



COVID-19 Update

September 28, 2021

DESMAR WALKES MD, HEALTH AUTHORITY/MEDICAL DIRECTOR
CITY OF AUSTIN/TRAVIS COUNTY



STAGE 4:

Delta Edition

COVID-19 Risk-Based Chart — Vaccinated

* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage. Schools, hospitals, and long term living centers follow CDC and APH guidelines—or—the regulatory agency's policy.

	Private Gatherings* With People Outside Your Household				Travel*		Dining*		Shopping*	
	Indoor		Outdoor		Low-Risk	High-Risk	Low-Risk	High-Risk	Low-Risk	High-Risk
	Low-Risk	High-Risk	Low-Risk	High-Risk						
Stage 1										
Stage 2										
Stage 3										
Stage 4										
Stage 5						Only if essential				Outdoors/ Takeaway/ Curbside

Delta Edition

Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions

Not recommended at all, with or without masks

Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines

Places that require vaccines and masks may pose a lower risk.

Delta Edition

COVID-19 Risk-Based Chart — Partly Vaccinated or Unvaccinated

* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage. Schools, hospitals, and long term living centers follow CDC and APH guidelines—or—the regulatory agency's policy.

	Private Gatherings* With People Outside Your Household		Travel*	Dining*	Shopping*
	Indoor	Outdoor			
	Stage 1				
Stage 2					
Stage 3	 If high risk avoid unless essential	 If high risk avoid unless essential	 If high risk avoid unless essential	 If high risk avoid unless essential	 If high risk avoid unless essential
Stage 4			Only if essential	Takeaway/ Curbside	Only if essential
Stage 5				Takeaway/ Curbside	Takeaway/ Curbside

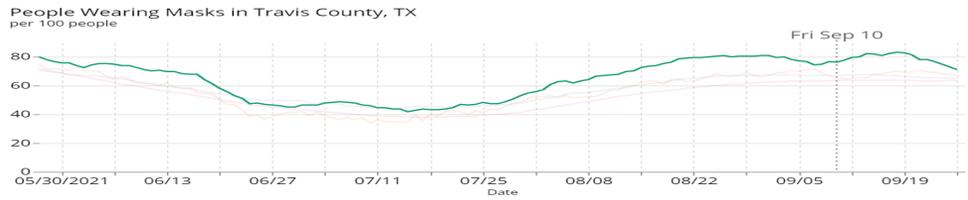
Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions

Not recommended at all, with or without masks

Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines

Delta Edition

PEOPLE WEARING MASKS CHART



Rescale Y-axis Show All Dates

Travis County, TX 76.35% per 100	Neighboring Counties 65.84% per 100
Texas 67.36% per 100	United States 63.76% per 100

ABOUT PEOPLE WEARING MASKS

Every day, Delphi surveys tens of thousands of Facebook users, asking them a broad set of COVID-related questions, including whether they, or anyone in their household, are currently experiencing COVID-related symptoms. We also ask them if they wear a mask when they are in public. For this signal, we estimate the percentage of people who say they wear a mask most or all of the time when they are in public. The signal changed in Wave 10 of the survey, unifying the timespan to 7 days from previously 5 days.

- Source: Delphi CTIS
- More information
- Technical description
 - Interpreting mask use in context
 - Wave 10 revision updates
 - Export Data

NEIGHBORING COUNTIES

COUNTY	CHANGE LAST 7 DAYS	PER 100	HISTORICAL TREND
			8/27 9/24
United States	→ +1.09%	63.76% /100	
Texas	→ -0.72%	67.36% /100	
Bastrop County, TX	▲ N/A	N/A	N/A
Blanco County, TX	▲ N/A	N/A	N/A

Explore an INDICATOR

Region: Travis County, TX

Indicator: People Wearing Masks

Hays County, TX	↓ -5.82%	64.37% /100	
Travis County, TX	↓ -5.00%	76.35% /100	
Williamson County, TX	→ -4.31%	67.32% /100	

MSA Daily Counts

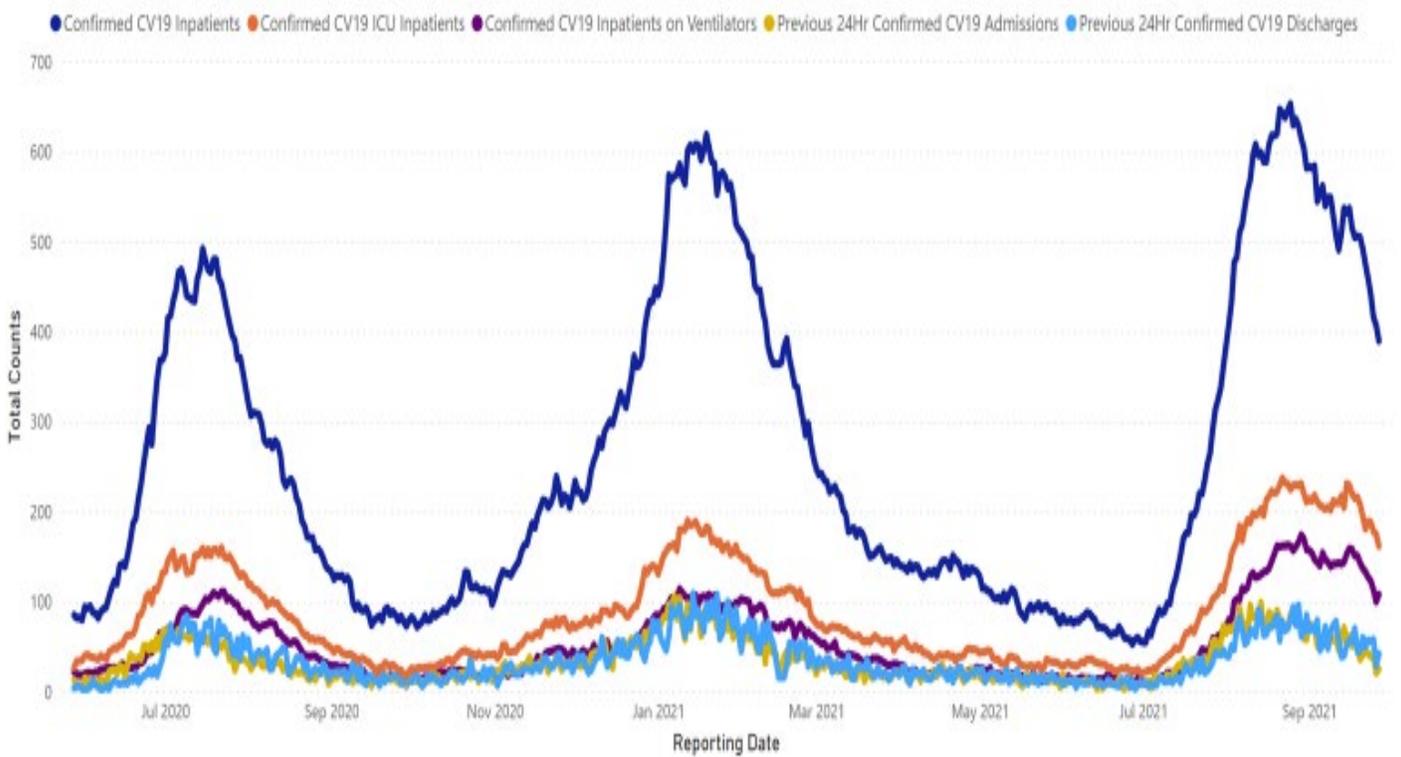
Report Refreshed: 9/27/2021 12:30:08 Data Up To: 09/27/2021

Select Reporting Date: 5/28/2020 9/27/2021

Select Facility Name: Search

- Alternative Care Site
- Ascension Health
- Baylor Scott & White
- St. David's

09/27/2021	390 CV19 Inpatients	162 CV19 ICU Inpatients	108 CV19 Inpatients on Vent	25 Previous 24Hr Admissions	42 Previous 24Hr Discharges
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Masks in Schools
= Fewer COVID-19 Cases

Mask requirements in K-12 schools limited COVID-19 outbreaks

Schools without mask requirements were...





