

NC DHHS K-12 COVID-19 Response Updates

DPI/NC DHHS Monthly Meeting
June 1, 2021



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

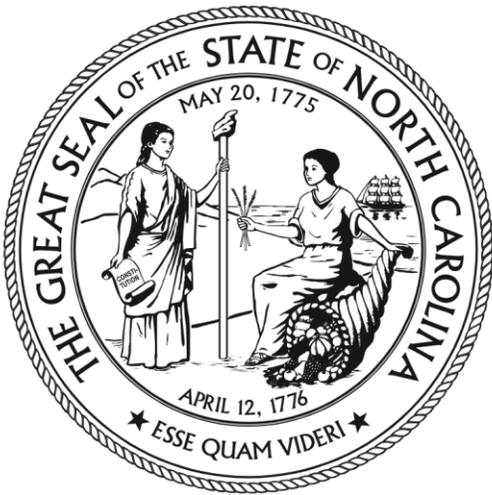


Agenda

- **Statewide COVID-19 Updates**
- **K-12 COVID-19 Testing Updates**
- **COVID Vaccine Updates**
- **Executive Order and Guidance Updates**

NCDHHS Team Members:

- Dr. Betsey Tilson – State Health Director and Chief Medical Officer
- Natalie Ivanov – Director, COVID-19 Testing
- Rebecca Planchard, MPP – Senior Policy Advisor



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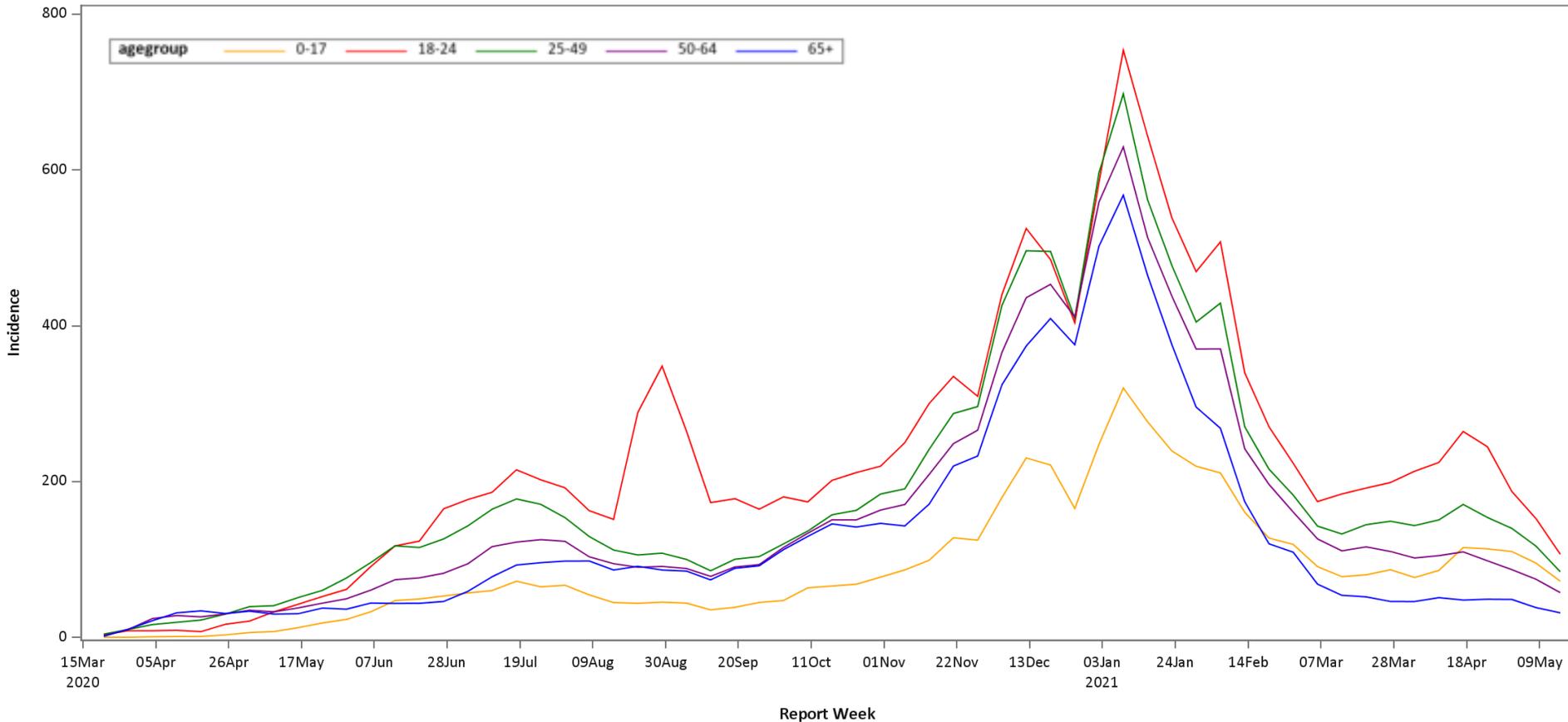
Statewide COVID-19 Updates

