

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
May 3, 2021



Technology Notes

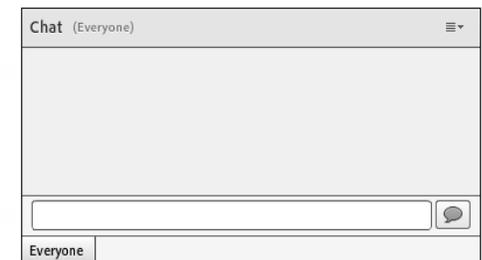
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

Call in number – 1-866-814-9555

Participant Code – 6266787790

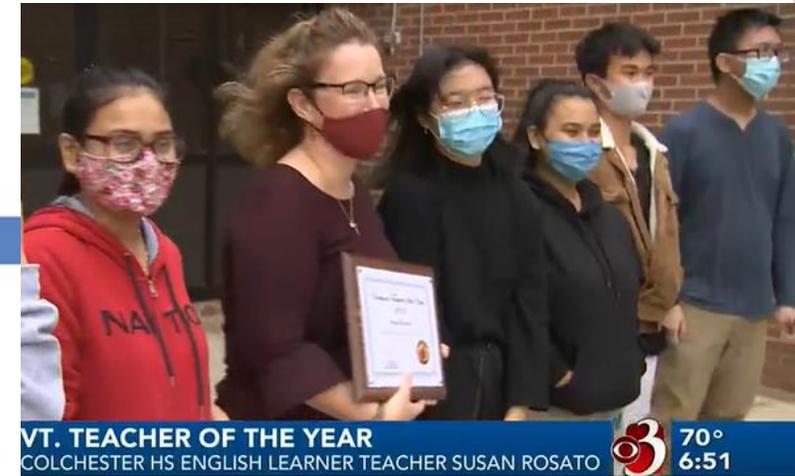
Presenters: Please avoid the use of speakerphone and make sure your computer speaker is muted if you dialed in via phone.

- 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

- **Natl. Teacher Appreciation Day (5/4), Week (5/2-8)**
 - **SEE** White House proclamation:
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/04/30/a-proclamation-on-national-teacher-appreciation-day-and-national-teacher-appreciation-week-2021/>
 - **Also: *Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week (May 3 – 9)***
- **Reminder – weekly event schedule:**
 - **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W/F; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Comm. Levine Thursday (this week: Dr. Marj Meyer)**
- **Situation, VDH, CDC, AAP updates**
- **Practice Issues: *Protecting Young VTers w/COVID-19 Vaccines***
- **Q & A/Discussion**



<https://www.wcax.com/2020/10/15/vermont-teacher-of-the-year-to-be-announced-thursday/>

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

Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week (5/3-9)

Thank you, **Jill Davis** (*VCHIP Project Director & QI Coach*)

- Up to 1 in 5 pregnant/postpartum Vermonters may have symptoms of depression and/or anxiety during perinatal period. (VDH Website Nov. 2019).

Resources for Perinatal Mood & Anxiety Disorders (PMADs)

- Help Me Grow Vermont (dial 2-1-1, option 6 for MH clinicians w/PMADs expertise)
- Medical providers in need of consultation & education: contact Sandy Wood, CNM PMHNP at the **Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Consultation Service**, University of Vermont Medical Center at (802) 847-4758.
- Vermont chapter of **Postpartum Support International**: maintains list of support coordinators and support groups available to all.

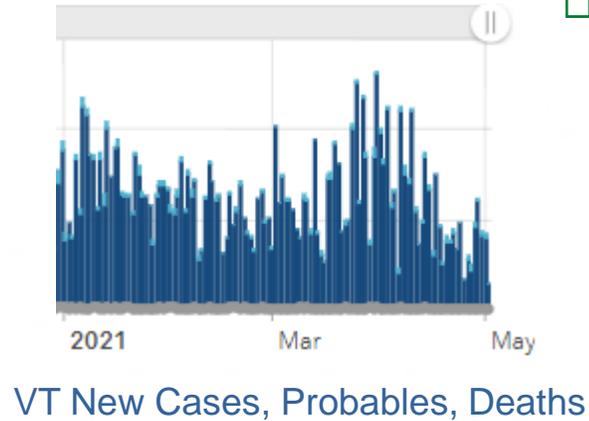
Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week (5/3-9)

Resources for Perinatal Mood & Anxiety Disorders (cont'd.)

- ❑ **Strong Families Vermont** offers home visiting to pregnant and parenting people using a continuum of services in partnership with CIS, MCH and other partners in each community.
- ❑ VCHIP and VDH are collaborating on a project to work with practices interested in quality improvement regarding screening, treatment and/or referral for depression, anxiety or substance use.
 - ❑ Email: jill.davis@med.uvm.edu
- ❑ **Partners for Access** (a Chittenden County resource; part of the Howard Center) to call for child/family mental health support.
 - ❑ Phone: (802) 488 -7474
 - ❑ Email: PartnersForAccess@howardcenter.org *(thank you, Melissa Kaufold)*

Situation update

New Cases 31 23,158 Total
Currently Hospitalized 15
Hospitalized In ICU 4
Hospitalized Under Investigation 1
Percent Positive 7-day Avg. 1.1%
People Tested 382,134
Total Tests 1,592,996
Recovered 20,586 88.9% of Cases
Deaths 248 1.1% of Cases
Last Updated: 5/3/2021, 10:47:47 AM

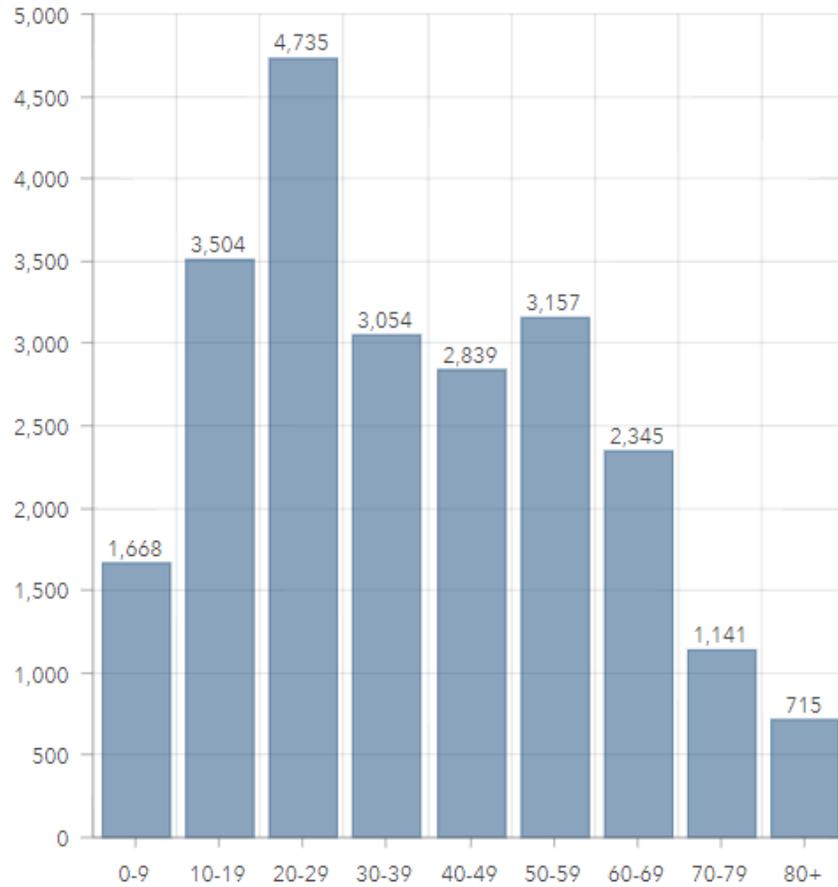


- U.S. **32.2 million+** cases; **573,001 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 5/3/21)
 - 5/2/21: **29,536 new cases; 299 deaths** (ltd. public data)
 - Past week: av. 49,266 cases/day (14d. change -27%)
 - 3.2 million+ deaths worldwide; 152.8 million+ cases** (+7% & +12% 14-day change respectively)
- VDH **Weekly Data Summary**(4/30/21)
 - No Weekly Spotlight Topic**
 - 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>

