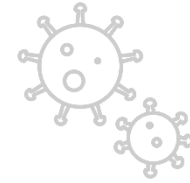




COVID -19 VACCINE EQUITY REPORT



MAY 2021

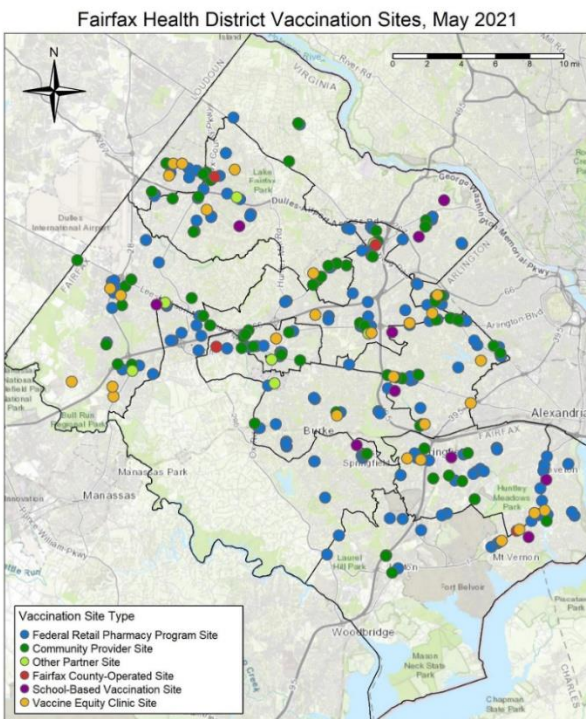
Part 1: Overview

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 in vaccine delivery recognizing that individuals in communities of color and those economically disadvantaged face additional challenges in getting vaccinated.

As of June 20, a total of 1,311,848 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Fairfax Health District, and 722,481 people had received at least one vaccine dose. This represents 73.4% of the adult (≥ 18 -year-old) population, exceeding the President’s target of 70% well before the July 4 goal. The proportion vaccinated in the Fairfax Health District includes more than 90% of persons aged 65+ years.

With increased vaccination, case counts have declined. Given the average of 16 new cases per day over the past week, the seven-day rate of 9.6 per 100,000 population meets the CDC threshold of <10 per 100,000 which defines “low” community transmission. As case numbers have decreased and with higher rates of vaccination among adults, a higher proportion of cases now are occurring in children and adolescents. Racial/ethnic disparities in disease continue with rates higher among African Americans and Hispanics compared with other groups.



In May, there was a continued increase in the number of sites providing vaccinations across the county as vaccine supply expanded. The 311 vaccination sites in Fairfax Health District included 179 pharmacy sites, 86 healthcare providers, 25 equity clinic sites, 10 school-based vaccination sites, 4 sites operated by Fairfax County and 7 sites operated by county partners. By comparison, in April vaccine was available at 263 sites. Whereas large vaccination clinics continued at the Tysons Community Vaccination Center, the Government Center and at Inova sites, as most individuals who were highly motivated to receive vaccine already had been vaccinated, many appointment times at these clinics remained unscheduled. Consequently, Health Department District Office sites with the exception of the Mount Vernon District Office transitioned from serving as vaccination clinics to resuming their routine functions and integrating COVID-19 vaccinations into clinic services.

Additionally, in mid-May, CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for adolescents 12-15 years old following FDA’s authorization. Vaccinations were available for this age group at sites delivering the Pfizer product and vaccination clinics occurred at Fairfax County and Falls Church City Public Schools.

