

Duplin County Board of Education Meeting

October 21, 2021

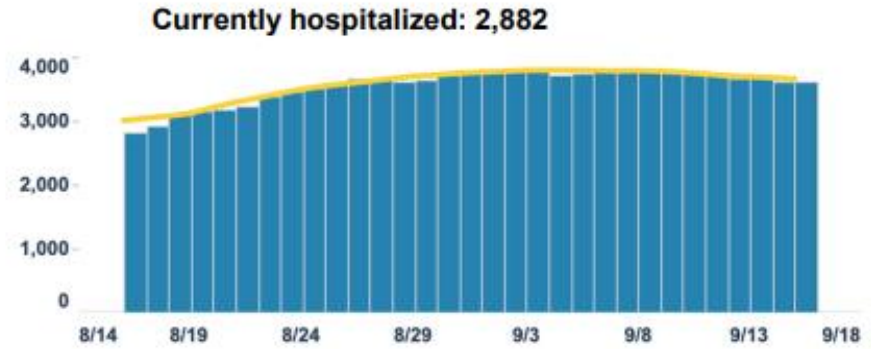
- School Health Nurse Liaison
- State Board of Education October Meeting
- Duplin County COVID-19 Update
- Isolation and Quarantine Control Measures

DUPLIN COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Education October Meeting

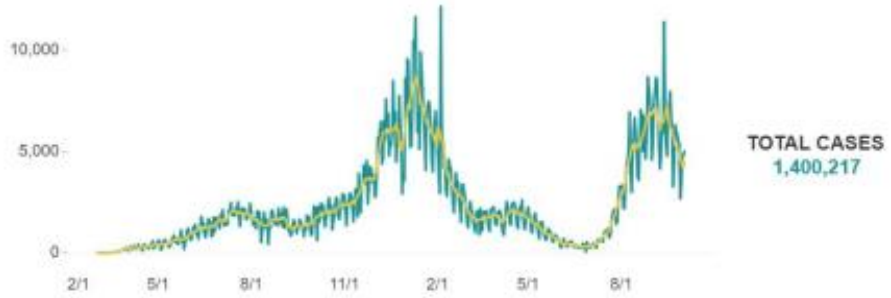
Four Key Metrics- Signs of Leveling Off

Daily Number of People Currently Hospitalized

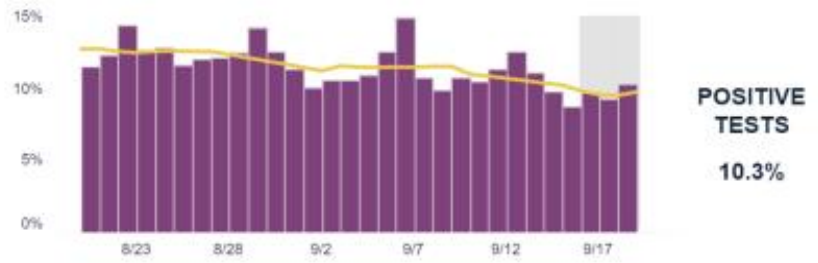


Daily Cases by Date Reported

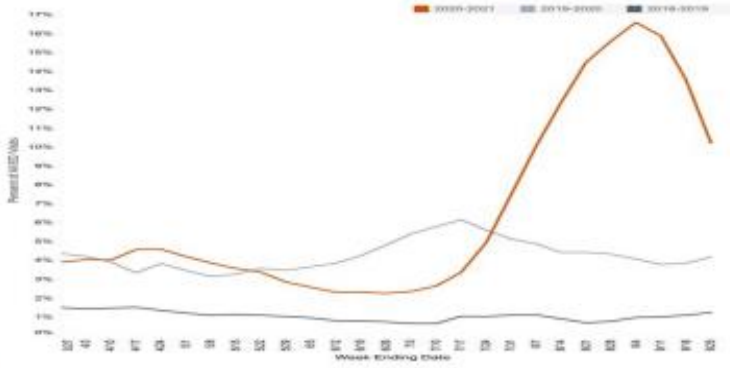
Is North Carolina seeing a downward trajectory over 14 days, or sustained leveling in new cases?



Positive Tests as a Percent of Total Tests



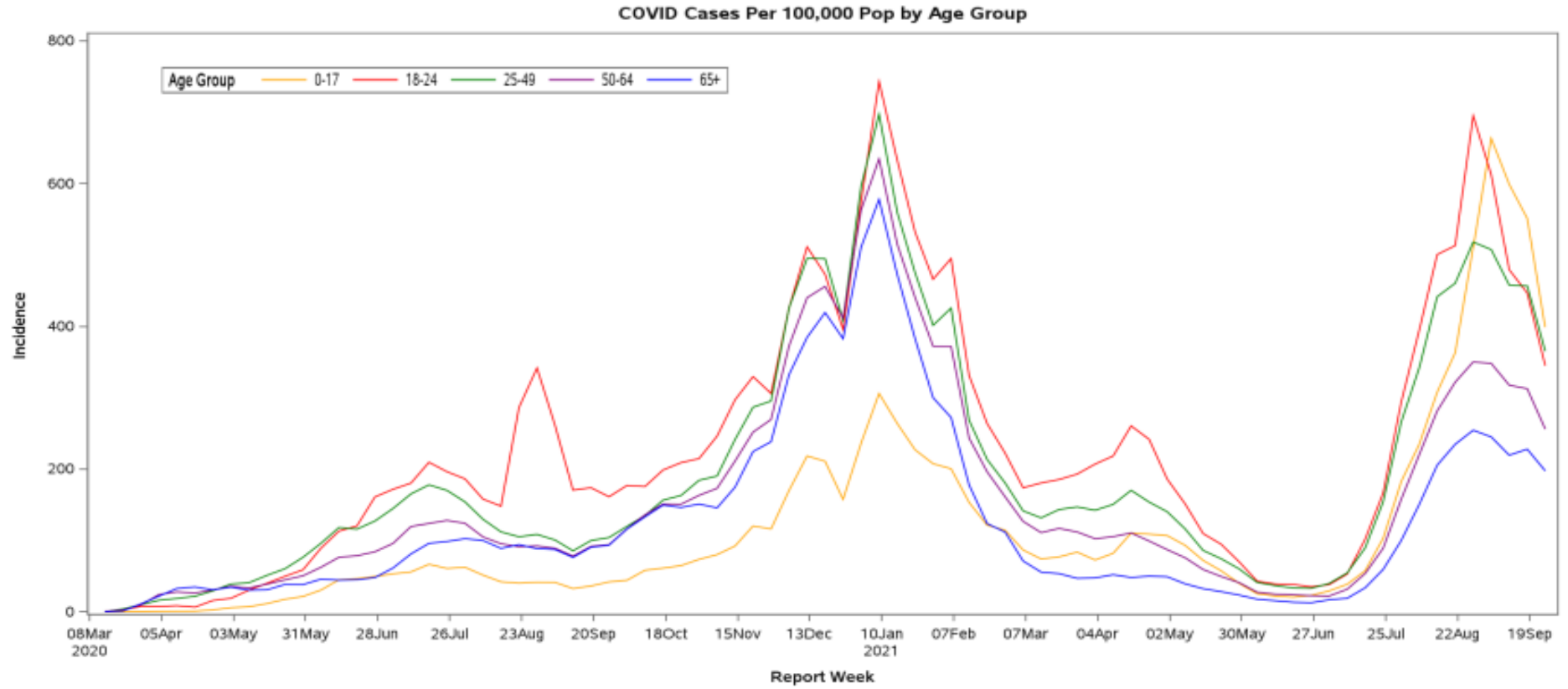
What Percentage of ED Visits this Season are for COVID-like Illness Compared to Previous Seasons?