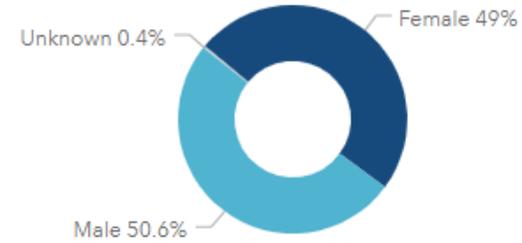
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>

Situation update

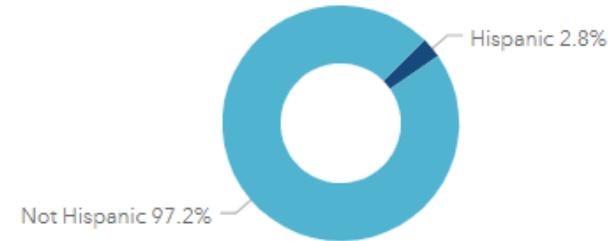
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known

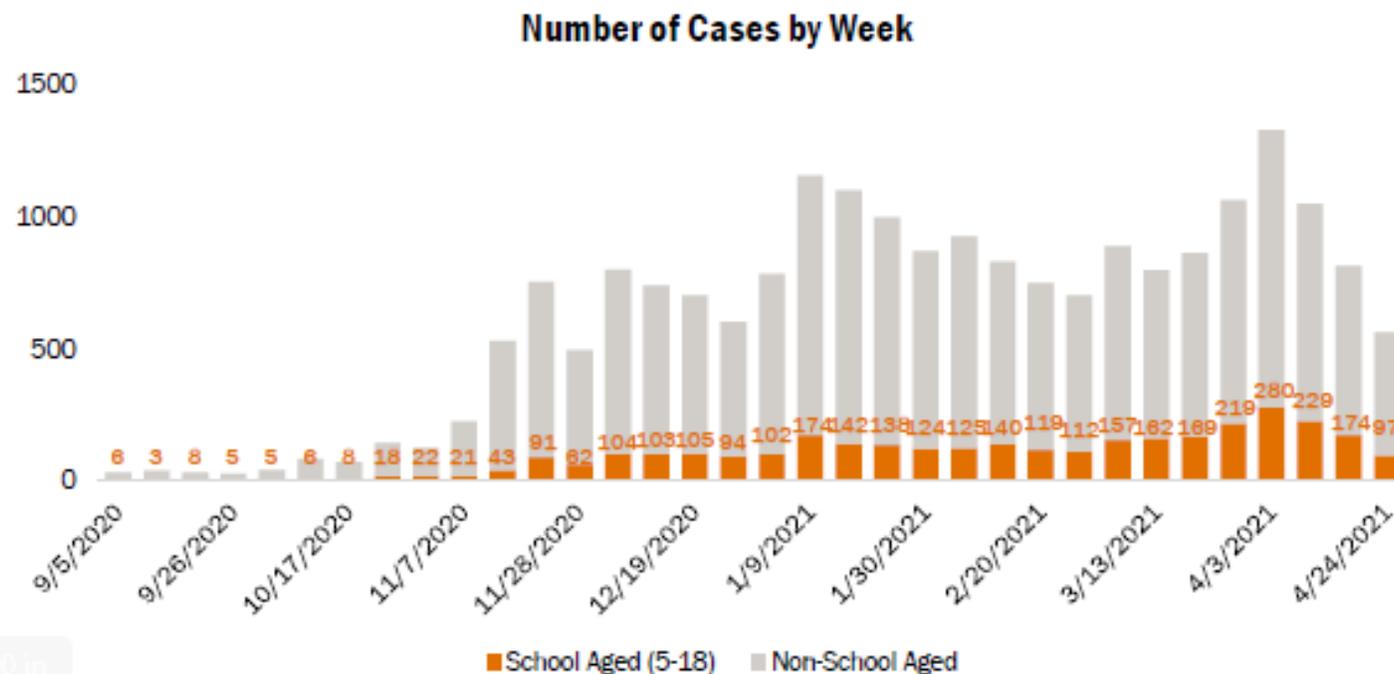


Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



Case Demographics

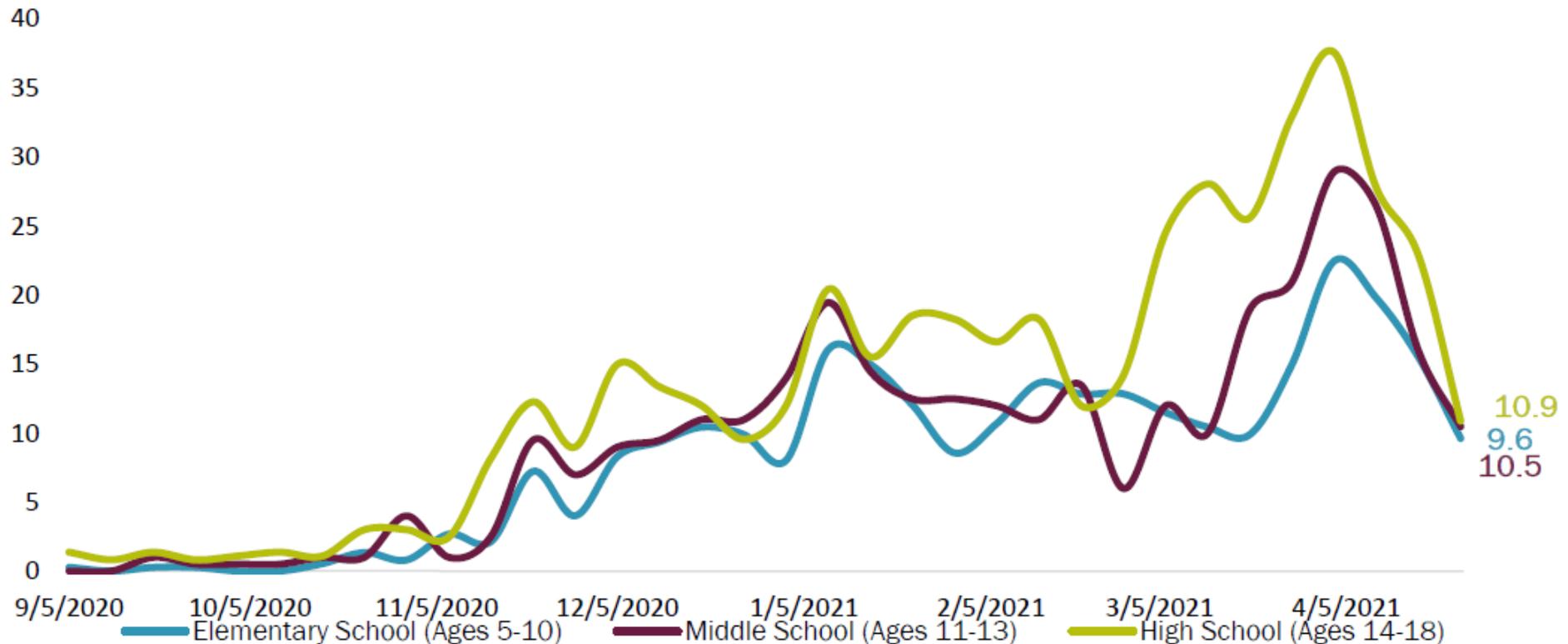
This brief reflects data as of April 24, 2021 at 7 pm (the last complete MMWR week). All rates are calculated per 10,000 people. The 14-18 year old age group does not include college students. Data is preliminary and subject to change.