Consistent with the vaccine equity strategy described in the April report, many activities implemented in May were continuations of previous initiatives including vaccine equity clinics, community outreach in collaboration with community partners, and targeted activities to address vaccine hesitancy. Consistent with the objective to make vaccination easy by bringing clinics to where people live, we increased the number of equity clinics at apartment complexes that have a large number of residents and where immunization data shows low proportions vaccinated. Events occurred at complexes along Richmond Highway and in the Fairfax section of Alexandria, reaching hundreds of residents. As highlighted in the April report, the Health Department also focused on vaccinating adolescents, communicating the new recommendation through the media, town halls, through parent liaisons, and via other channels, and implementing school-based vaccination clinics. Outreach also occurred to evangelicals through FCHD participation on a popular 1-hour interview show on a Christian radio station, followed by ongoing sponsored announcements. Planning is ongoing for vaccinating the homeless population and FCHD has received funding from VDH for vaccine equity and is developing a vaccine navigation program that is described further in the strategy section of this document.

Part 2: Vaccine Equity Clinic Data

In May 2021, the Health Department partnered with seven vaccinating organizations and numerous other partners to implement eighty-six vaccination events, at which 16,276 doses were administered to 14,895 individuals. There were 8,731 first doses (including Johnson and Johnson) and 7,545 second doses. Target racial and ethnic groups comprised 84% of Fairfax Health District residents who received a vaccination.



7
Vaccination
Partners



86
Vaccination
Events



16,276
Doses
Administered



84%
Black/African
Hispanic or Asian/PI

Equity Clinic Locations

During May, vaccine equity clinics were held at 25 sites (see map, below) throughout the Fairfax Health District. Sites included community centers, schools, houses of worship, shopping centers, neighborhoods, board of supervisor’s office, and partner clinic locations. All sites were in areas with high

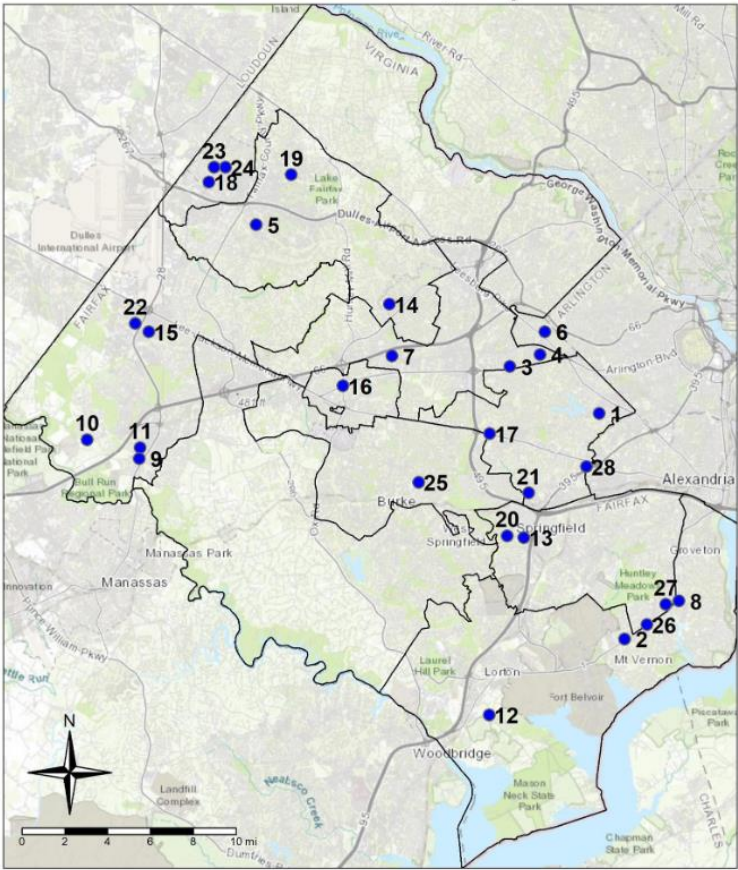
rates of disease and lower rates of vaccination. A total of 14,895 individuals were vaccinated with a 1st or 2nd dose of Pfizer or Moderna or a single dose of Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Vaccinator Organization, Clinic Site, and Number of People Scheduled/Vaccinated March -May 2021				
Vaccinator Organization	Clinic Site (see map below)	Total Scheduled or Vaccinated MARCH	Total Scheduled or Vaccinated APRIL	Total Vaccinated MAY
Neighborhood Health (NH)	1 Bailey's Community Center 2 Knights of Columbus 3 Graham Road Community Center	5,765	8,919	7,212
Safeway (SW)	4 James Lee Comm. Center 5 Southgate Comm. Center 6 Falls Church Comm. Center 7 Providence Comm. Center 8 Bethlehem Baptist Church 9 Mt. Olive Baptist Church 10 Korean Central Presbyterian Church 11 Centre Ridge Elementary School 12 Gunston Elementary School 13 Springfield Town Center 14 First Baptist Church of Vienna	1,687	2,589	4,385*
Adam's Compassionate Healthcare Network (ACHN)	15 Adam's Compassionate Health Care Clinic	1,035	1,464	713
Chinese American Community Health Services (CACHS)	16 Chinese Community Health Services	N/A	119	163
Inova Cares Clinic for Families (ICCF)	17 Inova Cares Clinic for Families	392	392	N/A
Healthworks	18 Healthworks Herndon 19 Healthworks Reston 14 First Baptist Church of Vienna	622	881	564
Field Vaccination Team (FVT)	20 First Baptist Church of Springfield 21 Service Source Springfield 22 Sully Senior Center 23 Herndon Community Center 24 Herndon Fortnightly Library 25 Braddock Board of Supervisors 26 Original Mt. Vernon High	N/A	1,515	1,170

