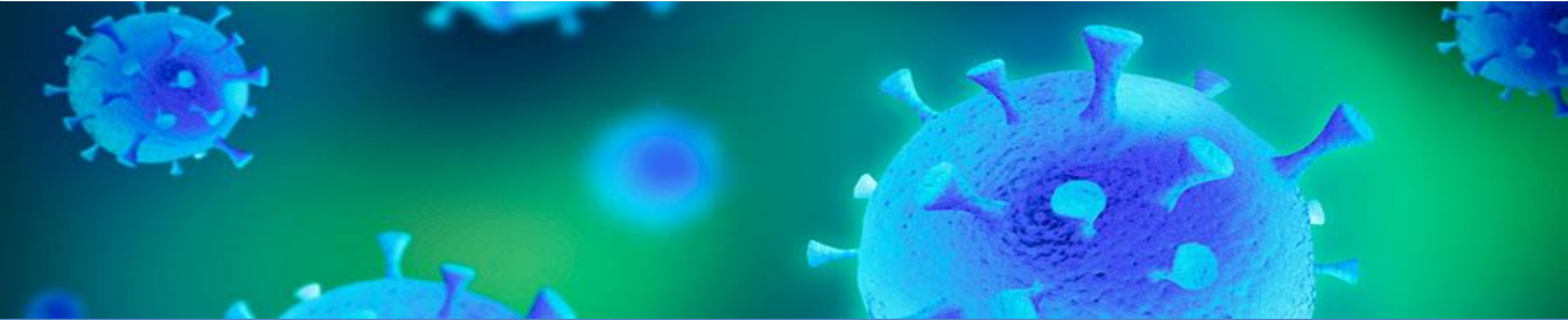


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM
Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH
June 11, 2021



Technology Notes

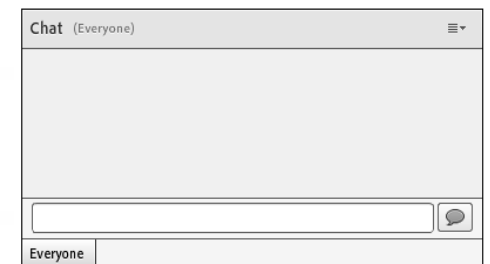
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

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 images from Biden visit to the U.K. & the G-7 Summit
 - ▣ Dr. Jill Biden and Duchess Kate Middleton visit Cornwall preschool – ***masks required!***
- Reminder – weekly event schedule:
 - ▣ **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W**; Gov. Media Briefings ***now Tuesdays only***; VMS call with VDH Comm. Levine Thursday
 - ▣ SEE VCHIP-VDH proposed ***Summer Calendar*** next slide!
- Announcements; situation, VDH, CDC, AAP updates
- Practice Issues – ***VDH Immunization Program Updates***
 - ▣ *Merideth Plumpton, Christine Finley*
- Q & A/Discussion

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



VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 calls: Summer Calendar

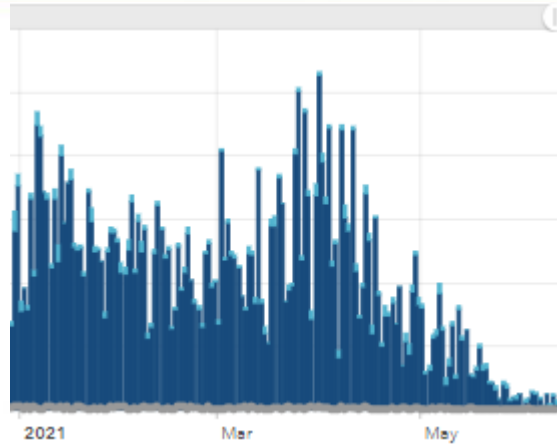
- Based on survey responses – thank you!
- **Remainder of June**: generally **Mondays & Wednesdays**
 - ▣ Exception: **NO CALL Monday, June 28**
 - ▣ We **WILL** have a call on **Wednesday, June 30**
- **July**: generally **Wednesdays only**
- **August**: generally **Wednesdays only** – subject to change as we approach fall school reopening
- **September forward – TBD!**



Situation update

New Cases	7
24,320 Total	
Currently Hospitalized	2
Hospitalized In ICU	1
Hospitalized Under Investigation	0
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.	0.7%
People Tested	396,819
Total Tests	1,710,058
Recovered	23,577
96.9% of Cases	
Deaths	256
1.1% of Cases	

Last Updated: 6/11/2021, 11:04:48 AM



VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

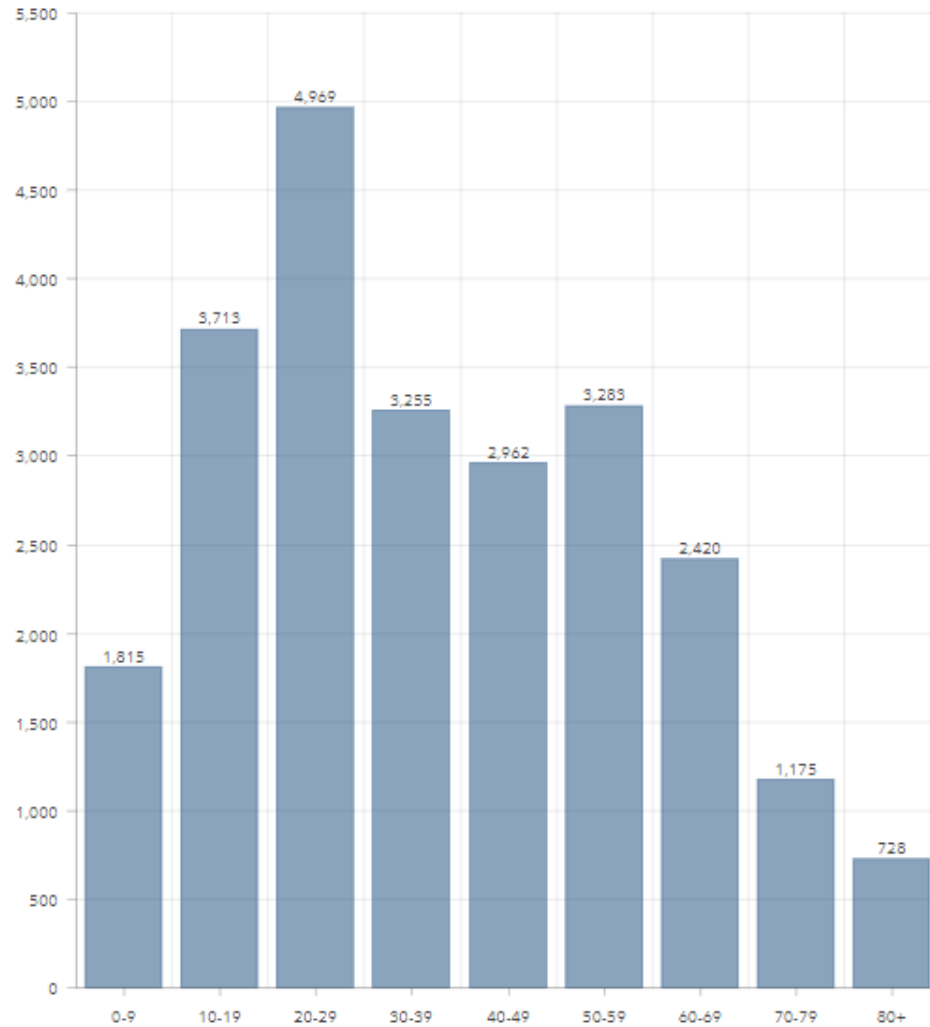
NOTE: VDH Dashboard now be updated Mon-Fri only (excl. holidays). Case info reflects counts as of end of the previous weekday. Data from Sat/Sun posted w/Monday's update. All data are compiled by the VDH; are preliminary & subject to change. Dashboard is updated by 12:00 p.m.

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

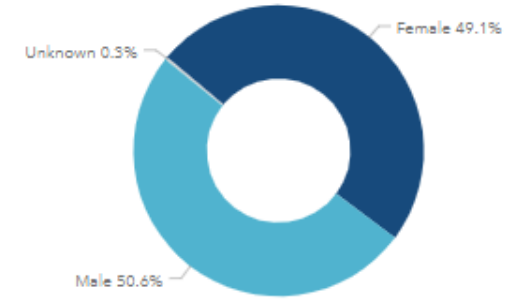
- U.S. **33.4 million+** cases; **598,770 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html> (updated 6/11/21)
 - 6/10/21: **11,841 new cases; 412 deaths**
 - Past week: av. 13,409 cases/day (14d. change -42%)
 - **3.7 million+ deaths worldwide; 174.8 million+ cases** (-16% & -22% 14-day change respectively)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary(6/4/21)**
 - No Weekly Spotlight Topic (**NOTE: no summary today**)
 - Children (0-19) = 23% of VT COVID-19 cases; of those, 24% are 18-19 y.o. [Total 5,505 posted 6/4/21]
 - Now includes data on **vaccine breakthrough cases**
 - Find previous summaries at: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

Situation update

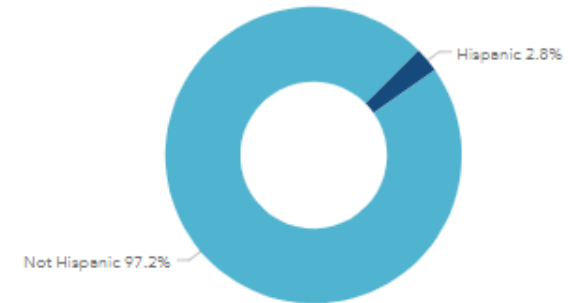
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



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

Vermont Forward Plan



Phased Reopening Plan

On April 6, 2021, Governor Phil Scott released a reopening guide to help Vermonters and local businesses see the path for a phased return to unrestricted travel, business operations, and event gatherings. The plan was developed by the Department of Health, the Department of Public Safety, and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and uses vaccination milestones to ensure a safe easing of personal restrictions and continued reopening of the state's economy.

- LEARN ABOUT THE PLAN STEPS
- TRACK PROGRESS
- FIND GUIDANCE

<https://www.vermont.gov/vermont-forward#gsc.tab=0>

STEP 1

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):
Vulnerable population substantially complete; 35–45% of all Vermonters; 45–55% of Vermonters 18+

BUSINESS OPERATIONS
4/9 **Group A Sectors:**
Move to required universal guidance

CROSS STATE TRAVEL
4/9 No quarantine is required for unvaccinated visitors with a negative test within 3 days prior to arrival. Unvaccinated Vermonters must be tested within 3 days upon return to the state.

