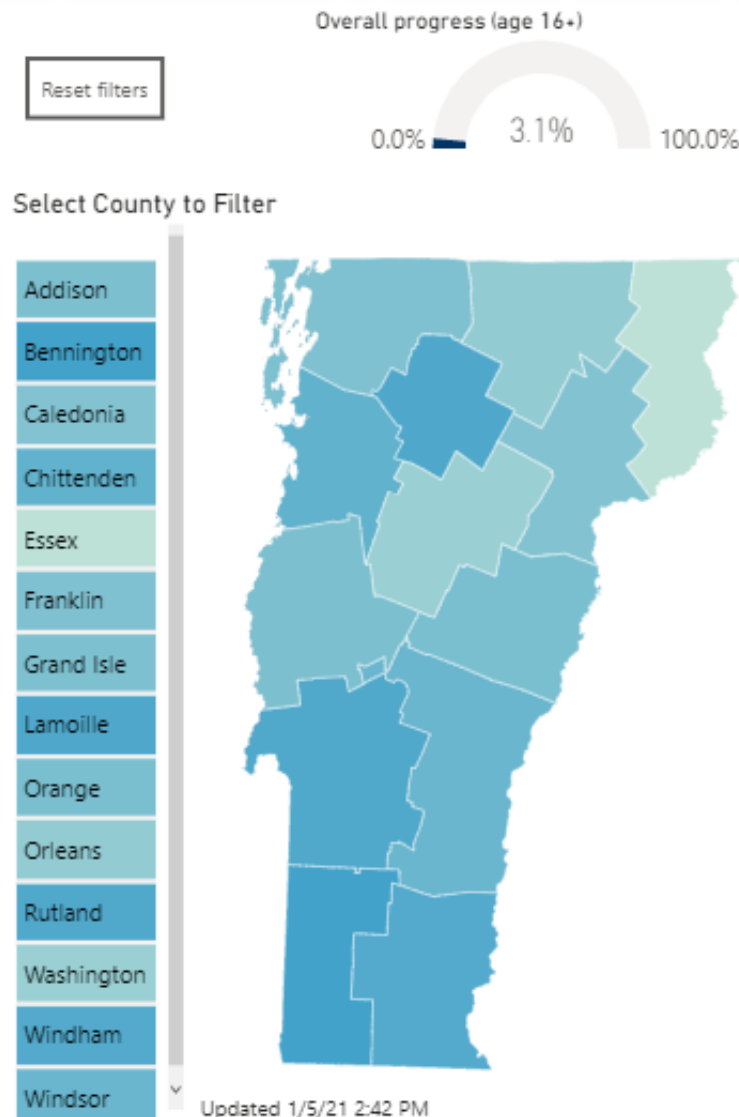
Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

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	27	270

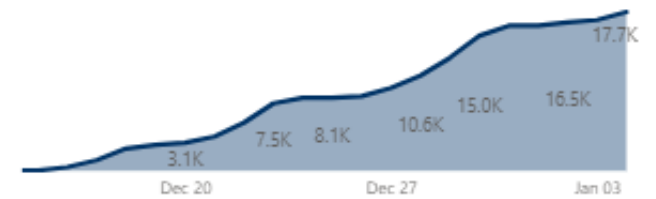
- VT College & University dashboards:
 - ▣ Now on break from on-campus learning: <https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening>

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

- Updated Tues/Friday
- 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>



Total People Vaccinated - Statewide

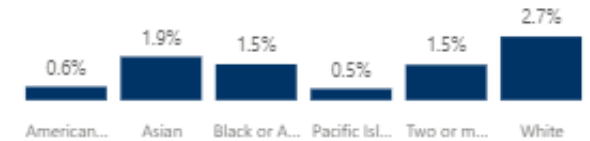


Show rates by Race/Ethnicity

Show rates by Age/Sex

By Race - Statewide

The percent of the Statewide population by race that has been vaccinated.



