Provider/Partner COVID-19 Update Call

December 1, 2021

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Agenda

- Summary Points
- Latest Statistics
- Review of Pediatric Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine
- Reporting Vaccine Adverse Events
- Highlight on Equity - reflection on year one of vaccination response
- Omicron Variant - what we know so far
- Q&A

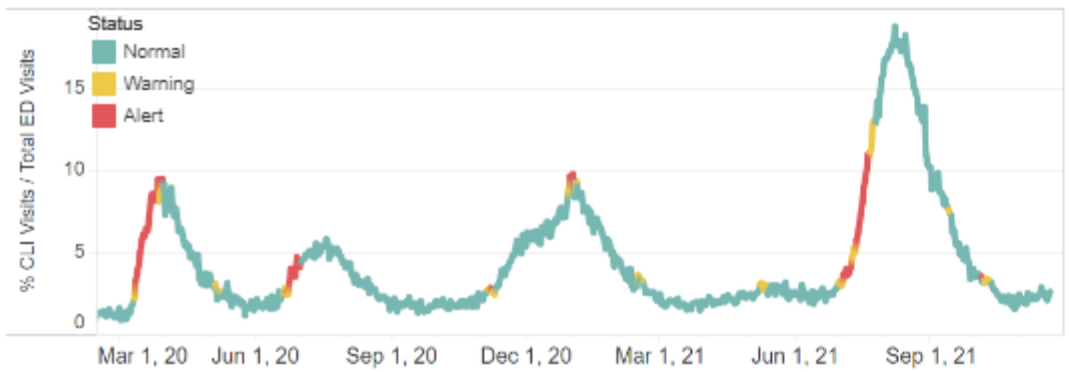
Summary Points

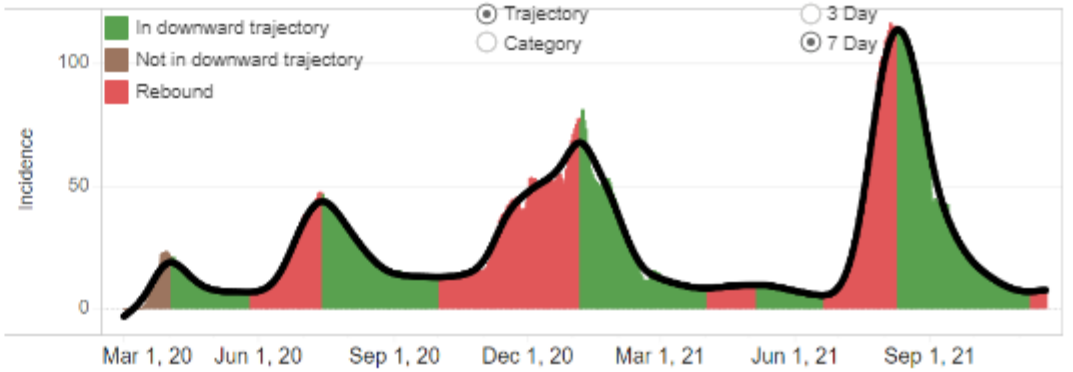
- LDH recommended boosters for all individuals 18 years of age and older on November 17 (pregnant women included)
- Shot at $100 (LA's vaccination incentive program): shotfor100.com
- Moderna-14 ordering has been phased out
- Reminder to enter historical vaccinations if individual is not in LINKS but has other verifiable COVID-19 vaccination records
- 5-11 year olds eligible for vaccinations – all parents have been sent text messages and mailings in November

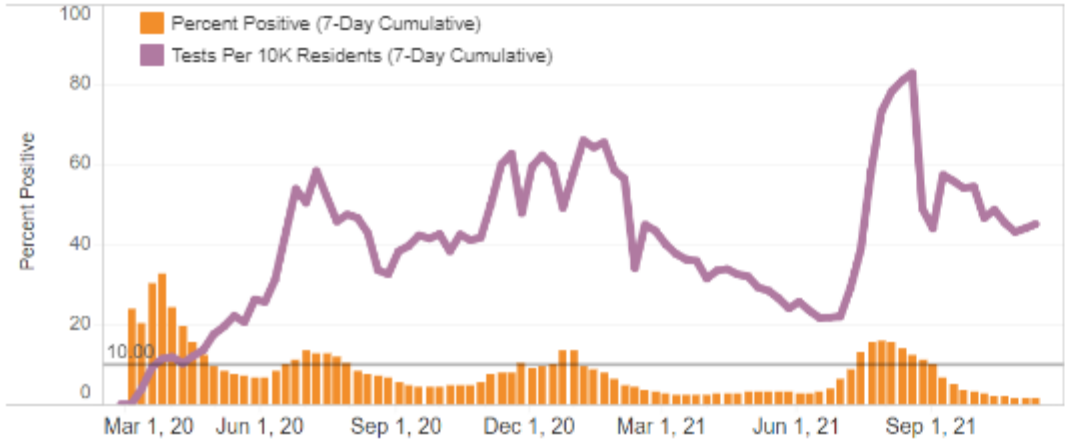
Louisiana

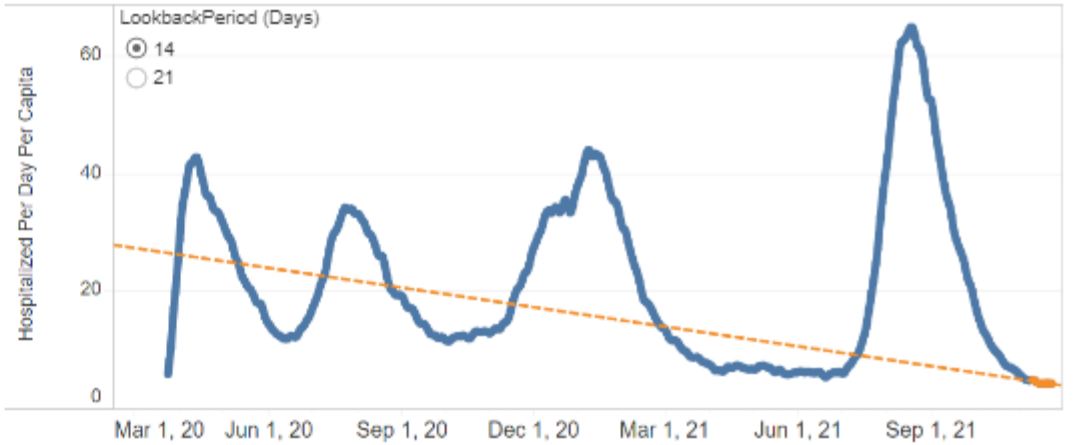
- As of November 17, the 7-day cumulative percent positivity was 1.70%, the previous week's percent positivity was 1.70%.
- The hospitalizations per capita for the state are decreasing over the last 14 days.
- As of November 19, the epidemic curve for the state showed 12 days in an upward trajectory in average daily incidence of COVID cases.

