



# COVID-19 Day 561

## Press Update

September 22, 2021

DOH Acting Secretary David R. Scrase, M.D., M.H.S.A.  
DOH Deputy Secretary Laura C. Parajón, M.D., M.P.H.  
DOH State Epidemiologist, Christine Ross, M.D., M.P.H.

# NM Vaccine Update

- **79.5%** of New Mexicans (18+) and **63.3%** (12-17) have received at least a first dose
- **70.0%** of New Mexicans (18+) and **53.3%** (12-17) are fully vaccinated

Weekly increase of Fully Vaccinated New Mexicans 18+

Week ending:	Weekly relative increase
9/17	1.2 % ↑
9/10	0.9 % ↑
9/3	0.8 %
8/27	1.5 % ↑
8/20	0.8 % ↑
8/13	0.7 %
8/6	0.8% --
7/30	0.8% ↑

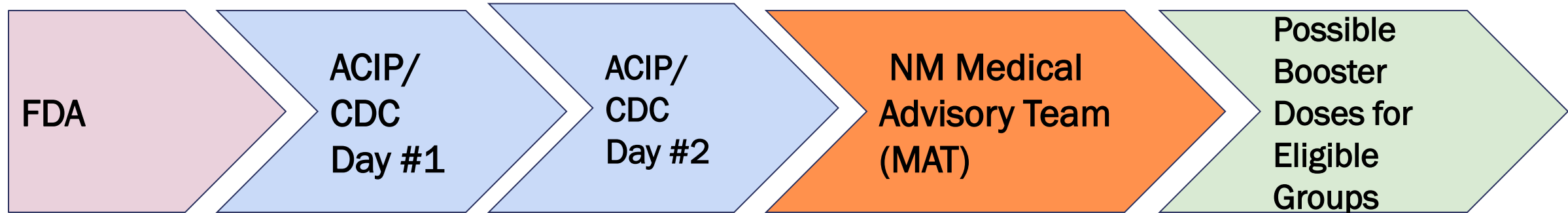
# FDA hearing on 3<sup>rd</sup> Pfizer shot last week, being reviewed at ACIP now

- Full approval denied by FDA
- FDA is expected to issue an EUA for 3<sup>rd</sup> booster dose 6 months after completion of two-dose regimen
- ACIP to recommend details
- NM MAT to review tomorrow night



# Timeline for New Mexico boosters

**Fri., Sept. 17th**   **Wed.-Thurs., Sept. 22- 23**   **Fri., Sept. 24th**   **Mon., Sept. 27th**



**FDA** = US Food and Drug Administration

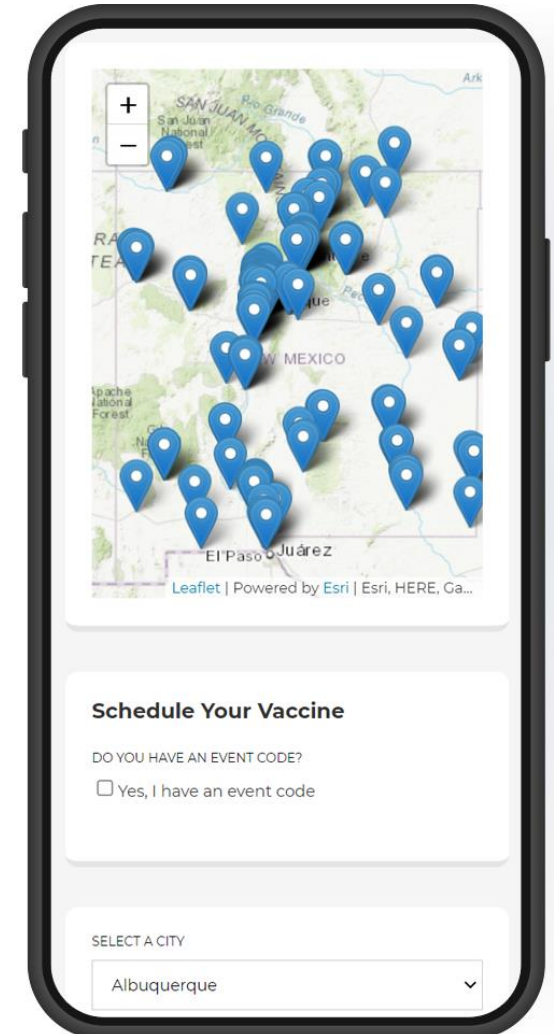
**ACIP**=Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

**CDC** = Center for Disease Control



# “How will I get the booster if I am eligible?”

1. You can schedule with your PCP or pharmacist (get your flu shot at the same time)
2. If you are registered on the app, you can schedule at [vaccinenm.org](https://vaccinenm.org)
3. You can register now if you didn't previously and then schedule at [vaccinenm.org](https://vaccinenm.org)
4. Be patient....We will have more demand than we have sites for vaccine at first



# “If I am eligible, when can I get a booster shot?”

- Booster will possibly become available on **Monday, Sept. 27th**
- Ask your provider if they will be giving booster shots
- Update your profile in the NMDOH app: [vaccinenm.org](https://vaccinenm.org)

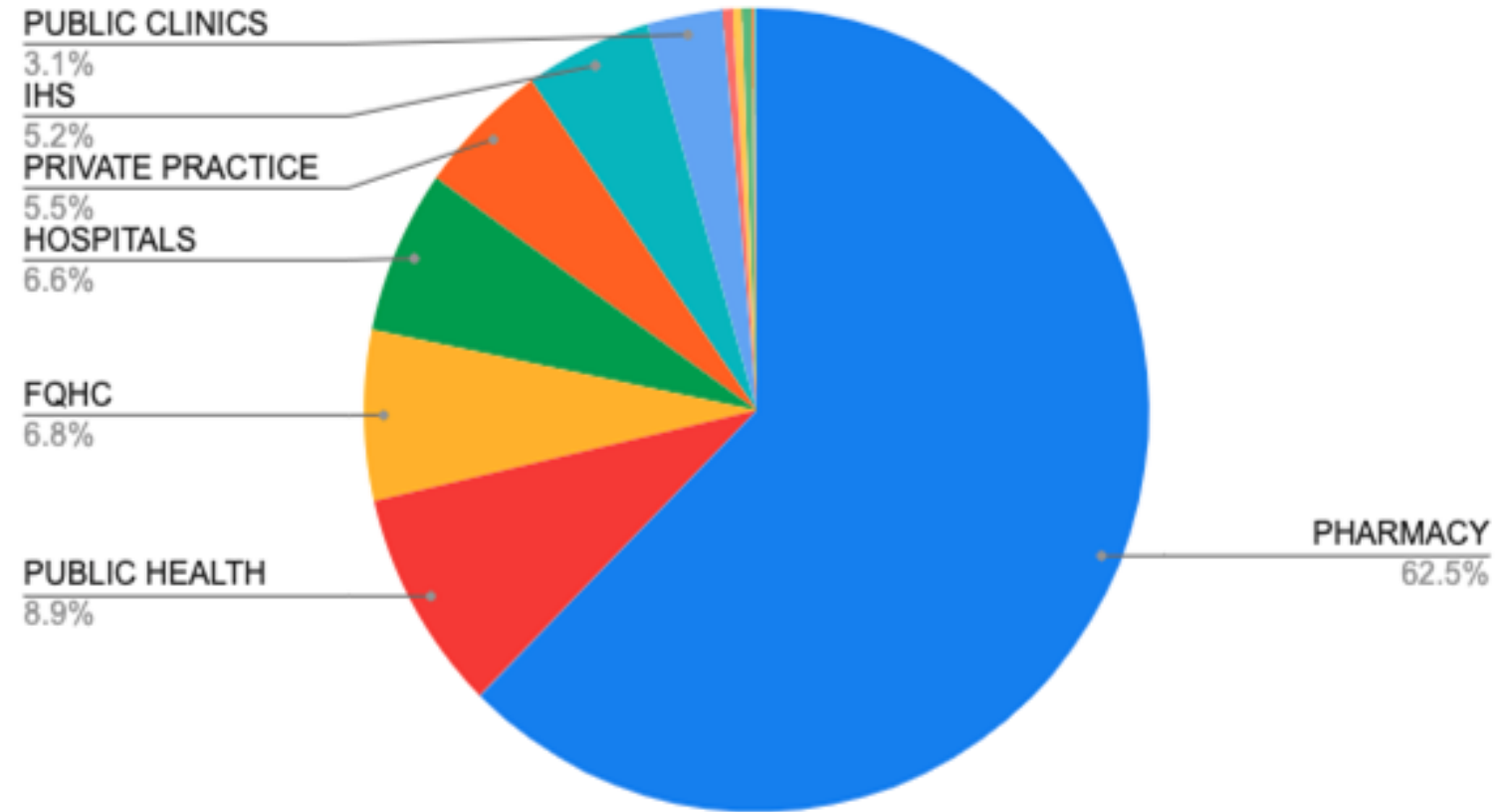


# “Who is giving vaccine doses in NM?”

## August 2021



**Approximately 28,000  
doses/week given in New  
Mexico for month of August**



# New data from CDC shows vaccines are highly effective

- Evaluation of vaccine effectiveness (VE) at 21 U.S. hospitals during March–August 2021
- VE against COVID-19 hospitalization for Moderna was 93% and Pfizer-BioNTech was 88%
- Janssen vaccine had lower observed VE, but still reduced risk for COVID-19–associated hospitalization by 71%
- Persons vaccinated with Janssen vaccine also had lower postvaccination anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody levels than did recipients of mRNA vaccines

TABLE 2. COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness\* against COVID-19–associated hospitalization among adults without immunocompromising conditions, by vaccine product — 21 hospitals in 18 U.S. states,<sup>†</sup> March–August 2021

Vaccine/Period	VE against COVID-19 hospitalization (95% CI)
<b>Moderna VE after full vaccination</b>	
Full surveillance period <sup>§</sup>	93 (91–95)
14–120 days after full vaccination	93 (90–95)
>120 days after full vaccination	92 (87–96)
<b>Pfizer-BioNTech VE after full vaccination</b>	
Full surveillance period	88 (85–91)
14–120 days after full vaccination	91 (88–93)
>120 days after full vaccination	77 (67–84)
<b>Janssen (Johnson &amp; Johnson) VE after full vaccination</b>	
Full surveillance period	71 (56–81)
>28 days after full vaccination	68 (49–80)



# Early positive results for COVID-19 trials for 5-11 year-olds, Pfizer to apply for EUA

- Trial of 2,268 participants ages 5-11
- Two dose regimen
- 10-microgram dose ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of adult dose)
- Strong immune response
- Well-tolerated
- Expected for end of October



[Pfizer and BioNTech Announce Positive Topline Results From Pivotal Trial of COVID-19 Vaccine in Children 5 to 11 Years | Pfizer](#)

*Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.*

**“What if I got  
Moderna or J and J?  
Will I need a booster?”**

# Early positive results for COVID-19 trials for J and J booster, J and J to apply for EUA

- Johnson and Johnson reports 2nd dose increased efficacy from 74% to 94%
- Compared one dose against two doses two months apart
- Two shots had 100% efficacy against severe disease



[Johnson & Johnson Announces Real-World Evidence and Phase 3 Data Confirming Strong and Long-Lasting Protection of Single-Shot COVID-19 Vaccine in the U.S. | Johnson & Johnson \(jnj.com\)](#)