Race information is missing for 13.1% of people vaccinated.

By Ethnicity - Statewide

The percent of the Statewide population by ethnicity that has been vaccinated



Ethnicity information is missing for 19.5% of people vaccinated.

VDH Updates: Testing

Testing capacity:

- ~338 sites (325 CIC on-demand; 13 pop-ups) posted 1/6/21 – 1/31/21
 - ▣ Same-day testing slots now posted all day; **many** slots currently open.
- **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 Updates

- Health Advisory (HAN): Guidance on N95 Respirator Sterilization in Your Region (1/5/21)
 - Use as last choice in resp. protection – eng/admin controls first.
 - Ensure used only by those who need them.
 - Save & get sterilized at 9 hospitals (Steris V-Pro): BMH, CVMC, NCH, NVRH, RRMC, SVMC, Springfield Hospital, UVM MC
- Health Advisory (HAN): Guidance on Prioritization in Phase 1A and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations (dated 12/31/20; distributed 1/4/21)
 - Vermont-specific phase 1A recs; “next groups to be communicated in wks. ahead”
 - Moderna: efficacy, safety, storage/handling; contraind./precautions mRNA vaccines

Commendation by VDH Health Operations Center (1/6/21)



Becca Bell

December 19, 2020 at 6:06 PM · 🌐



There may be no better advocates for prevention than ICU workers. We see the bad stuff, and we desperately want to protect others from experiencing the suffering we've seen. Covid-19 is a bad one, and the fact that we have safe and effective vaccines makes us giddy with joy and gratitude and relief. Honestly, it's the same mix of emotions I feel when my own children receive their routine childhood immunizations. I cried with gratitude when my babies got their first round of i... See More



263

32 Comments 22 Shares

(National) AAP Updates

- **AAP COVID-19 Town Hall series** resumes Thursday, 1/7/21, 8 pm Eastern:
 - ▣ Topic announced today: **COVID-19 and Safe Return to School Q & A**
- Revised COVID-19 interim guidance: **Safe Schools; Supporting the Emotional and Behavioral Health Needs of Children/Adolescents/Families.**
- (12/23/20): latest (7th ed.) AAP **COVID-19 Response Advocacy Report**
 - ▣ <https://downloads.aap.org/DOFA/COVID-19%20Advocacy%20Report%207.0.pdf>
- AAP News (12/29/20): **COVID-19 cases in children surpass 2 million**
 - ▣ <https://www.aappublications.org/news/2020/12/29/covid-2million-children-122920>
 - ▣ AAP (& CHA) **Children and COVID-19: State-Level Data Report**
<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-state-level-data-report/>

In the News

- E. U. drug regulator approved Moderna vaccine
- Another new variant (S. Africa): 501Y.V2 (in addition to B117)
- B117 now identified in 37 countries, incl. in U.S.: CA, CO, FL, NY
 - ▣ Many countries have issued travel restrictions on planes from the UK.
- Unclear if 501Y.V2 poses more serious a threat: different mutations from B117.
 - ▣ John Bell (Prof. of Medicine/Oxford University): “both B117 and 501Y.V2 have different mutations...the mutations associated with the South African form are really pretty substantial changes in the structure of the (virus’ spike) protein.”
- WHO says for now 501Y.V2 does not seem to be associated with worse symptoms or outcomes; has been reported in 4 other countries.

In Case You Missed It . . .

