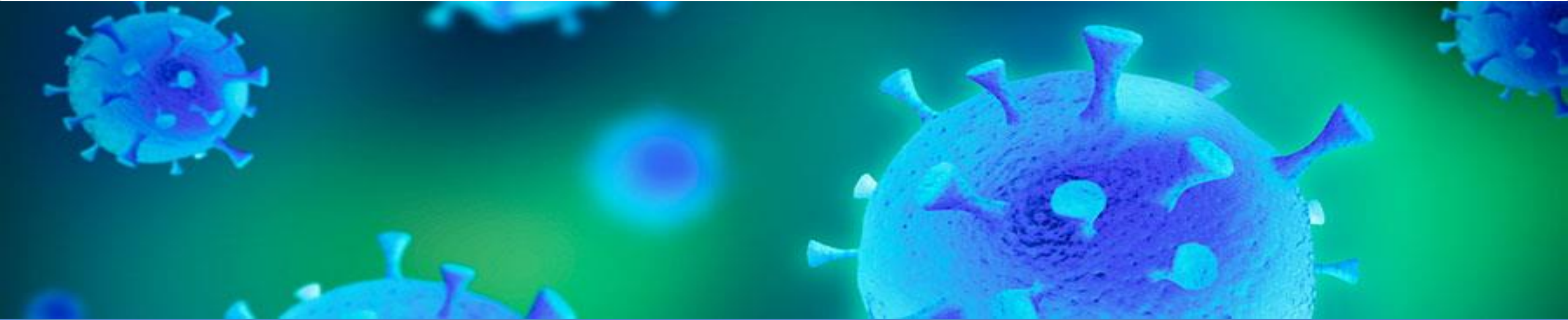


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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 16, 2021



Technology Notes

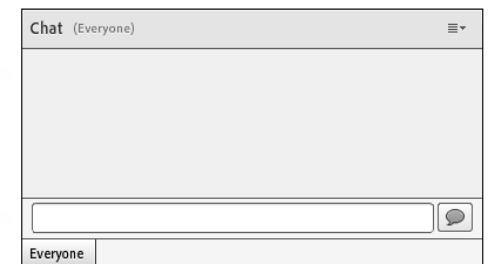
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

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

- (Getting ready to) Celebrate ***Juneteenth!***
 - ▣ Additional content following epi updates
- Reminder – weekly event schedule:
 - ▣ ***New VCHIP-VDH call calendar*** (next slide); Gov. Media Briefings ***now Tuesdays only***; VMS call Thursday – ***special call this wk.***: new laws/updates to VT legislation re: VT health & practices.
 - Announcements; situation, VDH, CDC, AAP updates; Tuesday Media Briefing
 - Practice Issues – ***Wednesday Potpourri, including request your feedback on future pediatric vaccine administration!***
 - 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!**



Juneteenth 2021

- Burlington's first-ever celebration!

- ▣ For details go to: <https://www.juneteenthbtv.org/>

- ▣ <https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/burlington-prepares-for-its-first-ever-juneteenth-celebration/Content?oid=33160484>

- Article re: the history of Juneteenth in Vermont:

- <http://nationaljuneteenth.com/Vermont.html>



Please chat in other community celebrations we may have missed!

Upcoming event:

Discussion with Xusana Davis



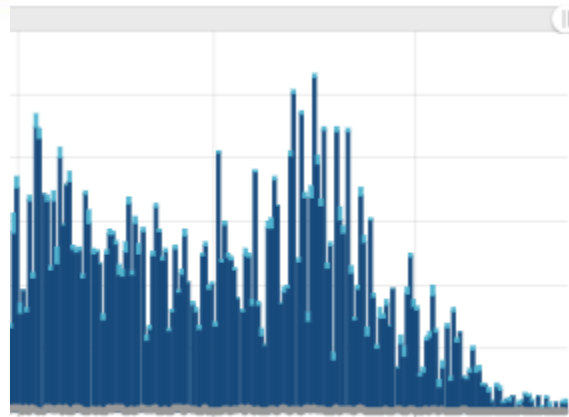
- **Who:** Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance will host *Vermont Executive Director of Racial Equity, Xusana Davis*.
- **When:** Friday, June 18 at 1:00pm
- **What:** monthly salon-style Equity Discussion on the the history of Juneteenth and the government's obligation to address racial inequity.
- **How:** email Alliance Public Engagement Director, Dan Brown, at dan@vecaa.org to RSVP.
 - ▣ Accepting rolling RSVPs until Zoom license reaches capacity.

Davis Ctr. Exhibit to Honor UVM BIPOC Community

- Established 2020 by President Suresh Garimella: creation of a prominent area where we might *“honor and celebrate our common commitment to unity, respect, diversity, inclusion, equity, and belonging.”*
- Inaugural exhibit, Feb. 2021: “Celebrating Diverse Voices at UVM: Ten Black Experiences” (4th floor, now permanent venue for 2 exhibits annually).
- Proposals sought from current students/faculty/staff for upcoming academic year: due **Friday, June 18, 2021.**
 - Application online: <https://www.uvm.edu/diversity/display-case-information-and-exhibit-protocol>
 - Examples: historical displays on BIPOC individuals/groups, utilizing materials from UVM Archives; artistic/creative projects on BIPOC experiences/topics; class-based projects examining BIPOC issues
 - Display for the Fall Term to be installed by mid-August; for Spring Term early January.
 - Funding to offset costs available through Office of the Vice Provost for Diversity

Situation update

New Cases	9
24,348 Total	
Currently Hospitalized	2
Hospitalized In ICU	1
Hospitalized Under Investigation	0
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.	0.7%
People Tested	398,421
Total Tests	1,715,728
Recovered	23,780
97.7% of Cases	
Deaths	256
1.1% of Cases	
Last Updated: 6/16/2021, 10:49:48 AM	



VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

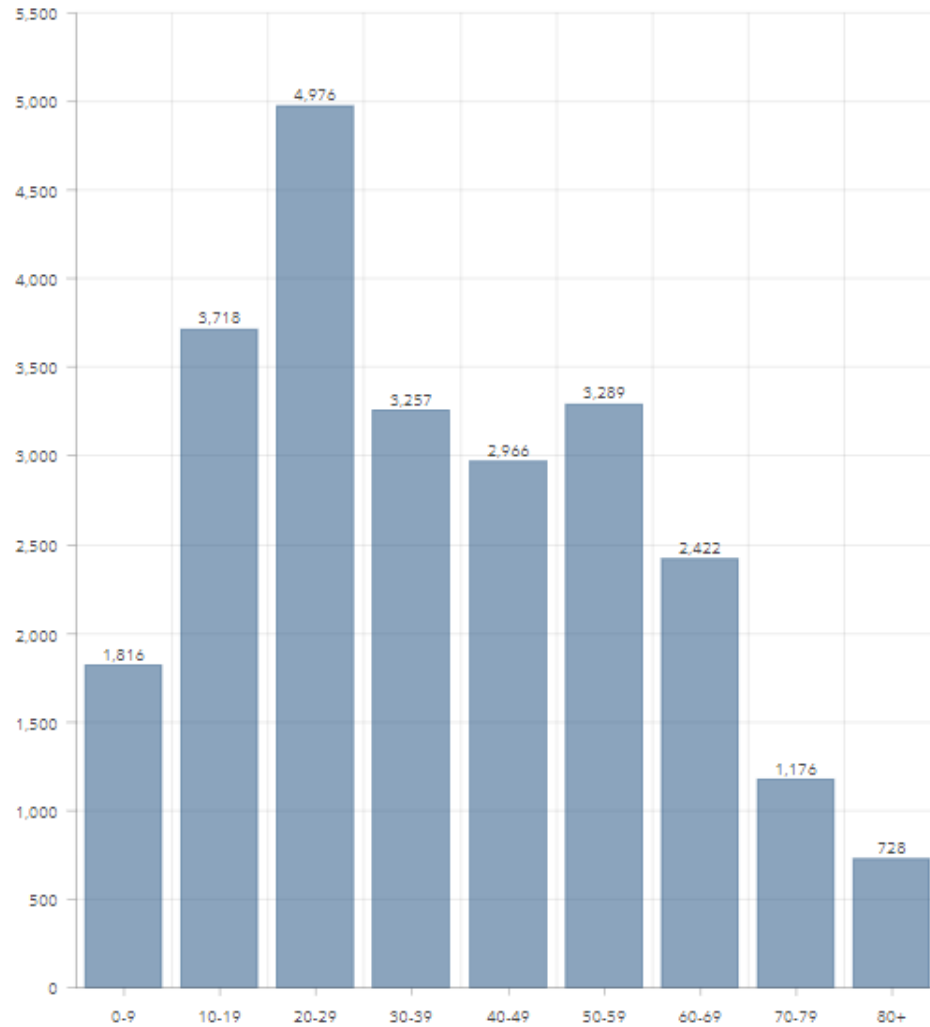
NOTE: VDH Dashboard now be updated Mon-Fri only (excl. holidays). Case info reflects counts as of end of the previous weekday. Data from Sat/Sun posted w/Monday's update. All data are compiled by the VDH; are preliminary & subject to change. Dashboard is updated by 12:00 p.m.

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

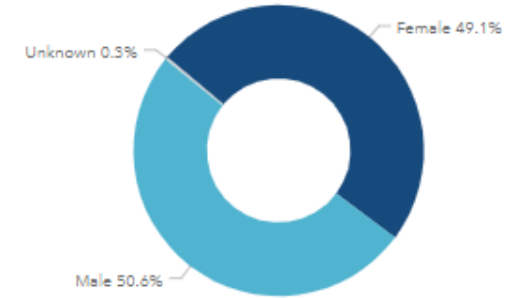
- U.S. **33.4 million+** cases; **599,875 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html> (updated 6/16/21)
 - 6/15/21: **10,889 new cases; 389 deaths**
 - Past week: av. 13,7218 cases/day (14d. change -20%)
 - **3.8 million+ deaths worldwide; 176.6 million+ cases** (-6% & -21% 14-day change respectively)
- **NEW VDH Weekly Data Summary** schedule: moving to **every other week for the summer**; then will likely move to **monthly updates in the fall**. Will only provide **spotlight analyses** as needed!
 - 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

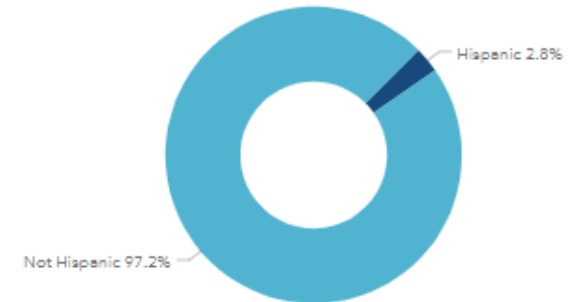
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known