Source: https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard

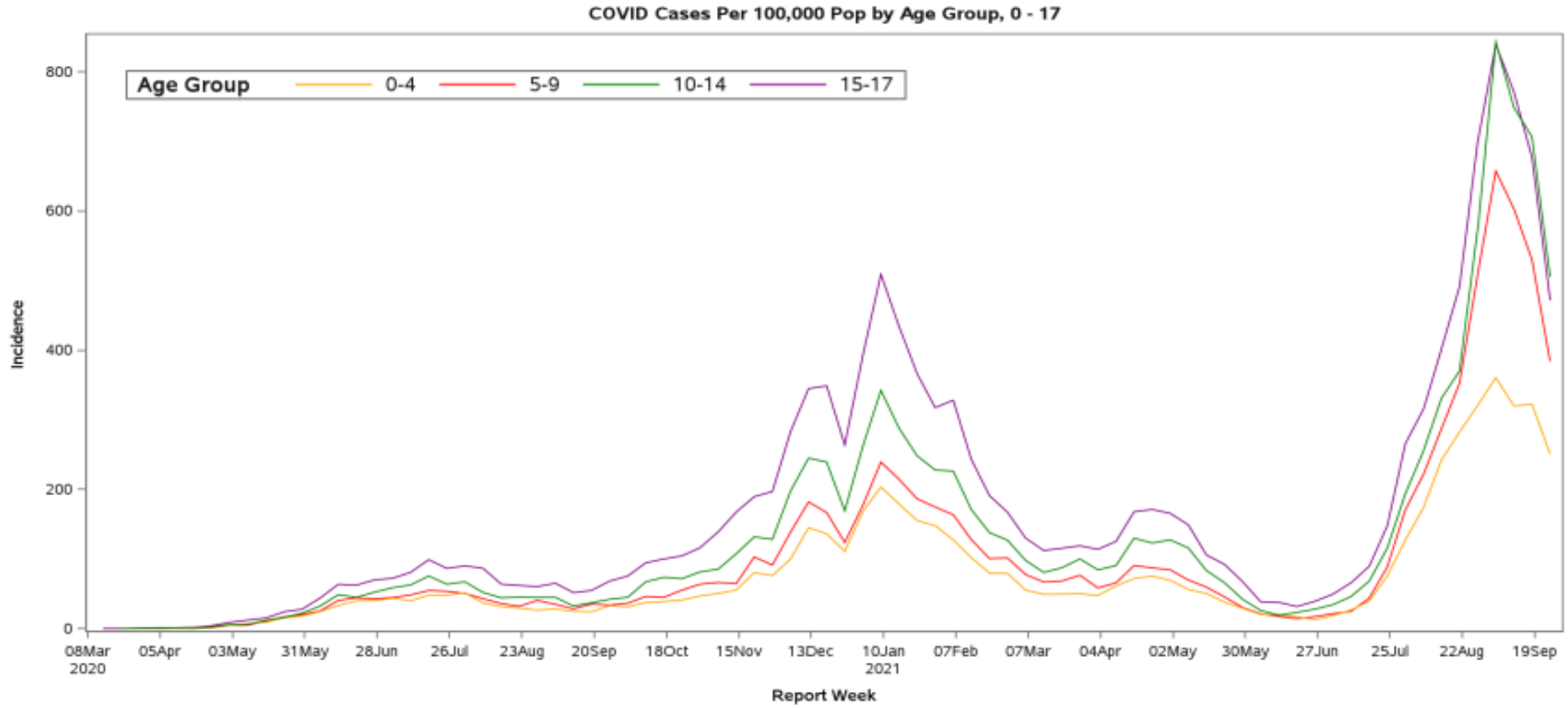
Case Rates Decrease Across All Age Groups

Case rates have fallen most rapidly for individuals ages 0-17 and 18-24 since the summer peak. Case rates for children continue to be higher than January peak levels.