1.50 x 11.00 in

COVID-19 Cases Among Vermont's School-Aged Children

Rates by Week by School Category



[Compare to data from week of 4/10/21: rates were 22.9/10K (HS), 16.0 (MS), and 15.5 Elementary School respectively]

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 28, 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	20	1260

April 25, 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	17	1250

VT College & University dashboards:

- UVM update** (week of 4/19-4/25/21): 24 new cases off campus; 20 on campus; 0 faculty; 0 staff
- Middlebury College results** (updated 4/20/21): 0 new cases & 1 active cases (employees).
- Norwich University:** 3 current positives

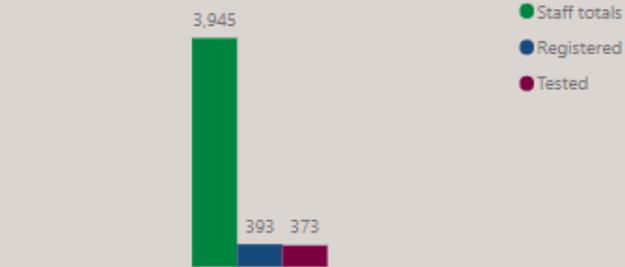
AOE School Staff Testing Dashboard

School Staff Testing: Weekly Summary



Summary

Select Testing Week: April 25, 2021

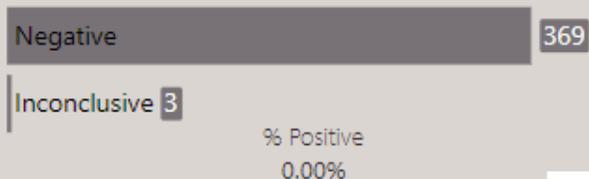


Week	Staff totals	Registered	Tested
Apr 25	3,945	393	373

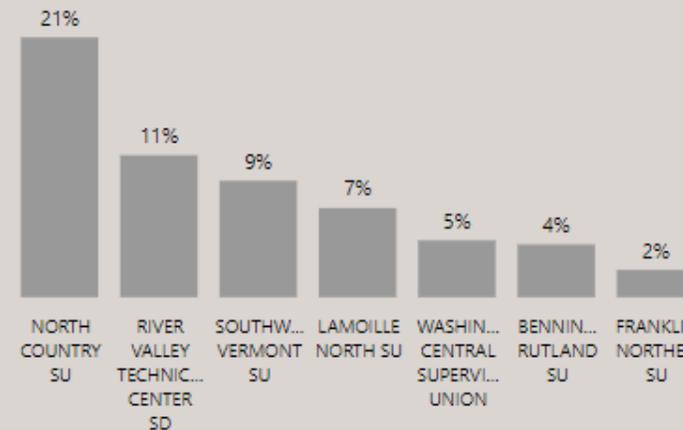
% Registered by SD/SU

SD/SU	% Registered
NORTH COUNTRY SU	21%
RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER SD	11%
SOUTHWEST VERMONT SU	9%
LAMOILLE NORTH SU	7%
WASHINGTON CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION	5%
BENNINGTON RUTLAND SU	4%
FRANKLIN NORTHEAST SU	2%
Total	9%

Test Results



Week	Inconclusive	Negative	Total
Apr 25	3	369	372



Data source: Vermont Testing/Vaccine Registration System. Updated 5/3/2021 7:13:30 AM

Week of April 25; updated 5/3/21

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

Pilot Student Surveillance Testing

Superintendent's Desk

Mark Tucker, M.A. - Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Sample
communication:
Superintendent
Mark Tucker,
CCSU

Voluntary Covid-19 Student Surveillance Testing

April 30, 2021

Dear Danville School Families,

The Vermont Department of Health (VDH) and the Agency of Education (AOE) have embarked on a project to provide periodic Covid-19 testing of students in schools. The aim of this initiative is to improve the detection rate among students who may not be showing symptoms of the infection. It is hoped that early detection will better enable schools to identify when a student may unknowingly be spreading Covid-19 amongst his or her classmates and school staff. This will hopefully lead to a reduction in the need to quarantine larger groups, and get us back to having students in-person, all day, every day, as safely as possible.

Even as we see overall conditions improving, we know we will be living with Covid-19 for the foreseeable future. In addition to masking, distancing and staying home when we are sick, surveillance testing will be another tool in the toolbox to prevent the spread of COVID among our staff and students.

Participation in student surveillance testing is voluntary. This is strictly an opt-in process, so there is no need for you to tell us if you are not participating. Nobody will be tested at school without prior written consent.

<https://www.smores.com/1xkad>

May 3, 2021

12

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.

Vaccination by County

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

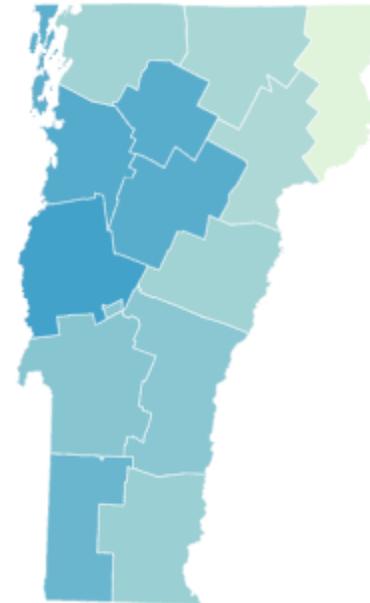
Show Rates By:

Overall

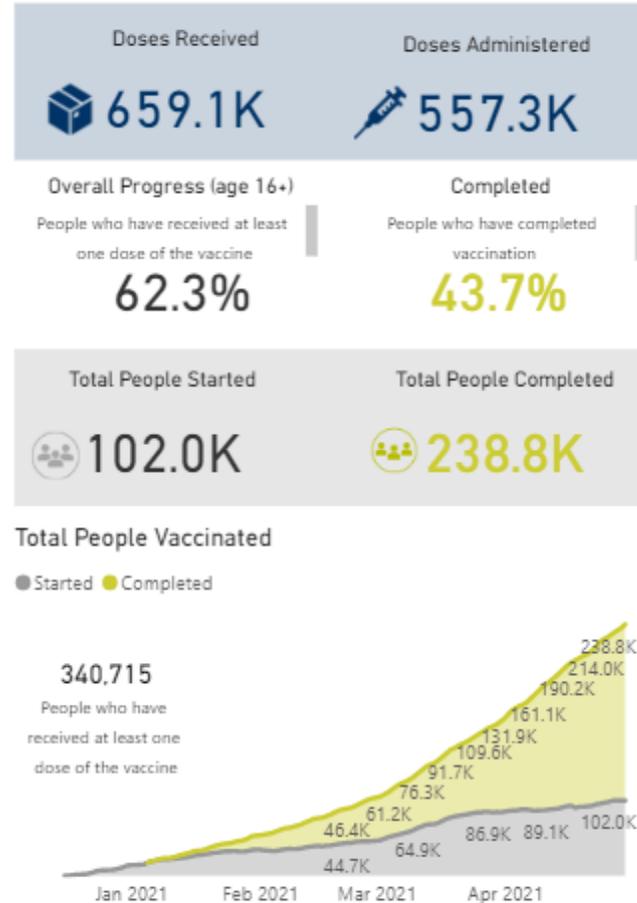
Race/Ethnicity

Ethnicity

County	Overall progress
Addison	69.4%
Bennington	64.1%
Caledonia	54.8%
Chittenden	67.0%
Essex	47.7%
Franklin	56.2%
Grand Isle	65.7%
Lamoille	66.4%
Orange	56.4%
Orleans	55.3%
Rutland	59.9%
Washington	66.5%
Windham	57.4%
Windsor	59.5%
Vermont	62.3%



47.7% 69.4%



Updated 5/1/2021 8:22:04 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.

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	24.3%
18 - 29	31.1%
30 - 39	50.1%
40 - 49	59.0%
50 - 59	69.3%
60 - 64	78.8%
65 - 69	88.3%
70 - 74	93.8%
75+	89.7%
Vermont	62.3%

By Sex - Statewide

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

Sex	%*
Female	67.0%
Male	57.3%
Vermont	62.3%

Sex information is missing for 0% of people vaccinated.

By Race - Statewide

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

Race	%*
White	60.1%
Two or more races	44.8%
Pacific Islander	10.3%
Native American, Indigenous, or First Nation	20.5%
Black or African American	44.3%
Asian	55.3%
Vermont	59.4%

Race information is missing for 5% of people vaccinated.

By Race/Ethnicity and Age - Statewide

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	46.7%	77.6%	50.1%
Non-Hispanic White	48.1%	84.1%	57.0%
Vermont	48.0%	83.9%	56.6%

Race/ethnicity information is missing for 9% of people vaccinated.

BIPOC refers to Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

By Ethnicity - Statewide

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

Ethnicity	%*
Hispanic	60.4%
Not Hispanic	56.9%
Vermont	57.0%

Ethnicity information is missing for 13% of people vaccinated.

*Percentages reported as 95% here indicate $\geq 95\%$. Values above 95% are suppressed to protect personal health information.

Updated 5/1/2021 8:22:04 AM

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Registration & Sites

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

All Vermont residents age 16 and older are eligible to be vaccinated! College students and some residents of another state are now eligible for vaccines.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

There are enough appointments for everyone who is eligible. Appointments are required. You will make your second-dose appointment when you get your first dose.