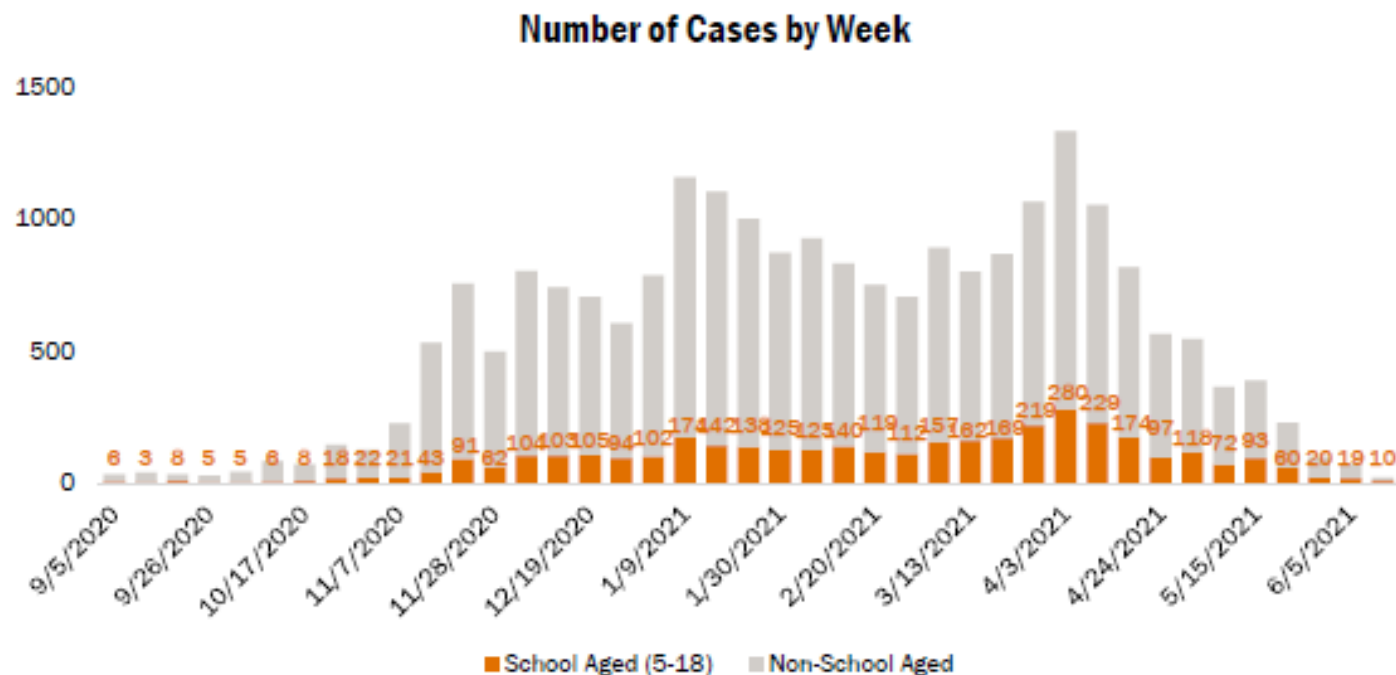


Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



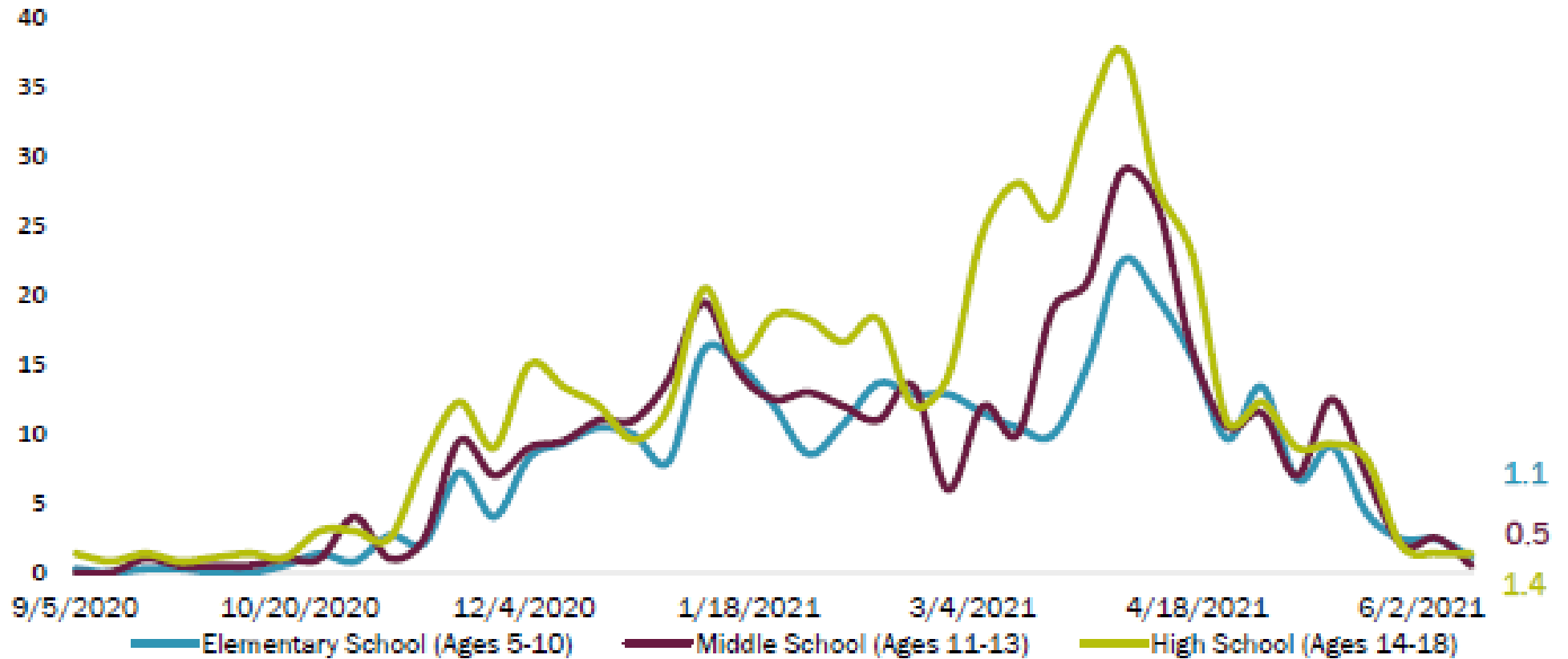
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>

This brief reflects data as of June 12, 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.



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

Rates by Week by School Category



[Compare to data from previous week: rates were 1.4/10K (HS), 2.5 (MS), and 2.4 (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 13, 2021

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	6	1401

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

- 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**

Letter from VDH Commissioner Levine & AOE Secretary French

- To parents/families of Vermont students age 12 and up (AOE Field Memo, 6/11/21):
 - *“Your diligence with masking, social distancing and following Vermont’s guidelines to prevent COVID-19 transmission paved the way for us to return to a more active and enjoyable summer – with plans to begin the next school year in a way that will feel more normal and familiar to most students.”*
 - *“Vaccination is another important step to getting us out of the COVID-19 pandemic...Your efforts have led to some of the best adolescent vaccination rates in the nation, with 52% of Vermont’s 12- to 15-year-olds and 66% of 16- to 17-year-olds already vaccinated.”*
 - *“We encourage parents with questions to talk with your child’s health care provider or your family doctor to learn more about the vaccine. “We are there for you when you are ready for your shot.”*
- <https://education.vermont.gov/documents/letter-levine-french-student-vaccination-age12-above>

Masks for Unvaccinated People Indoors

- Governor's team wants the **removal** of the word "**strongly**" from the masking recommendation for unvaccinated individuals indoors
- American Academy of Pediatrics-VT statement Thursday June 10: "*Unvaccinated children over 2 years of age as well as unvaccinated adults should continue to wear masks indoors when they are around other unvaccinated people.*"
- AOE issued additional guidance 6/10 reiterating what is now on the VDH schools page, regarding a **strong** recommendation for masking of unvaccinated individuals indoors. **The word *Strongly* is going to be removed from AOE communication but we are NOT sure if something confirming this will be released as we are at tail end of school year**
- CDD/DCF plans to inform registered/licensed childcare providers that state government recommends masks for unvaccinated people indoors AND AAP-VT says unvaccinated people **SHOULD** wear masks indoors
- Vermont Afterschool will reach out to camps/summer programs to share this update as well

More Guidance...

- **FAQ: May School Districts Require Mask Wearing During Summer Programming Under Their Own Authority?**

May school districts, under their own authority, require the wearing of masks during summer programming? School districts should defer to VDH expertise and advice on PH issues. VDH continues to recommend mask use for unvaccinated people when inside; accordingly, summer programs should recommend, but not require mask use by unvaccinated students and staff. It is AOE expectation that districts will not impose more restrictive rules, including masks, than the State has issued.

- **FAQ: Does the Recommendation that Schools Follow a Strong and Healthy Year Continue After the Final Student Day of the School Year?**

No. This recommendation was based on the unvaccinated status of many students, particularly younger students. After the last school day for students, it no longer applies.

