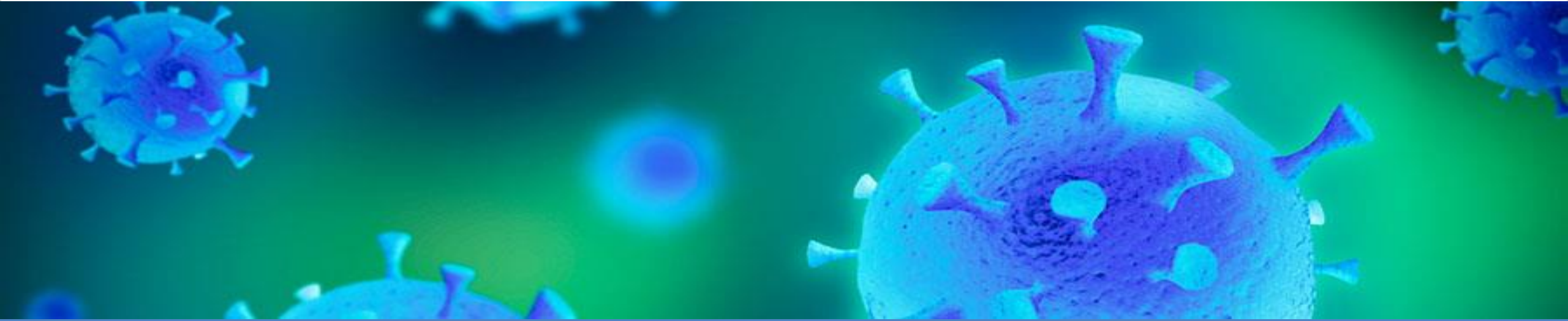


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM
Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH
August 18, 2021

Technology Notes

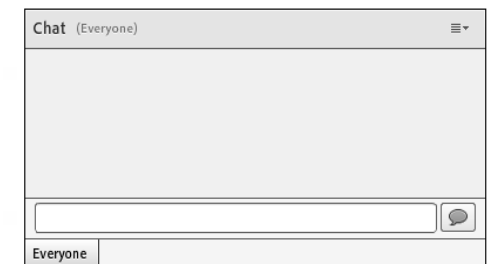
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

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



- Taking a moment to consider the plight of Afghan women & girls
 - ▣ NYT Opinion by **Malala Yousafzai**: *“I survived the Taliban. I fear for my Afghan sisters.”*
 - ▣ <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/17/opinion/malala-afghanistan-taliban-women.html>
- Reminder – weekly event schedule:
 - ▣ **Summer VCHIP-VDH call calendar** (next slide); Gov. Media Briefings ***now Tuesdays only***; VMS calls w/Dr. Levine ***select Thursdays only***
- Situation, VDH, CDC, AAP updates; Tuesday media briefing
- Practice Issues – ***Safe Return to School for Vermont Students***
- Q & A/Discussion

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

VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 calls: Summer Calendar

- ❑ **July**: generally **Wednesdays only**
- ❑ **August**: generally **Wednesdays only** (next call **August 25**)
 - ❑ Subject to change as we approach school reopening!
- ❑ **September forward – TBD!**
 - ❑ **No calls on September 1 or September 15**
- ❑ Schedule **subject to change** at any time if circumstances warrant!
- ❑ *Please continue to send your feedback re: schedule/topics to vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu*
- ❑ VMS calls with VDH Commissioner Levine now select Thursdays only (see next slide)



VMS Calls with Health Commissioner Levine: Summer Schedule

WHAT: VMS weekly call with VDH Commissioner Dr. Mark Levine

WHEN: select **Thursdays** throughout the summer
12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

HOW: **Zoom** - virtual meeting address will remain constant.

Join Zoom Meeting -
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdIJ2ZG4yQT09>

Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105
Password: 540684
Dial In: 1-646-876-9923

Vermont
Medical
Society

VMS Commissioner Call **Summer Schedule**

Summer 2021: VMS will host Commissioner Mark Levine on these Thursdays from 12:30 – 1:00pm:

- 6/3
- 6/10
- **6/17 (No Commissioner)** VMS Health Care Laws Webinar from 12-1pm: [Register](#)
- 6/24
- 7/22
- 8/5
- 8/19
- 9/2
- 9/16

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdIJ2ZG4yQT09>

Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / **Password:** 540684

Dial In: 1 646 876 9923 / **Meeting ID:** 867 2625 3105 / **Password:** 540684

VMS Calls with Health Commissioner Levine: Fall Schedule

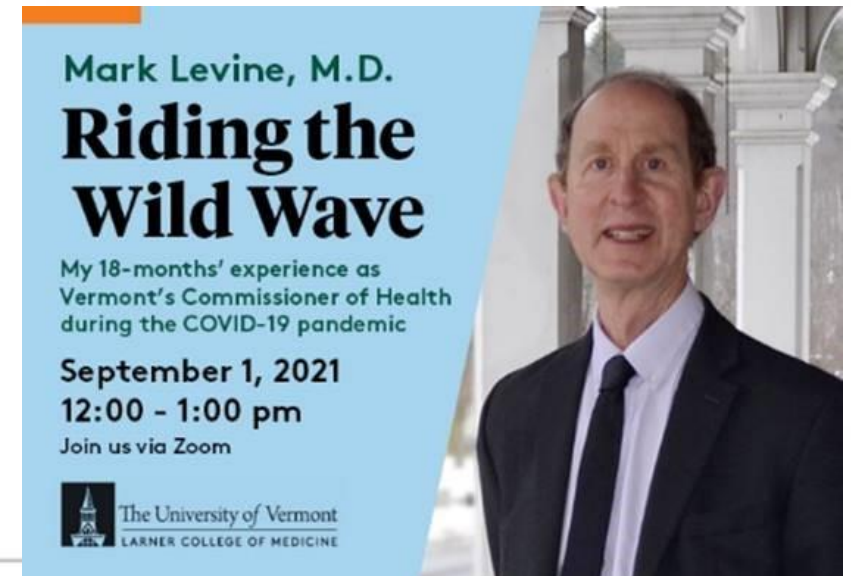
*[This slide added **after** today's call]*

- Anticipate these will **generally** occur the ***first Thursday of each month***
- There will be a few exceptions when they will be held the ***third Thursday of the month.***
- VMS will also host a “**COVID Hot Topics**” call the ***third Thursday of the month***
- Summary: VMS calls will be held the first and third Thursdays of the month from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m.
- Please stay tuned for further details!

Special Presentation – September 1, 2021

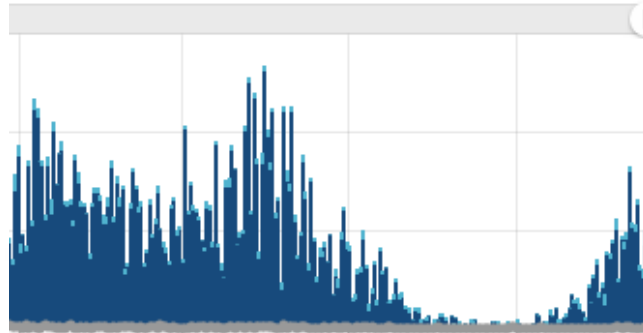
UVM Larner College of Medicine, John Stetson, UVM'56, M.D.'60, and Roberta B. Stetson, UVM'57, present:

- ❑ ***The Annual Stetson Lecture in Technological Advances in Medicine***
- ❑ Mark Levine, M.D., Commissioner of Health, State of Vermont: ***Riding the Wild Wave*** – My 18-months' experience as Vermont's Commissioner of Health during the COVID-19 pandemic
- ❑ September 1, 2021
- ❑ ***Time change: now 1:00 - 2:00 pm***
- ❑ Join us via Zoom
- ❑ <https://uvmcom.zoom.us/j/98260256995>



Situation update

New Cases
99
26,494 Total
Currently Hospitalized
29
Hospitalized In ICU
9
Hospitalized Under Investigation
0
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.
3%
People Tested
428,281
Total Tests
1,830,939
Recovered
24,551
92.7% of Cases
Deaths
267
1% of Cases
Last Updated: 8/18/2021, 10:46:04 AM



VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

NOTE: VDH Dashboard now 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>

- One year ago: VT total cases = 1530
- U.S. **37.1 million+** cases; **623,237 deaths**
 - ▣ <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html> (updated 8/18/21)
 - ▣ Past week: av. 139,872 cases/day (14d. change **+52%**)
 - ▣ **4.38 million+ deaths worldwide**; **208.7 million+ cases** (+4% & +8% 14-day change respectively)
- **VDH Data Summary** now q.o.week. **Spotlight analyses** only as needed! (**Latest: 8/13/21**)
 - ▣ Case rate highest among 20-29 y.o. (628.6/10K)
 - ▣ Children (0-19) = 23% of VT COVID-19 cases; of those, 24% are 18-19 y.o. [Total 5,907 posted 8/13/21]
- **Vaccine breakthrough cases = 630** since Jan. 2021
Find previous summaries at:
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

Vermont Children and COVID-19

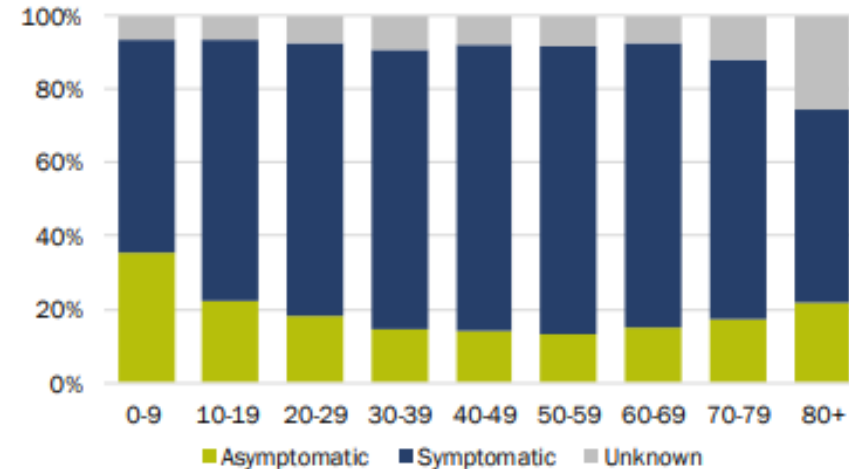
Sign or Symptom	Percent of Children with Symptom
Runny Nose	56%
Cough	48%
Headache	46%
Fatigue	43%
Sore Throat	39%
Muscle Pain	26%
Loss of Smell/Taste	25%
Fever	20%

5 days

Average illness duration among children

Among Vermont's children with COVID-19, there are currently no reported cases of multi-system inflammatory syndrome or deaths, and 10 hospitalizations.