ONLINE

[MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

Use the blue button above to make an appointment through the state website, which includes clinics run by the Health Department, the National Guard, health care partners, Costco, Hannaford, Price Chopper, Rite Aid, Shaws and Walmart.

BY PHONE

Can't make an appointment online or need help? Contact our call center at **855-722-7878**.

- To speak with someone in a language other than English, call this number, and then press 1.
- For people who are Deaf or hard of hearing, you can make a TTY call to this number.

Call Center Hours

Monday - Friday, 8:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Home Pharmacy + Savings + Shop + About Us + Contact

COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling at Kinney Drugs in Vermont

Currently, the State of Vermont allows...

- Vermont residents age 65+



Search

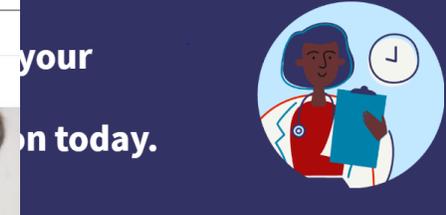
Pharmacy MinuteClinic® HealthHUB Shop ExtraCare® Contact Lenses Photo

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.

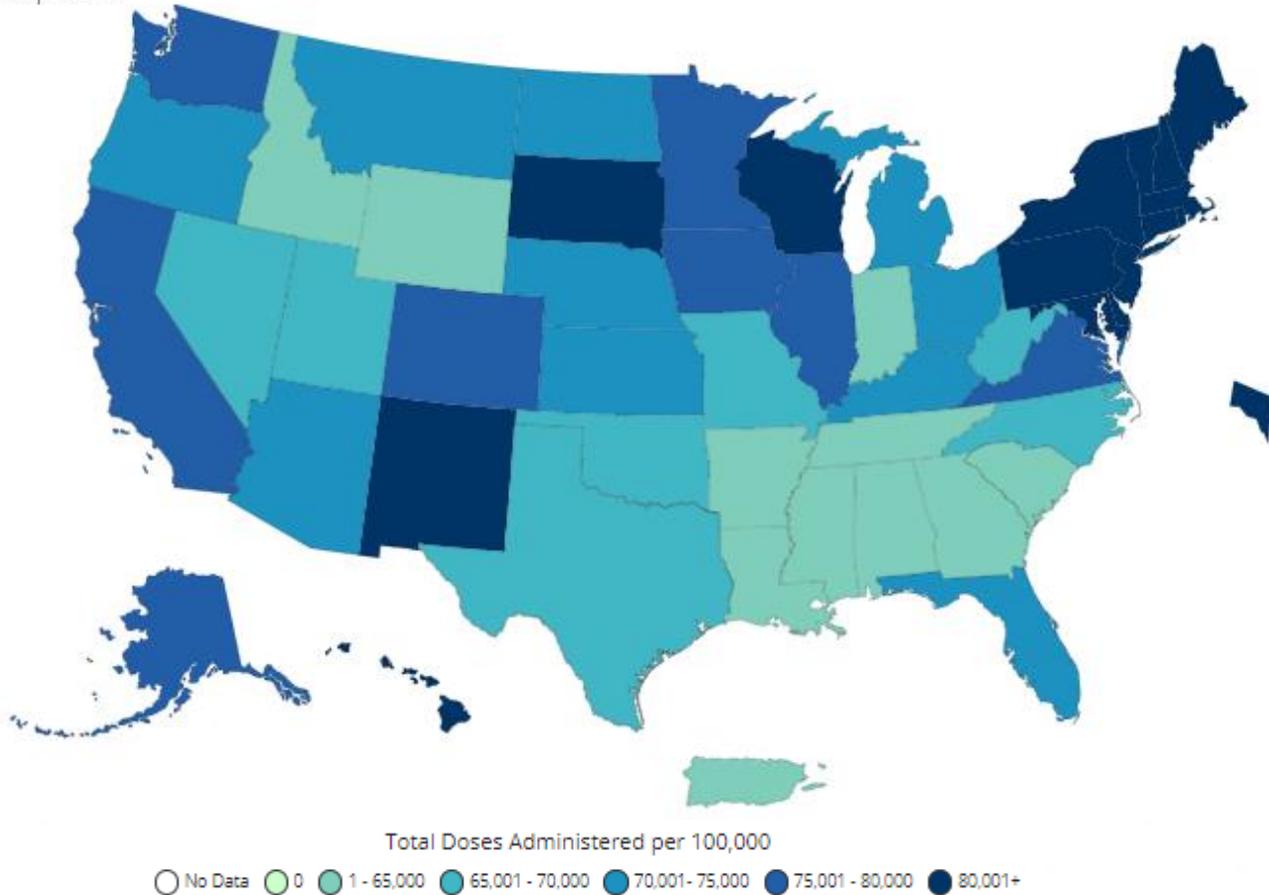
No cost with insurance or through federal program for the uninsured.