In the News

- Schools in Vermont can no longer require students or staff — whether vaccinated or not — to wear masks.
 - ▣ *“The news on Tuesday took several K-12 leaders by surprise. Several had reported earlier that they planned to require masking indoors, despite the state relaxing its Covid-19 restrictions now that 80% of eligible Vermonters have received at least one dose of the vaccine.”*
 - ▣ <https://vtdigger.org/2021/06/15/most-kids-arent-vaccinated-but-schools-can-no-longer-mandate-masking/>
 - ▣ Clarification of quote from Dr. Ben Lee: *I specifically said I didn't understand why mask use shouldn't be maintained for just one more week until school lets out for this academic year, but that it was a more complicated issue beyond that for summer schools, camp programs, etc.”*

In the News (cont'd.)



And new today:

- WCAX report: **Respiratory viruses return; keeping unvaccinated kids safe this summer**
- Keep kids home from child care if they're sick; masking should still be an option in certain situations.
 - *“Just making sure everyone feels comfortable with the situation. I think this is a conversation that should continue going forward. COVID or not, it’s a really helpful conversation to keep some of these infectious respiratory pathogens at bay.”*
- <https://www.wcax.com/2021/06/16/respiratory-viruses-return-keeping-unvaccinated-kids-safe-this-summer/>

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!

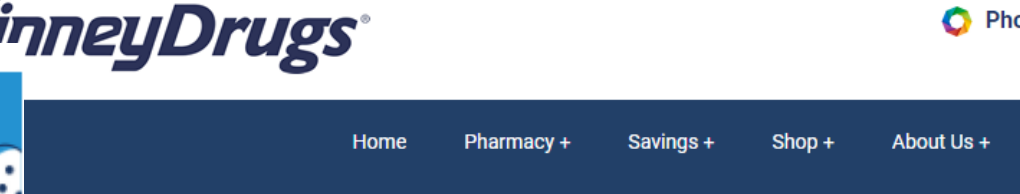
[Find a walk-in clinic here](#)

More ways to get your vaccine!

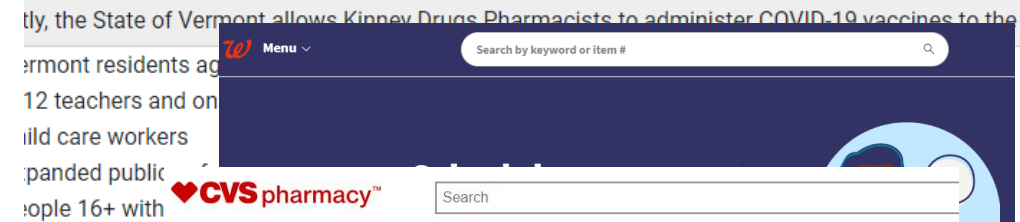
- Vaccine clinics for restaurant, hospitality, and tourism workers
- Vaccine clinics for school and community, open to 12 -15-year-olds

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

ONLINE



COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling at Kinney Drugs in



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: 6/16/21)

- 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

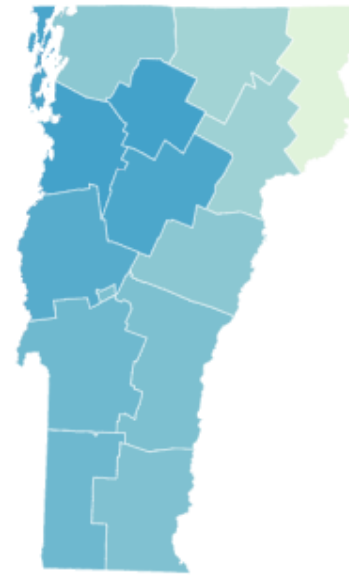
Blue headers indicate CDC data
Gray headers indicate Vermont data

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	79.8%
Bennington	76.0%
Caledonia	67.9%
Chittenden	83.0%
Essex	57.0%
Franklin	70.9%
Grand Isle	82.1%
Lamoille	83.1%
Orange	71.1%
Orleans	67.4%
Rutland	75.7%
Washington	81.6%
Windham	73.0%
Windsor	73.4%



57.0% 83.1%

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

906.0K

Doses Administered

809.8K

Total People Vaccinated

Total People Started

47.5K

Total People Completed

398.7K

● Started ● Completed

Updated 6/16/2021 8:43:21 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 = 55.3.1% (54.1% on 6/12)
 - ▣ 16-17 = 67.8% (67.2% on 6/12)
 - ▣ 18-29 = 54.4% (54.0% on 6/12)
 - ▣ VT Age 12+ = 76.9% (76.6% - 6/12)

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	55.3%
16 - 17	67.8%
18 - 29	54.4%
30 - 39	75.5%
40 - 49	76.5%
50 - 59	80.8%
60 - 64	87.3%
65 - 69	93.8%
70 - 74	99.9%
75+	94.3%
VT Age 12+	76.9%

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	69.1%
Black or African American	61.5%
Native American, Indigenous, or First Nation	27.5%
Pacific Islander	15.6%
Two or more races	58.2%
White	74.2%
VT Age 12+	73.4%

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	83.8%
Not Hispanic	70.7%
VT Age 12+	71.0%

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	56.7%	72.2%	84.0%	66.5%
Non-Hispanic White	50.9%	72.0%	90.8%	70.9%
Vermont	51.6%	72.1%	90.6%	70.6%

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	79.3%
Male	74.2%
VT Age 12+	76.8%

Sex information is missing for 0% of people vaccinated.

Updated 6/16/2021 8:43:21 AM

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

- Follow @GovPhilScott
- Latest numbers:
 - ▣ **6/15/21: 80.5%** elig. pop.
 - ▣ **443,666** Vermonters with at least one dose!



Governor Phil Scott ✓

@GovPhilScott

82nd Governor of Vermont — Protect yourself, your friends and your family, and help us get back to normal at healthvermont.gov/myvaccine