MASKS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING
Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

STEP 2

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):
50–60% of all Vermonters; 60–70% of Vermonters 18+

BUSINESS OPERATIONS
5/1 **Group B Sectors:**
Move to required universal guidance

GATHERINGS AND EVENTS
5/1 **Indoor:** 1 unvaccinated person per 100 sq ft up to 150, plus any number of vaccinated people
Outdoor: 300, plus any number of vaccinated people

MASKS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING
Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

STEP 3

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):
60–70% of all Vermonters; 70–85% of Vermonters 18+

CROSS STATE TRAVEL
REVISED: Effective 5/14
No quarantine or testing requirements

GATHERINGS AND EVENTS
REVISED: Effective 5/14
Indoor: 1 unvaccinated person per 50 sq ft up to 300, plus any number of vaccinated people
Outdoor: 900, plus any number of vaccinated people

MASKS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING
REVISED Not required if vaccinated. Required if unvaccinated.

STEP 4

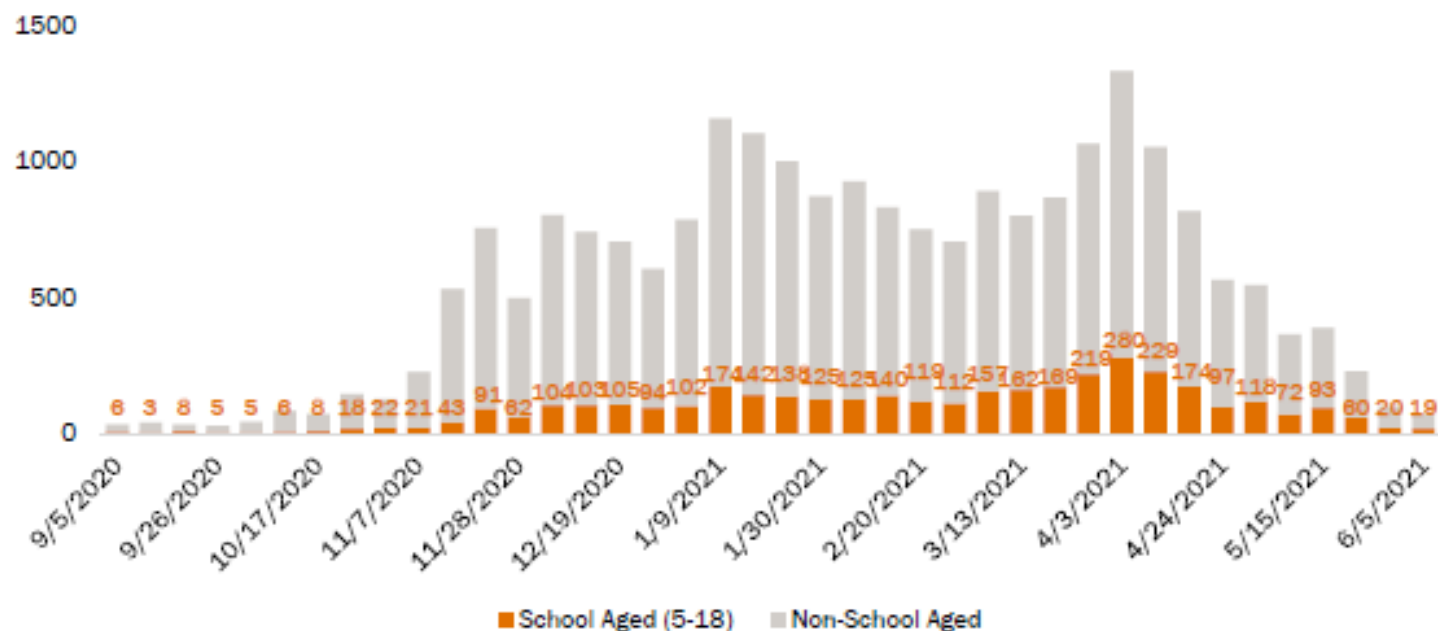
BUSINESS OPERATIONS
Universal guidance encouraged for all sectors

GATHERINGS AND EVENTS
No capacity restrictions

MASKS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING
REVISED Encouraged if unvaccinated

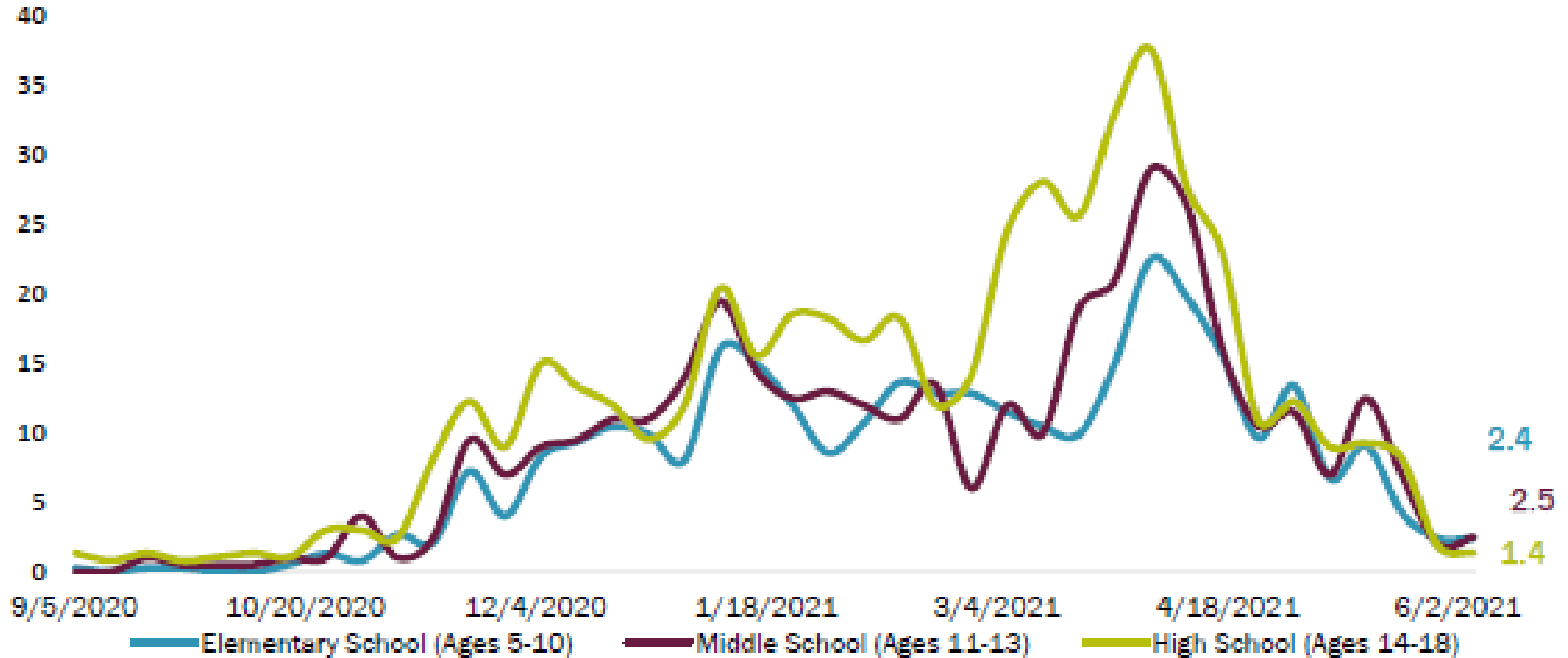
This brief reflects data as of June 5, 2021 at 7 pm (the last complete MMWR week). All rates are calculated per 10,000 people. The 14-18 year old age group does not include college students. Data is preliminary and subject to change.

Number of Cases by Week



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

Rates by Week by School Category



[Compare to data from previous week: rates were 1.9/10K (HS), 2.0 (MS), and 2.5 (Elem. 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.

June 9, 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	6	1397

June 2, 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	6	1391

VT College & University dashboards:

- UVM update** (week of 5/17): 0 new cases off campus; 0 on campus; 0 faculty; 0 staff – **graduation 5/20-21/21**
- Bennington College** (May 19, 2021): 0 new/active cases – **graduation 5/28-29/21**
- Middlebury College results** (updated 5/24/21): 0 new cases & 0 active cases – **grad. 5/29/21**

Latest Vermont AOE Guidance Documents

- Joint memo from AOE Secretary French & VDH Commissioner Levine: how to manage remainder of school year if/when State of Emergency ends
 - ▣ When the emergency order rescinded, COVID guidance for schools also rescinded.
 - ▣ Strongly recommend schools follow **current** guidance for remainder of school year.
 - ▣ Majority of students will still not be vaccinated; schools w/o time to time to plan/ implement new procedures.
- Guidance for schools this fall:
 - ▣ Unlikely specific mitigation measures will be necessary in the fall. We are confident that distancing will not be necessary. Issue of masks will be reviewed over the summer. Schools should plan on normal operations in the fall, 5 days in person. There will not be current flexibility in in-person attendance in the fall. Snow days will need to be made up as they were previously.

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Registration & Sites

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

ELIGIBILITY

Anyone age 12 and older is eligible to be vaccinated, regardless of residency. Learn about vaccines for people 12-15 years old.

GET YOUR VACCINE WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT!

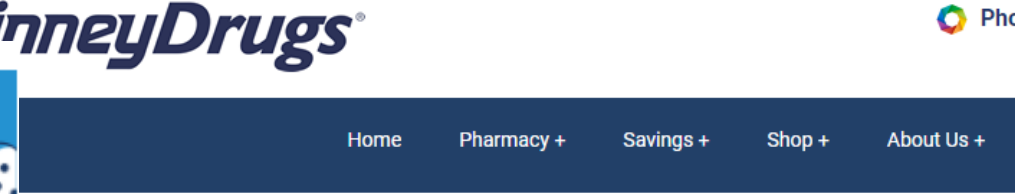
[Find a walk-in clinic here](#)

More ways to get your vaccine!

- Vaccine clinics for restaurant, hospitality, and tourism workers
- Vaccine clinics for school and community, open to 12 -15-year-olds

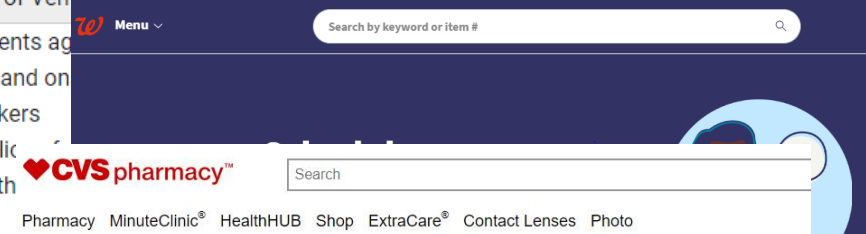
MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

ONLINE



COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling at Kinney Drugs in

Recently, the State of Vermont allows Kinney Drugs Pharmacists to administer COVID-19 vaccines to the state of Vermont residents aged 12 and older, including 12 teachers and on-site child care workers. This is a part of the state's expanded public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic for people 16+ with



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.



VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard (Summary Page: 6/11/21)

- 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>
- **Notes:** See our progress toward the **Vermont Forward** target of 80%... percentages draw on state-level data from **CDC**; incl. some data not reported to VDH (CDC data more inclusive/less detailed than VDH & may differ from VDH dashboard).

Vermont Vaccination Data

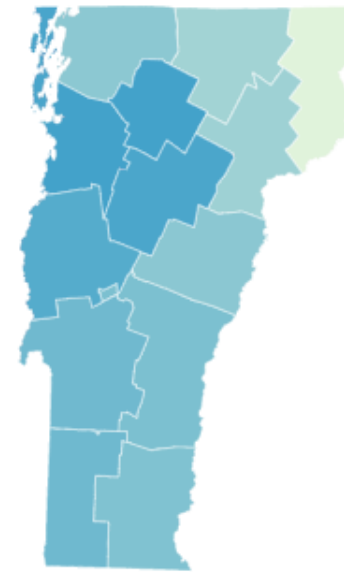
Blue headers indicate CDC data
Gray headers indicate Vermont data

Vaccination by County Age 12+

The percent of the county population age 12+ that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Show Rates By:

County	Overall progress
Addison	79.4%
Bennington	75.1%
Caledonia	67.5%
Chittenden	82.4%
Essex	56.7%
Franklin	70.4%
Grand Isle	81.5%
Lamoille	82.3%
Orange	70.6%
Orleans	66.8%
Rutland	75.1%
Washington	81.1%
Windham	72.4%
Windsor	73.0%



56.7% 82.4%

Summary By Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

Vermont Forward

Looking for info on the Vermont Forward plan?
Visit <https://www.vermont.gov/vermont-forward>

Vaccine Distribution

Doses Received Doses Administered

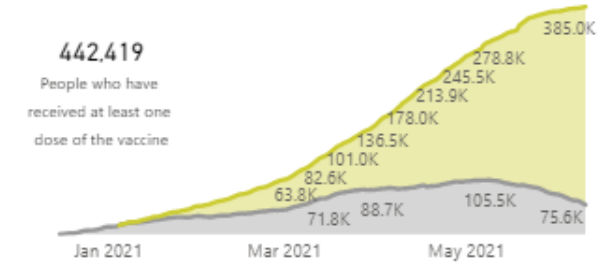
905.7K **793.1K**

Total People Vaccinated

Total People Started Total People Completed

57.4K **385.0K**

● Started ● Completed



Updated 6/11/2021 8:40:38 AM

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard (Age/Sex/Race/Ethnicity)

- Daily updates Tuesday thru Saturday
- Data = counts reported by end prev. day; subject to change.
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>
- By Age – Statewide (≥ 1 dose):
 - 12-15 = 53.5% (50.5 on 6/7)
 - 16-17 = 66.9% (65.9% on 6/7)
 - 18-29 = 53.7% (52.7% on 6/7)
 - **VT Age 12+ = 76.4%** (75.6% on 6/7)

Vermont Vaccination Data

By Age - Statewide

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

Age	%*
12 - 15	53.5%
16 - 17	66.9%
18 - 29	53.7%
30 - 39	74.8%
40 - 49	76.0%
50 - 59	80.3%
60 - 64	87.0%
65 - 69	93.6%
70 - 74	99.8%
75+	94.2%
VT Age 12+	76.4%

Statewide numbers and percentages are capped at 100%. County numbers and percentages are capped at 95%. Values above 95% are suppressed to protect personal health information. See notes below for more information.

Select County

All

Summary

By Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

By Race - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population age 12+ of each race that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Race	%*
Asian	68.1%
Black or African American	60.0%
Native American, Indigenous, or First Nation	27.1%
Pacific Islander	14.2%
Two or more races	57.1%
White	73.5%
VT Age 12+	72.7%

Race information is missing for 5% of people vaccinated.

By Ethnicity - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population age 12+ of each ethnicity that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Ethnicity	%*
Hispanic	82.5%
Not Hispanic	70.1%
VT Age 12+	70.4%

Ethnicity information is missing for 8% of people vaccinated.

By Race/Ethnicity and Age - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population age 12+ of each race/ethnicity that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Race*	12-30	31-64	65+	Age 12+
BIPOC	55.2%	71.3%	83.4%	65.4%
Non-Hispanic White	50.0%	71.5%	90.4%	70.3%
Vermont	50.6%	71.5%	90.2%	70.0%

Race/ethnicity information is missing for 8% of people vaccinated.

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

By Sex - Statewide

The percent of the statewide population age 12+ of each sex that has received at least one dose of the vaccine

Sex	%*
Female	78.8%
Male	73.7%
VT Age 12+	76.3%

Sex information is missing for 0% of people vaccinated.

Updated 6/11/2021 8:40:38 AM

Vermont COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage: Exactly Where *ARE* We?

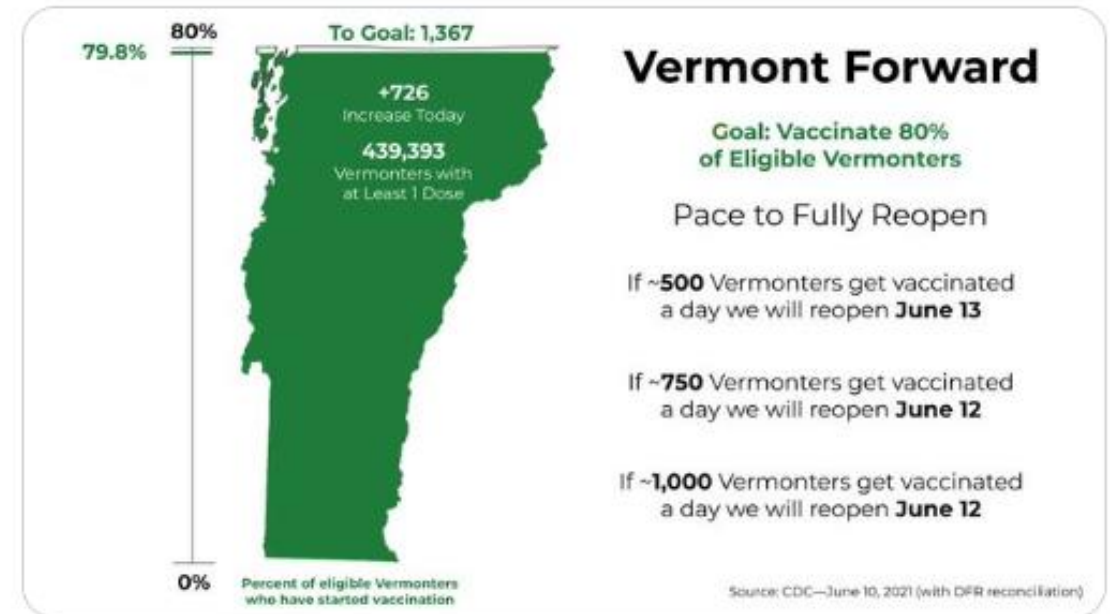
- Follow **@GovPhilScott**
- Latest numbers:
 - ▣ 6/10/21: **79.6%** elig. pop.
 - ▣ Update 6/11/21: **79.8%** eligible population.
 - ▣ Need **1,367** more to reach goal of **80%** – then
 - ▣ Drop remaining restrictions



Governor Phil Scott @GovPhilScott · 4h

We added 726 Vermonters yesterday, leaving us with just 1,367 more to go before we reach 80% of the eligible population.

There are many walk-in vaccination opportunities across the state this weekend. Be the person to put us over the top! #OurShotVT
[governor.vermont.gov/press-release/...](https://governor.vermont.gov/press-release/)