- VPR Podcast: *But Why?* (*thank you, Becca Bell*)
 - ▣ Hopes And Dreams For 2021 From Kids Around The World (1/1/21)
 - ▣ <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/474377890/but-why-a-podcast-for-curious-kids>
- OB Grand Rounds – Tuesdays, 7:30 – 8:30 (*thank you, Melissa Kaufold*)
 - ▣ Vermont Plan of Safe Care 2.0: Updates and Tools to Improve Communication (**Michelle Shepard, MD PhD**; 1/12/21)
 - ▣ Provider Bias and Cultural Humility (1/19/21)
 - ▣ Patient and Family Centered Care (1/26/21)
- KidSafe Collaborative Legislative Forum held virtually on Monday, January 25 from 9:30-11:00

Now Recruiting: Temporary Medical Record Chart Reviewers

- CHAMP needs temporary medical record chart reviewers from February through May or June 2021 for annual statewide chart review.
- Qualifications:
 - Bachelor's degree (or equivalent education/experience required).
 - We seek candidates who have worked in a healthcare setting, including experience reading medical records. Qualified candidates will have strong computer skills, attention to detail and accuracy, and can commit to working a minimum of three full days per week.
- Details:
 - During the COVID-19 pandemic this position will be remote. Computer equipment will be provided, however internet access and a private space for chart review is required.
 - Required trainings include: Data Security; Confidentiality; IRB and GCP.
 - The position pays \$20 per hour.
 - Submit cover letter and resume to VCHIP.CHAMP@med.uvm.edu

Topics We Are Following

- Pregnancy, Breastfeeding, and Caring for Newborns (updated 12/28/20)
 - ▣ **Based on what we know at this time, pregnant people are at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 & death**, compared to non-pregnant people. Additionally, pregnant people with COVID-19 might be at increased risk for other adverse outcomes, such as preterm birth (delivering the baby earlier than 37 weeks).
 - ▣ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html>
- **VT Crisis Standards of Care** – any interest in a presentation?
- **Summer camp, 2021** – expect update late Jan./early Feb.

Tuesday Media Briefing (1/5/21)



Governor Phil Scott

- Concerning trends across New England, NY & Quebec – positivity rates on the rise.
 - ▣ Seeing some similarities in VT but too early to know impact of last 10d.
- We've increased testing – please take advantage.
- Much more to do as we work to get vaccine distributed to VTers: I monitor lives lost & “feel responsibility squarely on my shoulders.”
 - ▣ This contributes to our thinking behind age-based strategy for vaccine.
- It's going to take some time to get enough supply from federal government to get everyone vaccinated – our guidance has proven track record – we know what works.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Note “uncertainty” re: COVID holiday data around holidays (re: who sought tests, test capacity; result turnaround). Now 11d. from Christmas holiday – need time to understand impact + addtl. ~10d. for New Year’s impact.
- National: as of 1/3 >350K d. additional 50K in last 21 d. = fastest pace to date.
- Regional: Northeast 20% increased cases vs. last wk – but VT doing well (though southern cos. higher in recent wks.)
- Vermont forecast range of outcomes: one w/ and one w/o holiday increase.
 - Statewide **hospital capacity** safely under guardrails in both scenarios.
- VT leading in vax admin: CDC data (1/4) 1st in NE; 2nd in region behind WV.
- Flu vaccine – now surpassed last year & 83% of the way to goal.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Expect more thorough analysis holiday impact Friday (1/8/21).
- ❑ Get tested – it's the only way we have to exercise containment strategy.
 - ❑ Won't “get into trouble” through contact tracing.
 - ❑ 15 regular locations in VT for asymptomatic; many allow self-swab – quick, easy, free. Symptomatic: please contact HCP for test referral (if no PCP, call 211).
- ❑ Starting at low level of virus while vaccine ramping up is part of our strategy
- ❑ New variant: B117 not yet seen in VT but “fully expect we will.”
- ❑ Vaccine dashboard: #7 in U.S. per CDC): 17,652 doses – almost 50% EMS & 25% HCWs; some getting 2nd dose this week.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- Pharmacies continuing accelerated pace vaccine in LTCFs.
- Rec'd. Vaccine Implementation Advisory Committee recs – “age bands.”
 - ▣ 75+, 65-74, younger age range w/higher risk condition. Working w/Committee to further define: likely heart diseases, emphysema/COPD, chronic kidney disease, cancer, immunosuppressive conditions. Working on racial equity strategies.
- “Please don’t call/write us to get yourselves/loved ones on the list – doing our best re: allocation; VTers will know when it’s your turn to step up.”
 - ▣ Not currently favoring altered dosing strategy – “would be off-label use; studies haven’t examined carefully to **understand potential to undermine vaccine efficacy.**
- VT sends (~20?) samples to CDC for genomic sequencing q. few wks. If CDC finds B117 in our samples, we’ll tell you.