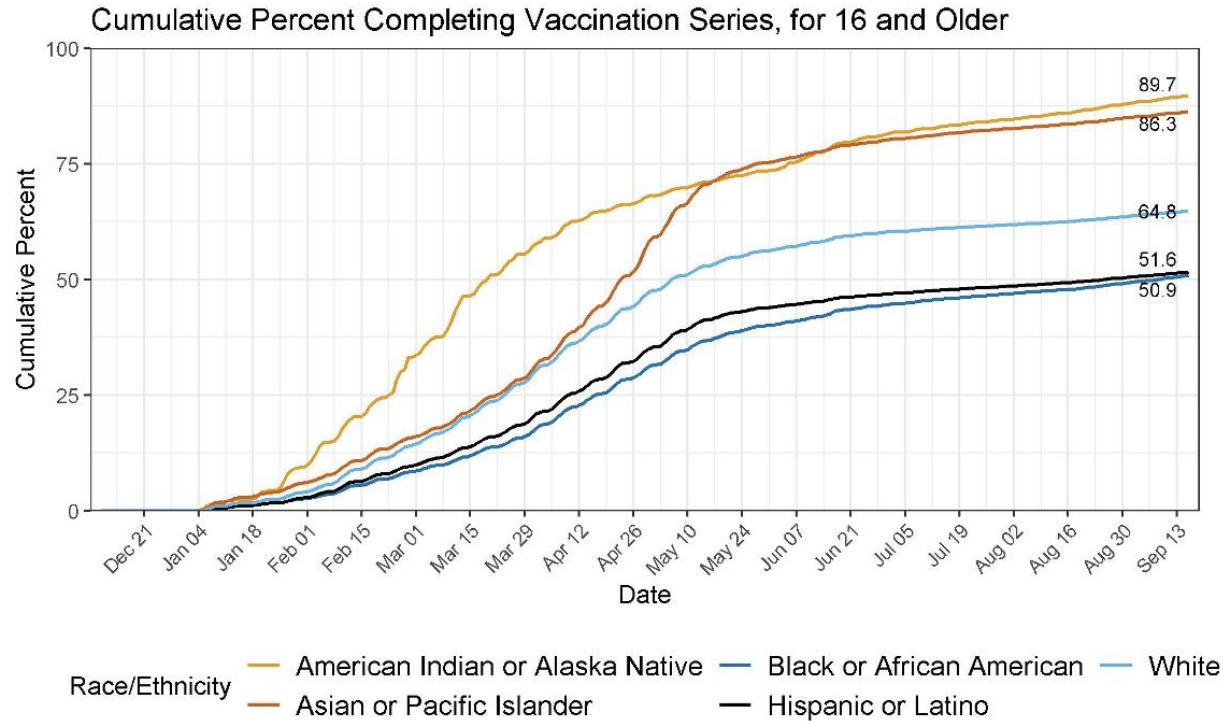
# Vaccinations can decrease post COVID-19 conditions

- For those with breakthrough cases of COVID-19, coronavirus vaccines reduces risk of post COVID-19 conditions by half
- Study done in England
- Frail and high poverty risk were at highest risk for post COVID-19 conditions

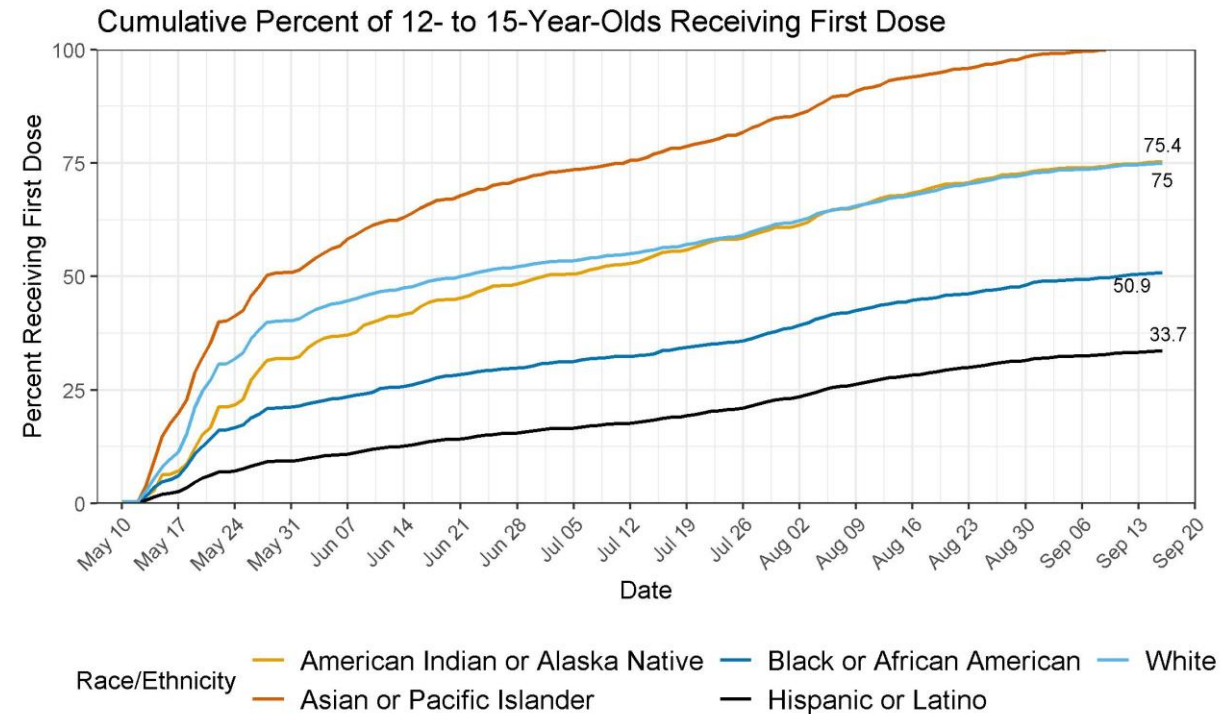




# We still have work to do to reach unvaccinated New Mexicans



Data are drawn from the New Mexico State Immunization Information System (NMSIIS) and Tiberius and include only residents of New Mexico.



Data are drawn from the New Mexico State Immunization Information System (NMSIIS) and include only residents of New Mexico.

# Get your vaccine! Still our best defense!

- If you have not gotten your vaccine yet...
- Talk to your provider
- Talk to trusted friends, family
- **Get updated info:**  
<https://getthefacts.vaccinenm.org/chw/>
- **Sign up for vaccine:** [vaccinenm.org](https://vaccinenm.org)
- **Call: 1-800-600-3453**



**COVID-19 VACCINES**

COVID-19 vaccines are **free** to you and are for **anyone.**

**FREE TO YOU**

**No ID Necessary.\***

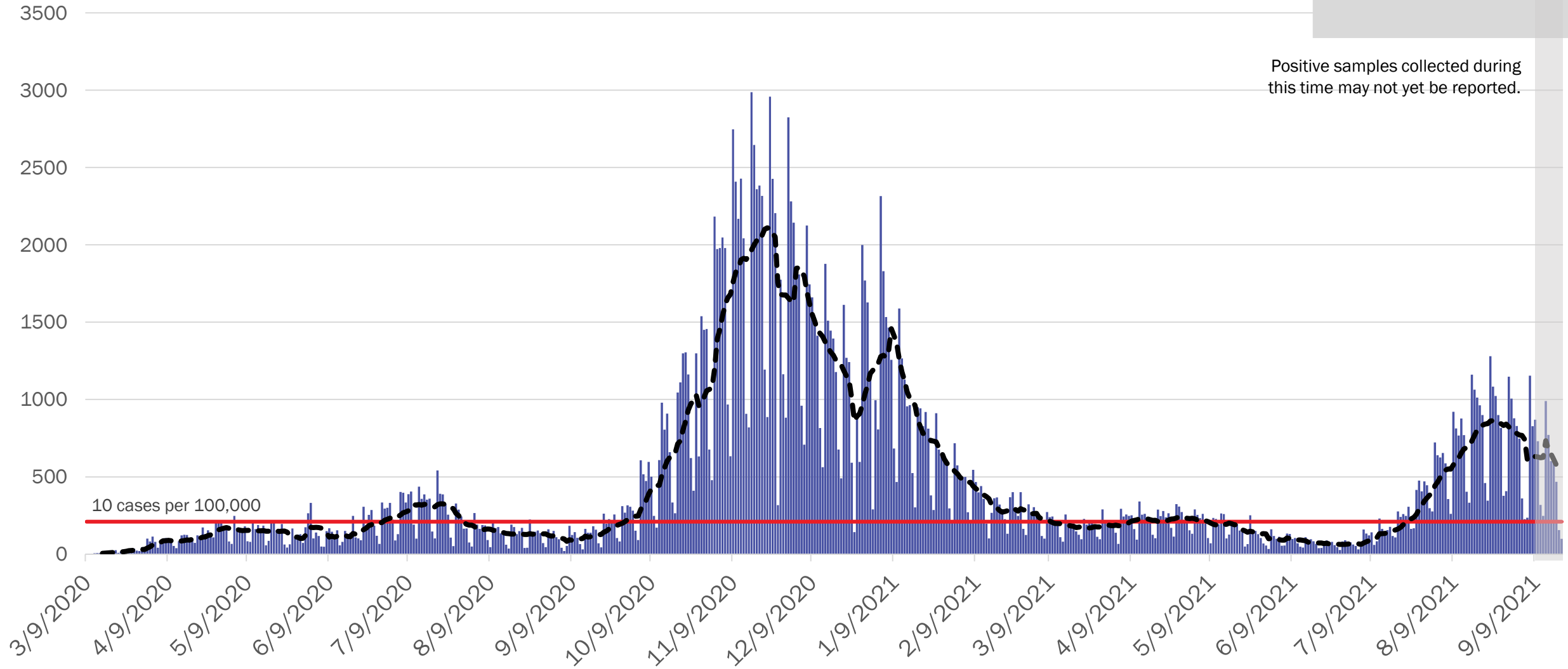
Regardless of your insurance coverage or immigration status.

\*You may be asked for your insurance or ID. If you do not have one or cannot provide it for any reason, you will still receive your COVID-19 vaccine free of charge.