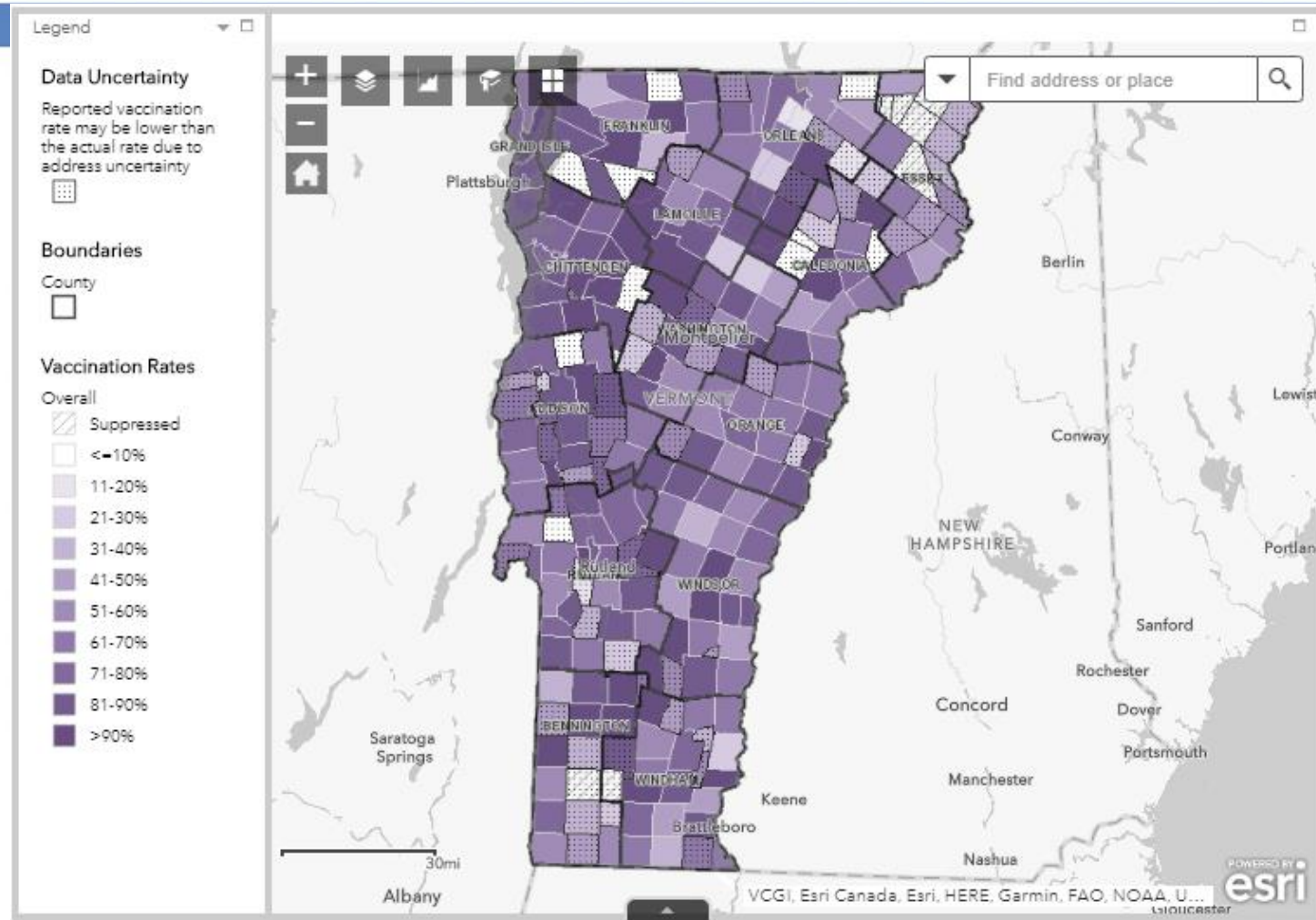


Governor Phil Scott
3,318 Tweets



Now Available: Map of Vaccine Rates by (VT) Town

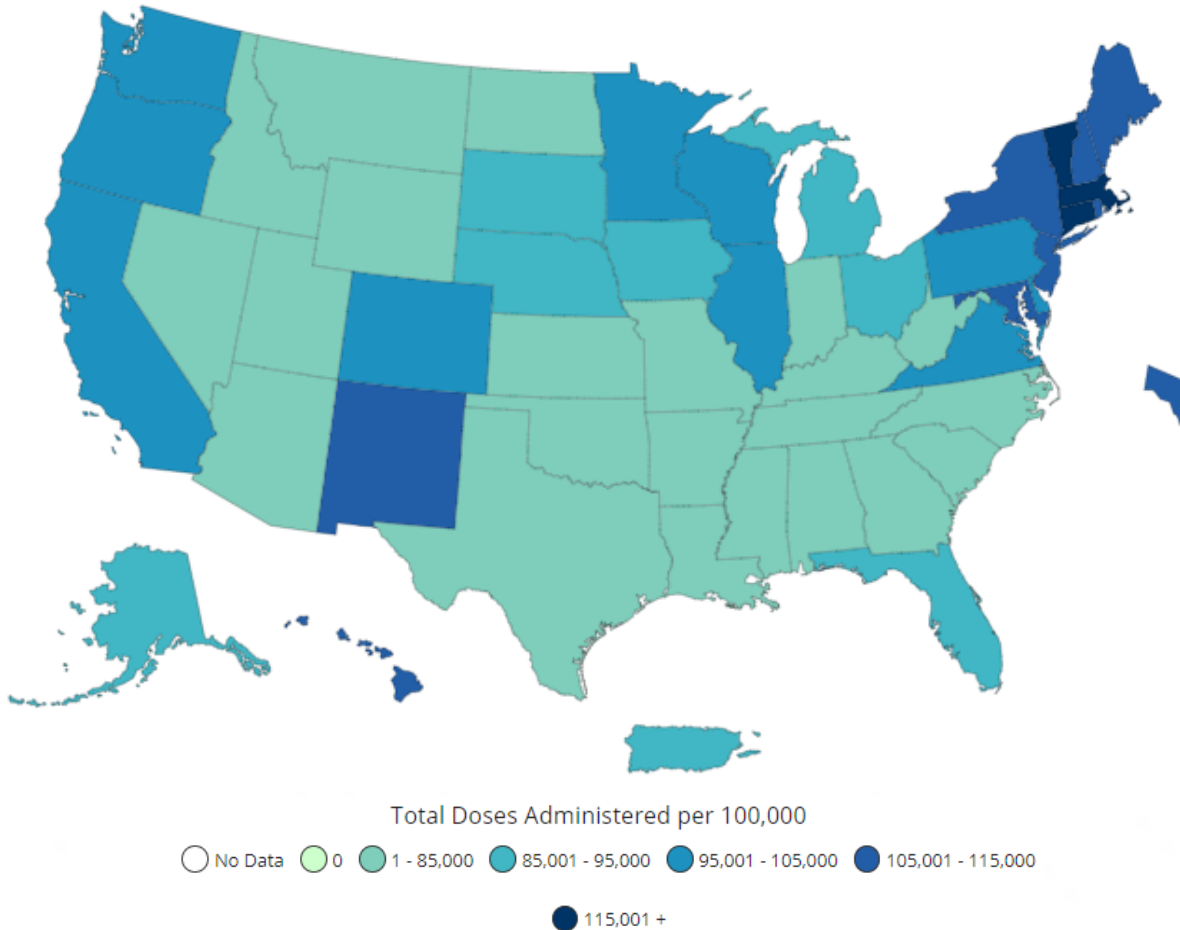
- Map shows overall % of VTers age 12+ vaccinated with \geq one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Map updated weekly (Thurs.) & includes data reported to VT Immunization Registry thru Wed.
- Please use caution when interpreting town data – several scenarios where vaccinations are not attributed to the correct town. [See notes on web site for more details.]



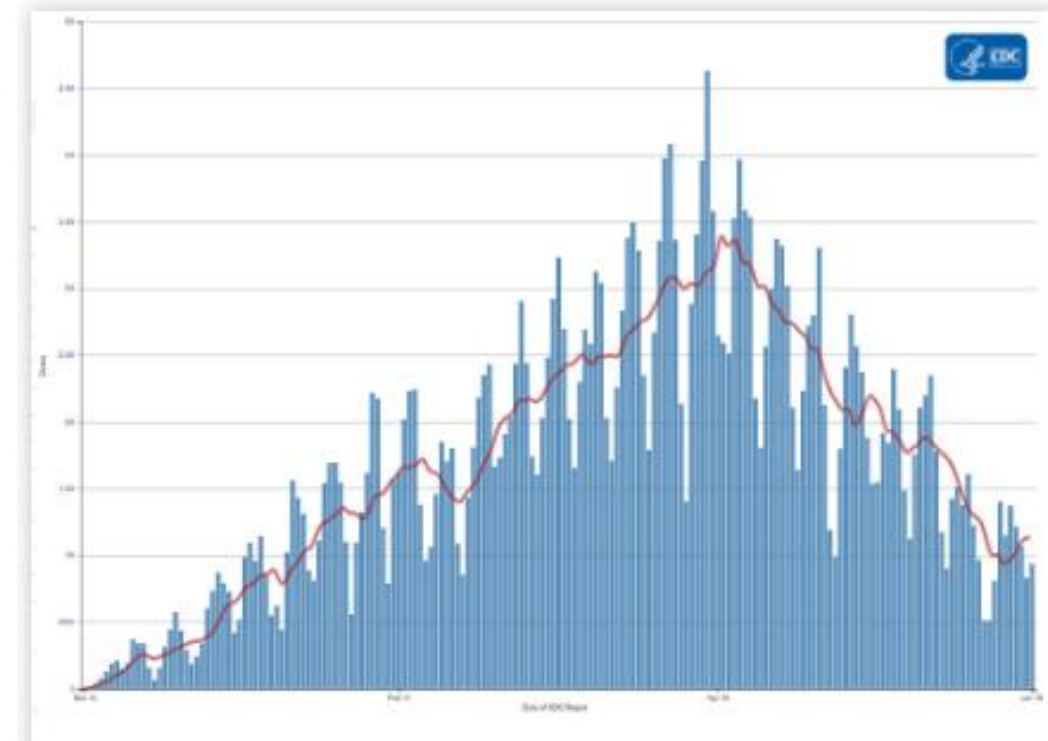
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/map-vaccine-rates-town>