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

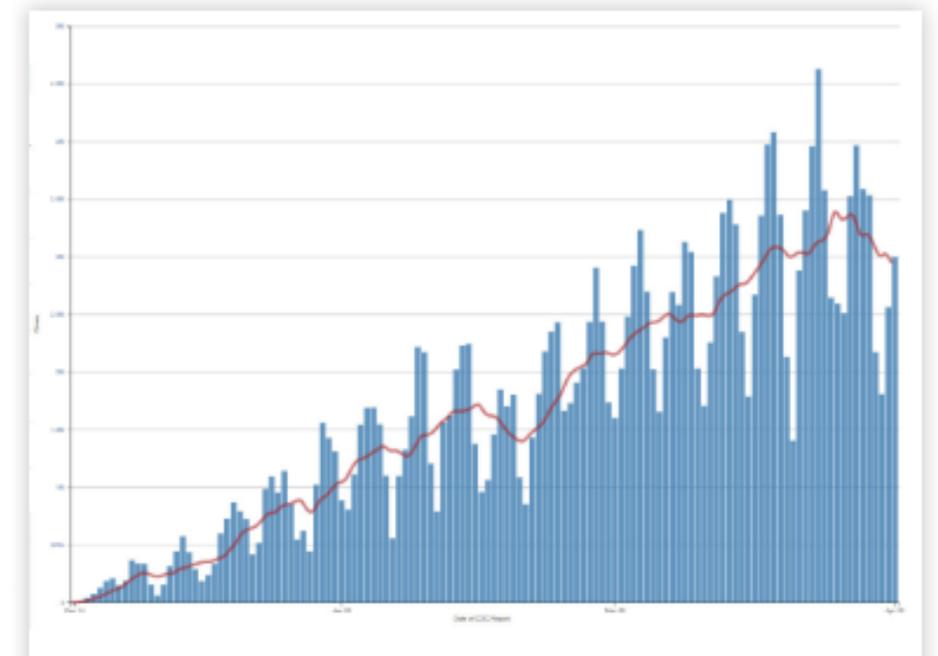
From the CDC Vaccine Tracker

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

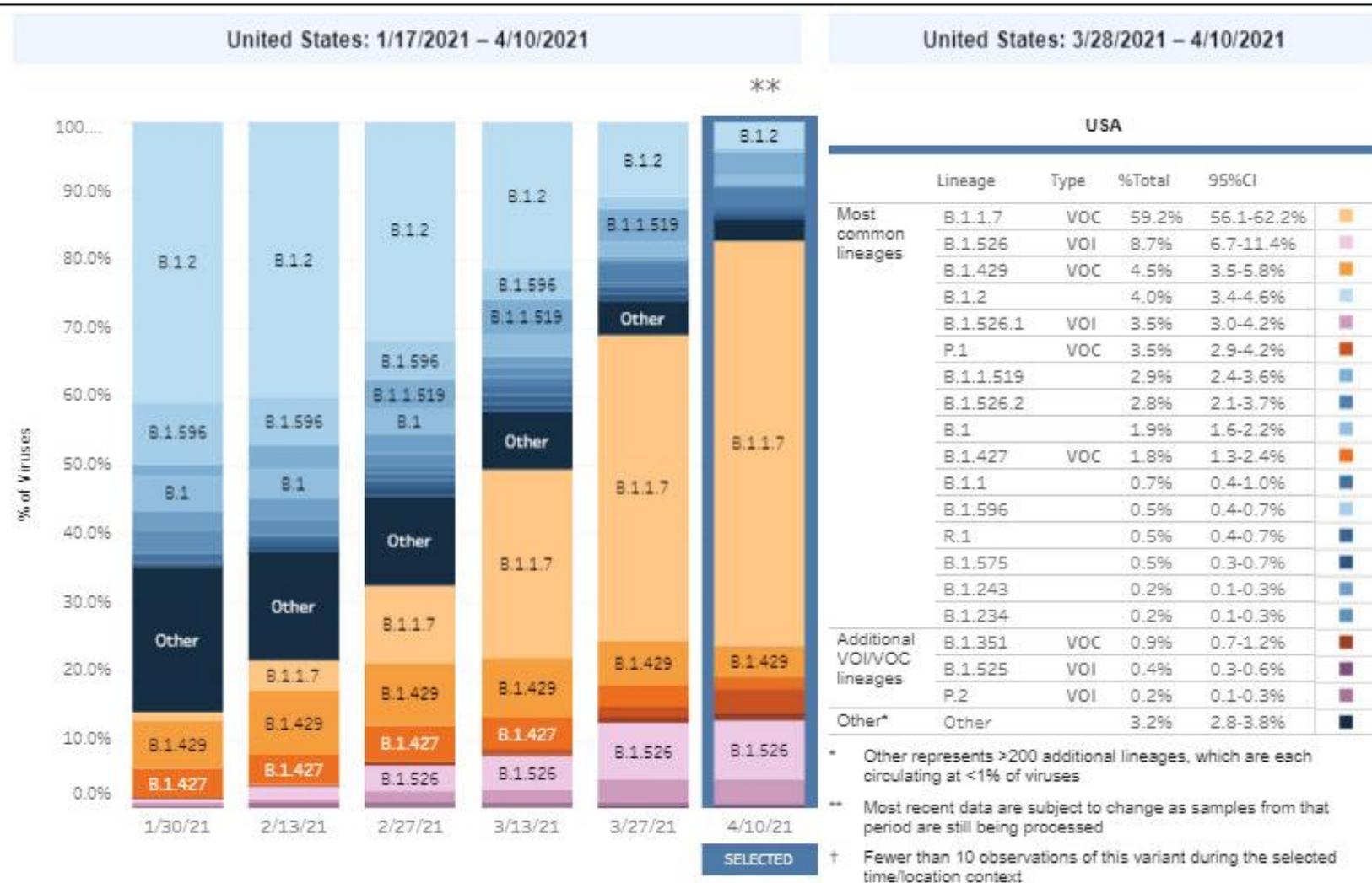


<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>

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

May 3, 2021

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



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

Vaccine News

- From the New York Times: ***Reaching ‘Herd Immunity’ Is Unlikely in the U.S., Experts Now Believe***
 - “Widely circulating coronavirus variants and persistent hesitancy about vaccines will keep the goal out of reach. The virus is here to stay, but vaccinating the most vulnerable may be enough to restore normalcy.”
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/03/health/covid-herd-immunity-vaccine.html>
- From the VDH Immunization Program: **Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Update, Tuesday 5/4/21, 1pm ET** – expected to provide information on the vaccine development program as well as the US distribution plans with the states.
-

From the AAP

- Today's **AAP Daily Briefing**:
 - Schools Intend To Stop Quarantining Students Over Potential COVID Exposure (WaPo)
 - Analyses Of Pediatric COVID-19 Cases In 2 States Highlight Disparities
 - COVID-19 Transmission And Infection In New York City Public Schools
- AAP **HealthyChildren.org** newsletter April 2021: Focus on COVID-19 Vaccines Your Family
 - e-newsletter sent to all HealthyChildren.org registered users. Newsletters are archived on the site in English and Spanish.
- Special edition – Federal Advocacy update (4/29/21):
<https://services.aap.org/en/advocacy/the-first-100-days-special-edition-capital-check-ups/>

VDH Update: Schools & Child Care

- School and Childcare branch of HOC has asked the **Restart Team** (meeting today at 1 pm) to consider how the new outdoor mask guidance impacts child care and other settings until end of Step 3 of ***Vermont Forward***
- AOE Secretary Dan French has already said that we are sticking with the current ***Strong and Healthy Year*** guidance for schools (masks required inside and outside regardless of the distance)
 - ▣ We have asked AOE to message that today

VDH Update: Camp Guidance

- Several overnight camps interpreting **pre-arrival guidelines** to mean that campers must quarantine before arrival. **This is not the intention** of the language below re: low-risk pre-arrival activities.
- *****We are working on editing the guidance to be more clear, but in the meantime: any activity that is part of the care of children prior to arrival at overnight camp is allowable.***
 - ▣ Maintaining as strict a cohort as possible outside of mandatory school and direct work requirements**, wearing face masks when with anyone not in your household, and conducting any interactions with those outside your cohort outdoors.
 - ▣ Do not attend gatherings with other households.
 - ▣ Do not attend funerals, weddings, or family events (even visits to family members living outside your household).
 - ▣ Do not have playdates or participate in team sports, attend recitals or other such gatherings

Promoting Vermont Afterschool Summer Resources

*Two-page handout/poster to post and distribute to your patients/families (thank you, **Erica Gibson, MD FAAP – AAPVT Vice-President**)*

- ❑ **WEBSITE FOR INFO ABOUT Summer Opportunities For Vermont Youth:**
<https://www.vermontafterschool.org/summermatters/youth>
- ❑ (Selected) Content
 - ❑ **Engage:** After such a difficult year, you deserve a great summer. Thanks to the passage of the American Rescue Plan, there will be a historic investment in summer opportunities for youth in Vermont. These opportunities included on this page include ways for you to connect with friends and your community, help pave the way to normalcy with your input, explore careers, find summer jobs, and most of all have FUN.
 - ❑ **Enrich:** Your lives have been put on hold and you've missed out on your favorite activities like sports, performing arts, academic support, exploring the outdoors, and simply hanging out with your friends or having opportunities to meet new friends. **Click on the map** to check out the summer programs near you or search who's hiring.

Vermont Afterschool Summer Resources (cont'd.)

□ (Selected) Content

- **Earn:** We know you missed out on some opportunities to be independent this past year—like get a new job, save money, or make your own purchases. As we get back to normal and things open back up, there are a ton of businesses interested in hiring teens. These include camps, restaurants, landscaping businesses, retail stores, and so many others.
- **Looking for a job working with kids this summer?** Consider working at a summer camp or summer learning program in your community! Fill out our intake form and we'll match you with programs looking to hire teens and young adults. www.vermontafterschool.org/recruit
- **Explore:** Are you starting to think about what kind of career you're interested in and how to explore these options? Perhaps a mentor could be a helpful resource as you explore these options and think about your future.
- **AND resources for:** Career Exploration Opportunities, Alternative Program Opportunities, College Sponsored Opportunities

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

COVID-19 Vaccine for Children & Youth

- ❑ Vermont continues early stages of planning for COVID vaccination for children and youth ages 12-15 y.o. in anticipation of EUA for Pfizer for this age group soon & potential to start vaccinating late May/early June
- ❑ Existing vaccination sites (state sites/pharmacies) are effective, but need to continue to explore how well they will work for this age group
- ❑ AAP-VT leaders support exploring school-located vaccine clinics and other options; would require school nurse-medical home partnerships and buy-in
- ❑ Medical home administration of COVID vaccine also being considered in planning; must consider storage/handling requirements and medical home interest/willingness/ability.
- ❑ ***Your feedback needed here – please stay tuned for email survey!***

Launching Youth/Parent COVID Vaccine “Town Halls”



- AAP Vermont chapter, in collaboration with VDH, area schools and medical homes
 - ▣ First up: Brattleboro (via Zoom)
 - ▣ Monday, 5/3/21, 7 – 8 p.m.
 - ▣ Thank you Kat Goodell, Breena Holmes, Liz Richards, Valerie Rooney, Stephanie Winters
- Video by Rebecca Bell, MD FAAP addressing vaccine hesitancy
- Slide deck will be available for future use in ***your*** community

Practice Issues

Protecting Young Vermonters with COVID-19 Vaccines



Protecting Young Vermonters with COVID Vaccines



Elizabeth Richards, MD
May 3, 2021

Vermont Chapter

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American Academy of Pediatrics

