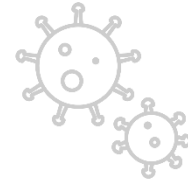




COVID-19 VACCINE EQUITY REPORT

JUNE 2021



Part 1: Vaccine Equity Goals, Strategy, and Implementation

Fairfax Health District (FHD) COVID-19 vaccination goals remain to:

1. Vaccinate residents with all available vaccine supply to more rapidly provide direct protection and reach immunity levels consistent with herd immunity; and
2. Promote greater equity by using data to target vaccine equity activities toward population groups and communities with lower vaccination rates.

To achieve these goals, the components of the current 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, such as apartment complexes, within ZIP codes 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 will be implemented in locations that include a larger number of unvaccinated individuals and where there are fewer nearby vaccination options.

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. These navigators will work 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. Navigators underwent training in early July and are currently in the field. The process of aligning them with CBOs that will provide opportunities to reach people attending events or utilizing services is ongoing.

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. Partners in the vaccine 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.***

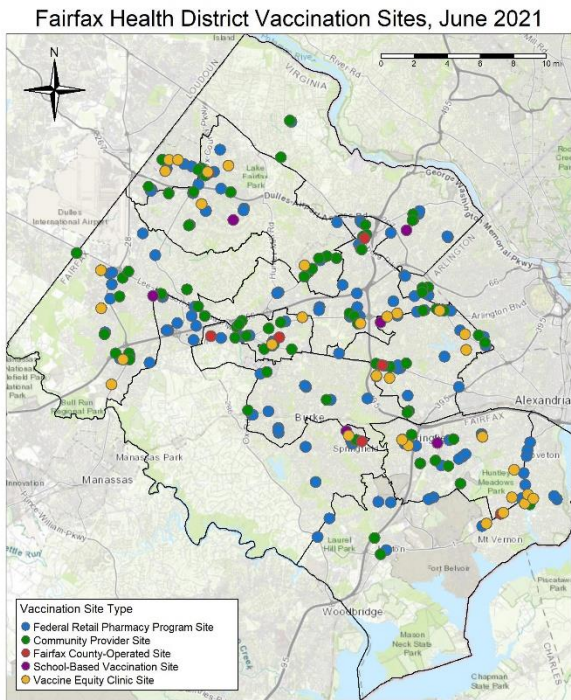
Collaboration with CBOs remains a key component of the vaccine equity clinic and navigation strategies. CBOs continue to support outreach to their clients and communities and events such as food distributions provide an opportunity for navigation to a vaccine equity clinic or other vaccination site. 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, \$3.9 million grant seeks to increase health literacy 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 partners will build culturally proficient, intergenerational, community strategies focused on social support, service navigations, 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 and George Mason Universities, the Institute for Public Health Innovation, and twelve CBOs/faith-based organizations/fraternities/sororities which will hold learning activities with community members.

Part 2: Fairfax County Vaccination Overview

As of July 29, a total of 1,404,626 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Fairfax Health District, and 755,636 people had received at least one vaccine dose. This represents 75.6% of the adult (≥ 18 -year-old) population. The proportion vaccinated in the Fairfax Health District includes more than 90% of persons aged 65+ years. Additionally, the proportion of adolescents 12-17 years old who have been vaccinated (72.5%), now exceeds coverage among 25-34-year-olds (68.1%), despite only The Pfizer vaccine being authorized for adolescents and with vaccine being authorized and recommended for 12-15-year-olds only since mid-May.

With increased vaccination, case counts have 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 has increased to an average of over 70 per day over the past 7-days and the community transmission rate now is categorized as "Moderate" (10-50 cases per 100,000 people in a week). This

increase is likely to largely be due to an increased proportion of infections being caused by the Delta variant which is more transmissible than other lineages. 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 June, as most individuals in the Health District who were interested in getting vaccinated already had done so, numbers of people seeking vaccination declined and several of the large vaccination points-of-dispensing (PODs) stopped operations. This included the Tysons Community Vaccination Center (6/26), George Mason University’s vaccination POD at Eagle Bank Arena (6/5), and PODs at four of the five PODs at Health Department District Offices (vaccinations are being provided by clinic appointment at all District Offices except the Mount Vernon District Office, which has continued POD operations). The 283 vaccination sites in Fairfax Health District included 144 pharmacy sites, 93 healthcare providers, 33 equity clinic sites, 6 school-based vaccination sites, and 7 sites operated by Fairfax County.

