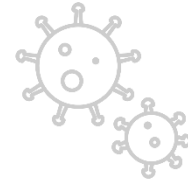




# COVID-19 VACCINE EQUITY REPORT

JULY AND AUGUST 2021



## Part 1: Vaccine Equity Goals, Strategy, and Implementation

The overarching Fairfax Health District (FHD) COVID-19 vaccination goals remain the same – to vaccinate all FHD residents who agree to receive the COVID-19 vaccine; and to promote equity in vaccination through targeted strategies toward population groups and communities with lower vaccination rates.

In implementing these goals, we continue to provide vaccinations to those who have not yet received a dose as well as to provide booster doses as recommended by CDC on September 24. We are also working with Fairfax County Public Schools to plan for vaccination of 5-11 year old. Components of the vaccine equity strategy are the following:

1. ***Implement and support vaccine equity clinics to increase vaccination opportunities in locations with higher proportions of unvaccinated individuals and targeting people of color.***

To support targeting for vaccine equity clinics and navigation efforts, more granular data analysis has identified specific areas within ZIP codes, such as apartment complexes, where vaccination rates are lower. These data which include the number of people in an area, the vaccination rate, and the location of nearby vaccination sites such as pharmacies, grocery stores, or safety-net partner clinics provide the basis for decisions about holding a vaccine equity clinic or deploying navigators as a strategy to increase vaccination coverage. With most of those who were motivated to seek vaccination already being vaccinated, attendance at equity clinics has decreased. Therefore, equity clinics are being implemented in locations that include a larger number of unvaccinated individuals, where there are fewer nearby vaccination options, and at special events.

2. ***Expand vaccine navigation addressing vaccination hesitancy and assisting people in registering and scheduling vaccination.***

There has been increased focus on outreach and addressing people's concerns about vaccination one-on-one or in small groups. In June, funding from VDH became available and was used to hire 23 community health workers to serve as vaccination navigators, with funding for an additional seven navigators coming from grant funding to hire workers displaced by the pandemic. Since June 21, the navigators have been working closely with the Health Department's Outreach Team, with NCS, and with community-based organizations (CBOs) to reach people who are unvaccinated, provide information, and assist in registering them for vaccination. Examples of CBOs the navigators are partnering with to provide vaccine navigation include Medical Care for Children Partnership (MCCP), Hispanics Against Child Abuse & Neglect (HACAN), Second Story, Centreville Immigration Forum, and Young Highway Task Force. Navigators have attended more than 200 events and had conversations with approximately 13,000 Fairfax County residents about vaccination opportunities. The Vaccine Navigators underwent specialized training in early July and are provided with regular COVID-19 briefings and updates to ensure their knowledge is current according to CDC guidelines.

3. ***Focus on vaccination of underserved and high-risk populations, such as people experiencing homelessness.***

In June 2021, the county's Emergency Support Function 6, led by the Department of Family Services (DFS), initiated a renewed vaccination campaign targeting both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals eligible for the vaccine. Due to vaccine hesitancy and resident turnover, only 39% of the current homeless population had been vaccinated as of June 20. As of September 17<sup>th</sup>, 44.4% of homeless residents are vaccinated. Partners in the vaccination campaign include the Health Department, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, Community Services Board (CSB), DFS, and the nonprofit agencies managing shelter operations. Events include vaccination events at homeless shelters and mobile vaccine events in each region. Also, a triad including the Health Department nurse who works with the homeless along with a CSB PATH worker and community-based nonprofit outreach worker will go out to areas where the street homeless are staying to bring vaccination to where people are.

4. ***Engage with community-based organizations (CBOs) to expand communication and outreach.***

Collaboration with CBOs remains a key component of the vaccine equity clinic and navigation strategies. CBOs continue to support outreach to their clients and communities, and events such as food distributions provide an opportunity for navigation to a vaccine equity clinic or other vaccination site. In addition, grant funding has been received from the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health to support building health literacy among racial and ethnic minorities to increase COVID-19 vaccination and improve health broadly. This 2-year, \$3.875 million grant titled: Stronger Partnership, Stronger Community, Using Health Literacy to Increase Resilience (Stronger<sup>2</sup>) seeks to increase health literacy and to increase the availability, acceptability and use of COVID-19 public health information and services by Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American within five Fairfax County focus areas (Chantilly/Centreville; Herndon/Reston; Bailey's Crossroads, Seven Corners, Annandale; Springfield; and Richmond Highway corridor, Lorton). The grant's project implementation partners will build culturally proficient, intergenerational, community strategies focused on social support, service navigation, culturally appropriate message creation and distribution through trusted channels, and increased provider capacity to discuss community health issues with their patients. The majority of grant funding will go to partnering organizations including Virginia State University and George Mason University College of Health and Human Services, the Institute for Public Health Innovation, National Hispanic Medical Association and thirteen CBOs/faith-based organizations/fraternities/sororities (Project Implementation Partners).