The percent of COVID-19 cases with **no symptoms** is higher among children. More than one quarter (27%) of cases among children had **no symptoms** reported.

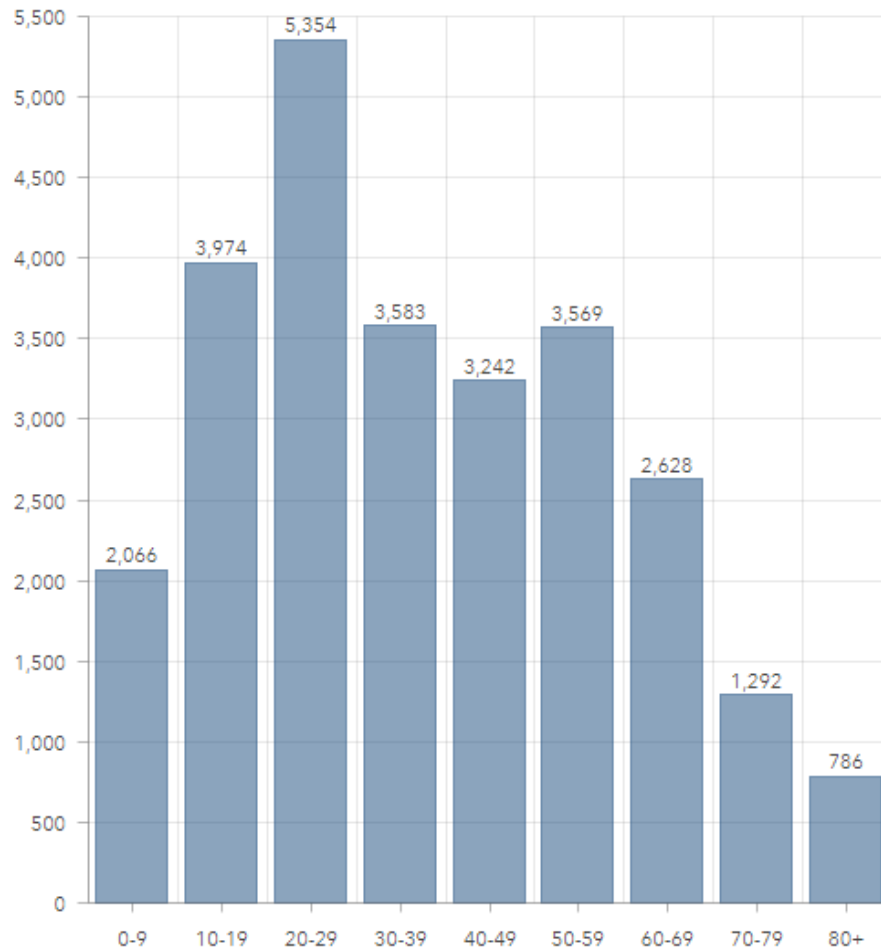


68% of children with COVID-19 had known contact with somebody else who had COVID-19.

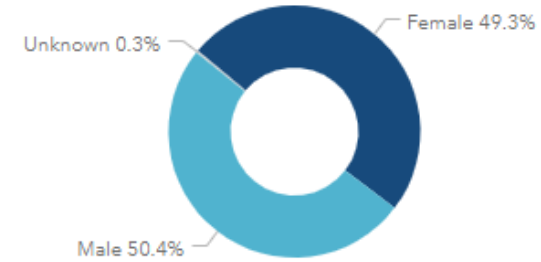
21% of children with COVID-19 were part of an outbreak.

Situation update

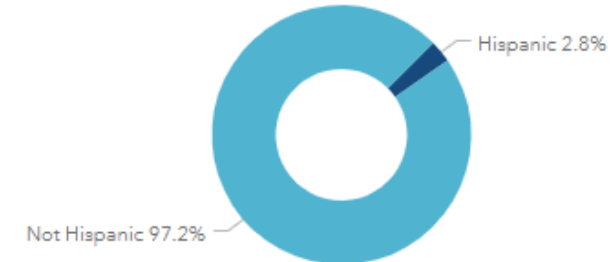
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known

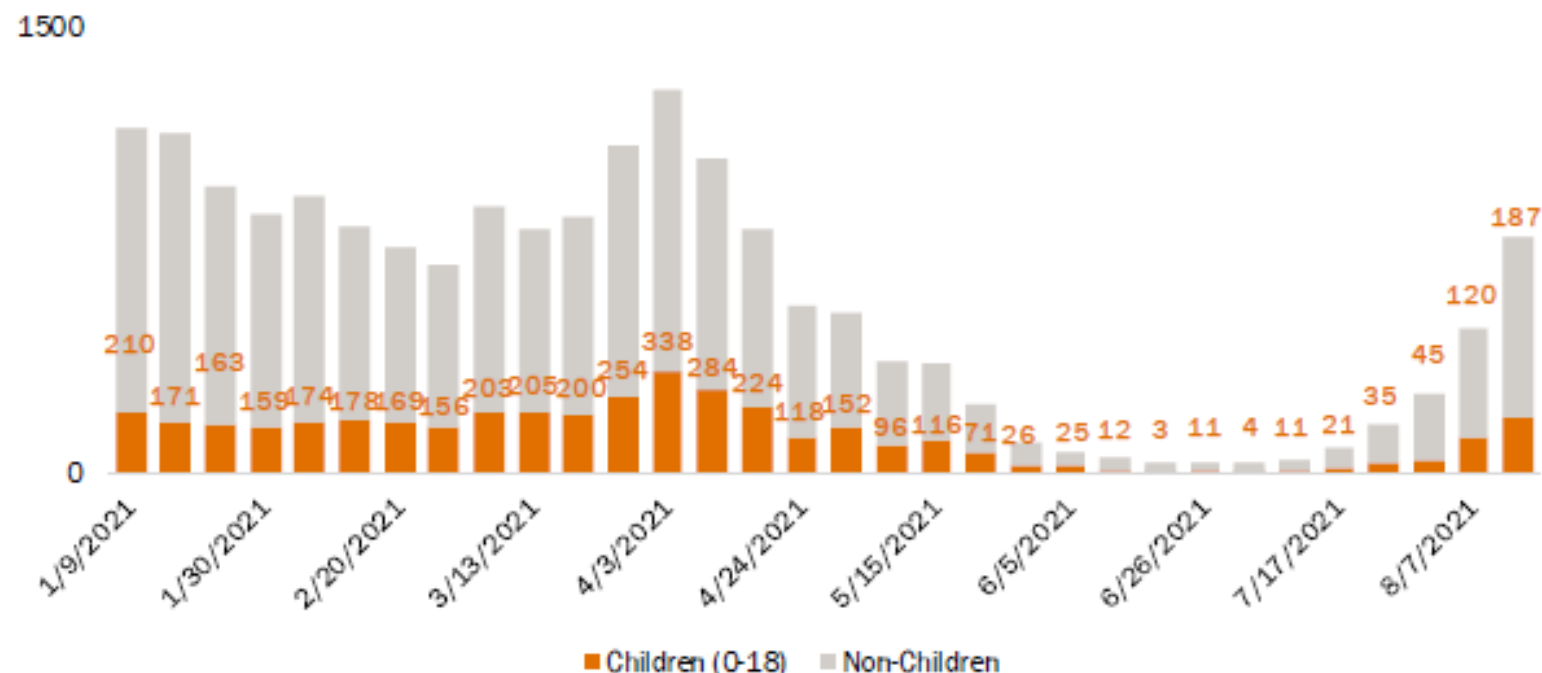


Case Demographics

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

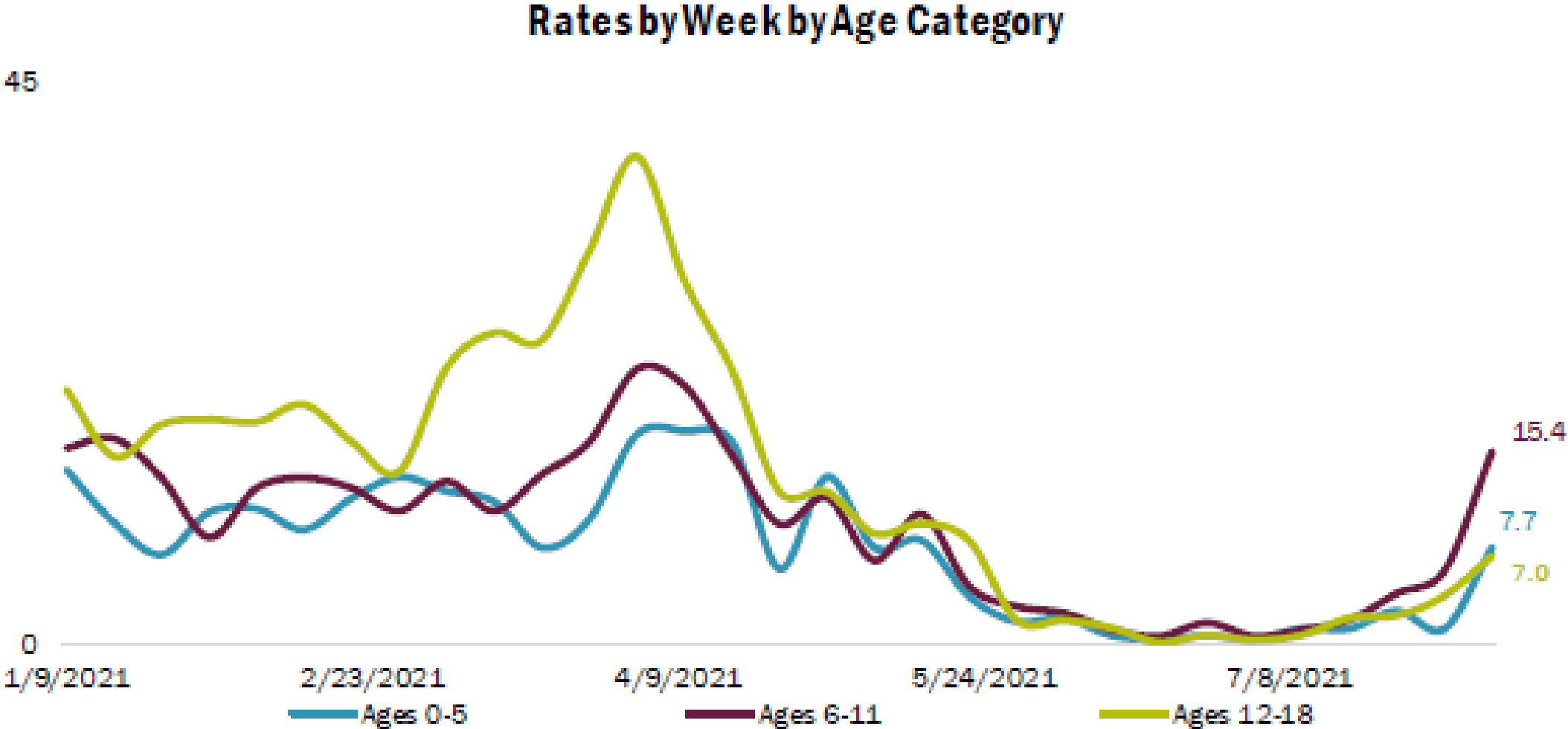
This brief reflects data as of August 14, 2021 at 7 pm (the last complete MMWR week). All rates are calculated per 10,000 people. Data is preliminary and subject to change.