← **Governor Phil Scott** ✓
3,398 Tweets Following



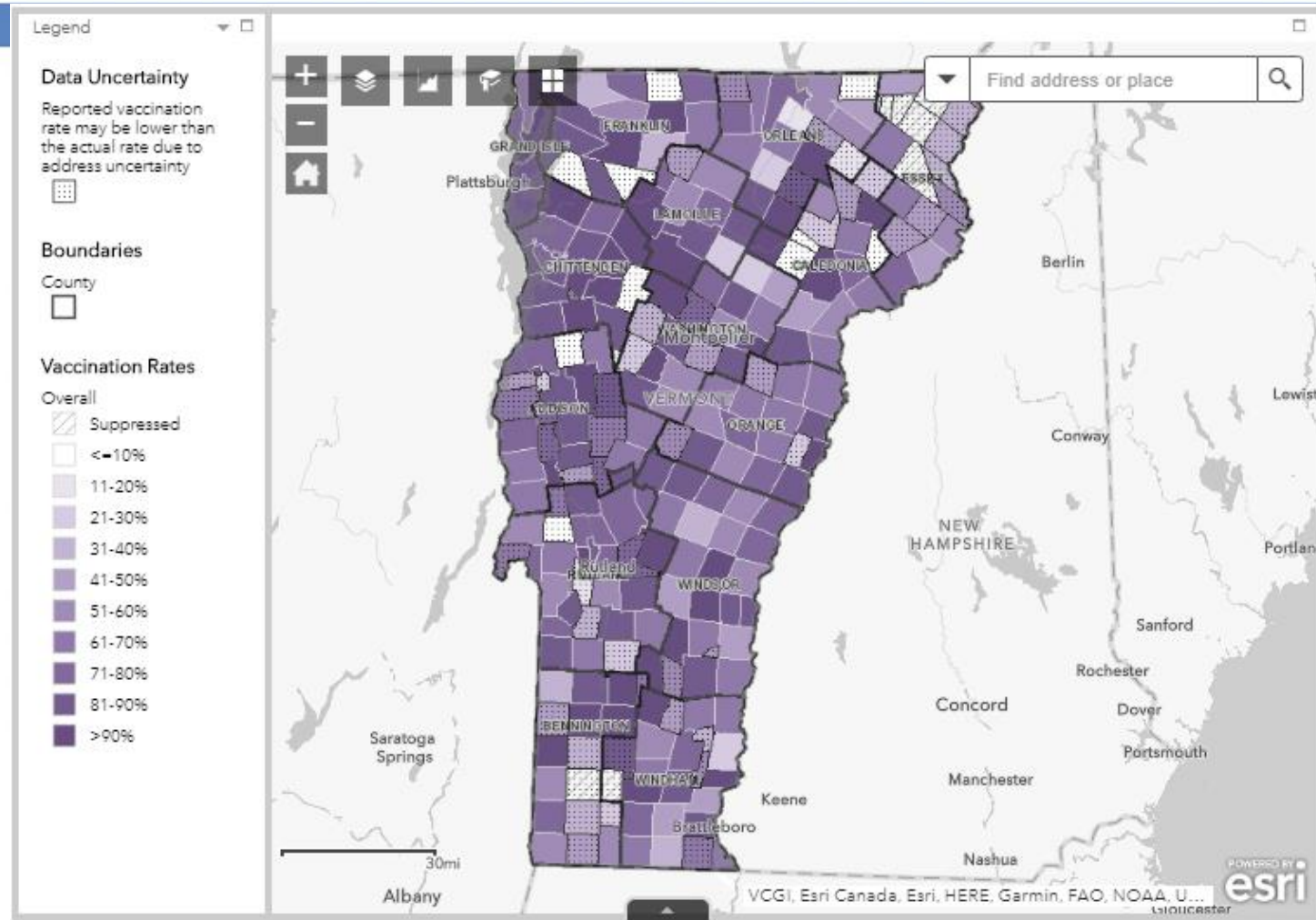
Governor Phil Scott ✓ @GovPhilScott · 1h

Even though we've passed our 80% milestone, we're continuing our efforts to make vaccines as accessible as possible. Over 1,000 Vermonters received their first dose yesterday. There are over 50 walk in clinics around the state this week. Find one at healthvermont.gov/myvaccine



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

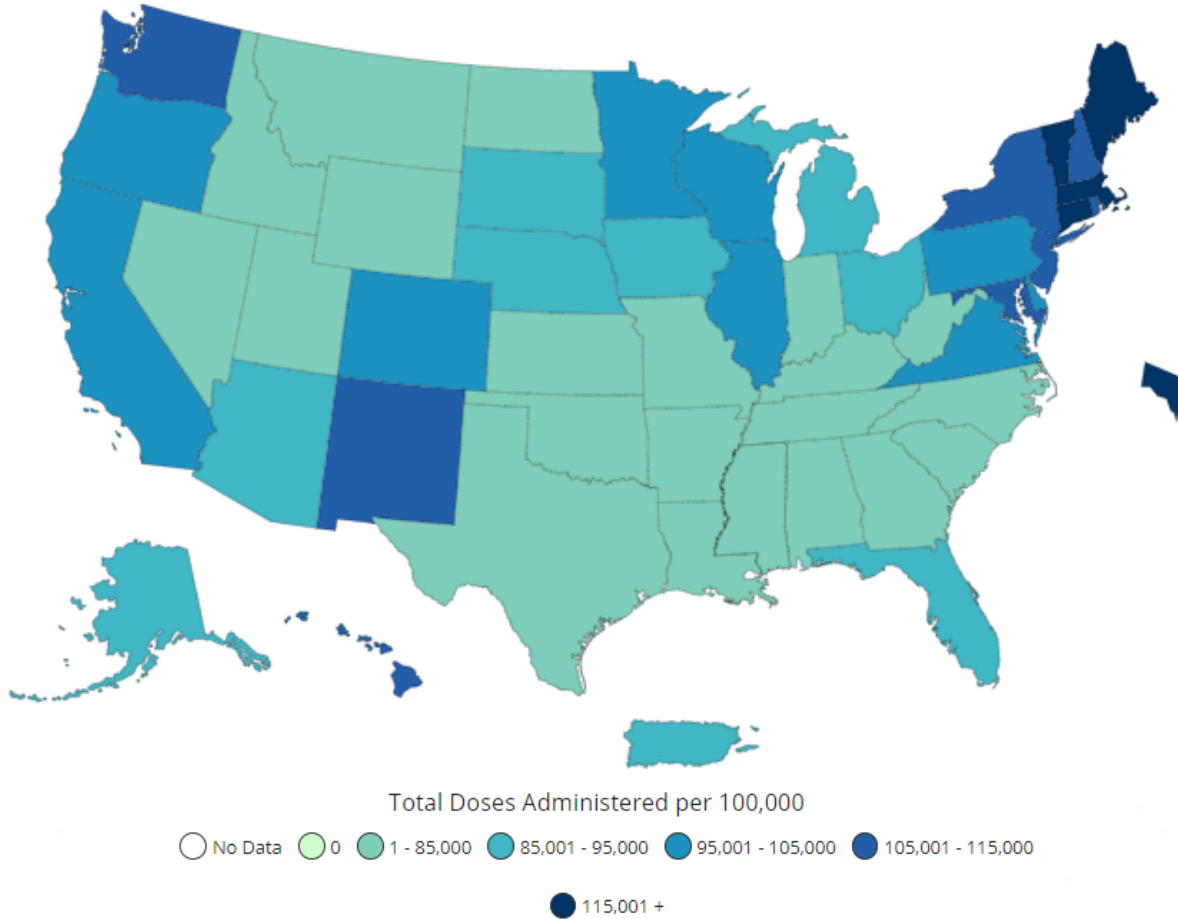
- Map shows overall % of VTers age 12+ vaccinated with \geq one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Map updated weekly (Thurs.) & includes data reported to VT Immunization Registry thru Wed.
- Please use caution when interpreting town data – several scenarios where vaccinations are not attributed to the correct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