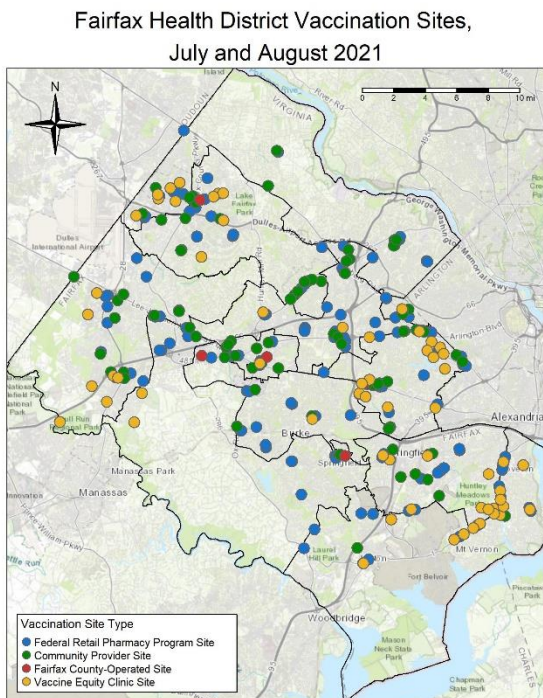
These implementation partners have agreed to participate in this iterative co-learning process which will increase their capacity to serve their constituencies, strengthen partnerships and enhance trust building within the grant's targeted communities. Additionally, implementation partners will facilitate a series of interrelated capacity-building programs, community-driven health literacy engagement activities and policy/practice changes. This includes experiential educational trainings and technical assistance; development of culturally and linguistically

appropriate COVID-19 health promotion materials; outreach; health literacy classes and presentations; public health focused youth ambassador program; and navigation services.

## Part 2: Fairfax County Vaccination Overview

As of September 20, a total of 1,510,405 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Fairfax Health District, and 811,922 people had received at least one vaccine dose. This represents 81.1% of the adult ( $\geq 18$ -year-old) population, and 81.3% of those ages 12 and older. The proportion vaccinated in the Fairfax Health District includes more than 93% of persons ages 65 and older.

In the early summer, with increased vaccination, case counts declined. From mid-June through the first week of July, an average of fewer than 20 cases per day occurred, and the level of community transmission fell into the “Low” category ( $< 10$  cases per 100,000 people in a week). However, since the second week in July, the number of cases increased to an average of about 180 cases per day by the end of August where it has plateaued. The community transmission rate in Fairfax Health District now is categorized as “High” ( $\geq 100$  cases per 100,000 people in a week). The increase in COVID-19 is associated with an increased proportion of infections being caused by the Delta variant which is more transmissible than other lineages. In the first 2 weeks of August, almost 99% of variants of concern within the Northern region of Virginia were the Delta variant. With higher rates of vaccination among middle-aged and older adults, a greater proportion of cases now are occurring in children, adolescents, and young adults. Racial/ethnic disparities in disease have narrowed though rates remain higher among Black/African Americans and Hispanics compared with other groups.



In July and August, 319 vaccination sites administered doses to Fairfax Health District residents (see map to left). The 319 vaccination sites in Fairfax Health District included 151 pharmacy sites, 96 healthcare providers, 66 equity clinic sites (including 8 school-based vaccination sites), and 6 sites operated by Fairfax County.

## Part 3: Vaccine Equity Clinic Data

In July and August 2021, the Health Department partnered with five vaccinating organizations and numerous other partners to implement 170 vaccination events (80 in July and 90 in August). 2,193 doses were administered to 2,076 individuals in July, and 2,293 doses were administered to 2,184 individuals in August. Among the 4,486 total vaccines administered, there were 2,403 first doses (including Johnson and Johnson), 2,007 second doses, and 76 third doses. People of color comprised 78% of Fairfax Health District residents who received a first dose or Johnson and Johnson vaccination during July and August.



5  
Vaccination  
Partners



170  
Vaccination  
Events



4,486  
Doses  
Administered



78%  
Black/African  
Hispanic or Asian/PI

Overall, between March and the end of August, a total of 483 vaccine equity clinics delivered 55,200 vaccine doses representing 4.5% of all doses administered in Fairfax Health District.

#### Equity Clinic Locations

During July and August of 2021, vaccine equity clinics were held at 66 sites throughout the Fairfax Health District (see Appendix A for detailed list; clinic sites from July and August are shown in bold text). Sites included community centers, schools, houses of worship, shopping centers, libraries, neighborhoods, parks, partner clinic locations, and restaurants. All sites were in areas with high rates of disease and lower rates of vaccination.