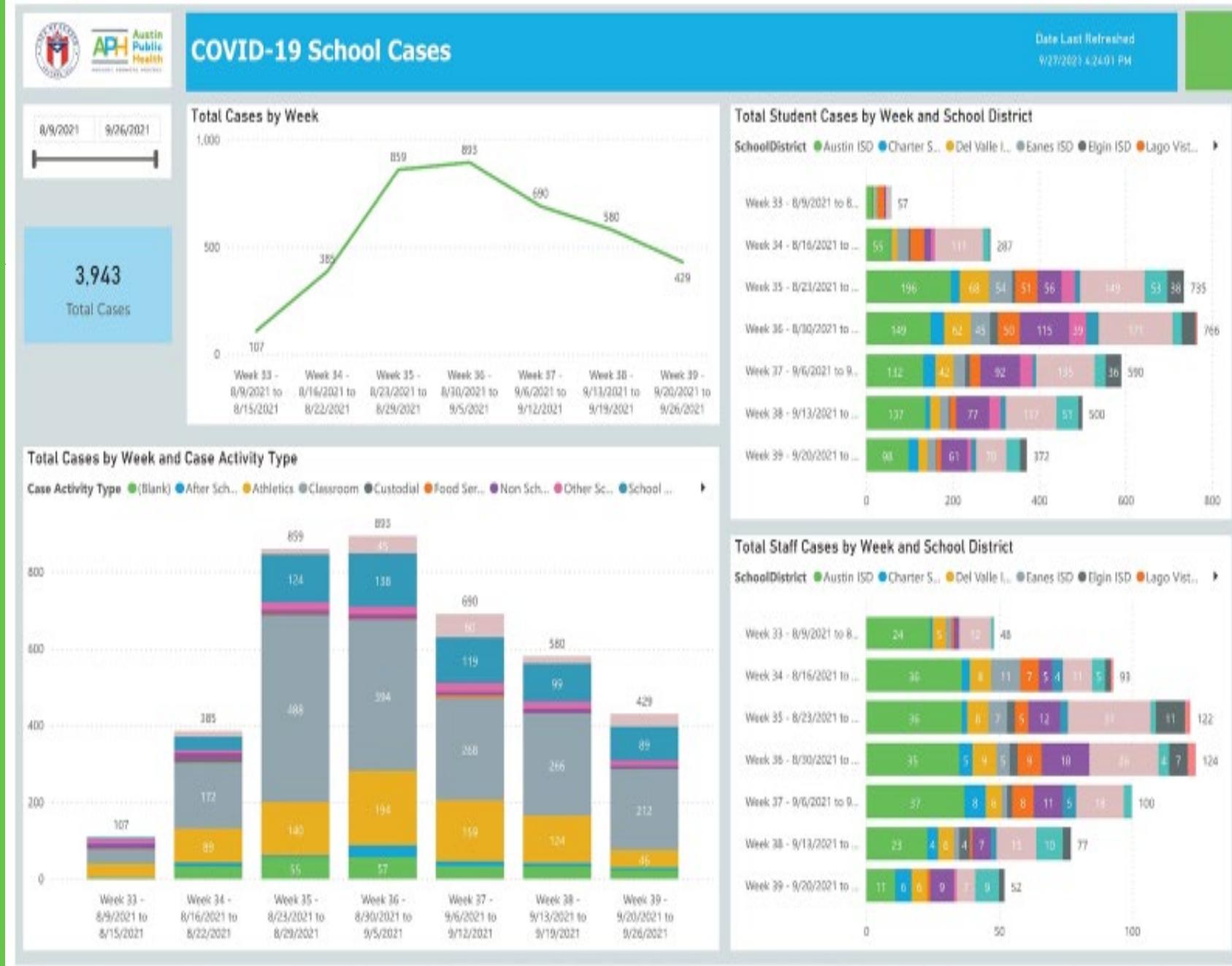
more likely to have COVID-19 outbreaks...

Compared with schools that started the year with mask requirements



*K-12 public charter schools in Maricopa and Pima Counties, AZ - July-August 2021


bit.ly/MMWR92421

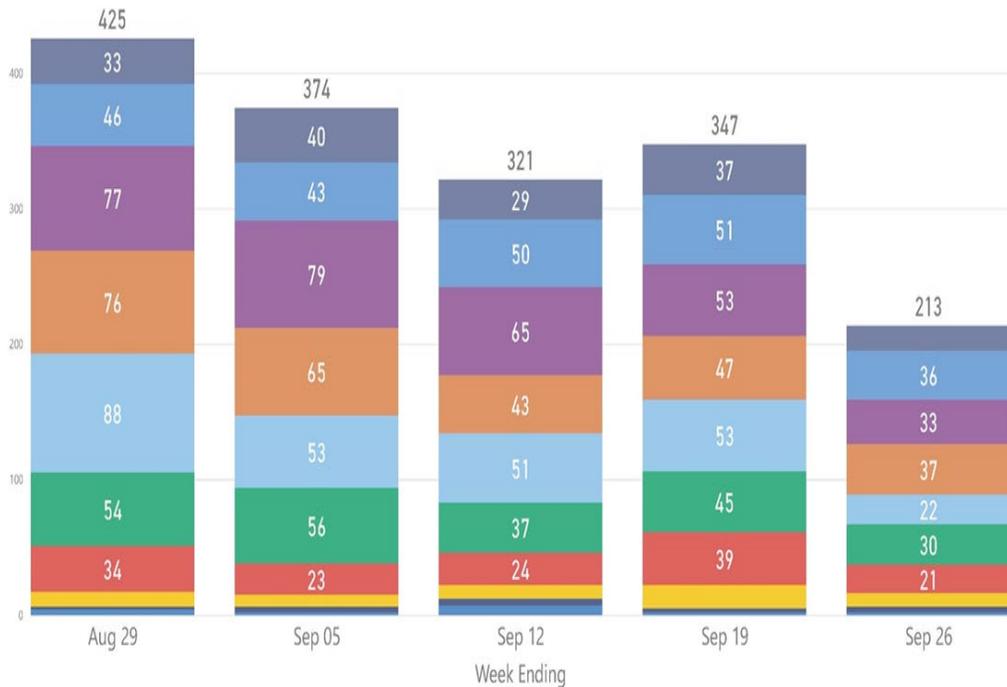
Weekly Austin MSA COVID-19 Patient Hospital Admissions by Age Group

Data as of 9/27/2021

Week Ending

8/29/2021 9/26/2021

Age Group ● <1 ● 1-9 ● 10-19 ● 20-29 ● 30-39 ● 40-49 ● 50-59 ● 60-69 ● 70-79 ● 80+



Austin MSA COVID-19 Patients Under 18 Years of Age

Admissions 9/13/2021-9/26/2021 (Data as of 9/27/2021)

Date of Admission

9/13/2021 9/26/2021

Count of Patients Under 18 for Selected Reporting Period

28

Count of Patients Under 18 Admitted to ICU During Stay

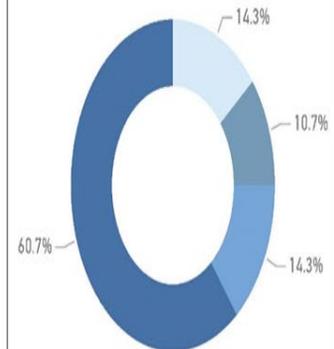
4

Count of Patients Under 18 on Ventilator During Stay

1

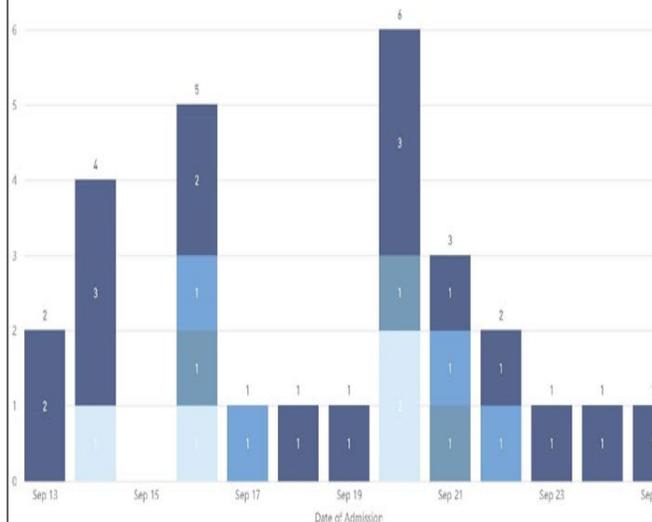
Percentage of Austin MSA COVID-19 Patient...