Part 3: Vaccine Equity Clinic Data

In June 2021, the Health Department partnered with seven vaccinating organizations and numerous other partners to implement seventy-eight vaccination events, at which 6,505 doses were administered to 6,288 individuals. Among the vaccines administered with a recorded dose number* (5,645), there were 1,718 first doses (including Johnson and Johnson) and 3,927 second doses. People of color comprised 79% of Fairfax Health District residents who received a vaccination.



7
Vaccination
Partners



78
Vaccination
Events



6,505
Doses
Administered



79%
Black/African
Hispanic or Asian/PI

* Safeway was unable to disaggregate doses by dose number for some patients in June. This information is collected for mandated reporting but is not able to be exported for patients who did not register for an appointment in advance. The Health Department is working with Safeway to obtain this data for future reports.

Equity Clinic Locations

During June, vaccine equity clinics were held at 33 sites throughout the Fairfax Health District (see table, below; clinic sites from June are shown in bold text). Sites included community centers, schools, houses of worship, shopping centers, libraries, neighborhoods, board of supervisor’s office, and partner clinic locations. All sites were in areas with high rates of disease and lower rates of vaccination. A total of 6,288 individuals were vaccinated with a 1st or 2nd dose of Pfizer or Moderna or a single dose of Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

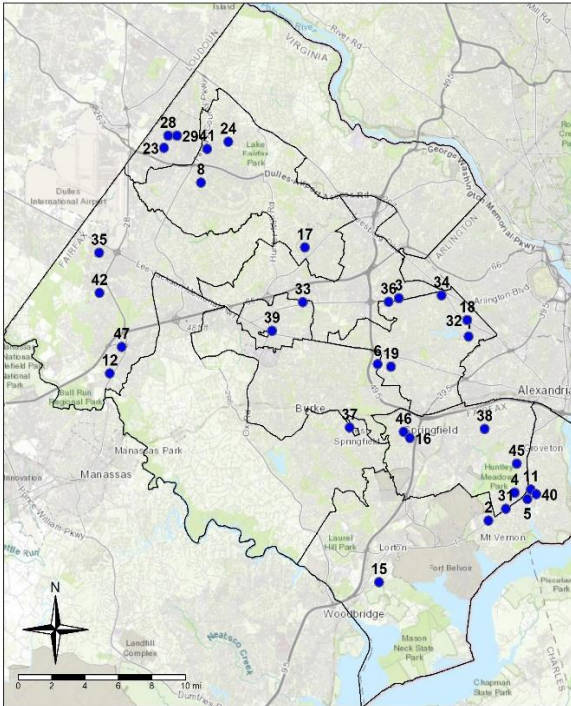
Vaccinator Organization, Clinic Site, and Number of People Scheduled/Vaccinated March - June 2021					
Vaccinator Organization	Clinic Site (see map below)	Total Scheduled or Vaccinated MARCH	Total Scheduled or Vaccinated APRIL	Total Vaccinated MAY	Total Vaccinated JUNE
Neighborhood Health (NH)	1 Bailey’s Comm. Center 2 Knights of Columbus 3 Graham Road Comm. Center 4 Creekside Village Comm. Center 5 Gum Springs Comm. Center 6 Annandale United Methodist Church’s Mission Center	5,765	8,919	7,212	3,026*
Safeway (SW)	7 James Lee Comm. Center 8 Southgate Comm. Center 9 Falls Church Comm. Center 10 Providence Comm. Center 11 Bethlehem Baptist Church 12 Mt. Olive Baptist Church 13 Korean Central Presbyterian Church 14 Centre Ridge Elem. School 15 Gunston Elem. School 16 Springfield Town Center 17 First Baptist Church of Vienna 18 Culmore United Methodist Church 19 Hope Lutheran Church	1,687	2,589	4,385**	1,952**
Adam’s Compassionate Healthcare Network (ACHN)	20 Adam’s Compassionate Health Care Clinic	1,035	1,464	713	N/A
Chinese American Community	21 Chinese Community Health Services	N/A	119	163	N/A