Rebecca Planchard, Senior Policy Advisor

Case Rates Decreasing Across Age Groups

Case rates are converging across age groups, as rates among 18 – 24 year olds rapidly decline.

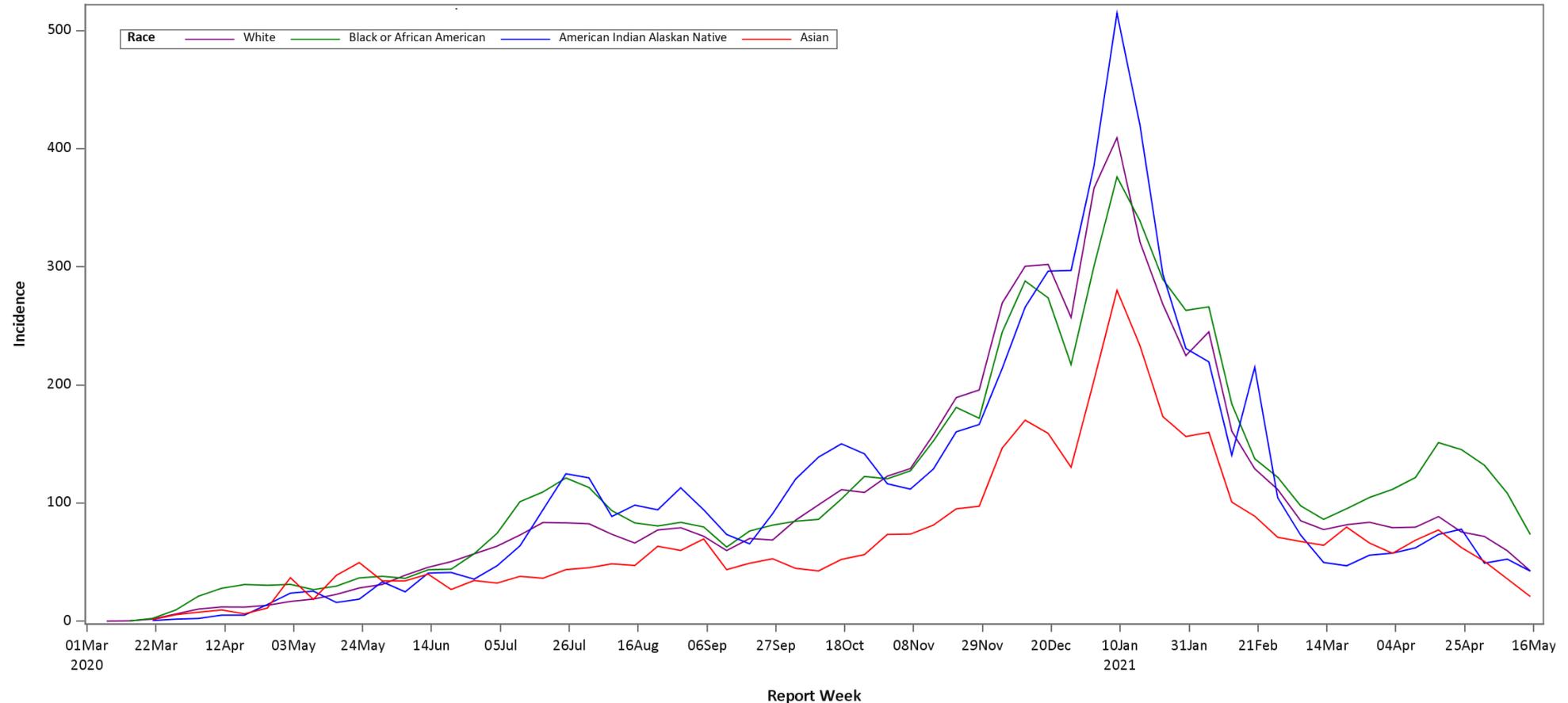
COVID Cases per 100K Population by Age Group



Racial Disparities Narrowing

Though disparities persist between the Black/African American population and other racial groups, these disparities appear to be narrowing.