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



7-Day moving average

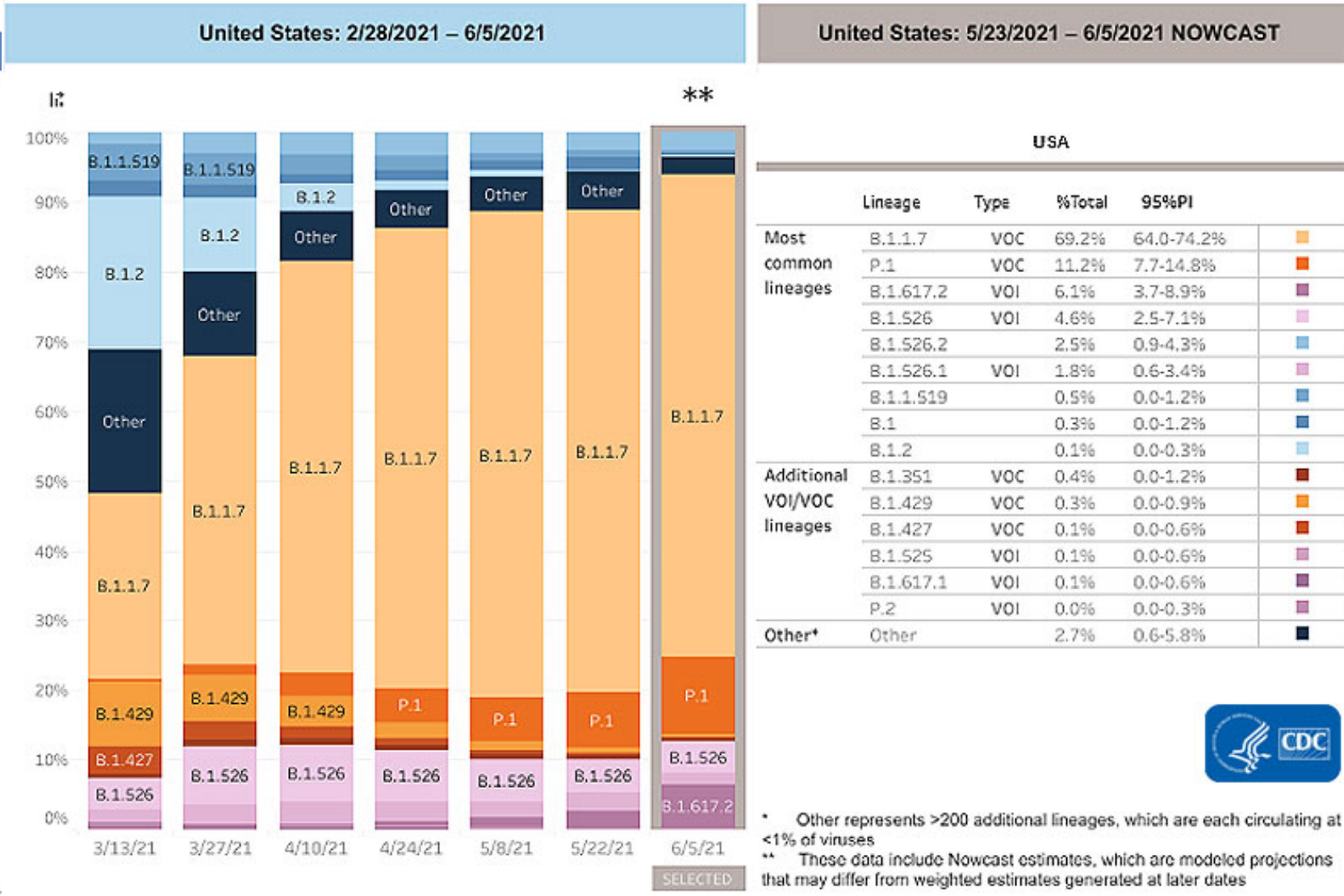


<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>

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

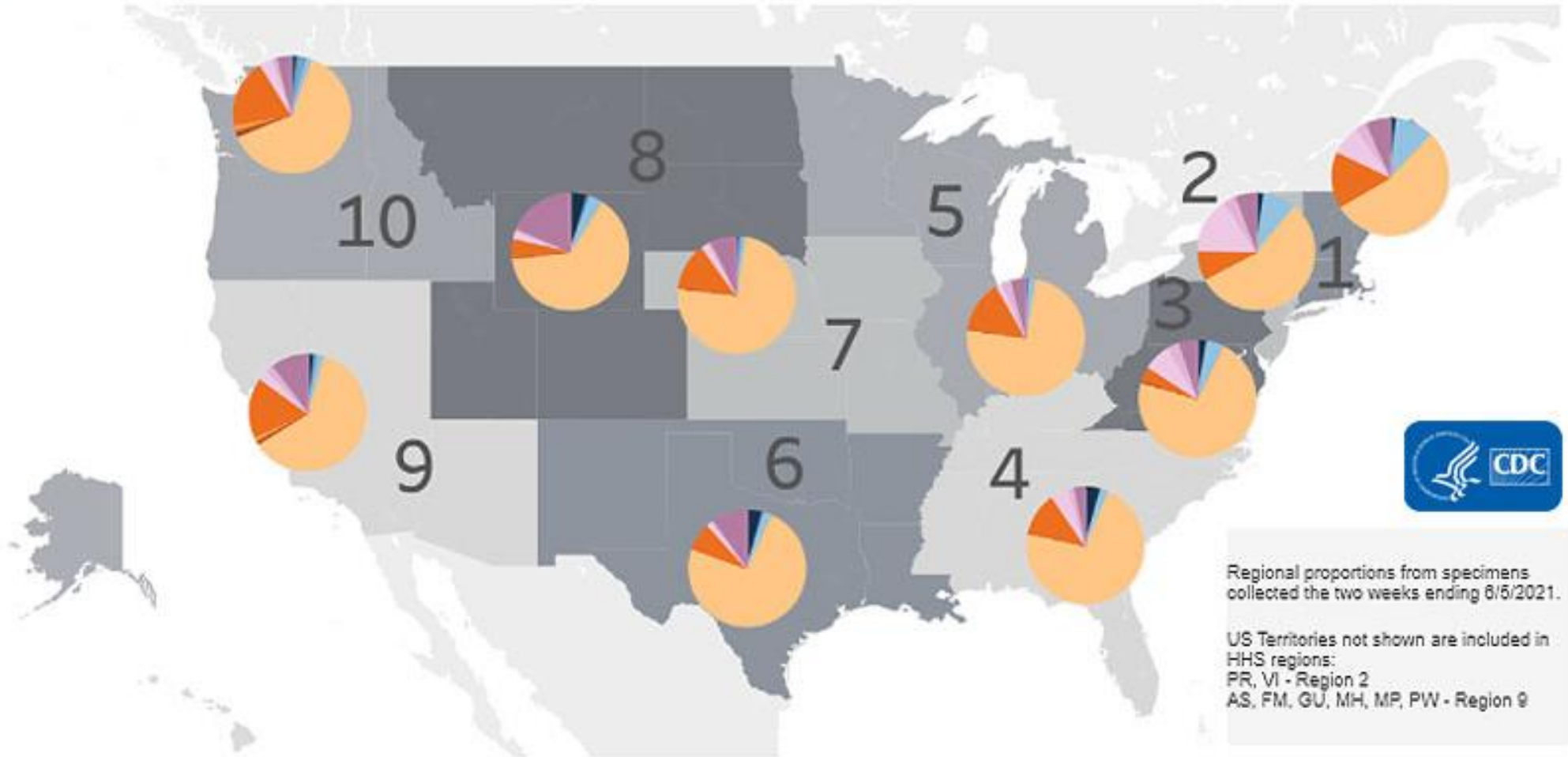
June 11, 2021

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



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

United States: 5/23/2021 – 6/5/2021 NOWCAST



Updated June 8, 2021

From the CDC/MMWR

- Emergency Department Visits for Suspected Suicide Attempts Among Persons Aged 12–25 Years Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, January 2019–May 2021 (*Early Release* / June 11, 2021 / 70)
- **Already known:** during 2020, the proportion of mental health-related ED visits among adolescents 12-17 yo increased 31% compared w/2019.
- **Added by this report:** in May 2020, ED visits for suspected suicide attempts began to increase among 12–17 yo, esp. girls. Feb. 21-March 20, 2021, suspected suicide attempt ED visits were 50.6% higher among 12-17 yo girls & increased 3.7% among boys vs. same period 2019.
- **Implications for public health practice:** suicide prevention requires a comprehensive approach, adapted during times of infrastructure disruption, involves multisectoral partnerships and implements evidence-based strategies to address the range of factors influencing suicide risk.

From the CDC/MMWR

- Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Administration of Selected Routine Childhood and Adolescent Vaccinations – 10 U.S. Jurisdictions, March-Sept. 2020 [**Weekly** / June 11, 2021 / 70(23);840–845]
- **Already known:** early reports during the COVID-19 pandemic documented a marked decline in pediatric vaccine ordering and administration, placing U.S. children and adolescents at risk for vaccine-preventable diseases.
- **Added by this report:** analysis of IZ information systems data from 10 U.S. jurisdictions – substantial decrease in administered doses during March-May 2020 vs. same period 2018 & 2019. Administered doses increased during June-Sept. 2020, but increase not sufficient to achieve catch-up coverage.
- **Implications for public health practice:** to prevent outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, health care providers should assess vax status of all pediatric patients, including adolescents, and contact those who are behind schedule to ensure that all children and adolescents are fully vaccinated.

SARS Co-V-2 Variants in Vermont

- VDH detects variants of concern through genetic sequencing of certain viral specimens (people who already tested pos. in various parts of VT); only a small percentage of samples are sequenced.
- Table: **cumulative #** variants identified & co. of residence (NOT actual # variants circulating).
- Absence of a county in table does NOT mean variant is not present (table updated Tuesdays and Fridays).
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/covid-19-communities>

COUNTY	B.1.1.7	B.1.429	B.1.427	P.1	B.1.351
Addison	1	3	0	0	0
Bennington	7	0	0	1	0
Caledonia	15	2	0	0	0
Chittenden	100	6	0	6	1
Essex	4	0	0	0	0
Franklin	18	9	0	1	0
Grand Isle	0	1	0	0	0
Lamoille	13	1	0	1	0
Orange	4	0	0	0	0
Orleans	16	6	0	0	0
Rutland	8	2	0	2	0
Washington	1	3	0	0	0
Windham	10	0	1	3	0
Windsor	1	0	0	0	0

In the (National/International) News

- President Biden pledges 500m. doses COVID-19 vaccine to COVAX (global initiative to provide vaccines to developing countries).
 - ▣ Will deliver 200m. doses beg. August 2021; remainder to be donated in 2022.
 - ▣ COVAX charged w/distribution to 92 lower-income countries & African Union.
- G-7 expected to pledge 1 billion doses
- FDA extends shelf life of J & J vaccine **from 3 to 4.5 mos.**
 - ▣ Based on data: demonstrated stable at 4.5 months when refrigerated at temperatures of 36 – 46 degrees Fahrenheit (2 – 8 degrees Celsius).
<https://www.jnj.com/johnson-johnson-statement-on-fda-approval-of-shelf-life-extension-for-companys-covid-19-vaccine>
- Moderna asks FDA to expand emergency use of COVID-19 vaccine in adolescents ages 12 to 17.

In Vermont News [this slide updated after today's call]

- UVM COVID-19 vaccine requirement: Once permanent FDA approval is granted for any one of the COVID-19 vaccines, ***UVM will require all students entering/returning fall of 2021 to be fully vaccinated.***
 - Includes undergrad, grad, med students, & CE/distance students – both full-time/part-time. Any approved vaccines acceptable (even those awaiting permanent approval). Students will be required to **submit a copy of their vaccine card to Student Health Services.**
- VDH Vaccine Implementation & Advisory Committee – winding down...
 - Expect 2-11-yo rollout (fall?); est. ~60,000 in VT. Anticipate involve parents early (pre-EUA); **hope to administer by PCPs** (schools may play a role). Town hall forums were popular for older youth; should do again for this pop. Other ideas: consider age bands for vax (2-5 & 5-11); administer w/school physicals; have diverse options. Committee will reconvene as more is known about 2-11 timeline and ***arrange for VCHIP participation.***

