



BRHD Live Town Hall



Dr. Denise Bonds, BRHD Director

Ryan McKay, BRHD Director of Policy, Planning, and COVID Operations

Dr. Taison Bell, Assistant Professor of Medicine at UVA

Dr. Michael Williams, Director of the Center for Health Policy at UVA

Kathryn Goodman, BRHD Director of PR & Communications

1/10/2022

AGENDA

- Weather Safety Tips
- COVID-19 Data Update
- Impact on Local Hospitals
- COVID-19 Vaccine Updates
- New Isolation & Quarantine Guidelines
- Testing Resources
- Q&A

Updates from



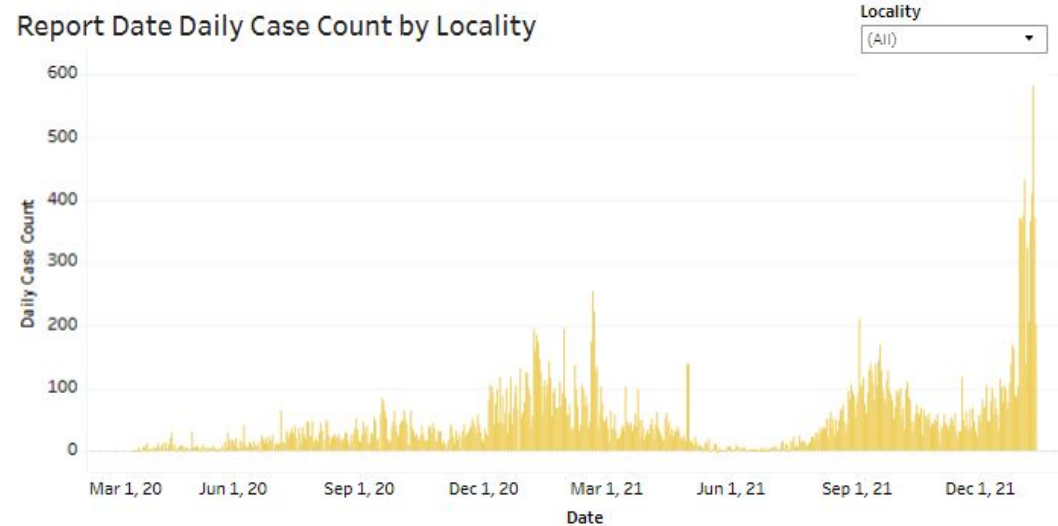
Winter Storm Safety

- Stay off the roads & avoid tree limbs.
- Limit your time outside.
- Avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.
Double check the batteries in your CO detector.
- Reduce the risk of a heart attack - avoid overexertion when shoveling.
- Watch for signs of frostbite & hypothermia.
- Check on your neighbors.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car.



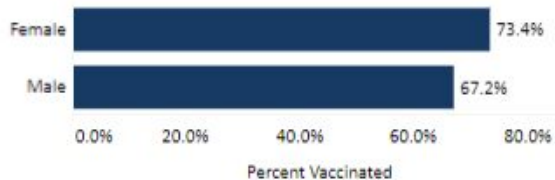
COVID-19 Data Updates: Cases

- Majority of new cases are Omicron variant but Delta is still here.
- Current case numbers are **nearly tripled** what we have seen in previous COVID waves/surges.
- At-home tests are not always counted in our COVID data.
- Numbers are important but it's more important for us to think about the greater impact this has on our society, economy, and healthcare systems.

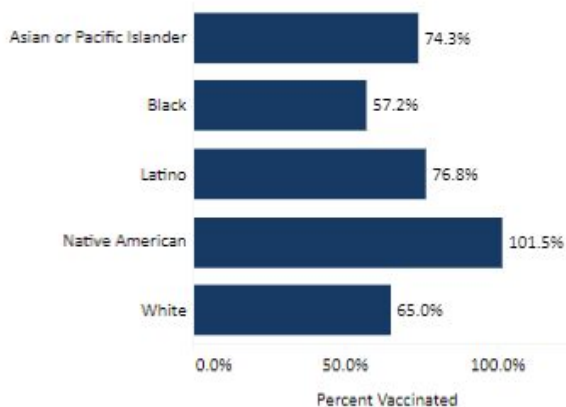


COVID-19 Data Updates: Vaccinations

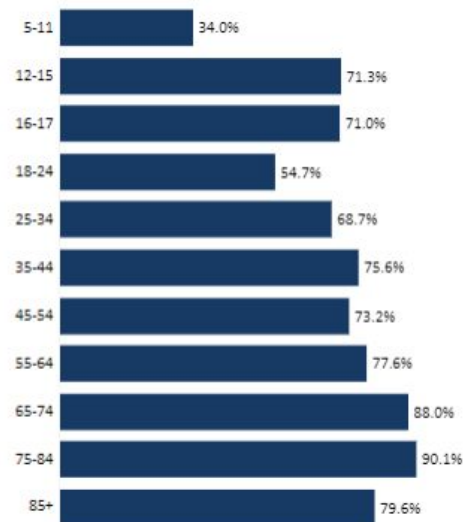
Percent of the Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated - By Sex