COVID Cases per 100K Population by Race and Report Date

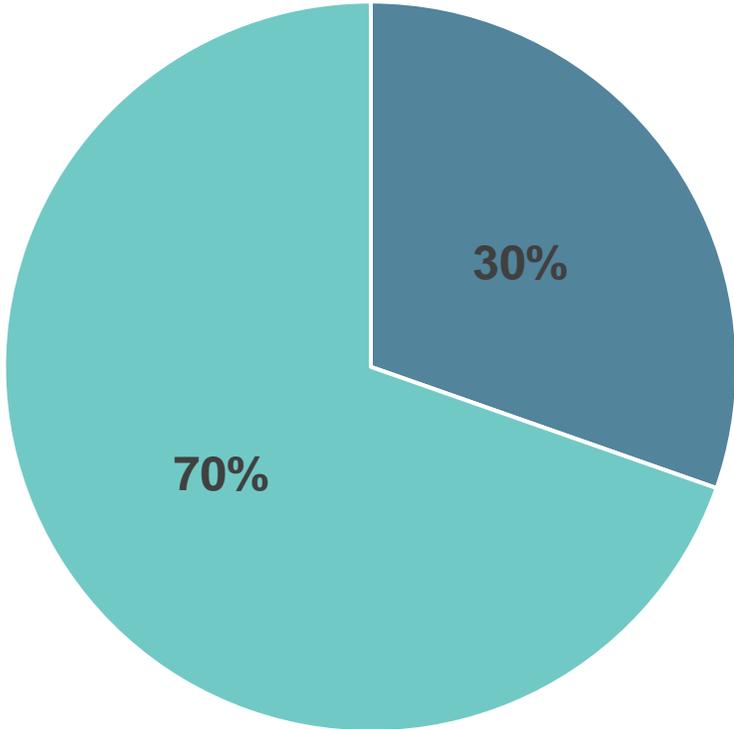


K-12 Reported Clusters – as of 5/31/21

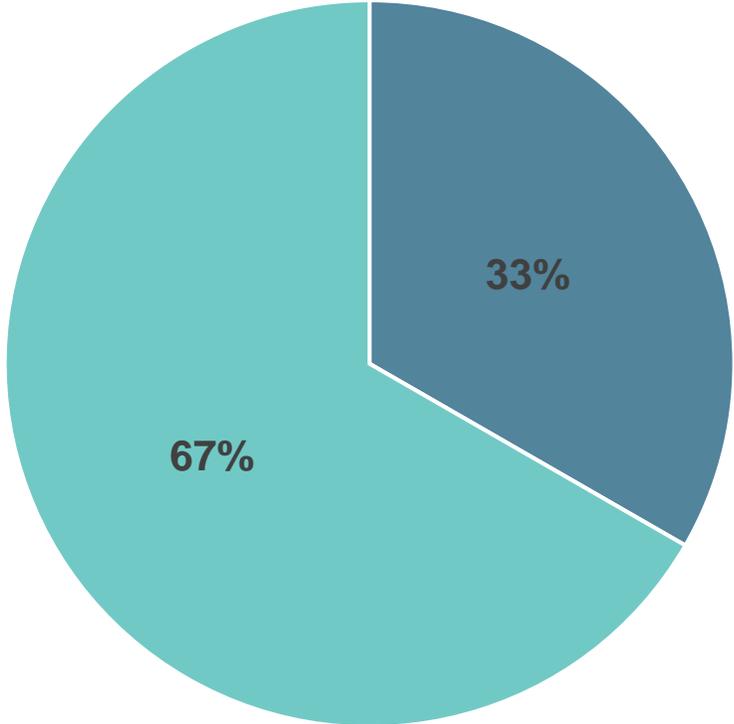
- **254 total K-12 clusters since June 2020**
 - 170 at public schools, 84 at private schools
- **2,295 cases associated with all K-12 clusters**
 - 1,619 cases among students and 676 cases among staff
 - 1,364 cases among public schools, 931 among private schools
- **39 currently active clusters**
 - 35 currently active clusters at public schools, 4 currently active clusters at private schools

