COVID-19 Vaccine Update
March 24, 2021

Dr. Tracie Collins
Cabinet Secretary, Department of Health
New Mexico fastest state in the country for vaccination by population (as of 3/24)

25.3% of the US population given at least one dose

Last updated March 24, at 11:00 a.m.
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Vaccinations in New Mexico

- 39.8% of New Mexicans (16+) have received at least a first shot

- 24.2% of New Mexicans (16+) are fully vaccinated
Vaccinating educators

- 62,032 registered for vaccine
- 51,405 (82.8%) with at least a first shot
- 19,886 (32.1%) fully vaccinated
Phases 1A, 1B, and 1C are eligible

- Health care workers
- New Mexicans aged 60 and over
- New Mexicans with a chronic condition
- All essential workers
- Residents of congregate care facilities
Prioritizing in order of COVID-related health risk

• While most New Mexicans 16+ are eligible for vaccine, there is still greater demand than supply

• DOH continues to prioritize invitations to earlier phases: health care workers, 75+, and 60+ with severe chronic conditions
Vaccine supply

• Next week’s allocation will be 116,280 doses, including 12,100 doses of J&J.

• This is approximately 20,000 more doses than last week.

• NM has the capacity to distribute tens of thousands doses more each week.
New Mexico has three vaccines

• All vaccines available in the U.S. were highly effective at preventing hospitalizations and deaths in clinical trials.

• All vaccines authorized by the FDA are safe and effective.

• All vaccines available in the U.S. are highly effective against severe COVID-19.

• All vaccines are appropriate for all racial and ethnic groups.
Get vaccinated with the first vaccine available

- Vaccines, testing, and COVID-safe practices will keep more of our loved ones from being hospitalized or dying due to COVID-19.

- Please get a vaccine as soon as you are eligible. It could save your life.
Registration update

• More supply is coming!

• Register at vaccinenm.org

• More than 770,000 New Mexicans registered for vaccine.
NM Notify App

- NMNotify.com
- Alerts users who have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19 so they can take appropriate next steps
- **Uses Bluetooth technology:** anonymous, safe and **does not store** or exchange personal data
- Will help New Mexicans avoid infections and protect our loves ones
- Available in English and Spanish
COVID-19 Variants

Dr. Michael Edwards
Director, Scientific Laboratory Division
Department of Health
What is a SARS-COV-2 variant?

- SARS-COV-2 RNA mutate during replication.

- Mutations may or may not lead to structural change in the virus.

- A variant can be defined as a cluster of distinct genomic sequences associated with an epidemiological event. These variants may include distinct patterns of mutations.
Variants in New Mexico

- 68 variants identified in New Mexico since January.

- CDC classifies according to three types:
  - Variants of interest
  - Variants of concern
  - Variants of high consequence

- As of today, no variants of high consequence in NM.
SARS-COV-2 genomic surveillance efforts in New Mexico

New Mexico has dramatically increased surveillance efforts since January.

Key contributors include:

• DOH Scientific Laboratory Division
• DOH Epidemiology and Response Division
• UNM genomic scientists
• Tricore Reference Laboratory
Genomic surveillance takeaways

• New Mexico has an active genomic surveillance program
• SARS-COV-2 has been shown to mutate every few weeks
• **When we slow the spread of the virus, we keep mutation rates down**
• Please keep up the great work!
  • Vaccinations
  • Social distancing
  • Face coverings
  • Hand-washing
If a majority of the population is immune, the disease cannot spread easily.
NM CHILD CARE UPDATE

- Effective Monday, March 29, 2021, licensed childcare providers may return to the group size and ratio requirements that are aligned to their licensed Star level.

- Additional guidance on changes in childcare will be released later this week by NM Early Childhood Education and Care Department.

- Families who need assistance in locating childcare, please call 1-800-691-9067 or go to newmexicokids.org to search for options in your community.

- Families needing assistance in paying for childcare can apply at Am I Eligible: https://eligibility.ececd.state.nm.us.