Gating Indicators | **All**





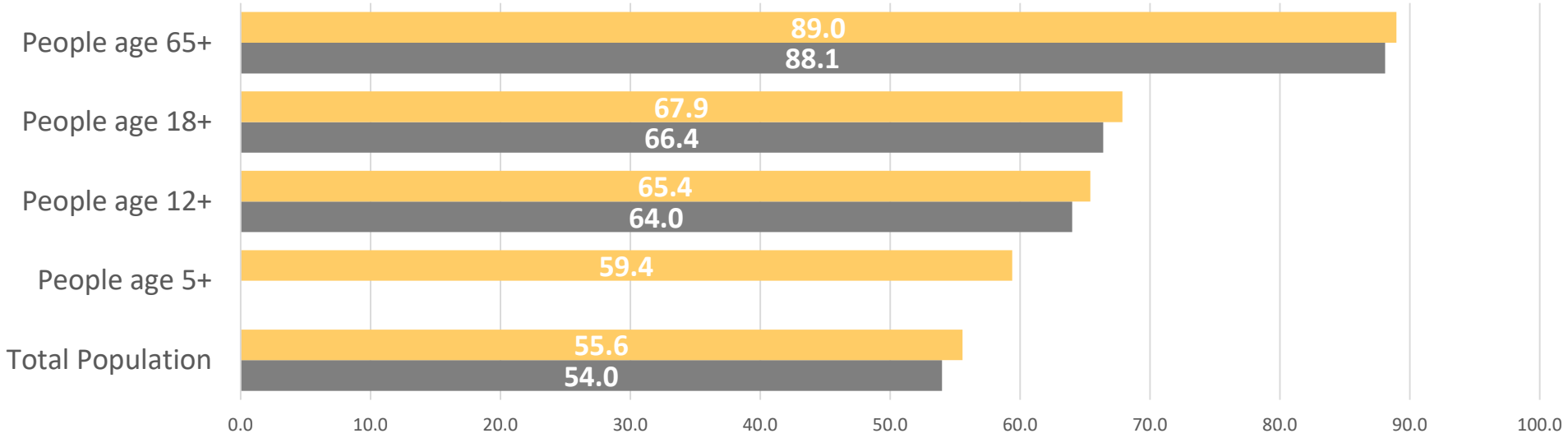




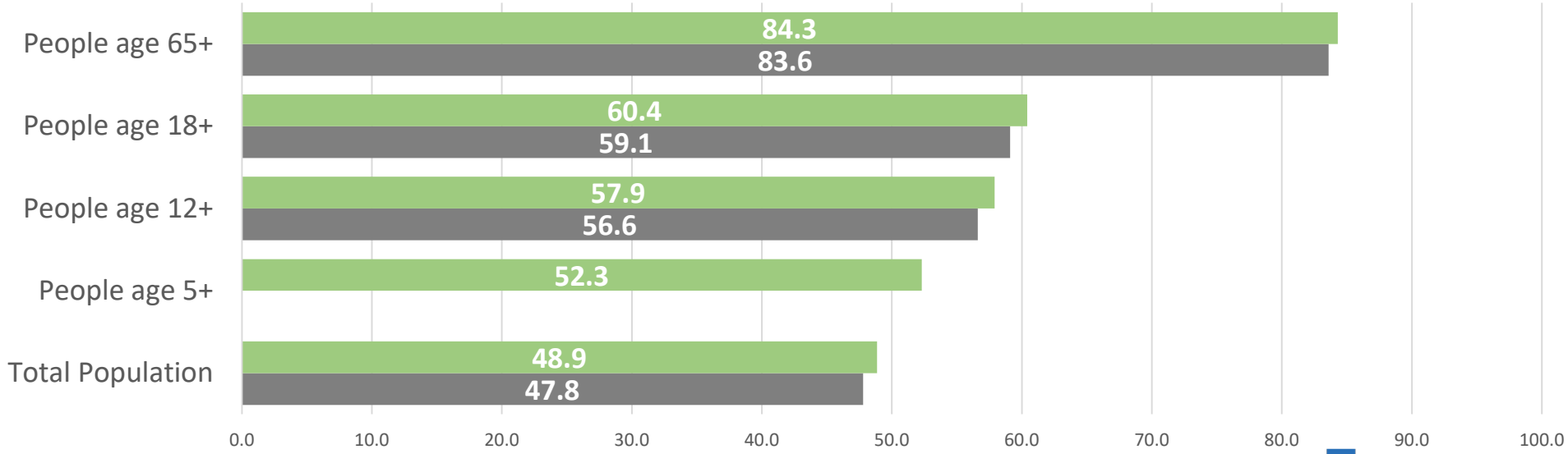
Last updated 11/23/2021

People vaccinated in LA, as of 11/30/21

At least one dose



Completed Series



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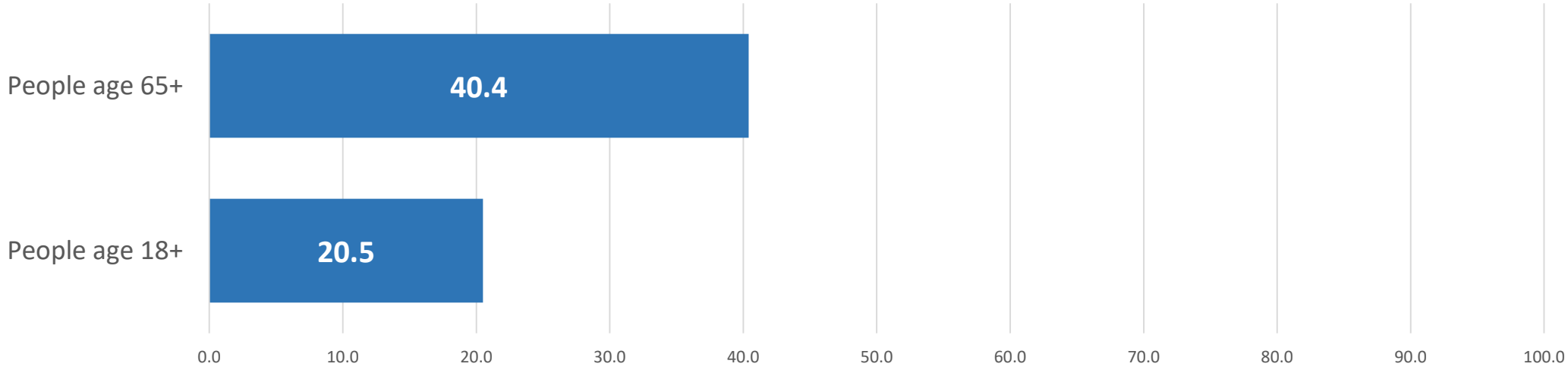
People vaccinated in LA, as of 11/30/21

Additional Doses



Cumulative doses administered: 5,212,443
Cumulative doses delivered: 6,651,150
% of delivered doses administered: 78.4% (last meeting was 77.7%)

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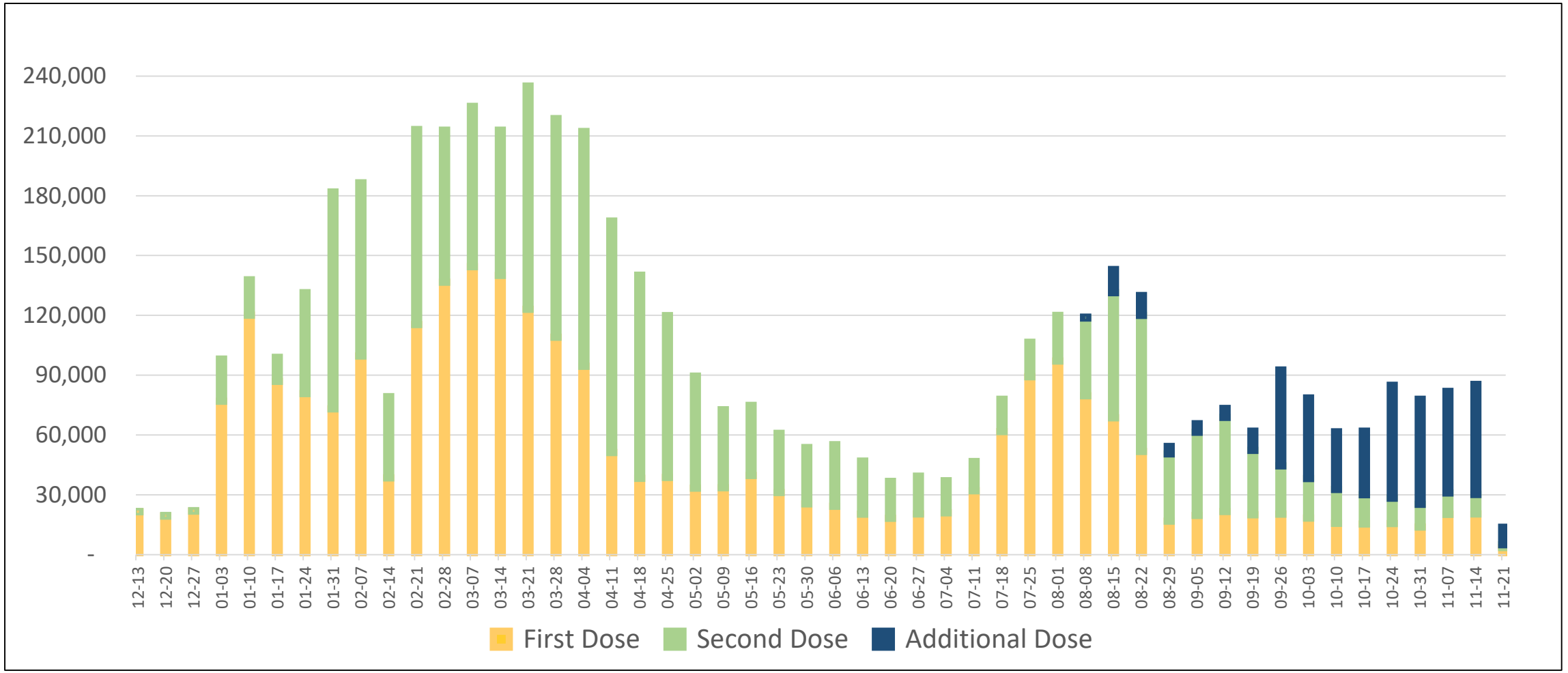
Doses administered per week by vaccine number, as of 11/30/21