Middle & High-School Clusters Linked to Athletics as of 5/31

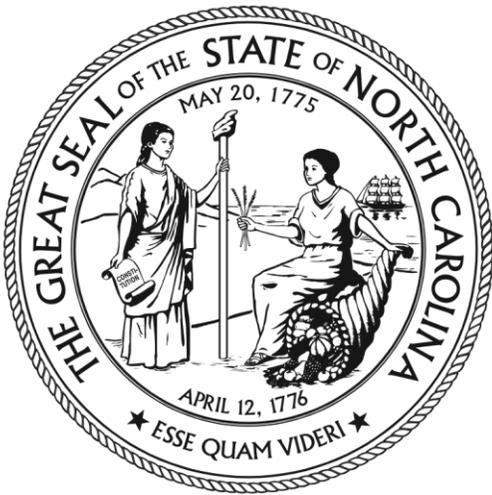
Number of Clusters
Since June 2020



Number of Clusters
In the Past 30 Days



■ Athletics Related Cluster ■ Not Athletics-Related Cluster



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K-12 COVID-19 Testing Updates

Natalie Ivanov— Director, COVID-19 Testing

Research continues to show that screening testing can help schools safely continue in-person learning

Testing at school **increases access for students, families and staff** who may not be able to find a testing center or afford a test in their community

NC pilot schools indicated that **testing at school** helped their **staff and students come back to school more quickly and confidently**



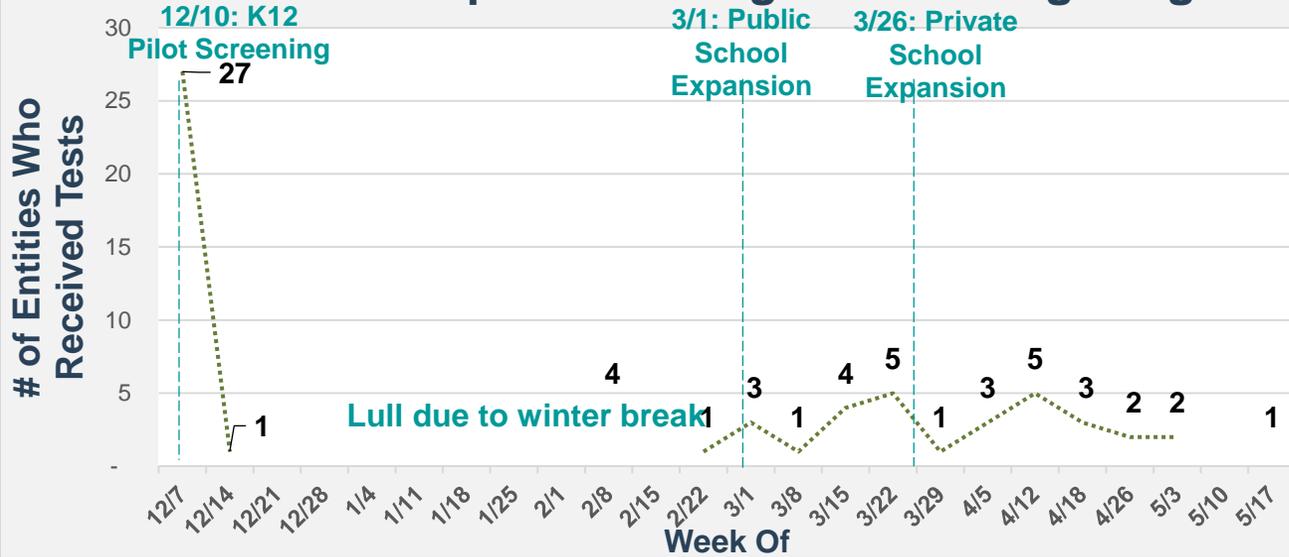
Evidence from national studies found that weekly screening testing of all students, teachers and staff can **reduce in-school infections by an estimated 50%**

Identifying 14% of silent infections among children within 3 days after infection would **bring attack rates below 5%**, assuming 40% of adults were vaccinated. If silent infections among children remained undetected, achieving the same attack rate would require 81% of children vaccinated

