COVID-19 DAY 435 PRESS UPDATE MAY 19, 2021
SECRETARIES TRACIE COLLINS, M.D. (DOH), RYAN STEWART (PED) & DAVID SCRASE, M.D. (HSD)
INVESTING FOR TOMORROW, DELIVERING TODAY.
PRESS UPDATE OVERVIEW

▪ Sec. Ryan Stewart (Public Education Dept.): schools update
▪ Sec. Tracie Collins, M.D. (Dept. of Health): vaccine update
▪ Sec. David Scrase, M.D. (Human Services Dept.): science and Red, Yellow, Green, Turquoise updates
▪ Q&A with media partners
School Updates
May 19, 2021

Dr. Ryan Stewart
Secretary
New Mexico Public Education Department

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.
THE LATEST: School cases are decreasing

Report: Cases This Week (May 11-17)

CASES REPORTED IN SCHOOLS
• Current week: 192 cases
• Last week (May 4-10): 327 cases

MOST CASES INVOLVE STUDENTS
• Students: 158 cases
• Teachers: 11 cases
WHAT WE LEARNED: Most schools stayed open

Mandatory Closures
- Eldorado High, Albuquerque (April 13)
- Yucca Middle School, Clovis (May 11)

Today
Only 34 schools on the Rapid Response watchlist, down by half from two weeks ago
School staff were prioritized for the vaccine in March

More than 68,000 registered as educators
  - includes early childhood and higher education

To date, 57,008 pre-K through college staff are fully vaccinated

WHAT WE LEARNED: Teachers are safe

Surveillance testing:
Teacher positivity rate has averaged 0.16% since February 28.
WHAT’S NEXT: Students eligible for vaccines

• APRIL 5: Children ages 16 and older became eligible

• MAY 13: Children ages 12 and older became eligible
May 3-8: Student Vaccination Week
  • registrants ages 16-18
  • 5,511 students vaccinated
• Ages 16-18 REGISTERED: 32,017
• Ages 12-15 REGISTERED: 23,890

New voluntary student surveillance testing program initiated to ensure continued school safety
STUDENT VACCINATION STATUS

16-18 Year-Olds: Vaccination Status
of 32,017 registered

- Partially vaccinated: 17470
- Fully vaccinated: 6377
- Scheduled for initial: 4764
- Scheduled for booster: 1707

12-15 Year-Olds: Vaccination Status
of 23,890 registered

- Partially vaccinated: 9705
- Scheduled for initial: 5467
- Scheduled for booster: 7417
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED: Communities are safe

- Schools are NOT driving community spread.
- PED/DOH in partnership with schools requires quarantine for unvaccinated students and staff possibly exposed at school.
- Among close contacts at school, transmission rate was less than 0.5%
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED: Infectious-on-campus cases very low

April: Infectious on Campus
Of 200,670 students/staff on campus:

- 760 infectious cases
- 199,910 not-infectious cases

99.6% of students/staff on campus were NOT infectious
PED secretary and deputy secretaries visited more than 30 schools in April to meet with school leaders, educators, and students to solicit feedback on how schools are implementing CSPs. Students and teachers were happy to be back!
COVID-19 Vaccine Update
May 19, 2021

Dr. Tracie Collins
Cabinet Secretary, Department of Health
New Mexico is the most efficient vaccine distributor in the country.
Progress with vaccinations

- 63.4% of New Mexicans (16+) have received at least a first shot
- 52.9% of New Mexicans (16+) are fully vaccinated
On track for 60% by June 30

- When 60% of New Mexicans (16+) have full vaccine-related immunity, we will graduate from the Red-Yellow-Green-Turquoise county color system.

- Native communities are sovereign and may operate according to different guidelines.
Vaccination Progress - Ages 16 to 17

Percent

Date

Dec 21  Jan 04  Jan 18  Feb 01  Feb 15  Mar 01  Mar 15  Mar 29  Apr 12  Apr 26  May 10

Percent Fully Vaccinated  Percent Receiving At Least One Dose
Primary care providers – a key partner

• Primary care providers in a unique position to hold intimate, meaningful conversations with patients about vaccination.

• Call your patients, encourage them to get vaccinated, and offer vaccinations to patients who are visiting your facility for other reasons.
Primary care providers can enroll as COVID-19 vaccine providers

- [https://cv.nmhealth.org/providers/vaccines/vaccine-provider-portal/](https://cv.nmhealth.org/providers/vaccines/vaccine-provider-portal/)
On-site vaccination events

- Web-based request form is available: getvaxnm.com

- Businesses, nonprofits, religious organizations, schools, and others can request an on-site vaccination event
New Mexicans can schedule their own vaccine appointments

- More than 948,000 New Mexicans registered for vaccine.
- VaccineNM.org
- New Mexicans can also self-schedule their boosters.
Vaccine is free for everyone

- You do not need a Social Security Number or government ID to receive free COVID-19 vaccine, treatment, or services.
Vaccine and the immigrant community

- The state of New Mexico does NOT share immigration status information with the federal government.

- Vaccine sites are safe.
Need support getting scheduled?

• 1-855-600-3453 and press 1 (o 3 para español).

• Seniors and those with disabilities can call 1-800-432-2080 for support with registration and scheduling.

• DOH and ALTSD are also calling to schedule seniors (60+), New Mexicans with disabilities, and others who require special accommodations.
Keeping kids safe means maintaining COVID-safe practices

- Only individuals 12+ are eligible for vaccine

- MIS-C: severe hyperinflammatory syndrome occurring 2-6 weeks after acute COVID infection
  - 60-70% of patients admitted to intensive care; 1-2% die

- New Mexico has had 23 cases

- To protect our youngest, COVID-safe practices are essential
May is Mental Health Month
Sponsored by the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative

doseofwellness.com
Need to talk? 1-855-NMCRISIS (662-7474)
New Mexico: standing together, protecting one another
**INTERIM PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FULLY VACCINATED PEOPLE**

**CDC**

- **Fully vaccinated people** no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance, except where required by federal, state, local, or tribal laws, rules, and regulations, including business and workplace guidance.