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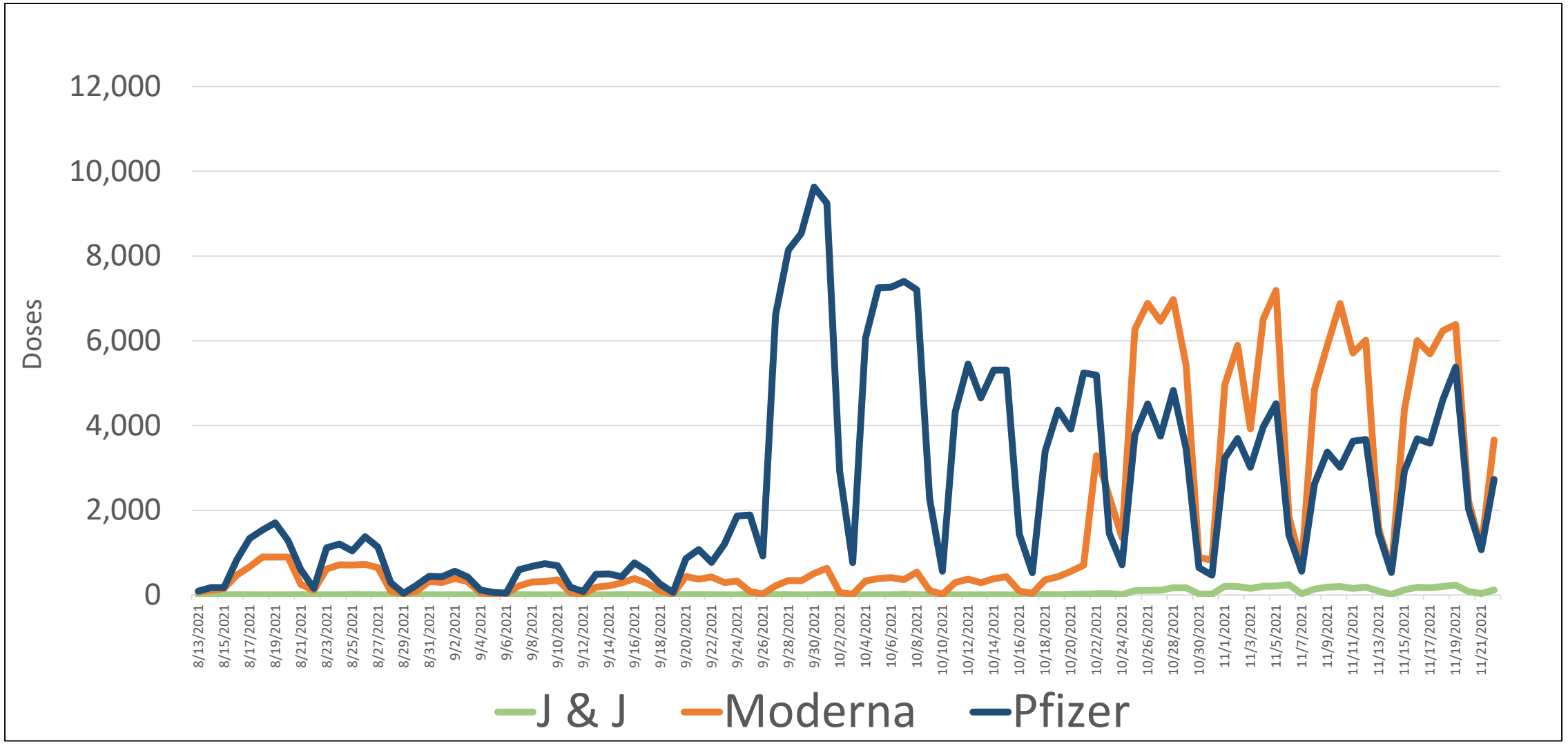
Additional doses administered, per day, by vaccine type, as of 11/30/21



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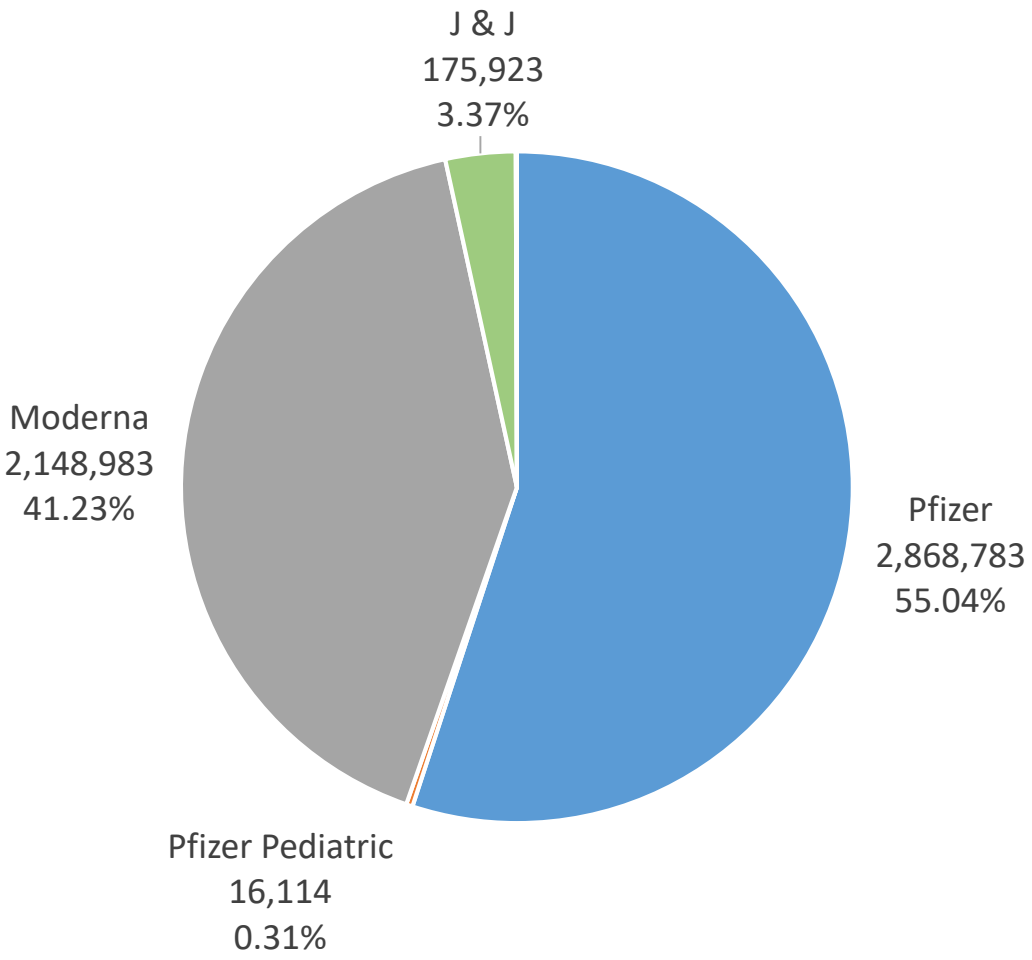
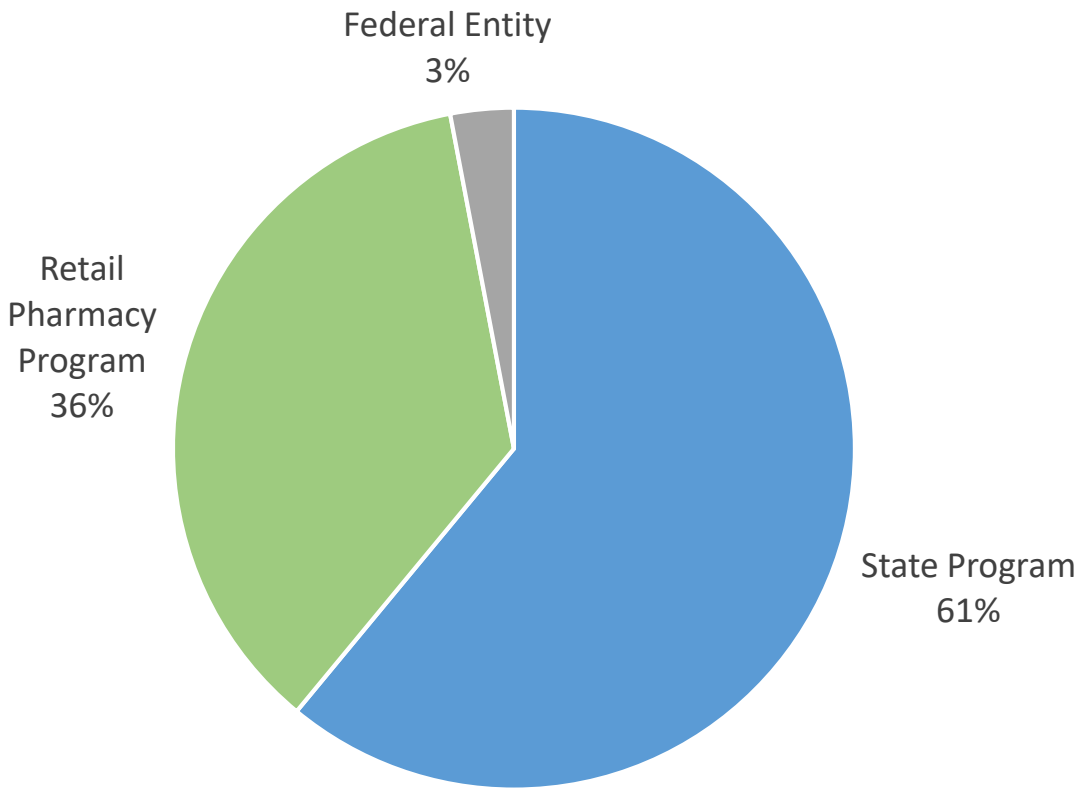
Doses administered as of 11/30/21