# NM COVID-19 Cases

# New Mexico COVID-19 Cases by Date of Specimen Collection

## September 20, 2021

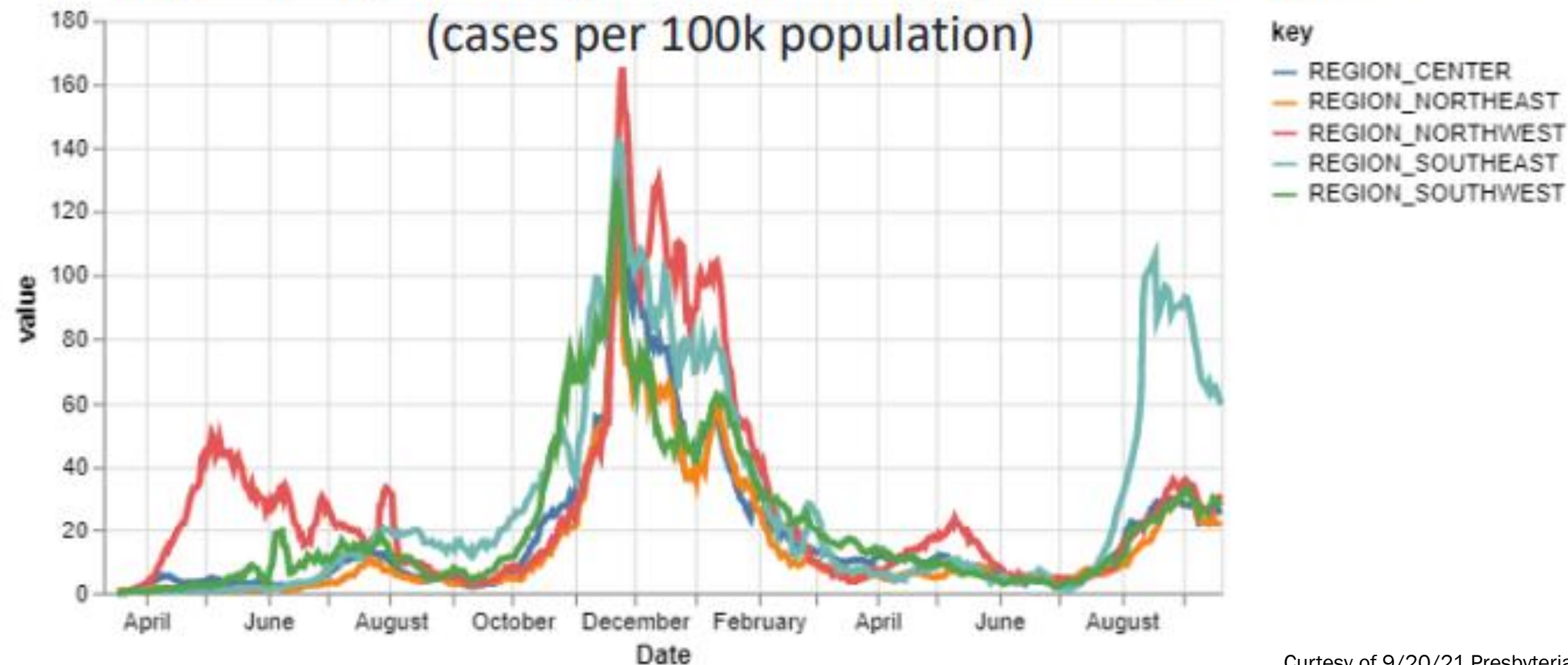




# COVID-19 case rates highest in the southeast region of the state

## 7-day rolling average of new daily cases, Regions

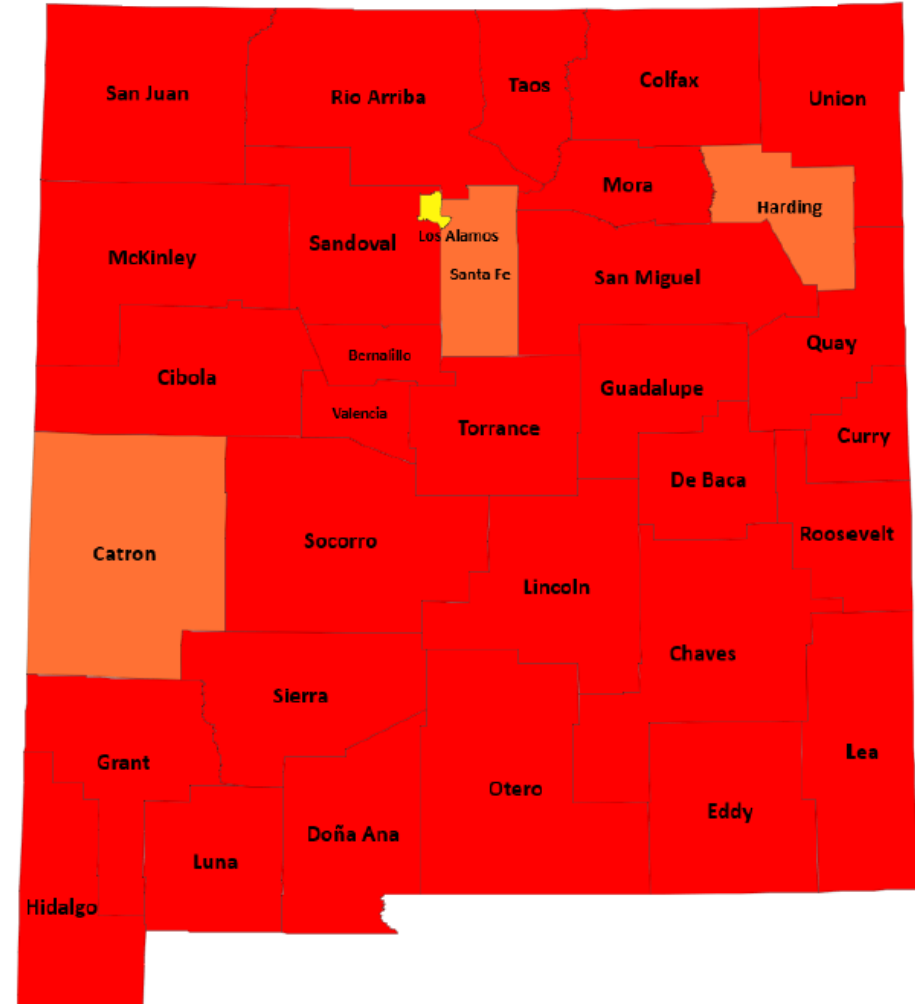
(cases per 100k population)



# Level of community transmission of COVID-19 remains high in most counties

County	Population Count	Number of Cases (14 days)	Number of Cases + Negative Tests (14 days)	Total New Cases per 100,000 persons	Percentage of Tests that are Positive During the Past 14 days
Los Alamos	18856	16	1060	6.1	1.51%
Santa Fe	149635	282	9623	13.5	2.93%
Harding	657	1	33	10.9	3.03%
Catron	3533	4	126	8.1	3.17%
Grant	27862	82	2310	21.0	3.55%
Socorro	17193	56	1511	23.3	3.71%
Luna	24444	71	1662	20.7	4.27%
De Baca	1840	7	151	27.2	4.64%
Sierra	11076	43	895	27.7	4.80%
Bernalillo	679590	2170	42931	22.8	5.05%
Sandoval	146415	537	10501	26.2	5.11%
Taos	32513	102	1984	22.4	5.14%
Rio Arriba	38716	125	2365	23.1	5.29%
Guadalupe	4419	13	231	21.0	5.63%
San Miguel	27969	215	3669	54.9	5.86%
Hidalgo	4242	13	221	21.9	5.88%
Union	4090	26	421	45.4	6.18%
San Juan	126122	536	8062	30.4	6.65%
Doña Ana	218836	846	12670	27.6	6.68%
Otero	67700	301	4425	31.8	6.80%
Cibola	26801	116	1651	30.9	7.03%
Valencia	75427	284	4031	26.9	7.05%
McKinley	70330	263	3692	26.7	7.12%
Roosevelt	19901	79	1036	28.4	7.63%
Mora	4566	30	330	46.9	9.09%
Colfax	11903	97	1036	58.2	9.36%
Torrance	15923	86	890	38.6	9.66%
Curry	49915	353	3544	50.5	9.96%
Quay	8396	84	826	71.5	10.17%
Chaves	64104	518	4321	57.7	11.99%
Eddy	58252	498	4035	61.1	12.34%
Lincoln	19860	181	1445	65.1	12.53%
Lea	71570	914	5327	91.2	17.16%

Levels of Community Transmission - New Mexico Counties  
September 7 - September 20, 2021



# COVID-19 case rates among younger age bands are higher than other age groups

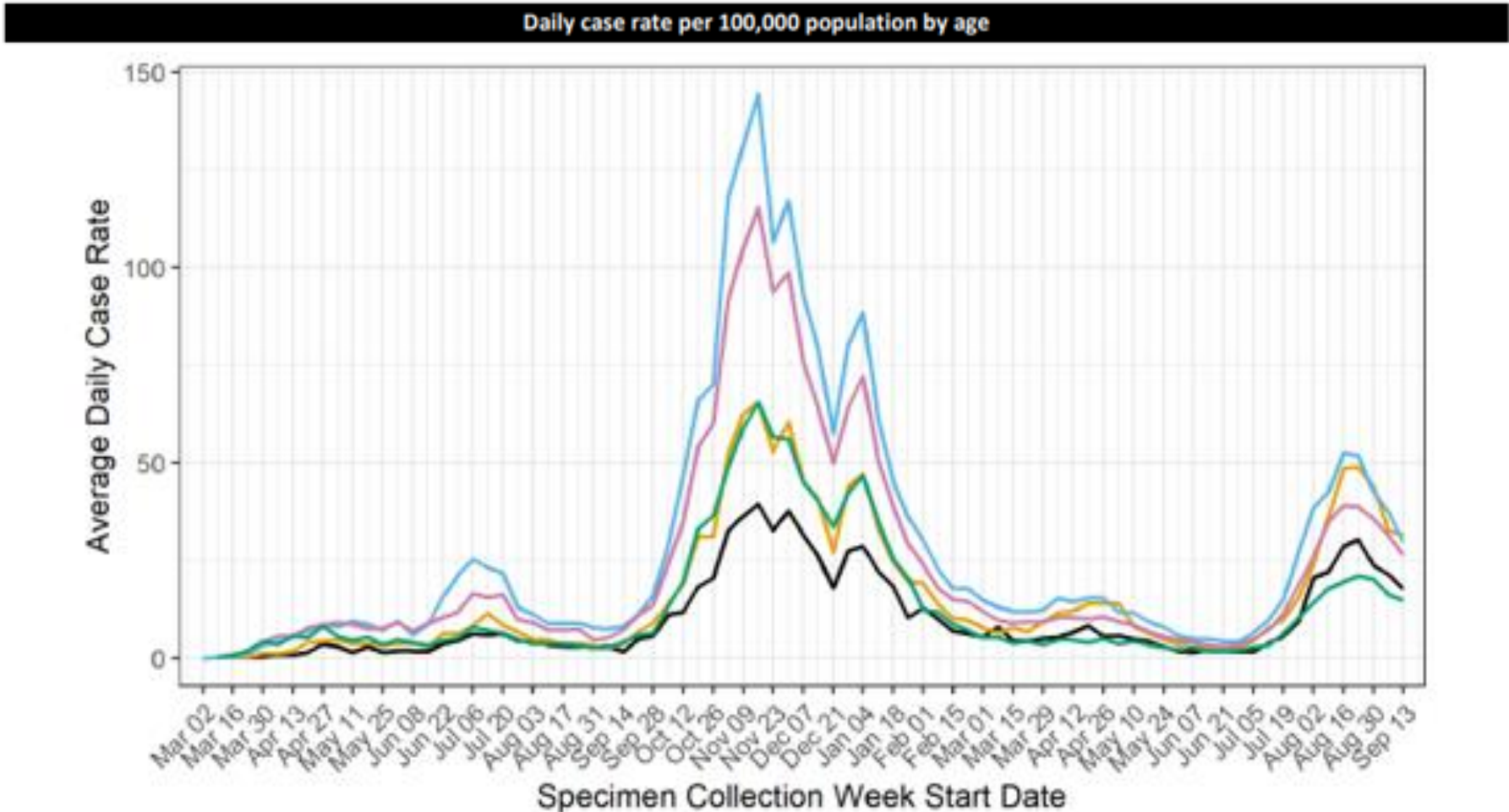
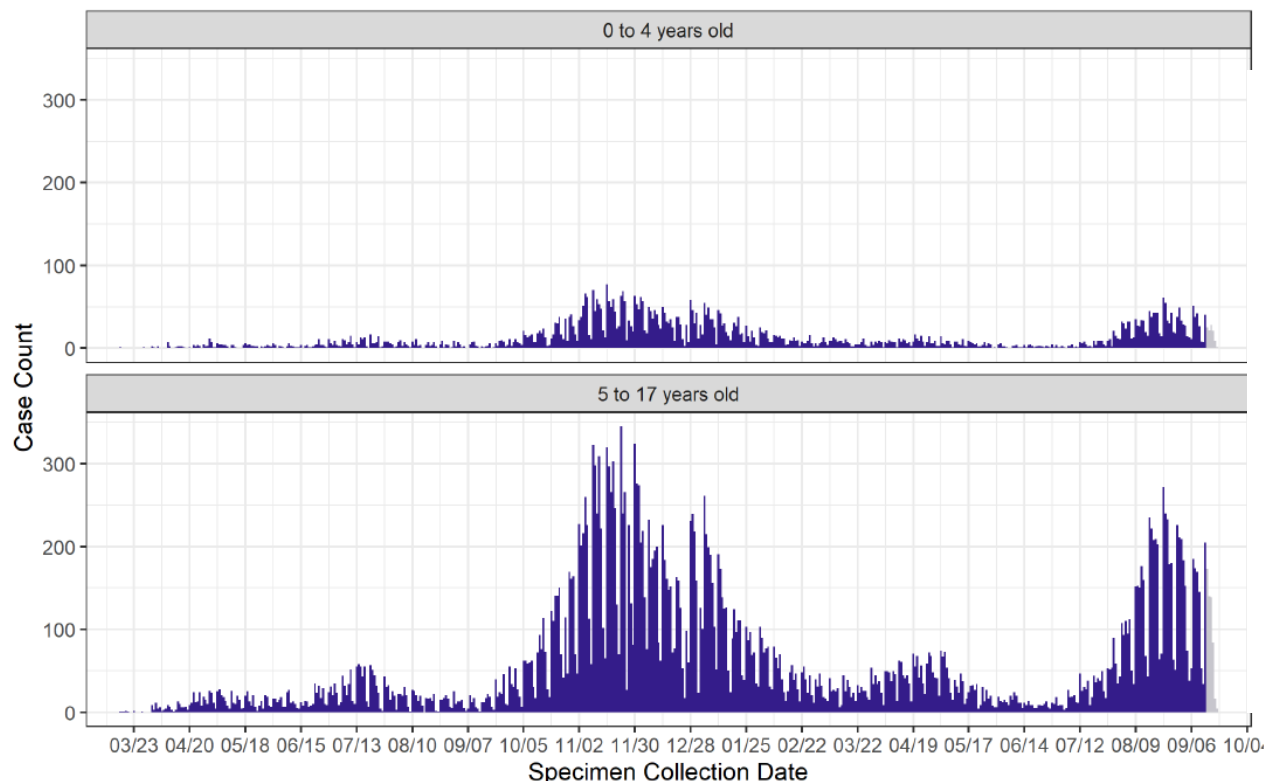