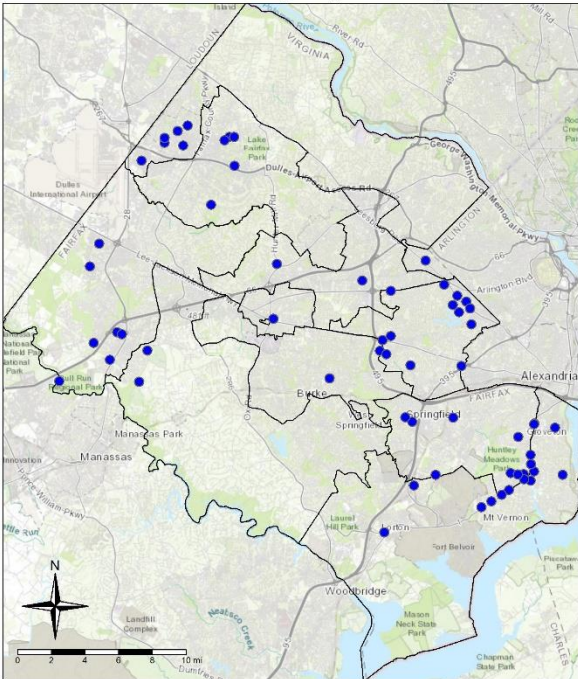
Vaccinator Organization and Number of People Scheduled/Vaccinated March – August 2021						
Vaccinator Organization	Total Scheduled or Vaccinated MARCH	Total Scheduled or Vaccinated APRIL	Total Vaccinated MAY	Total Vaccinated JUNE	Total Vaccinated JULY	Total Vaccinated AUGUST
Neighborhood Health (NH)	5,765	8,919	7,212	3,026*	925	612
Safeway (SW)	1,687	2,589	4,385**	1,952**	485**	304**
Adam's Compassionate Healthcare Network (ACHN)	1,035	1,464	713	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chinese American Community Health Services (CACHS)	N/A	119	163	N/A	N/A	N/A

Inova Cares Clinic for Families (ICCF)	392	392	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Healthworks (HW)	622	881	564	507	261	268
Field Vaccination Team (FVT) – Open Events	N/A	1,515	1,170	599	250	878
Field Vaccination Team (FVT) – Closed Events for Food Establishment Employees	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	28
Mason and Partners (MAP)	N/A	664	688	204	155	94

\* Due to building issues, clients originally scheduled at one of Neighborhood Health’s Equity clinics from June 16 through the end of the month were served at one of Neighborhood Health’s regular clinic sites. The data for these clients could not be separated from those of regular clinic site clients and added to this report. Therefore, the number of people vaccinated at Neighborhood Health in June is likely higher.

\*\*These numbers are likely higher than the actual number of unique persons who were vaccinated due to missing data that prevented de-duplication of individuals receiving first and second doses during the same month.

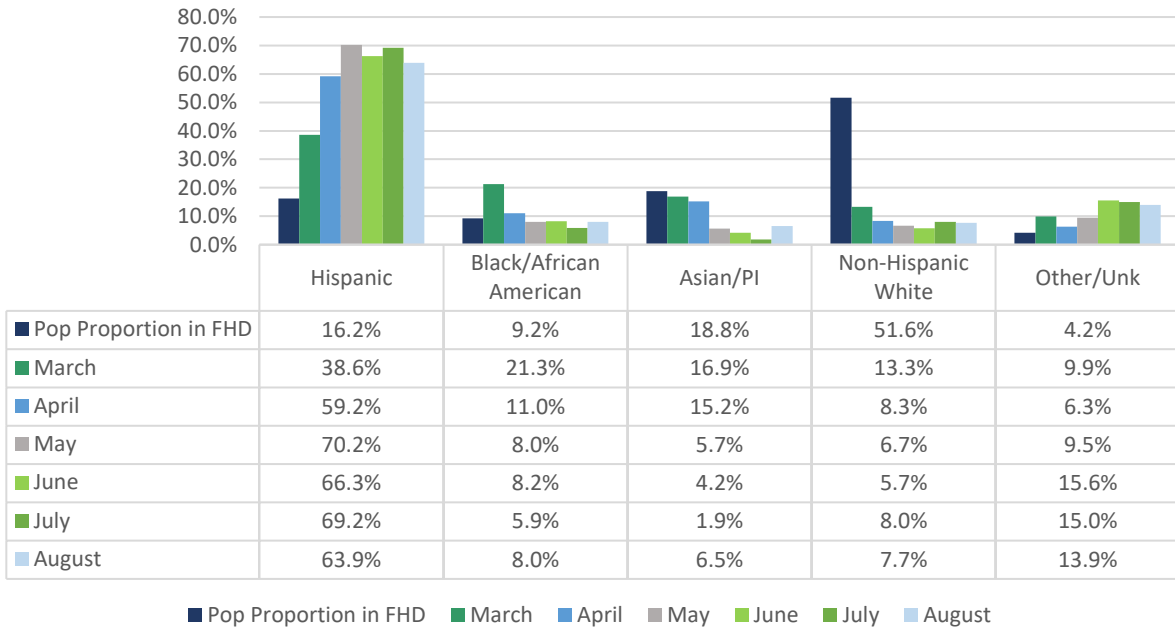
Vaccine Equity Clinic Sites  
Fairfax Health District, July and August 2021



**Race/Ethnicity**

There were 2,075 residents of Fairfax Health District for whom race and ethnicity data were collected and who were vaccinated with either a first dose of Pfizer or Moderna, or a single dose of Johnson & Johnson at a vaccine equity clinic in July or August 2021. Overall, 77.9% of Fairfax Health District residents vaccinated by equity partners identified as either Black/African American, Hispanic, or Asian/Pacific Islander. In August, the number and proportion of Hispanic individuals decreased slightly (from 69.2% in July to 63.9% in August) but remained far above their percent of the overall Fairfax Health District Population (16.2%). Black/African American and Asian/Pacific Islander residents were vaccinated at a lower proportion than their percent of the overall Fairfax Health District population.

