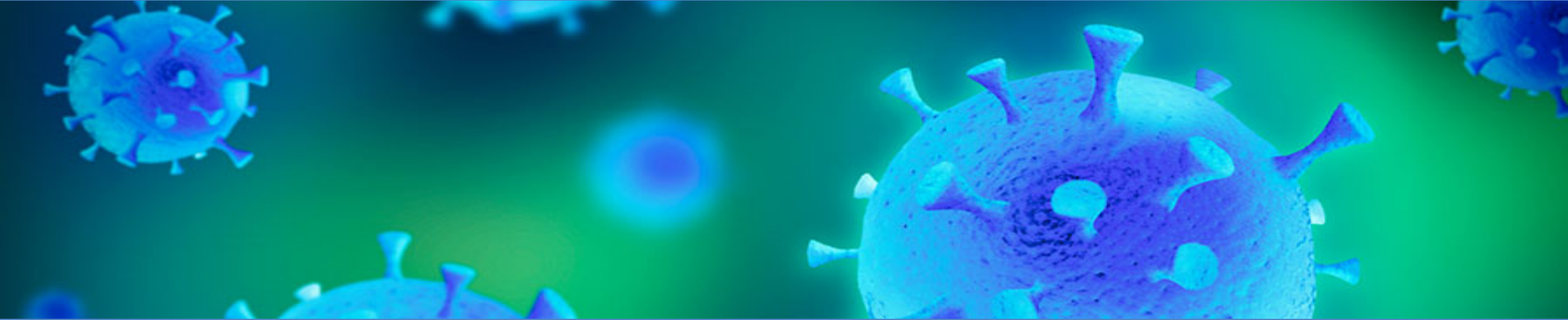


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM
Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH
April 14, 2021


Technology Notes

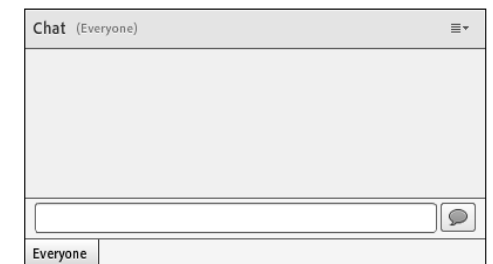
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

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

- **Happy Ramadan to those who are celebrating!**
 - The Imam Islam Hassan states that getting a COVID-19 vaccine during Ramadan will not break fast & encourages all to get one; also reminds all Muslims – no animal products in the vaccines
 - Also: April is School Library Month!
- Reminder – weekly event schedule:
 - **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W/F**; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Comm. Levine Thursday
- Situation, VDH, CDC, AAP updates; Tues. Media Briefing
- Practice Issues: **Advancing Child Health in 2021**
 - *Rebecca Bell, MD FAAP, Leah Costello, MD FAAP, & Stephanie Winters, VMS Deputy ED & AAPVT ED*
- Q & A/Discussion

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

رمضان كريم

الإمام إسلام حسن من الجمعية الإسلامية في فيرمونت يؤكد أن الحفاظ على الحياة هدف من أهداف الدين الإسلامي.

إن الحصول على لقاح كوفيد-19 " كورونا" يدعم الحفاظ على الحياة. يقول الإمام أن الحصول على لقاح كوفيد-19 " كورونا" خلال شهر رمضان لن يفطر. هو يذكر جميع المسلمين بأنه لا توجد منتجات حيوانية في اللقاحات وهو يشجعكم على الحصول على اللقاح بأسرع ما يمكن.



@Your School Library
Everyone Belongs
APRIL IS SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH
www.ala.org/aasl/slm

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/slm>

Situation update

New Cases

100

21,488 Total

Currently Hospitalized

29

Hospitalized In ICU

4

Hospitalized Under Investigation

0

Percent Positive 7-day Avg.

1.8%

People Tested

367,810

Total Tests

1,447,545

Recovered

17,695

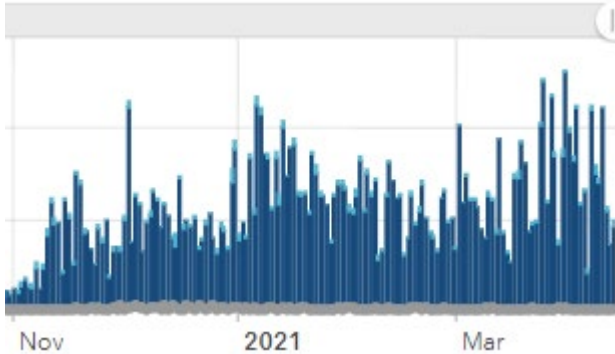
82.3% of Cases

Deaths

237

1.1% of Cases

Last Updated: 4/14/2021, 10:50:43 AM

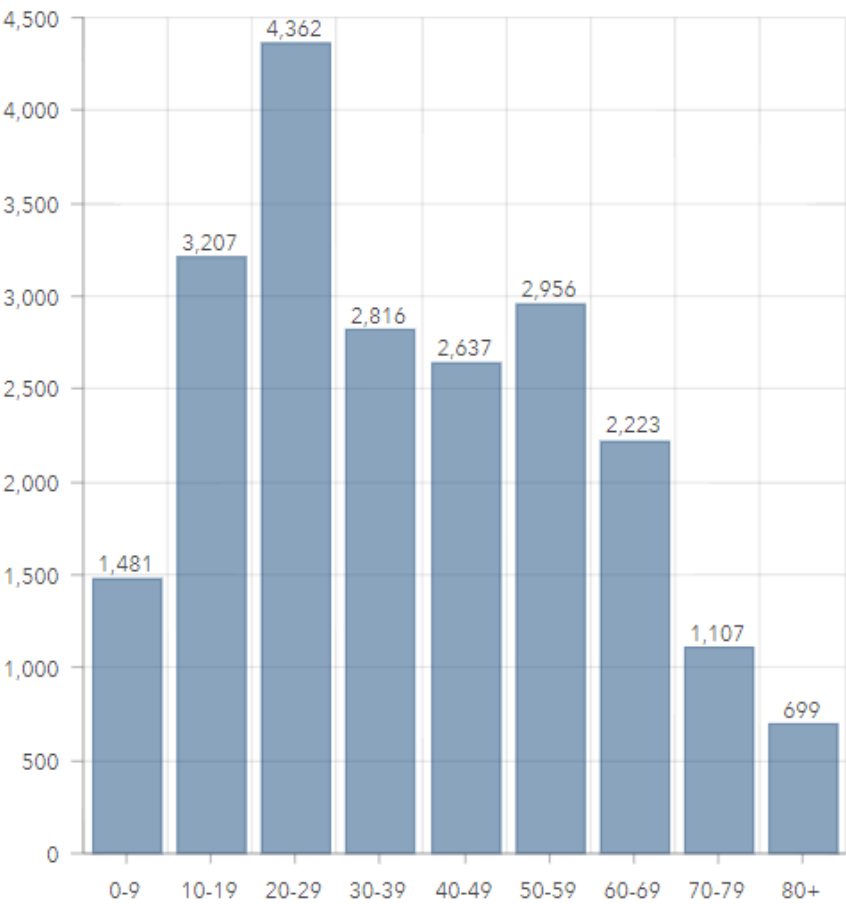


VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

- U.S. **31.3 million+** cases; **562,994 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 4/14/21)
 - 4/13/21: **77,312 new cases; 987 d.; 43,735 hosp.**
 - Past week: average 71,215 cases/day (increase of 8% from average 2 weeks earlier)
 - **2.9 million+ deaths worldwide; 137.5 million+ cases)**
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary(4/9/21)**
 - **Weekly Spotlight Topic: Age Rate Changes** focuses on rate of COVID-19 by age over time.
 - SEE also: Case Demographics section with **detailed data on school-aged children**
 - Find previous summaries at: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