By Vaccine Type:



By Vaccine Channel:



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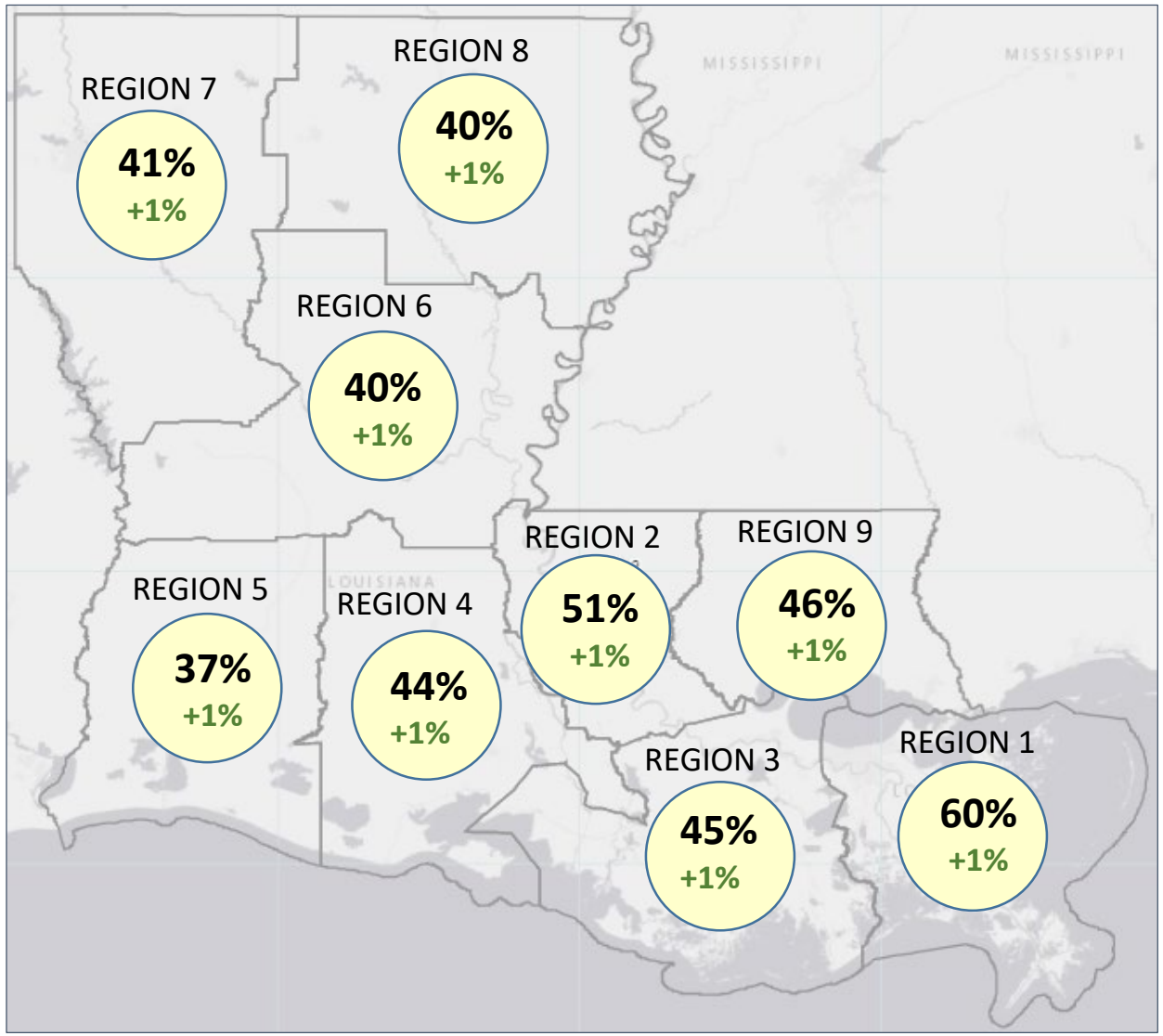
COVID-19 vaccination coverage by region, as of 11/30/21



Source: ldh.la.gov/coronavirus

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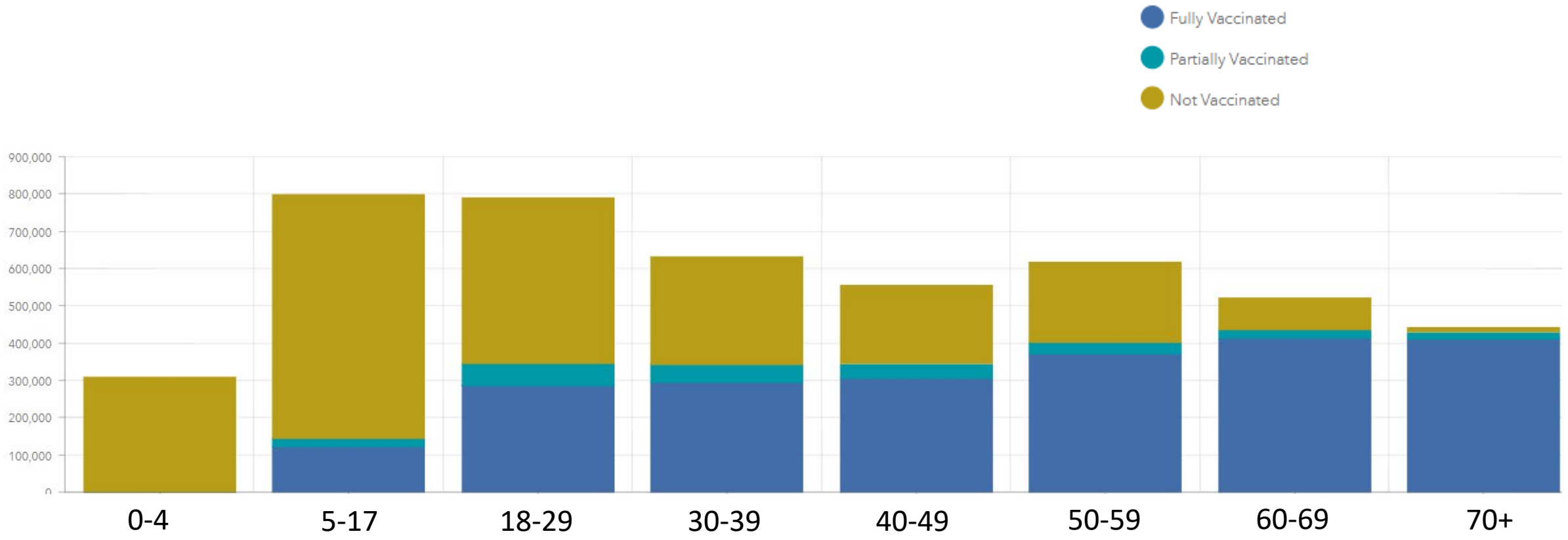
Vaccination status by age, as of 11/30/21:



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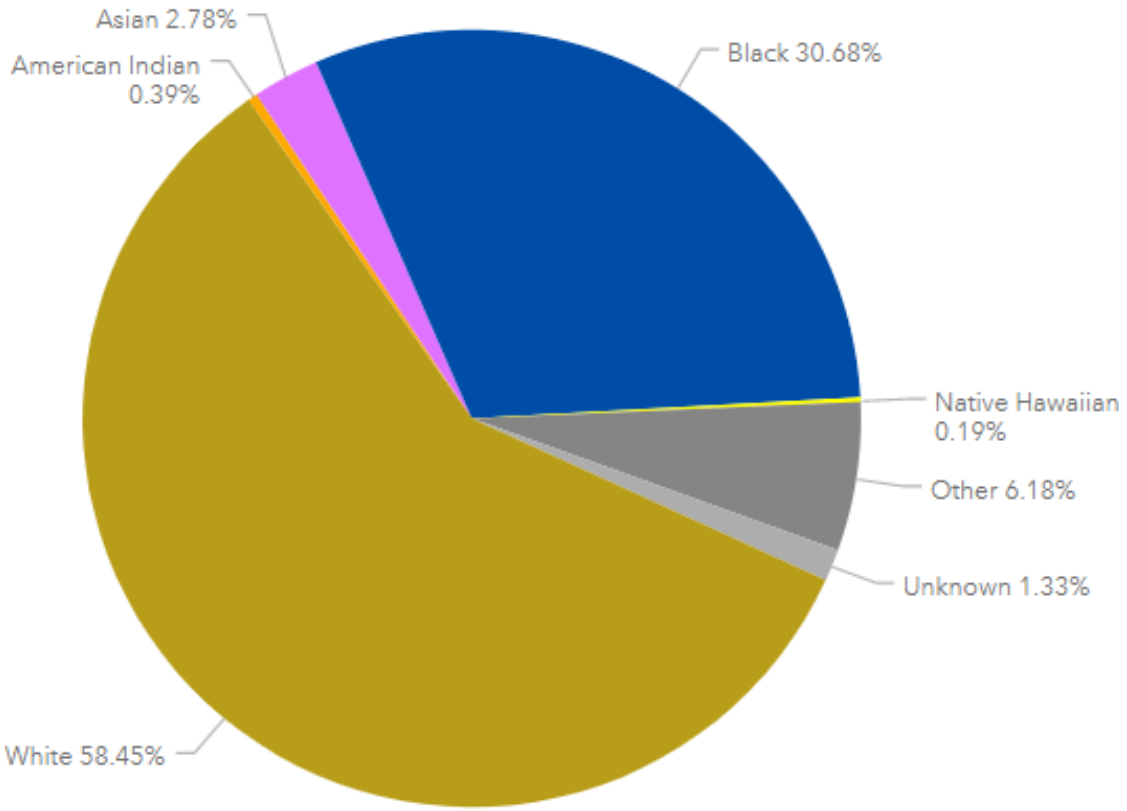
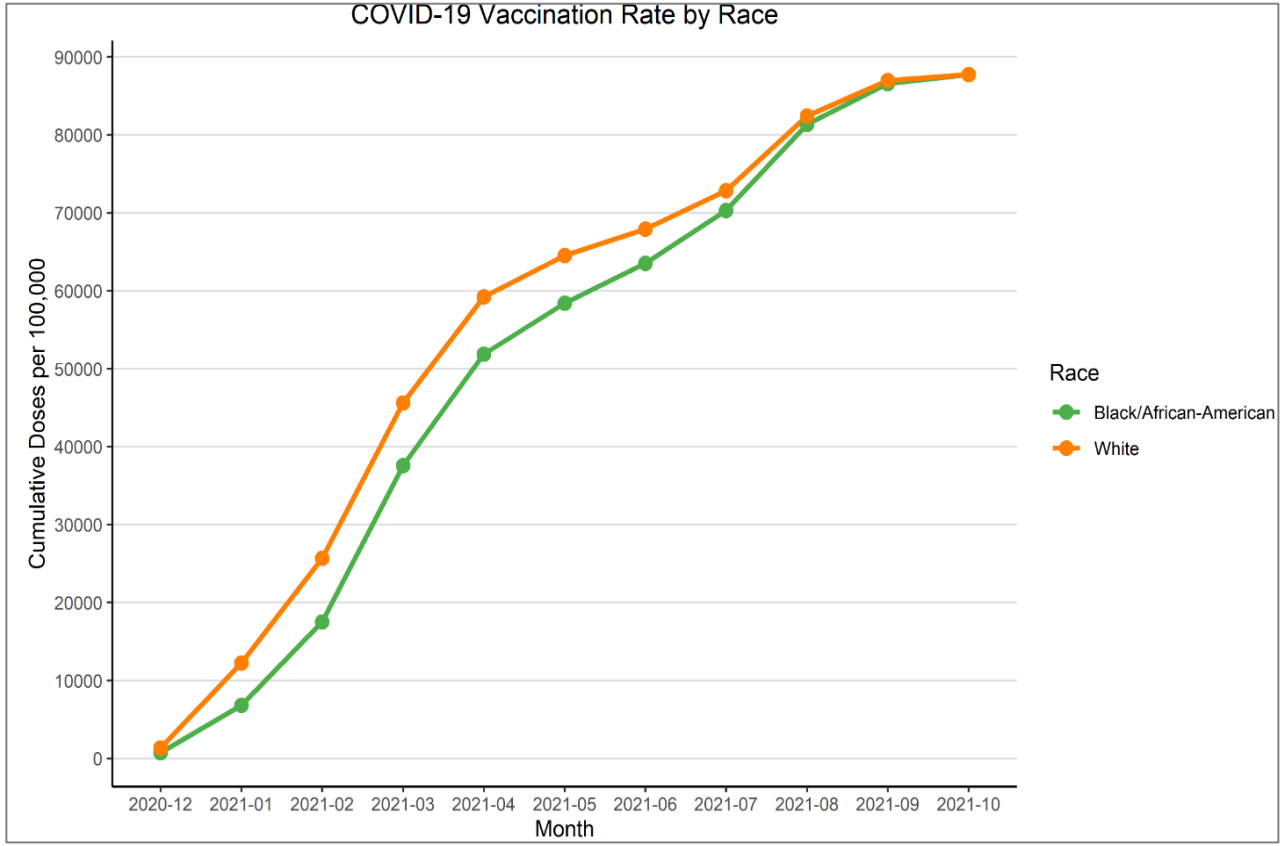
Series completion and race, as of 11/30/21