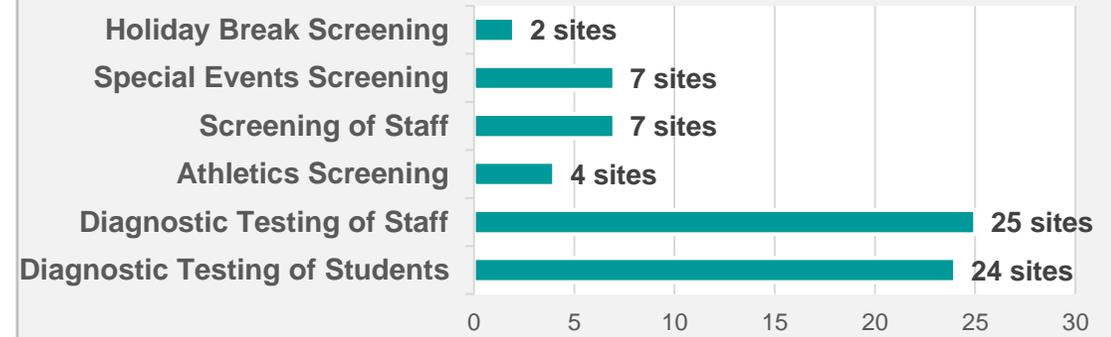


K-12 Testing Program: Participation and Reporting

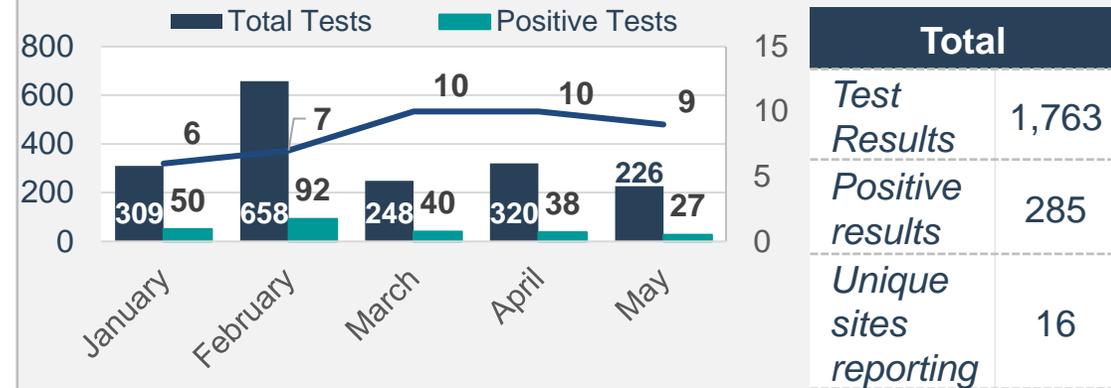
Timeline of Participants Joining K-12 Testing Program



How New Participants are Using Tests⁵



Test Result Reporting⁴ (as of 5/19)



K-12 Testing Program Participation¹ (as of 5/21)

Type	Participants To Date (12/10/20 – 5/21/21)			Distributions ³ Since Last Report (4/30– 5/21)		
	Total	Non-Pilot ²	Tests	To Existing Sites	To New Sites	Tests
Districts	25	8	60,715	-	-	-
Charters	24	13	8,360	1	-	80
Private	9	9	1,960	-	1	80
Total	58	30	71,035	1	1	160

¹ Includes distributions by both NC DHHS and redistributions by LHDs

² Non-pilot sites = districts/schools not in K-12 testing pilot that ran Dec 2020 – Feb 2021

³ Existing vs New Sites = Existing sites are any site that had received tests prior to the dates listed. New sites are any site that has never received tests prior to dates listed.

⁴ Limited due to many schools reporting via LHD CLIA ID

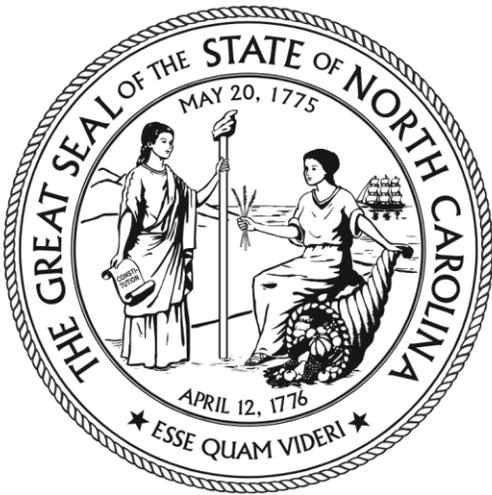
⁵ Data includes 68 total use cases across 30 new participants, as many requested tests for multiple use cases. Data does not include pilot sites (diagnostic testing only)

NCDHHS is expanding state-wide screening testing support for all K-12 schools

The CDC is funding ELC Reopening Schools award, which provides \$10 billion dollars in allocated funding to states, available in early April through July 2022