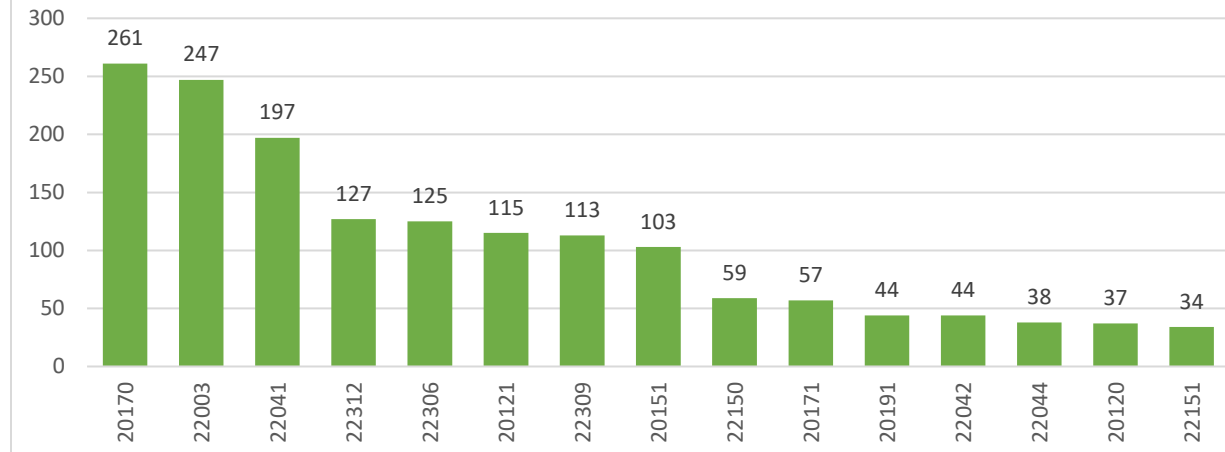
Percent Scheduled/Vaccinated at Vaccine Equity Clinics Compared to Total FHD Population Proportion, by Month and Race/Ethnicity



ZIP Code

A total of 2,095 Fairfax Health District residents who received a first dose at a vaccine equity clinic in July or August 2021 had a reported ZIP code. 76% of residents with reported ZIP codes lived in one of 15 ZIP codes shown below. Many of these areas are characterized by higher rates of disease and lower vaccination coverage.

Top 15 ZIP Codes with Highest Number Vaccinated at Vaccine Equity Clinics in FHD, July and August 2021



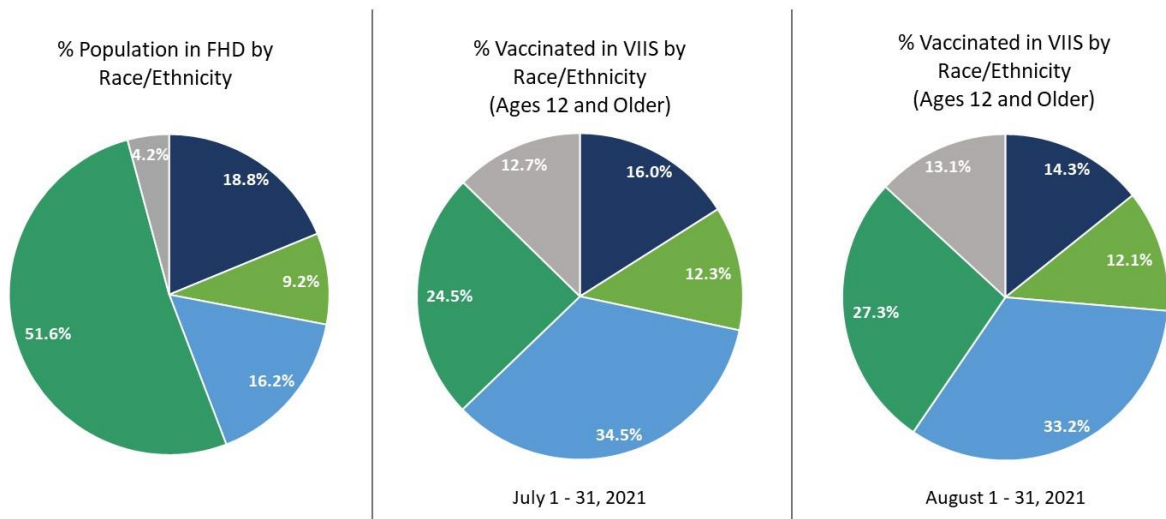
## Part 4: Overall Fairfax Health District Vaccination