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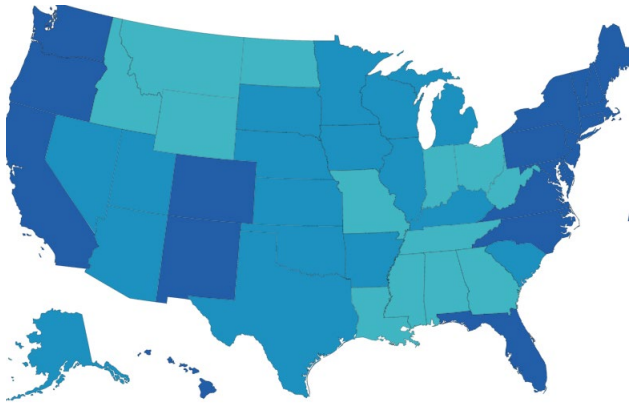
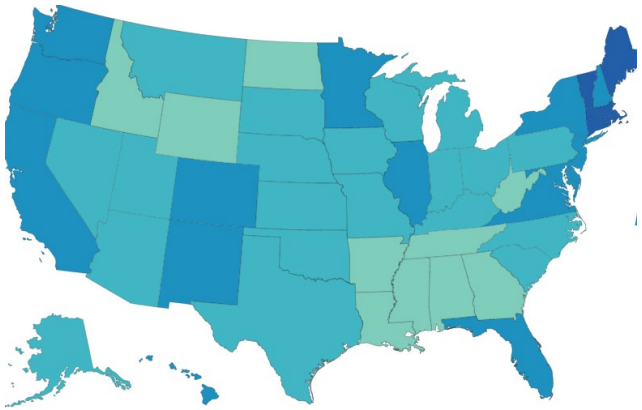
Louisiana rankings as of 11/30/21



Percent of total population with at least one dose
LA ranks 45 of 50

Florida: 71.8%
Texas: 64.0%
Alabama: 56.4%
Louisiana: 55.6%
Indiana: 55.6%
West Virginia: 53.9%
Mississippi: 53.7%
Wyoming: 53.5%
Idaho: 50.7%

US average: 70.1%



Percent of total population completing series
LA ranks 44 of 50

Florida: 61.3%
Texas 54.6%
Louisiana: 48.9%
North Dakota: 48.7%
Mississippi: 46.9%
Alabama: 46.1%
Wyoming: 45.5%
Idaho: 45.2%
West Virginia: 41.5%

US average: 59.3%

Pediatric Pfizer Vaccines

- LDH recommended the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11 on November 3rd
- Providing as many COVID-19 pediatric providers as possible with vaccine is critical to achieving equitable vaccine access during product roll out
- There is no shortage of pediatric COVID-19 vaccine and providers are encouraged to order and provide these vaccines to children
- 162,490 Pediatric Doses have been ordered/delivered in LA, through 11/24
- As of 12/1, 21,796 children, aged 5-11, have received at least one dose of the pediatric Pfizer vaccine – this accounts for about 5.17% of the 5-11 year old population

Pediatric Pfizer Vaccines

- Pediatric Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine can be identified with an **ORANGE** cap and **ORANGE** border on the label.
- Pediatric diluent will have a **GREEN** cap.

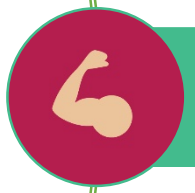
Pediatric Pfizer Vaccines: General Information

Age Indication:

- 5 to 11 years of age

Diluent:

- 1.3 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride (normal saline, preservative-free)



Dose & Route:

- 0.2 mL; intramuscular

Schedule:

- 2-dose series, separated by 21 days

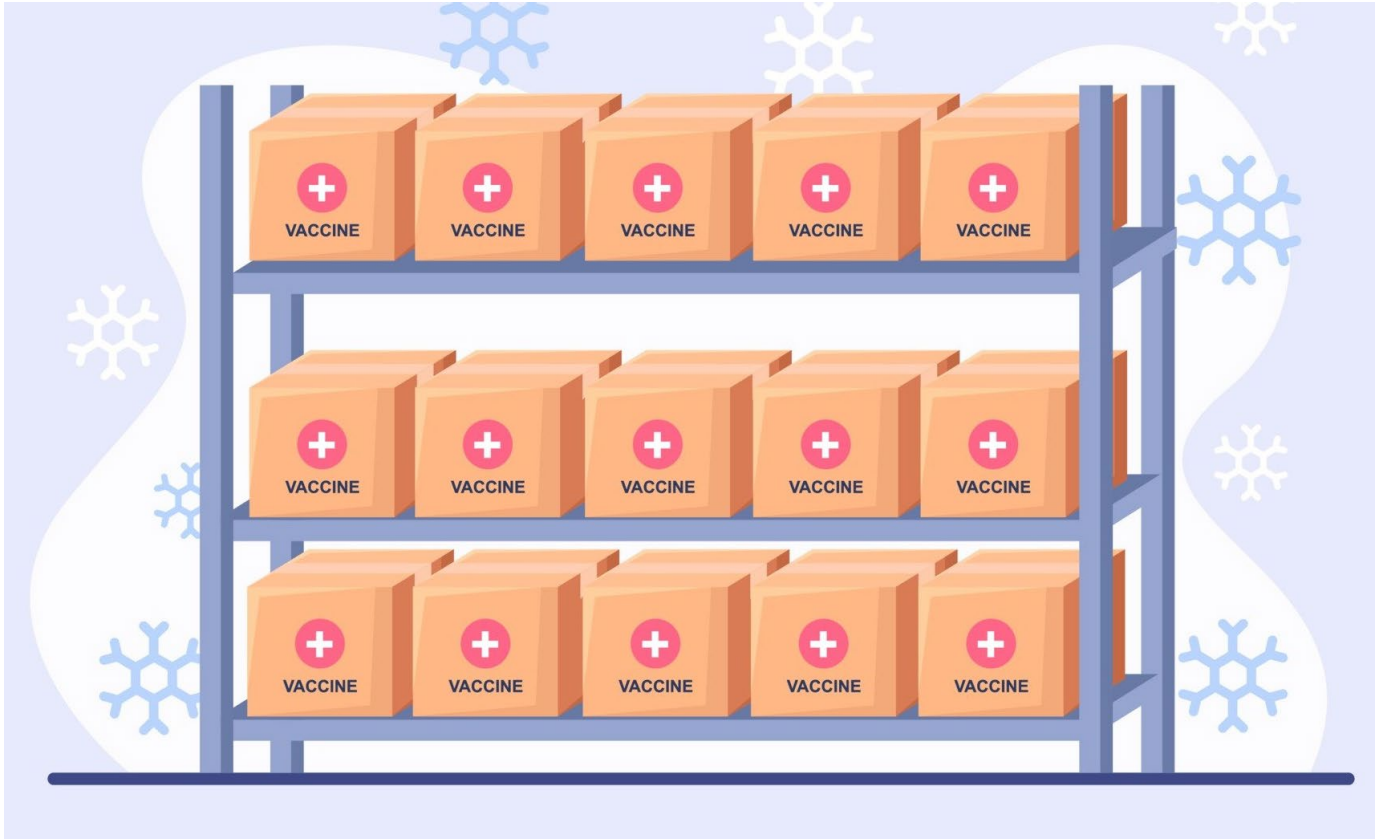
Multi-dose Vial:

- 10 doses per vial

Storage Pediatric Pfizer Vials: **Refrigerator**

Currently, the pediatric Pfizer vaccine is delivered refrigerated. **Because it is not frozen, the vaccine should be stored in the refrigerator between 2° and 8°C (36° to 46°F) for up to 10 weeks.** This is before mixing.

- Monitor how long the vaccine has been in the refrigerator using CDC's beyond-use date labels.
- Store the vaccine in the tray or box.
- Protect from light.
- DO NOT refreeze thawed vaccine.