Health Services (CACHS)					
Inova Cares Clinic for Families (ICCF)	22 Inova Cares Clinic for Families	392	392	N/A	N/A
Healthworks	23 Healthworks Herndon 24 Healthworks Reston	622	881	564	507
Field Vaccination Team (FVT)	25 First Baptist Church of Springfield 26 Service Source Springfield 27 Sully Senior Center 28 Herndon Comm. Center 29 Herndon Fortnightly Library 30 Braddock Board of Supervisors 31 Original Mt. Vernon High 32 Culmore United Methodist Church 33 The Lamb Center 34 NovaSalud 35 Meadows of Chantilly 36 Thomas Jefferson Library 37 Springfield Governmental Center 38 John Marshall Library 39 City of Fairfax Regional Library 40 Mt. Vernon Governmental Center 41 Hunter Mill Governmental Center 42 Sully District Governmental Center	N/A	1,515	1,170	599
Mason and Partners (MAP)	43 Audubon Estates 44 Lerner Morningside Community 45 Lafayette Apartments 46 Springfield Family Resource Center 47 Centreville Immigration Forum	N/A	664	688	204

* Due to building issues, clients originally scheduled at one of Neighborhood Health’s Equity clinics on June 16 and later 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. As a result of the missing data, there is also a large proportion of individuals vaccinated by this organization that are not included in the race/ethnicity and zip code analysis below.

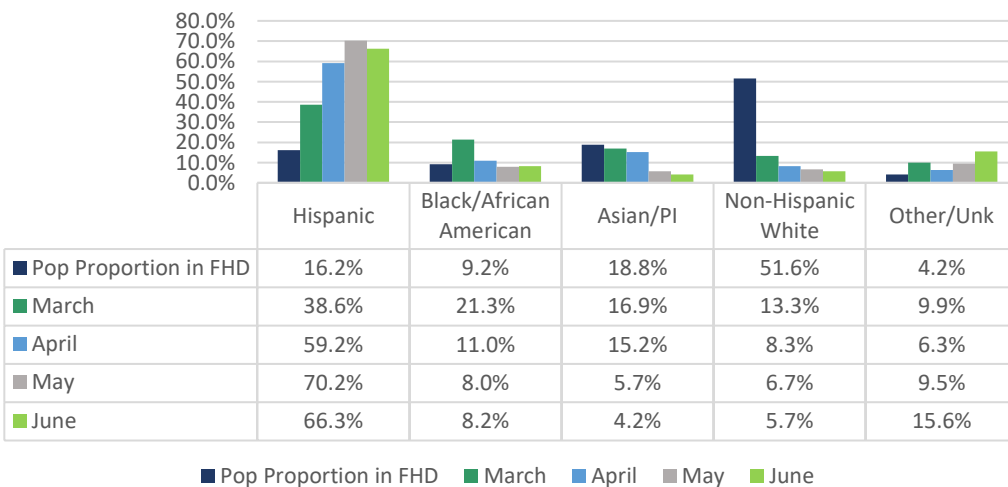
Vaccine Equity Clinic Sites
Fairfax Health District, June 2021



Race/Ethnicity

There were 1,940 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 June. Overall, 78.7% of Fairfax Health District residents vaccinated by equity partners identified as either Black/African American, Hispanic, or Asian/Pacific Islander. In June, the number and proportion of Hispanic individuals decreased slightly (from 70.2% in May to 66.3% in June) 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.

