COVID-19 Day 575
Press Update

October 6, 2021

DOH Acting Secretary David R. Scrase, M.D., M.H.S.A.
DOH Deputy Secretary Laura C. Parajón, M.D., M.P.H.
DWS Acting Secretary, Ricky Serna, M.S.
UPDATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
U.S. and New Mexico Unemployment Rates

Unemployment Rate in New Mexico and US, Seasonally Adjusted
January 2020 - August 2021

Claimants Receiving Payments

Number of New Mexicans Receiving Unemployment Insurance Benefits, by Program

Source: MTX report. Data is a running 3-week average.
Unemployment Rate by NM County

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New Mexico</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2021</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2021</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Change</td>
<td>-0.4%</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change over year</td>
<td>-2.1%</td>
<td>-3.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Industries with the largest percentage decrease of claimants receiving UI benefits from August 2, 2021 to October 4, 2021 were in:

- Arts, Accommodation and Recreation (declined 68.2 percent)
- Educational Services (declined 63.9 percent)
- Accommodation & Food Service (a drop of 62.9 percent)
Occupations with the largest percentage decrease of claimants receiving UI benefits from August 2, 2021 to October 4, 2021 were in:

- Arts and Design (86.8%)
- Education and Training (78.9%)
- Personal Care (79.4%)
Health of NM Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund
Be Alert to Unemployment Insurance Fraud

- Be aware of scams
  - Text messages, emails and calls
  - We will never ask for SS numbers, passwords or banking information
- Report UI Fraud -- [https://www.dws.state.nm.us/IdentityTheft](https://www.dws.state.nm.us/IdentityTheft)
  - Work Search Requirements
  - Not reporting wages
  - Identity theft
Online Job Postings, August 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Job Openings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Care and Social Assistance</td>
<td>13,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Services</td>
<td>7,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, Scientific, Tech Services</td>
<td>6,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>4,723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and Support</td>
<td>4,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and Food Services</td>
<td>4,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>3,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>2,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Insurance</td>
<td>2,074</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Warehousing</td>
<td>1,797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate and Rental and Leasing</td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of Companies</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WCOS. Online Job Postings by Industry excludes data for the military and industries that are undefined.
23 Centers statewide
- Direct hiring events for employers and communities
- In-person services
- Applicant recruitment and customized screening
- Workforce Connection Online System for employers and job seekers

https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Job-Seekers
Ready New Mexico

https://Ready.NM.Gov
800-303-3599

- Job search by county
- Boot camp training opportunities
- Adult Education
- Postsecondary programs
- Financial Aid
- Apprenticeships
- Hiring Assistance
- Labor Market Information
NM Vaccine Update
Vaccine progress update

- **80.4%** of New Mexicans (18+) and **64.4%** (12-17) have received at least a first dose
- **71.1%** of New Mexicans (18+) and **55.3%** (12-17) are fully vaccinated

https://vaccinenm.org/public-dashboard.html
Many still not vaccinated and at risk

Cumulative Percent Completing Vaccination Series, for 16 and Older

Race/Ethnicity:
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Black or African American
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino
- White

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

https://cv.nmhealth.org/vaccine-reports/
Booster Dose Updates
October vaccine updates

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC):

- **October 14th:**
  Moderna Booster

- **October 15th:**
  J and J Booster
  Mix and Match

- **October 26th:**
  EUA for 5-11 year-olds
Pfizer for children ages 5 - 11

- Per press release:
  - Pfizer submitted trial data to FDA on September 28th
  - 2,268 participants 5-11 years of age
  - Vaccine safe and effective in children
  - Likely to start late October, early November

- Actual trial data not available yet
- We are expecting longer refrigerator storage time and smaller number of vials per order
Willingness of parents to vaccinate their children

A Third Of Parents Of 5 To 11 Year Olds Say They Will Vaccinate Their Child Right Away Once A Vaccine Is Available For Their Age Group

Thinking about your...once there is a COVID-19 vaccine authorized and available for your child’s age group, do you think you will get them vaccinated...?

- Right away
- Wait and see
- Only if required
- Definitely not

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child ages 5-11</th>
<th>Sept ’21</th>
<th>July ’21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child under 5 years old</th>
<th>Sept ’21</th>
<th>July ’21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Among parents or guardians of children ages 5-11 and parents or guardians of children under 5. See topline for full question wording.