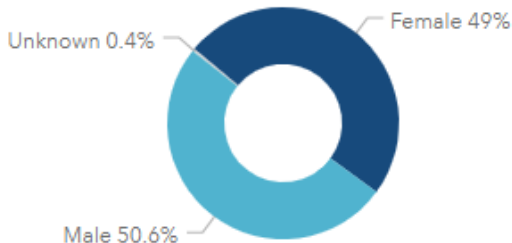
Situation update

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

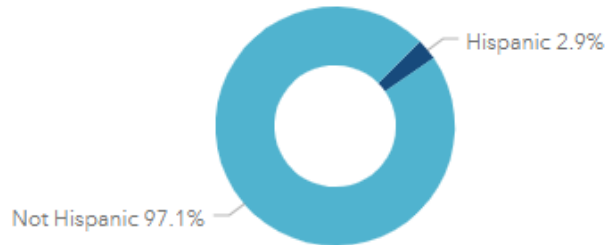


Case Demographics

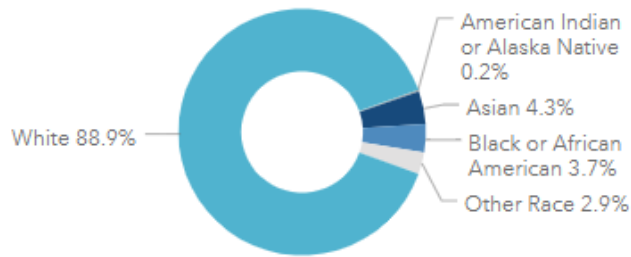
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



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.

April 11, 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	91	1170

April 7, 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	109	1117

□ VT College & University dashboards:

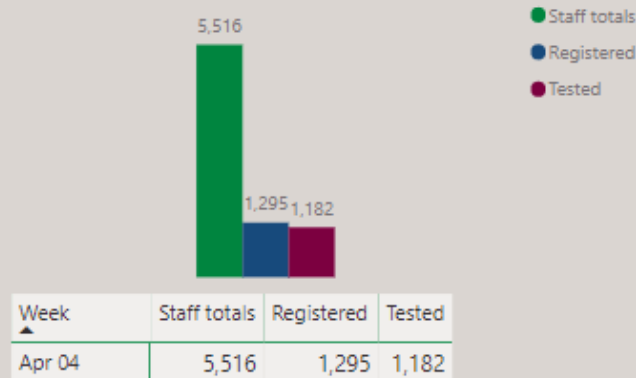
- ▣ **UVM update** (week of 3/29-4/4/21): 54 new cases off campus; 40 on campus; 0 faculty; 3 staff
- ▣ **Middlebury College results** (updated 4/6/21): 1 new case & 2 active cases.
- ▣ **Norwich University**: 2 current positives