Percent of the Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated - By Race and Ethnicity*



Percent of the Population Fully Vaccinated - By Age Group



Data can be found at www.BlueRidgeHD.org

COVID-19 Hospitalizations and the Impact on Hospital Systems

- **Emergency Department Strain** - Dr. Williams
 - Know when to visit the ED & consider all options when possible.
 - When possible, utilize other testing resources for COVID testing.
- **Admission and Staff Strain** - Dr. Bell
 - As of today (January 10), UVA Health has 89 admitted patients for COVID-19 (25 in ICU).
 - Unvaccinated patients make up the majority of hospitalizations.
- **Monoclonal Antibodies & Oral Treatment**
 - Very limited supply of treatment. Prevention is our best strategy.
 - Vaccination & boosters remains our best defense against severe infections, hospitalizations, and death.

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

- Everyone ages 5+ is now eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine
- Booster update:
 - **All ages 12+ now eligible** for a Pfizer booster dose
 - Pfizer boosters now **5 months** after 2nd dose (rather than previous 6 month guideline) for all ages 12+

Where to get vaccinated:

Need vaccinations for your staff, congregation, or group? Request an onsite clinic!

- Community Vaccination Center at Seminole Square in Charlottesville
- Local Health Departments (extended evening hours starting in February)
- MOBI / Community Clinics
- Pharmacies, primary care providers, free clinics, etc.
- Request a clinic for a group online at vdh.virginia.gov/blue-ridge/covid-19-vaccination/



Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Update

January 2022

INCREASED BOOSTER ELIGIBILITY

The CDC has authorized Pfizer booster doses for adolescents ages 12 years and older.



VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

LESS TIME BETWEEN DOSES

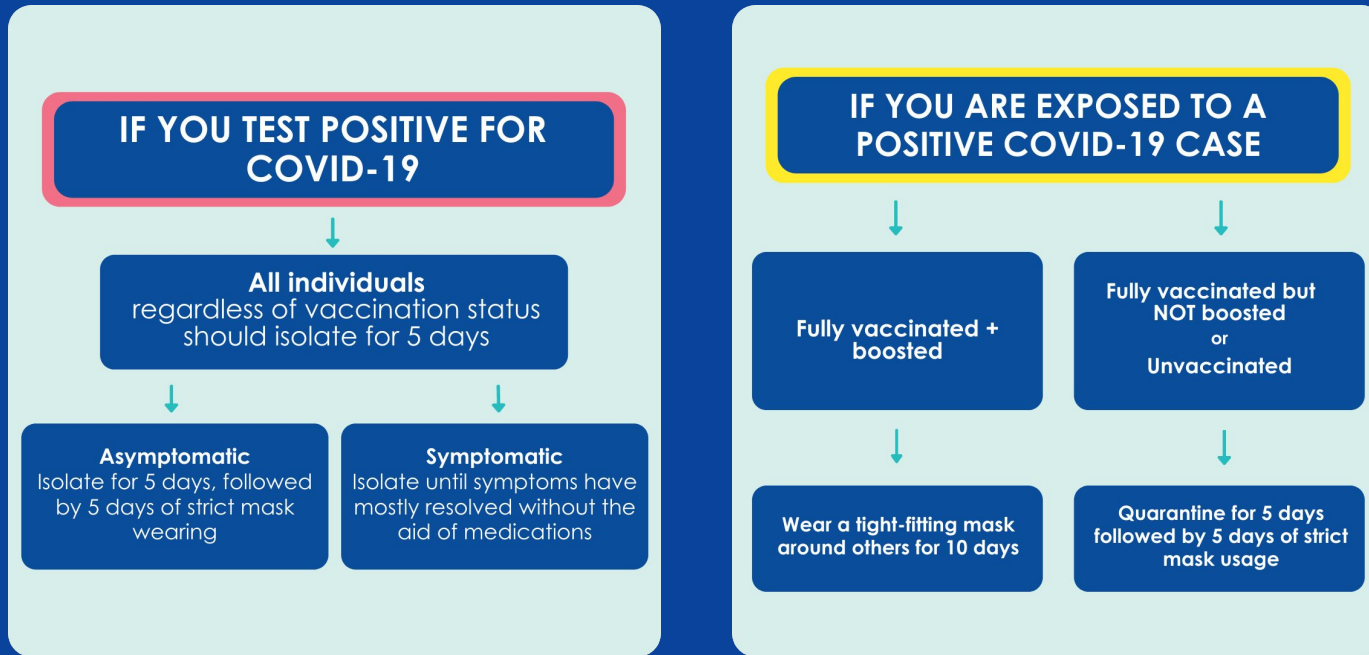
If your initial COVID-19 vaccine was Pfizer, you are now able to get your Pfizer Booster shot 5 months after your second dose*.