Unvaccinated children still at risk

https://cv.nmhealth.org/vaccine-reports/
## Booster dose eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Groups who SHOULD Get Vaccine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People 65+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents in Long Term Care Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64 years old with underlying medical conditions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Groups who MAY Get Vaccine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-49 years old with underlying medical conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People 18-64 years old in high risk occupational and institutional settings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NM booster data

- 31,546 doses (additional and booster) given since 8/1/21
- 21,081 doses third doses given since 9/24/21
9/24/21
Booster dose approved
Third dose has a similar side effect profile as the second dose

- Second dose side effects can be more intense
- Third dose side effects are similar to second
- Sign that your body is building protection
- Goes away in a few days

**Common Side Effects**

On the arm where you got the shot:

- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

Throughout the rest of your body:

- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea
Effectiveness of booster doses

Dr. Fauci says booster shots provide further protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection for people at increased risk of severe COVID-19 disease, commenting that “Twelve days or more after the booster dose, the rate of confirmed infection was lower in the booster group than in the non-booster group by a factor of 11.3 and the rate of severe illness lower by a factor of 19.5.”

https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/374/bmj.n2297.full.pdf
Full vaccination is still NM’s first priority
COVID-19 vaccine saves lives, prevents hospitalizations, and reduces infection in seniors

Prior to vaccines, 85% of people who died of COVID-19 in the U.S. were 65+

Seniors with Medicare Vaccinations linked to:

- Over a quarter million COVID-19 cases
- 100,000 Hospitalizations
- 39,000 Deaths among Seniors

Schedule your vaccine appointment at VaccineNM.org today

- Talk to your provider if you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine or your eligibility for a booster dose
- Schedule your COVID-19 vaccine appointment with your provider, pharmacy, or on the app
- Schedule at the same time as your flu shot

Notice from DOH to “name”: our records show that you are eligible for a Pfizer booster.

Sign up for an appointment at: vaccineNM.org. Your confirmation code is “xxxxxxx”.

If you need help scheduling an appointment, call 1-855-600-3453; option 0.
NMDOH Call Center is here for New Mexicans without access to website

- **Call Center Purpose:** To advance equity by supporting people without internet or capacity to schedule online
- Option 3 or 9 takes callers directly to Spanish speaker
- **8 AM to 8 PM, Monday-Sunday**

I want to schedule an appointment by phone
To schedule your appointment by phone, call 1-855-600-3453, option 3 any day

Quiero programar una cita por teléfono
Para programar su cita por teléfono, llame al 1-855-600-3453, opción 3 cualquier día
Providers, please offer the COVID-19 vaccine in your offices

- Good timing to give both the flu shot and COVID-19 vaccine together (and in same arm, if necessary)
- Medical providers are the #1 trusted source for vaccine advice
- Now is the time to become a provider: Smaller packages, up to 10 weeks in refrigerator

[TakeCareNM.org](http://TakeCareNM.org)
NM COVID-19 Cases
New Mexico COVID-19 Cases by Date of Specimen Collection
October 5, 2021

Positive samples collected during this time may not yet be reported.
New Mexico COVID-19 Cases by Date of Specimen Collection
Recent 6 Week View
October 5, 2021

Positive samples collected during this time may not yet be reported.

https://cvmodeling.nmhealth.org/

10 cases per 100,000  Total NM cases  Total NM 7-day rolling average

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.
Level of community transmission of COVID-19 remains high in most counties

[Graph showing levels of community transmission by county, September 21-October 4, 2021]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Population Count</th>
<th>Number of Cases (14 days)</th>
<th>Number of Cases + Negative Tests (14 days)</th>
<th>Total New Cases per 100,000 persons</th>
<th>Percentage of Tests that are Positive During the Past 14 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>De Baca</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>2.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Alamos</td>
<td>18856</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1181</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>2.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socorro</td>
<td>17193</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1114</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>3.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taos</td>
<td>32513</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>1639</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>4.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>27862</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>2387</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>4.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>149635</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>7842</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>4.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra</td>
<td>11076</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>5.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>4090</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>5.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Miguel</td>
<td>27969</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>2573</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>5.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doña Ana</td>
<td>218836</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>10053</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>5.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt</td>
<td>19901</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1037</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>5.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandoval</td>
<td>146415</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>9390</td>
<td>26.1</td>
<td>5.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>4242</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>5.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curry</td>
<td>49915</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>3049</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>6.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rio Arriba</td>
<td>38716</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>2341</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>6.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luna</td>
<td>24444</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>1201</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>6.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernalillo</td>
<td>679500</td>
<td>2390</td>
<td>37658</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>6.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cibola</td>
<td>26801</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>6.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catron</td>
<td>3533</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>7.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otero</td>
<td>67700</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>4304</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>9.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valencia</td>
<td>75427</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>4014</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td>9.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guadalupe</td>
<td>4419</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>10.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>19860</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>1368</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>10.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quay</td>
<td>8396</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>10.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Juan</td>
<td>126122</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>8351</td>
<td>52.0</td>
<td>11.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKinley</td>
<td>70330</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>3399</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>11.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lea</td>
<td>71570</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>3605</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>11.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cofax</td>
<td>11903</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>51.0</td>
<td>11.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddy</td>
<td>58252</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>3741</td>
<td>54.9</td>
<td>11.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torrance</td>
<td>15923</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>43.1</td>
<td>13.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaves</td>
<td>64104</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>3576</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>13.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mora</td>
<td>4566</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>19.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harding</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>130.5</td>
<td>23.53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NM COVID-19 Testing Update
New Mexico Test positivity 7-Day Rolling Average,
March 17, 2020-October 4, 2021