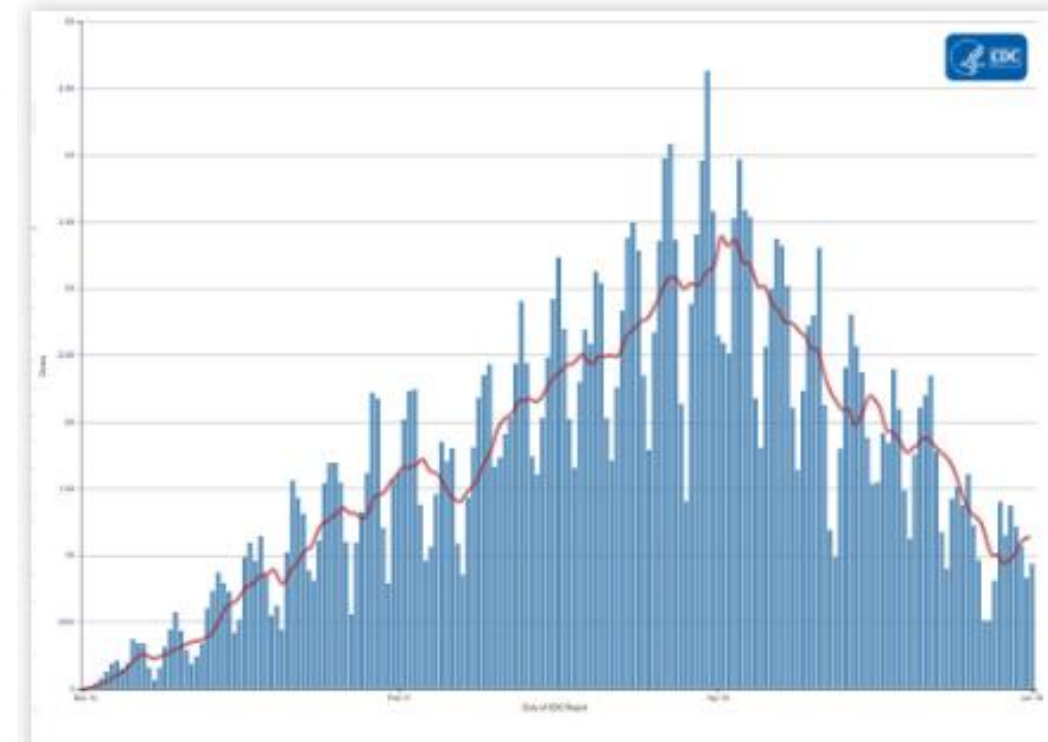
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/map-vaccine-rates-town>

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>

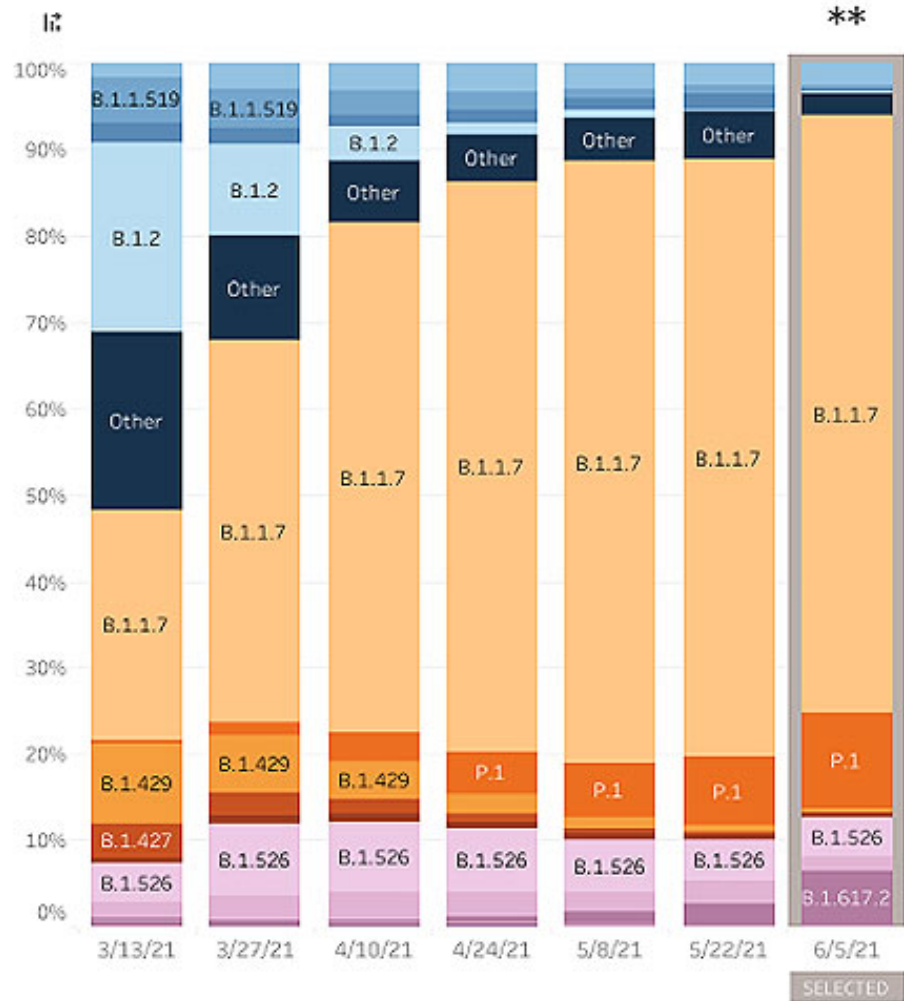
<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>