From AAP National

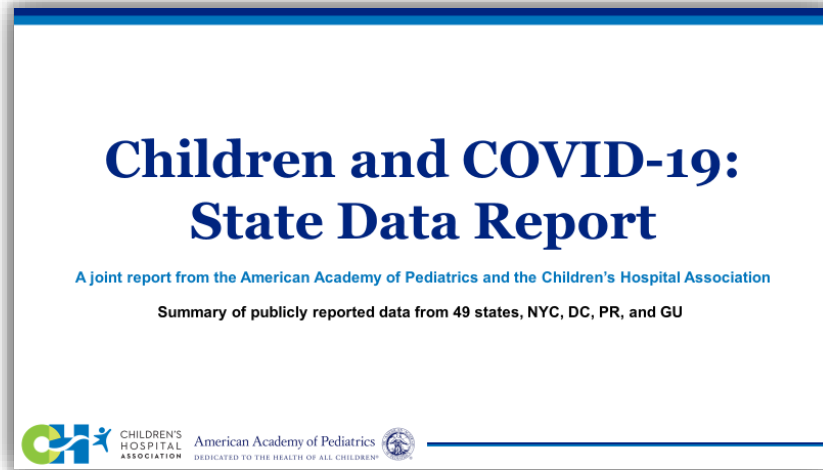


- Town Hall with Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy (6/10/21)
- **Today**, Friday, June 11, 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. ET: AAP President Lee Savio Beers, MD FAAP, will join virtual White House conversation with Anthony Fauci, MD, and other government officials to discuss COVID-19 vaccination efforts.
- *Primary Care Providers, Health Systems, and the Next Phase of the Vaccination Rollout.*
- **View live or recording at:**

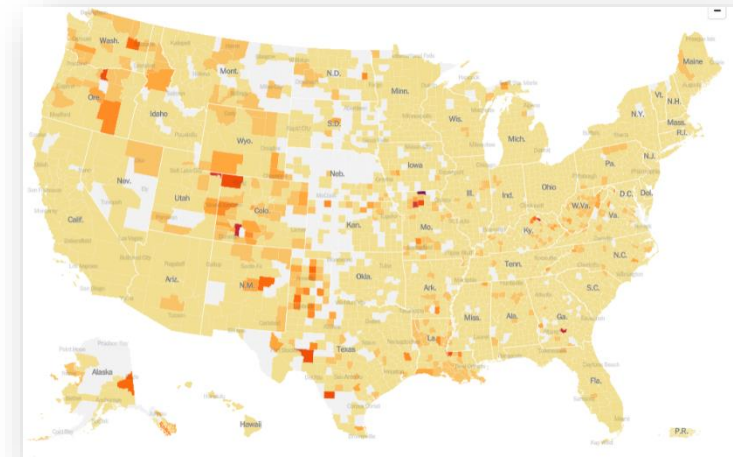
<https://youtu.be/t6gICISru8E>



From AAP National



New report posted weekly on AAP.org



NYT 6.07.21 all ages

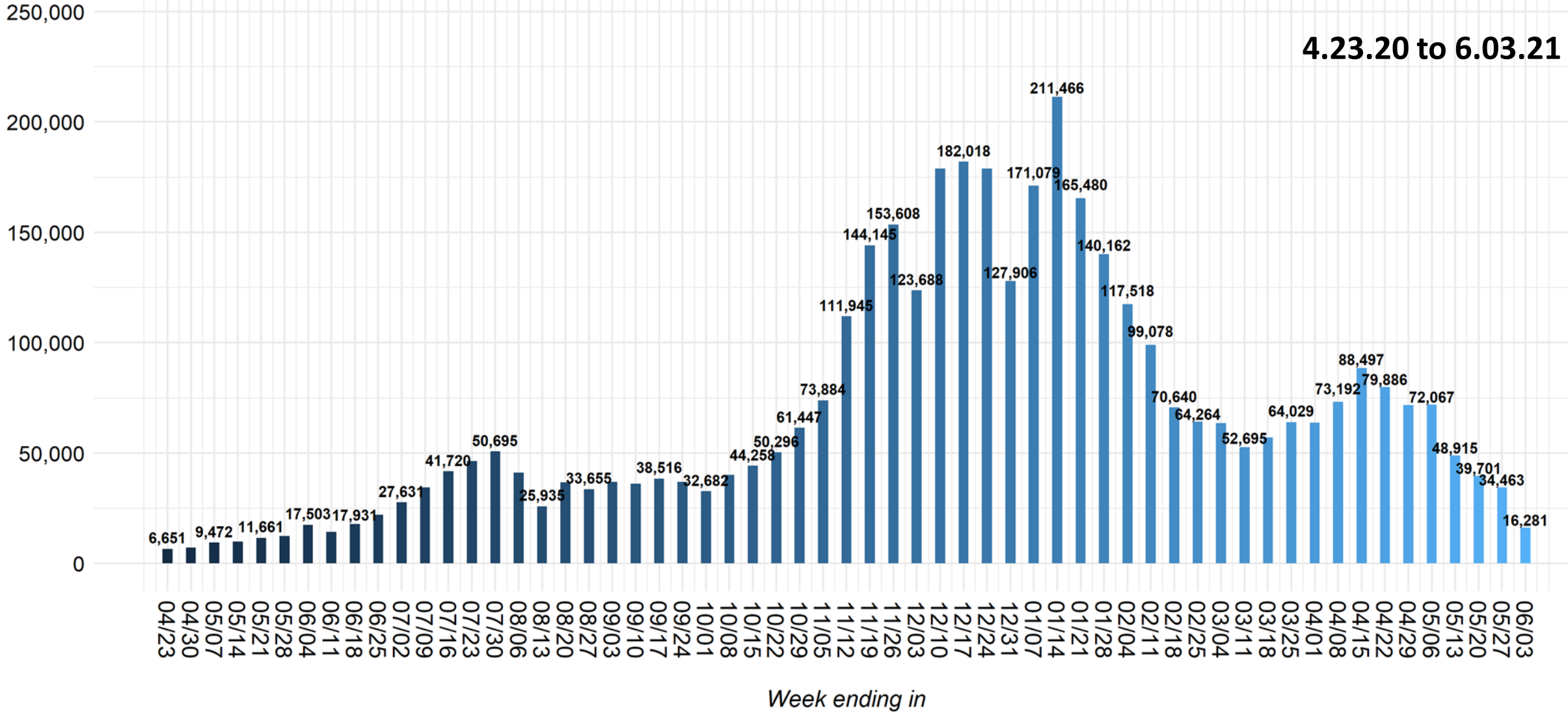
As of 6/03/21 – 3,994,151 cumulative confirmed child COVID-19 cases

- **An increase of over 16,250 new cases in the past week**
- **An increase of about 50,750 new cases in the past 2 weeks**

United States: Number of Child COVID-19 Cases Added in Past Week

4.23.20 to 6.03.21

Number of child cases added



Source: AAP analysis of publicly available data from state/local health departments

Note: 4 states changed definition of child cases: AL as of 8/13, HI as of 8/27, RI as of 9/10, MO as of 10/1

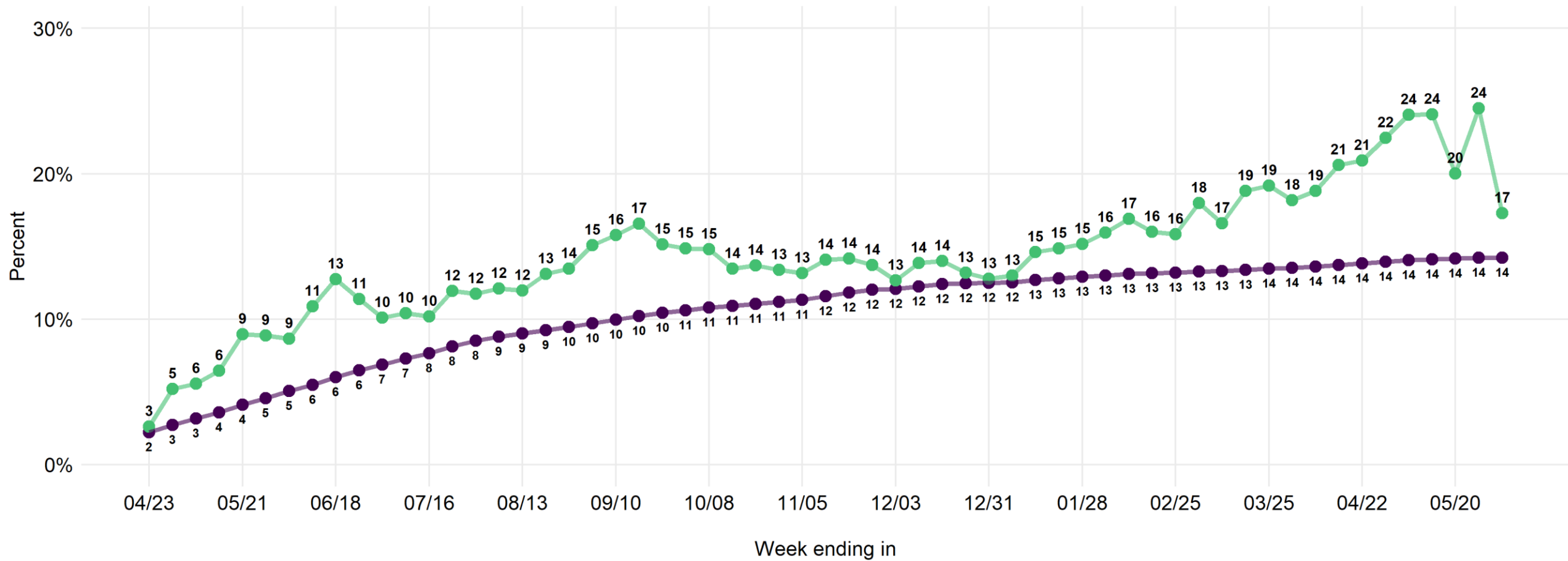
TX reported age for only a small proportion of total cases each week (eg, 3-20%)

On 5/6/21, due to data revision and lag in reporting, RI experienced 30% increase in child cases (4,906 cases added)

On 6/3/21, due to available MA data and calculations required to obtain child total cases, there is a downward revision of cumulative child cases for MA (1,821 fewer cases)

Percent of COVID-19 cases that were children: Cumulative and for new cases in past week