Figure excludes 86 individuals without age information, individuals who are not residents of New Mexico, and individuals in ICE custody. Due to delays in reporting of positive lab results to NMDOH, data for the week of September 13 to September 19, 2021 are incomplete and subject to change.

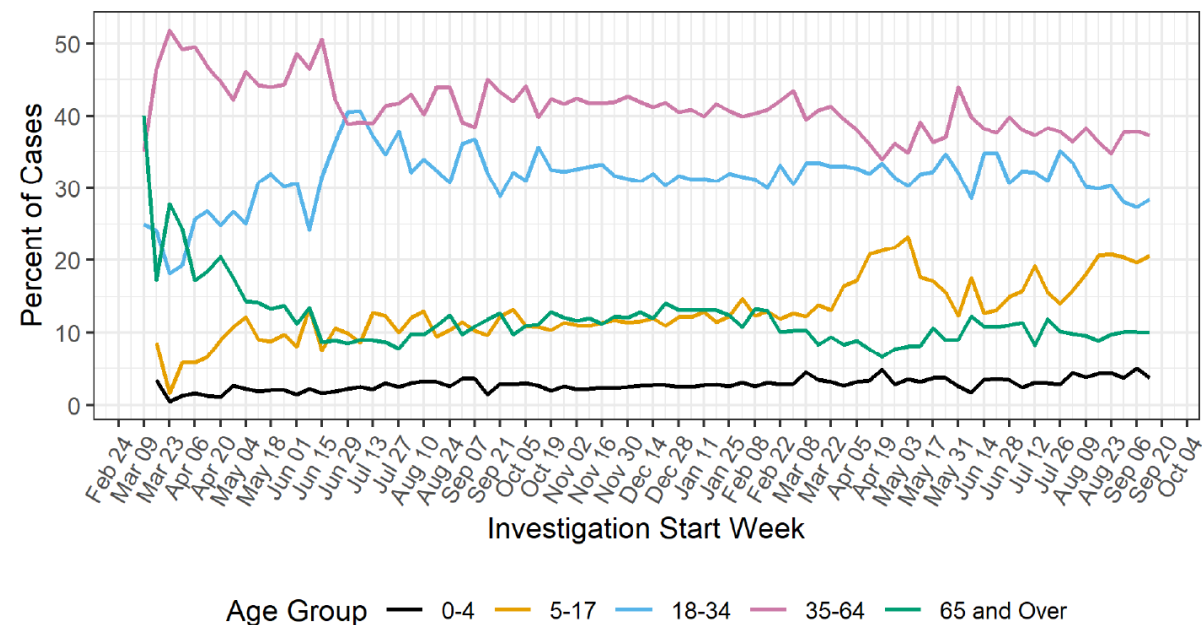
[State-Report\\_demographics\\_09.20.21.pdf \(nmhealth.org\)](https://nmhealth.org/State-Report_demographics_09.20.21.pdf)

# Trends in COVID-19 cases among school-age children

Pediatric Case Count over Time

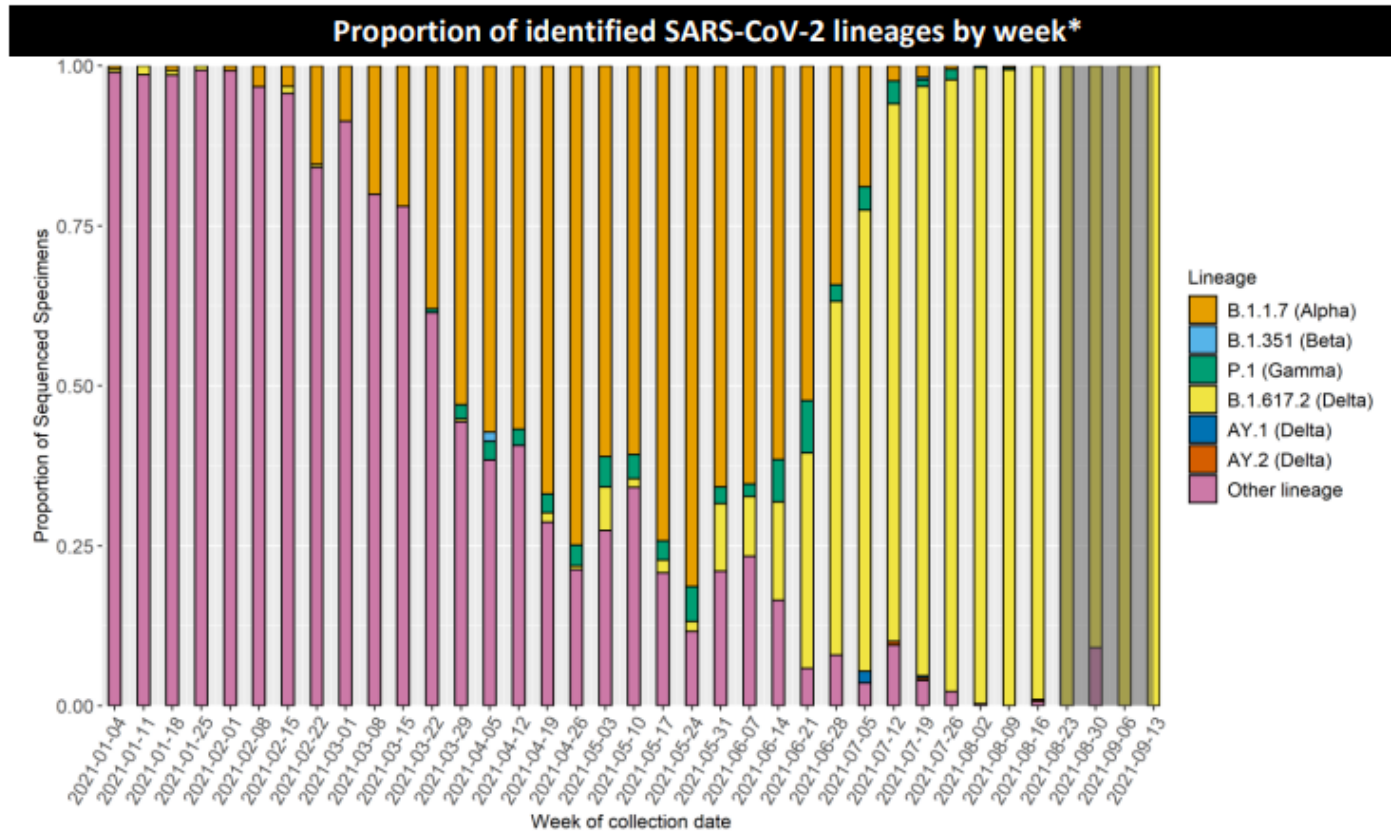


Percentage of new cases each week by age





# Delta variant remains predominant SARS-CoV-2 variant in New Mexico



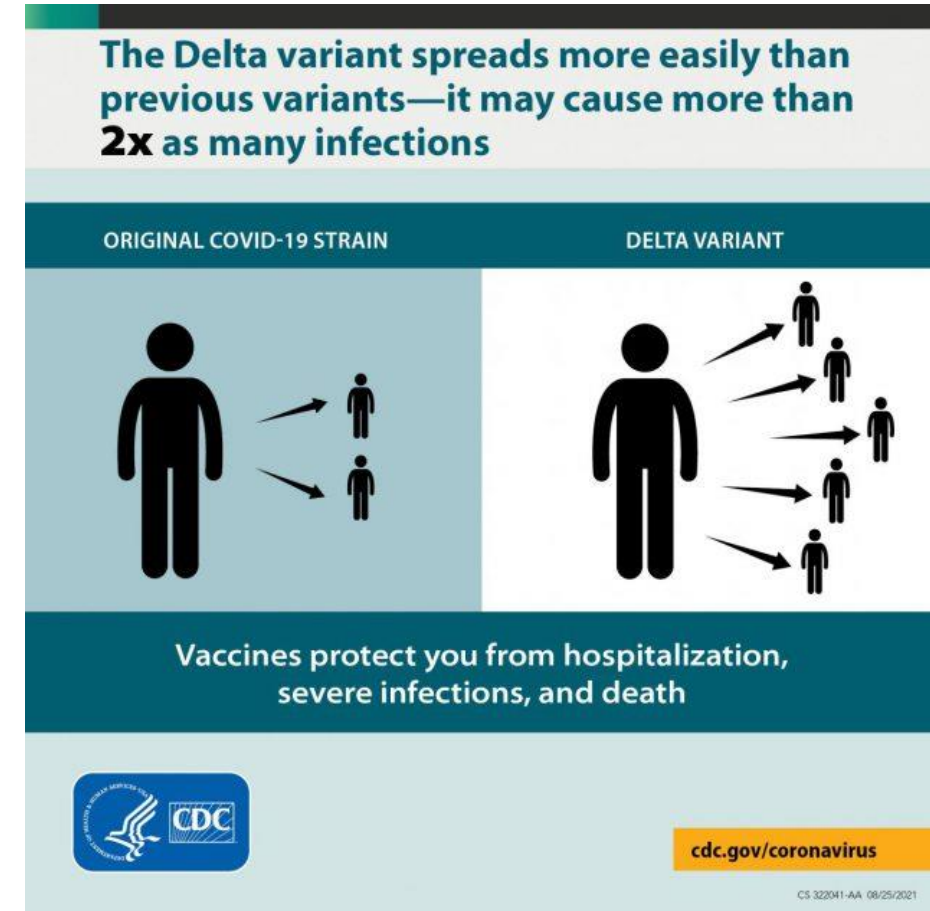
\*The dark grey shaded region in each of the figures on this page represents the lag period between specimen collection and genomic sequencing results such that the results may look different when all specimens available for sequencing

[COVID-19-VOC-Case-Report\\_9\\_20\\_21.pdf \(nmhealth.org\)](#) have been reported.

*Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.*

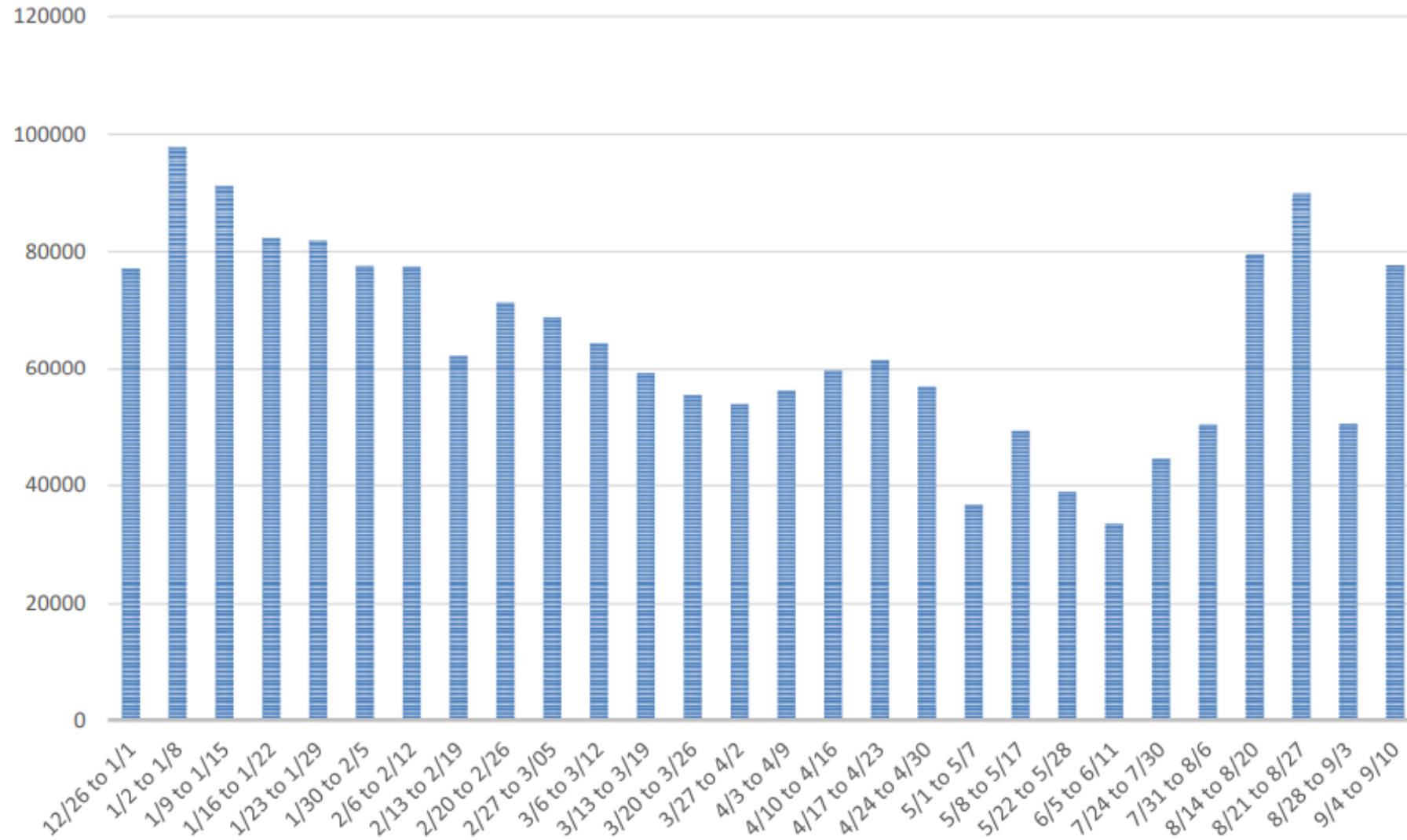
# Delta variant remains a concern

- Delta variant is more than 2x as contagious as previous variants
- Delta variant might cause more severe illness than previous variants in unvaccinated people
- Unvaccinated people remain the greatest concern
- Fully vaccinated people with Delta variant breakthrough infections can spread the virus to others, however, vaccinated people appear to spread the virus for a shorter time



# NM COVID-19 Testing Update

We continue to test at the highest levels since December-January





# New Mexico Test positivity 7-Day Rolling Average, March 17, 2020-September 20, 2021



*Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.*

1190 S. St. Francis Drive • Santa Fe, NM 87505 • Phone: 505-827-2613 • Fax: 505-827-2530 • nmhealth.org

# New Mexico testing turnaround time

Reporting Laboratory	Test Results, 09/11/2021- 09/17/2021	Percent of Total Test Results, 09/11/2021- 09/17/2021	Median Turn Around Time in Days, 09/11/2021- 09/17/2021	Cumulative Test Results, 03/11/2020- 09/20/2021
Curative	24,542	30.9%	↓ 1.59	657,000
LabCorp	7,585	9.6%	↑ 2.11	345,662
Pathology Consultants	1,487	1.9%	→ 2.30	95,559
Quest	1,785	2.2%	↓ 1.87	256,208
SLD	4,438	5.6%	↑ 1.38	721,426
Southwest Labs	1,026	1.3%	↑ 0.14	46,509
TriCore	10,648	13.4%	↑ 1.06	1,005,333
Vault	9,094	11.5%	↓ 3.34	133,188
Other	18,803	23.7%	→ 1.28	1,166,662
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79,408</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>↓ 1.62</b>	<b>4,427,547</b>

# New Mexicans: Get tested for COVID-19 if...

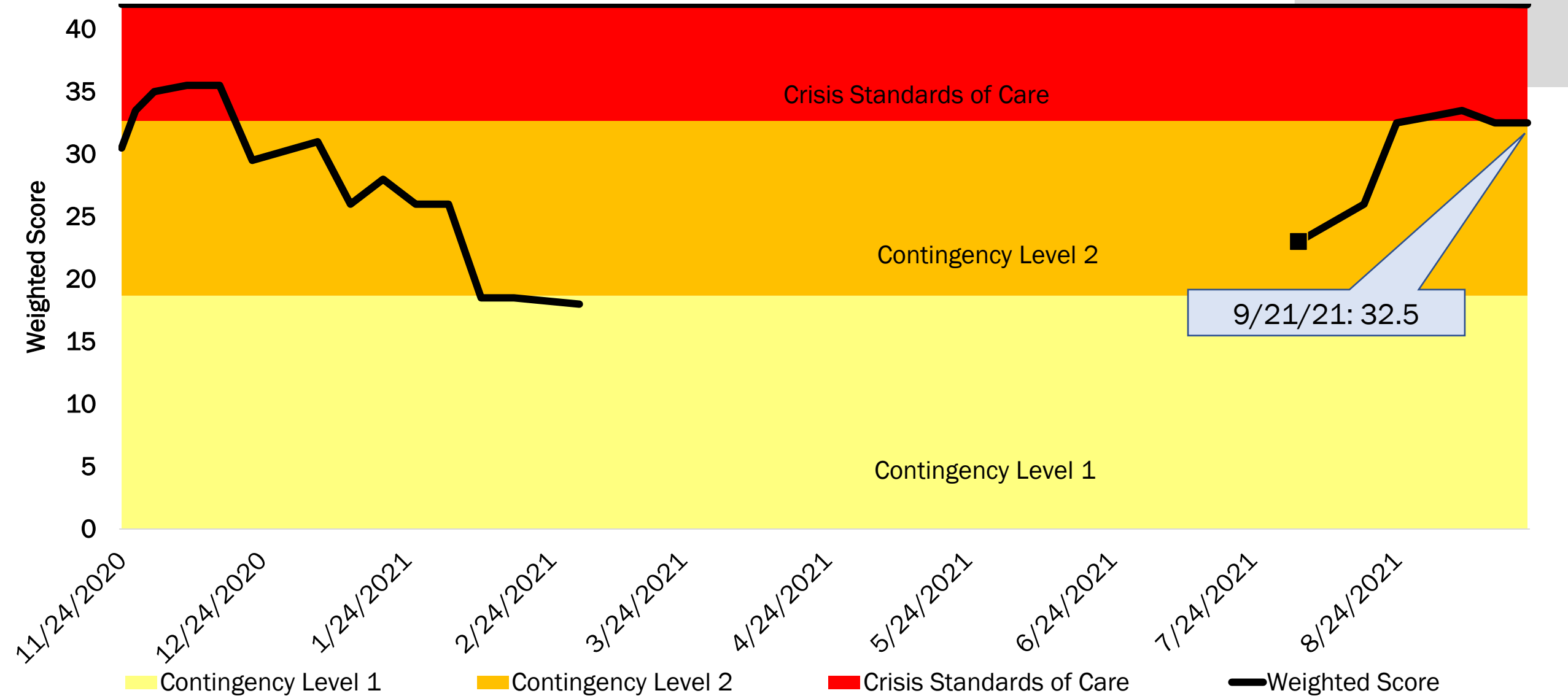
- ...you have COVID-19 symptoms;
- ...you don't have symptoms but were in close contact to a positive case;
- ...you don't have symptoms but live or work in a high-risk congregate setting; or
- ...you are a patient scheduled for surgery or hospital admission