Case Rates Declining Among Children

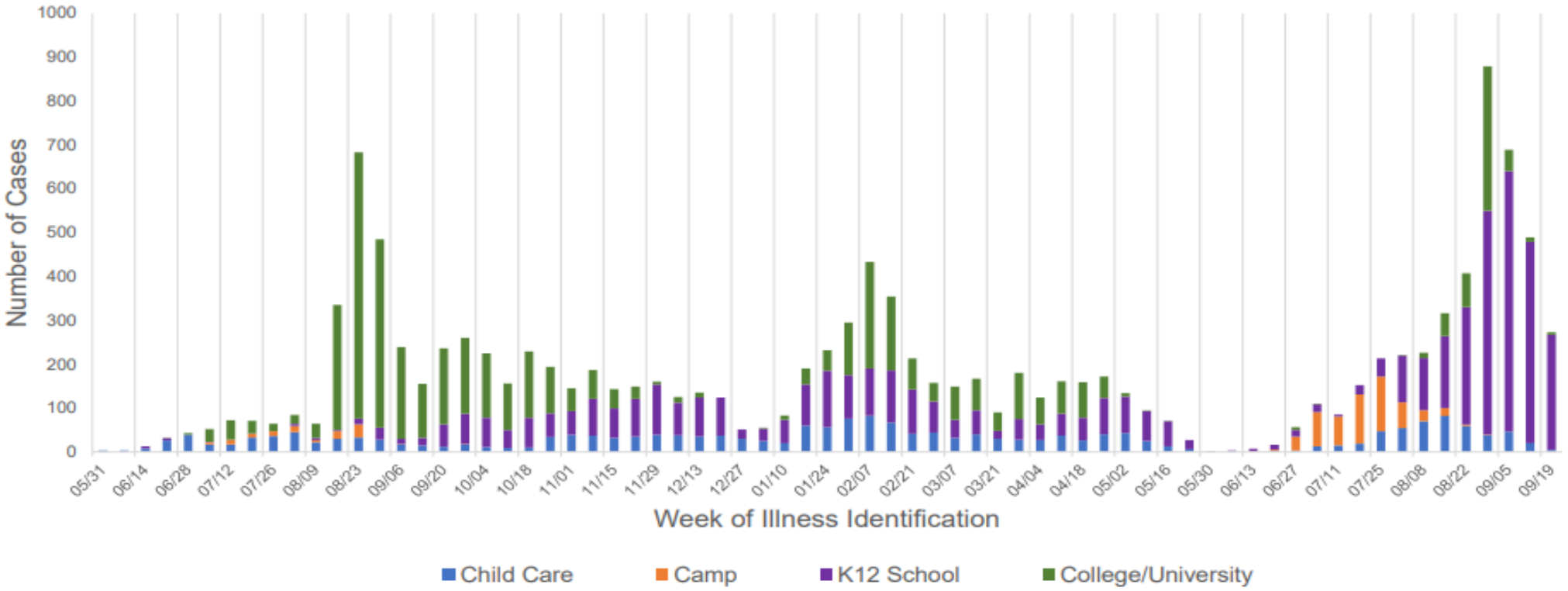
Highest rates in middle and high school-aged children.



K-12 Reported Clusters – as of 9/27/21

- **258 currently active clusters (246 at public schools, 12 at private schools)**

https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard/outbreaks-and-clusters/



Pediatric COVID-19 Hospitalizations in Southeastern United States



https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#new-hospital-admissions

Mask Mandate Comparison: *August 26 –September 26, 2021*

- **3 counties without mask mandates in schools**
  - There was an average of **17.2** clusters per 100 schools in those three counties.

- **89 counties with consistent mask mandates**
  - 35 counties did not report a school cluster.
  - 54 counties reported at least one school cluster.
    - Of those, there was an average of **6.9** clusters per 100 schools

- **Eight counties that reported clusters and changed school mask mandates in the time period were excluded.**

National Data

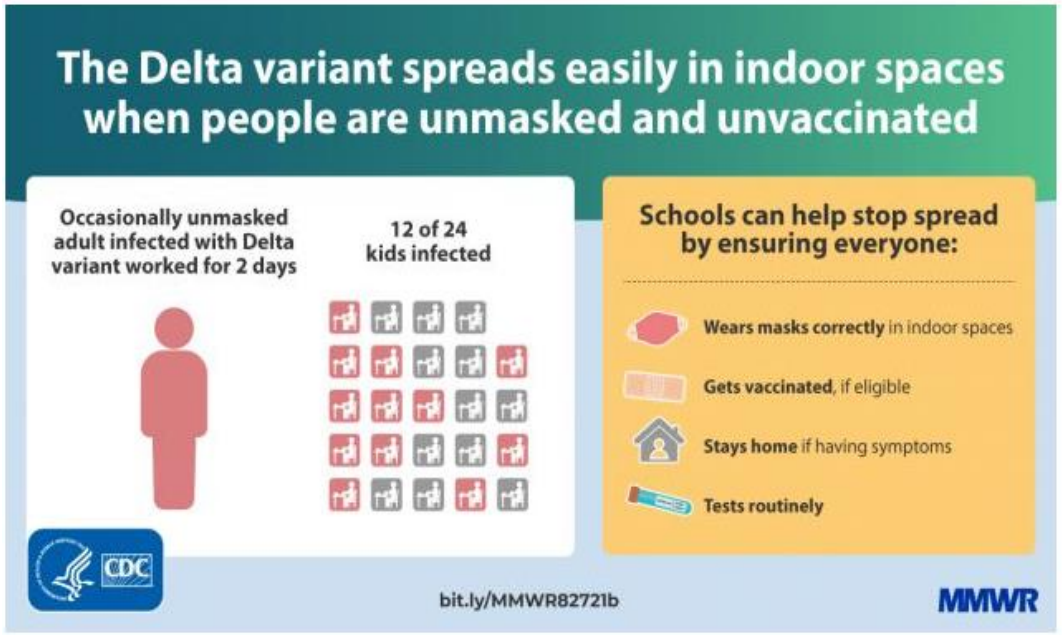
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Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (*MMWR*)

Outbreak Associated with SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 (Delta) Variant in an Elementary School — Marin County, California, May–June 2021

Weekly / September 3, 2021 / 70(35);1214–1219

On August 27, 2021, this report was posted online as an MMWR *Early Release.*



Summary

What is already known about this topic?

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant is highly transmissible. Prevention guidance in schools varies by jurisdiction.

What is added by this report?