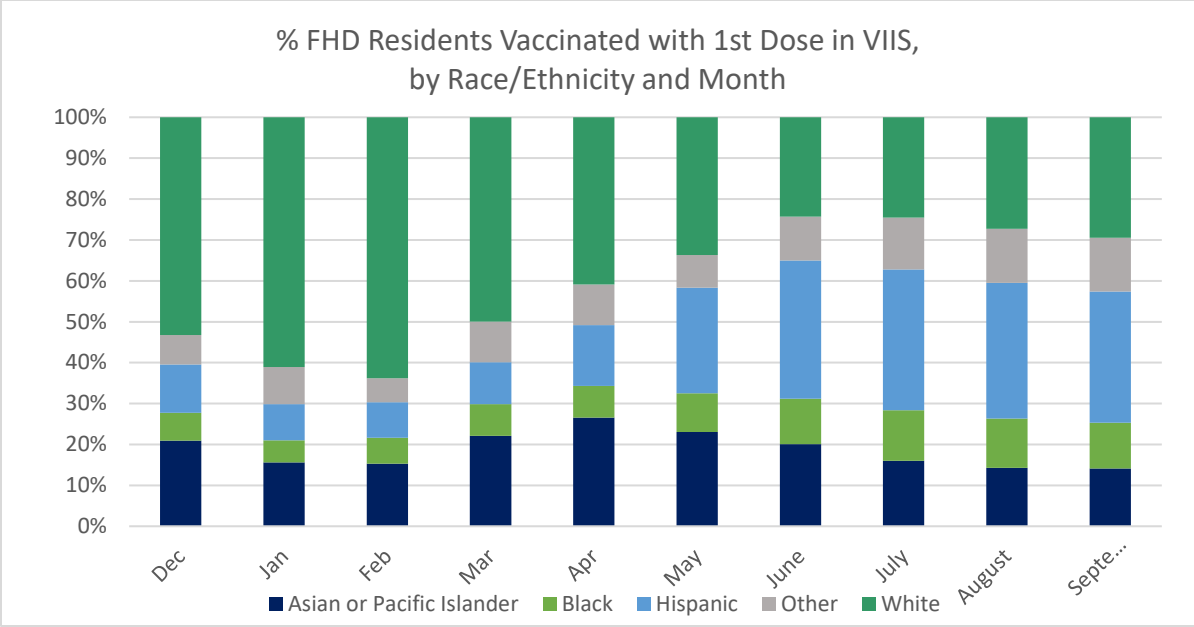
### Race and Ethnicity

Based on Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS) data, there were 26,599 Fairfax Health District residents who received a first vaccine dose in July at any location, with 24,993 (94%) reporting race and ethnicity. Overall, 16.0% identified as Asian/PI, 12.3% identified as Black/African American, 34.5% identified as Hispanic, and 24.5% identified as non-Hispanic White (middle pie chart). In August, 26,369 residents received a first vaccine dose, with 24,970 (95%) reporting race and ethnicity. 14.3% of the residents were Asian/PI, 12.1% were Black/African American, 33.2% were Hispanic, and 27.3% were non-Hispanic White (see right pie chart).

In both July and August, the proportion of Black/African American and Hispanic residents receiving a first vaccine dose was greater than each group's population proportion in Fairfax County at large (see left chart). From July to August, there was a slight increase in the proportion of first vaccine doses received by non-Hispanic White residents. This corresponded with slight decreases in the proportion of first vaccine doses received by other racial and ethnic groups.

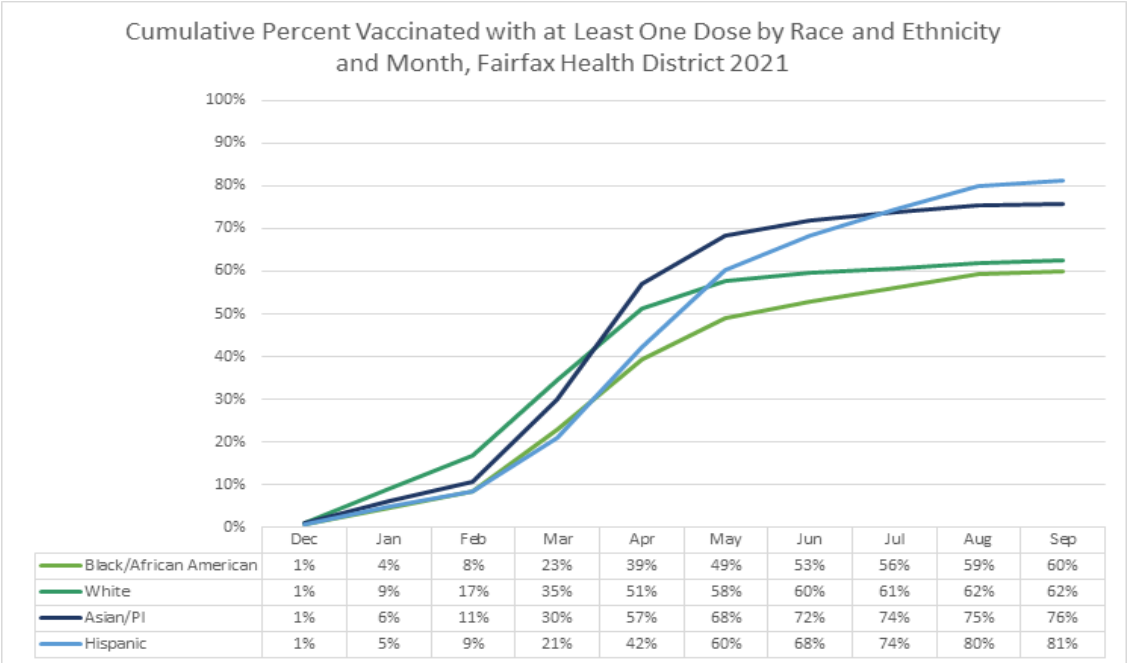
■ Asian/PI ■ Black/African American ■ Hispanic ■ White ■ Other