Age Group ● <1 years ● 1-4 years ● 5-11 years ● 12-17 years



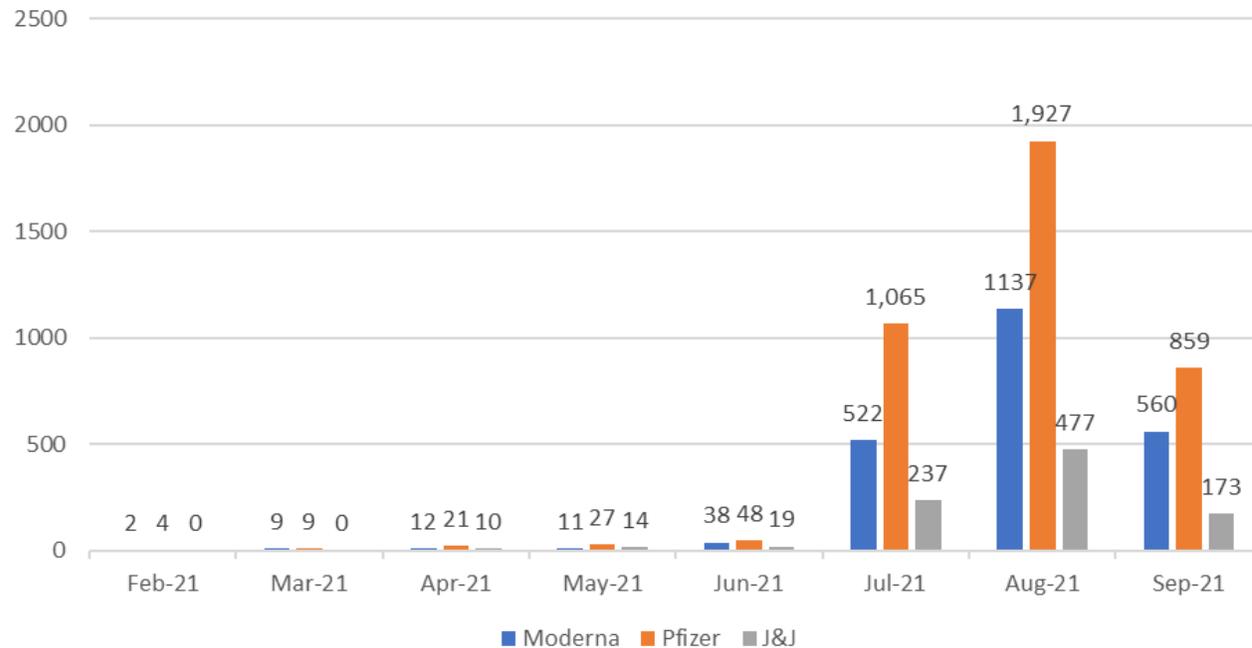
Austin MSA COVID-19 Patients Under 18 Years of Age by Date of Admission

Under 18 Age Group ● <1 years ● 1-4 years ● 5-11 years ● 12-17 years



1% Vaccine Breakthrough Cases

Confirmed COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough cases by manufacturer reported to Austin Public Health, Jan.-Sept. 24, 2021 (n=7,181)



After Delta became the most common variant*, fully vaccinated people had reduced risk[†] of...

INFECTION

5X

HOSPITALIZATION

>10X

DEATH

>10X

Vaccination offers strong protection against COVID-19



bit.ly/MMWR91021

* June 20-July 17, 2021
[†] Compared with people not fully vaccinated

MMWR

Long Term Care Facility COVID-19 Report

APH Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness



Total Cases

3867

Total Deaths

332

New Cases Last 14 Days

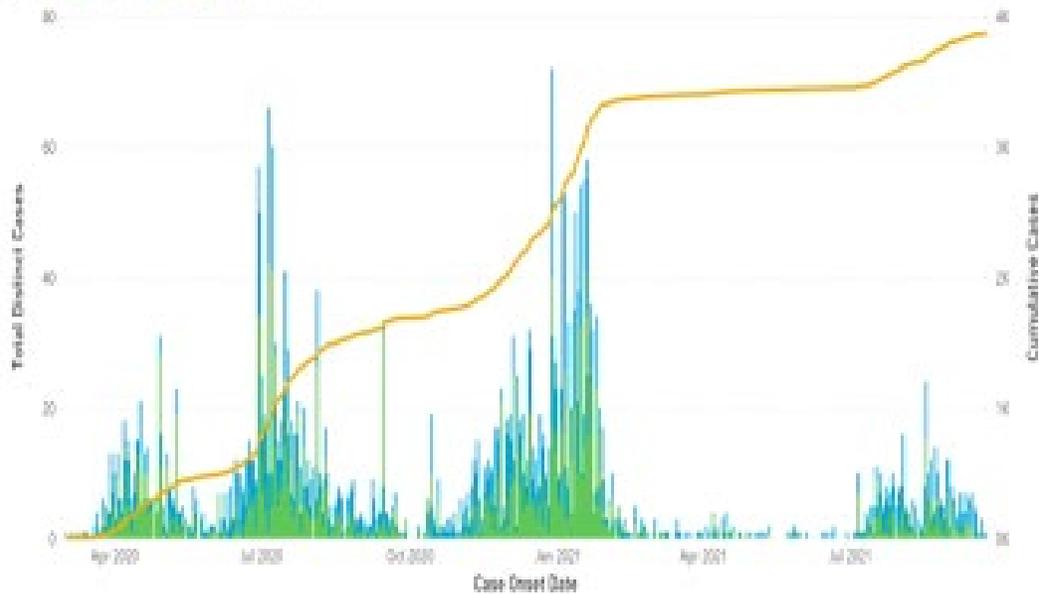
39

New Cases Last 28 Days

112

Total Distinct Cases and Cumulative Cases by Case Onset Date and LTCF Role

LTCF Role: Resident (Green), Staff (Blue), Cumulative Cases (Yellow)



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Long Term Care Facility COVID-19 Report

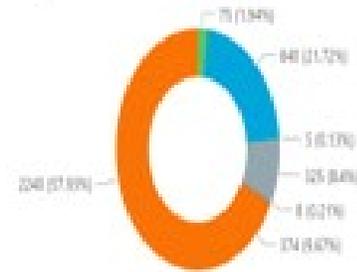
APH Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness



LTCF Role

- Select all
- Resident
- Staff

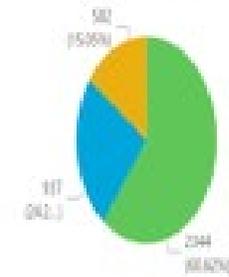
Total Cases by Race



Race

- Asian
- Black
- Native American/Alaskan
- Other
- Pacific Islander
- Unknown
- White

Total Cases by Ethnicity

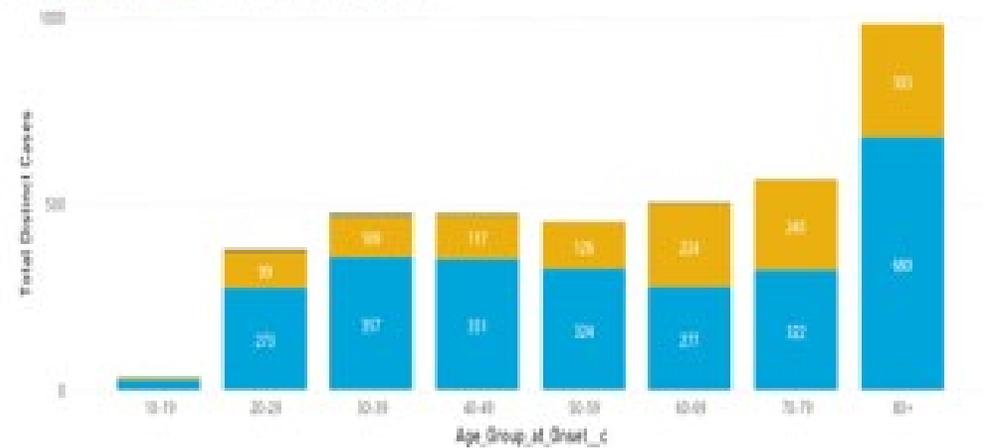


Ethnicity

- Non-Hispanic
- Hispanic
- Unknown
- No info on R
- Yes (for some)

Total Cases by Age Group and Gender

Gender: (Blank) Female, Male, Prefer not to Answer, Unknown

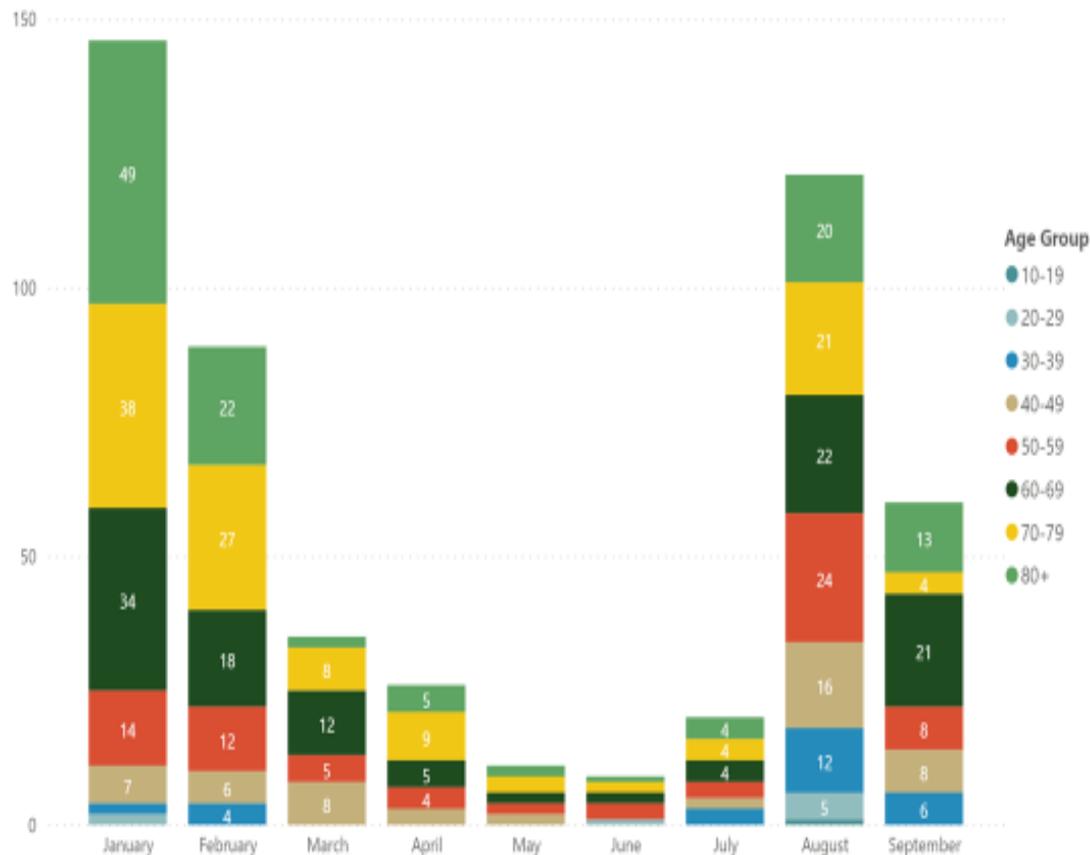


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COVID-Related Deaths (2021) - Travis County