Mason and Partners (MAP)	27 Audubon Estates 28 Lerner Morningside Community	N/A	664	688
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*This number is 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.

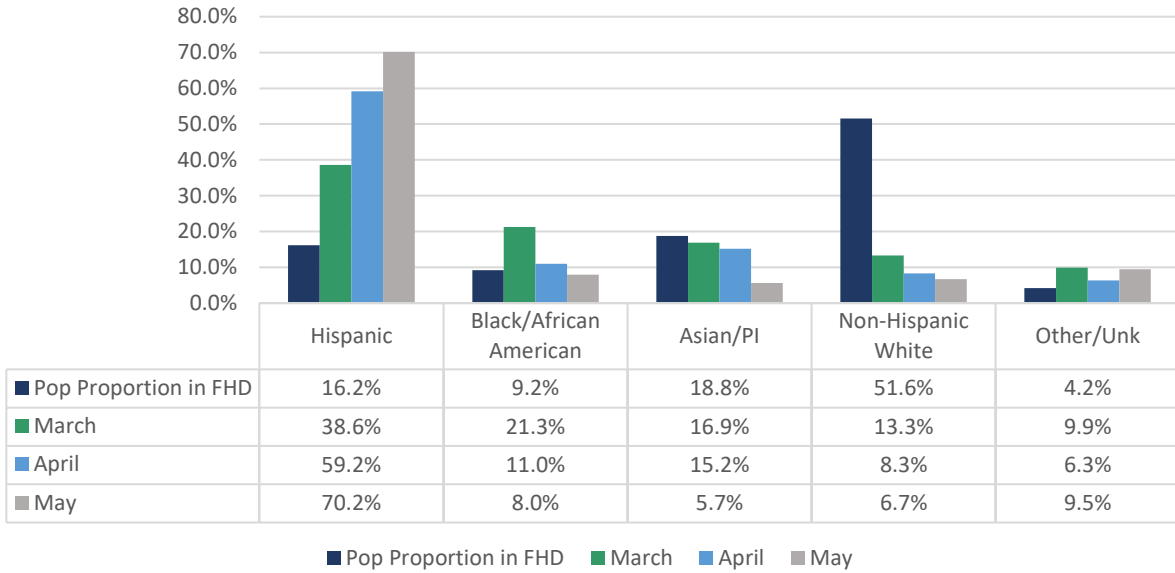
Vaccine Equity Clinic Sites
Fairfax Health District, May 2021



Race/Ethnicity

There were 5,215 residents of Fairfax Health District for whom race and ethnicity data was 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 May. Overall, 84% of Fairfax Health District residents vaccinated by equity partners identified as either Black/African American, Hispanic, or Asian/Pacific Islander. In May, the number and proportion of Hispanic individuals further increased (from 59.2% in April to 70.2% in May) whereas Black/African American and Asian/PI residents were vaccinated at a lower proportion than their percent of the overall Fairfax Health District population.