**Regardless of vaccination status!**



# NM COVID-19 Hospitalizations and Deaths

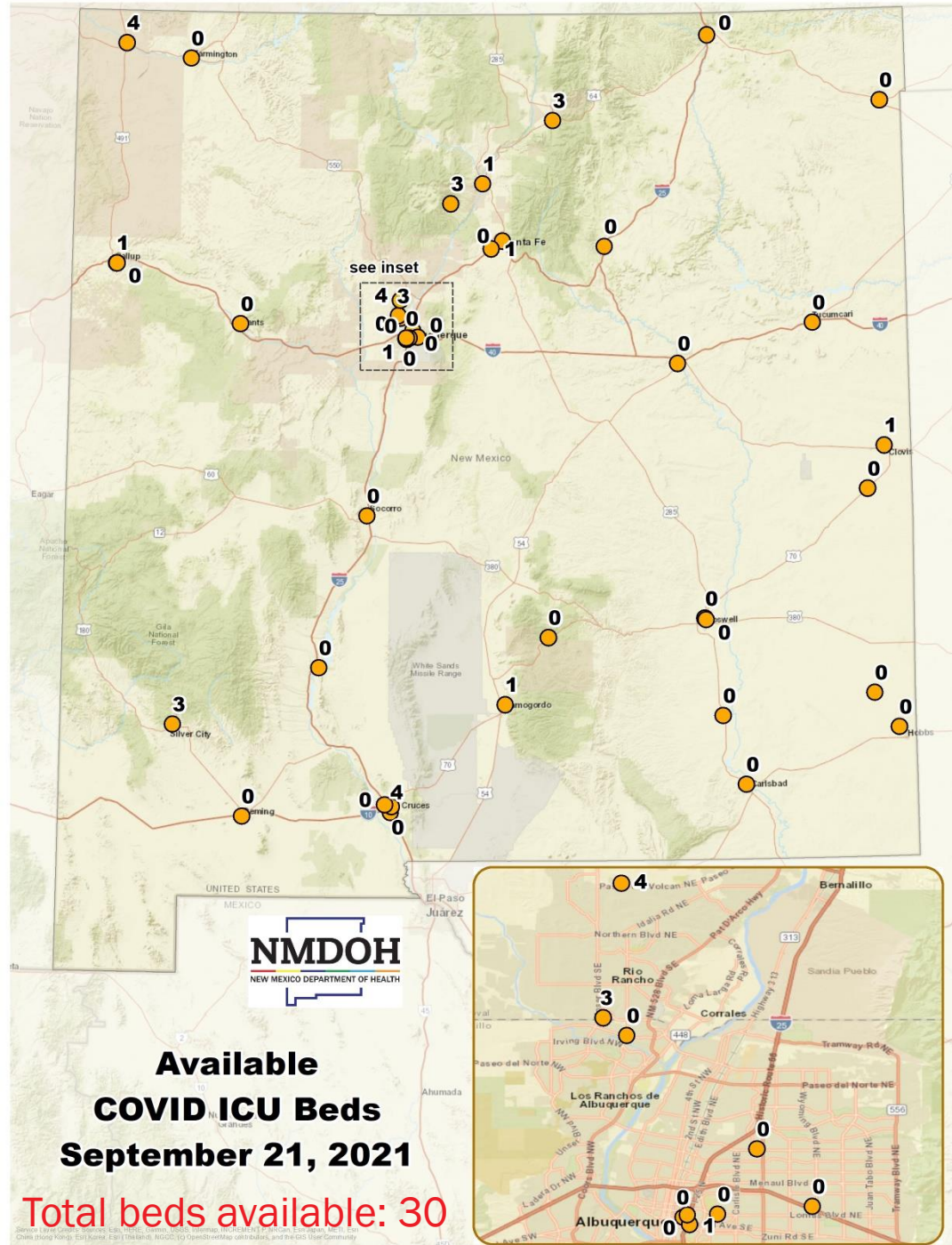
# NM Hospital Systems Capacity Self-Evaluation



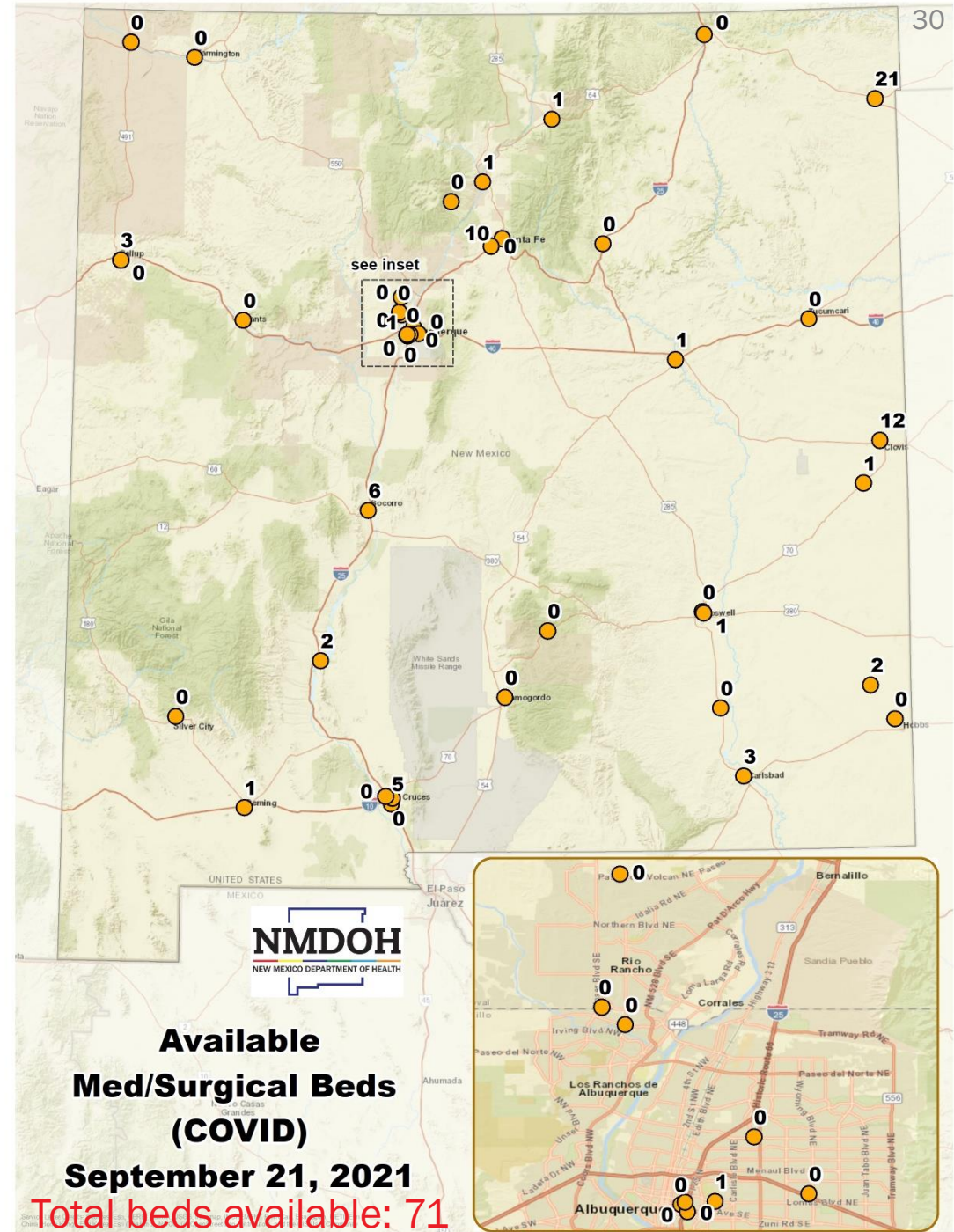
Self-evaluation data not collected between 3/3/21 and 8/17/21.



# ICU Beds

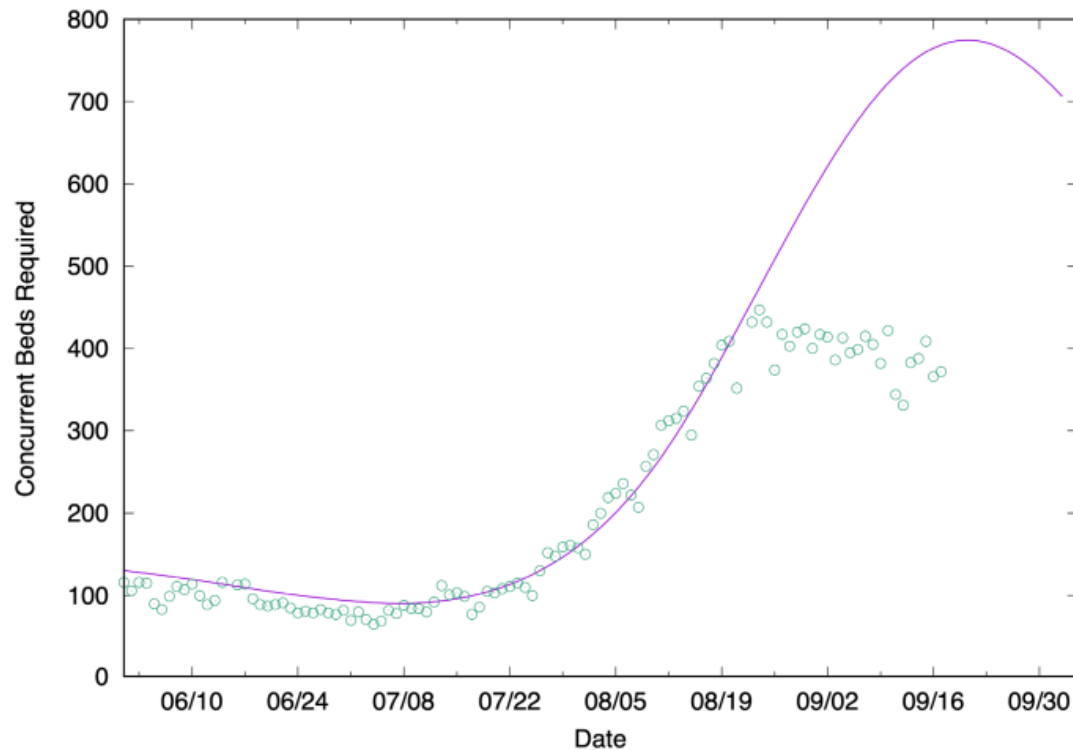


# Med/Surgical Beds



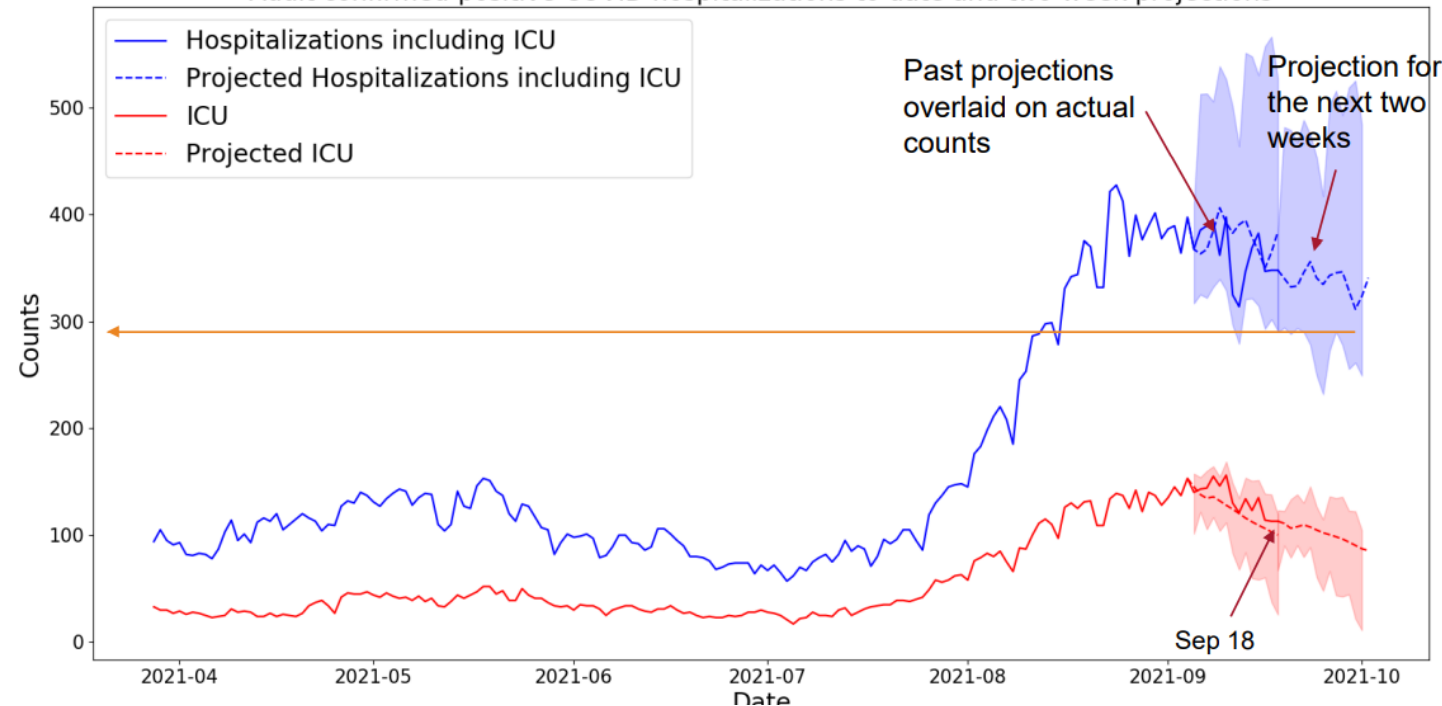
# Hospitalizations are still trending down in NM modeling projections