COVID Deaths	Breakthrough Deaths	Breakthrough Death Rate	Youngest Age	Oldest Age	Median Age
517	42	8.12%	17	103	68

Age Group by Month of Death



Race	# of Cases	Percentage
Asian	10	1.93%
Black or African American	61	11.80%
Other	107	20.70%
Pacific Islander	1	0.19%
Unknown	4	0.77%
White	334	64.60%
Total	517	100.00%

Ethnicity	# Cases	Percentage
Hispanic	266	51.45%
Non Hispanic	241	46.62%
Unknown	10	1.93%
Total	517	100.00%

Sex



Fatality Statistics

Total Deaths 1089 (as of 9.27.21)

Deaths since Jan 2021 517

(investigated as of 9/21/21)

Fully Vaccinated 8.1%

Race/Ethnicity Impact 11.8% Black

51.5% Hispanic

Sex Impacted 59.4% Male

* No one who died received a third dose of vaccine

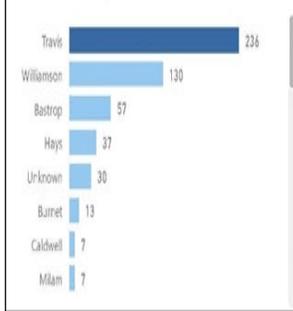
Austin MSA COVID-19 Travis County Resident Admissions

Admissions 9/13/2021-9/26/2021 (Data as of 9/27/2021)

Date of Admission

9/13/2021 9/26/2021

Counties with Highest Count of Admissions



Counties with Highest Percentage of Admissions N= 560

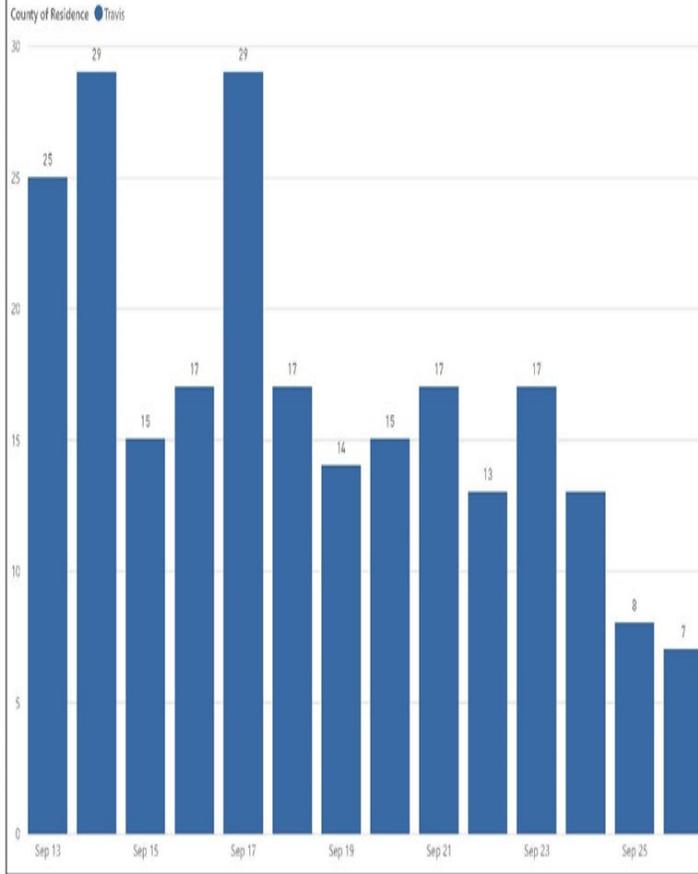
County of Residence	Count	Percentage
Travis	236	42.14%
Williamson	130	23.21%
Bastrop	57	10.18%
Hays	37	6.61%
Unknown	30	5.36%
Burnet	13	2.32%
Caldwell	7	1.25%

Note: Admissions for which county of patient is unknown were excluded

Total Admissions for Selected Reporting Dates

560

Travis County COVID-19 Admissions



Austin MSA COVID-19 Travis County Resident Admissions

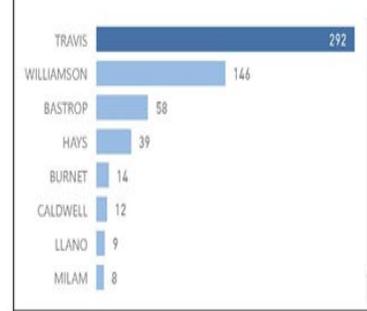
Admissions 9/6/2021-9/19/2021 (Data as of 9/20/2021)

Date of Admission

9/6/2021

9/19/2021

Counties with Highest Count of Admissions



Counties with Highest Percentage of Admissions N= 622

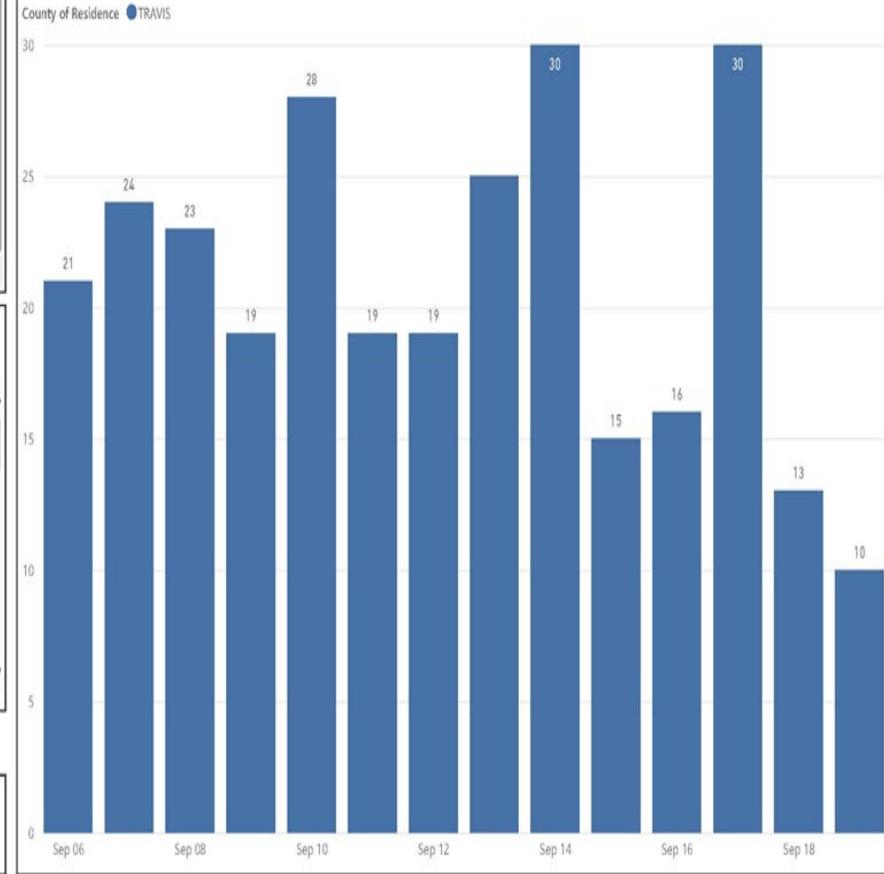
County of Residence	Percentage	Count
TRAVIS	47.10%	292
WILLIAMSON	23.55%	146
BASTROP	9.35%	58
HAYS	6.29%	39
BURNET	2.26%	14
CALDWELL	1.94%	12
LLANO	1.45%	9

Note: Admissions for which county of patient is unknown were excluded

Total Admissions for Selected Reporting Dates

652

Travis County COVID-19 Admissions



Call to Action to Protect our Hospitals

- Get vaccinated if you are not protected
- Encourage a friend to get vaccinated
- Boosters are available 6 months after the primary series of Pfizer for:
 - Over 65 years and in LTCF
 - People 18 years or older with chronic medical conditions
 - People who are at risk for exposure due to their occupational or institutional setting
- Support businesses that are helping us reach our goals
- Wear masks indoors and in places where you cannot safely socially distance
- Stay home if you are sick
 - ❖ Get tested
 - ❖ See a healthcare provider
 - ❖ If eligible get referred for Monoclonal Antibody Therapy

Thank you



COVID-19 Operations Update

September 28, 2021

ADRIENNE STURRUP, INTERIM DIRECTOR



COVID-19 Testing Options

George Morales Dove Springs Rec Center

5801 Ainez Dr, Austin, Texas 78744

Tuesday- Saturday

St. Johns Testing Site

7211 N Interstate 35 Frontage Rd, Austin, Texas 78752

Tuesday- Saturday

In-Home Testing

Available Monday through Friday

Facility Testing

Testing offered to senior living facilities, homeless shelters, and other facilities that have identified one positive COVID-19 case

Mobile Testing

(Monday- Friday 8 am - 4 pm).