- NCDHHS continues to collaborate with NCDPI to prepare budget submission to CDC by 6/8
- NCDHHS issued RFP for state-wide vendor to support screening testing in schools
- NCDHHS will offer staffing options to support school testing programs.
- For remainder of 2020-21 school year, tests will continue to be available at no cost to schools from NCDHHS
 - Tests can be used for diagnostic testing, serial screening testing of staff, older students and athletes, and screening around holidays and special events
 - Regular office hours and reporting training sessions open to all needing support in implementing or improving their program
- As you move into summer school and planning for fall, consider how to incorporate screening and diagnostic testing





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COVID Vaccine Distribution – Updates and Resources

Dr. Betsey Tilson – State Health Director
and Chief Medical Officer

FAST - VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

Data: December 14, 2020 – May 25, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.
Vaccinations Data will be updated Monday - Friday

Summary Data

First of 2 Doses Administered

4,165,450

Second of 2 Doses Administered

3,715,539

Single Shot Doses Administered

298,289

Total Doses Administered

8,179,278

Percent of Total Population Vaccinated with at Least One Dose

42.6%

Percent of Population 18+ Years of Age Vaccinated with at Least One Dose

52.9%

Percent of Population 65+ Years of Age Vaccinated with at Least One Dose

79.7%

Percent of Total Population Fully Vaccinated

38.3%

Percent of Population 18+ Years of Age Fully Vaccinated

48.4%

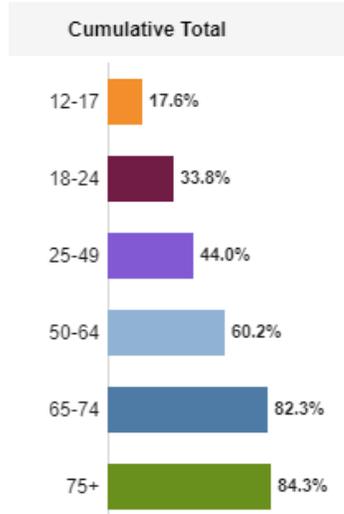
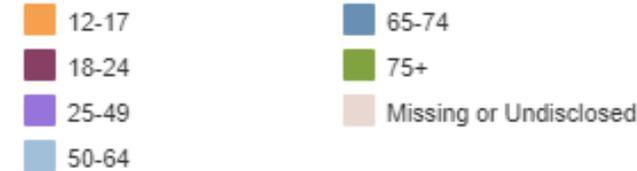
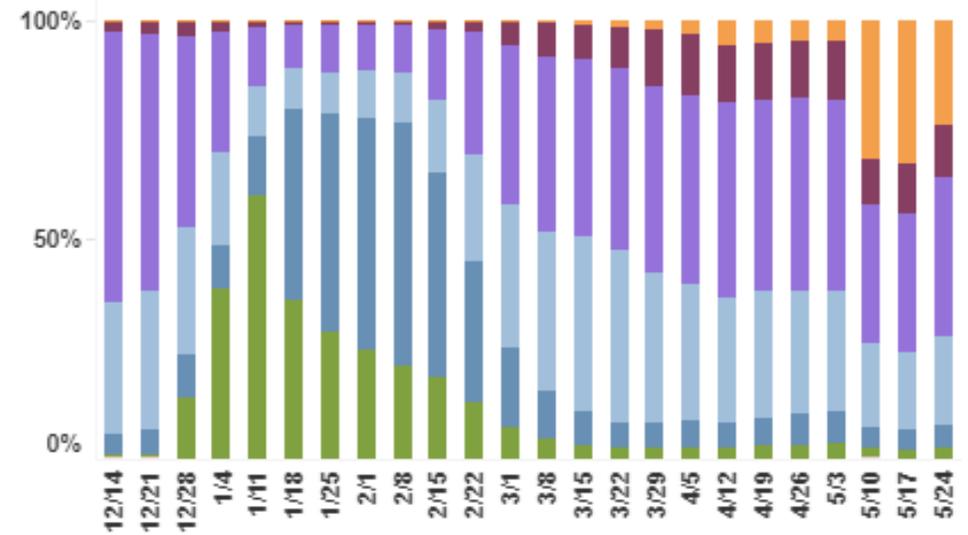
Percent of Population 65+ Years of Age Fully Vaccinated