## 9/21/21 LANL Hospital Projections



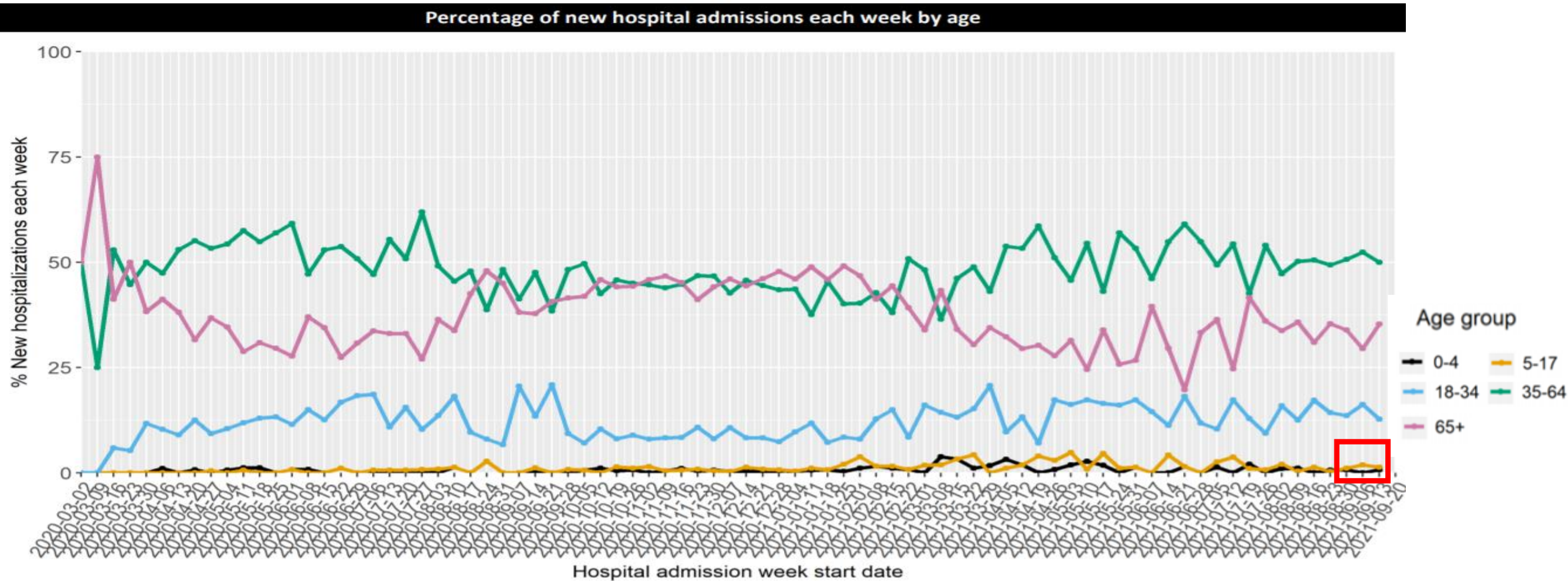
## 9/21/21 Presbyterian Hospital Projections

Adult confirmed-positive COVID hospitalizations to date and two-week projections





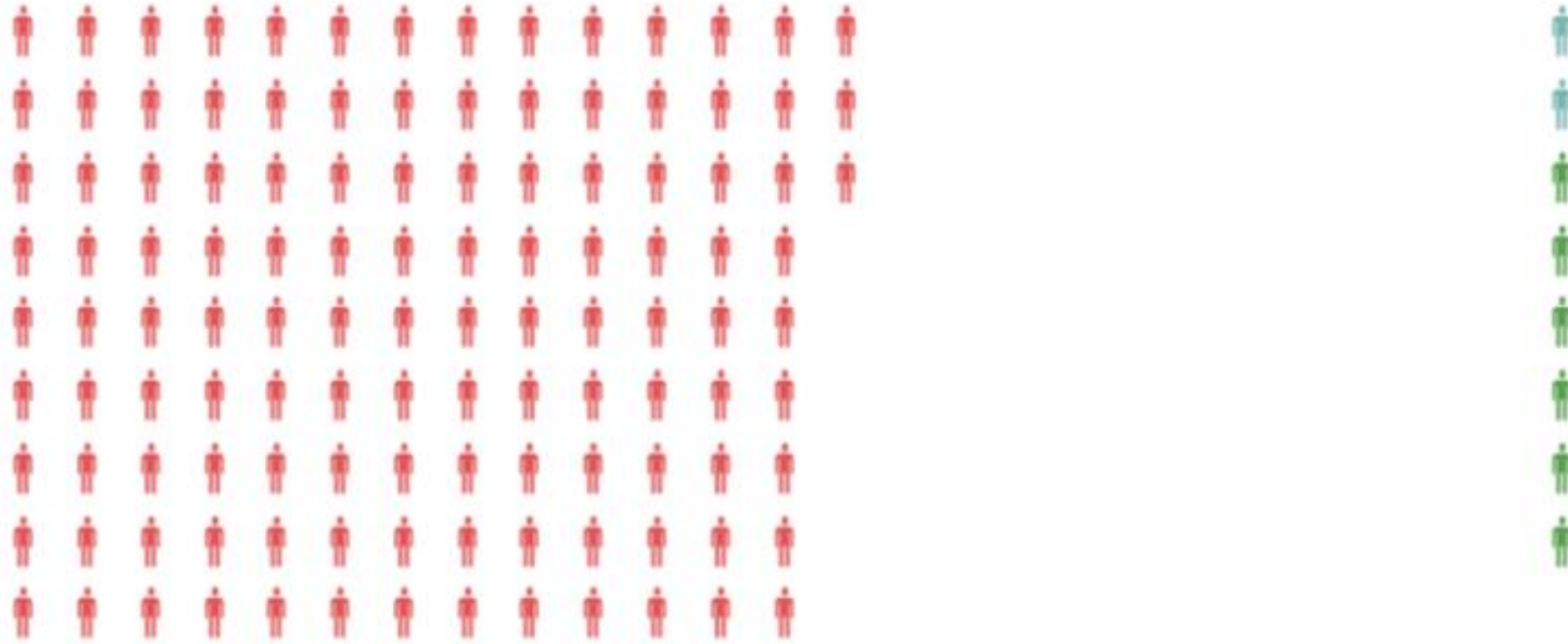
# 5-17-year-old hospitalizations remain stable in NM