During May 23–June 12, 2021, 26 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases occurred among Marin County, California, elementary school students and their contacts following exposure to an unvaccinated infected teacher. The attack rate in one affected classroom was 50%; risk correlated with seating proximity to the teacher.

What are the implications for public health practice?

Vaccines are effective against the Delta variant, but transmission risk remains elevated among unvaccinated persons in schools. In addition to vaccination, strict adherence to multiple nonpharmaceutical prevention strategies, including masking, are important to ensure safe school instruction.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (*MMWR*)

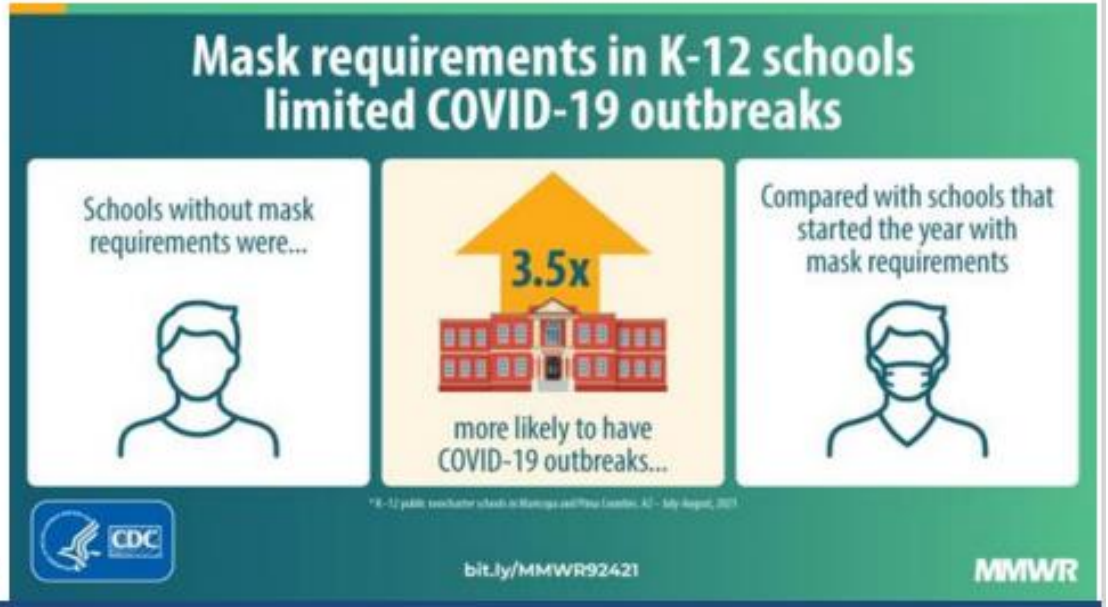
Association Between K–12 School Mask Policies and School-Associated COVID-19 Outbreaks — Maricopa and Pima Counties, Arizona, July–August 2021

Early Release / September 24, 2021 / 70

Megan Jehn, PhD[1,*]; J. Mac McCullough, PhD[2,*]; Ariella P. Dale, PhD[3,4]; Matthew Gue[1]; Brian Eller[5]; Theresa Cullen, MD[5]; Sarah E. Scott, MD[4]

Summary: In the two largest Arizona counties, with variable K–12 school masking policies at the onset of the 2021–22 academic year, the odds of a school-associated COVID-19 outbreak were 3.5 times higher in schools with no mask requirement than in those with a mask requirement implemented at the time school started.

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7039e1.htm?s_cid=mm7039e1_w



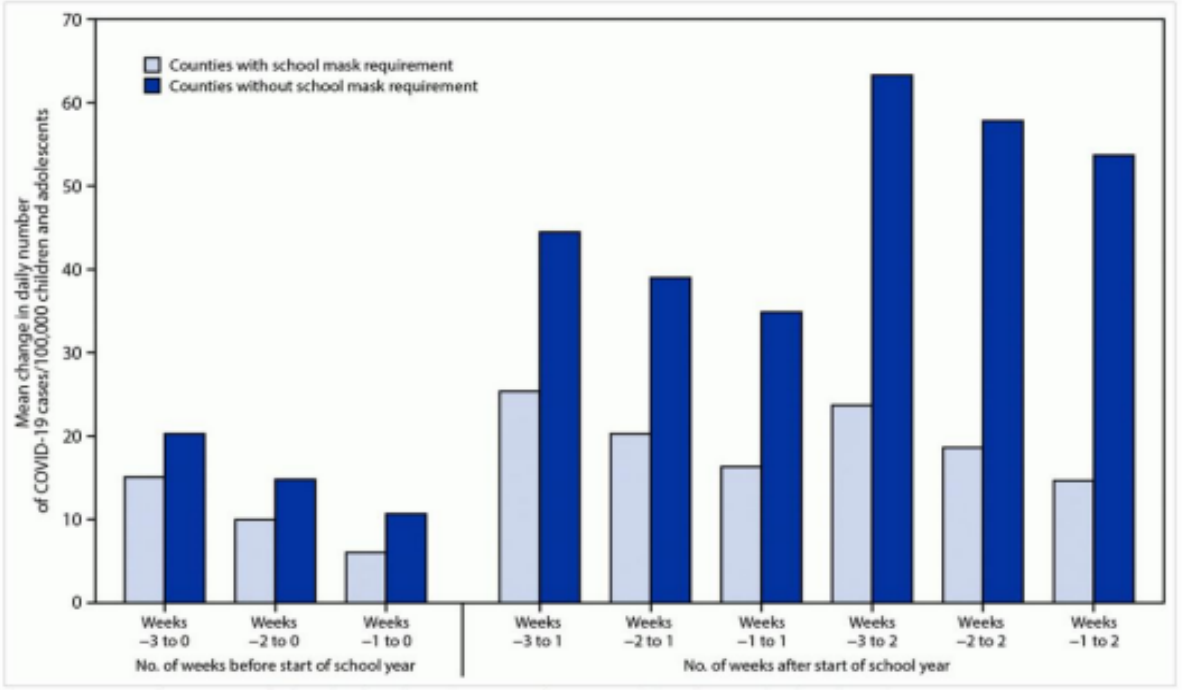
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Pediatric COVID-19 Cases in Counties With and Without School Mask Requirements — United States, July 1–September 4, 2021