Number of Cases by Week



Same report as the School Aged Children report renamed to **COVID-19 Pediatric Cases** to clarify that the age groupings for the summer incorporates all children.

COVID-19 Pediatric Cases



All rates are calculated per 10,000 people. Data is preliminary and subject to change.
August 18, 2021

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 FREE VACCINE WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT!

- › [Find a walk-in clinic here](#)
- › [People 12 - 17 years old](#)
- › [When to talk to your health care provider](#)

APPOINTMENTS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

- › [Make an appointment for a free vaccine](#)



KinneyDrugs®

[Home](#) [Pharmacy +](#) [Savings +](#) [Shop +](#) [About Us +](#)

COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling at Kinney Drugs in

Currently, the State of Vermont allows Kinney Drugs Pharmacists to administer COVID-19 vaccines to the

- Vermont residents age 65+
- K-12 teachers and onsite staff
- child care workers

CVS pharmacy™

Search

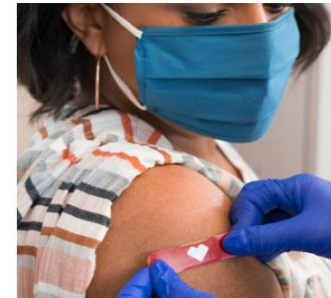
[Pharmacy](#) [MinuteClinic®](#) [HealthHUB](#) [Shop](#) [ExtraCare®](#) [Contact Lenses](#) [Photo](#)

[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.



**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](#) ›

13



VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard (Summary Page: 8/18/21)

- 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

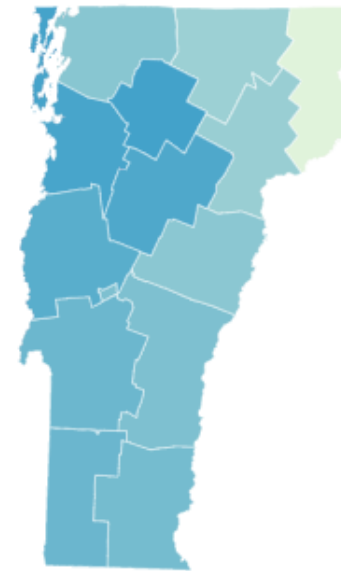
Show Rates By:

Overall

Race/Ethnicity

Ethnicity

County	Overall progress
Addison	83.5%
Bennington	80.4%
Caledonia	72.2%
Chittenden	86.5%
Essex	59.6%
Franklin	75.2%
Grand Isle	87.1%
Lamoille	87.5%
Orange	74.7%
Orleans	71.8%
Rutland	80.1%
Washington	85.3%
Windham	78.6%
Windsor	77.1%



59.6% 87.5%

See data notes for more information about COVID-19 immunizations provided in New Hampshire.

Summary

By Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

Vermont Forward

85.1%

of Vermonters 12+ have started vaccination

468.9K

Vermonters 12+ have received at least one dose

Source: CDC

Vaccine Distribution

Doses Received

961.2K

Doses Administered

866.1K

Total People Vaccinated

Total People Started

39.2K

Total People Completed

433.5K

Started Completed

472,659

People who have received at least one dose of the vaccine (includes non-VT residents)

Jan 2021 Mar 2021 May 2021 Jul 2021

Updated 8/18/2021 8:37:31 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 = 68.2% (66.7% on 8/11/21)
 - ▣ 16-17 = 74.2% (73.2% on 8/11/21)
 - ▣ 18-29 = 59.4% (58.8% on 8/11/21)
 - ▣ VT Age 12+ = 80.9% (80.5% on 8/11)

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	68.2%
16 - 17	74.2%
18 - 29	59.4%
30 - 39	80.5%
40 - 49	80.5%
50 - 59	83.7%
60 - 64	89.7%
65 - 69	95.7%
70 - 74	99.9%
75+	96.1%
VT Age 12+	80.9%

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	73.2%
Black or African American	70.3%
Native American, Indigenous, or First Nation	29.6%
Pacific Islander	24.6%
Two or more races	65.6%
White	78.7%
VT Age 12+	78.1%

Race information is not reported for 4% 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	92.2%
Not Hispanic	75.9%
VT Age 12+	76.2%

Ethnicity information is not reported for 6% 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	64.5%	78.7%	87.5%	73.3%
Non-Hispanic White	58.0%	77.3%	93.9%	76.2%
Vermont	58.7%	77.4%	93.7%	76.0%

Race/ethnicity information is not reported for 6% 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

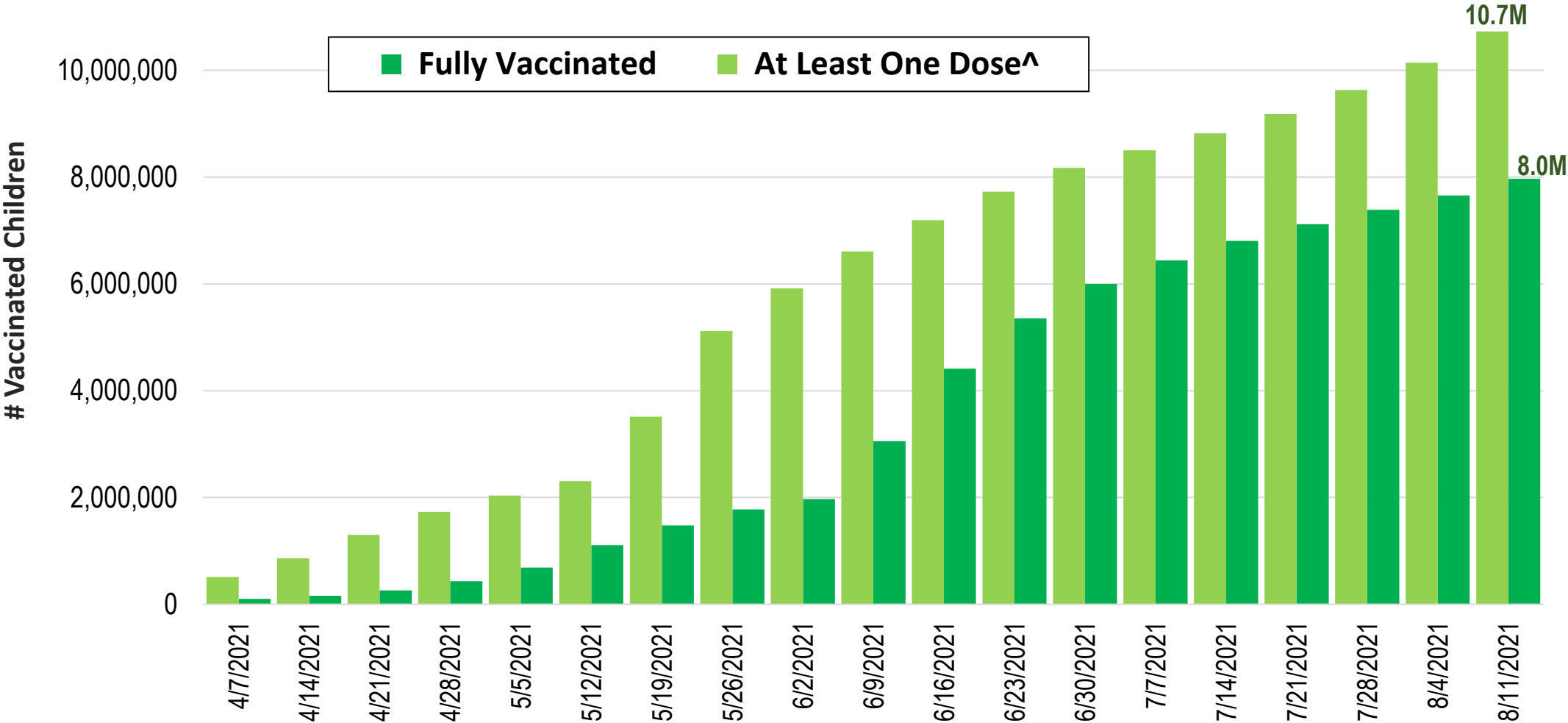
Sex	%*
Female	83.1%
Male	78.5%
VT Age 12+	80.8%

Sex information is not reported for 511 people vaccinated.