Of the 811,922 Fairfax Health District residents who have been vaccinated as of September 20, 752,611 (93%) have race and ethnicity included in VIIS. Overall, from December through September to-date, Hispanics comprised 16.5% of Fairfax Health District residents vaccinated, Black or African Americans comprised 8.1%, Asian and Pacific Islanders comprised 21.7%, non-Hispanic Whites comprised 44.2%, with 9.5% reporting another race and ethnicity.

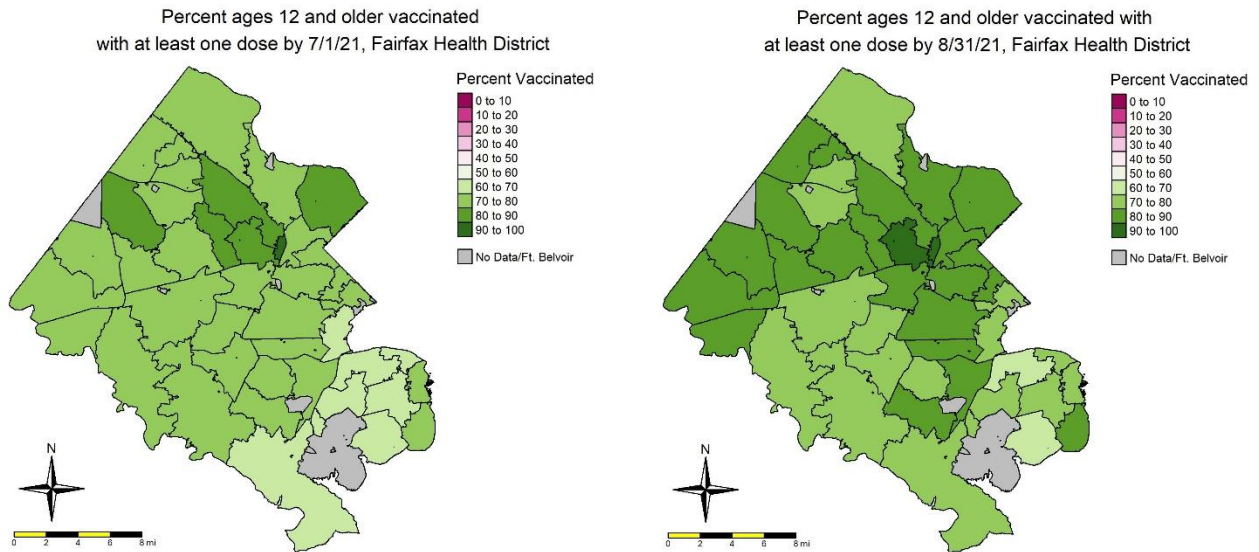
Vaccination data also can be expressed as the cumulative percent vaccinated among the population in each racial/ethnic group. As of September 20, Hispanic residents had the highest proportion vaccinated with one or more doses followed by Asian and Pacific Islander residents, non-Hispanic White residents, and Black or African American residents.





## ZIP code

The map below on the right shows the cumulative number of vaccine doses administered by ZIP code in the Fairfax Health District based on VIIS data. Overall, among Fairfax Health District residents ages 12 and older, 80.3% had been vaccinated as of August 31— up from 75.1%\* on July 1 (left map).



\*Percentage has been updated to reflect additional individuals vaccinated with at least one dose by July 1 to the VIIS data feed by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) in late September 2021. As of September 23, VDH is in the process of refining logic to determine when doses were administered to Virginia residents. As a result, the percentage vaccinated with one or more doses on July 1 (75.1%) is higher than the percentage vaccinated with one or more doses by June 30 as reported in the June Vaccine Equity Report (72.6%).