June 16, 2021

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

United States: 2/28/2021 – 6/5/2021

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



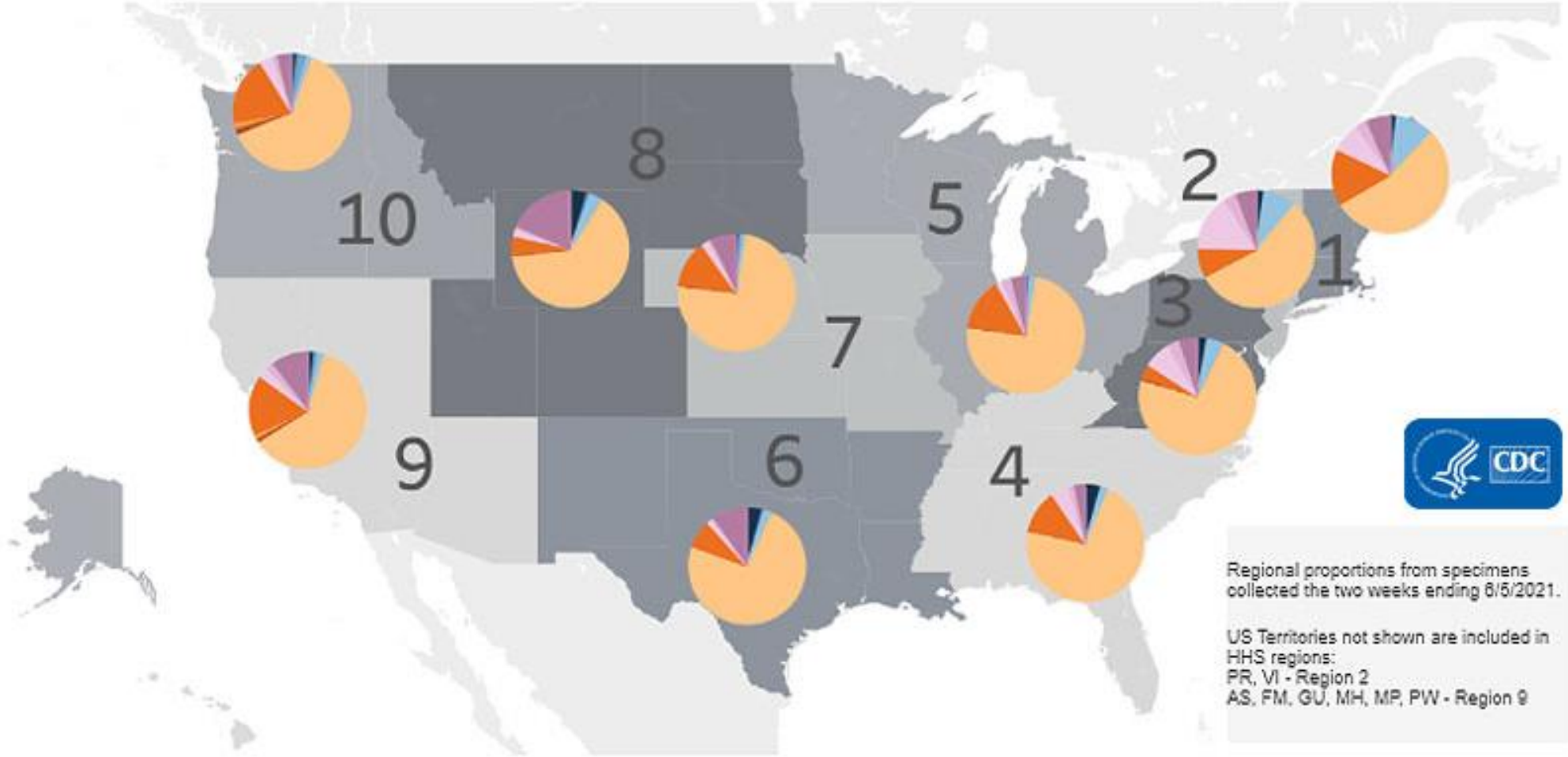
USA					
	Lineage	Type	%Total	95%PI	
Most common lineages	B.1.1.7	VOC	69.2%	64.0-74.2%	■
	P.1	VOC	11.2%	7.7-14.8%	■
	B.1.617.2	VOI	6.1%	3.7-8.9%	■
	B.1.526	VOI	4.6%	2.5-7.1%	■
	B.1.526.2		2.5%	0.9-4.3%	■
	B.1.526.1	VOI	1.8%	0.6-3.4%	■
	B.1.1.519		0.5%	0.0-1.2%	■
Additional VOI/VOC lineages	B.1		0.3%	0.0-1.2%	■
	B.1.2		0.1%	0.0-0.3%	■
	B.1.351	VOC	0.4%	0.0-1.2%	■
	B.1.429	VOC	0.3%	0.0-0.9%	■
	B.1.427	VOC	0.1%	0.0-0.6%	■
	B.1.525	VOI	0.1%	0.0-0.6%	■
	B.1.617.1	VOI	0.1%	0.0-0.6%	■
P.2	VOI	0.0%	0.0-0.3%	■	
Other*	Other		2.7%	0.6-5.8%	■



* Other represents >200 additional lineages, which are each circulating at <1% of viruses
 ** These data include Nowcast estimates, which are modeled projections that may differ from weighted estimates generated at later dates

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

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



Updated June 8, 2021

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	106	6	0	8	1
Essex	5	0	0	0	0
Franklin	23	9	0	2	0
Grand Isle	1	1	0	0	0
Lamoille	13	1	0	3	0
Orange	5	0	0	0	0
Orleans	17	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

Tuesday Media Briefing (6/15/21)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith

- Governor Scott is on White House call & will join later.
- Sun. (6/13/21) eve. 80% of VT eligible pop. having rec'd. at least 1 dose; 1st in the country to achieve this milestone (80.3% 12+ as of this a.m.)
 - ▣ White House metric (18+ \geq one dose) = 83.6% vs. 70% goal by July 4.
 - ▣ **All Vermonters** with at least 1 dose is 71.0% (reconciled CDC numbers).
- Anticipate that ages 5-11, **approx. 44,000**, will be elig. in the fall.
- 59 clinics scheduled this week (pharmacies, many pop-ups); in the future, ***will combine testing & vaccination sites.***
- General Assistance Housing Program: current 2,295 in 1,631 hotel/motel rooms; losing capacity as state reopens. Goal: trans. to perm. housing.
 - ▣ July 1: **new criteria for new households**; also, ineligible households may be eligible

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Vermont remains safest state in U.S. with highest vaccination rates.
 - 48 new COVID cases this week; down 97% percent since peak on April 1.
 - Cases falling consistently across all age groups. Median age of cases = 32.
 - No deaths this week – the only state to do so.
- Canada: experienced winter surge, then improved, then spring surge (due in part to spread of more transmissible variants & limited vaccine supply). Cases down 97% past month & great vaccine progress.
- Trudeau: will reopen when at least 75% w/one dose (70.13% of 12+ as of 6/5/21) & 25% fully vaccinated. Pieciak: *“Likely a matter of weeks.”*
- Cases falling across region: under 6,300 for first time in some time.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- Quite a while since back to back briefings – but it's a tricky thing: disease is never fully gone. Our job is to make sure you/we do everything we need to not lose ground.
- Meeting our goal of 80% deeply meaningful; but nearly 1/5 elig. NOT vax.
- One important reason: Delta variant is 10% of U.S. cases & 90% of new cases in U.K. Far more contagious & potentially more dangerous.
 - ▣ Have identified 3 cases in Vermont thru genomic sequencing; our lab now fully capable & now doing more (since fewer cases overall).
 - ▣ 3 cases: 1 case international travel; 1 domestic travel/returned to VT; 1 unknown.
- It's OK to keep going w/prevention steps; be prepared for increases in other respiratory viruses such as the common cold.