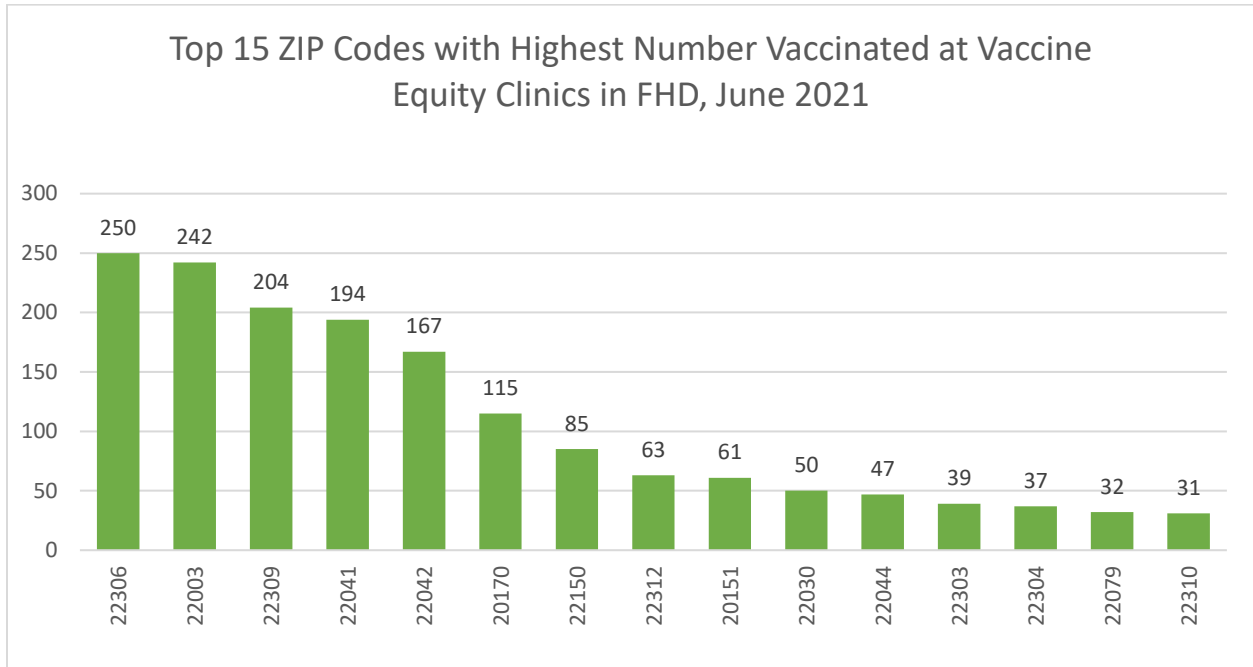
Percent Scheduled/Vaccinated at Vaccine Equity Clinics
Compared to Total FHD Population Proportion, by
Month and Race/Ethnicity



ZIP Code

A total of 1,907 Fairfax Health District residents who were scheduled or received a first dose at a vaccine equity clinic had a reported ZIP code. 85% 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.



Part 4: Overall Fairfax Health District Vaccination

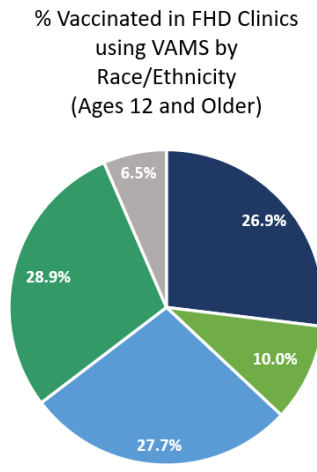
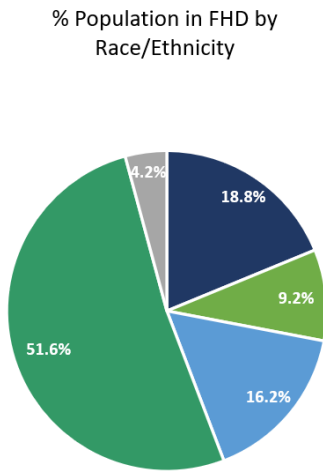
Race and Ethnicity

Until recently, due to errors in the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS) data on the race and ethnicity of all vaccinated residents in the Health District had not been available. These data now have been corrected, enabling us to report race and ethnicity for all Fairfax Health District vaccine recipients. We also compare VIIS data with the data in the Vaccination Administration Management System (VAMS) to bridge from earlier reports that utilized VAMS data to the more complete VIIS data.