76.6%

Demographics Data

Percent of People Vaccinated with at Least One Dose by Age

Weekly Trend



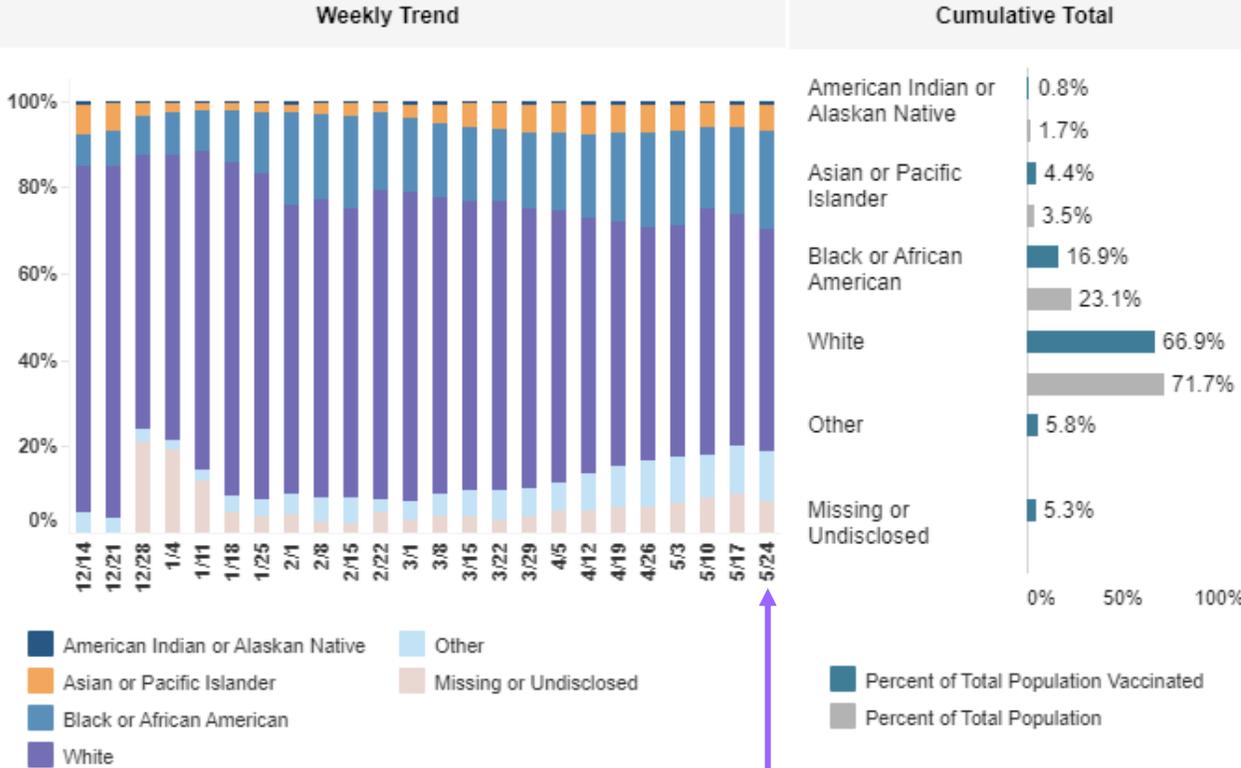
More than 130,000 12-17 year olds have been vaccinated



<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard/vaccinations>

FAIR - EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION MORE TO DO, BUT MAKING PROGRESS

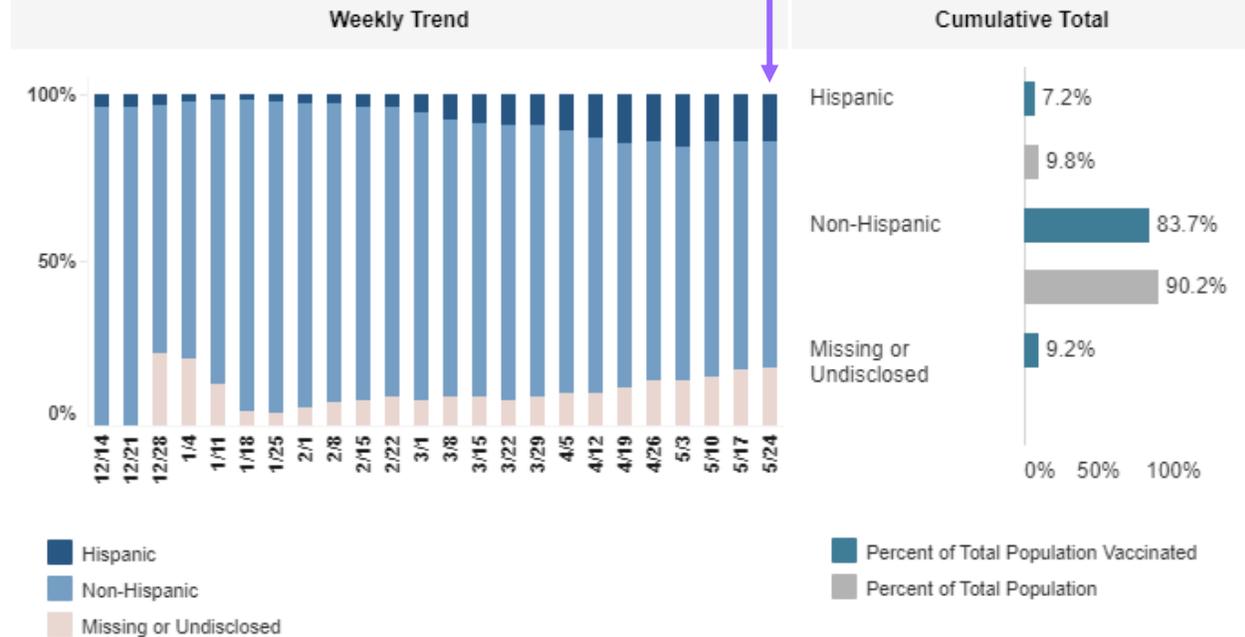
Percent of People Vaccinated with at Least One Dose by Race - North Carolina