Mobile testing appointments can be made by calling **512-972-5560**.

**APH Tests (9/20-9/25):
1,488**



Vaccine Operations State, Regional and Local

Texas: 71% first dose, 61% fully vaccinated

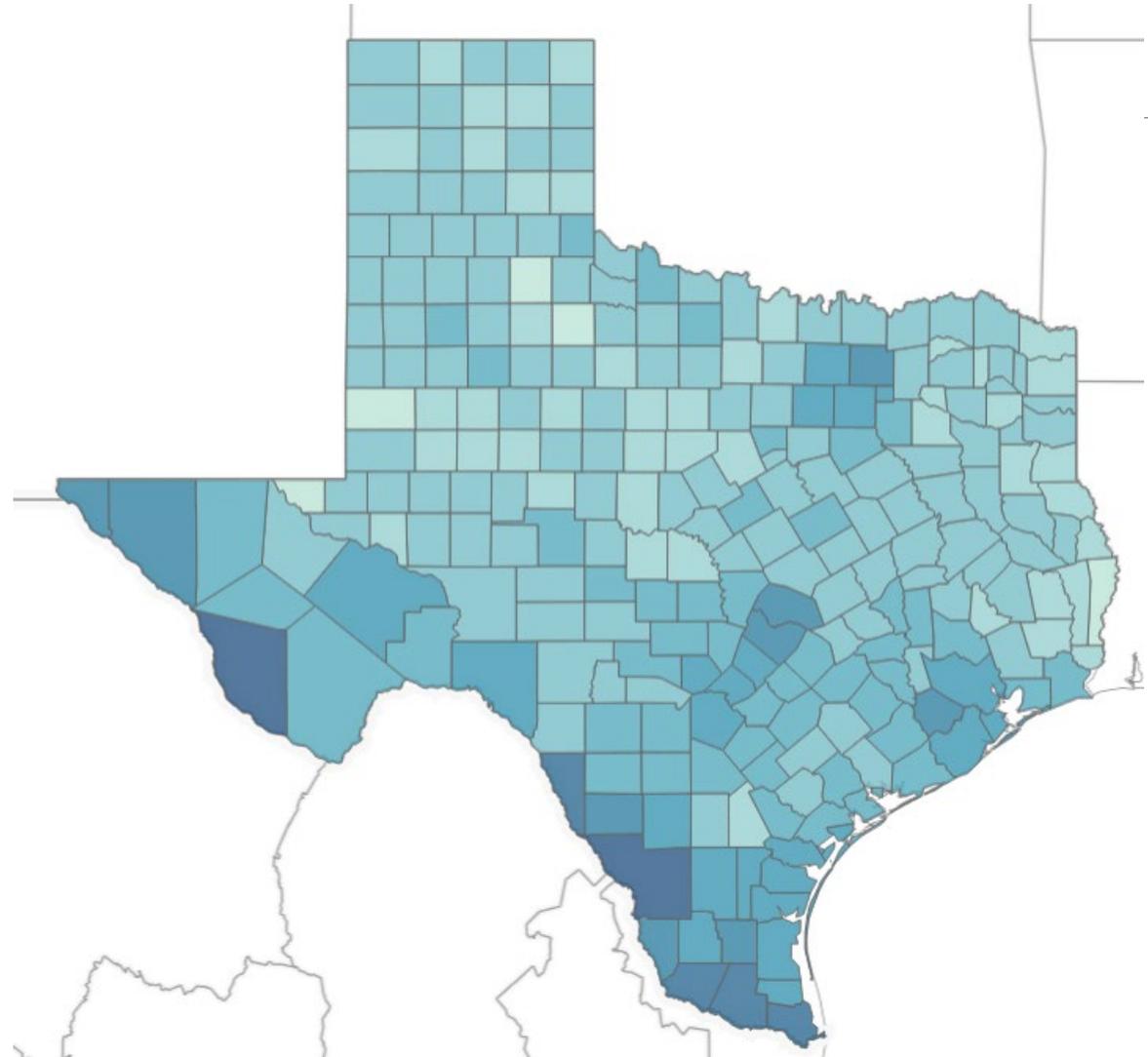
Travis County: 81% first dose, 71% fully vaccinated

Major Metros

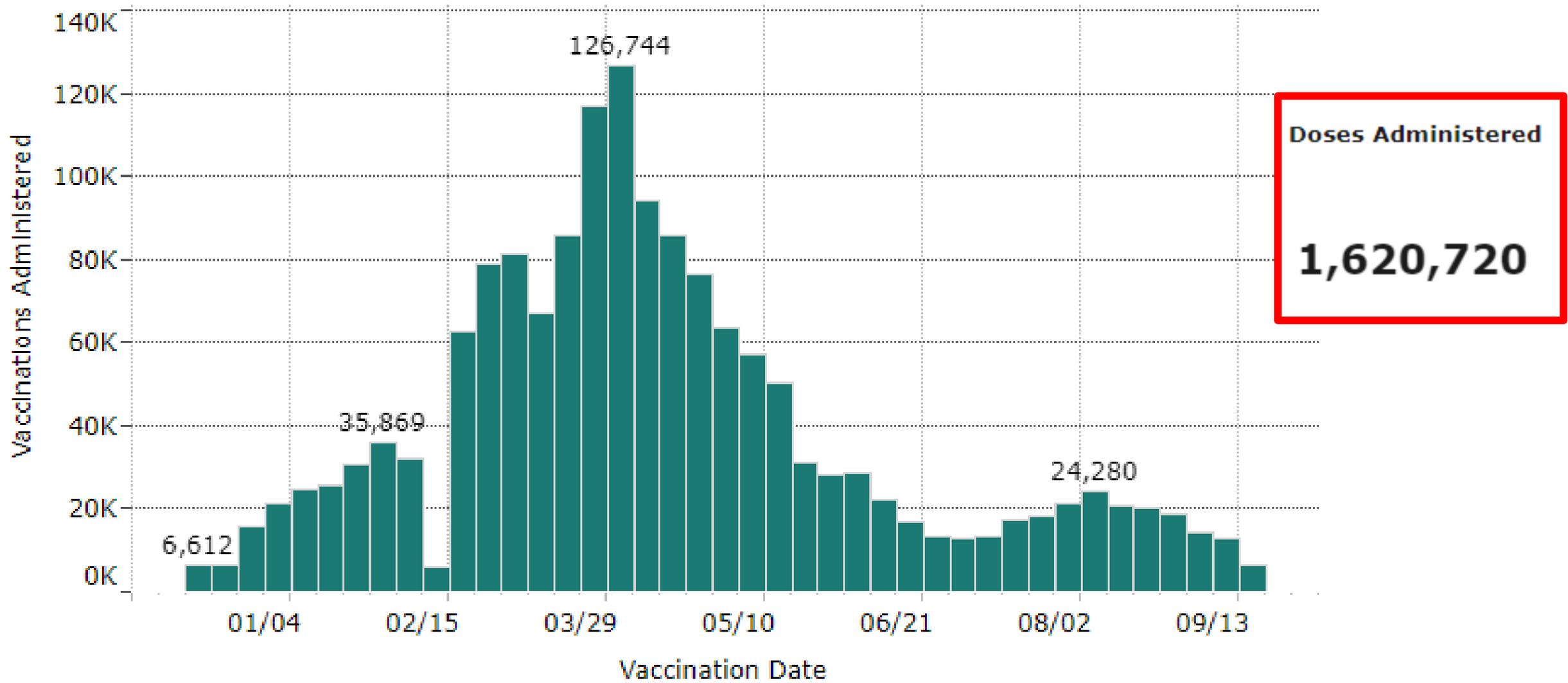
- Tarrant: 66% first dose, 58% fully vaccinated
- Dallas: 71% first dose, 60% fully vaccinated
- Bexar: 77% first dose, 66% fully vaccinated
- Harris: 76% first dose, 64% fully vaccinated
- El Paso: 88% first dose, 76% fully vaccinated