- **Fully vaccinated people** who are residents or employees of correctional or detention facilities or homeless shelters should be tested for COVID-19 following known exposure.

- For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:
  - Get tested if experiencing **COVID-19 symptoms**.
  - Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations.

- CDC recommends *schools* continue mask wearing and social distancing for remainder of 2021 school year as most students are not fully vaccinated.

- **People who are not fully vaccinated** encouraged to wear a mask indoors and in certain outdoor settings.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unvaccinated People</th>
<th>Examples of Activities</th>
<th>Fully Vaccinated People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outdoor</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Indoor** | | |
| Visit a barber or hair salon | | |
| Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum | | |
| Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households | | |

| **Least Safe** | | |
| Go to an indoor movie theater | | |
| Attend a full-capacity worship service | | |
| Sing in an indoor chorus | | |
| Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar | | |
| Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class | | |

SARS-COV-2 VARIANTS IN NEW MEXICO

- First B.1.617 Indian variant from NM patient identified last week; variant contains mutation seen in CA variants associated with resistance to Bamlanivimab.
- B.1.1.7 is predominant strain in NM, which is estimated to be 1.5x- 2x more transmissible than earlier virus strains.
- CA variant proportions plummeted over past two months.
- Modest increases in Brazilian and NY variants over past month.
- These patterns reflect national trends shown in CDC data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lineage</th>
<th>Cumulative Total</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.1.1.7 (U.K.) (VOC)</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.1.427/ B.1.429 (CA) (VOC)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.1.525/B.1.526 (NY) (VOI)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.1 (Brazil) (VOC)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.1.2 (U.S.)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.1.351 (S. Africa) (VOC)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.1.617 (India) (VOI)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.2 (Brazil) (VOI)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Lineages</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VOI: Variant of Interest; VOC: Variant of Concern

Source: NM State Laboratory data as of 5/18/21. * 3 week lag in reporting cumulative totals aligns with CDC protocols. The range is based on collection date.
7-Day Average of Daily COVID-19 Positive Cases by Date of Specimen Collection, NMDOH Regions

5/19/2021

Source: New Mexico Department of Health
There is a 6-day lag in case reporting

NM average daily vaccine doses last 7 days = 8,228
(~45 times average daily cases)
COVID-19 Prevalence Rate (5/18/2021)

Number of Cases per 100,000 Population

Total Cases per 100K: 9,384
Total Deaths per 100K: 195.9


14-Day Total COVID-19 Prevalence Rate (5/5 to 5/18)

Number of Cases per 100,000 Population

Total Cases per 100K: 133
Total Deaths per 100K: 1.8

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 5/17/21
<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>0.90 on 5/17/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NM daily cases (7-day rolling average)</td>
<td>210 or less</td>
<td>182 on 5/13/21</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>7,783 on 5/17/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Test Positivity Rate (7-day rolling average)</td>
<td>7.5% or less</td>
<td>3.3% on 5/17/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Investigation and Isolation, Contact Tracing and Quarantine</td>
<td>Time from positive test result to: -case investigation and isolation -contact tracing for quarantine</td>
<td>24 hrs</td>
<td>Week ending 5/14 = 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36 hrs</td>
<td>Week ending 5/14= 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide Health Care System Capacity</td>
<td>Availability of scarce resources in 7 Hub Hospitals: -Adult ICU beds occupied</td>
<td>439 or less</td>
<td>249 on 5/18/21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gating criteria updated **weekly** on Tuesdays.

Native American communities are sovereign and may operate according to different guidelines.
CONQUERING COVID: NEW FULL VACCINATION RATE METRIC

- Based on completed vaccinations (one J&J or two Pfizer or Moderna).
- Numerator: cumulative number final dose State Vaccines + Federal Vaccines administered to county residents ≥16 years old.*
- Denominator: county population eligible for vaccine = ≥16 years old.*
- If a county is at or above every two-week target, then it “meets” the metric.
- Target increases by 5% every 2 weeks = 42,015 New Mexicans fully vaccinated per week.

*Will NOT change with new eligible populations.
**NM COVID-19 COUNTY UPDATE**

- Update includes “pause” for Turquoise counties.
- Completed vaccination rate moved up from >40% to >45%.
- Only 3 counties were evaluated for this update, 31 will be evaluated for June 2\textsuperscript{nd} report.
- Vaccination is strongest tool available to counties for maintaining positive status.

Data for both cases and tests include 14 complete days of data during period and exclude cases among inmates in state and federal corrections and detention centers. Tests: Lab record created in previous 14 days, specimen collection in previous 14 days from lab record created. Cases: Case investigation created within previous 14 days, specimen collection within 14 days of case creation. Due to instability in 14-day rates experienced by small counties, DOH uses 6250 population for counties with less than 5000 population. Those counties are: Catron, De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Hidalgo, Mora, and Union. County vaccination rates based on completed vaccinations reported by providers to State Immunization Information System or by Federal Agencies through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
COVID-19 Average Daily Case Rates, Test Positivity, and Vaccination Rates by County, 5/4 – 5/17, 2021

County Status with Turquoise “4 Week Stability” Removed
- Get registered. Get vaccinated.
- New COVID variants are spreading more rapidly and may resist treatments.
- 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.
- Wash hands, clean surfaces, cough into tissue/elbow.
- Unvaccinated people need to wear face coverings in public.
- Maintain social distancing (minimum 6 feet).
- Get needed preventive healthcare, including dental care.