AOE School Staff Testing Dashboard

School Staff Testing: Weekly Summary



Summary

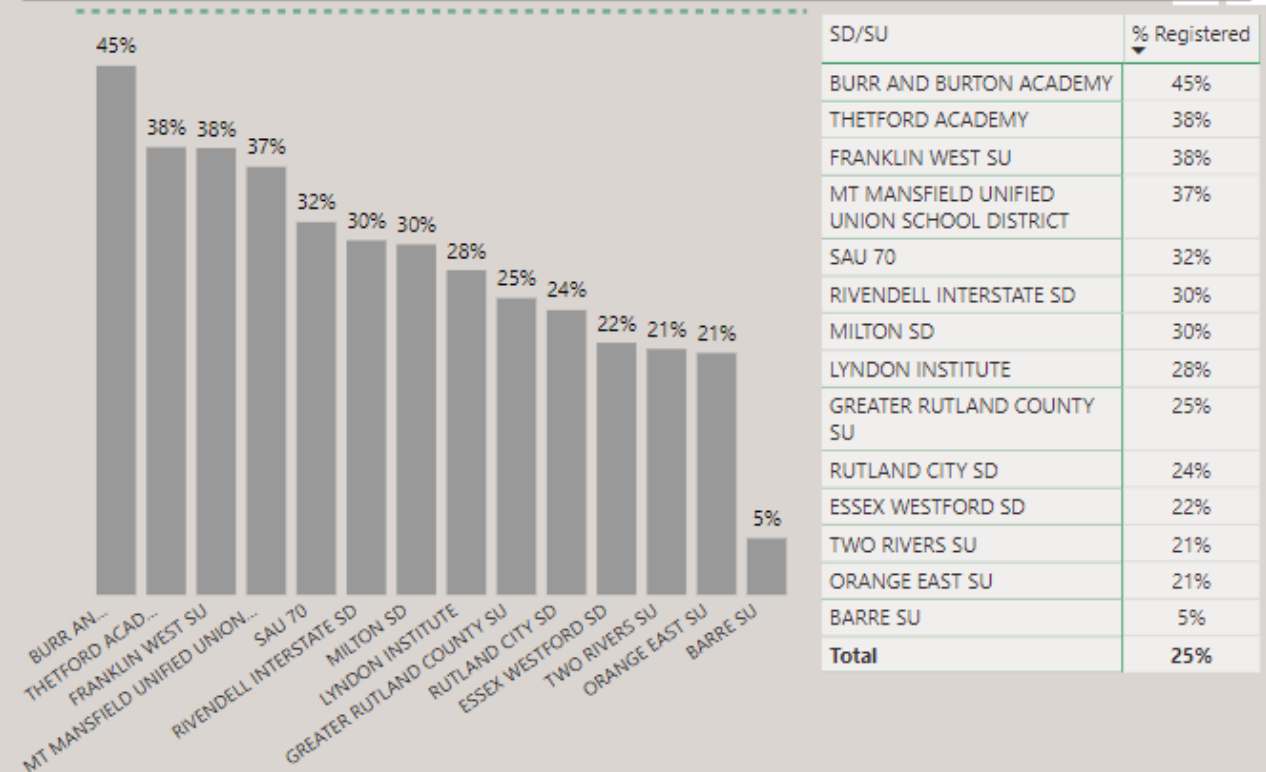


Test Results



Select Testing Week: April 4, 2021

% Registered by SD/SU



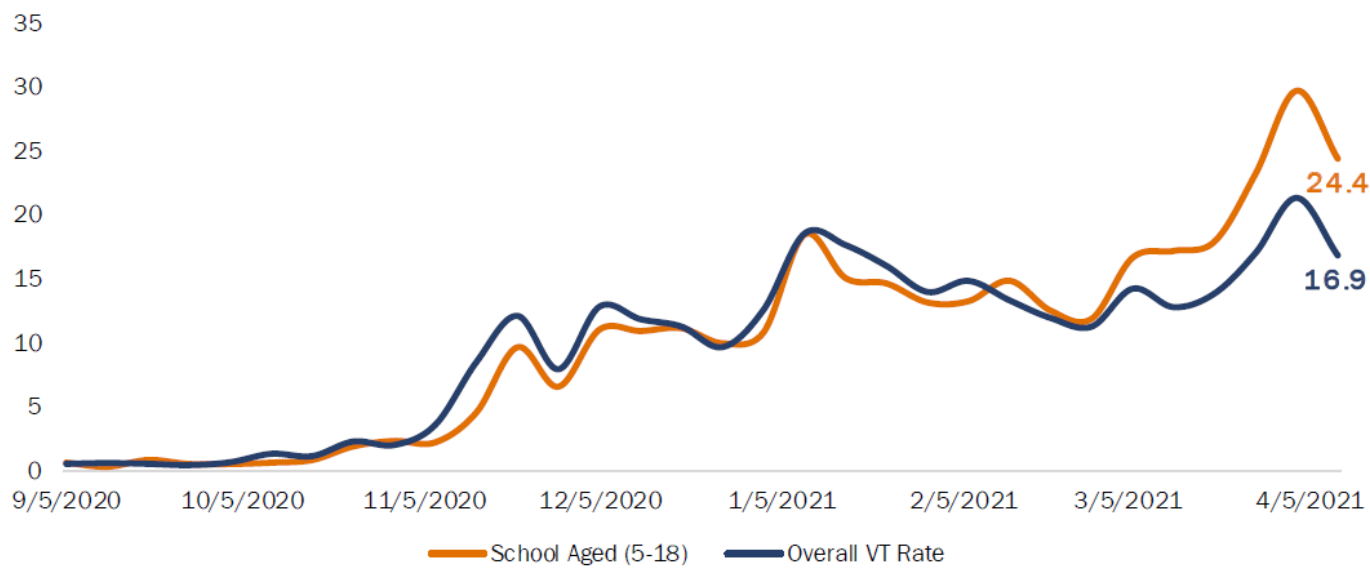
Data source: Vermont Testing/Vaccine Registration System.
Updated 4/14/2021 7:11:50 AM

Week of April 4; updated 4/14/21

<https://education.vermont.gov/news/covid-19-guidance-vermont-schools/school-staff-covid19-surveillance-testing/school-staff-covid-19-surveillance-testing-weekly-summary>

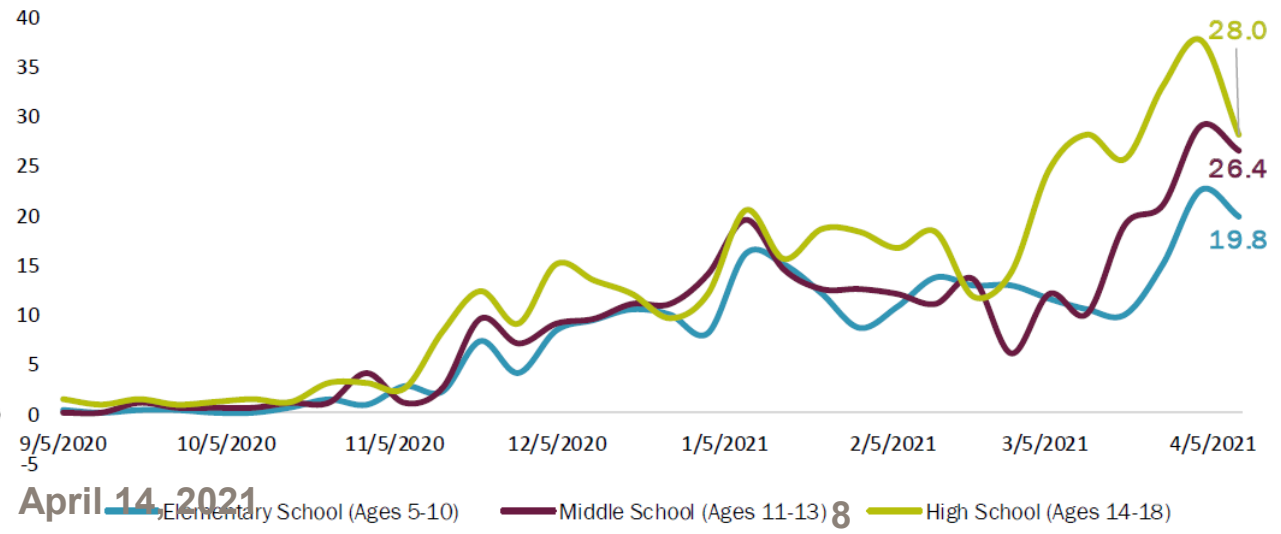
VDH Update – COVID-19 Cases in School Aged Children

Rates by Week: School Aged Children vs. Overall Vermont Rate



All rates calculated per 10,000 people.
14-18 yo age group does not include college students.

Rates by Week by School Category



April 14, 2021

VDH Update – Safety Messages for Schools/Families



Spring COVID-19 Safety Messages for Schools to share with Families

April 2021

Messaging Toolkit for Schools: Celebrating the Spring and School Vacation Week

VDH – AOE Updates

- Request your input: With updated guidance for travel & testing requirement upon return, ***what is your capacity to test infants?*** Pop up sites do not test anyone less than 12 months of age.
 - ▣ If you do not test on site, do you refer to other health care sites?
- Official AOE clarification on quarantine: “schools may not implement policies that keep siblings of close contacts in quarantine at home, instead of allowing them to come to school.”
- Clinical Q: mother of 1 month-old who is breastfeeding wishes to get COVID-19 vaccine; asked if her vaccination can interfere w/the infant's 2 mo. immunizations (does she need a 2 week window around the infant's immunizations). A: ***No interference*** or need for delay.