June 16, 2021

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Governor Phil Scott

- Returned from White House call: Dr. Walensky said nationwide trends moving in right direction, and 64.5 18+ w/at least one dose.
 - The science shows that vaccines are effective against the Delta variant.
 - VT allocation of Pfizer & Moderna remain the same; no new allocation J&J.
- All remaining restrictions have been lifted. We are not letting up.
- State of Emergency will expire midnight tonight; won't be extended.
- There are still Vermonters struggling as emergency comes to an end. As we enter recovery phase, we will focus on building a stronger, more prosperous VT, learning the lessons of the pandemic, growing the economy, protecting the most vulnerable.

Governor Scott Lifts Restrictions (6/14/21)

Directive to Agency of Commerce & Community Development Secretary Lindsay Kurrle:

- *“To rescind all remaining mandatory Specialized and Universal measures set forth in the Vermont Forward Plan.”*

GOVERNOR'S DIRECTIVE TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Today, June 14, 2021, because of the hard work of so many Vermonters and their commitment to each other, 80 percent of eligible Vermonters have now received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. This figure makes Vermont the envy of the nation, the safest state in the United States and a global leader. This achievement meets the threshold set for lifting State restrictions.

I, Philip B. Scott, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of Vermont by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, the emergency powers set forth in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other laws, hereby direct the Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to rescind all remaining mandatory Specialized and Universal Guidance measures set forth in the Vermont Forward Plan.

This Directive shall take effect upon signing.



By the Governor:

Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Dated: June 14, 2021

Governor Scott *New* Executive Order



- State of Emergency permitted to expire at midnight, June 15, 2021
- New E.O. issued under general (not emergency) powers
 - *“We will still need some management tools at our disposal...we want to make sure people who have relied on some of the programs and services are not left behind...we have a path forward that does not require a State of Emergency.”*
- Includes provisions to cont. VDH Commissioner oversight of COVID-19 related investigation and mitigation efforts for the duration of this Order, and...
 - Maintain National Guard’s Active Services status to allow & ensure continued State agency coordination, for ongoing support and management of the response.
 - Extend Vermont’s access to federal funding for expanded emergency non-congregate housing and feeding programs.
 - Allow bars & restaurants to continue pick-up and delivery of alcoholic beverages for 2-week period between expiration of the Emergency Declaration and July 1, when recently enacted legislation makes it permanent.

Governor Scott Press Briefings to Wind Down (ann. 6/11/21)

- 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

Wednesday Potpourri (including Requesting Your Feedback re: COVID-19 Vaccine in PCP Offices



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

Planning for (More) Pediatric Vaccine Administration

- For all state supplied vaccines, CDC requires provider offices enroll w/child & adult vax programs; requires additional enrollment to house/administer COVID vaccine. Once completed, can receive shipment, store & administer vaccine.
- Three PCP office “buckets,” each w/separate COVID-19 enrollment process.
 - **FQHC’s** – can enroll into a federal HRSA program to receive a separate allocation of vaccine. IZ program working with Bi-State to help FQHC’s with this process. Of the 11 FQHC umbrella organizations, eight are fully onboarded and offering COVID vaccination
 - **Hospital owned practices** – IZ program spoke with all hospitals; request for information was sent to all hospitals two weeks ago asking for their plan to continue to offer vaccine. Have responses from all but one hospital.
 - Hospitals are telling VDH when their PCP sites will offer COVID vaccine. No hospital PCP offices are currently offering vaccine. Several planning to in the coming weeks.
- Some hospitals with ultracold storage capacity have offered to be local vaccine hubs for Pfizer in their region of the state.

Planning for (More) Pediatric Vaccine Administration

- ❑ **Independent PCP offices** – selected independent PCP offices were invited to onboard earlier than others (based on panel size, location, & ability to manage minimum vaccine order sizes. Invitation sent to 20; 14 sites now offering COVID vaccine in their offices; served vax depot and direct shipments from mfrs.
- ❑ On 6/4, all COVID-19 enrolled PCP independent practices (approx. 35) received invitation to provide COVID vaccine regardless of size. Vaccine depot will help serve smaller practices that cannot order the minimum shipment. 25 independent practices have not completed the COVID 19 enrollment process and are not eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❑ Independent Practices: - If your office would like to offer COVID 19 vaccine and have not heard from the Immunization Program please reach out to us.
- ❑ Hosp. owned practices – please check with administration for your plan.
- ❑ FQHC's – please check with your umbrella organization for your plan.

From Merideth Plumpton, VDH IZ Program RN Coordinator:

Planning for (More) Pediatric Vaccine Administration

- VT **vaccine depot** has been serving mass vax clinic sites & will continue to operate & serve PCP practices across the state. Depot can break large shipments (e.g., Pfizer min. order size 1170 doses; now offers 450 doses) into more manageable sizes.
- ***There is no requirement for PCP offices to have ultracold storage capacity!***
- If interested in having COVID vaccine, here's what you need to know:
 - ▣ CDC requires that sites reconcile COVID vaccine inventory weekly.
 - ▣ You can offer this in your normal clinic flow, and/or offer small COVID clinics
 - ▣ Pfizer and Moderna both require 2 doses; office must manage inventory & plan for both.
 - ▣ Large shift in messaging from CDC: may be increased waste at PCP offices, since all COVID vaccine comes in multidose vials (packaged without preservatives and needs to be used within a short window of time once the vial is punctured: 6 hrs. for Pfizer and J&J, 12 hours for Moderna). CDC is now saying do not miss opportunities to vaccinate because of potential waste – e.g., if pt. comes into the office 5 minutes before you close and wants a COVID vaccine, open the vial/give vaccine, waste the remaining doses.

In case you missed it (VCHIP-VDH call 6/11/21)

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

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®



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/OLScIu3Ilg> <https://t.co/yN0o3rcgBC> [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

- 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 21, 12:15 – 12:45 pm***
- **SEE VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 Call *Summer Calendar*** for our new schedule!
- Please tune in to VMS **special call this week**: new laws/updates to VT legislation re: the State's health & practices related to health care workers.

Thursday, June 17, 2021 – 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- **VISIT <https://vtmd.org/>** for details!