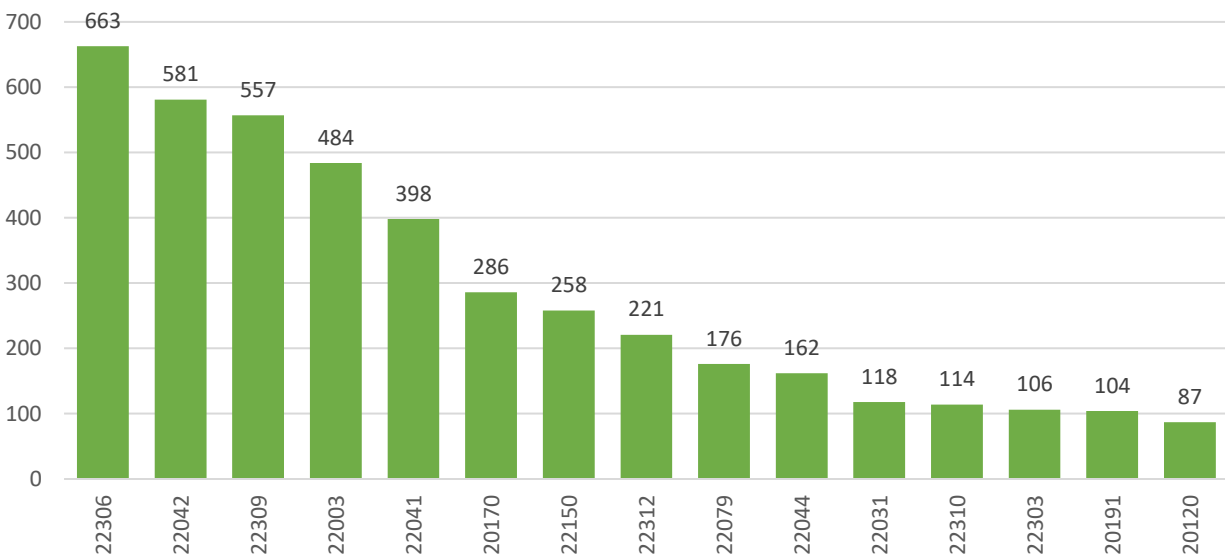
Percent Vaccinated at Vaccine Equity Clinics Compared to Total FHD Population Proportion, by Month and Race and Ethnicity



ZIP Code

A total of 5,342 (61%) Fairfax Health District residents who were scheduled or received a first dose at a vaccine equity clinic reported their ZIP code. Over three quarters (81%) lived in one of 15 ZIP codes shown below. 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, May 2021