Practice Issues

New Year Potpourri



VDH Child Development Clinic (CDC) Update

- (Effective 12/18/20): all referrals for CDC, UVM Hospital's Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Program, and the Autism Assessment Clinic at the Vermont Center for Children, Youth, and Families now occur through a single, central intake process. (**Phone: 802-847-2007; Fax: 802-847-3358**); services that have been provided by CDC will change.
- Reason for change: VDH pandemic response; impacts ability to provide developmental evaluations through CDC across the state and is resulting in long wait times for children already enrolled and on the wait list.
- VDH offices are becoming COVID-19 vaccination & testing sites, limiting ability to resume CDC in those locations – more outreach forthcoming.
- For assistance, please contact: Nora.Sabo@vermont.gov (Central Intake); Carol.Hassler@vermont.gov, and Ilisa.Stalberg@vermont.gov.

VCHIP-CHAMP Email Update

- LCOM Information Systems (COMIS) removed the (automatic) block due to large percentage of messages marked as spam by many recipients originating from our VCHIP-CHAMP mailbox
- Created a UVM LISTSERV & minimized spam triggers in email content to hopefully resolve the issue. Replies to the LISTSERV will still go to vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu.
- If you do NOT receive tonight's email from the listserv, follow these steps:
 - 1) Check your junk/spam folders
 - 2) Reach out to your IT department or email server support and ask for emails from VCHIPCHAMPVDHCOVID19UPDATES@list.uvm.edu to be **white listed**.
 - 3) Email VCHIP.CHAMP@med.uvm.edu to let us know if steps 1&2 do not resolve the issue.

In Case You Missed It/Coming Attraction



- **VMS Panel (12/22/20): COVID-19 Vaccine: Safety, Distribution & Considerations for Patients**
 - ▣ *COVID-19 vaccines – Dr. Beth Kirkpatrick; Ethics of vaccine prioritization & distribution planning – Dr. Tim Lahey; Talking to patients re: vaccine considerations in pregnant and lactating women with Dr. William Raszka*
 - ▣ <https://vtmd.org/covid-19-vaccine-information>
- UVM MC OB Grand Rounds (12/22/20): Marjorie Meyer, MD (Director MFM) – COVID Vaccine in Prepregnancy, Pregnancy, and Lactation
- DHMC Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds – Wed., **Jan. 20**, 2021 (12-1)
 - ▣ **Critical Child Abuse Literature: Seminal Articles on Sentinel Injuries**
 - ▣ Amy Doolan Roy, MD, Med. Director Ped ED, Elliot Hosp. (LCOM grad!)

Request to Complete Survey *(thank you, Michelle Shepard)*

- Following up on survey (original 2017) to PCPs re: community resources for opioid-exposed newborns
 - ▣ Delayed through spring/summer due to COVID; now some time sensitivity.
 - ▣ Distributed to nurse managers, ICON listserv, & VT NP Assoc. Association
 - ▣ Current outreach to Pediatric and Family Medicine PCPs
 - ▣ SurveyMonkey: short & anonymous.
- ***Please look for email to CHAMP participants – thank you!***

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: ***Friday, January 8, 2021 – 12:15-12:45***
- **This week: returning to our Monday, Wednesday & Friday schedule**
- Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:
Thursday, January 7, 2021 - 12:30-1:00 p.m. – Zoom platform & call information:
- **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdJlJ2ZG4yQT09>
 - ▣ Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684
- One tap mobile - +1 646 876 9923,,86726253105#,,,,0#,,540684#