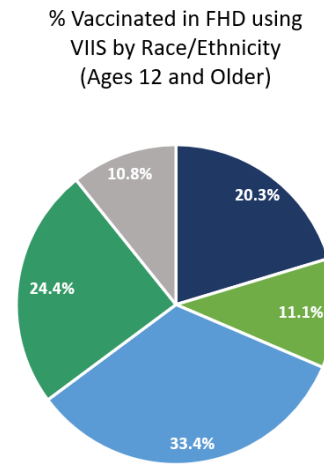
In June, there were 10,442 individuals who received a first vaccine dose at a location that uses VAMS, with 9,959 (95%) reporting race and ethnicity. Overall, 26.9% identified as Asian/PI, 10.0% identified as Black/African American, 27.7% identified as Hispanic/Latino, and 28.9% identified as non-Hispanic White (middle pie chart, below). For comparison, overall proportions of the Fairfax Health District population also are shown (left pie chart).

Based on VIIS data, were 40,546 Fairfax Health District residents who received a first vaccine dose in June at any location, with 37,909 (93%) reporting race and ethnicity. Overall, 20.3% identified as Asian/PI, 11.1% identified as Black/African American, 33.4% identified as Hispanic, and 24.4% identified as non-Hispanic White (right pie chart). Thus, the VIIS data shows a higher proportion of Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino vaccine recipients compared with the data in VAMS.

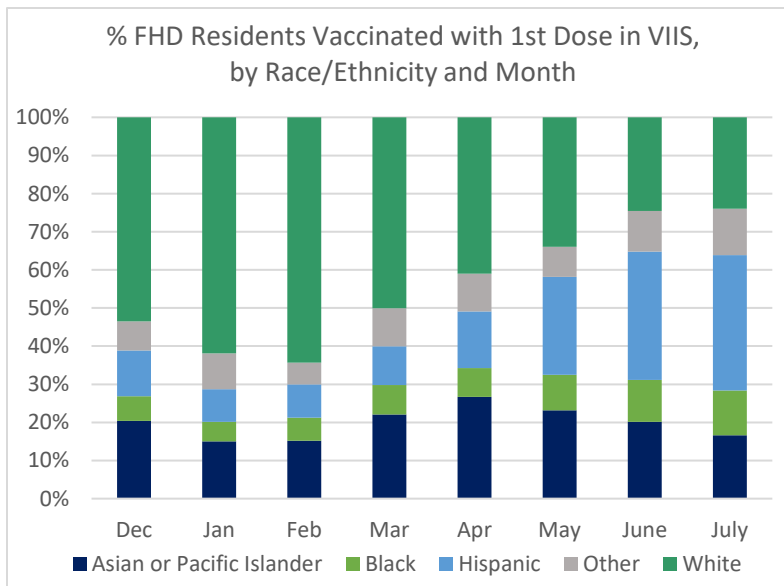
■ Asian/PI ■ Black/African American ■ Hispanic ■ White ■ Other