MSA and Travis County Bordering Counties

- Bastrop: 70% first dose, 57% fully vaccinated
- Blanco: 60% first dose, 53% fully vaccinated
- Burnet: 60% first dose, 52% fully vaccinated
- Caldwell: 64% first dose, 54% fully vaccinated
- Hays: 73% first dose, 62% fully vaccinated
- Williamson: 78% first dose, 69% fully vaccinated



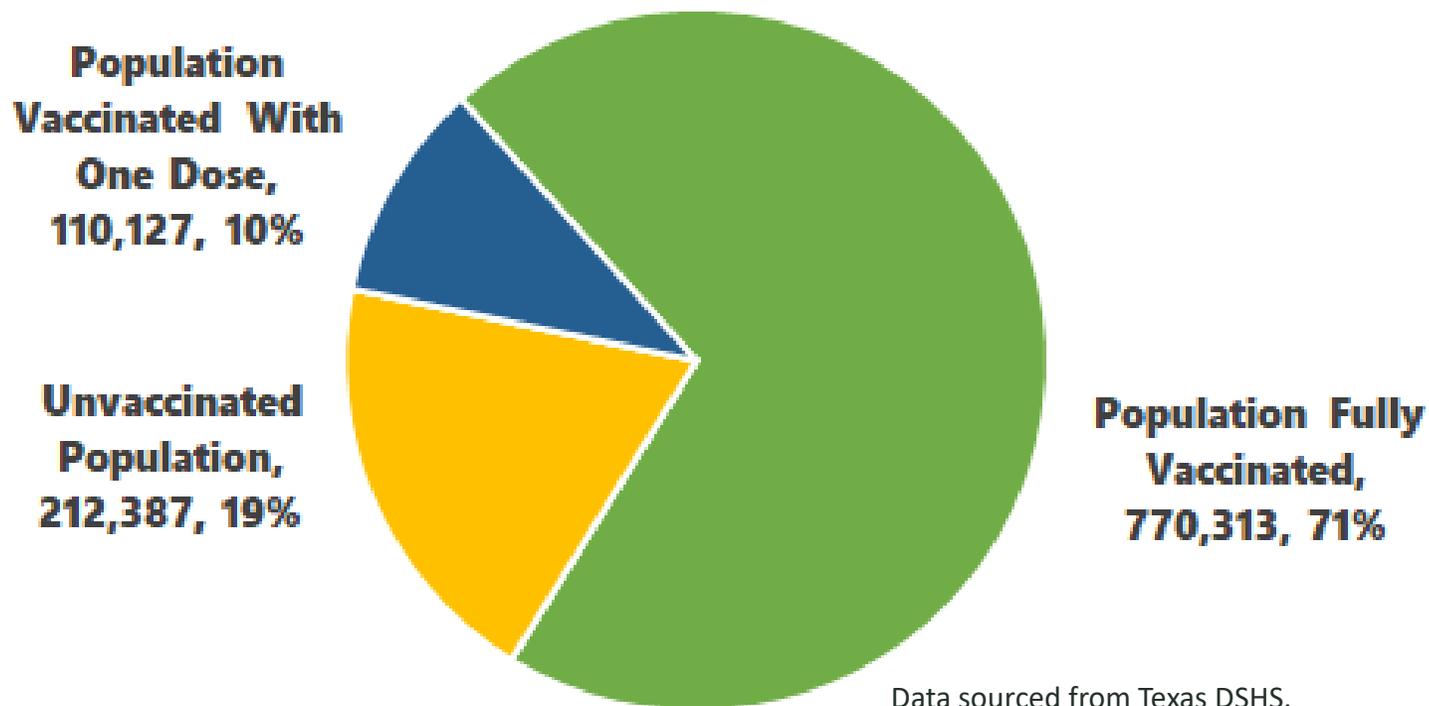
Vaccinations by Week in Travis County



Travis County Residents Who Have Not Received Second Dose

Vaccinated Proportion of Eligible Population

Total Eligible Population (12+): 1,092,827



Data sourced from Texas DSHS.
Current as of 09/24/2021.

Travis County Vaccine Distribution by Provider

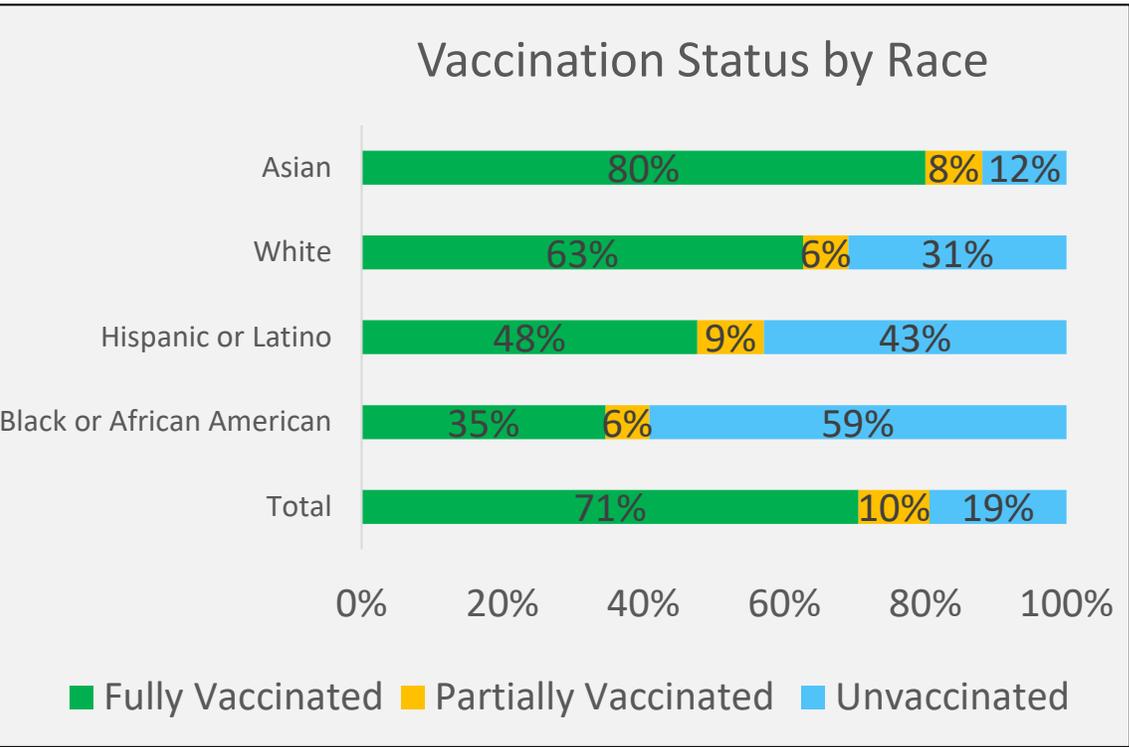


Doses Administered by Organization Type

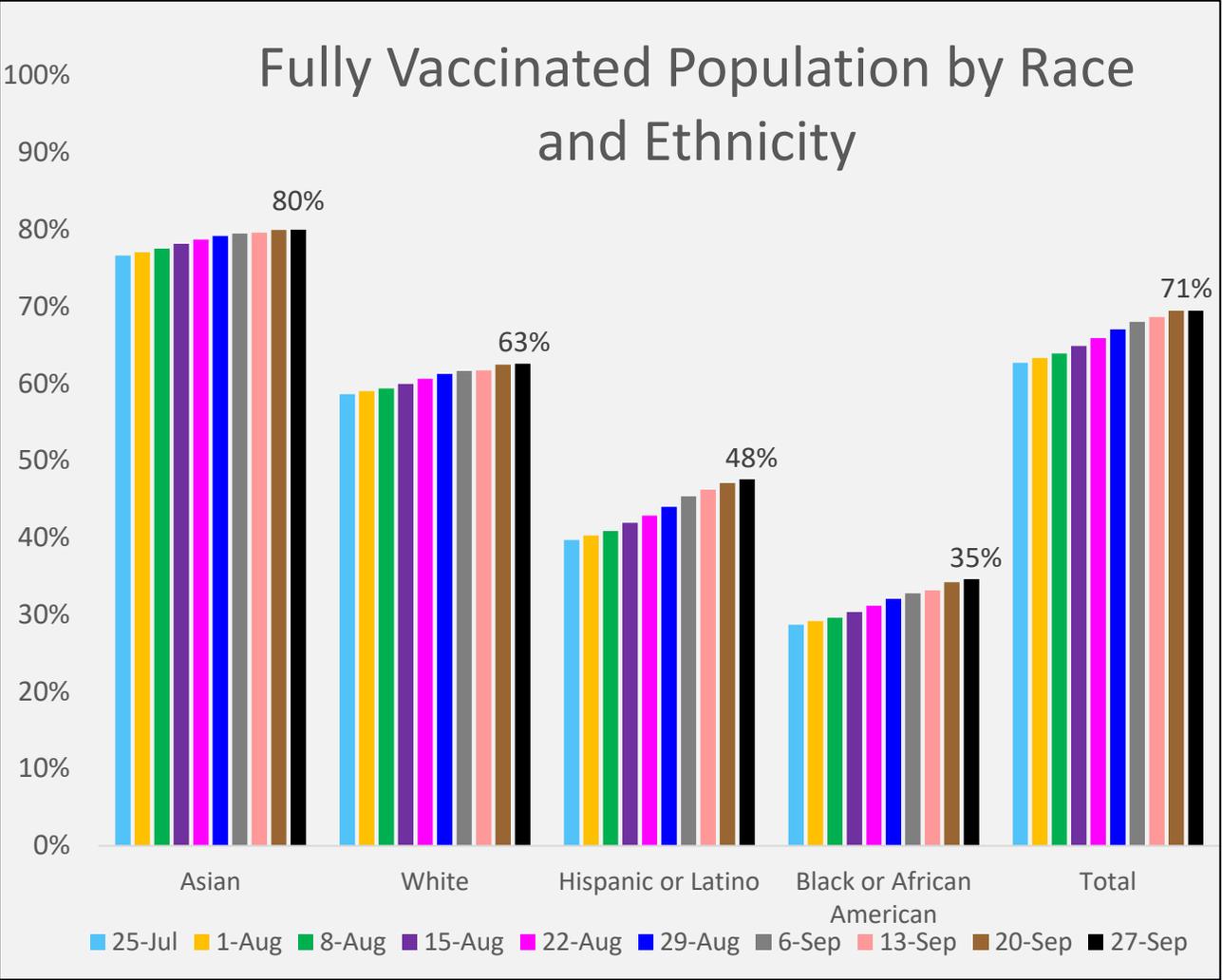
Emergency Services	50,367
Health Center (Community, Federally Qualified, Migrant, Rural)	57,484
Hospital	268,315
Long-Term Care	241
Medical Clinic/Doctor's Office	159,701
Public Health/Government	307,303
Pharmacy	729,075
Other	48,234