Updated 8/18/2021 8:37:31 AM

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

4.07.21 to 8.11.21

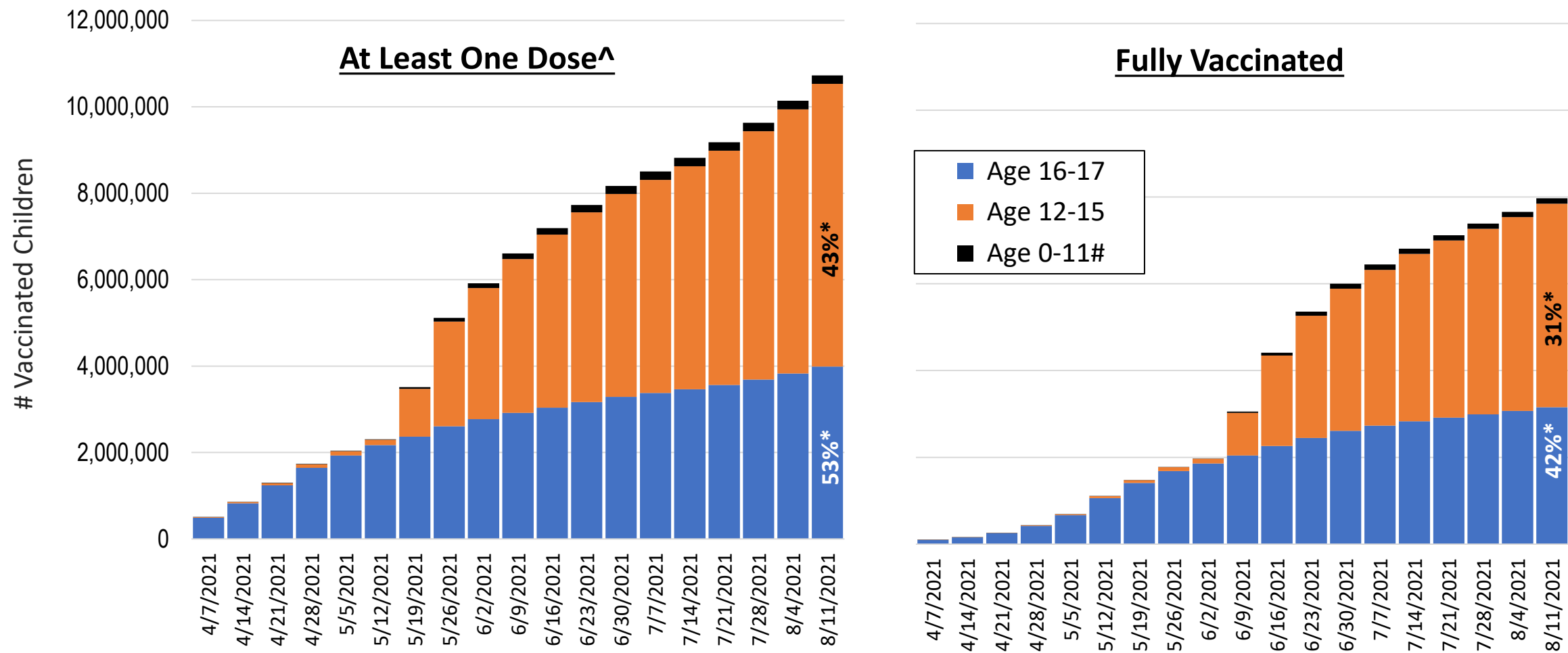


^Includes those having received only 1 of 2 doses and those fully-vaccinated.

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

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

4.07.21 to 8.11.21



^Includes those having received only 1 of 2 doses and those fully-vaccinated. 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. * CDC-calculated vaccinated children as percentage of all eligible children within age group.

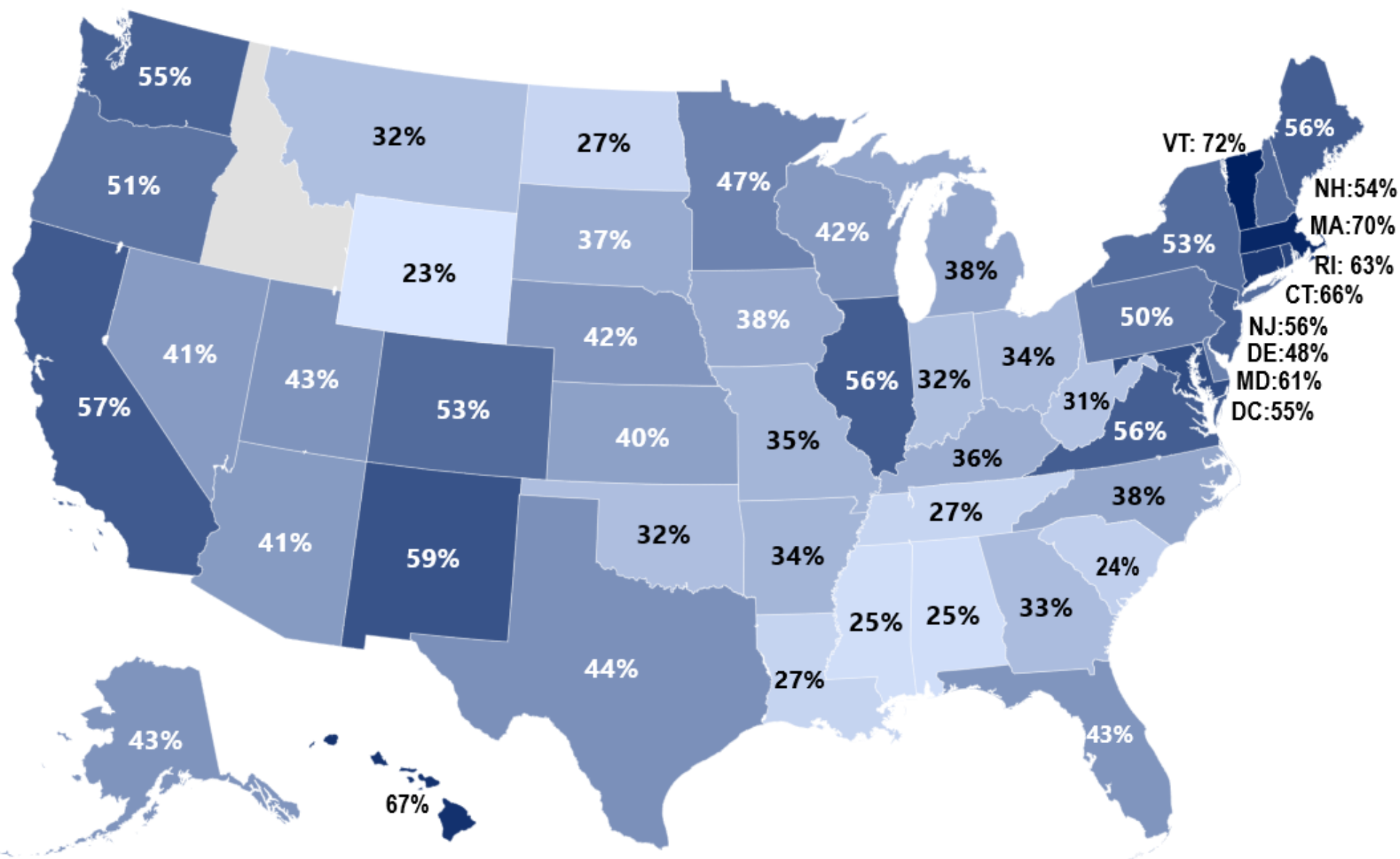
Source: AAP analysis of data series published by the CDC titled “Demographic Trends of People Receiving COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States.”

Proportion of US Children Ages 12 through 17 Who Received At Least One Dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine by State of Residence

Received At Least One Dose

23% 72%

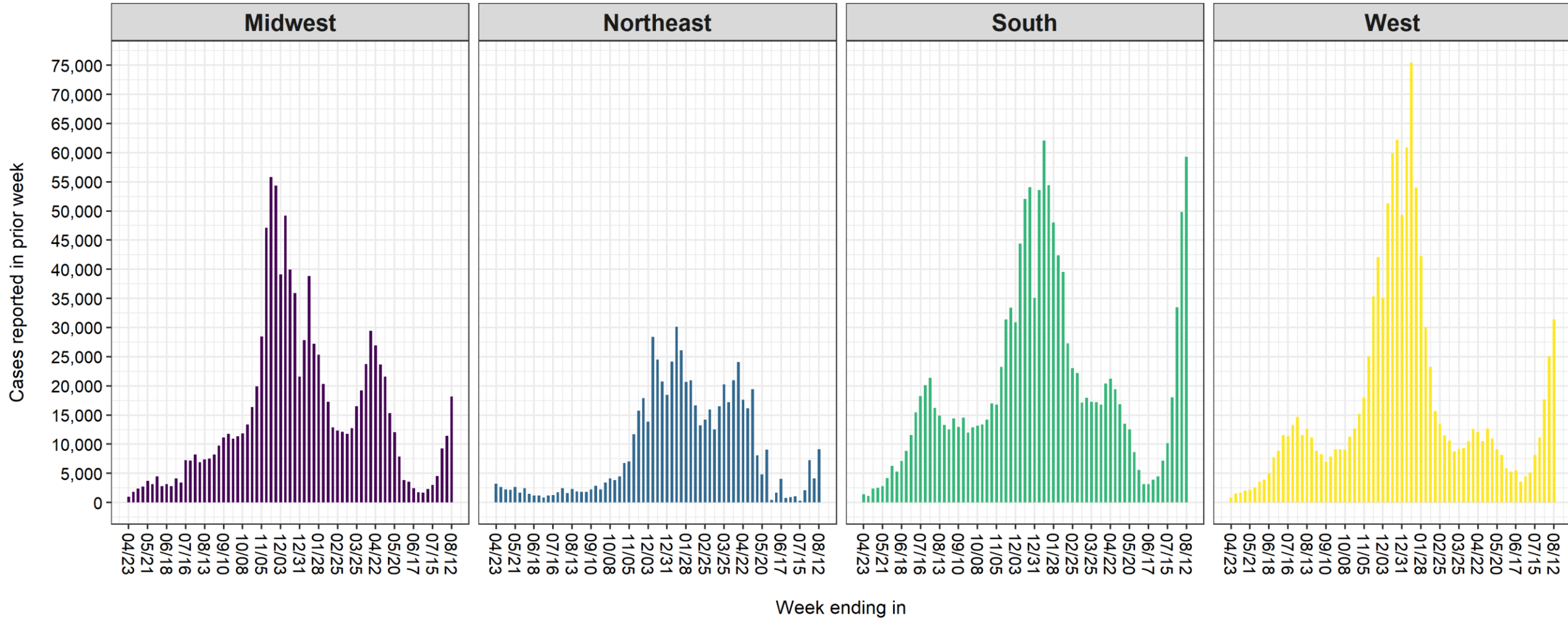
as of 8.11.21



Source: AAP analysis of data series titled 'COVID -19 Vaccinations in the United States, Jurisdiction'. CDC COVID -19 Data Tracker (URL: <https://data.cdc.gov/Vaccinations/Covid-19-Vaccinations-in-the-United-States-Jurisdiction/unsk-b7fc>). Idaho information not available. Check state's web sites for additional or more recent information

