

Special Edition | Thursday, May 20, 2021

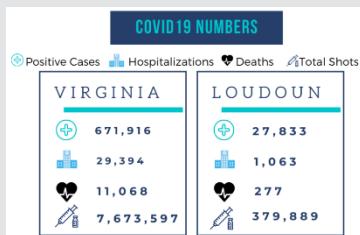
# All About Algonkian



**Juli E. Briskman** | Algonkian District Supervisor



## COVID-19 Update



## COVID-19 Data Summary

Loudoun's seven-day positivity rate has decreased to 3%, which is the lowest ever recorded since the start of the pandemic. [Loudoun's data dashboard](#) also indicates that the seven-day average case count decreased to 14.4, which represents a decline of about 13 cases since last week. The statewide average case count has also dropped. Please continue to follow public health guidance to help blunt the spread of COVID-19. Also, by getting the vaccine, you can prevent spread, save lives and stop new variants.

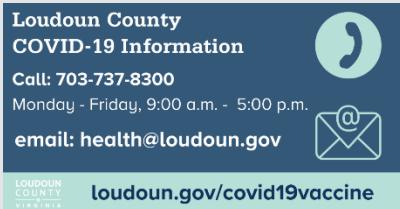
One of Loudoun County Public Schools' CDC indicators has declined to the "moderate risk" level ( 38.83 new cases per 100,000 in the last 14 days). The Department of Education and LCPS also use secondary indicators to help inform decision-making, such as hybrid offerings. The local school indicators can be seen here: [Loudoun County Public Schools COVID-19 Case Data](#).

More data resources provided by Loudoun County can be accessed [here](#).

View Comprehensive Data on the Virginia Department of Health Website:

- [Cases, demographics, localities, outbreaks, testing, and more](#)
- [Virginia's Key COVID-19 Measures](#)
- [COVID-19 Data Insights](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccinations Summary](#)

**Have questions?** Call the VDH hotline 877-ASK-VDH3 (877-275-8343). Language translation services available. Si usted tiene alguna pregunta llámenos al 877-275-8343.



## New Hours for COVID-19 Information Line

As we reported earlier today, starting this week, the Loudoun County COVID-19 information line's hours of operations will be Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays when Loudoun County government administrative offices are closed. This change eliminates weekend call center operations. As the number of people receiving COVID-19 vaccines continues to rise and the rate of cases declines, the call volume has significantly declined on weekends, prompting the scaling back of operations.

- Residents may still call 703-737-8300 weekdays for assistance with vaccination appointments and for COVID-19-related information.
- Outside of the county's hours of operation, callers to the COVID-19 information line
- will be forwarded to the Virginia Department of Health's COVID-19 information line, 877-829-4682, when available.
- Also, anyone who needs assistance or information may send an email at any time to the Loudoun Health Department, which will reply as quickly as possible.
- Read the full news release.



## COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens

As a reminder, everyone 12 years of age and older is eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. It's easier than ever to make an appointment. Pre-registration is no longer required. You can:

- Schedule an appointment to receive a vaccine from the Loudoun County Health Department; or
- Visit vaccinate.virginia.gov or call 877-VAX-IN-VA. The state website now includes a simple address search to help everyone find the most convenient ways to get vaccinated.



## Fight Misinformation

Do you want to get the facts and counter common vaccine myths? Do you want to better understand COVID-19 vaccines, how they are made, and why they work? Do you need help talking to your employees, loved ones, or family members about the vaccines? Even if you aren't

a COVID Community Ambassador, you can still share important information with your community by visiting the resource library and downloading the mythbusters toolkit [here](#).



## When are you Fully Vaccinated?

In general, people are considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19 two weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson &

Johnson's Janssen vaccine. If you don't meet these requirements, regardless of your age, you are not fully vaccinated. Keep taking all precautions until you are fully vaccinated.

If you have a condition or are taking medications that weaken your immune system, you may not be fully protected even if you are fully vaccinated. Talk to your healthcare provider. Even after vaccination, you may need to continue taking all precautions.



## When You've Been Fully Vaccinated

As a reminder, in accordance with Governor Northam's executive order and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance, if you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, you can

resume activities that you did before the pandemic without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations. That includes local business and workplace guidance. You are still required to wear a mask on planes, buses, trains and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.



## COVID-19 Testing Continues Next Week

Loudoun County will hold another free, drive-thru COVID-19 testing event next week on Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the [Dulles](#)

[South Recreation & Community Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding.](#) Details, including links to required registration forms that can be downloaded, filled out and printed in advance, may be found at [loudoun.gov/COVID19testing](#).