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Objectives

- Introductions
- Brief overview of COVID and children with Vermont data
- Reminder about mental health concerns in Children and Adolescents
- Video from AAP-VT Chapter President
- Information on Vaccine for children and adolescents
- Uptake of COVID vaccine for 16 & 17 year olds to date in VT
- Future planning: anticipating approval of vaccine for 12-15 year olds
- Questions and Answers

Vermont Chapter

INCORPORATED IN VERMONT

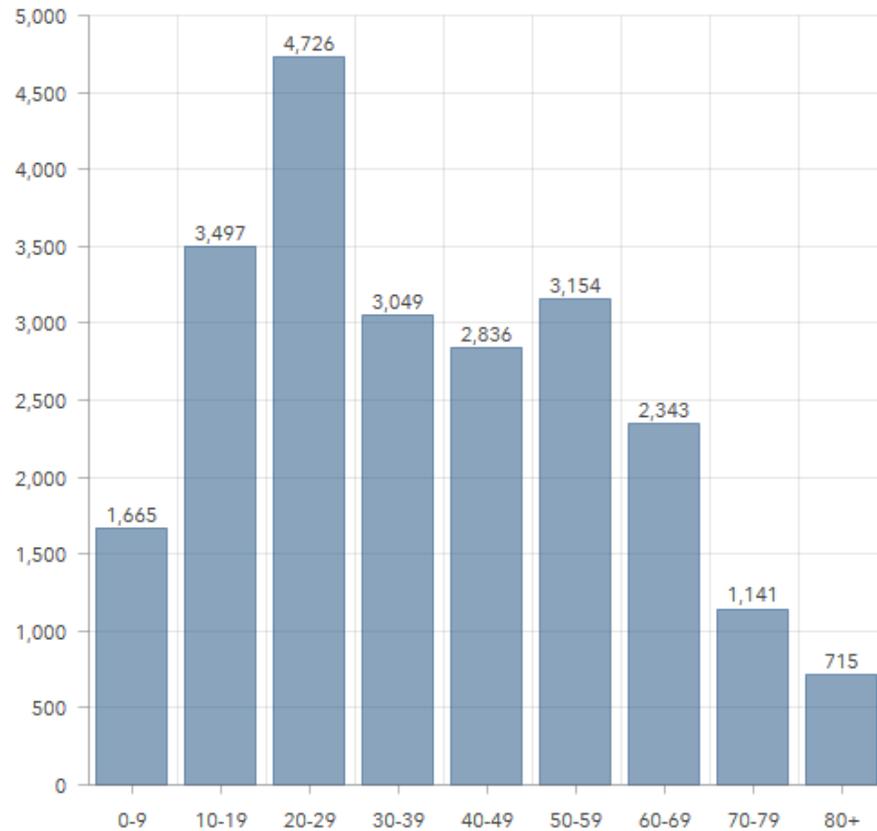
American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

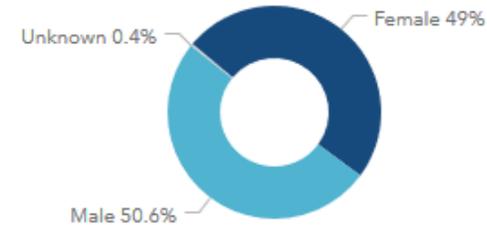


Cases of COVID-19 in Vermont: May 2, 2021

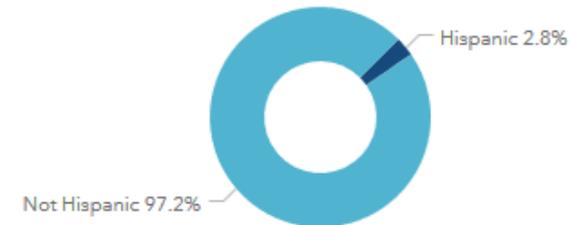
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



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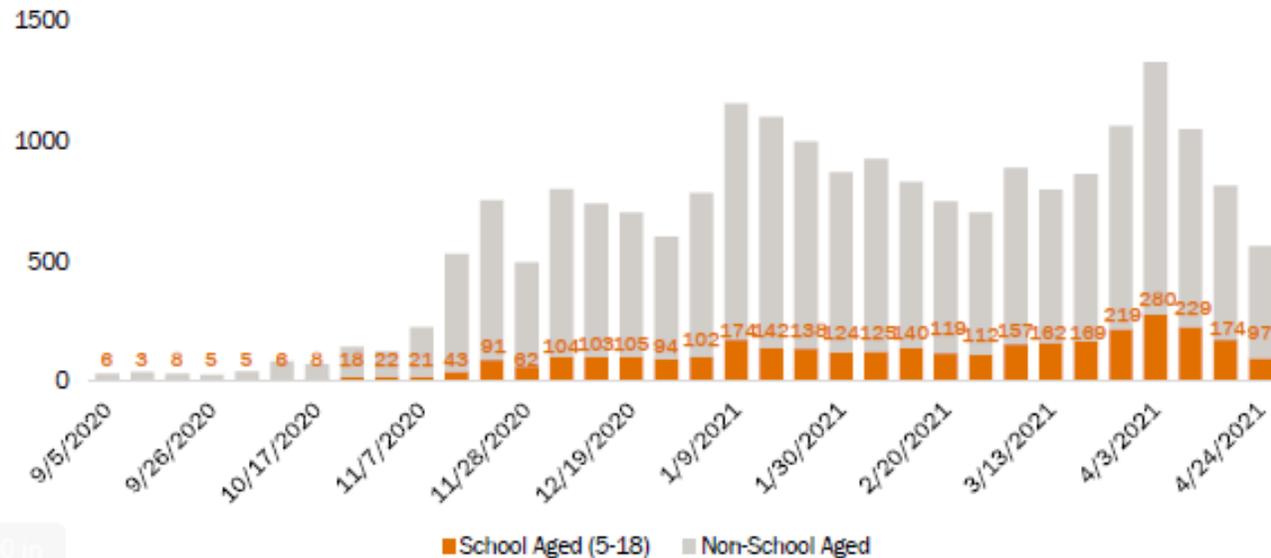


COVID-19 Cases Among School Aged Children

April 26, 2021

This brief reflects data as of April 24, 2021 at 7 pm (the last complete MMWR week). All rates are calculated per 10,000 people. The 14-18 year old age group does not include college students. Data is preliminary and subject to change.