Test Positivity Rate

Week

Target: 7.5%

10/04/21: 7.9%
# New Mexico testing turnaround time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Laboratory</th>
<th>Test Results, 09/25/2021-10/04/2021</th>
<th>Percent of Total Test Results, 09/25/2021-10/04/2021</th>
<th>Median Turn Around Time in Days, 09/25/2021-10/04/2021</th>
<th>Cumulative Test Results, 03/11/2020-10/04/2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curative</td>
<td>22,345</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>720,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LabCorp</td>
<td>6,770</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>358,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathology Consultants</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>98,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quest</td>
<td>1,733</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td>259,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLD</td>
<td>3,454</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>729,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Labs</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>48,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TriCore</td>
<td>9,652</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>1,024,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vault</td>
<td>6,430</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>148,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15,893</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>1,212,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>68,308</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td><strong>4,600,413</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NM Cumulative Median Lab Turnaround Time by Week

- 2.62 days
- 1.29 days
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
Available COVID ICU Beds
October 5, 2021
Total beds available: 17

Available Med/Surgical Beds (COVID)
October 5, 2021
Total beds available: 67
NM continues to be a net exporter of hospitalizations

• In the last week:
  • 81 patients transferred out of state for hospitalization
  • 2 patients from out of state hospitalized in NM
  • Net = 79 patients “exported”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exported Patients</th>
<th>10/04/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other States (AZ, CO)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Exported Patients</strong></td>
<td><strong>81</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Out of State Admissions</th>
<th>10/04/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Out of State Admissions</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Getting vaccinated is the best way to prevent hospitalization or death

Percent of Cases Hospitalizations and Deaths by Vaccine Status
06 September, 2021 - 04 October, 2021

- Cases: 4104 (23%) Unvaccinated, 13762 (77%) Vaccinated
- Hospitalizations: 133 (14.3%) Unvaccinated, 798 (85.7%) Vaccinated
- Deaths: 12 (8.5%) Unvaccinated, 129 (91.5%) Vaccinated

Vaccination Report https://cv.nmhealth.org/epidemiology-reports/

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.

1190 S. St. Francis Drive • Santa Fe, NM 87505 • Phone: 505-827-2613 • Fax: 505-827-2530 • nmhealth.org
Protect yourself, your community, and your hospital: Get vaccinated!

- In September, an Oklahoma man vacationing in Taos had a heart attack.
- COVID-19 cases were surging in NM and hospital capacity was stretched thin around the state.
- Local and surrounding state hospitals were unable to find a bed quick enough, and the gentleman died in NM.
- “If you care about your neighbor, if you care about your parents, your grandparents. Please just get vaccinated,” urges Elizabeth Kolliopoulos, daughter of the deceased.

Elizabeth Kolliopoulos and her father, Ken Early

NM hospital employee vaccination rates

As of October 5, 2021:

- 89% of New Mexico’s hospital employees are fully vaccinated
- 3% are partially vaccinated
- 7% have an approved exemption
- 1% remain unvaccinated
- After a 6 week “grace period,” non-reporters now being fined
As predicted, we continue to see an increase in COVID-19 deaths

Mortality Report [https://cv.nmhealth.org/epidemiology-reports/](https://cv.nmhealth.org/epidemiology-reports/)

"Investing for tomorrow, delivering today."
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)
mAbs provider spotlights

Below are the top outpatient mAbs providers over the last week. “Thank you!” to these facilities and all other NM mAbs providers.

• Presbyterian Healthcare System – 122
• Nor Lea Hospital – 60
• Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center – 35
New pill for COVID infection?

• Molnupiravir, comes in pill form
• In phase three trials (the last phase)
• Manufacturer claims hospitalization and death risk reduced about 50% for mild to moderate COVID infection
• Emergency Use Authorization submission planned
• This would be the first oral antiviral medication for COVID
Delta is $>2x$ more infectious; we need to be $>2x$ more careful

- 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!