

Vaccination remains our most powerful tool to limit COVID-19 infection and severe disease. Please visit <http://vaccinate.virginia.gov> or call 1-877-VAX-IN-VA to find COVID-19 vaccination opportunities near you. Appointment opportunities in Three Rivers Health District vaccination clinics are available at the Three Rivers Health District Website: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/three-rivers/>

Pandemic Status: COVID-19 case decline has leveled off

- The new case rate in the US has increased slightly over the last week; it is currently about 31,000 cases/day 7 day average.
- Virginia cases have decreased slightly since last week; currently we have about 420 cases/day 7 day average.
- Three Rivers case numbers continue at low levels; currently we continue to experience less than 10 cases/day in the district.
- By CDC criteria, all Three Rivers jurisdictions are in LOW COVID-19 community levels. The CDC County COVID-19 Level map and County Check tool may be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>
- The 7 day average number of people hospitalized in Virginia with COVID 19 has further declined, it is currently 170.
- About 72.9% of the total population in Virginia is fully vaccinated at this time.

What's New/Important This Week

- The BA.2 sub-lineage of the Omicron variant is the dominant COVID-19 variant worldwide, and is dominant now in the United States as well. In the region spanning Virginia, BA.2 makes up more than 60% of circulating COVID-19 viruses. The BA.2 variant appears to pose about the same risk of vaccine/immunity evasion and severe disease as the BA.1 variant. Pandemic modeling suggests the BA.2 variant may slow the decline of COVID-19 cases or cause modest increases of COVID-19 cases in the United States in the coming weeks. We have not seen significant surges of BA.2 at this point.
- The FDA authorized and CDC updated recommendations to allow for immunocompromised and adults over the age of 50 the choice to receive a 2nd booster dose of an mRNA vaccine 4 months after the first booster dose. These recommendations allow persons who may be at increased risk to severe outcomes due to COVID-19 to receive additional protection. People should assess their own personal risk and are encouraged to consult with a healthcare provider on what would be best for their situation. The second booster dose is available at all Three Rivers COVID-19 vaccination events. We are giving second booster doses to all individuals who are eligible and desire them.
- A new federal Test to Treat program gives people a fast and easy way to get treatment for COVID-19. If they test positive, they can get a prescription from a healthcare provider and have

the prescription filled all in one location. People can use the new HHS/ASPR COVID-19 Test to Treat Locator to find Test to Treat sites near them. The locator tool can be found here:

<https://emergency.cdc.gov/newsletters/coca/040422.htm#:~:text=COVID%2D19%20Test%20to%20Treat%20Locator>

- The Three Rivers Health District is offering free vaccination at home to residents who are unable to seek vaccination elsewhere. Interested participants can call (804) 815-4191 to schedule an appointment.

For more detailed information on viral therapeutics, vaccine schedules, protective measures, pandemic containment, and testing, with links to reference material, please visit the Three Rivers Health District website at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/three-rivers/>