* Shortened from 6 months

IMMUNO-COMPROMISED CHILDREN

The CDC authorized a third dose of vaccine for certain immunocompromised children ages 5-11 years old.

New CDC Isolation & Quarantine Guidelines: Businesses



Businesses may follow the new guidelines IF they can be adhered to properly. This includes strict enforcement of high quality, secure fitting mask over nose and mouth (N95, K95, KF94, surgical) for days 6-10 of isolation period.

Everyone should wear masks at all times when at work.
Telework when possible.

BRHD Recommendations for Schools & Daycares: Isolation & Quarantine Guidelines

GOAL: Minimize risk and support school operations to keep children in classrooms.

Guidance for Daycare/K-12 Schools

IF YOU TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Daycare + K-12 Students

All Daycare + K-12 students (regardless of vaccination status or whether symptoms have appeared) **should isolate at home for 10 full days before returning to daycare/school**

Children may return after completing their 10 day isolation period if symptoms have mostly resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications for over 24 hours

Staff + Faculty

All Staff + Faculty (regardless of vaccination status or whether symptoms have appeared) **should isolate at home for 10 full days before returning to work**

Staff may return after completing their 10 day isolation period if symptoms have mostly resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications for over 24 hours

Guidance for Daycare/K-12 Schools

IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO A POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE

Daycare + K-12 Students

Fully vaccinated (more than 2 weeks since 2nd dose) **or** **Positive case within past 90 days**

Wear a tight-fitting mask around others for 10 days

Partially vaccinated (before getting second dose OR less than 2 weeks since 2nd dose) **or** **Unvaccinated**

Quarantine for a full 10 days (away from daycare/school)

Staff + Faculty

Fully vaccinated + boosted **or** **Positive case within past 90 days**

Wear a tight-fitting mask around others for 10 days

Fully vaccinated but NOT boosted **or** **Unvaccinated**

Quarantine for a full 10 days (away from daycare/school)

COVID-19 Testing Resources

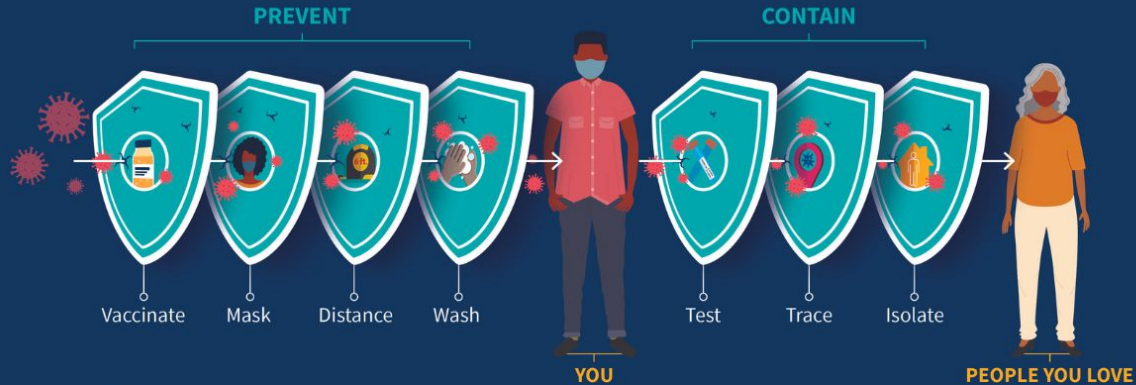
- **Testing available in all localities** - hosted by BRHD, NEXT Molecular, & UVA Health
- **Blue Ridge Community Testing Center (BR CTC)**
 - Pantops Shopping Center (next to Food Lion) → Saturday-Thursday, 9am-5:30pm
 - By appointment only (on VASE+)
- **BRHD Test Site Updates**
 - **BRHD-run test sites are by appointment only**
 - No walk-ins at Local Health Departments or on Fridays outside JCPenney
 - **Test results are taking up to 3-4 days** - if testing because of symptoms, it is safest to isolate & assume you are COVID positive until your results are returned
 - **Testing is weather dependent.**
 - **Preparing a larger tent at the JCPenney Fashion Square Mall site.**
- **Testing Reminders**
 - Confirm onsite the testing provider (organization or business name) & how you get your results
 - BRHD staff is working hard to provide the best service possible
 - Remember that local pharmacies, your primary care provider, and urgent care centers offer testing as an alternative



Scan the QR code
to visit our testing
website



Every Layer Protects Us



No layer is perfect, but together they improve success. Protect yourself and the ones you love by continuing to use these COVID-19 layers of protection. The more layers you use, the easier it will be to stop the spread of COVID-19.

[Vaccinate.Virginia.gov](https://www.vaccinate.virginia.gov) | 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682)



Questions from You



BRHD COVID-19 Hotline: 434-972-6261 (M-F 8am-4:30pm)

www.BlueRidgeHD.org

BRHealthDistrict@gmail.com