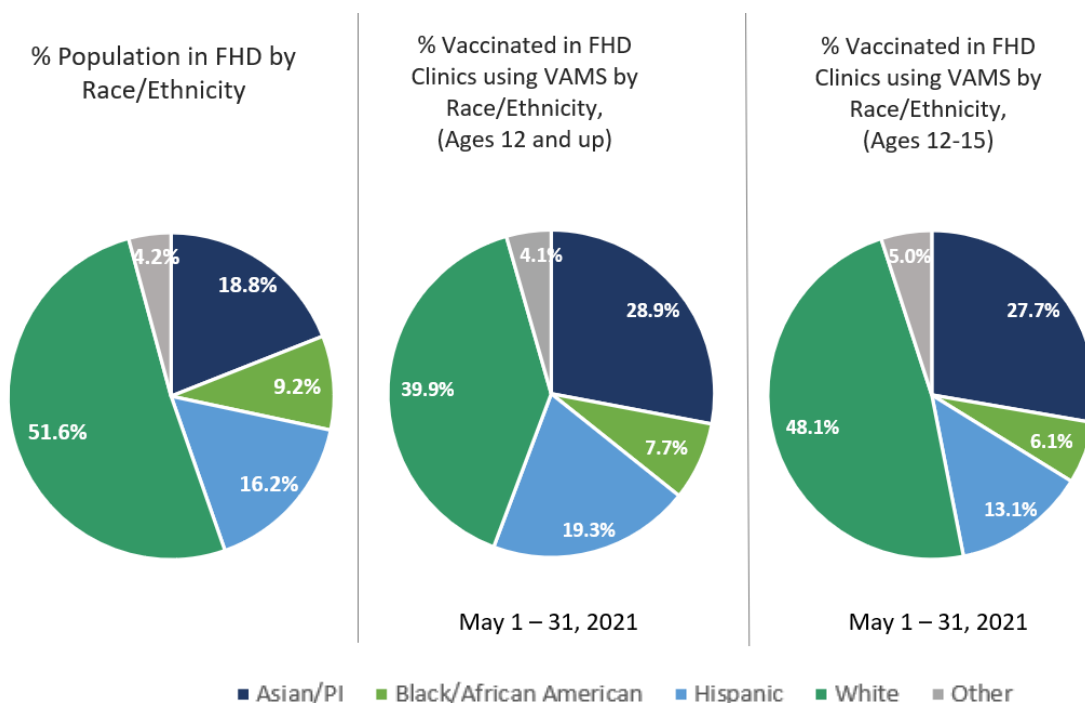


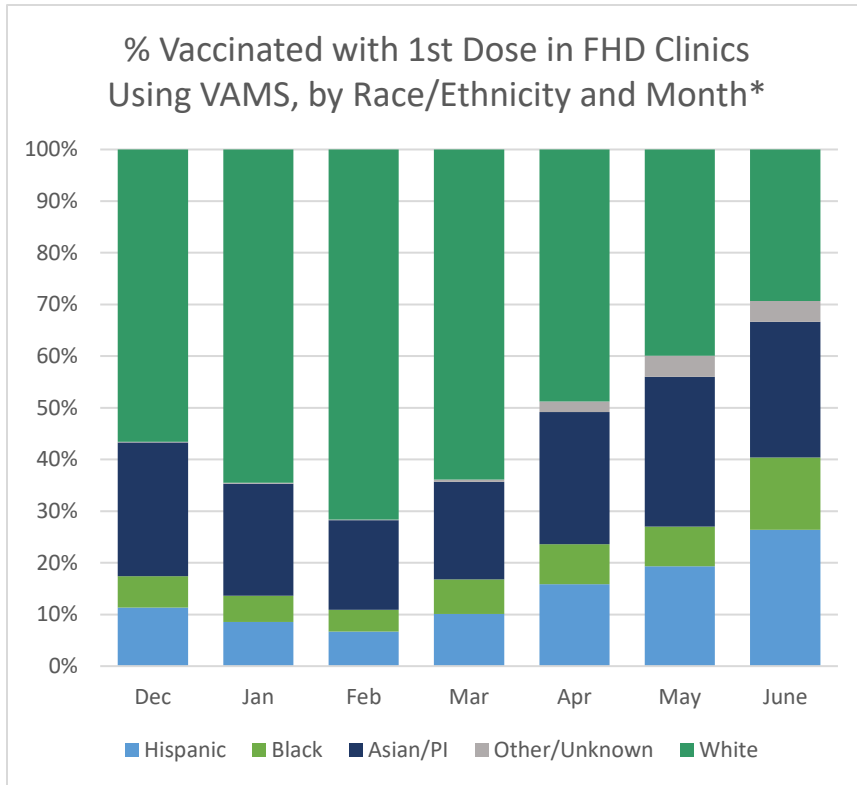
Part 3: County Data

Race and Ethnicity

Because of errors in the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS), data on the race and ethnicity of all vaccinated residents in the Health District are not available. On May 21, race and ethnicity reporting in VIIS was corrected for all submissions from that date forward. However, there are over 2 million records prior to this date that have yet to be corrected and VIIS is in the process of an extensive data cleanup to resolve the issue. Because of this, as in April, we report race and ethnicity data only for individuals who were vaccinated at Health Department clinics and by partners that used the VAMS registration and scheduling system. Note that VAMS includes a subset of about 30% of all vaccine doses administered in the Health District and *these data may not be representative of the entire community*. We are working with the Virginia Department of Health to address the errors in VIIS and, when accurate data are available, will be able to report race and ethnicity for all Health District residents.