Proportions vaccinated by August 31 range from about 68% to over 100%. Areas with higher Black/African American and Hispanic populations along the Richmond Highway corridor as well as in the eastern part of the county generally had lower vaccination rates.

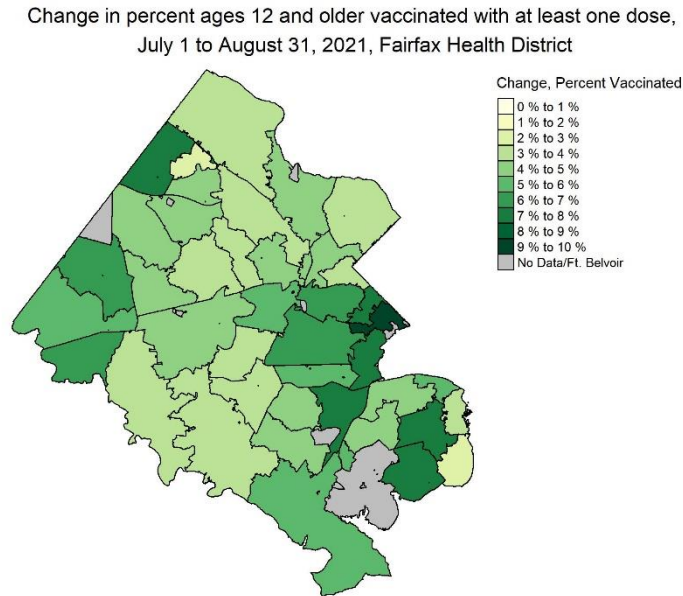
<b>Percent Vaccinated by Age Group and Zip Code as of August 31, 2021*</b>			
ZIP Code	Percent of 12+ Vaccinated	ZIP Code	Percent of 12+ Vaccinated
22027	106.2%	22046	80.9%
22180	92.2%	22153	80.1%
22182	89.3%	22041	79.8%
22101	88.7%	22039	79.7%
20171	87.1%	20124	79.1%
20170	86.2%	22015	78.5%
22043	84.6%	20191	78.2%
22102	84.3%	22066	78.1%
22181	84.3%	22307	77.1%
20120	84.2%	20190	76.9%
20151	84.0%	22312	76.7%
22151	83.9%	22152	76.2%
22031	83.2%	22032	76.1%
22033	83.1%	22030	75.0%
20194	82.5%	22303	72.7%
22150	82.5%	22306	72.3%
22003	82.4%	22315	70.9%
22042	82.0%	22079	70.6%
20121	81.8%	22309	68.5%
22044	81.8%	22310	68.3%
22124	81.7%	Total	80.3%
22308	81.0%		

\*Population totals per ZIP code are defined using population estimates from the American Community Survey (2019) and can result in percentage vaccinated above 100% where totals are not precise.

Please note that population denominators for those ages 12-14 were approximated by obtaining 3/5 of the estimated population ages 10-14 (ACS, 2019).

The following map shows the absolute change in percent vaccinated among those ages 12 and older by ZIP code from July 1 to August 31, 2021. Increases in the percent vaccinated by ZIP

code ranged from 2.7% to 9.7%. Some of the ZIP codes with the greatest increase in vaccination are those that had lower overall rates at the beginning of the month and that had been foci in vaccine equity efforts.



## Part 5: Data from People Experiencing Homelessness

### Vaccination among People Experiencing Homelessness

Vaccination of homeless services staff and shelter clients began in January 2021. During the eight-month period ending August 31, Fairfax County Health Department nurse practitioners serving the homeless population vaccinated a total of 930 clients and staff.

#### Key Metrics, January – August 31, 2021

Number of clients homeless clients and staff vaccinated in on-site vaccine clinics	930
Number of homeless clients vaccinated in on-site vaccine clinics	470
Number of staff vaccinated in on-site vaccine clinics	460
Number of on-site vaccine clinics in homeless shelters and QPID sites	70
Percent of homeless population vaccinated as of September 3, 2021*	41.9%

\*This metric is obtained weekly as a point-in-time percentage of those open in the housing management information system who have record of vaccination.

## **Part 6: Conclusions**

Overall, a substantial proportion of Fairfax Health District residents have been vaccinated, with over 81% of adults 18+ years old and over 83% of adolescents having received at least one vaccine dose. These proportions substantially exceed rates across Virginia. As a consequence of this and other factors, COVID-19 case rates in Fairfax Health District are substantially lower than in the rest of the state with a 7-day average rate per 100,000 population of less than half that statewide. Moreover, vaccination rates among Hispanics, also substantially exceeds coverage of this group in other jurisdictions in Virginia, reflecting the strong focus by the health department and partners to reach this population. Consequently, disparities in disease rates by ethnicity are much less than earlier during the pandemic for this group which has suffered a disproportionate share of pandemic disease and community-based mortality. Geographically, gaps in vaccination between ZIP codes also have narrowed. Only two ZIP codes currently have vaccination coverage of less than 70% and many ZIP codes with the greatest increments in coverage in July and August were areas with previously low rates. We continue to focus outreach efforts to areas and communities with lower vaccination rates and will continue using both equity clinics and navigation as strategies to address hesitancy and to make vaccination easy for those who will accept vaccination but are less likely to actively seek it out. We also continue to focus on increasing vaccinations among Black/African Americans among whom vaccination rates remain lower. While our vaccine equity efforts still retain a focus on vaccination for those who have not received any vaccination previously, vaccine navigators also will help facilitate booster vaccination to those who meet CDC criteria and booster doses will be available at equity clinics. Summary data on booster doses will be included in subsequent equity reports.