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

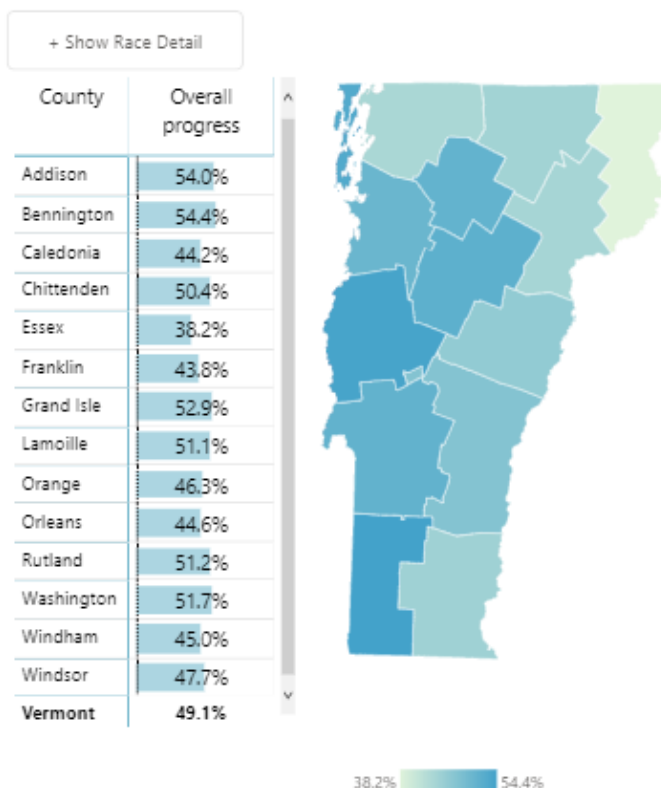
- Daily updates Tuesday thru Saturday
- Data = counts reported by end previous day; subject to change.
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>

NOTE: the reported number of doses delivered on April 9 inadvertently included 22.8K doses that were shipped to Veteran Affairs. The VA doses have been removed from the total reported on April 13.

Vermont Vaccination Data

Vaccination by County

The percent of the county population that has received at least one dose of the vaccine



Summary

By Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

Doses Received
507.3K

Doses Administered
428.4K

Overall progress (age 16+)
People who have received at least one dose of the vaccine
49.1%

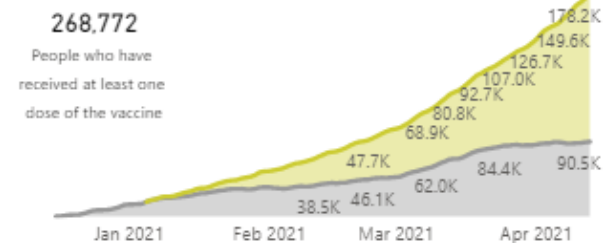
Completed
People who have completed vaccination
32.6%

Total People Started
90.5K

Total People Completed
178.2K

Total People Vaccinated

● Started ● Completed



Updated 4/14/2021 8:51:12 AM

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

- Daily updates Tuesday thru Saturday
- Data = counts reported by end previous day; subject to change.
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>

NOTE: the reported number of doses delivered on April 9 inadvertently included 22.8K doses that were shipped to Veteran Affairs. The VA doses have been removed from the total reported on April 13.

Vermont Vaccination Data

Select County

All

Clear filters

By Age - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population of each age group that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Age	%*
16 - 17	8.4%
18 - 29	20.1%
30 - 39	31.3%
40 - 49	39.2%
50 - 59	50.2%
60 - 64	63.9%
65 - 69	83.3%
70 - 74	91.6%
75+	88.3%
Vermont	49.1%

By Sex - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population of each sex that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Sex	%*
Female	54.7%
Male	43.2%
Vermont	49.1%

Sex information is missing for 0% of people vaccinated.

Summary

By Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

*Percentages reported as 95% here indicate >=95%. Values above 95% are suppressed to protect personal health information.

By Race - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population of each race that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Race	%*
Asian	38.2%
Black or African American	31.3%
Native American, Indigenous, or First Nation	14.0%
Pacific Islander	7.4%
Two or more races	33.6%
White	48.8%
Vermont	48.0%

Race information is missing for 5% of people vaccinated.

By Race/Ethnicity and Age

The percent of the statewide population of each race/ethnicity that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Race*	16 - 64	65+	Total
BIPOC	31.1%	72.3%	35.5%
Non-Hispanic White	33.2%	80.5%	44.9%
Vermont	33.0%	80.3%	44.3%

Race/ethnicity information is missing for 10% of people vaccinated.

BIPOC refers to Black, Indigenous, and people of color.
Updated 4/14/2021 8:51:12 AM

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Registration & Sites

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine>

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Use the blue button above to make an appointment through the Health Department website, which includes many [partner clinics](#).

You can also get an appointment at [Kinney Drugs](#), [CVS](#) or [Walgreens](#).

[See information on appointments](#), or [set up an account now](#).

ELIGIBILITY

- › People 30 years and older
- › People 16 years or older with high-risk health conditions
- › Parents and primary caregivers of children with high-risk health conditions
- › Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC)
- › English language learners and people in immigrant/refugee communities
- › Health care personnel and residents of long-term care facilities
- › People who work in the public safety system
- › School staff and child care workers



[Home](#)

[Pharmacy +](#)

[Savings +](#)

[Shop +](#)

[About Us +](#)

[Contact](#)

COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling at Kinney Drugs in Ver

Currently, the State of Vermont all

- Vermont residents age 65+



Search

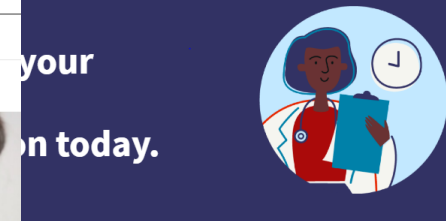
[Pharmacy](#) [MinuteClinic®](#) [HealthHUB](#) [Shop](#) [ExtraCare®](#) [Contact Lenses](#) [Photo](#)

[Home](#) › [Pharmacy](#) › COVID-19 Vaccine

Now offering the FREE* COVID-19 vaccine in select stores

We're administering the vaccine by appointment only based on local eligibility guidelines.

No cost with insurance or through federal program for the uninsured.



...cines are now available in some states at select stores to individuals 16 years of age and older for Pfizer; 18 years of age and older for Moderna) who meet state-specific eligibility

April 14, 2021

13



Vermont Vaccine Eligibility (*updated 4/12/21*)

WHEN CAN VERMONTERS SIGN UP FOR A COVID-19 VACCINE?



Long-term care residents and staff, health care, first responders	Registration open now
Ages 65+	Registration open now
Ages 16+ with certain high-risk health conditions	Registration open now
K-12 teachers and staff, child care, public safety	Registration open now
Ages 60+	Registration open now
Ages 50+	Registration open now
BIPOC households & caregivers of kids with high-risk conditions	Registration open now
Ages 40+	Registration open now
Ages 30+	Registration open now
Ages 16+	Registration opens April 19
Vermont college students with out of state addresses	Registration opens April 30

Most Vermonters should expect the entire process, from registration to when the vaccine is most effective, to take about two months.

Goal to have Vermonters
fully vaccinated by July 2021

Updated 4.12.21

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Registration & Sites (cont'd.)