TXDSHS Vaccine Data for Travis County by Race and Ethnicity

Vaccination Status by Race



Fully Vaccinated Population by Race and Ethnicity



Data sourced from Texas DSHS. Current as of 09/24/2021.

Vaccine Operations

Walk-Up Clinics (No Appointment Needed)

Southeast Branch Library (Moderna & Pfizer)

5803 Nuckols Crossing Rd
Tuesday & Friday: 3PM - 8PM
Saturday: 10AM - 2PM

Little Walnut Creek Branch Library (Moderna & Pfizer)

835 W Rundberg Ln
Tuesday & Friday: 3PM - 8PM
Saturday: 10AM - 2PM

For more vaccine event locations visit
<https://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>

Pflugerville Library (Moderna & Pfizer)

1008 W Pfluger St
Wednesday: 2PM-7PM

Delco Activity Center (Moderna & Pfizer)

4601 Pecan Brook Dr
Tuesday-Friday: 9AM-12PM

IDEA Bluff Springs (Moderna & Pfizer)

1700 Slaughter
Thursday: 6PM-8PM

Mobile Operations

21 Events This Week Including:

- 3 ACC Campuses
- Front Steps
- Travis County Adult Probation
- Home Visits

Booster Emergency Use Authorization Status

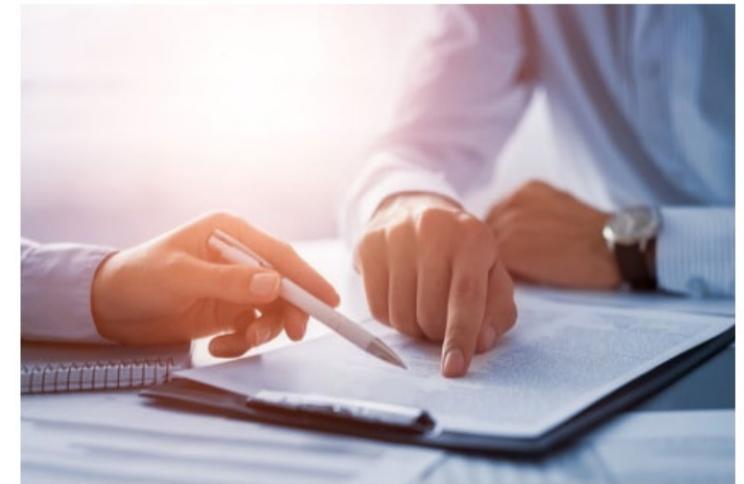
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Recommendations

Pfizer COVID-19 booster shot is safe, effective and recommended for individuals who have been fully vaccinated at least six months and are:

- 65 years and older
- 18-64 At high risk of severe COVID-19
- 18-64 At high risk of occupational exposure:
 - ✓ First responders (healthcare workers, firefighters, police, congregate care staff)
 - ✓ Education staff (teachers, support staff, daycare workers)
 - ✓ Food and agriculture workers
 - ✓ Manufacturing workers
 - ✓ Corrections workers
 - ✓ U.S. Postal Service workers
 - ✓ Public transit workers
 - ✓ Grocery store workers

Moderna and Johnson & Johnson have **NOT** been authorized for boosters.

Evidence Based Recommendations Process



Council Resolution No. 20210826-110

Brief Overview

Directed City Manager to build on the Capital Area COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan by developing a comprehensive COVID-19 vaccine booster shot strategy that includes but is not limited to:

- Analyzes lessons learned from the ongoing initial COVID-19 vaccination rollout and process, with a focus on combatting vaccine hesitancy or access issues affecting communities most impacted by COVID-19;
- Plans to build on communication and partnership with community, government partners, and other vaccine providers during the booster shot process;
- Plans to execute a booster shot strategy while continuing to address ongoing vaccine access issues and prioritizing populations experiencing disparate outcomes related to COVID-19;
- Communication strategy and plans to educate the public with accurate information on the booster shot process and where residents can get the vaccine from among nearly 350 vaccine providers in the region; and
- Plans to utilize Community Health Workers from Austin Public Health and community partners to address booster shot outreach efforts.

Capital Area COVID-19 Updated Vaccination Strategy

Plan Purpose

- To provide an externally facing document that outlines the vaccination strategy for COVID-19
- To present how APH plans to meet community vaccination needs
- To be transparent about the resources, processes, and partnerships available to support a comprehensive community vaccination strategy
- To highlight decision-making entities for vaccine allocation and distribution

Plan Organization

- Supports the structure developed by the CDC and used by state and local health departments nationwide
- Describes outreach, engagement, and communication strategies
- Considers lessons learned
- Provides strategy for 3rd doses and boosters
- Includes vaccine distribution strategy for those under age 11.

- Multiple community engagement events are being planned in October to inform plans and operations
- Ongoing discussions continue with partners, vaccine coalition, and County Collaborative to implement
- Companion document will be shared with the community for review and comment

Initial Lessons Learned From Vaccine Operations

Health communications focused on communities at risk

Health Communications



Health Equity



Information Technology



- APH keeps the community informed on the latest science, rules and regulations, testing and vaccine services.
- The ability to provide ongoing outreach with updated and revised information across the many response domains, including testing and vaccination, proved challenging.
- Social media/traditional media that resonates with all audiences needed to reach Travis County residents.
- Focused linguistically and culturally appropriate messaging to those disproportionately impacted seeks
- to educate and inform people about the disease, risk factors, prevention, and opportunities for vaccination.

Initial Lessons Learned From Vaccine Operations

Health equity is an integral part of public health emergency operations

Health Communications



Health Equity



Information Technology



- The pandemic exacerbated historically embedded health-related disproportionality in our community.
- Health Equity is an integral component of APH operations; we seek to reach people where they are.
- A renewed health equity focus will concentrate on the needs of those who are economically marginalized, areas with high case positivity, and areas of low vaccination uptake.
- This renewed focus will be inclusive of all races, ethnicities, and languages.
- This renewed focus will also provide outreach through trusted sources at the neighborhood level.

Initial Lessons Learned From Vaccine Operations

The IT infrastructure must reflect the reality of both daily and pandemic operations

Health Communications



Health Equity



Information Technology



- The IT infrastructure was built to handle daily operations, not pandemic operations.
- As the pandemic quickly unfolded, it was difficult for the IT infrastructure to meet ever increasing demands.
- The ongoing pandemic prioritized the need to move quickly with improvements and vendor implementation.
- APH will systematically review and address the IT infrastructure to create a fit for purpose system that meets both daily programmatic needs as well as disaster-related response requirements.

Resolution 110 Unmet Needs

Recommendations aim to address unmet needs to support ongoing operations

- Incentives to engage hard-to-reach populations and encourage vaccine uptake
- Staff to manage and execute the incentive program
- Neighborhood level outreach and education
- Additional clinical strike teams and increased staffing for expanded clinics
- Security for existing and new operations to ensure the protection of patients and staff
- Traffic control support at existing and new operations to ensure adequate traffic control engineering
- Ongoing EOC logistical and financial support

Updates on Community Outreach

Outreach goal: to create a safe, comfortable space through trusted community sources to discuss COVID-19 and encourage vaccines.