Early Release / September 24, 2021 / 70

Samantha E. Budzyn, MPH[1,2]; Mark J. Panaggio, PhD[3]; Sharyn E. Parks, PhD[1]; Marc Papazian[4]; Jake Magid; M Eng[4]; Lisa C. Barrios, DrPH[1]

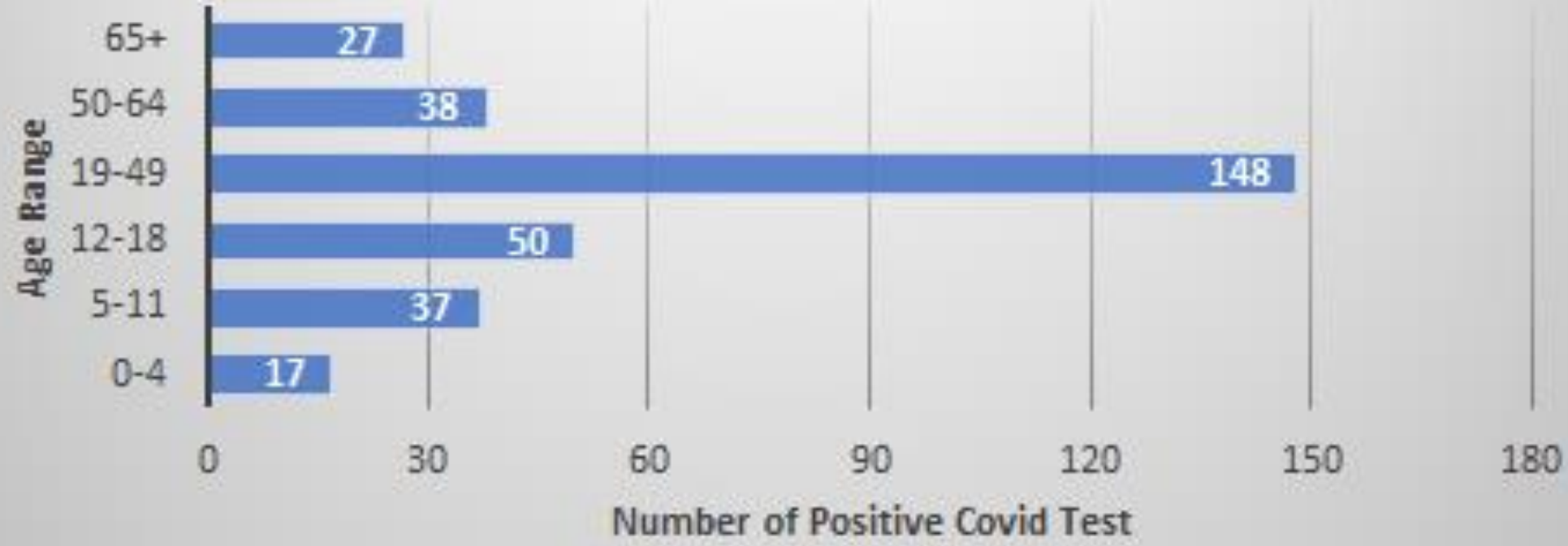
Counties without school mask requirements experienced larger increases in pediatric COVID-19 case rates after the start of school compared with counties that had school mask requirements