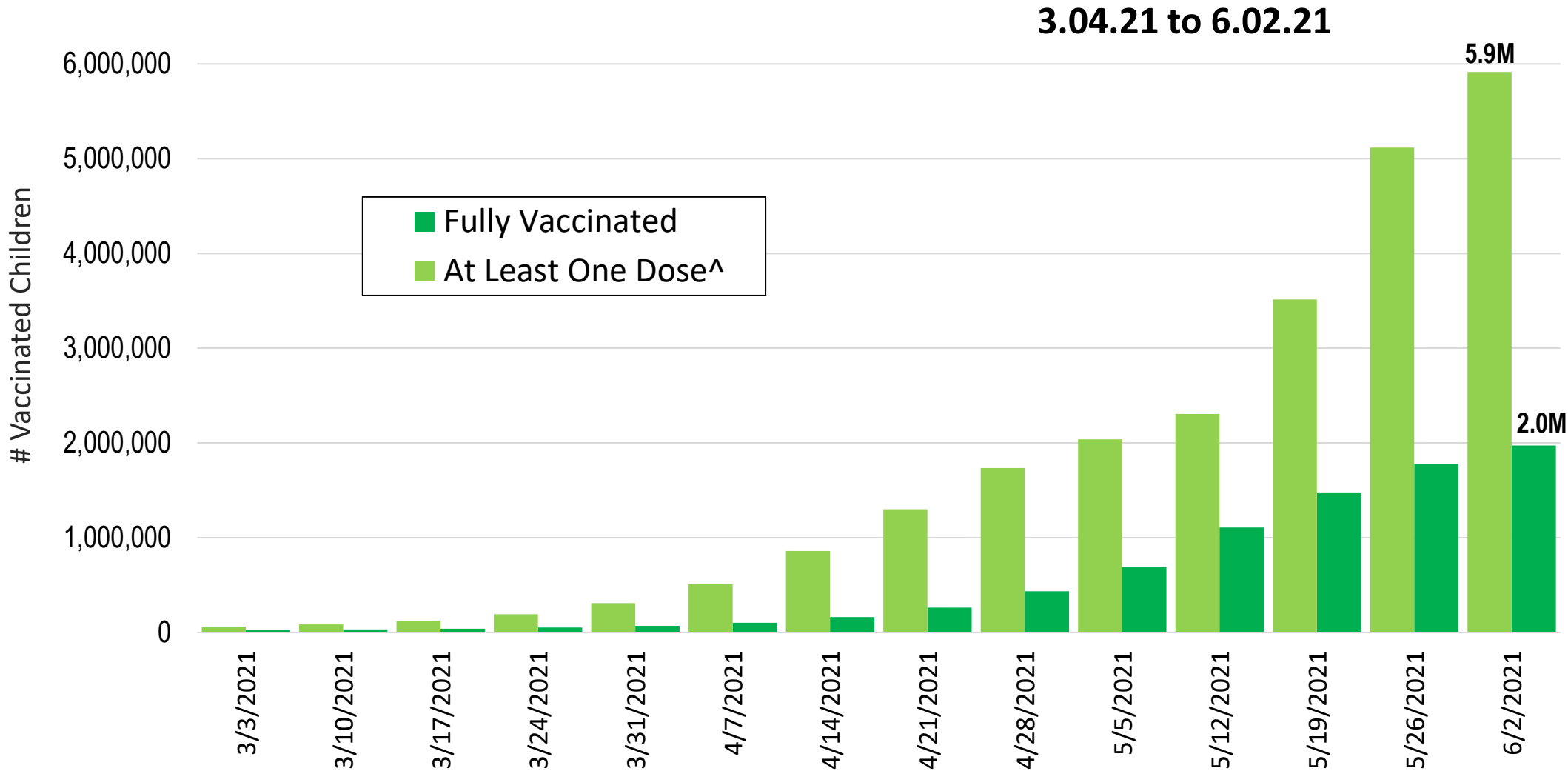
● Percent children, cumulative ● Percent children, new cases in past week



Source: AAP analysis of publicly available data from state/local health departments
 Note: Analysis excludes data from Alabama and Missouri due to change in definition of 'child' case
 TX reported age for only a small proportion of total cases each week (eg, 3-20%)

On 5/6/21, due to data revision and lag in reporting, RI experienced 30% increase in child cases (4,906 cases added)
 On 6/3/21, due to available MA data and calculations required to obtain child total cases, there is a downward revision of cumulative child cases for MA (1,821 fewer cases)

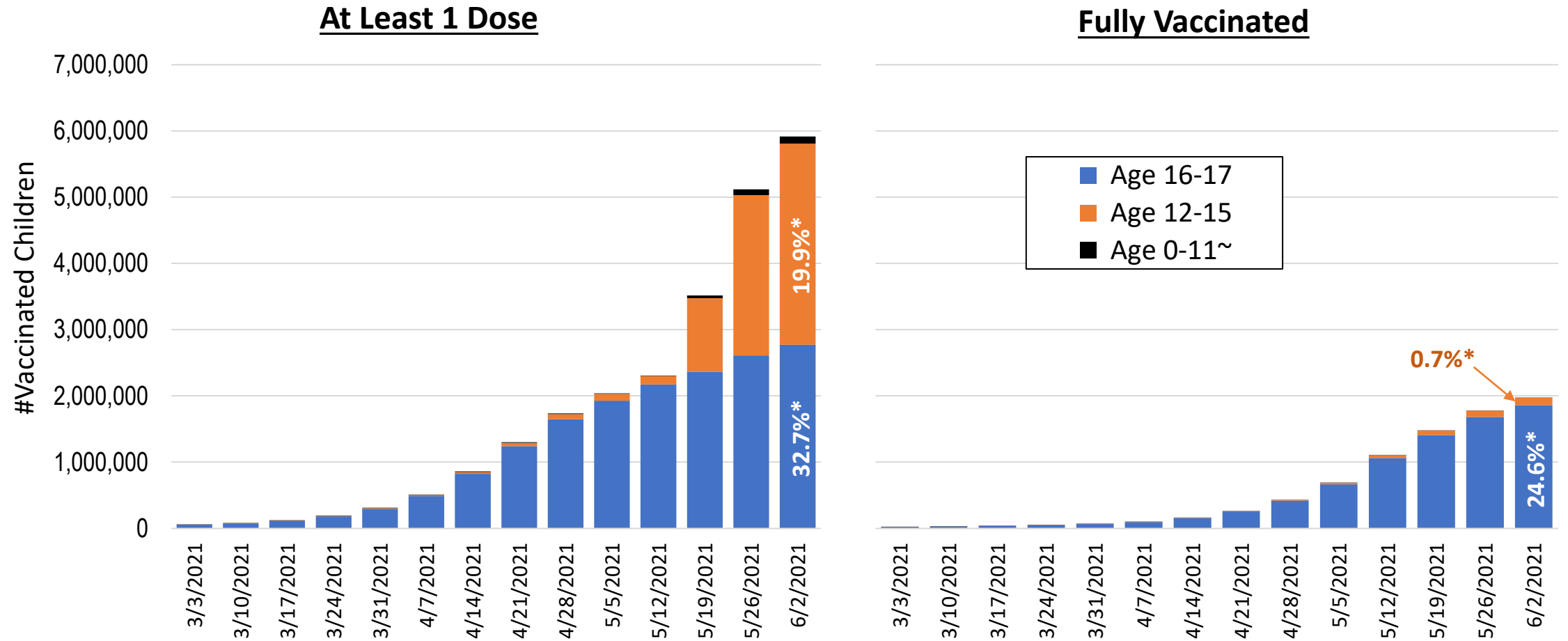
Cumulative Weekly Number of US COVID-19 Vaccine Recipients Under Age 18



^ Count includes those having received only 1 of 2 doses and those fully-vaccinated.

Source: AAP analysis of data series reported by the CDC titled "Demographic Trends of People Receiving COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States"

Cumulative Weekly Number of US COVID-19 Vaccine Recipients Under Age 18 by Age Group from March 2021



* Vaccinated children as percentage of all children within age group. ~ According to the CDC Coronavirus Disease Response Team, children under age 12 may be included as vaccinated due to (1) birthdate entered incorrectly, or (2) ongoing COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials involving children under age 12.

Source: AAP analysis of 05.26.2021 CDC Report titled “Demographic Trends of People Receiving COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States”

From AAP National...

Guidance Update: Return to Sports and Physical Activity

- The AAP encourages all who are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is available.
- The information on masking is consistent with the CDC guidance.
- Return to play or physical activity has been modified in the myocarditis section.
- Children and adolescents who have not consistently been physically active for more than 1 month should begin a gradual return to activity.



AAP-VT Press Release (6/10/21)

Thank you, Chapter Pres. Rebecca Bell & Executive Director Stephanie Winters

- Guidance to families with children on how to navigate the summer/stay healthy
- Vaccines are most effective tool to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Pediatricians are thrilled that Vermont is nearing the benchmark of vaccinating 80% of its eligible population against the virus; important to remember that young children are not yet eligible for the vaccine and so warrant special consideration.
- All families/settings where children gather will make their own decisions based on local factors, but AAP-VT is recommending the following:
 - Unvaccinated children >2 yo & unvaccinated adults should continue to wear masks indoors when they are around other unvaccinated people. Given low risk of transmission during outdoor activities, **reasonable for unvaccinated children to not wear masks outside.**
- Masks are effective: pediatric hosps. due to RSV, influenza, other viruses record low this year; now seeing increase. Sick adults/children ***continue to stay home.***

AAP-VT Press Release (6/10/21 – cont'd.)

- When planning, we encourage families to have honest & clear conversations re: comfort level w/other families (masking, vaccination, illness, other expectations).
- We are hopeful that children and adolescents will have a fun and rejuvenating summer. Visit the **Vermont Afterschool** website for summer activity details.
- We recommend all eligible adolescents be vaccinated ASAP. AAP-VT has hosted series of virtual family forums to discuss questions w/families & give parents/caregivers info needed re: vaccination. **SEE AAP-VT website** for past recordings & announcements of future forums.
- As always, please feel free to reach out to your child's health care professional w/questions & concerns. We anticipate younger school-aged children will be eligible for the vaccine in the fall and infants and toddlers may be eligible by the winter. ***We are pleased that Vermont is leading the nation in vaccination.***
- <http://www.aapvt.org/news/aapvt-offers-guidance-families-children-how-navigate-summer-and-stay-healthy-and-active>

AAP-VT Resources



Available for your use!

- PowerPoint presentation
- Video message from AAP-VT Chapter President Rebecca Bell: *“We are so excited that the COVID Vaccine is available for young people....”*
- Posters for your office

5 REASONS TEENS SHOULD GET THE COVID VACCINE



Vermont Chapter

INCORPORATED IN VERMONT

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Return to Play & Cardiac Screening

- **Return to Play** protocols do **NOT** change after Executive Order lifted/expired
- ***Pediatricians Reinforce Recommendation for “Return to Play” Protocol for Students Who have had COVID-19***
 - *Pediatric cardiology at UVM Larner College of Medicine recommend that all students over age 5 who have had COVID-19 be evaluated by medical home to determine the need for a **return to play protocol** – this could be related to any physical activity, including but not limited to physical education and organized sports. This recommendation, updated in March 2021, **does not change due to relaxation of any other COVID-19 protocols.***
- ***We are updating Vermont Return to Play based upon latest AAP updates – stay tuned for details next week!***

Tuesday Media Briefing (6/8/21)



Governor Phil Scott

Remarks pre-White House call

- Dozens of walk-in vaccine appointments available; please help us get us to 80%. Every dose could save a life!

