

COVID-19: Childcare and Out of School Time Spring and Summer 2021

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Please refer to **vermont.gov** for complete guidance and additional details. Education and health care retain specialized guidance.

Note: All dates are subject to change.

At this time, Education, Health Care, Sports/Organized Sports and Youth Summer Camps will retain individualized guidance and not move to universal guidance.

STEP 1

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):

Vulnerable population substantially complete; 35–45% of all Vermonters; 45–55% of Vermonters 16+

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

4/9 Group A Sectors:

Move to required universal guidance

CROSS STATE TRAVEL

No quarantine is required for unvaccinated visitors with a negative test within 3 days prior to arrival.
Unvaccinated Vermonters must be tested within 3 days upon return to the state.

MASKS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Required when in the presence of those outside your household.





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VERMONT

Note: All dates are subject to change.

JULY 4

Business Operations

Universal guidance encouraged for all sectors

Gatherings and **Events**

No capacity restrictions

Masks and Physical Distancing

Encouraged

COVID-19 Health Guidance for Child Care and Out-of-School-Time Care

Revised Sections, Effective May 1st, 2021

- Health Screenings
- Return to Work/Care Post-Vaccine
- Drop off/Pick Up
- Transportation
- Hand Hygiene
- Cleaning
- Volunteers/Visitors
- Masks (next slide)
- Physical Distancing and Pods (slide)



Masks

Masks- follow Vermont Forward

- Required in Step 1, 2:
- Where are we today?
- Encouraged after Step 3

Distancing

Physical distancing guidance should follow the **Vermont Forward** plan.

While physical distancing is still in effect, programs should follow the following guidance:

- Staff and adult visitors or volunteers:
 6 feet of distance from other adults and children
- Children and youth:
 3 feet of distance from other children,
 as much as possible

Best practice guidance:

- Be outside as much as possible.
- Plan activities that do not require close physical contact between multiple children.
- When eating, work to maintain as much distance as possible.
- Space out children when waiting in line.
- Avoid opportunities where staff or children are likely to congregate.
- Ensure distance between children when participating in singing and music that involves woodwind or brass instruments.
- Rearrange furniture to avoid clustering in common areas.

Travel

As part of Vermont's phased reopening plan, there is new travel guidance.

Except for <u>international travel</u>, travel no longer requires testing or quarantine.

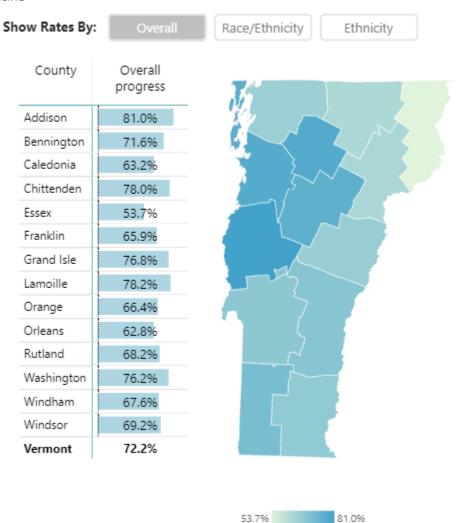
CDC recommends delaying travel until you are fully vaccinated, because travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19.

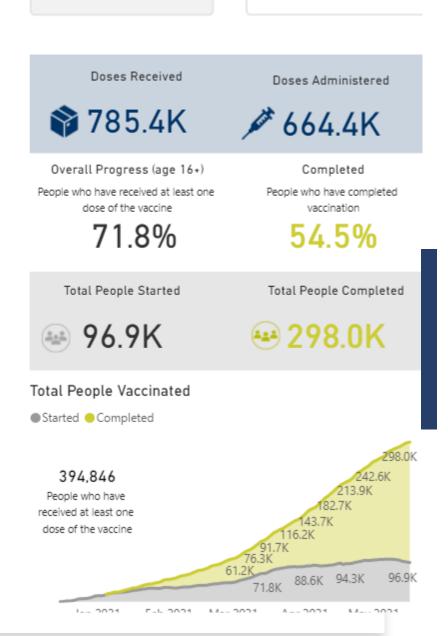
 Please note specific guidance for international travel



Vaccination by County

The percent of the county population that has received at least one dose of the vaccine





By Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

VT is leading the Nation

Our vaccination rates have accelerated the VT Forward steps

Summary

Vaccinations

- •COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- •Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history.

COVID-19 vaccines are very effective at preventing serious disease, including hospitalization and death. But no vaccine is 100% effective. That means some people who are vaccinated may become infected with COVID-19. This is called a "vaccine breakthrough." This happens with any vaccine including measles, mumps, flu and others.

Less than 1% of cases in VT since January 2021, have been among vaccinated Vermonters.



Question: Can preschoolers/students be fully immunized before the 2021-22 school year? What is the progress on Vaccine trials for the youngest?

Trials are ongoing for ages 6 months and up and we may have a vaccine in early fall 2021 for maybe ages 2 and up

Middle-school, high-school, and college students who get both doses of the vaccine now authorized for age 12 and up (Pfizer) can be fully immunized by the 2021-22 school year.

Other Q & As from the AAP on children getting the COVID-19 vaccine?

https://www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/ask-the-pediatrician/Pages/when-can-childrenget-the-COVID-19-vaccine.aspx

Talk with local pediatricians about the COVID-19 vaccine and your kids!

https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/your-community/families-children

Comment/Question: It is frustrating that there is often inconsistencies with the information provided by the Department of Health (depending on who you speak with - after hours calls and parent phone calls through contact tracing seem to be the most inconsistent). How can we get consistent (& accurate information)? Is there something that we can do on our end to facilitate this process? Thank you.

Answer: We continue to work on ensuring clarity and consistency.

Question: What is the transmissibility of new variants in young children?

Answer: VT variants are more transmissible in all people, including children, but not resulting in more significant disease.

<u>COVID-19 in Communities | Vermont Department of Health (healthvermont.gov)</u> variant reporting by county

Question: What will guidance look like for childcare providers that aren't vaccinated?

Question: When do you anticipate masks to not be required for vaccinated teachers and parents?

Question: What is the plan should be for programs that house Act 166 programming onsite as the regulations through Act 166 are different then the Vermont Forward Plan? We are planning on keeping masks on until we are out for summer and then once the school year ends moving into the Vermont Forward Plan guidelines.

Question: If we plan to have children and families continue to wear masks until the Vermont Forward Plan stops the mask mandate for all, would we need to get approval to do that?