- Appointments from **4/13/21 – 6/15/21**
 - ▣ **274,994 total appointments clinics:** health care, VDH (Local/District Health Office POD), and some pharmacies (e.g., Costco, Walmart)
- **Online (preferred) for most** and **phone** appointment scheduling:
 - ▣ 1-855-722-7878
 - ▣ *If you need to speak with someone in a language other than English, call this number, and then press 1.*
- **Call Center Hours:**
 - ▣ Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
 - ▣ Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

NEW: Vaccine Myth-Busting Video in 11 Languages

Result of collaboration among many partners! *(thank you, Melissa Kaulfold)*

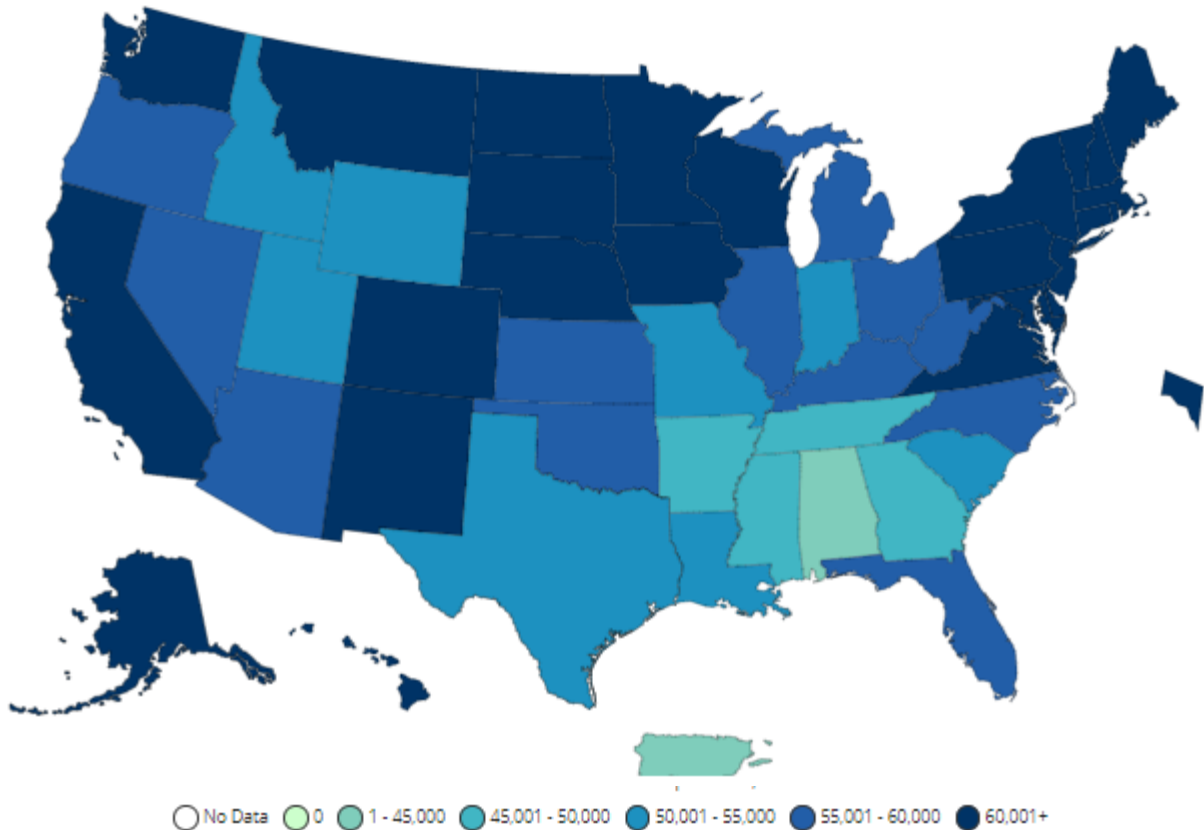
- ❑ **Nepali:** सारा सोध्नुहुन्छ: साराले कोभिड-१९ खोपको बारेमा डाक्टरबाट धेरै जानकारीहरु सिक्नुहुन्छ। <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNkA0K6Euik>
- ❑ **Arabic:** ساره تسأل الدكتور لتعرف المزيد عن لقاح COVID-19
ال: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HXu8Fdng7I&t=8s>
- ❑ **Somali:** Sara waxay wax ka weydiineysaa tallaalka COVID-19:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BPGUduQNsl&t=7s>.
- ❑ **Spanish:** Sara pregunta sobre la vacuna contra el COVID-19:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESHDb_XiCPc&t=17s
- ❑ **Swahili:** Sara Auliza: Sara Anajifunza Zaidi kuhusu Chanjo ya COVID-19
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICUqTiNhFsw&t=35s>

Vaccine Myth-Busting Video in 11 Languages (cont'd.)

- ❑ **Kirundi:** Sara arabaza kugira atahure neza urucanjo rwa COVID19
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rprKNI20g9M>
- ❑ **Burmese:** ဆာရာသည်ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ကာကွယ်ဆေးအကြောင်းကိုပိုမိုလေ့လာခြင်း။
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BSVV_vCFFo
- ❑ **Maay Maay:** Sidi talaalk COVID-19: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fsb-BtG1smU>
- ❑ **Vietnamese:** Sara hỏi: Sara tìm hiểu thêm về vắc-xin ngừa COVID-19:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLOG6Dd2JI4>
- ❑ **French:** Sara en apprend davantage sur le vaccin contre la COVID-19:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24AICle6M2w>
- ❑ **English:** Sara Asks About the COVID 19 Vaccine:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldq1kyVwZHk>

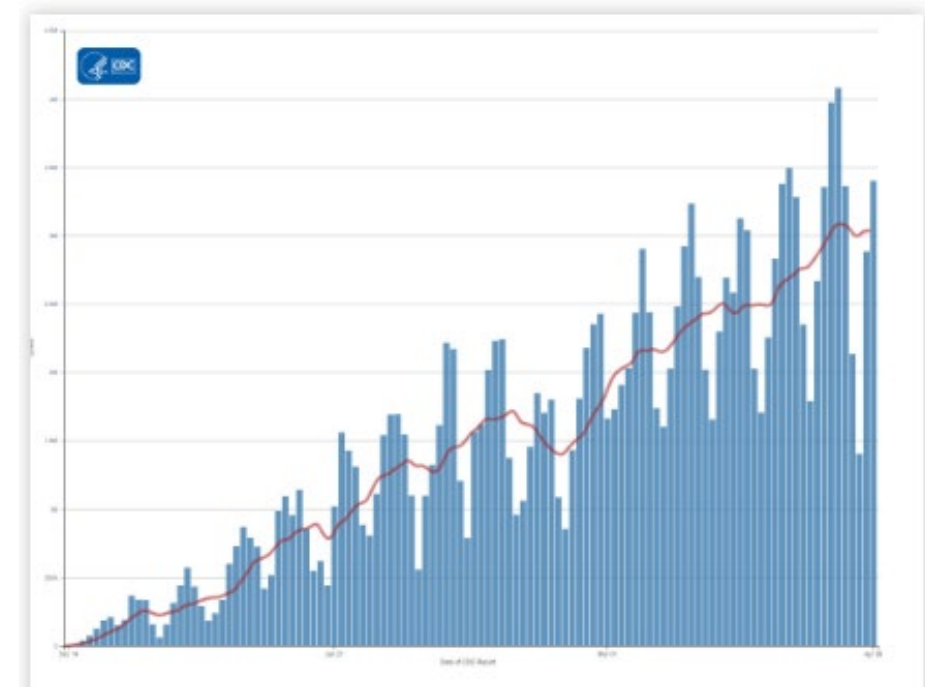
From the CDC Vaccine Tracker

Total Doses Administered Reported to the CDC by State/Territory and for Select Federal Entities per 100,000 of the Total Population