June 1 – 30, 2021



June 1 – 30, 2021

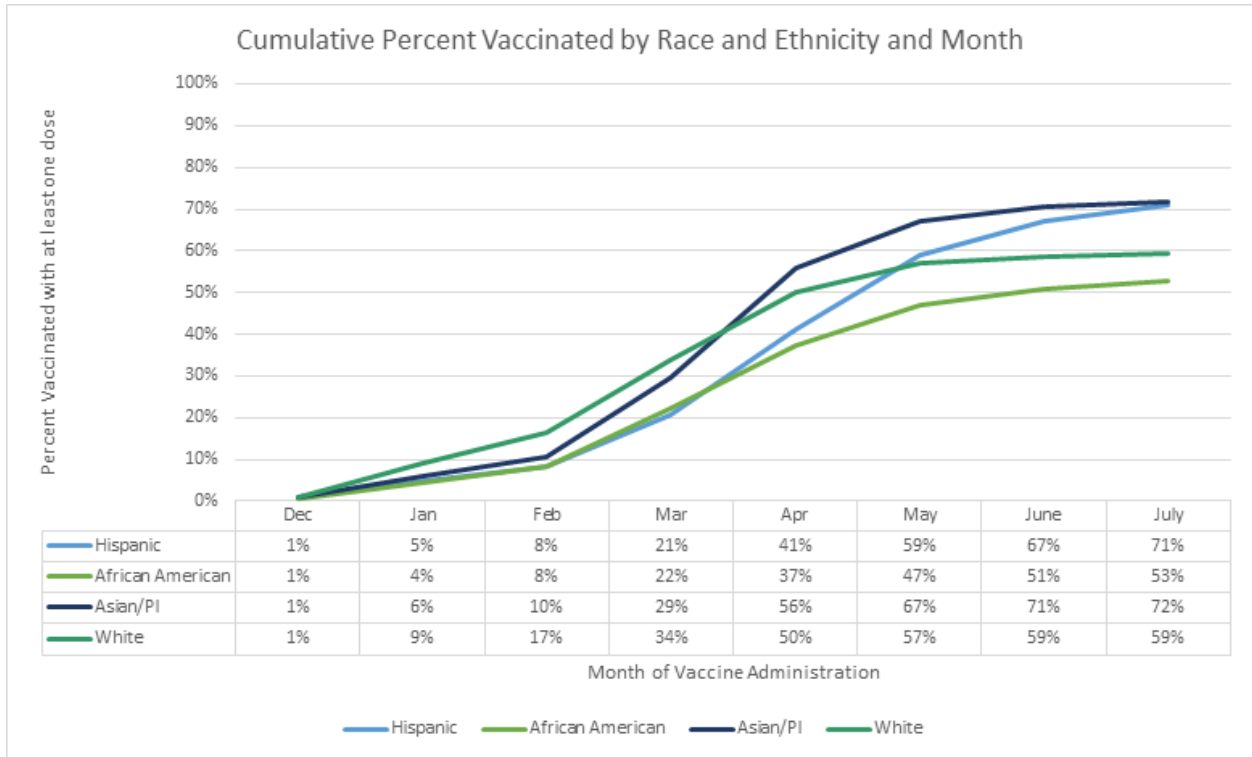


*Data for July is through 7/29/2021

reporting another race and ethnicity. Using the more complete VIIS data, overall vaccination disparities are less than had been reported using the VAMS data.

In total, 755,636 Fairfax Health District residents have been vaccinated with 695,234 (92%) having race and ethnicity included in VIIS. The proportion of first doses administered to people of color continued to increase in June and July compared with previous months. Overall, from December through July to-date, Hispanics comprised 15.7% of Fairfax Health District residents vaccinated, Black or African Americans comprised 7.8%, Asian and Pacific Islanders comprised 22.1%, non-Hispanic Whites comprised 45.2%, with 9.3%

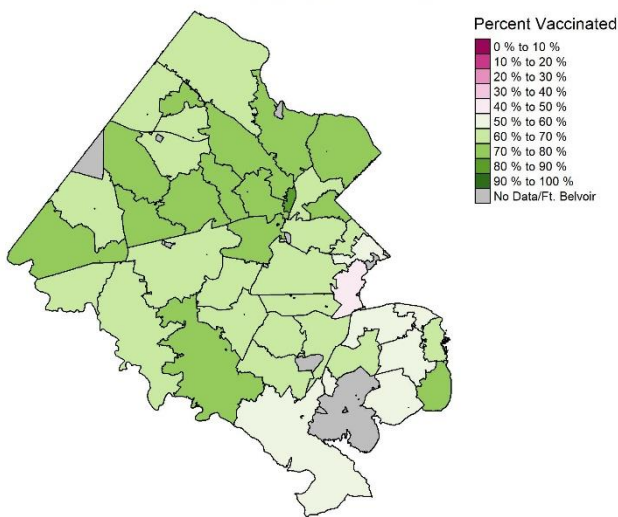
Vaccination data also can be expressed as the cumulative percent vaccinated among the population in each racial/ethnic group. Asian/Pacific Islanders had the highest proportion vaccinated with one or more doses followed by Hispanics, non-Hispanic Whites, and Blacks/African Americans.