4.23.20 to 8.12.21

Child COVID-19 cases reported in the prior week, by region



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

Note: Analysis excludes data from AL and MO due to change in definition of 'child' case

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

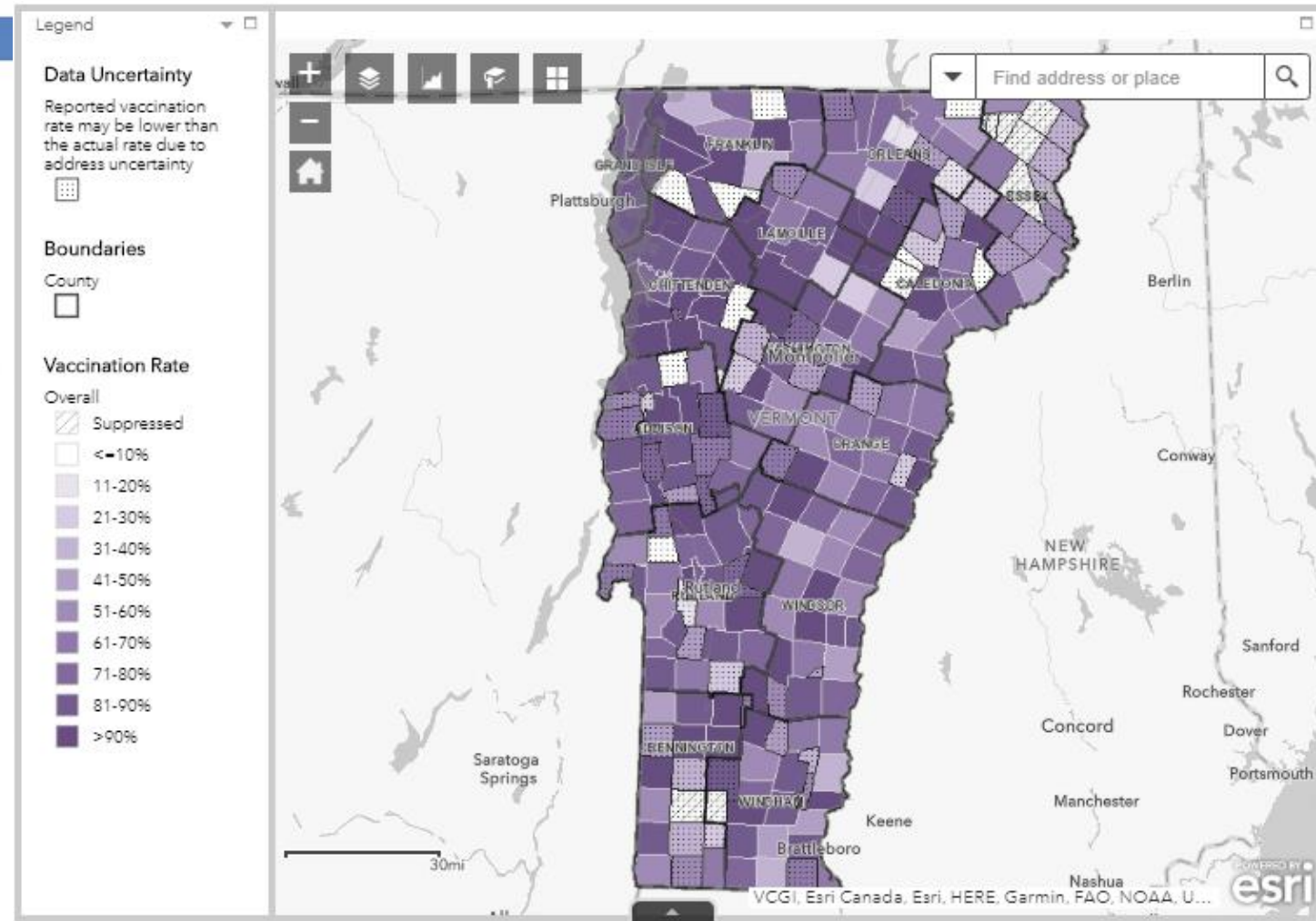
As of 6/30/21, NE COVID-19 dashboard is no longer available; NE cumulative cases through 6/24/21

Due to available data and calculations required to obtain MA child cases, weekly estimates fluctuate (eg, on 8/5/21, there were 1,463 fewer cases)

Due to available data and changes made to dashboard, WV cumulative cases through 8/5/21

Map of COVID-19 Vaccine Rates by (VT) Town

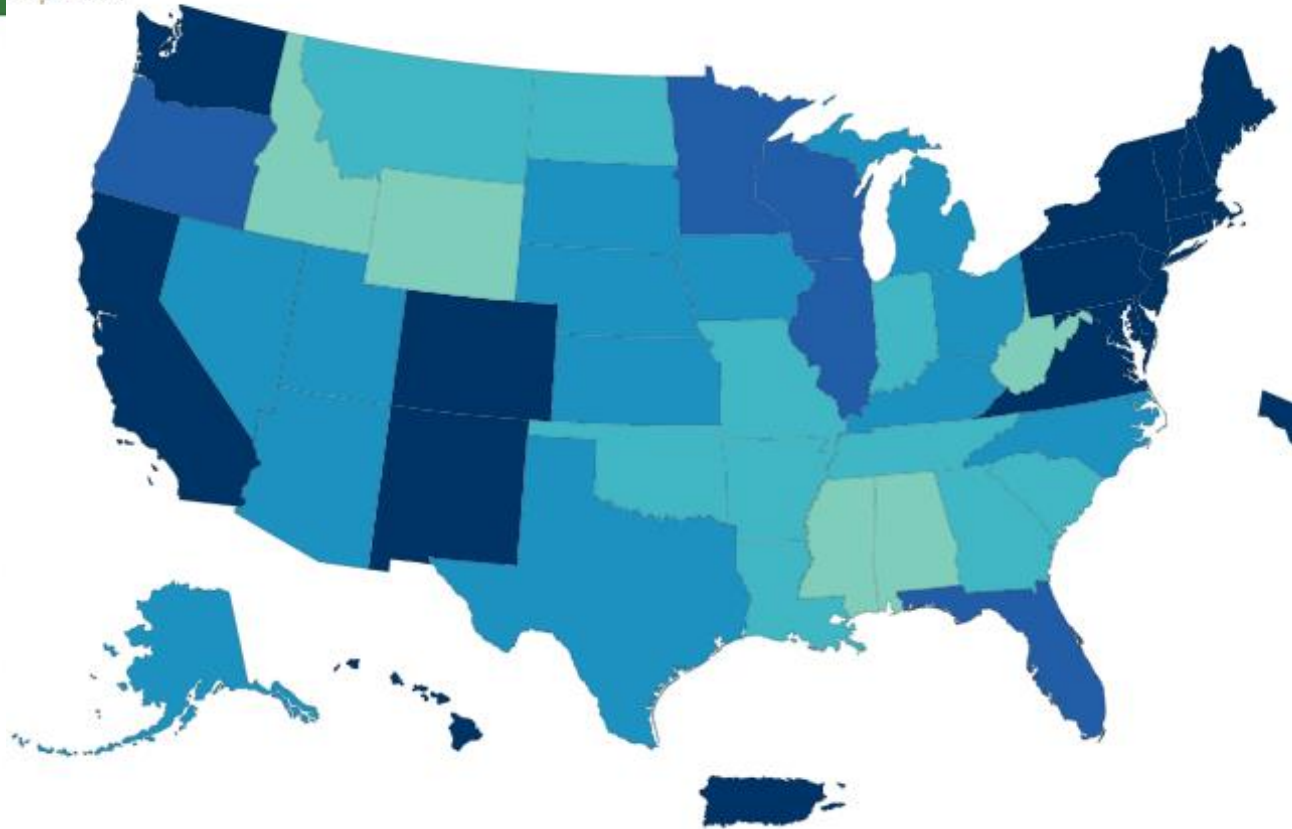
- Map shows overall % of VTers age 12+ vaccinated with \geq one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Map updated weekly (Thurs.) & includes data reported to VT Immunization Registry thru Wed. [Note: last reviewed 6/29/21]
- Please use caution when interpreting town data – several scenarios where vaccinations are not attributed to the correct town. [See web site notes for details.]