Daily Change in Number of COVID-19
Vaccinations in the United States Reported to
CDC

— 7-Day moving average



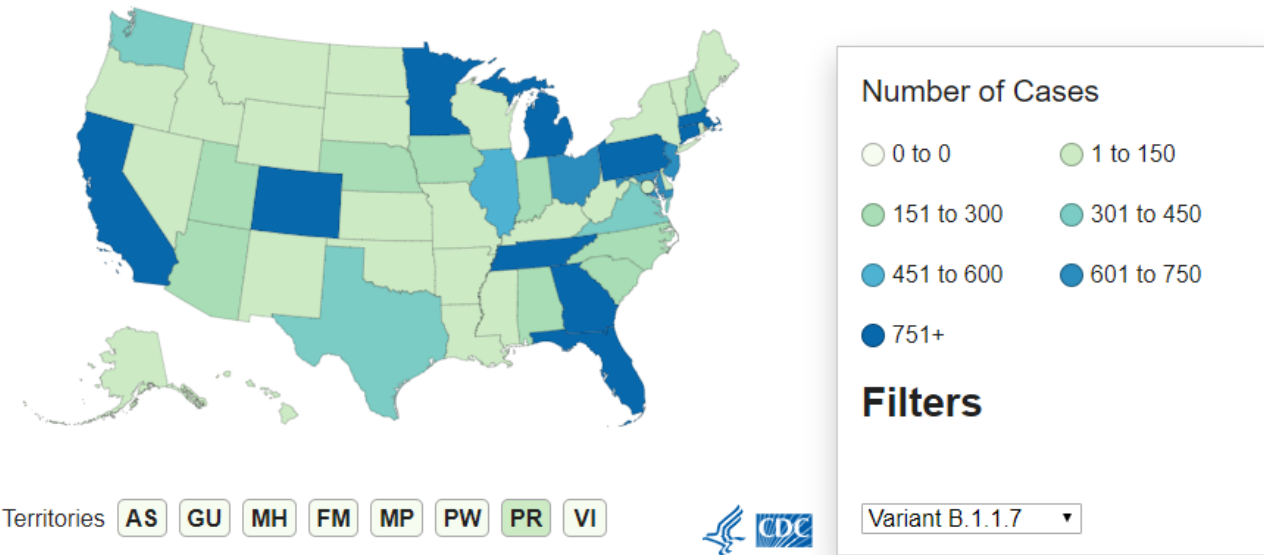
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>

From the CDC: U.S. COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants

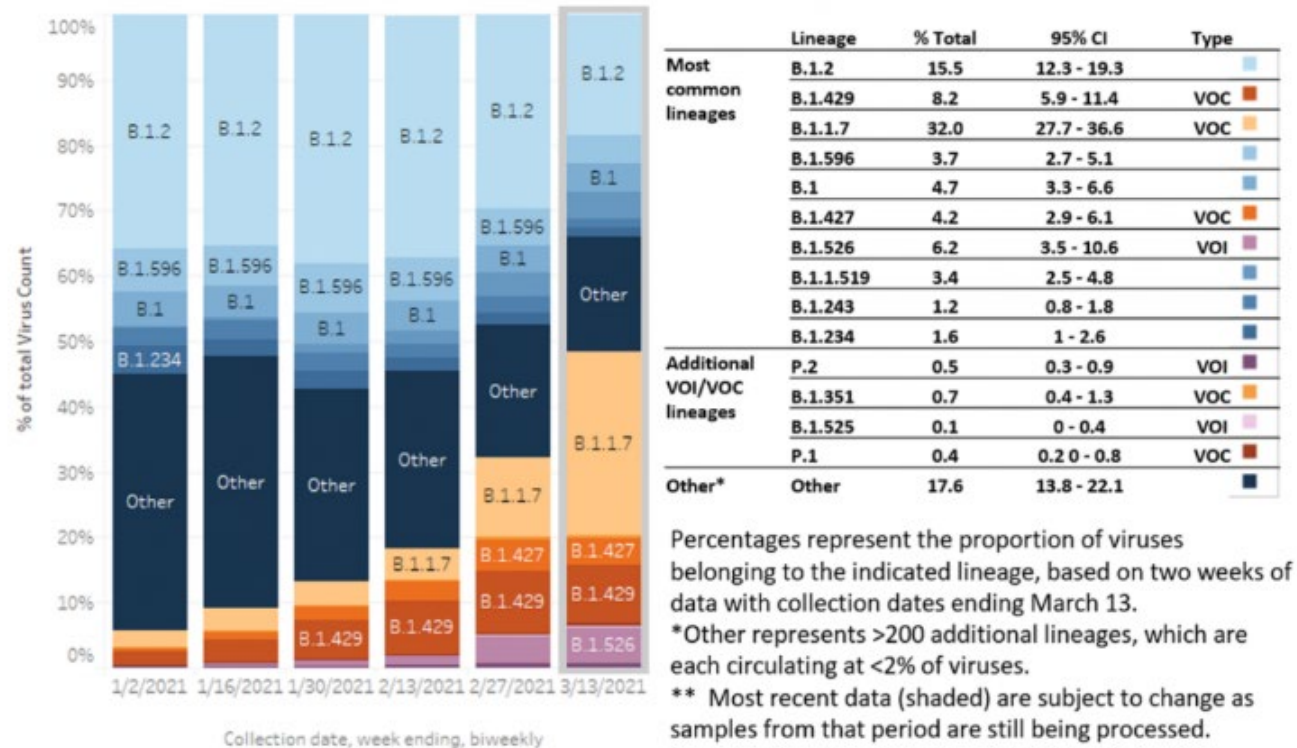
Variant	Reported Cases in US	Number of Jurisdictions Reporting
B.1.1.7	20915	52
B.1.351	453	36
P.1	497	31

Cases of Variants of Concern in the United States*†



From the CDC: SARS-CoV-2 Variants in the U.S.