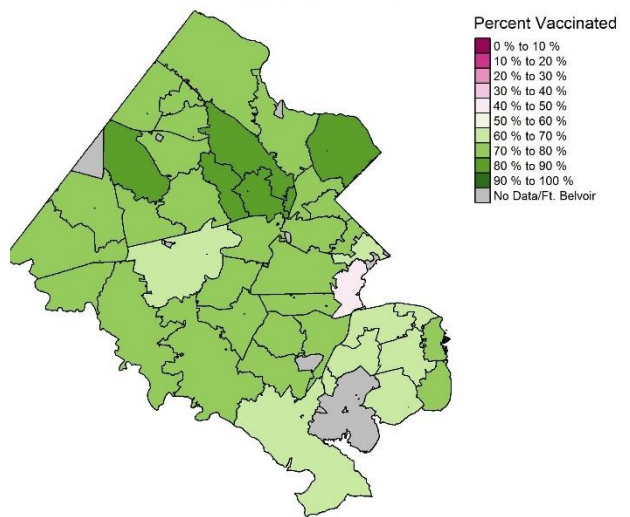
ZIP code

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

Percent ages 12 and older vaccinated with at least one dose by 6/1/21, Fairfax Health District



Percent ages 12 and older vaccinated with at least one dose by 6/30/21, Fairfax Health District



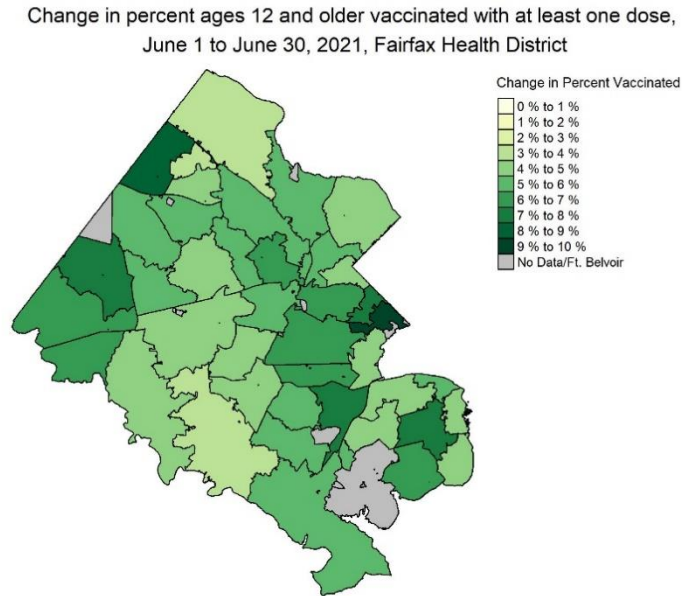
and older, 72.6% had been vaccinated as of June 30th – up from 66.9% on June 1st (left map). Proportions vaccinated by June 30th range from about 60% to 90%. Only one ZIP code (22312) reported a percentage below 60%. Areas with higher Black/African American and Hispanic populations along the Richmond Highway corridor as well as in the eastern part of the county generally had lower vaccination rates.

Percent Vaccinated by Age Group and Zip Code*			
ZIP Code	Percent of 12+ Vaccinated	ZIP Code	Percent of 12+ Vaccinated
22027	89.5%	20190	73.2%
22180	85.3%	22003	73.2%
22101	82.6%	20191	72.7%
20171	82.2%	22152	72.7%
22182	80.7%	22044	72.4%
22181	80.0%	20121	72.3%
20194	79.3%	22015	72.1%
22102	79.3%	22032	71.4%
22308	78.8%	22066	71.1%
22124	77.5%	22307	70.8%
20120	77.3%	20124	70.5%
22031	77.2%	22030	68.9%
20151	77.0%	22041	67.6%
22046	76.8%	22315	65.0%
20170	76.5%	22079	64.8%
22033	76.1%	22303	63.5%
22151	75.8%	22306	62.6%
22042	75.5%	22310	62.2%
22043	75.2%	22309	60.9%
22150	74.6%	22312	47.8%
22039	74.5%	Total	72.6%
22153	73.7%		