# COVID-19 Breakthrough Infections

*Breakthrough Cases within Presbyterian Delivery System Inpatient Settings*

## September 21, 2021 Inpatient Covid-19 Cases



 Unvaccinated

 Verbal Report Vaccinated

 Verified Vaccinated

Unvaccinated

**120**

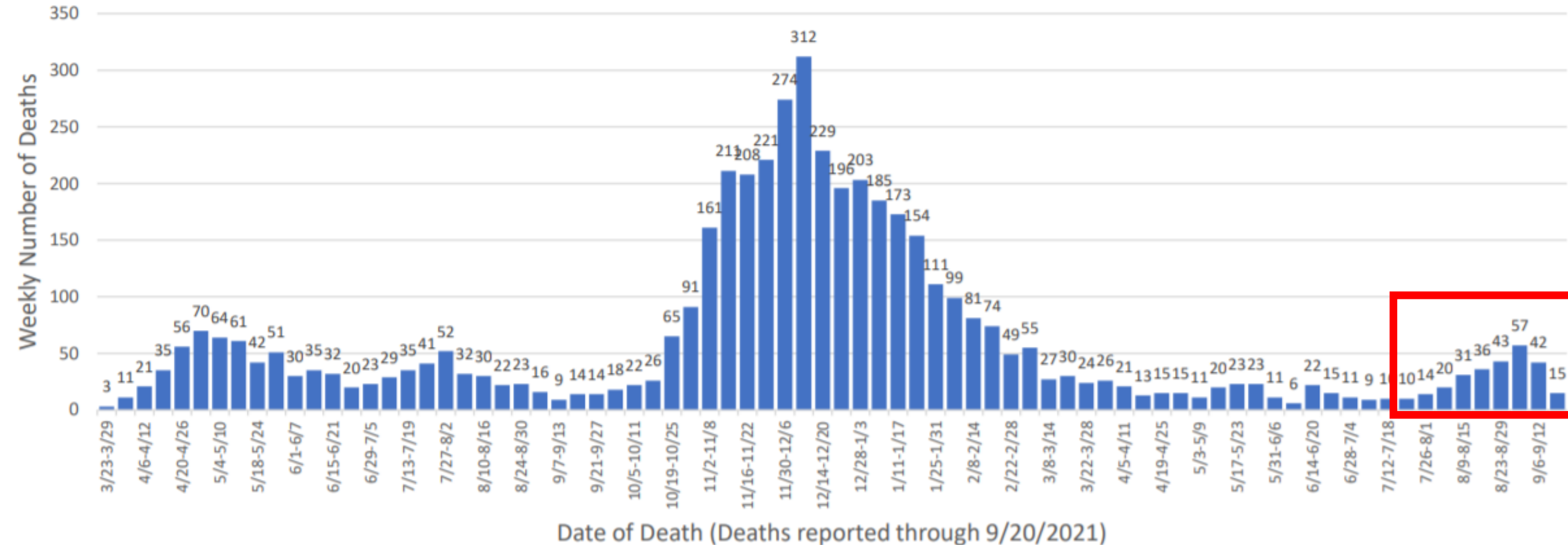
Percentage of Unvaccinated Inpatients

**93.8%**

Vaccinated

**8**

# As expected, we continue to see an increase in COVID-19 deaths

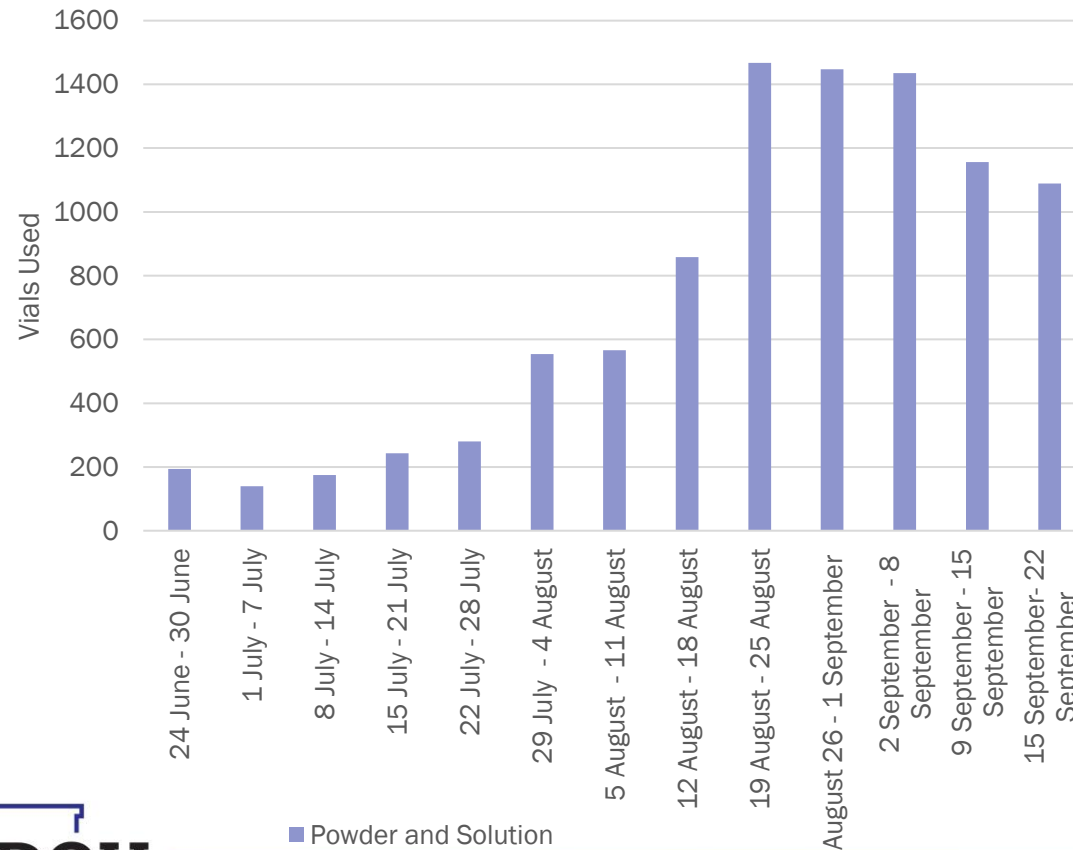




# COVID-19 Treatments

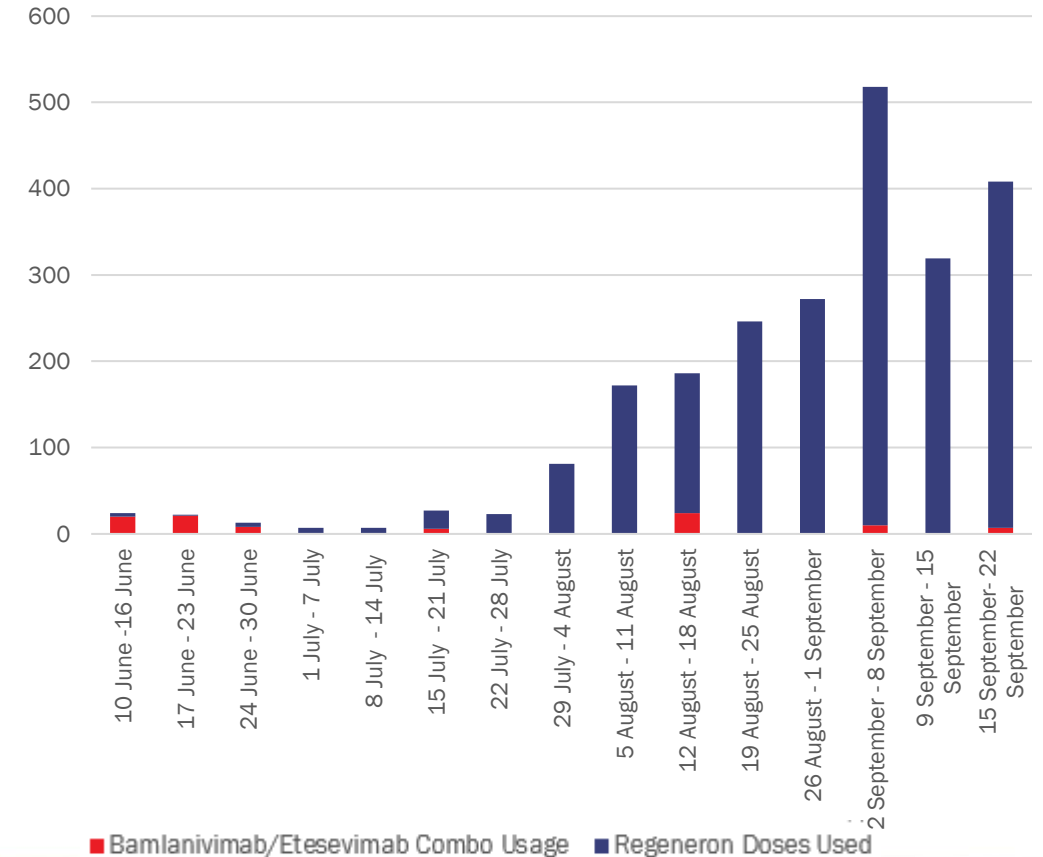
# There has been a significant increase in inpatient and outpatient mAbs treatments, but not enough!

## Remdesivir (moderately ill, given in hospital)



## mAbs (symptoms + >64, obese, OR one risk factor, given as outpatient)

Chart Title



# Misinformation moment: Ivermectin poisoning hospitalizes 5 in Oregon

- 5 Oregonians hospitalized recently due to the consumption of an antiparasitic drug, ivermectin
- 2 of the 5 required intensive care
- Patients in 20s - 80s, with most older than 60
- Cases obtained a prescription for either human or veterinary forms of the drug
- “COVID-19 is a devastating disease and can be very frightening, but the public does not need to use - nor should it use - unproven and potentially dangerous drugs to fight it,” per Robert Hendrickson, medical director of the Oregon Poison Center at OHSU and professor of emergency medicine in the OHSU School of Medicine

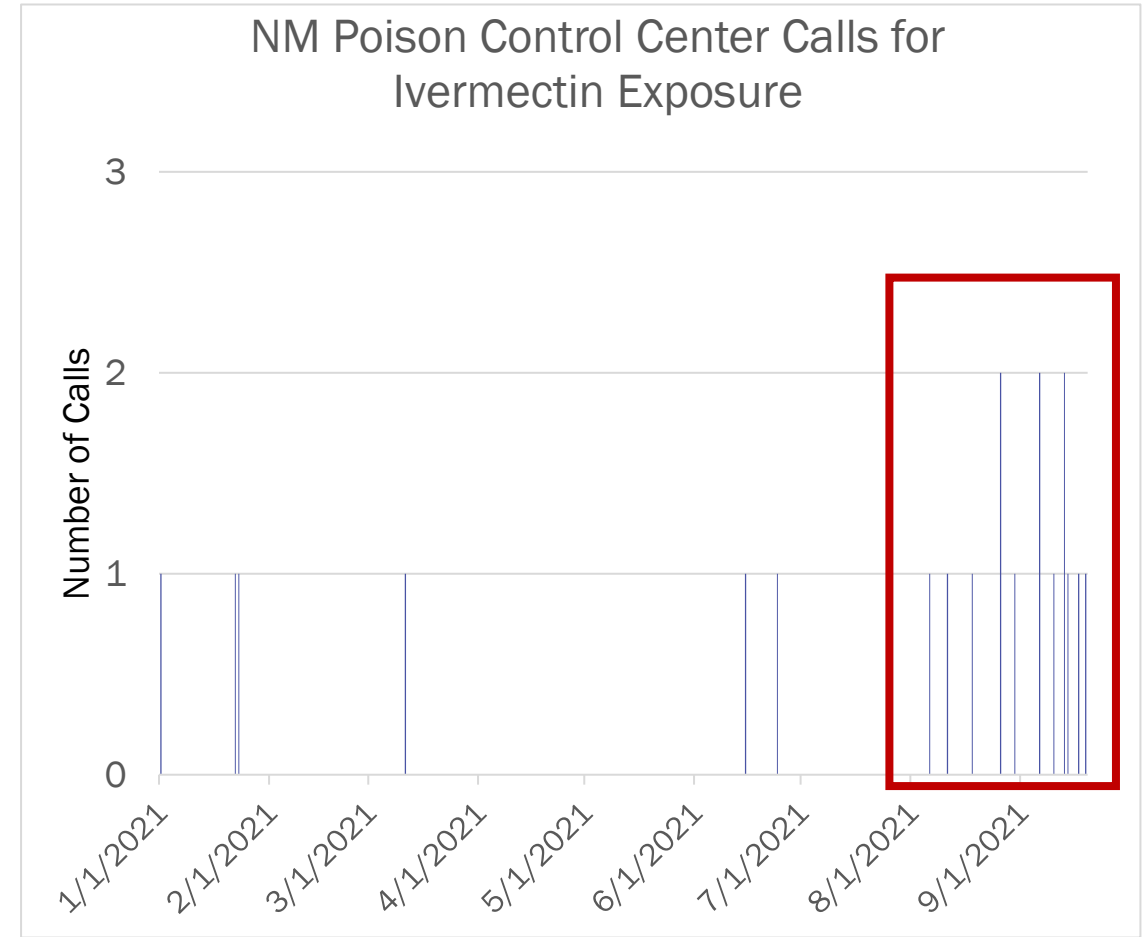


The intensive care unit at OHSU Hospital is full as COVID-19 patients fill hospitals across the state. (Kristyna Wentz-Graff/Pool Photo via AP)AP

# Misinformation moment: Ivermectin is NOT an approved treatment for COVID-19!

- The NM Medical Advisory Team does not recommend ivermectin therapy in patients with COVID-19 infection outside of clinical trials until more data is available
- NMDOH is now requiring provider reporting of Ivermectin toxicity
- Taking Ivermectin without medical guidance and a prescription can be dangerous, or even fatal

**Call New Mexico Poison & Drug Information Center if you or someone you know has taken Ivermectin: 1-800-222-1222**



Total calls since 1/1/21: 17 | Total calls since 8/6/21: 14

# New Mexico's healthcare workers need you to get vaccinated

- Sergio Torres, an intensive care nurse working at Lovelace Hospital, urged New Mexicans who have not been vaccinated to get the shot, calling it “the best thing anyone can do right now.”
- Ashley Apodaca, who worked as a charge nurse at Presbyterian Hospital during the surge, focused on masks and social distancing, acknowledging that the loss of community has been challenging but urging New Mexicans to do what they can to keep their loved ones safe.





# Get Vaccinated. Stay home and get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms.

- Get tested if you think you have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone who is positive.
- If you have a COVID-19 positive test, symptoms and risk factors, seek out monoclonal antibody treatment.
- Be especially careful indoors no matter where you live in NM.

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

- Wash hands, clean surfaces, cough into tissue/elbow.
- Everyone mask up and maintain social distancing (minimum 6').
- Get needed preventive healthcare.
- Get vaccinated!