**Appendix A: Vaccine Equity Clinic Sites**

Shown below are vaccine equity clinic sites from March 2021 through August 2021. Clinic sites with events held in July and August 2021 are bolded. A map of vaccine equity clinic sites operating in July and August can be found on page 5.

Vaccinator Organization and Vaccine Equity Clinic Site, March - August 2021	
Vaccinator Organization	Clinic Site (Bolded Sites Operated in July and August 2021)
Neighborhood Health (NH)	<b>Annandale United Methodist Church's Mission Center</b> <b>Audubon Estates</b> <b>Bailey's Community Center</b> <b>Columbia Baptist Church</b> <b>Creekside Village Community Center</b> <b>Fairmont Gardens</b> <b>Groveton Baptist Church</b> <b>Groveton Elementary School</b> <b>Gum Springs Community Center</b> <b>Kidst Slassie Ethiopian Orthodox Church</b> <b>Knights of Columbus</b> <b>Lerner Morningside Community</b> <b>Sacramento Center</b> <b>Stony Brook Apartments</b> <b>Woodrow Wilson Library</b> Graham Road Community Center
Safeway (SW)	<b>Bethlehem Baptist Church</b> <b>Centreville High School</b> <b>Dar Al Hijrah Mosque</b> <b>Indian Independence Celebration</b> <b>Lee Overlook Apartments</b> <b>Mt. Olive Baptist Church</b> <b>Mt. Vernon Square</b> <b>Original Mt. Vernon High School</b> <b>Ossian Hall</b> <b>Springfield Town Center</b> <b>St. John Neumann Church</b> <b>Mt. Vernon Woods Park</b> James Lee Community Center Southgate Community Center Falls Church Community Center Providence Community Center Korean Central Presbyterian Church Centre Ridge Elementary School Gunston Elementary School First Baptist Church of Vienna Culmore United Methodist Church Hope Lutheran Church

Adam’s Compassionate Healthcare Network (ACHN)	Adam’s Compassionate Health Care Clinic
Chinese American Community Health Services (CACHS)	Chinese Community Health Services
Inova Cares Clinic for Families (ICCF)	Inova Cares Clinic for Families
Healthworks	<b>Healthworks Herndon</b> <b>Healthworks Reston</b> <b>Berkdale Apartments</b> <b>Centreville Immigration Forum</b>
Field Vaccination Team (FVT) – Open Events	<b>Annandale High School</b> <b>Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation</b> <b>City of Fairfax Regional Library</b> <b>Creekside Village Comm. Center</b> <b>Herndon Elementary School</b> <b>Herndon Fortnightly Library</b> <b>Huntington Fairfax Connector</b> <b>Justice High School</b> <b>Kings Park Comm. Library</b> <b>La Biblia Church Ministries</b> <b>Liberty Middle School</b> <b>Lutie Lewis Coates Elementary School</b> <b>Maid Bright Home Cleaning Service</b> <b>Martha Washington Library</b> <b>Meadows of Chantilly</b> <b>NovaSalud</b> <b>Oakton Library</b> <b>Reston Station</b> <b>Richard Byrd Library</b> <b>Thomas Jefferson Library</b> <b>Tinner Hill Music Festival</b> <b>United Christian Parish</b> <b>Woodrow Wilson Library</b> <b>Virginia DMV - Fairfax/Westfields</b> <b>Virginia DMV - Franconia</b> <b>Xsport Fitness Merrifield</b> First Baptist Church of Springfield Service Source Springfield Sully Senior Center Herndon Community Center Braddock Board of Supervisors Original Mt. Vernon High Culmore United Methodist Church The Lamb Center Springfield Government Center John Marshall Library Mt. Vernon Government Center

	Hunter Mill Government Center Sully District Government Center
Field Vaccination Team (FVT) – Closed Events for Food Establishment Employees	<b>Paris Baguette Restaurant</b> <b>Peri Peri Restaurant</b> <b>Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen Restaurant at Richmond Highway</b> <b>Roseina's Restaurant</b> <b>Rosita's Restaurant</b> <b>Shrimp Shack Restaurant</b> <b>El Buen Sazon Restaurant</b> <b>Food Lion Grocery Store of Lorton</b>
Mason and Partners (MAP)	<b>Centreville Immigration Forum</b> Audubon Estates Lerner Morningside Community Lafayette Apartments Springfield Family Resource Center