From the CDC Vaccine Tracker

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

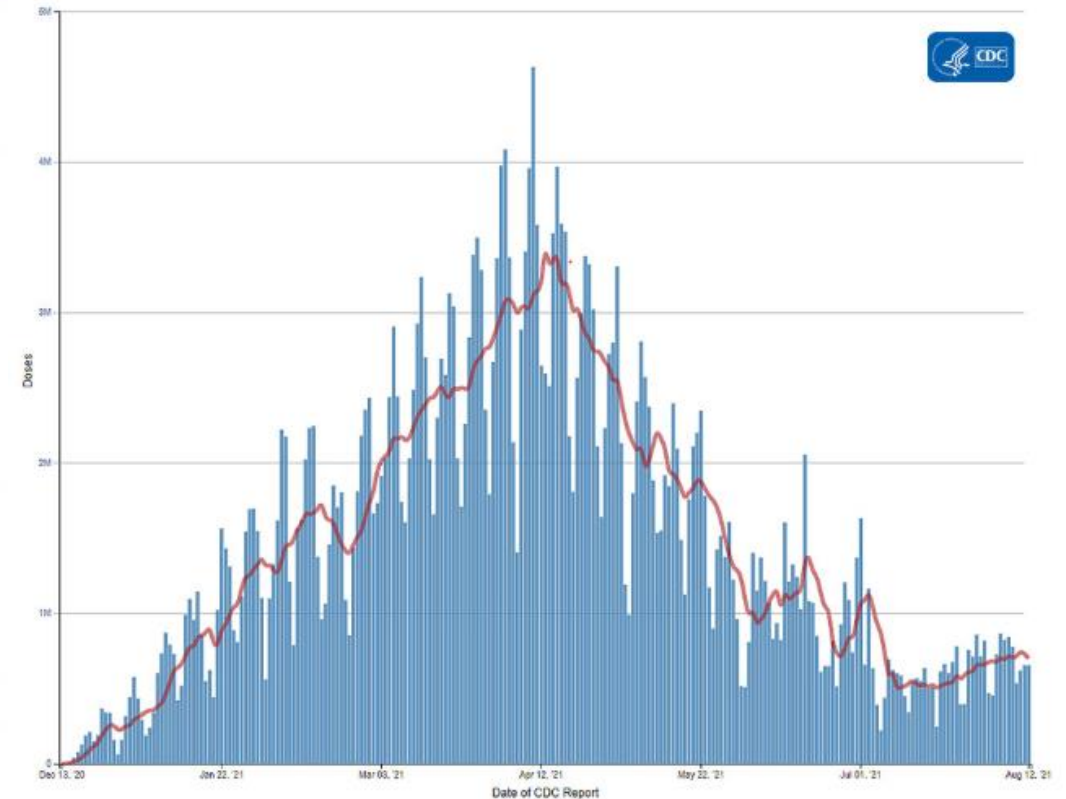
Total Doses Administered Reported to the CDC by State/Territory and for Select Federal Entities per 100,000 of the Total Population



Total Doses Administered per 100,000

○ No Data ● 0 ● 1 - 85,000 ● 85,001 - 95,000 ● 95,001 - 105,000 ● 105,001 - 115,000 ● 115,001 +

7-Day moving average



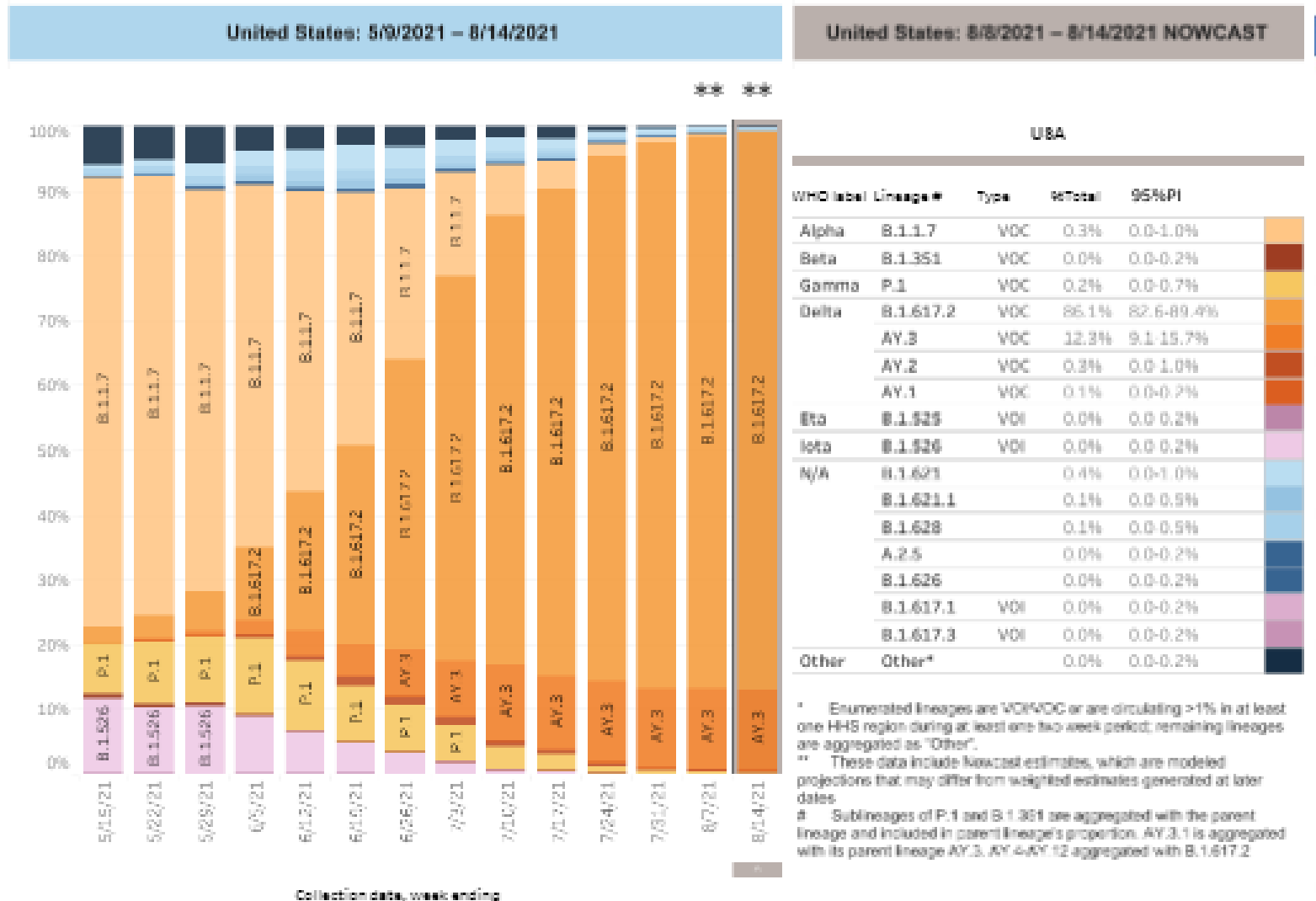
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>

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

August 18, 2021

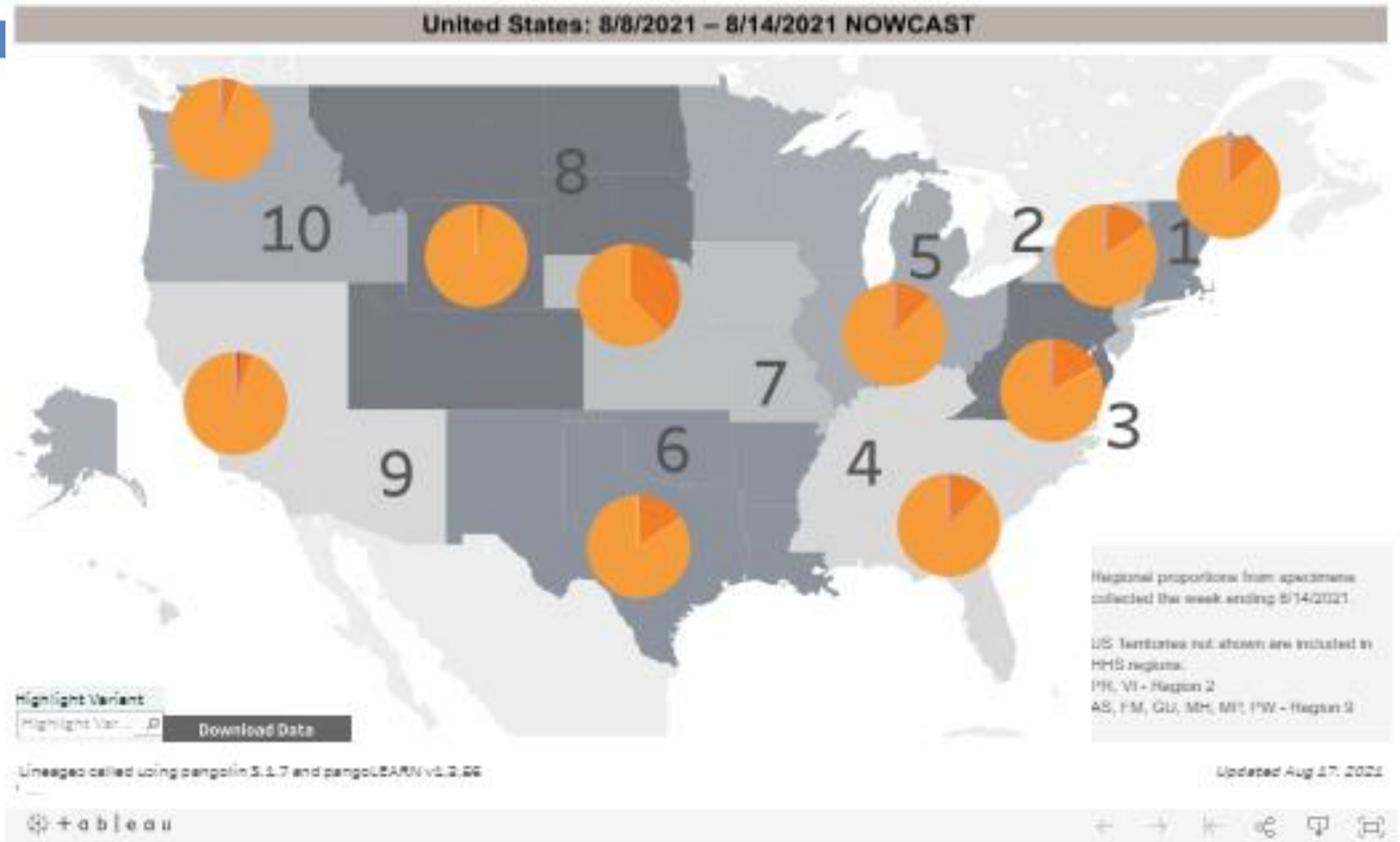
From the CDC: SARS-CoV-2 Variants in the U.S.

Note striking preponderance of Delta variant (dark orange) in far right column, two weeks ending 8/14/21.



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

Again note striking preponderance of Delta variant (dark orange) across all HHS Regions (two weeks ending 8/14/21).