Figure 1. SARS-CoV-2 Variants Circulating in the United States, January 2 – March 13, 2021[†]



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/variant-proportions.html>

VDH Health Advisory – April 13, 2021

- ❑ **Cases of Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis w/Thrombocytopenia after Receipt of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine**
- ❑ CDC & FDA joint statement (4/13/21); CDC health alert; ACIP meeting 4/14/21
- ❑ Requested Actions:
 - Be aware of the adverse events reported among recipients of the J&J Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. In patients with the appropriate clinical presentation, obtain a platelet count as initial screen for immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia.
 - Pause the use of the J&J Janssen COVID-19 vaccine until further notice. Continue administration of the available mRNA vaccines.
 - Be prepared to recognize and manage, in consultation with a specialist in hematology, these potential adverse events among persons who have received the J&J Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Report adverse events to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-HAN-JJ-Janssen-COVID-vaccine.pdf>

Tuesday Media Briefing (4/13/21)



Governor Phil Scott

- Just off White House call w/Drs. Fauci, Walensky, etc.
- J & J vaccine “pause”; recommendation, not mandate, “out of abundance of caution” based on 6 cases/6.8m. vaccinated; “extremely rare.”
- *“Likely to be on pause for days, not weeks.”*
- VT will see ~same allocation as last week. No J & J this week but slight increase in Pfizer & Moderna for state and federal pharmacy programs.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith

- We have paused J & J thru Friday – give feds time to carry out further study.
- Delays approx. 2K doses today, 2K more thru end of week; 1800 scheduled out further (determining what to do with those).
- Offering to reschedule those from this week for 2-dose vaccine OR receive J & J LATER if precautions lifted.
- Too early to assess impact right now on longer term vaccine strategy; we'll modify strategy/timeline if necessary moving forward.
- BIPOC population + household members: >6k have appts.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- Big news today: CDC/state actions regarding J & J vax. Unsettling news to some – until we know more, VTers who were scheduled for this vaccine will be rescheduled; call ctr. may have longer wait times.
- “Curious clinical syndrome – blood clotting in atypical places at a time when platelet counts abnormally low.” 6 cases being reviewed among women 16-48 y.o.; sx's developed 6-13 days after dose.
- CDC calling this a pause/“safety signal”; allows ACIP to meet.
 - Time to give HC community info they need re: treatment – NOT traditional heparin.
- To date only a few reports of J & J reactions online tool (all benign).

No cases of blood clots in Vermont.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Cases among younger VTers: you may have seen photos from North Beach this past weekend.
- ❑ Largely unmasked & not much physical distancing (probably not unique to Burlington).
- ❑ I want VTers to enjoy the outdoors – safer than being inside & important for MH, but *“disappointed to see such blatant disregard for the rules. This kind of behavior is just not OK right now. Everyone needs to remember we’re all part of a larger community & need to protect one another.”*

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

Top 10 reasons to get vaccinated (especially for younger people):

- ❑ Just because you're young and healthy, doesn't mean that you can't get very sick from COVID-19, including needing hospitalization.
- ❑ There is still much we don't know about long haul COVID.
- ❑ If enough people don't get vaccinated, there will be more person-to-person transmission and more opportunity for new variants to emerge.
- ❑ We're all ready for a time with less anxiety and less uncertainty.
- ❑ Seeing friends and family.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



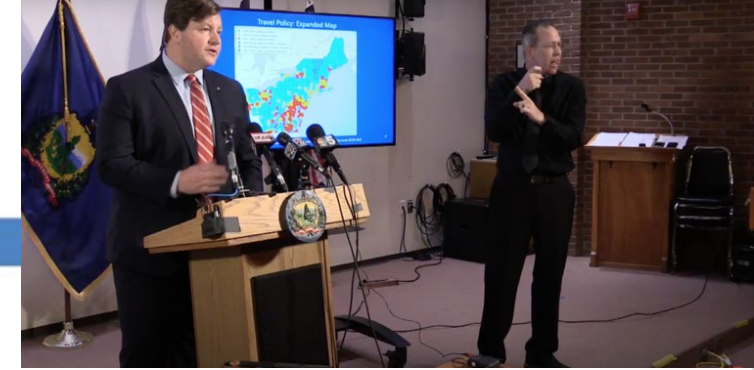
VDH Commissioner Levine

Top 10 reasons to get vaccinated (cont'd.)

- Staying healthy means less missed work and less financial stress.
- Getting vaccinated means we won't have to miss out on school and college.
- Getting vaccinated means, you can protect yourself when you travel, especially when infection rates vary in different places.
- Incentives. There might be a cremee coupon at the vaccine site.
- Making this one decision will make a healthier **future** for all of us.

If you have a young person in your life, talk to them and help them find a reason to be vaccinated!

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- 7d. case rate down; cases down in almost every age category (greatest decrease in 20-29 yo down 11% over past week). But that age grp. continues w/disproportionately high case rates vs. their portion of population.
- Weekly testing #s: for past 30d. VT leads US in per capita testing – Northeast also v. high.
- Cases in NEK higher; but Rutland & Chittenden improving.
- Forecast late March: track closely for 1st 7-10d.; then trajectory changed ~1 wk. ago for better. Wyman model: cases relatively flat in short term, then decrease in later April, into May.
- Regional: Northeast cases stabilized this week, down ~1%. NY, MA, CT improved while NH & ME seeing cases continue to rise.



Practice Issues

Advancing Child Health in 2021 – Summer Matters Update

Rebecca Bell, MD FAAP – AAPVT President; Leah Costello, MD FAAP – Timber Lane Pediatrics; Stephanie Winters, VMS Deputy ED, AAPVT ED



April 14, 2021





Advancing Child Health

In 2021 for the future





Primary Care Sustainability

Urging the Senate Health and Welfare Committee to prioritize a portion of the State's one-time, federal funds for primary care:

- **Payments:** Increase the Medicaid RBRVS Fee Schedule to bring primary care codes to 105% of Medicare;
- **Sustainability:** Dedicate ARPA funds for primary care Innovation grants that can be used to fund practice transformation to alleviate administrative burden, add mental health services and move towards value-based care;
- **Workforce:** Support on-going investment into the new primary care scholarship program in H.439.

Despite being called a key priority, Vermont primary care has experienced a gradual erosion in Medicaid **payment**, including current cuts in the 2021 fee schedule, decreases in primary care case management fees and lower vaccine administration fees. Vermont primary care providers face an avalanche of administrative burden that is **unsustainable**, largely exacerbated by COVID-19 and efforts to transform practices to value-based care. The primary care **workforce** is at crisis-levels, with low reimbursement and non-competitive loan repayment making recruitment and retention extremely difficult.

Please tell lawmakers how these small reductions are adding up to impact your practice and that the restoration of this funding will help primary care practices survive during this critical time and that the primary care scholarship funding is critical to ensure Vermont's rural health care workforce.

Contact Committee members:

vlyons@leg.state.vt.us; chooker@leg.state.vt.us; JTerenzini@leg.state.vt.us; acummings@leg.state.vt.us;
rhardy@leg.state.vt.us; nmarvel@leg.state.vt.us



Primary Care Sustainability

› Scholarship Funding

- On-going appropriation for the primary care scholarship that was created by the legislature in 2020.
- Scholarship program has not yet been implemented by AHEC. In response, the legislature is drafting an MOU between AHEC and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) requiring collaboration to establish the scholarship program.
- Medical school tuition for up to five third-year and five fourth-year medical students. Recipients must fulfill two-years of full-time service or four-years of half-time service for each academic year of tuition covered by the scholarship.



COVID-19 Emergency Flexibilities

› Audio-Only Telehealth

- For the remainder of 2021, health insurance companies regulated by the State of Vermont must reimburse for audio-only telehealth services at parity with in-person services; for insurance plan years 2022-2024 DFR, in consultation with stakeholders, will determine amounts for plans to pay
 - › Consent will be required for audio-only telehealth services as soon as the bill goes into effect (before 3/31/21), so practices should begin to adopt an updated consent form and process immediately. [VMS has a sample available here.](#)

[Signed by Governor](#)



Expansion of Dr. Dynasaur

- › [H.430](#) expands eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur by July 1, 2022 to all income-eligible children and pregnant women who would otherwise qualify for Medicaid except for their immigration status. AAPVT, VTAFP and VMS support this expansion and are part of a coalition pushing for this legislation to pass.