In May, there were 38,881 individuals who received a first vaccine dose at a location that uses VAMS, with 36,834 (95%) reporting race and ethnicity. Overall, 28.9% identified as Asian/PI, 7.7% identified as Black/African American, 19.3% identified as Hispanic/Latino, and 39.9% identified as non-Hispanic White (middle pie chart). Compared with the overall Health District population (left pie chart), the proportion vaccinated during May at sites using the VAMS system was higher for Asian/Pacific Islanders and Hispanics, and lower for Black/African Americans and non-Hispanic Whites. Vaccine administration was expanded to include residents ages 12-15 years old on May 13 and 13,074 adolescents in this age range were vaccinated during May at clinics using VAMS. Among this group, substantially lower proportions of Black/African Americans and Hispanics were vaccinated (right pie chart) than their share of the Fairfax Health District population.





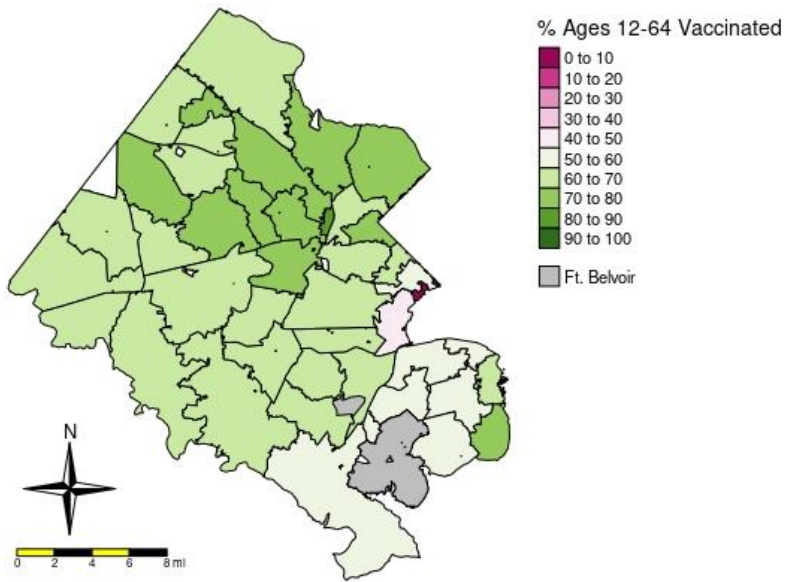
*Data for June is through 6/16/2021

In total, 200,249 residents have been vaccinated in clinics that use VAMS with 190,480 (95%) reporting race and ethnicity. The proportion of first doses administered to people of color continued to increase in May and June compared with previous months. Overall, from December through May, Hispanics comprised 12.9% of the population with vaccination data in VAMS, Black or African Americans comprised 6.7%, Asian and Pacific Islanders comprised 23.1%, non-Hispanic Whites comprised 55.9%, with 1.5% reporting another race and ethnicity.