- For more information and assistance, please call the Early Childhood Education and Care Department 1-800-832-1321.
7-Day Average of Daily COVID-19 Positive Cases by Date of Specimen Collection, NMDOH Regions

3/24/2021

NM average daily vaccine doses last 7 days = 13,718 (~72 times average daily cases)

There is a 6-day lag in case reporting

Source: New Mexico Department of Health
Average number (7-day rolling average) of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths over time

Note: Cases, hospitalizations, and deaths may not yet be reported in 7 or more days.

As of 3/22/21
### STATEWIDE PUBLIC HEALTH GATING CRITERIA FOR REOPENING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Gating Target</th>
<th>Current Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spread of COVID-19</td>
<td>Rate of COVID-19 Transmission (10-day Rolling Average)</td>
<td>1.05 or less</td>
<td>0.96 on 3/23/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NM daily cases (7-day rolling average)</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>176 on 3/18/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing Capacity: general and targeted populations*</td>
<td>Number of tests per day (7-day rolling average)</td>
<td>5,000 / day</td>
<td>9,279 on 3/22/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Test Positivity Rate (7-day rolling average)</td>
<td>5.0% or less</td>
<td>2.3% on 3/22/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Tracing and Isolation Capacity</td>
<td>Time from positive test result to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- isolation recommendation for case</td>
<td>24 hrs</td>
<td>Week ending 3/19 = 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- quarantine rec. for case contacts</td>
<td>36 hrs</td>
<td>Week ending 3/19 = 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide Health Care System Capacity</td>
<td>Availability of scarce resources in 7 Hub Hospitals:</td>
<td>439 or less</td>
<td>263 on 3/24/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Adult ICU beds occupied</td>
<td>7-day supply</td>
<td>7 on 3/22/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- PPE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ALL 4 CRITERIA DRIVEN BY SOCIAL DISTANCING BEHAVIORS OF NEW MEXICANS**
COUNTY UPDATE

- State making great progress
- No red counties
- 13 Turquoise counties (Catron, Socorro, Sierra, Hidalgo, McKinley, San Juan, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Union, Quay, De Baca, Roosevelt, Lea)
- 10 green counties (Rio Arriba, Taos, Colfax, Mora, Torrance, Guadalupe, Curry, Lincoln, Chaves, Eddy)
WE ARE CURRENTLY EVALUATING CHANGES TO RGYT FRAMEWORK

- Economic Recovery and Mayor’s Councils, Modeling Team concerned regarding changes to the test positivity rate with vaccination
- Interim “fix” for small counties to prevent instability from one 2-week period to the next
- Under this correction, Harding county moves from Turquoise to Yellow (rather than to Red)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Number in 14 Days to be &gt;8/100K</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harding</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeBaca</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catron</td>
<td>3,533</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>4,090</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>4,242</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guadalupe</td>
<td>4,419</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mora</td>
<td>4,566</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutoff</td>
<td>6,250</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Researchers performed longitudinal analysis of data from 2/1 to 6/1, 2020 from participants who volunteered to report weight measurements from their Bluetooth-connected smart scale (Fitbit or iHealth).

7,444 weight measurements from 269 unique study participants (residing in 37 states and DC) collected, with mean (SD) of 28 (24) weight measurements per participant.

Post-Shelter in Place participants experienced steady weight gain 0.60 lbs every 10 days (95% CI, 0.37 to 0.84 lbs per 10 days; P < .001), irrespective of geographic location or comorbidities.

Results translate ~1.5 lb of weight gain every month.
WE MUST REMAIN VIGILANT

The virus is changing!

- **Get vaccinated.**
- New COVID variants may spread more rapidly and be resistant to treatments and/or vaccines.
- Get tested if you think you have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone who is positive.
- If you have COVID-19, learn if you’re eligible for monoclonal antibody treatment.
- We ALL need to stay committed to fighting the virus for several more months.

**CASE COUNTS REMAIN TOO HIGH.**
**WE ALL STILL MUST FIGHT THE VIRUS.**

- Stay at home.
- Wash hands, clean surfaces, cough into tissue/elbow.
- **Everyone** needs to wear face coverings in public.
- Maintain social distancing (minimum 6 feet).
- Be particularly careful in the month after receiving the vaccine.