

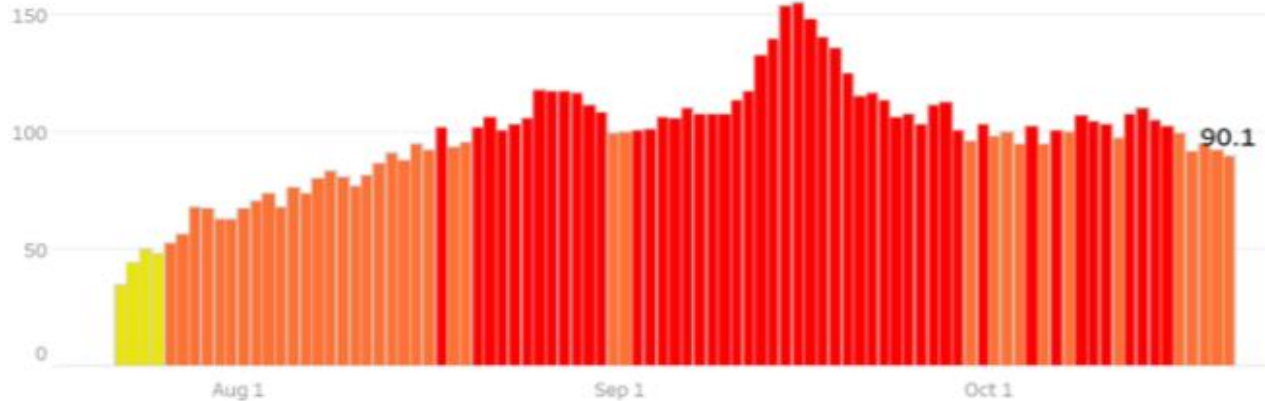
Update on COVID-19 Health & Safety Measures

School Board Meeting
October 21, 2021

Alexandria COVID-19 Transmission



Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days
Most recent 90 days shown



Source: Virginia Department of Health case data. Data visualization by City of Alexandria Office of Performance Analytics. Data updated on October 20, 2021

Alexandria Resident Cases of COVID-19 in August and September 2021 by Age

Analysis Conducted by Alexandria Health Department | October 12, 2021

Age group	Cases in August	Cases in September	Percent of total population	Percent of total population with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine (As of 10/13/2021)
0-4 years	43 (5.8%)	60 (7.9%)	13.4%	Not currently eligible for vaccination
5-11 years	70 (9.5%)	114 (15.1%)		
12-15 years	23 (3.1%)	26 (3.4%)	3%	100.9%*
16-17 years	13 (1.8%)	12 (1.6%)	1.6%	98.1%
18-24 years	69 (9.3%)	49 (6.5%)	5.8%	85.4%

Updates on Health & Safety Measures

- Development of ACPS real-time COVID-19 dashboard along with updated contact tracing process
- Communication sent to families on uploading vaccination status for 12+ students
- Additional contact tracers have been hired
- Vaccinations offered to students and staff at George Washington, Francis C. Hammond and Minnie Howard on October 15th

COVID-19 Screening Testing

- On-site testing began with a soft launch of testing employees at five school locations
- On-site testing for students and staff began on October 20th
- Employees who require weekly testing can complete testing at their school.



COVID-19 Screening Testing

On-Site Testing

APCS On-site COVID-19 Testing Program

Programa de Pruebas En Sitio de COVID-19 de ACPS

موقعياً COVID-19 لإجراء فحص ACPS برنامج

በAPCS በቦታው-ተገኝቶቹ፤ የCOVID-19 ምርመራ የማድረግ ፕሮግራም

ACPS is excited to share that we will be offering a COVID-19 testing program to help keep our students, staff, and community safe and help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We are planning regular COVID-19 testing of 30% of students at each school or program to help us lower the risk of the spread in our schools by finding positive cases of COVID-19 quickly. The testing program will also help identify positive cases in people who are asymptomatic.

This program is voluntary. Parents and guardians are asked to complete registration and provide consent.

Testing will start Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

What is the COVID-19 testing program?

- Participating students will be tested for COVID-19 once a week during the school day by staff from Curative.
- The program will be rolled out at several schools beginning the week of October 11 and all schools will be testing by the week of October 25.
- The test is performed at your school.
- The COVID-19 rapid antigen test is quick, easy, and does not hurt.
 - A nasal test gently swabs the lower inner nostril
 - Rapid test results are available in approximately 15 minutes. Families will be notified by Curative.
- The test is free. You do not need to pay for the test or have insurance to get the test.
- Each week 30% of the student population will be tested.
- The program is optional, and your consent is required for your child to be tested.
- For schools testing on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, students must register by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before.

Consent and Registration

High School

- [ACHS King Street Campus](#)
Mondays, 8:00 - 1:30 p.m.
- [ACHS Minnie Howard Campus](#)
Tuesdays, 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- [Chance for Change Academy](#)
Mondays, 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Middle Schools

- [Francis C. Hammond Middle School](#)
Tuesdays, 12:30 - 3:15 p.m.
- [George Washington Middle School](#)
Mondays, 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

K-8 Schools

- [Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School](#)
Fridays, 11:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.
- [Patrick Henry K-8 School](#)
Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

PreK and Elementary Schools

- [Early Childhood Center](#)
Fridays, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
- [Charles Barrett Elementary School](#)
Wednesdays, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

COVID-19 Screening Testing

What is a COVID-19 rapid antigen test?

A quick test that swabs the lower nostrils and provides test results in approximately 15 minutes.

Why is our school division doing COVID-19 testing?

Testing helps us to catch any cases of COVID-19 before they become outbreaks. In almost half of COVID cases, the individual does not experience symptoms but can still spread COVID-19, which is why testing everyone regularly helps to prevent spread and keep our schools open safely.

Will my student have to miss class to be tested?

We will make every effort to minimize disruption to learning. The testing takes a brief amount of time for each student, so if the school's testing window is during a class, a student should not be out of class for too long. Weekly testing helps to identify and isolate positive cases before they spread. Minimizing spread in school helps keep our school open and all our students in class more often.

What if someone in my student's class tests positive?

If your student has been identified as a close contact to someone who has COVID-19, you will be notified by the school and by the health department. [When You Can be Around Others from Alexandria Health Department](#)

What if my student tests positive on the weekly rapid test?

You will receive test results from Curative and the school would also contact you in the case of a positive result. A follow-up PCR test would be provided to confirm that positive result.

Staff Vaccination & COVID-19 testing

- Fully vaccinated staff = 2,348
- Staff required for weekly COVID-19 test = 198
- Request for medical or religious exemption from vaccination = 51
(Staff approved will be required to participate in weekly testing)

Required Weekly COVID-19 Testing for Employees

Staff Group Category	Number of Staff
Administrators	13
Licensed	73
Support	112

Next Steps

- Continued emphasis on keeping students home when ill
- Continued communication with families and staff on the testing program
- Completion of real-time ACPS COVID-19 dashboard
- Planning with AHD on vaccinations for under 12 year old students
- Communication with VDH on the ViSSTA program

Questions and Answers

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Superintendent

Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr.

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