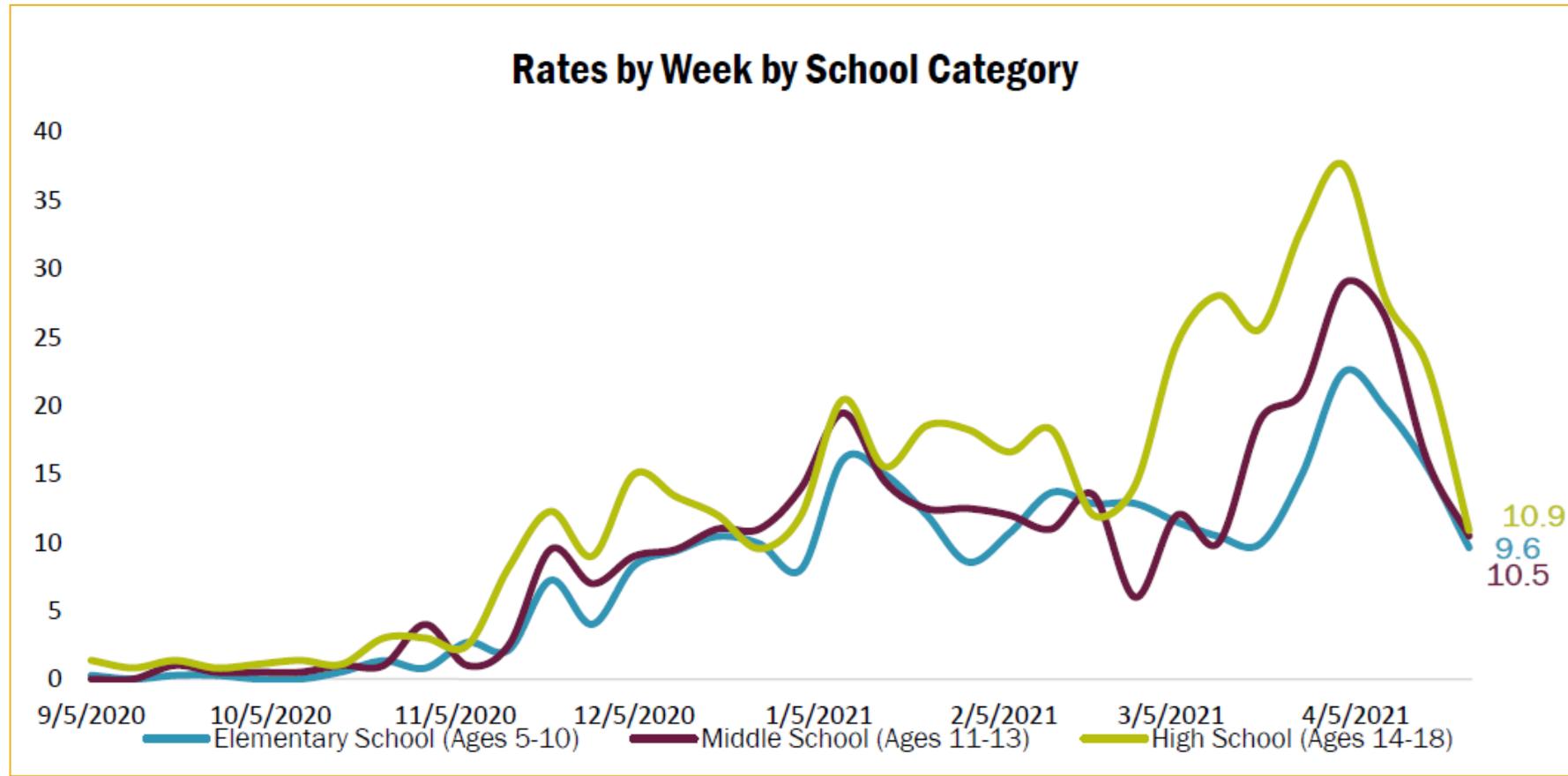
Number of Cases by Week



50 x 11.00 in



Compared to data from week of 4/10/21: rates were 22.9/10K (HS), 16.0 (MS), and 15.5 (Elem.) respectively



Vermont Chapter

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Interim Guidance on Supporting the Emotional and Behavioral Health Needs of Children, Adolescents, and Families During the COVID-19 Pandemic

[Critical Updates on COVID-19](#) / [Clinical Guidance](#) / Interim Guidance on Supporting the Emotional and Behavioral Health Needs of Children, Adolescents, and Families During the COVID-19 Pandemic



The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has created profound challenges for communities, families, and individuals, leading to a range of emotional and behavioral responses. There are many factors unique to this pandemic (eg, uncertainty, rapidly changing and conflicting messages, duration of the crisis, need for quarantine, and use of [face coverings](#)) that increase its effects on emotional and behavioral health (EBH). Populations with a higher baseline risk, such as historically marginalized communities, underrepresented minorities, and children and youth with special health care needs, may be especially vulnerable to these effects. The impact of the pandemic is also compounded by isolation and an interruption in the support systems families

Provide feedback

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A Message from AAPVT Chapter President Rebecca Bell, M.D.



“We (pediatricians) are so excited that the COVID Vaccine is available for young people....”

“...Pediatricians are so excited that the people we love, our patients, are getting vaccinated, or going to get vaccinated soon”

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COVID Vaccines and Children

- As a parent, you probably have plenty of questions about COVID-19 vaccines.
- Right now, they're authorized for teens age 16 and older.
- However, the vaccines are expected to be available for children age 12 and up soon.



How do COVID vaccines work?

The COVID-19 vaccine works similarly to other vaccines your child has.

- Germs such as SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, invade and multiply inside the body.
- The vaccine stops this by helping the immune system make special proteins called antibodies to fight the virus.
- After vaccination, your child has less of a chance of getting COVID-19.
- And if they do get infected with the virus, they may not be as sick as they would without the vaccine.

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What are the types of vaccines?

- Three different vaccines were given emergency use authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) so far. Two require two doses (Pfizer and Moderna), and one involves a single shot (Johnson & Johnson).
- Distribution of the one-shot vaccine was temporarily paused to look for possible ties to rare but serious blood clots reported during the vaccine's safety monitoring process. The FDA lifted the pause when data confirmed the chance of developing the rare clots with the vaccine is extremely low, but continues to monitor the risk.
- The COVID-19 vaccines that require two doses are both messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) vaccines. The other was developed as a "viral vector" vaccine. They all have the same result — protecting people from COVID-19—but their delivery systems are a bit different.



How effective are the vaccines?

- Research shows that all of the COVID-19 vaccines are **highly effective** at stopping people from getting COVID-19.
- The vaccines also help **prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death** in those who get COVID- 19.
- Scientists don't know how long immunity from the vaccine will protect people. This will become clearer in the future.



How are mRNA and viral vector vaccines different?

- **COVID-19 mRNA vaccines** carry instructions to our cells to produce harmless pieces of “spike” protein found on SARS-CoV-2. This triggers an immune system response that the body remembers if the virus ever invades.
- They don't use the live coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The mRNA in the vaccine gets into the cells where the shot is given. Then it gives the cells instructions on how to create a piece of protein that is found on the virus.
- Once the protein is created, your immune system identifies it as a foreign molecule body. The immune process starts, making antibodies that attach to the protein. These antibodies then protect you from getting COVID-19.
- **Viral vector vaccines**, like the mRNA vaccines, also give instructions to your immune cells. Instead of carrying the instructions to your cells on a fat bubble, as with the mRNA vaccine, they are carried in a harmless virus (not the coronavirus that causes COVID-19).
- The same process happens as with the mRNA vaccine—the cells create the protein that's found on the virus that causes COVID-19, the immune system makes antibodies to fight it, and you're protected from getting COVID-19.

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Is one type of vaccine better than the others?

- All three vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson) are safe and similarly effective at preventing severe illness and death.
- This standard is what is most commonly used to assess other vaccines like the flu shot. We cannot directly compare the effectiveness of the three vaccines because they were not studied against each other at the same time. Each clinical trial had different study protocols, timing and location.
- For example, variants weren't widely circulating when the earlier vaccines were being tested.
- The vaccines available have similar side effects. Side effects are a normal way that your body builds immunity to COVID-19.



How do we know COVID-19 vaccines are safe for kids?

- Before getting FDA authorization, clinical trials showed COVID-19 vaccines to be remarkably safe and effective for adults and teens age 16 and up. Trials for each of the vaccines involved tens of thousands of volunteers.
- Based on clinical trial results for younger adolescents, one of the vaccine makers has now asked the FDA to extend emergency use authorization for children as young as age 12. And clinical trials are starting for children as young as six months old.
- The vaccines continue to be monitored very closely. In fact, the
 (CDC) say that COVID-19 vaccines will have “the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.



What about side effects of the vaccine?

- Some people don't have any side effects at all. But for those who are 16 or older, the most common side effects that have been reported include:
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Headache
 - Fatigue
 - Nausea
 - Pain in the muscles
- The FDA will **not** issue emergency authorization of COVID-19 vaccine for use in 12- to 15-year-olds until we have detailed information on side effects in this age group.