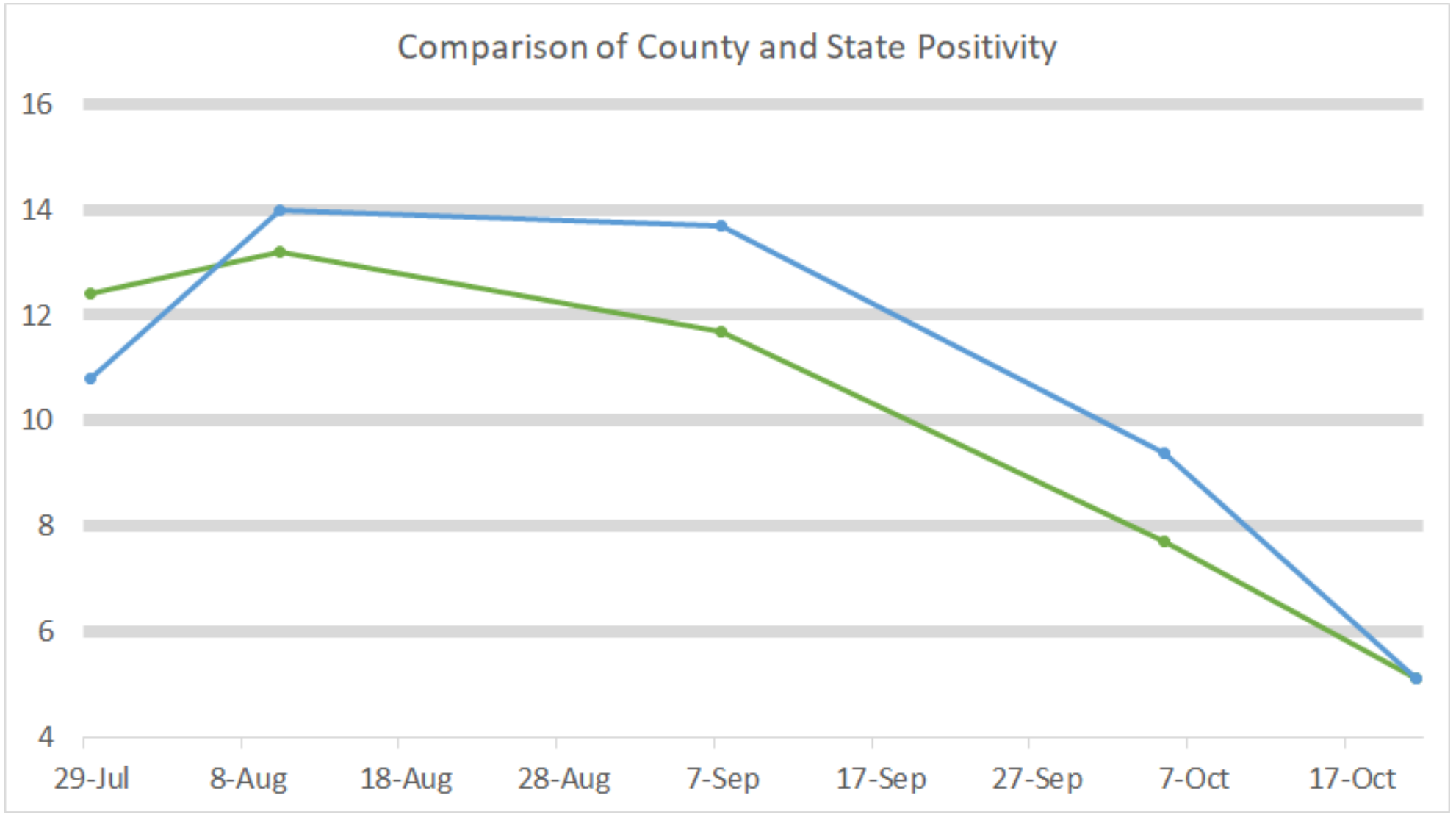


* Among 520 counties, 198 (38%) had a school mask requirement and 322 (62%) did not have a school mask requirement.

Duplin County COVID-19 Update

Positive COVID Cases in Duplin County October 3rd - 16th Confirmed Positive C19 Test





	29-Jul	10-Aug	7-Sep	5-Oct	21-Oct
Precent Positive Duplin	12.4	13.2	11.7	7.7	5.1
Precent Positive State	10.8	14	13.7	9.4	5.1

County Level COVID-19 Data

https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard (accessed 10.21.2021 at 12:15pm)

Current Positive Cases

- 75 cases & 128 new cases/100,000 residents (past 7 days)
- 170 cases & 289 new cases/100,000 residents (past 14 days)

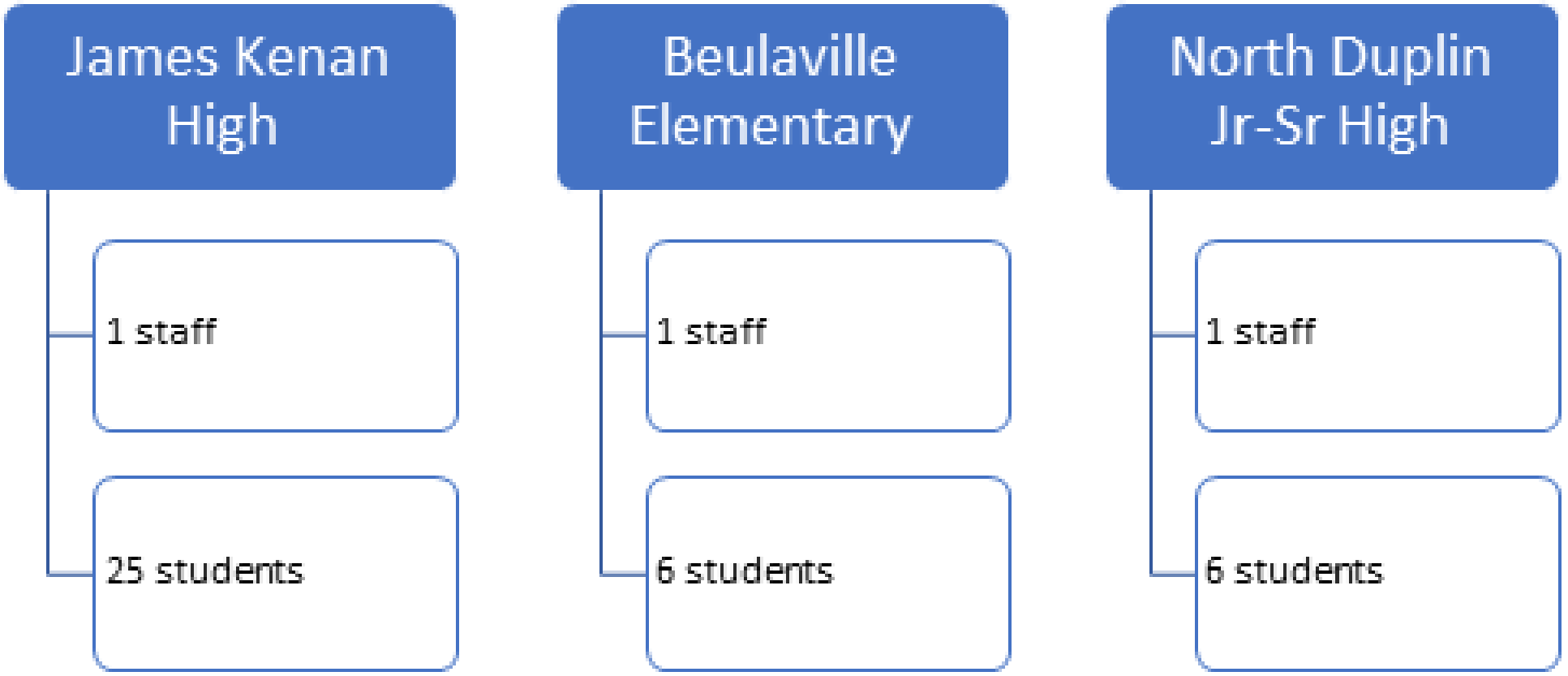
Vaccinations (of eligible population)

- Received at least 1 dose – 24,906 (50%)
- Fully Vaccinated – 22,795 (46%)