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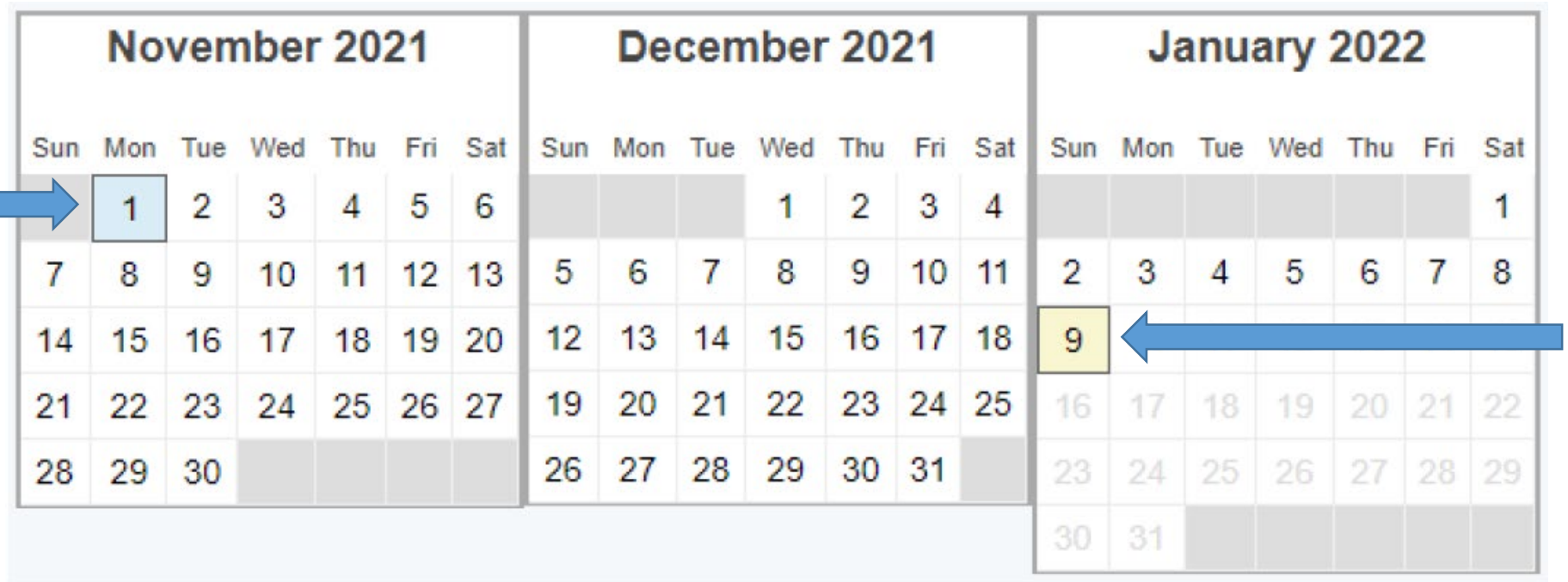
Determining the Expiration Date for Pediatric Pfizer Vials Stored in the **Refrigerator**

- When determining the 10-week expiration date, allow for one day of transportation from the day the vaccine was shipped to your facility.
- For example, if the vaccine was shipped on **November 1,2021**, and it arrived to you on **November 2, 2021**, **January 9, 2022** would be the expiration date.

Shipped Date



Expiration Date, 10-weeks from shipped date

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Determining the Expiration Date for Pediatric Pfizer Vials Stored in the **Ultra-Cold Freezer**

- Vaccine may be stored until the expirations date. **Vaccine expires 6 months after the manufacturer date.**
  - The manufacture date is printed on the vial (orange cap).
  - Count out 6 months, using the month printed on the vial as month 1.
- The vaccine expires on the last day of the 6th month.
- As the expiration date approaches, contact the manufacturer to determine if it has been extended. Do not discard vaccine without ensuring the expiration date has passed.

Month 1: August 2021 **(Printed on vial)**

Month 2: September 2021

Month 3: October 2021

Month 4: November 2021

Month 5: December 2021

Month 6: January 2022

Expires January 31, 2022

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Pediatric Pfizer: Ordering Vaccine in LINKS

- Minimal amount of pediatric Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is 20 doses (1 vial for first doses, 1 for second doses so 20 dose minimum order size).
- Pediatric Pfizer doses will not have an automatic second dose sent 3 weeks later, as occurred with initial adult vaccine allocation.

- Ex. If you expect to vaccinate 100 individuals in the first 2-3 weeks of pediatric vaccine availability, you will need to submit an order for 200 doses of vaccine (100 for first doses, and 100 which you will store for 3 weeks for second doses).

Pediatric Pfizer: Common Questions and Answers

If a child turns 12 between the first and second dose, do they receive the pediatric dose or the adult dose?

- If a child turns 12 between doses, the child is to receive the adult dose for the second shot.

There is diluent left in the vial. Can I use it to mix with other vials of pediatric vaccine?

- DO NOT use or save any remaining diluent to mix with additional vials of vaccine or for other uses. Discard the diluent vial after mixing the vaccine.

Reporting Vaccine Adverse Events

- The **Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)** is a national early warning system to detect possible safety problems in U.S. licensed vaccines. VAERS is co-managed by CDC and FDA.
- **Healthcare providers are strongly encouraged to report any adverse event that occurs after the administration of a vaccine** licensed in the U.S., whether or not it is clear that a vaccine caused the adverse event.
- To submit a report, go to vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.

VAERS
Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System
www.vaers.hhs.gov

Equity First

A Year of COVID-19 Vaccinations in Louisiana

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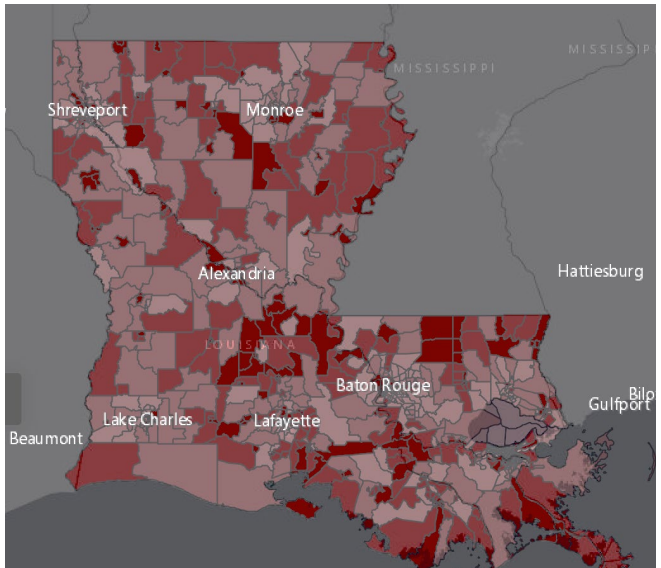
Prior to COVID-19 Vaccines

- Louisiana historically ranked low nationally for vaccine administration rates
- Gaps in Health Equity across the state; the majority of the State lives in areas of High Social Vulnerability
- Vast majority of vaccine was ordered and administered in the private sector



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Initial Planning Assumptions

- Initial COVID-19 Doses would be extremely limited
- We would need to order in minimum quantities of 975 to sites with Ultra Cold Freezers (or who could use 975 doses extremely quickly) for Pfizer
- Demand for both Pfizer and Moderna vaccine would exceed supply

- These considerations did not align with the type of equitable vaccine roll out Louisiana wanted to have.

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Need for Redistribution on Day 1

- While we could not change the amount of doses we were allocated, we could change how many providers received them!
- We wanted as many equitable access points as possible from the beginning so we partnered with a pharmaceutical redistribution company, Morris and Dickson, prior to Vaccine EUA
- We have utilized them ever since!

- **Out of 29,795 unique vaccine deliveries, 10,462 have been through M&D (in smaller quantities than the federal minimums/allowing smaller provider to receive)**

- LOW AND WIDE DISTRIBUTION!

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Initial Allocation Strategy

- Allocated initial State vaccine to all hospitals based on:
  - Tier
  - Total number of employees who work in the emergency department(s) and the COVID-19 Unit(s) (including triage, security and reception in these areas)
  - Total number of staff
  - Average COVID-19 cases during the pandemic

- Each of these criteria were weighted and used to allocate the first few weeks of COVID-19 vaccine to front line medical workers

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Initial Redistribution Results

- **Every Tier 1 Hospital in Louisiana (*except for one which was damaged*) received vaccine during Week1!**
- **Enough vaccine for every direct contact health care worker within the first month of distribution**
- **EMS Staff, Tier 2 Hospitals and other medical staff were also able to receive in the first weeks since we were able to support so many access points**

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Morris and Dickson-Redistribution Center

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Allocation through the First 7 Weeks of COVID-19 Vaccines

- Elderly/medically at risk individuals were quickly able to receive vaccine, along with high risk medical staff, at providers and community vaccination sites in across the state
  - Louisiana participated in Federal Pharmacy Partnership for Nursing Home Residents.
- Centrally, doses were equitably divided (by population and SVI) to pharmacies, urgent cares, FQHCs, rural health clinics and other local providers across the state.
- Access points, and proportional availability, were quickly made available in all 64 parishes in Louisiana (**thanks to significant enrollment outreach from both LDH and partner organizations!**)

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Allocation through the First 19 Weeks of COVID-19 Vaccines

- As doses allocated each week increased and eligibility expanded, local expertise became more and more important to ensure vaccine locations, and quantities, were sufficient in meeting patient demand
- Regional teams (headed by the 9 Regional Medical Directors) were tasked to help divide their doses each week (proportional to their population) amongst providers submitted weekly " Vaccine Requests"
  - By prioritizing SVI and critical provider types, as well as dividing their doses **into quantities as little as one vial through M&D**, they were able to ensure equitable access was available in every parish, every week!