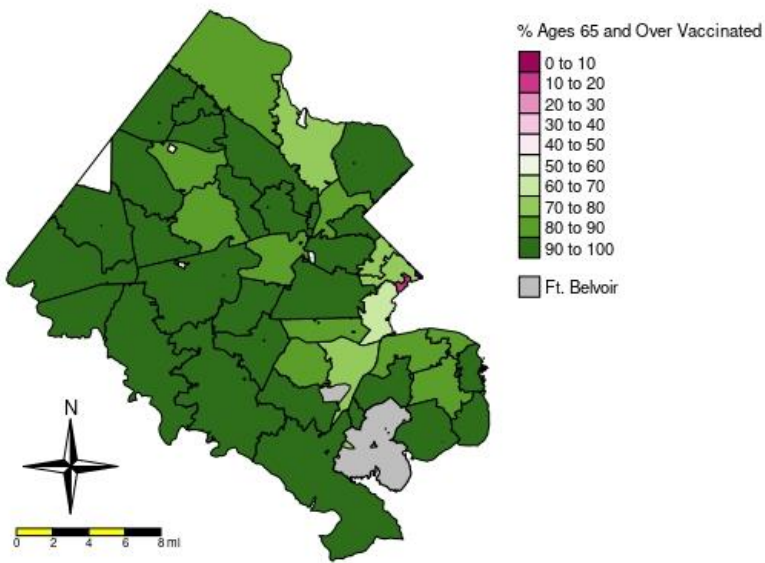
ZIP code

The maps below show the cumulative number of vaccine doses administered by ZIP code in the Fairfax Health District based on VIIS data. Differences in vaccination rates are less for individuals 65+ years old, who have been eligible for vaccination since mid January, compared with those 12-64 years old. Lower rates are generally, though not always, found in areas with a higher proportion of households below the federal poverty line.

Percent ages 12-64 vaccinated with at least one dose by 5/31/21,
Fairfax Health District



Percent ages 65 and over vaccinated
with at least one dose by 5/31/21,
Fairfax Health District



Overall, among Fairfax Health District residents age 65+, 92.1% had been vaccinated as of May 31st—a 1.3 percentage point increase compared with April 30th. Proportions vaccinated by May 31st ranged from about 70% to over 100%. Only one ZIP code (22312) reported a percentage below 70%. Among residents

12-64 years old, including residents 12-15 years old who first became eligible for vaccination on May 13th, 65.0% have been vaccinated overall. Vaccination rates among this younger group were more varied by ZIP code, ranging from 41.2% to 84.7%. These differences could, in part, reflect differences in the proportion of newly eligible residents ages 12-15 years. Nevertheless, the overall ranking of ZIP codes is similar to that for older adults. For those ages 12-64, areas with higher Black/African American and Hispanic populations along Route 1 as well as in the eastern part of the county have lower vaccination rates.

Percent Vaccinated by Age Group and Zip Code*					
ZIP Code	Percent of 12-64 Vaccinated	Percent of 65+ Vaccinated	ZIP Code	Percent of 12-64 Vaccinated	Percent of 65+ Vaccinated
22312	41.2%	68.3%	20170	66.6%	102.5%
22309	51.4%	91.6%	22042	66.9%	101.4%
22306	53.7%	82.0%	22150	67.3%	76.0%
22310	55.2%	82.9%	20151	67.8%	107.6%
22303	55.4%	89.5%	22043	68.7%	89.1%
22079	56.5%	101.6%	22151	69.0%	84.7%
22041	57.5%	78.5%	22033	69.3%	98.4%
22315	58.0%	93.4%	20120	69.4%	108.4%
22307	61.4%	92.4%	22046	70.2%	97.9%
22030	62.3%	96.7%	22031	71.3%	89.0%
20124	62.8%	95.1%	20194	71.7%	113.1%
22039	63.9%	107.6%	22308	71.8%	93.5%
22015	64.0%	96.2%	22124	72.3%	86.5%
22032	64.0%	93.6%	22181	72.7%	97.3%
22003	64.1%	92.5%	22182	74.4%	92.9%
20190	65.3%	92.3%	20171	74.9%	114.6%
22066	65.4%	82.7%	22102	75.6%	78.2%
20121	65.5%	93.0%	22101	76.7%	90.7%
22153	65.5%	96.0%	22180	78.7%	99.1%
20191	65.6%	85.2%	22027	84.7%	95.0%
22152	65.9%	89.2%	Total	65.0%	92.1%
22044	66.2%	71.7%			

*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).