*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 June 1 to June 30, 2021. Increases in the percent vaccinated by ZIP code ranged from 3.7% to 9.0%. 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 Focus Population Groups: Adolescents and People Experiencing Homelessness

Adolescent Vaccination

Since May 13, Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has been administered to adolescents 12-15 years old. Vaccinations have been available for this age group at sites delivering the Pfizer product, including many vaccine equity clinics, and at clinics held at Fairfax County and Falls Church City Public Schools. A total of 43,267 adolescents ages 12-15 years old received a first dose of Pfizer vaccine since this group became eligible for vaccination. Of these,

Cumulative Number and Percent of Vaccinations by Race and Ethnicity, Age 12 – 15 Years Old		
Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
White	15,314	37.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	10,171	25.1%
Latino	8,414	20.8%
Black	3,325	8.2%
Other Race	3,227	8.0%
Grand Total	40,451	100.0%

40,451 (93%) reported race and ethnicity. Hispanic and Asian and Pacific Islanders represented a higher percent vaccinated than their population proportion in the district for this age group (20.8% vs. 19.4% and 25.1% vs. 21.6% respectively) while Black/African Americans and Whites reported a lower percent vaccinated compared to their population proportion (8.2% vs. 11.0% and 37.9% vs. 47.8%). As of July 29, 2021, 69% of adolescents ages 12-15 years old received at least one dose of the vaccine.

Vaccination among People Experiencing Homelessness

Vaccination of homeless services staff and shelter clients began in January 2021. During the six-month period ending June 30, Fairfax County Health Department nurse practitioners serving the homeless population vaccinated a total of 845 clients and staff.

Key Metrics, January - June 2021

Number of clients homeless clients and staff vaccinated in on-site vaccine clinics	845
Number of homeless clients vaccinated in on-site vaccine clinics	393
Number of staff vaccinated in on-site vaccine clinics	452
Number of on-site vaccine clinics in homeless shelters and QPID sites	50
Percent of homeless population vaccinated as of June 20, 2021*	39%

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

Part 6: Conclusions

Overall, Fairfax Health District has vaccinated a substantial proportion of residents, with over 75% of adults 18+ years old and over 72% of adolescents having received at least one vaccine dose, contributing to a substantial decline in case numbers in June. However, as the pace of new vaccinations has decreased and infections by the Delta variant increased, case numbers once again are increasing.

Disparities in vaccination by race and ethnicity have continued to narrow, and the percentage vaccinated among Asian/Pacific Islanders and Hispanics has surpassed that of non-Hispanic Whites. The reduction in disparities can be attributed, in part, to community engagement, outreach, media and targeted equity clinics addressing hesitancy and making vaccine access easier. Among people vaccinated at equity clinics, the high proportion of Hispanics reflects the effectiveness of outreach to this community and less vaccine hesitancy, thus they are more likely to get vaccinated when logistical barriers are minimized. Additional focus remains important to increase vaccinations among Black/African Americans who, from national surveys and local community conversations, have been shown to have greater hesitancy and distrust requiring increased outreach and work through trusted partners. Geographically as well, gaps are narrowing although coverage generally is lower among ZIP codes in the eastern and southern parts of the county. Focusing outreach efforts to areas and communities with lower vaccination rates will continue, using both equity clinics and navigation as strategies to address hesitation and to make vaccination easy for those who will accept vaccination but are less likely to actively seek it out.

The relative plateauing of vaccination among the non-Hispanic White population may, in part, reflect hesitancy among conservative and evangelical populations, as has been described in national surveys. Work through the StayWellNoVa regional campaign is continuing to focus on this population with additional social media content and expanded FAQs focused on vaccine safety concerns, and outreach to the faith community also is ongoing. Health Department experts also will be participating again on the Don Kroah Show on WAVA radio in early August to reach the evangelical population.