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Provider Ordering

- Once supply increased relative to demand, we transitioned away from allocation and allowed providers to order as needed
- Providers could order **as little as one dose of any vaccine** type themselves that would arrive through M&D (or direct ship) within 3-5 days

- Over the Summer, the State absorbed over 50,000 doses from the field (that were no longer needed/would have been wasted) and returned to M&D to be used to fill new orders
- We also continued to store doses after initial expiration in the event of an expiration extension; which did occur fo thousands of doses

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Provider Ordering

- Where any gaps in coverage remained (or emerged) providers were contacted to encourage them to enroll and/or order additional vaccine
  - **To date Louisiana has enrolled 2,586 providers who have received over 4.8 million State allocated/ordered doses!**
  - **Over 7 Years worth of normal VFC Vaccine has been ordered and distributed!**

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Mobile Events

- Louisiana's equity isn't even fully captured by our traditional access points/providers
- With our National Guard, and 7 contracted mobile vaccination partners, LDH has hosted (as of 9/30/21)

- **4,620 Mobile Vaccination Events at 1184 unique locations**
- **2/3 of these mobile events occurred in High SVI Parishes**
- **Over 200,000 Doses have been administered at these mobile events to individuals who might not have otherwise visited traditional vaccine providers**
  - **Over 250 have been to homebound individuals!**

Mobile Event Breakdown By Region	
Region1	928
Region2	877
Region3	735
Region4	414
Region5	501
Region6	710
Region7	784
Region8	193
Region9	343
Homebound	200

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BBL/Targeted Outreach

- BBL Campaign
- Door Knocking Campaign
  - Nurse Carla Initiative and to promote community vaccination events in High SVI areas
- Targeted Phone calls and text messages to residents who live in a community that is going to have a mobile vaccination event
- PSA's and Peer to Peer Messaging
- Reminder/Recall Letters and Text Messages through our IIS
- Vaccine Incentives

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Outcomes

- On the Initial KPI Tiberius Rankings. Louisiana scored 908 equity ranking out of 1000.
- Currently, Louisiana has a score of 931!
  - The regional average is only 65 and the federal average 598
  - (This doesn't even take into consideration all of our mobile vaccine access points events!)

Equity
931

High SVI Administration Zip Code	High SVI Resident Zip Code
70%	65%
Combined Equity Score	
93.1	

PHARMACY	94.5%	945
FEDERAL	75.4%	754
COMBINED	93.0%	930
REGION	6.5%	65
NATION	59.8%	598

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Outcomes Cont.

- From Dec-Feb, Louisiana was number 1 (out of 50) for series completion in the recommended interval!
- Louisiana had the lowest rate of people missing their second dose out of all 50 states!

- By using M&D, along with our vaccine return effort and storing doses past initial expiration, Louisiana trends well below the national average for vaccine wastage.

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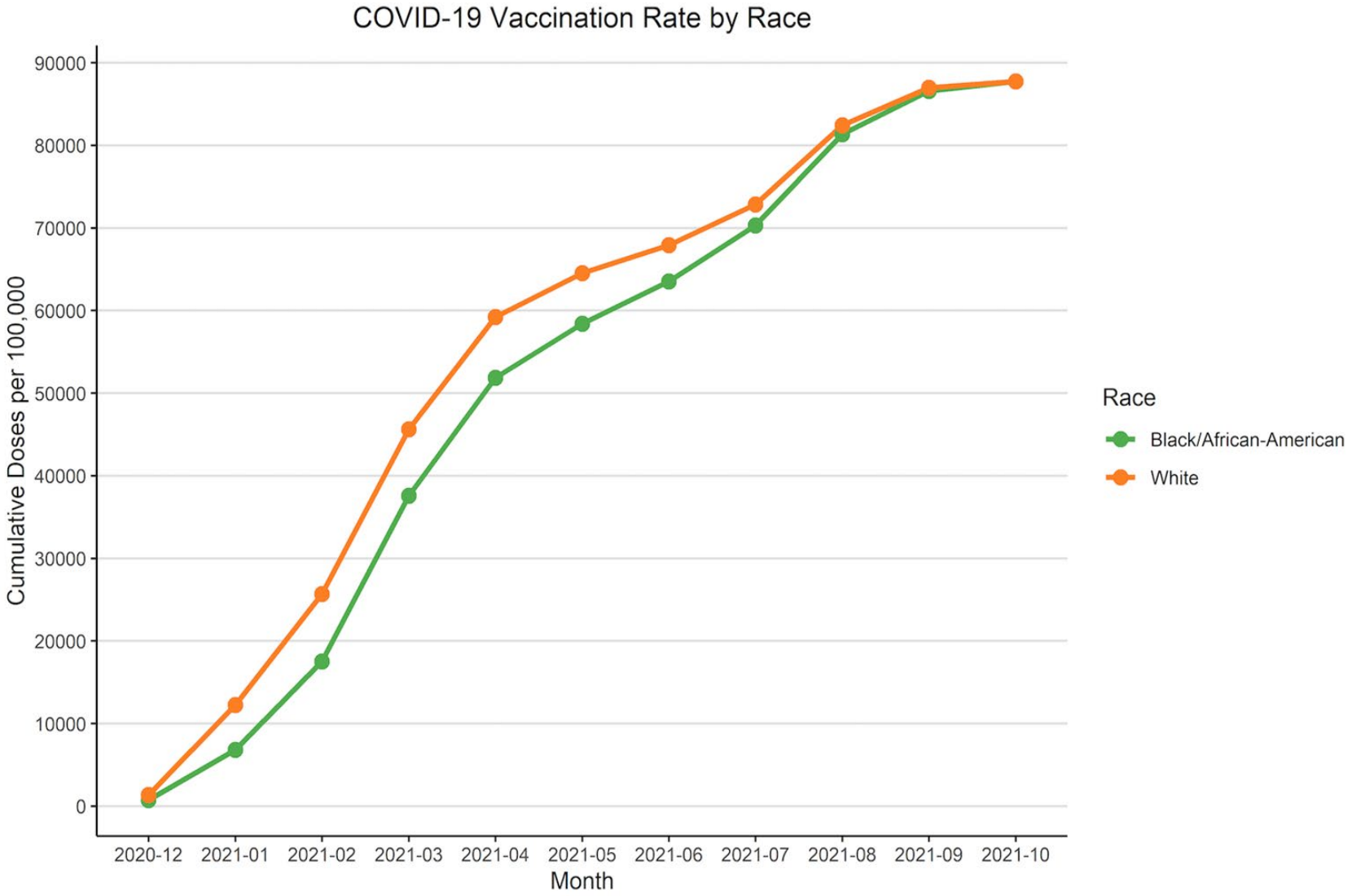
Outcomes Cont.



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Looking Ahead

- Continue to drive up administration rates and keep our equity lens!
- Youth Vaccination Efforts
  - Youth Ambassador Groups
  - Parent Ambassador Groups
  - Targeted Media/Equity Outreach

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We want to hear from you!!

- Have any local success stories or photos to share from the past year?
- Highlights or lessons learned that could be shared statewide or nationally?

- **Please send them to la.immunization@la.gov by 5:00pm on Tuesday December 7th to be incorporated into an expanded version of this presentation.**

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THANK YOU!!!

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Omicron Variant - what we know so far

Update from Theresa Sokol, MPH
OPH Epidemiology Manager

Q&A