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

August 18, 2021

23

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 Wednesdays).
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/covid-19-communities>

Specimens Collected from July 7 to July 29

COUNTY	B.1.1.7 (ALPHA)	P.1 (GAMMA)	B.1.351 (BETA)	B.1.617.2 (DELTA)
Addison	0	0	0	12
Bennington	0	0	0	1
Caledonia	0	0	0	3
Chittenden	1	0	0	56
Essex	0	0	0	5
Franklin	0	0	0	4
Grand Isle	0	0	0	1
Lamoille	0	0	0	1
Orange	0	0	0	5
Orleans	0	0	0	14
Rutland	2	0	0	12
Washington	0	0	0	24
Windham	0	0	0	10
Windsor	0	0	0	1

VDH Immunization Program Update

COVID Vaccine Plan for 2 – 11 year olds (***thank you, Merideth Plumptre***, Nurse Program Coordinator)

- Expect approval anytime from fall to early winter
- State plan includes clinics in various settings
- Primary care involvement
- Provider survey
- Start speaking with patients and families now
- VDH now interviewing for Immunization Program Manager
- **From today's "chat"**: currently no recommendation from FDA, CDC, ACIP or VDH for boosters. Per CDC: since under EUA, deviation from recommendations may have increased liability if adverse event. ACIP meeting **this Friday** re: booster doses for Immunocompromised individuals.

From the CDC/MMWR

- *Use of COVID-19 Vaccines After Reports of Adverse Events Among Adult Recipients of Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) & mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech & Moderna): Update from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices – United States, July 2021 (early release 8/10/21) – Summary:*
 - **Already known:** Rare serious adverse events have been reported after COVID-19 vaccination, including Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) & thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) after Janssen COVID-19 vaccination and myocarditis after mRNA (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) COVID-19 vaccination.
 - **Added by this report:** On July 22, 2021, the ACIP reviewed updated benefit-risk analyses after Janssen and mRNA COVID-19 vaccination & concluded that the benefits outweigh the risks for rare serious adverse events after COVID-19 vaccination.
 - **Implications for public health practice:** Continued COVID-19 vaccination will prevent COVID-19 M & M far exceeding GBS, TTS, & myocarditis cases expected. Info about rare adverse events should be disseminated to providers, vaccine recipients, and the public.

From the CDC

- **CDC strengthens COVID-19 vaccine recommendation for pregnant women**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/pregnancy.html>
- “COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all people 12 years and older, including people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future.”
 - Evidence about the safety & effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy has been growing. These data suggest that the benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweigh any known or potential risks of vaccination during pregnancy.
- Currently no evidence that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems in women or men.
- Although overall risk of severe illness is low, pregnant and recently pregnant people are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 when compared with non-pregnant people...also at increased risk of preterm birth and might be at increased risk of other adverse pregnancy outcomes.

AAP Updates

Note: slides 29 – 34 (the next 6 slides) are courtesy of the **American Academy of Pediatrics**. They were presented during the AAP's **Chapter Chat** today and were added to this presentation following today's VCHIP-VDH call.

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



AAP COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

New MMWR Report: mRNA COVID Vaccines During Preconception and Pregnancy

- Analysis of VSAFE data: 2,456 pregnant people who received one dose of mRNA vaccine just prior to pregnancy through < 20 weeks of pregnancy.
- No increased risk of miscarriage; growing evidence about safety and efficacy during pregnancy.
- **CDC recommends that pregnant people should be vaccinated against COVID-19.**



AAP COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

- [ACIP Meeting](#) on August 13, 2021
- Additional dose of mRNA vaccine for moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals ≥ 12 years of age
 - Treatment for malignancies, s/p solid organ or stem cell transplant, primary immunodeficiency syndromes, advanced/untreated HIV, or active treatment with high dose corticosteroids or other immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory agents
- Same mRNA vaccine at least 28 days after completion of initial series



BREAKING: AAP COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

- 3 new MMWR reports released at 1 pm ET today around vaccine effectiveness for mRNA vaccines against infection and hospitalization.
- Reduced vaccine effectiveness (VE) against infection, but stable VE against hospitalization.
- Plan to move forward with FDA and CDC ACIP discussions and regulatory approvals for 3rd "booster" dose of mRNA vaccines – projected date for roll out is September 20, 2021.



BREAKING: Links to New MMWR Reports

- Sustained Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines Against COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations Among Adults — United States, March–July 2021
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7034e2.htm?s_cid=mm7034e2_w
- New COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Adults, by Vaccination Status — New York, May 3–July 25, 2021
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7034e1.htm?s_cid=mm7034e1_w
- Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Nursing Home Residents Before and After Widespread Circulation of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 (Delta) Variant — National Healthcare Safety Network, March 1–August 1, 2021
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7034e3.htm?s_cid=mm7034e3_w



AAP New & Updated Interim Guidance

- [Palivizumab Prophylaxis for RSV](#) *(New)*
 - Chapter Advocacy Letter: Payment for Palivizumab during Atypical Interseasonal RSV Surge
- [Face Masks](#) *(updated 8/11/21)*
- [COVID-19 and Safe Transportation in Motor Vehicles](#) *(updated 8/11/21)*



Information for Families

New Mask Graphics:

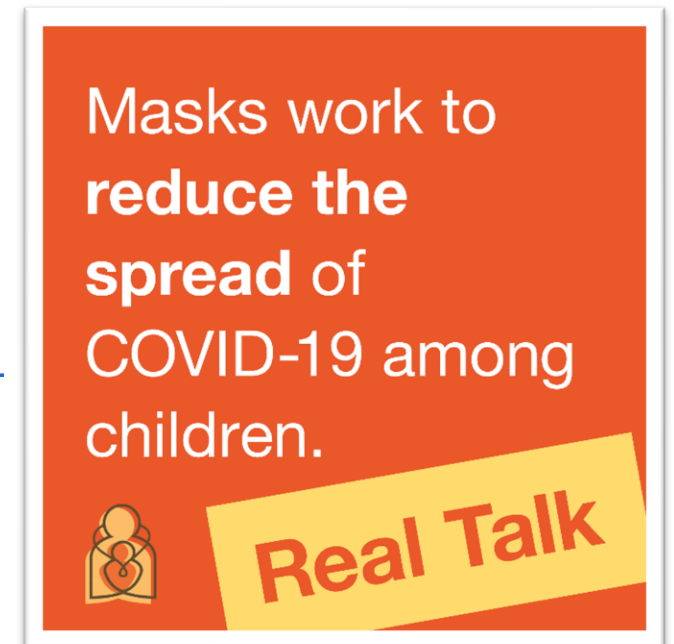
A new series of mask graphics optimized for social media, in English and Spanish, available in the [COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign Toolkit](#)

New articles on HealthyChildren.org:

- [Do Masks Delay Speech and Language Development?](#)
- [Long-Haul COVID-19 in Children and Teens](#)
- Ask the Pediatrician: [Is it safe for our newborn to be around unvaccinated people?](#)

Updated articles on HealthyChildren.org:

- [Safe Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Mask Mythbusters: Common Questions about Kids & Face Masks](#)
- [RSV: When It's More Than Just a Cold](#)



From the AAP

- ❑ **What:** next AAP **Town Hall** – COVID-19 Hot Topics
- ❑ **When:** Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 8:00 pm Eastern
- ❑ **Topics:** COVID-19 variants, vaccinations, back-to-school, and other pressing topics.
- ❑ **Who – Expert Panelists:**
 - **Sara Bode**, MD FAAP, Chairperson-elect, AAP Council on School Health & Medical Director, Nationwide Children's Hospital's Care Connection School-Based Health and Mobile Clinics
 - **David W. Kimberlin**, MD FAAP, Editor AAP Red Book, Co-Director Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases; and Vice Chair for Clinical and Translational Research at University of Alabama at Birmingham
 - **Bonnie Maldonado**, MD, FAAP, Chairperson AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases Professor, Depts. of Pediatrics & of Health Research & Policy; Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases; Sr. Assoc. Dean of Faculty Development, Stanford University SOM

AAP Updates

- August is National Immunization Awareness Month – see AAP Toolkit.
- **Updated/New Interim Guidance:** <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/>
 - **Supporting the Emotional and Behavioral Health Needs of Children** (*revised 7/28/21*): includes new information on managing uncertainty, screening for mental health concerns and helping children who have lost a parent. There also are updates on use of telehealth, fear and anxiety, peer relationships and parental well-being.
 - **Post-COVID-19 Conditions in Children and Adolescents** (*new 7/28/21*): severity does not predict subsequent/ongoing sx's; can lead to secondary (subacute-severe) conditions.
 - Recommends all patients who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection have at least one follow-up conversation or visit w/pediatrician to: discuss residual symptoms (may include respiratory symptoms, cardiac symptoms, fatigue or cognitive foggy); explore new symptoms & guide their return to activities; determine if the child/adolescent might require additional academic supports (e.g., gradual return to school & cognitive activities based on tolerance); offer guidance on rest periods & other accommodations. Some patients may require pediatric subspecialty support; those w/underlying medical or behavioral conditions may require additional support.