Efforts include conversations with the public about their knowledge and concerns regarding COVID-19 vaccine and provide information on how to access vaccines, testing and other COVID-19 resources.

The Health Equity Street Outreach Team and Immunizations Education Team conducts weekly outreach:

- local businesses
- churches
- schools

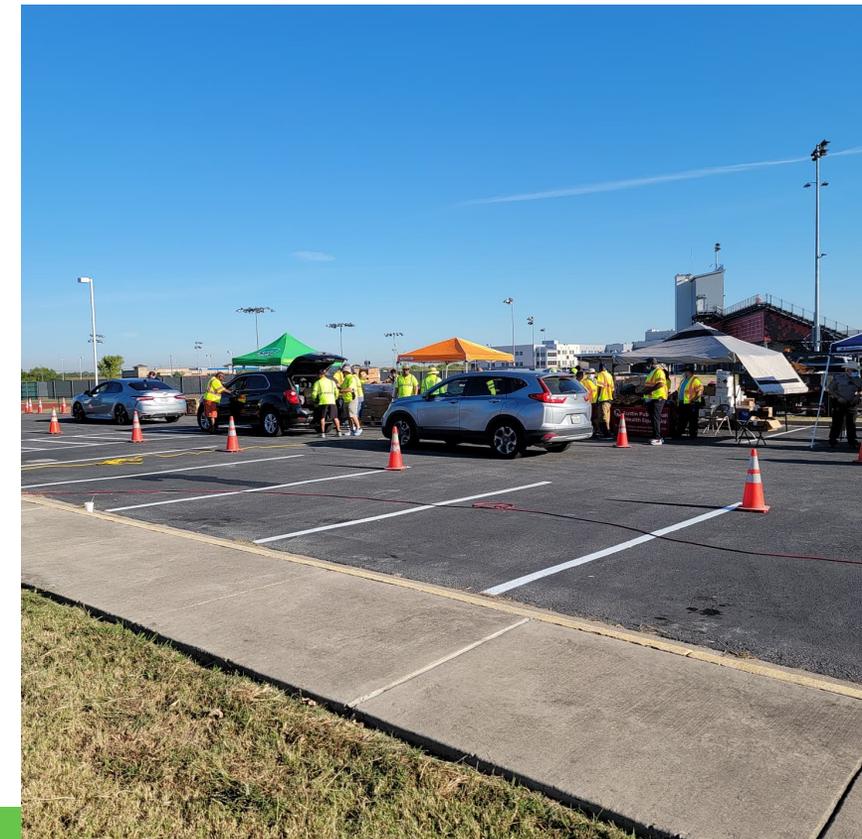
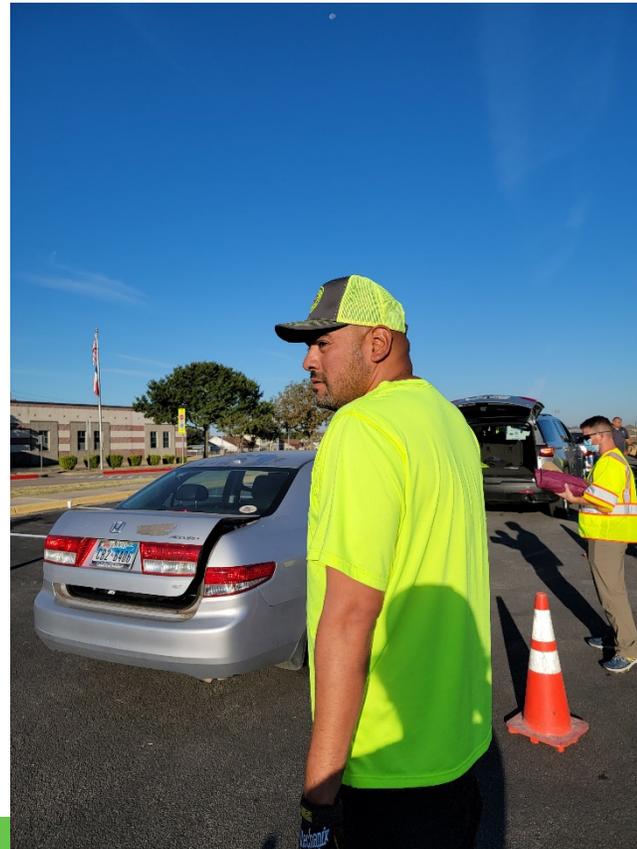
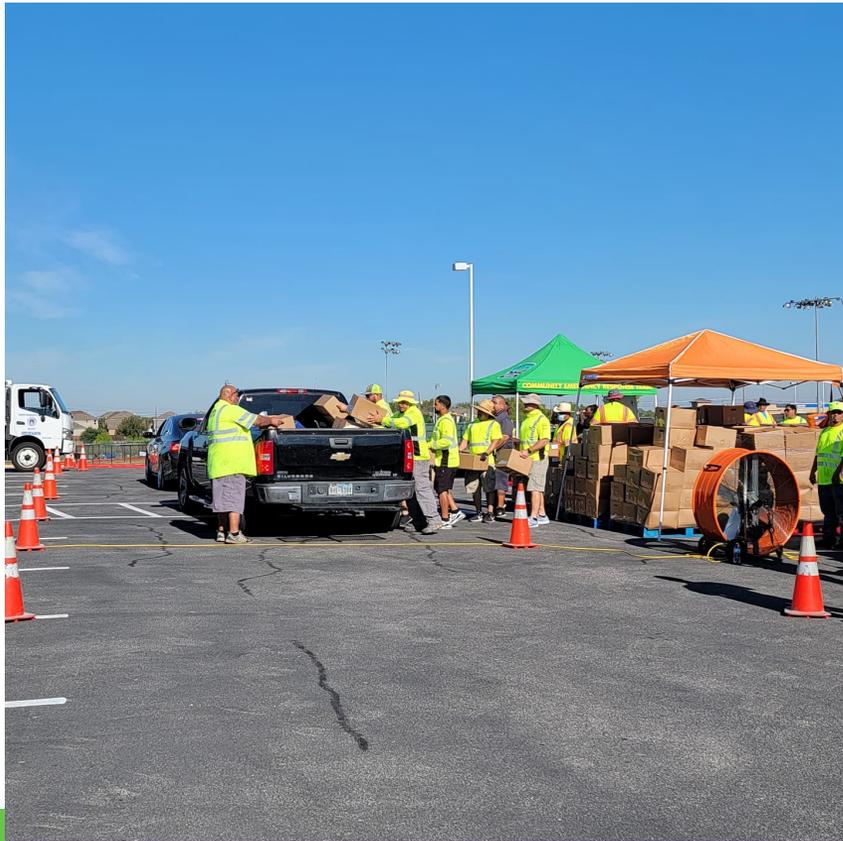
Outreach utilizes Community Health Workers/Promoters, Certified Health Education Specialist, and Public Health Educators.

Upcoming Events:

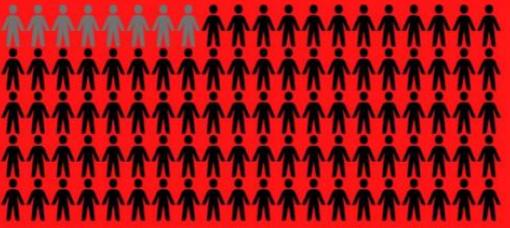
- Foundation Communities
- St. James
- Beauty/Barber's Convention



Del Valle Opportunity Center *September 25, 2021*

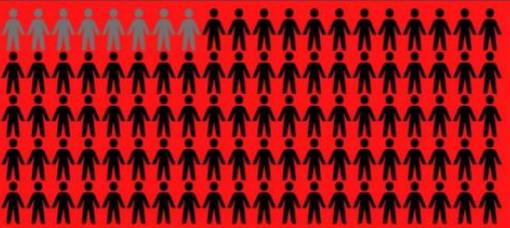


Since January, unvaccinated individuals make up an average of 92% of Covid-19 deaths in Austin-Travis County



Get Vaccinated.

Desde enero, los individuos no vacunados hacen un promedio de 92% de las muertes debido a COVID-19 en Austin y el Condado de Travis



Vacúnese.

Proteja a su familia. Vacúnese.



APH Austin Public Health
PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

As the #Flu season begins, APH wants everyone to get vaccinated for both Flu + #COVID19 to avoid further straining our healthcare systems. The vaccines can be administered at the same time.

Full release: bit.ly/2W4L3DQ

#COVID19 vaccine 📌 vaccines.gov... See More

MASK UP, LATHER UP, SLEEVE UP



#FIGHT FLU



<p>همديگر وايسته است سلامتتي ما به</p> 	<p>VACUNAS PARA MIS PACIENTES</p> 
<p>tin tưởng vắc xin</p> 	<p>VACCINES ARE SAFE</p> 
<p>VACCINES FOR ALL</p> 	<p>胜利疫苗</p> 



PPE & Food Distribution



Thank you