Local Data

- Under Surveillance - 152 individuals
- Total Deaths - 186

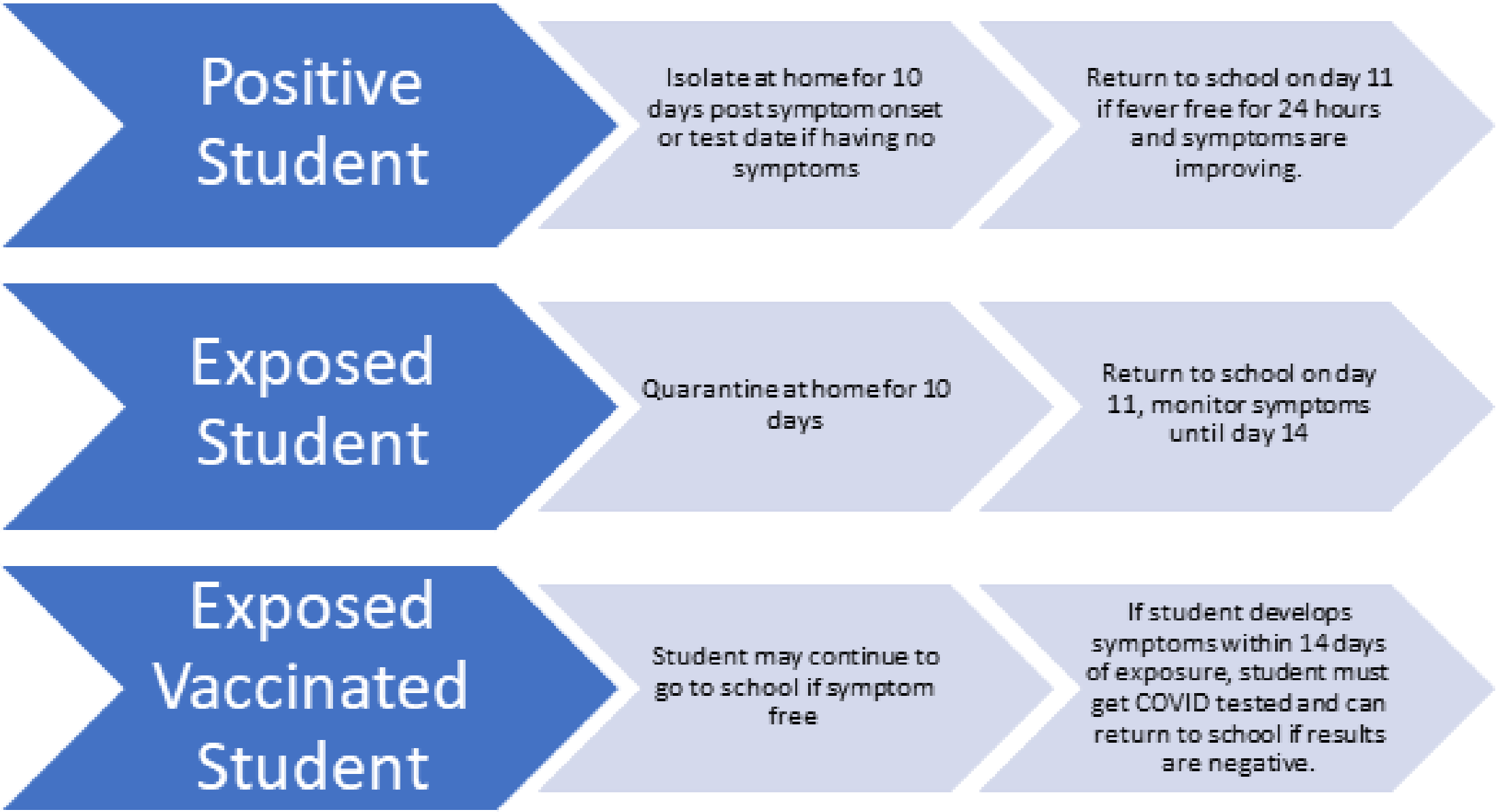
Duplin County Schools K-12 Clusters



The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) defines clusters as:

- A minimum of 5 cases with illness onsets or initial positive results within a 14-day period AND
- Plausible epidemiologic linkage between cases

Isolation and Quarantine Control Measures


Positive Student
Isolate at home for 10 days post symptom onset or test date if having no symptoms
Return to school on day 11 if fever free for 24 hours and symptoms are improving.
Exposed Student
Quarantine at home for 10 days
Return to school on day 11, monitor symptoms until day 14
Exposed Vaccinated Student
Student may continue to go to school if symptom free
If student develops symptoms within 14 days of exposure, student must get COVID tested and can return to school if results are negative.

Guidance for Households with a Positive Individual

Unvaccinated Household Members (Quarantine Away From Child)	•Household member will be out of work or school on quarantine for 10 days after the last contact with the household member.
Unvaccinated Household Members (Cannot Quarantine Away From Child)	•Household members first day of quarantine will start after the child has been cleared from isolation and will remain on quarantine for 10 days. (possibly a total of 21 days out of school or work)
Vaccinated Household Members	•Can continue to go to work or school unless they develop symptoms, then they will require a COVID test.