Additional information

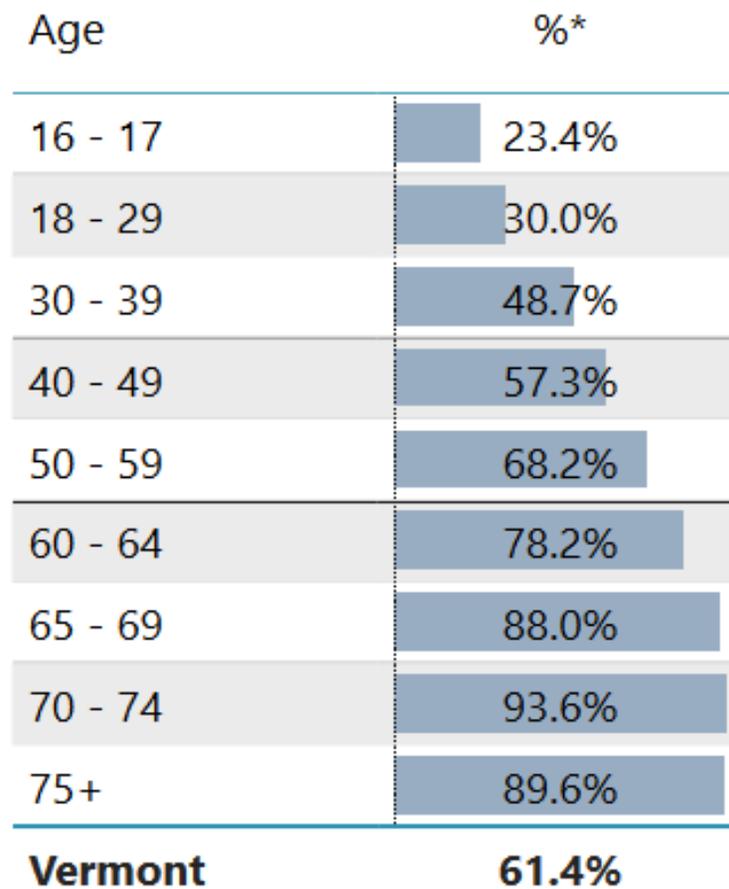
- It takes around 2 weeks after getting the second dose of the mRNA vaccines for your body to build up an immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19. For the one-dose vaccine, building up immunity takes 2 to 4 weeks.
- The mRNA actually doesn't interact with your DNA at all. DNA is your genetic material and it's stored in the nucleus of a cell. The mRNA in the vaccines doesn't get into the nucleus. And once your immune cells have used the instructions, they break down the mRNA and discard it.
- Currently, one of the two-dose vaccines (Pfizer) is approved for teens who are 16 to 17 years old.
- Anyone who is 18 or older should get whichever vaccine is available to them first. This is especially important now with the rise in cases caused by the variant strains of the virus, which seem to be more contagious and continue to spread at alarming rates here in the US and globally.
- COVID-19 vaccines are free, whether or not you have health insurance.



Vermont vaccine uptake by age

By Age - Statewide

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



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Pfizer, BioNTech report COVID-19 vaccine safe, highly effective in 12- to 15-year-olds

The companies plan to submit the data to the FDA in the coming weeks in the hope vaccination can begin in time for the next school year.

[See More »](#)

Vermonters under age 16

- Pfizer-BioNTech has requested that the FDA amend the current EUA to expand use to adolescents 12 to 15 years of age. Final approval is expected soon, at which point the Vermont system will adapt to include this age range. The Health Department will communicate more information as it becomes available. In January 2021, Pfizer finished enrolling children ages 12-15 in their clinical trial.
- On March 31, 2021, they announced that the vaccine demonstrated 100% efficacy and robust antibody response in children ages 12-15.
- On April 9, 2021 Pfizer requested an amendment to EUA allowing them to vaccinate ages 12-15.
- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice is expected to meet **mid-May** to discuss this.
- In March 2021, Pfizer began a Phase 1/2/3 clinical trial to assess the vaccine in children aged 6 months – 11 years (here).
- Both Moderna and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) are also undergoing clinical trials in younger populations, but to date, no efficacy data has been released.

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Health Department COVID-19 Vaccine Registration & Sites

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

All Vermont residents age 16 and older are eligible to be vaccinated! College students and some residents of another state are now eligible for vaccines.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

There are enough appointments for everyone who is eligible. Appointments are required. You will make your second-dose appointment when you get your first dose.

ONLINE



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.

Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



s, Costco, Hannaford, Price

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COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling at Kinney Drugs in Vermont

Currently, the State of Vermont

- Vermont residents age 65 and older
- K-12 teachers and onsite school staff
- child care workers
- expanded public safety personnel
- people 16+ with certain health conditions

Menu

Schedule your COVID-19 vaccination today.

Limited supplies of COVID-19 vaccines are now available in some states at select stores to individuals 16 years of age and older (16 years of age and older for Pfizer; 18 years of age and older for Moderna) who meet state-specific eligibility criteria.

[See if you're eligible in your state >](#)

Resources for Families

- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/about-covid-19-vaccines-vermont>
- <https://healthychildren.org/> - GREAT information on many topics from the American Academy of Pediatrics!
 - <https://healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/COVID-19/Pages/The-Science-Behind-the-COVID-19-Vaccine-Parent-FAQs.aspx>
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html?s_cid=10493:covid%2019%20vaccine:sem.ga:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY21



Questions & Answers



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And now...

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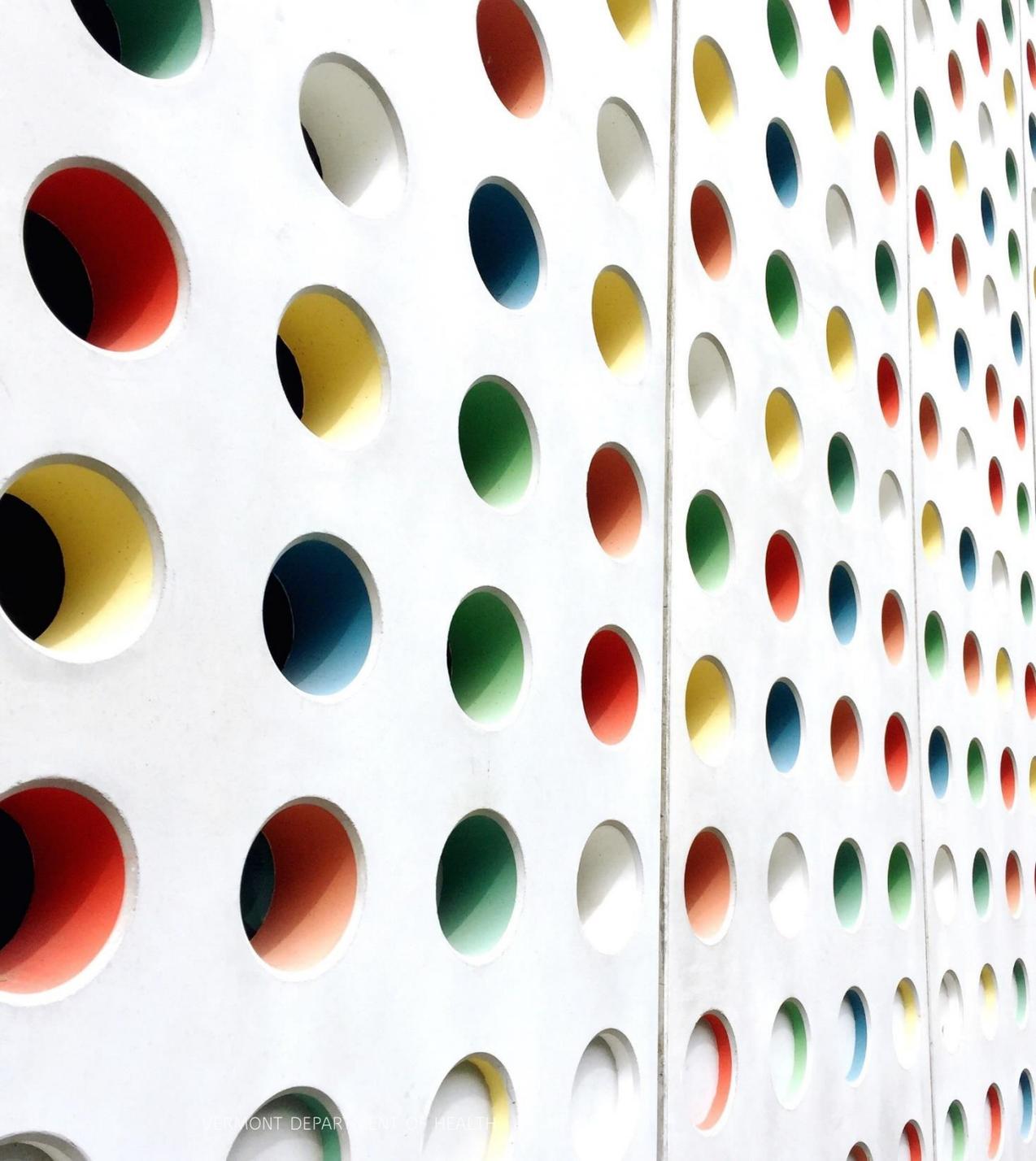
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In case you missed our Friday call...

Health Equity and Community Engagement in the COVID-19 Response

SARA CHESBROUGH, MPA

APRIL 30, 2021

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 – ***Wednesday, May 5, – 12:15 – 12:45 pm***
- Generally back to **Monday/Wednesday/Friday** schedule
- Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:
Thursday, May 6, 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#