DFR Commissioner Mike Pieciak – Modeling

- 2nd week in a row VT is the safest state from COVID-19; hosp. rate lowest in U.S. Favorable trends continue despite high (VT) mobility data.
 - ▣ Forecast shows lower cases in July.
 - ▣ Vermont leads nation among all vaccine categories, incl. highest % fully vaccinated; est. vax saved 260 VT lives.
- NH, ME and RI **fully reopened**; cases falling in Northeast (<10K 1st time in 9 mos.).

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith

- ❑ Inching forward toward vax goal – many stepped up over weekend: 79.4% one dose.
- ❑ Urge all to take advantage of many convenient opportunities
- ❑ 18+ at least one w/CDC data (WH metric): 82.9% (vs. WH goal 70%)
- ❑ Vax clinics: pharmacies, many popups, businesses, health partner clinics.
- ❑ Stay tuned later this week: many VT state parks; Jazz Fest this WE.
- ❑ Thank you EMS, VNG, health care partners, pharmacies.
- ❑ Hundreds behind the scenes supporting logistics. Also thank you to Vermonters, but we still have a bit to go.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Dept. of Public Safety Commissioner Schirling

- ❑ Weather has people looking for ways to cool down – think about safety!
- ❑ Swift water rescue last week in Huntington Gorge.
- ❑ To mitigate risk: never swim alone – there is always potential for unforeseen event, such as medical emergency.
 - ▣ Those at Huntington Gorge had 3rd party who could call for help.
- ❑ Know water depth, temperature, currents – talk w/others, do your research. Heavy rain can impact – water is incredibly powerful.
- ❑ Know your abilities; always swim sober; respect property postings.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Vaccine is reason we have gotten to where we are today; protect yourself & others. Vaccine is free, safe, effective, and available.
- ❑ *“Side effects are normal signs that your body is building protection.”*
- ❑ If you have doubts, get your answers from trusted sources – health care professional and www.healthvermont.gov/myvaccine
- ❑ VT has the greatest degree of protection among all states.
- ❑ Concerns re: possible summer surge in low vax states (U.S. south).
- ❑ We use vaccines to keep our kids safe from many diseases – COVID vaccine is no different. Get your kids vaccinated. Pfizer is available for 12+.

This just in...

Governor Scott Press Briefings to Wind Down

[This slide added after today's call]

- As VT approaches 80% vaccination rate, declared State of Emergency & weekly press briefings will end “relatively soon.” (Jason Maulucci, Governor Scott’s press secretary)
- Administration reportedly considering return to pre-pandemic routine: taking reporters’ questions once/week in his office (w/o cabinet members or live broadcasts).
 - ▣ Reporters from across VT who usually cannot attend in Montpelier will continue to have access: e.g., call-in number or a TV screen at the end of the table and people can Zoom
- <https://vtdigger.org/2021/06/10/scott-to-wind-down-marathon-covid-19-press-briefings/>

Practice Issues

COVID-19 Vaccine in PCP Offices

Merideth Plumpton, RN – Nurse Program Coordinator

Christine Finley, APRN MPH – Immunization Program Manager



<https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/covid-19-coronavirus-vaccine-kids-teens>

COVID 19 Vaccine in PCP Offices

- Addition of primary care - normalize COVID vaccine
- COVID vaccine enrollment separate from VCVF & VAVP

- FQHC – Federal HRSA Program
- Hospital owned practices
- Independent practices – enrollment currently open to all, regardless of size.

- Vaccine depot serves all of Vermont – allows us to ship smaller quantities of vaccine to locations
- Expectations of PCP offices
 - Reconcile weekly
 - Offer to patients in normal clinic flow
 - 2nd dose planning
 - Do not miss opportunities for fear of waste

Celebrating *Christine Finley, APRN MPH*

- ❑ Retiring from VDH after **11 years** as Vermont's Immunization Program Manager; last day is June 18, 2021
- ❑ Previous leadership roles in the Office of Local Health (prev. known as Community Public Health) and as Deputy Commissioner for Public Health
- ❑ ***Best wishes*** from the VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 call community – ***we will miss you!***



<https://www.wcax.com/content/news/Vt-reporting-few-CASES-of-flu-health-officials-want-to-keep-it-that-way>

NEW: VDH MCH Home Visiting Position Open!

- **NEW position:** Division of Maternal & Child Health (MCH) – will oversee legislatively appropriated Global Commitment funding in support of the Governor's vision to expand sustained MCH home visiting & implementation of new evidence-based model: **Parents as Teachers** (PAT). Expansion is also a key VDH priority, as outlined in **State Health Improvement Plan**.
 - Will oversee all aspects of program development/implementation of PAT. [Sustained home visiting is a voluntary program for pregnant individuals/families w/young children to provide services that improve MCH; prevent child injuries/abuse/maltreatment; promote social-emotional health; improve school readiness; reduce crime/domestic violence; improve economic self-sufficiency; and enhances coordination and referrals among community resources and supports, such as food, housing, and transportation.]
- Find posting at: <https://careers.vermont.gov/job/Burlington-Maternal-and-Child-Health-Program-Manager-VT-05401/748726700/>

In case you missed it (SEE VCHIP-VDH COVID Call 6/7/21)

Vermont WIC Program Updates

- Current waiver for remote (phone) enrollment & nutrition appointments will expire late Aug.; preparing for return to in-person Sept.
 - Revising procedures to support safe experience for families/staff, (children & some pregnant participants will **not** be vaccinated).
 - **Goal:** align WIC service delivery with pediatric and OB approaches to masking, etc. (knowing that things may look different by September).
- Practices may receive requests from local WIC staff for recent measurement data until return to **in person** WIC appointments.
- Increased benefit for **Fruits & Vegetables June through September!**
 - **Farm to Family coupons issued in July for use through October**
- Breastfeeding Peer Counseling services are expanding and will be available Statewide this summer
- Formula contract change: Vermont currently contracts with Gerber, and will transition to **Abbott/Similac** on **10/1/21** (no Rx needed for special formulas)

In case you missed it (6/7/21)

VDH's *One More Conversation* (Substance Use in Pregnancy)

- Information campaign **goal**:
 - Increase # of patient/provider conversations about substance use in pregnancy
- Addresses alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, opioid use
- Web pages, fact sheets, rack cards
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/family/pregnancy/substance-use-pregnancy>

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

- HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
- FAMILY PLANNING & PREGNANCY
- INFANTS & YOUNG CHILDREN
- CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS
- SCHOOL HEALTH
- ADOLESCENT HEALTH
- HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH
- WIC
- PLANS & REPORTS

CONTACT:
Maternal & Child Health Division
108 Cherry Street
Burlington, VT 05401
Phone: 802-863-7333

ALERTS COVID-19 VACCINE GET HELP NOW COVID-19 IN VERMONT SEARCH

Belonging to the LGBTQI+ community can be a source of strength. And, if you identify as LGBTQI+, it's important to recognize how your experience of sexual orientation & gender identity relates to mental health. The Gender Spectrum Collection <https://t.co/OLScu3Ilg> <https://t.co/yN0d3rcgBC> [Read More](#)

HOME / CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES / FAMILY PLANNING & PREGNANCY /

SUBSTANCE USE IN PREGNANCY

If you're here, you've taken a big step. You understand the importance of a healthy pregnancy. You understand the challenges that substance use can mean for that healthy pregnancy, but you may have questions and concerns. The information below will help answer some of those questions and concerns. But more importantly, it will help give you a reason, information and the strength to talk to your health care professional about substance use.

One More Conversation **Can** Make The Difference

ALCOHOL DURING PREGNANCY and beyond

Questions about alcohol use and pregnancy are common, especially before you knew that you were pregnant. This fact sheet answers your basic questions about alcohol and pregnancy, but your health care professional can always explain more and answer any other questions you have.

DOWNLOAD THE PDF

GET HELP QUITTING

In case you missed it...(VCHIP-VDH COVID call 6/2/21)

Dr. Benjamin Lee: Masks, Myocarditis, Variants

- We need to acclimate to the reality that COVID-19 is here to stay
- The major risk to children remains close contact with infected adults, particularly household members
- However, I think it is reasonable to continue to exercise greater caution until we have all public health tools at our disposal—the one we have yet to complete is vaccination across the entire age spectrum
 - If Vermont can maintain low case counts (<20 cases/day, <1% positivity rate), masking OUTDOORS for unvaccinated people, including children, can safely be dropped
 - I still believe there is strong rationale for unvaccinated/immunocompromised individuals to mask while indoors to reduce personal risk and risk of spread within susceptible populations
 - I have concerns about the long-term messaging that vaccinating children <12 years old is not necessary for optimum disease mitigation

- Holly Morehouse, Executive Director: initial grant program (fed. \$) = \$1.5m
 - ▣ 188 proposals submitted; seeking >\$7m.
- Sen. Bernie Sanders secured additional \$2.35m. for total of \$3.85m.
 - ▣ Grant awardees: ~100 grants in 13 counties will go out (1st 38 this week; ≥ additional next week). Also, additional programs by local schools.
- Increased access through: creating new opportunities, addressing affordability (98% have measures to provide at low/no cost), increasing slots, assure underrepresented youth included, providing for those w/special needs.
- VT Community Foundation adding support to stretch grants even further.
- Expect to add 238 total weeks of programming & 31,650 new slots.
- ***Vermont 2-1-1 is ready/willing to help families find summer programs***
- Visit the web site: resources for families & highlights of the summer health guidance for programs.

VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 calls: Summer Calendar

- Based on survey responses – thank you!
- **Remainder of June**: generally **Mondays & Wednesdays**
 - ▣ Exception: **NO CALL Monday, June 28**
 - ▣ We **WILL** have a call on **Wednesday, June 30**
- **July**: generally **Wednesdays only**
- **August**: generally **Wednesdays only** – subject to change as we approach fall school reopening
- **September forward – TBD!**



Questions/Discussion

- Q & A Goal: monitor/respond in real time; record/disseminate/revisit later as needed.
- **For additional questions, please e-mail: vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu**
 - ▣ **What do you need** – how can we be helpful (specific guidance)?
- **VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19 website:**
https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates
- Next CHAMP call – ***Monday, June 14, 12:15 – 12:45 pm***
- SEE **VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 Call *Summer Calendar*** for our new schedule!
- Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine (special call next week):
Thursday, June 17, 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#