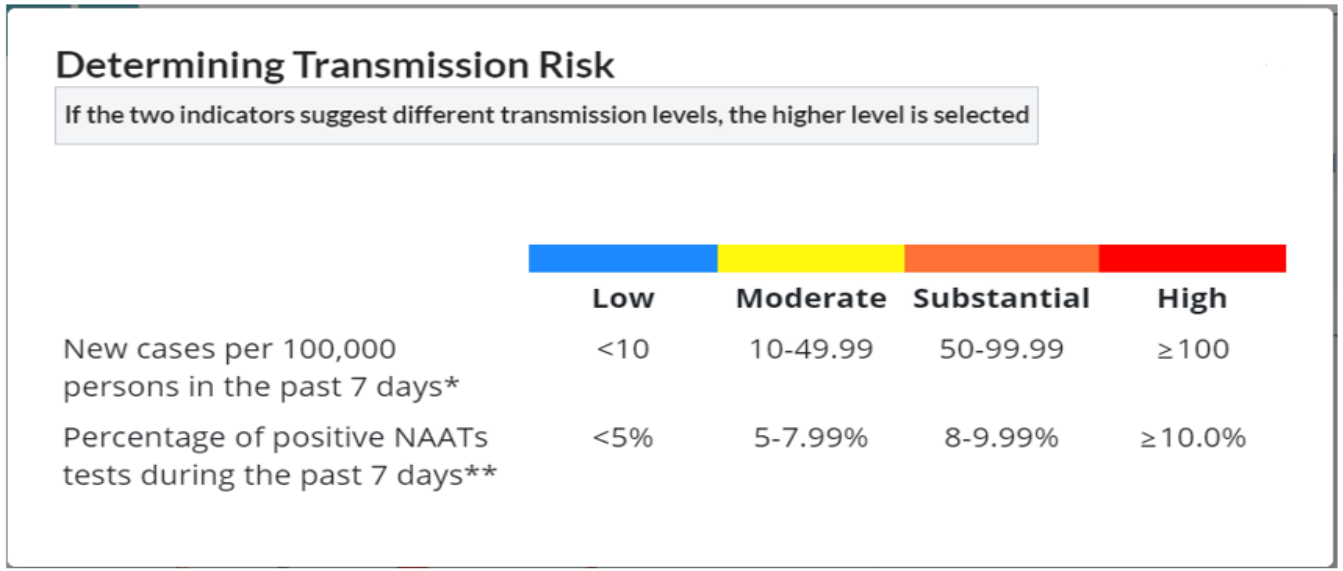
Face Covering Guidance for K-12 Schools

Guidance for K-12 Schools

High or substantial level of community transmission – Universal Masks required

Moderate level of community transmission for at least 7 consecutive days– Consider mask optional for vaccinated. Require masks for unvaccinated

Low level of community transmission for at least 7 consecutive days– Consider mask optional for everyone



CDC recommends for K-12 settings universal indoor masking, physical distancing to the extent possible, and additional prevention strategies to protect students, teachers, and staff. Schools should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement; layering multiple prevention strategies is essential when physical distancing of at least 3 feet is not possible at all times.

StrongSchools FAQ:

Q: When should schools consider lifting their universal indoor mask requirements?

A. Given that our student population is largely not yet vaccinated, face coverings remain a critical tool for protecting children and keeping them safely in the classroom. NCDHHS recommends that schools base their mask requirements on levels of community transmission, as defined by the CDC. Community Transmission Levels are determined by two indicators – case rate and test percent positivity. If the two indicators are categorized in different transmission levels, the higher level is selected. NCDHHS recommends schools continue to implement a universal face covering requirement if they are located in a county with high or substantial levels as defined by the CDC. When community transmission levels decline in your county to moderate or low levels for at least 7 consecutive days, school leaders can consider making face coverings optional for vaccinated individuals. Face coverings should continue to be required for all unvaccinated individuals until community transmission is at low levels, when mask could be optional for everyone. NCDHHS will continue to re-evaluate this guidance as all school-aged children become eligible for and get vaccinated.

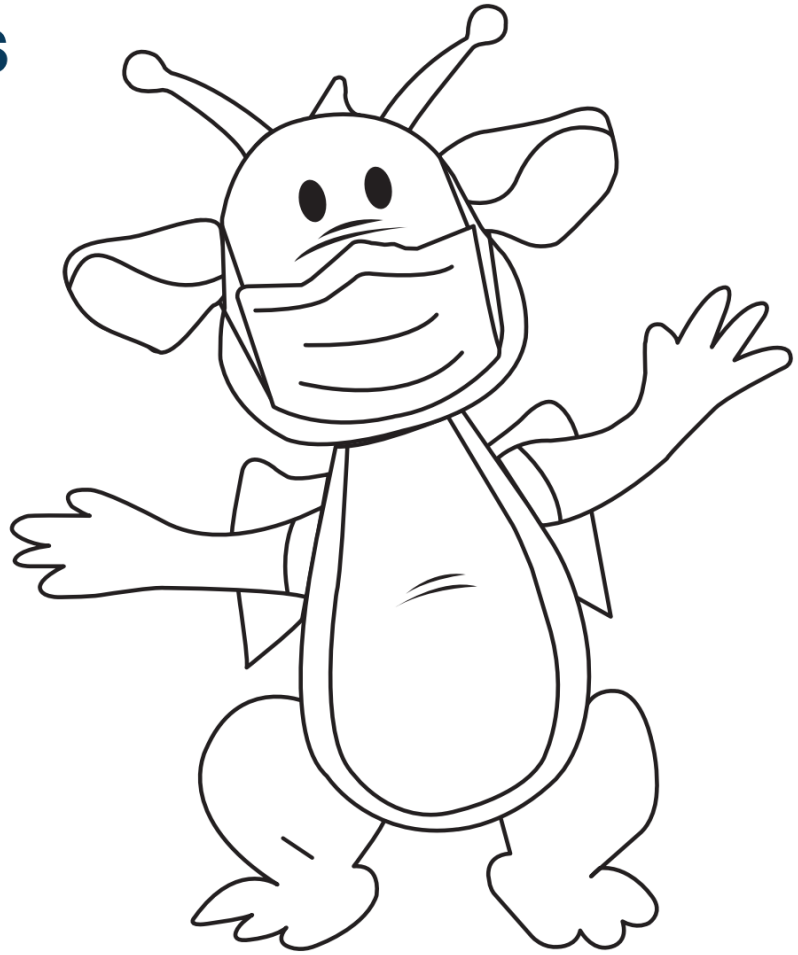
CookChildren's

Tips for getting young kids to wear face masks

Children over the age of 2 should wear masks to slow the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), but we know they may find the masks scary at first.

Here are some quick tips that may help:

- **Be patient – young children are looking for ways to be independent and may not want to leave on their mask**
- **Model it! Make it familiar by wearing a mask, too.**
- **While wearing your own mask, look in the mirror and talk about the mask with them.**
- **Play! Put a mask on their favorite stuffed animal.**
- **Decorate the mask by coloring it or using stickers.**
- **Look at pictures of other kids wearing masks.**
- **Draw masks onto pictures of their favorite characters.**
- **Use positive reinforcement when they wear their mask – use praise or small rewards.**



4/20*



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#StrongSchoolsNC

Questions?