Passed the House and now in Senate Health & Welfare



Public Health

- › Mixed Martial Arts and Children
 - Allow for more oversight and authority of the Office of Professional Regulation
 - History of MMA matches involving children
- › Flavor Ban on Tobacco Products
 - S.24 would ban the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol products.
 - › Passed Senate Health and Welfare and advanced to the Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs Committee.

Public Health

› Cannabis Regulation

- [S.25](#) was introduced as a “housekeeping” bill to meet some of the Governor’s [requests](#) when he let [S. 54](#) pass unsigned in 2020. The requests included additional marketing restrictions and safeguarding prevention funding.
 - › The bill in its current form does meet some of the Governor’s and VMS/AAPVT requests to protect the public health as much as possible
 - limit advertising to venues where not more than 15 percent of the audience is reasonably expected to be under the age of 21.
 - all advertisements contain health warnings and be approved by the Cannabis Control Board prior to dissemination.
 - Puts up “guard rails” on the prevention dollars to ensure that 30% of the revenue raised by the cannabis excise tax is used for the purpose of funding substance misuse prevention programming, even if carried over from a previous fiscal year.



Public Health

- › Sales Tax Exemption for Feminine Hygiene Products
 - [S.53](#), would provide an exemption from sales tax for feminine hygiene products.
 - › Passed the Senate unanimously and advanced to the House Ways and Means Committee



Injury Prevention

› Firearm Safety

– **Prohibition on Possession of Firearms in Hospital Buildings**

- › [S.30](#) would make knowingly possessing a firearm in a hospital a criminal offense.
- › Becca Bell, M.D. testified to the real and immediate need for this legislation, and was referred to and quoted by Senators when citing the need for passage.
- › Passed Senate and now in House Judiciary

– **Extreme Relief From Abuse Orders Bill Passes the House**

- › [H.133](#) would require any defendant issued a temporary relief from abuse order to immediately relinquish, until the expiration of the order, all firearms that are in the defendant's possession, ownership, or control, and to refrain from acquiring or possessing any firearms while the order is in effect.
 - Passed the House and now in Senate Judiciary



Summer Programs

› Summer Matters Initiative

- Vermont Afterschool, in partnership with the Vermont Agency of Education and Vermont Agency of Human Services, along with U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders' Office, recently coordinated Governor Phil Scott's and Senator Sanders' vision to provide expanded summer enrichment opportunities for youth statewide. The work we do this summer will meet the immediate needs of Vermont families and inform our collective efforts to provide universal afterschool in the future.
- Three Key Messages
 - › Summer is important. Our kids need to be able to enjoy this summer and use it as a time to re-connect with their friends, family, and communities.
 - › Summer is safe. We can and will design guidelines and strategies to keep kids safe while they spend their time being kids.
 - › Summer programs are available. We are working with our partners to ensure that there are program options across the state that are accessible and affordable for families.

<https://www.vermontafterschool.org/summermatters/>



Early Childhood Education

› Child Care Financing & Accessibility

– H.171 would

- › (1) expand the eligibility of the Child Care Financial Assistance Program;
- › (2) appropriate funds for the implementation of the Bright Futures Information System modernization plan; (
- › 3) establish scholarships and student loan repayment assistance programs for existing and prospective members of the child care workforce;
- › (4) require the completion of studies on child care financing and governance; and
- › (5) establish an Early Care and Education Governance and Administration Advisory Committee.

Passed the House and is now in the Senate Health & Welfare Committee



AAP Advocacy Conference

- › Anti-Trans Bills (National and Vermont Actions)
 - › AAP Advocacy
 - › AAPVT (joined by UVM Children's Hospital, VMS, VTAFP, VPA, VTACEP, PAAV)
 - Call on Governor Scott and the Vermont General Assembly to support full access to gender care and oppose any proposals that would:
 - › Limit access to evidence based medical and psychological care
 - › Prevent youth from playing sports alongside their peers.
- › Border Crisis
- › Improving Vaccines for Children

Virtual Hill Visits

GoToMeeting

Talking: Wendy Davis, MD & Morris, Alexandra (Leahy) View Everyone

10

SMB

Wendy Davis, MD

SBox Mini B

Colleen Moran, MD FAAP

Becca Bell, MD, AAP-VT

Barb Frankowski, MD

Olivia Larkin

Morris, Alexandra (Leahy)

Twichell, Sarah

Dr. Lauren Faricy

Breena Holmes, MD

Mic Camera Screen Leave

Next Up...Hugs!!



- **What**: QI Grand Rounds: free webinar & discussion series:
NAS Care and Health Equity
 - ▣ Discussion of strategies for addressing inequity in the care of infants & mothers with opioid exposure, including approaches to harm reduction & reducing overtreatment, partnering with families, & other topics related to quality improvement in NAS
- **When**: Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. ET
- **Who**: (faculty): Stephen Patrick, MD, MPH; Lenora Marcellus PhD, MN, BSN, RN; Adrienne Pahl, MD; Erika Edwards, PhD, MPH; Roger Soll, MD
- **How**: register at <https://public.vtoxford.org/qi-grand-rounds/>

Save the Date!

- What? **Child maltreatment conference**
- Who? **James Metz, MD MPH** & other expert speakers
- When? **April 29**, 8 am – 12:15 pm via live stream
- How? **Register at:**

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=3cdb8290-cfe5-4dbb-b73b-29ecabed13f0&preview=true&m=1130384660698&id=preview>



Recognizing and Responding to Child Maltreatment Promoting Child Abuse Awareness in VT Conference

Thursday, April 29, 2021
8:00am -12:15pm
LIVE STREAM

This conference will help the professional to recognize sentinel injuries, sexual abuse and neglect. Participants will learn about the mental health implications of trauma and abuse and will learn strategies for effective reporting.



James Metz, MD, MPH - Course Director

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
Division Chief, Child Abuse Medicine
UVM Larner College of Medicine

*"Recognizing Sentinel Injuries" and
"Child Neglect"*

Save the Date: Friday, June 4, 2021



Course Director
David C. Rettew, M.D.

Join us virtually for the 14th Annual Child Psychiatry in Primary Care Conference, featuring faculty from UVM and the community.

Topics this year include:

- Assessing Risks After School Violence Threats
- Mental Health Care Needs in Primary Care
- Child Psychiatry in the Emergency Department
- Integrated Care Forum
- Praising and Overpraising
- Post COVID Mental Health
- Anxiety Disorders
- Motivational Interviewing Techniques
- Social Media Use and Mental Health

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, April 16, 2021 – 12:15 – 12:45 pm***
- ❑ Generally back to **Monday/Wednesday/Friday** schedule
- ❑ Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:
Thursday, April 15, 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#