■ American Indian or Alaskan Native ■ Other
■ Asian or Pacific Islander ■ Missing or Undisclosed
■ Black or African American
■ White

1% American Ind
 6% Asian/PI
 22% Black/AA
 52% White

Percent of People Vaccinated with at Least One Dose by Ethnicity - North Carolina

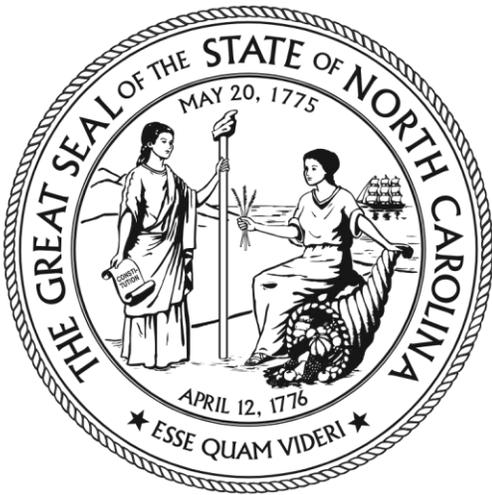


14% Hispanic/LatinX

■ Hispanic
■ Non-Hispanic
■ Missing or Undisclosed
■ Percent of Total Population Vaccinated
■ Percent of Total Population

Potential further authorization of vaccines for children and adolescents

- **Children 12 and over are eligible to receive any vaccine.**
- **Moderna's vaccine is currently approved for people 18+**
 - Submitted data for 12- & 17-year-olds to the FDA.
 - Potential expansion of authorization in June
- **The Pfizer vaccine can be given to teenagers aged 12+**
 - Expect to submit data for 2-11 year olds in September
- **Moderna and Pfizer clinical trials are underway for children as young as 6 months.**
 - May have results by end of year
- **Johnson and Johnson started trials with 16- & 17-year-olds in April**



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Executive Order and School Guidance Updates

Dr. Betsey Tilson – State Health Director
and Chief Medical Officer

Executive Order 215 and Implications for Graduation Events

- If event is on school campus and indoors, face coverings are required.
- If event is on school campus and the school is in Plan B, face coverings and social distancing are required.
- If event is not on school campus and indoors, face coverings and social distancing are strongly recommended for anyone who is not fully vaccinated.
- If event is not on school campus, and in a large, crowded indoor venue, face coverings are recommended for everyone.

Executive Order 215 and Implications for Adults-Only Settings

- **Does EO Order 215 require individuals who work in administrative school buildings wear a face covering while indoors?**
 - EO 215 requires that everyone in school buildings for student instruction wear a face covering while indoors, if students are in the building. In administrative school buildings that do not have student classrooms and students are not present, employees who are not fully vaccinated should wear a face covering and practice social distancing.
- **Does EO 215 require individuals who are working in school buildings during a teacher work day, or other day when no students are in the building, wear a face covering while indoors?**
 - EO 215 requires that everyone in school buildings for student instruction wear a face covering while indoors, if students are in the building. On teacher workdays or other days when no students are in the school building, employees who are not fully vaccinated should wear a face covering and practice social distancing.
- **If an individual teacher or staff is alone in their office in a school or administrative building, and not within 6 feet of others, they may remove their face covering, regardless of vaccination status.**