Coming soon:

Vermont EMSC Pediatric Case Reviews

- Please join us for case discussions:
 - ▣ Children with Special Health Care Needs & the excellent interactions with their local EMS
- Next Tuesday, **August 24, 2021 – 7 p.m.**
- Via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84198304873?pwd=MnAwQTJodStlTWc2UjdUUHg1WnIEUT09>
- For questions contact:
 - ▣ David Nelson, MD, FAAP, FAAEM; Pediatric Emergency Medicine, UVM MC & Children's Hospital



***Pediatric
Case Reviews***

Children with Special Health Care Needs

Vermont EMS for Children
Tuesday, August 24
1900 via Zoom



Tuesday Media Briefing (8/17/21)



Governor Phil Scott

- White House call: Fauci still hopeful vax approved for <12 yo this fall.
 - ▣ Discussed boosters for those w/certain health conditions.
- Monitoring data very closely – while cases have ticked up, we're not like states w/significant increases in cases/hosps. Data continue to show vaccines work
 - ▣ Now at 85% eligible w/at least one dose; lowest hosp. rate in country. There are so-called **breakthrough cases**, but that term misleading – always knew vaccines not 100% effective, but minimize severity.
 - ▣ Since January, only 2% of cases among VTers fully vax. Of >430K fully, 0.1% got COVID. Only 0.004 % hosp; .002% died (most had other chronic cond. that contributed). VT current risk very very low for those fully vax. Can/should be thinking differently re: controlling virus. Not changing guidance

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Governor Phil Scott

- Top rec continues to be get vaccinated: free/safe/effective.
- Clarify misinformation re: school guidance: when schools opens, all students/teachers/employees to be masked for 1st 2-3 wks. of school. Stay required for those not yet elig. for vax. – kids under 12. Comfortable lifting once eligible hit 80% w/both doses. Just for elig pop. and only if that threshold met. Feds required on buses for everyone. *“So for those folks who don’t think we have amsking recs in place, just not true.”*
- Still recommend unvax wear a mask in indoor public settings – hasn’t changed whether just not eligible for vaccine, haven’t had time, or chose not to get vax just yet. If so, look at data – this is pandemic of the unvax.
- Vaccine is best way to protect yourself – if not, put on mask inside.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Natl: cases still on rise (139K 7d av.) but enc signs – rates of incr wk/wk cont. to slow. This wk 19% over last week; down from 38 wk before & 54 % wk before that. U.S. headed toward a COVID peak w/Delta wave – c/w global (at 7-9 wks.)
- Closer to home: sim trends in NE: ~8K more cases this wk. vs. last but rate of growth cont to slow (19% vs. 44% previous wk. vs. 58% wk. before that).
- VT: 758 cases (41% increase) but rate of growth ~1/2 vs. last week. Antic. cases will cont. to slow/decrease in coming wks. VT cases rose later than in some places – but trends similar & cases should slow/reach peak in near future.
- Trends in VT: new cases among not fully vax 3.5X higher than in fully vax. **Rate of increase** also higher among not fully vax.
- Breakthrough cases = 630 among ~418K fully vax. Even smaller for severe outcomes.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Must recognize how completely Delta has changed game for U.S./VT.
Transmission: original strain – each infected person could spread to 2-3 others.
Delta: CDC estimates each can spread to 5+ ppl. Anyone unvax (by choice or not eligible) are at greater risk of getting/spreading.
- ❑ Because very prevalent in our communities, all of us have more opportunities to encounter virus – whether vax or unvax. While fully vax highly protected from serious illness, hospitalization, death, can get infected & possibly spread. Delta v. good at replicating in nose & throat. Even tho vaccine protects us from virus, can still set up shop in our nasal passages & spread to others. Period of time is quite brief – immune system prepared to kick in /respond. That's why symptoms milder.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- New vaccine guidance 8/13/21: ACIP/CDC recommend that pts. w/moderate-severe immunocompromising conditions get additional dose mRNA vaccine at least 4 wks. after 2nd dose.
- Conditions: receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of blood; received an organ transplant & taking medicine to suppress the immune system; received a stem cell transplant w/in last 2 years or taking medicine to suppress the immune system; moderate-severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome); advanced or untreated HIV infection; active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress immune response <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>
- *“Getting signals from Biden admin that planning under way for entire population – will most likely be mapped out in v. sequential way.”*

Practice Issues

Safe Return to School for Vermont Students



<https://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/>

Vermont Child Care Guidance

- **Inquiry:** any chance childcare guidelines will mandate masks again for kids over 2yo before this all really breaks loose with return to school?
- **Current Vermont Context:**
 - ▣ *Challenges of doing our usual summer well visits and back to school sports forms*
 - ▣ *On top of intense mental health needs*
 - ▣ *Seeing every child with winter illnesses in summertime*
 - ▣ *A slew of COVID cases*
- You haven't missed it!
 - ▣ We do not yet have guidance for childcare about masks
 - ▣ State government is likely to say no mandates – just that masks are recommended.
 - ▣ AAP-VT language about this is stronger – strongly recommending masks for adults and children in childcare and schools.

VSSNA Town Hall *(earlier today)*



- **What:** *“A frank discussion about COVID-19 with Dr. Becca Bell, Pediatric Critical Care Physician/AAP-VT President and Dr. William “Bill” Raszka, UVM Pediatric Infectious Disease Specialist”*
- **When:** today, August 18 – 9 a.m. via Zoom
- VSSNA top concerns:
 - ▣ Mandatory masking indoors for everyone
 - ▣ Calculation of fully vaccinated by eligible vs. total building population (numerator/denominator)
 - ▣ Recommendations for 3’ minimum physical distancing inside
 - ▣ Contact tracing
 - ▣ “These appear to be the concerns from both school nurses and administrators. We very much appreciate support for our role in caring for our students!”

Vermont State School Nurses Association (VSSNA)



- VSSNA Leadership:
 - ▣ Becca McCray, MSN MA RN NCSN – VSSNA President
 - ▣ Soph Hall (*Sophia Boyle Hall*), MEd, RN, NCSN – VSSNA Immediate Past President
 - ▣ Clayton S. Wetzel III, BSN, RN, NCSN – VSSNA Webmaster
- Website: <https://www.vssna.org/home>; also find them on Facebook!
- Update from Clayton Wetzel:
 - ▣ Today's Town Hall recording now available on website
 - ▣ Message posted on Facebook and Twitter
 - ▣ Updated the "useful links" on VSSNA COVID-19 resource page
 - ▣ Today's Town Hall was a huge success – 154 participants!

Partnering to Support a Safe Return to School

- Topics under discussion for clarification, coordination:
 - ▣ Masking
 - ▣ Student surveillance testing
 - ▣ Contact tracing in schools
 - ▣ Algorithm: return to school following exposure/symptoms/illness
 - ▣ **COVID Coordinator** role – assuring school administrative support for this role

Safe Return to School (cont'd.)

- ❑ We are in final stages of updating the algorithm; will remain a **clinical decision making tool for primary care and school nurses.**
- ❑ VSSNA board members & primary care colleagues are reviewing this week.
- ❑ Hope to have final version available next week as schools start to open
- ❑ This will be a living document that will need updating as the weeks progress
- ❑ VDH MCH team will update the parent/childcare document after algorithm is finalized.
- ❑ **Anticipated updates/changes to algorithm:**
 - Pathways to reflect vaccination status
 - Stronger recommendation to test children with symptoms (which will lead to more testing options/sites and VDH is aware).

AAP-VT Outreach to Superintendents, Principals, School Boards, VSSNA

- ❑ ***Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Guidance on Masking and Return to School*** (August 10, 2021)
- ❑ AAP-VT fully supports the administration's emphasis on getting students in-person full-time this school year & w/recommendation that schools require universal masking of all students and staff regardless of vaccination status to begin the school year.
- ❑ VT pediatricians continue to support universal masking regardless of vaccination status as an important mitigation strategy to prevent spread of COVID-19 in the school setting. Masking will also help prevent the spread of other common respiratory viruses that can mimic the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. We feel strongly that universal masking should continue for students and staff in each school building until those under 12 years of age have had the opportunity to be vaccinated and when epidemiologic data tells us it is safe to remove them.

- ***Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Guidance on Masking and Return to School*** (August 10, 2021 – cont'd.)
- We know that distancing of students has been difficult to implement in school buildings, and while we know that layers of mitigation are best, the benefits of children being in school outweigh the risks. Therefore, we support schools not implementing distancing measures, but strongly recommend that schools pay special attention to distancing at times when students are eating in groups unmasked. This may mean eating in shifts or at alternative locations.
- We also want to stress the importance of the stay home when sick guidance as outlined in the Agency of Education/Department of Health memo. Students and staff who are sick should stay home. AAP-VT will be working with the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program to update the guidance this week.

AAP-VT Outreach to Superintendents, Principals, School Boards, VSSNA

- ***Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Guidance on Masking and Return to School*** (August 10, 2021 – cont'd.)
- Finally, thank you to everyone involved in the education and care of Vermont's young people. We thank you for the endless work and dedication you show to your students. We want you to know that we are here to collaborate to keep our kids in school and safe in the year to come. If you would like to connect with your local pediatrician please contact Stephanie Winters at swinters@vtmd.org.

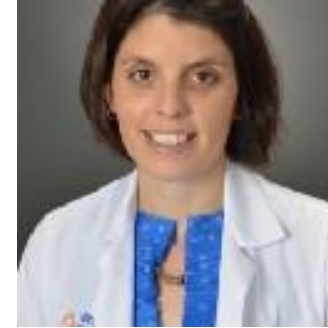
Sincerely,
Becca Bell, M.D.
President

From AAP-VT Chapter President Rebecca Bell, MD FAAP

Blog post (8/10/21):

□ ***Going Back to School During Delta***

- ▣ Prioritization of in-person learning
- ▣ Vaccination, vaccination, vaccination
- ▣ Stay home when sick
- ▣ Masking



□ *“Pediatricians believe a healthy, safe, and productive school year is essential and achievable. We just all need to do our part to make it happen.”*

<https://rebeccabell-md.medium.com/going-back-to-school-during-delta-a262a9812b7f>

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
- SEE ALSO AAPVT press release 6/10/21:

<http://www.aapvt.org/news/aapvt-offers-guidance-families-children-how-navigate-summer-and-stay-healthy-and-active>

5 REASONS TEENS SHOULD GET THE COVID VACCINE



Virginia Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

Vermont Chapter

INCORPORATED IN VERMONT

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



VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 calls: Summer Calendar

- ❑ **July**: generally **Wednesdays only**
- ❑ **August**: generally **Wednesdays only** (next call **August 25**)
 - ❑ Subject to change as we approach school reopening!
- ❑ **September forward – TBD!**
 - ❑ **No calls on September 1 or September 15**
- ❑ Schedule **subject to change** at any time if circumstances warrant!
- ❑ *Please continue to send your feedback re: schedule/topics to vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu*
- ❑ VMS calls with VDH Commissioner Levine now select Thursdays only (see next slide)



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, August 25, 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:
Thursday, August 19, 2021 – 12:30-1:00 p.m. – Zoom platform & call information
- ❑ **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZlFQ2R3diSVdqdIJ2ZG4yQT09>
 - ❑ Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684