Part 4: Conclusions

Overall, Fairfax County has been very successful vaccinating residents, with over 70% of adults receiving at least one vaccine dose, resulting in a substantial decline in case numbers. In May, as totals have continued to increase, gaps in vaccination by race and ethnicity have continued to narrow. Since February, the proportion of vaccinations delivered to people of color has increased each month, particularly among Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations. The reduction in disparities can be attributed, in part, to community engagement, outreach, media and targeted equity clinics addressing both hesitancy and making vaccine access easier with vaccination sites in 18% more locations around the Health District compared with April. Among people vaccinated at equity clinics, the proportion of Hispanics has continued to increase reflecting the effectiveness of outreach to this community and their lower vaccine hesitancy, thus they are more likely to get vaccinated when logistical barriers are minimized. However, the continued decrease in the proportion of Black/African Americans vaccinated at equity clinics is a concern and may reflect the greater hesitancy and distrust within this group requiring increased outreach and partnership efforts. Similar to the initial vaccination uptake for older age groups following expansion of eligibility groups, the initial vaccination uptake for adolescents 12–15-years old has been higher among non-Hispanic White and Asian/Pacific Islander groups. This likely reflects a combination of a “wait and see” attitude and logistical challenges although vaccinations were provided at schools giving all students similar access.

Part 5: Equity Strategy

The overall components of the equity strategy generally remain the same as in April. Vaccine equity clinics remain a key component, with selection of clinic locations being based on epidemiological data identifying communities (e.g., apartment complexes) with lower vaccination rates. As temperatures increase, given the cold-chain requirements for COVID-19 vaccines, indoor locations for clinics are needed, creating some limitations in available clinic sites. In collaboration with the Department of Transportation, a pilot program has begun with a Fairfax Connector free shuttle along Richmond Highway to a vaccine equity clinic in Mt. Vernon. After three weeks, this program will be evaluated to consider expansion of this strategy alongside other transportation resources available to bring residents to a vaccination location. The Health Department’s capacity to implement clinics in the community is increasing through the establishment and growth of the Field Vaccination Team, which already has been vaccinating at libraries and Board offices.

Vaccine navigation is a strategy that will be increasingly emphasized in June and beyond, given the increased number of sites for vaccination throughout the Health District and the large number of available appointments at these sites. Navigators will talk with Health District residents at events such as food distribution, at houses of worship, or by going door-to-door in areas with vulnerable populations and lower vaccination rates. Navigators will reflect the diversity of the communities they serve and provide information about vaccination, address concerns, and be able to schedule people to receive vaccine at a nearby location. With funding support from VDH, the Health Department will be shifting 23 Community Health Workers (CHWs) from the Containment Team, where fewer are needed due to the substantial decrease in case numbers, to a Navigation Team which also will include a group of 7 Human Services Workers, supported by additional grant funding. These navigators will conduct outreach to

Health District residents as well as work closely with community-based organizations, leveraging their contacts and volunteers to expand navigation capacity. Navigation team activities will likely be launched by mid-July.

We also continue to engage with communities of color to address vaccine hesitancy and unidentified barriers. Community outreach, especially to more hesitant communities, will continue, particularly in the Black/African American community where vaccinations through the equity clinics have decreased in the past two months. Efforts to reach the Black/African community includes community days this summer and fall for historically Black communities, an upcoming meeting with Voices of Black Fairfax, and a meeting with community partners in late June to discuss community concerns and how they can share vaccine information. In addition, we are considering holding focus groups with the Black/African American community, as had been done for the Hispanic community, and will explore options for the use of CHWs from the navigator team to focus on community engagement with the Black/African American community.

Targeted outreach is also occurring for specific unvaccinated populations (white evangelicals and people experiencing homelessness). An interagency workgroup convened by Department of Family Services and including FCHD, the Community Services Board, and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness is planning to offer vaccine for homeless clients at several homeless shelters and drop-in centers in late-June and early July. Following participation in a radio show and advertisements on a Christian radio station, additional appearance on the show and outreach through evangelical pastors are planned for early July.