## Facebook Frames

Research shows that social norms can have a major impact on people's attitudes and behaviors when it comes to their health. We know people are more likely to get a vaccine when they see that many people they trust are doing it. The Virginia Department of Health released

Facebook Profile Frames to help stop the spread. You can download them by [using this link](#).



Federal  
Communications  
Commission

## Emergency Broadband Benefit

Families that have been struggling to afford internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for help from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The Emergency Broadband Benefit is an FCC program designed to help connect qualifying households to jobs, critical healthcare services, virtual classrooms and more. [Learn more about the criteria for the program and how to apply from the FCC](#).



## Online Survey Measures Impact of COVID-19 on Women and Girls

A new survey from the Loudoun Commission on Women and Girls seeks to understand how the pandemic has impacted women

in our community. All women ages 18 years and older who reside in Loudoun County are invited to take this brief survey: [www.lcwag.org/survey](http://www.lcwag.org/survey) The survey deadline is tomorrow, May 21 at 5 p.m.



## Save Lives, Get COVIDWISE

COVIDWISE is Virginia's official exposure notifications app that lets you know if you've likely been exposed to another COVIDWISE user with a positive COVID-19 test result.

COVIDWISE is free to download on your smartphone and designed to completely protect your privacy.

- The more Virginians who use COVIDWISE, the better everyone can be informed of potential exposure, which helps reduce your risk while protecting your family, friends and community. COVIDWISE is now connected to the National Key Server, which lets COVIDWISE anonymously share data with exposure notifications apps from other states. [Learn more from the Virginia Department of Health and download the app here.](#)



## Governor's Update

Governor Ralph Northam lifted Virginia's universal indoor mask mandate to align with [new guidance](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Governor Northam also announced that Virginia will ease all distancing and capacity restrictions on Friday, May 28, two weeks earlier than planned. Governor Northam made the announcement in a [new video message](#).

Virginia is able to take these steps as a result of increasing vaccination rates, dramatically declining COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and statewide test positivity rate, and revised federal guidelines.

The CDC guidelines state that fully-vaccinated individuals do not have to wear masks in most indoor settings, except on public transit, in health care facilities, and in congregate settings. Businesses retain the ability to require masks in their establishments. Employees who work in certain business sectors—including restaurants, retail, fitness, personal care, and entertainment—must continue to wear masks unless fully vaccinated, per CDC guidance. Those who are unvaccinated or not fully-vaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear masks in all settings.

The state of emergency in Virginia will remain in place at least through June 30 to provide flexibility for local government and support ongoing COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Governor Northam will take executive action to ensure individuals have the option to wear masks up to and after that date. Masks will continue to be required in K-12 public schools, given low rates of vaccination among children.

The full text of Seventh Amended Executive Order Seventy-Two and Order of Public Health Emergency Nine, which took effect on May 15, can be found [here](#).

The full text of Executive Order Seventy-Nine, which takes effect on Friday, May 28, can be found [here](#). Visit [virginia.gov/coronavirus/forwardvirginia](http://virginia.gov/coronavirus/forwardvirginia) for more information and answers to frequently asked questions.



## How to Receive Updates or get Questions Answered

Loudoun County staff continues to coordinate answering your COVID-19 health related constituent questions. Please call the Health Department COVID-19 Information Hotline at 703-737-8300 for a quick response (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or [Email the Health Department](#).

Please visit the [County's COVID-19 webpage](#). The [questions and answers](#) page is continually updated.

Please encourage your constituents to view and sign up for updates from Loudoun

- Text LCCOVID19 to 888777 to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19
- [Sign up for email and text updates on COVID-19 in Notify Me, Blogs category](#)
- Follow the [Loudoun County Government Facebook Page](#) and Twitter [@LoudounCoGovt](#)

If you are having trouble paying your utilities because of COVID-19, help is available. Visit the County's webpage on [COVID-19 Utilities](#) for program information on:

Columbia Gas  
Dominion Power  
Loudoun Water  
NOVEC

Washington Gas  
Wi-fi Connectivity

**For More Current COVID-19 Information**

Visit: [www.loudoun.gov/CoronaVirus](http://www.loudoun.gov/CoronaVirus)

Call: (703) 737-8300

Email: [Health@Loudoun.gov](mailto:Health@Loudoun.gov)

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Have an interesting comment you'd like to share? Want to see someone you know from Algonkian featured? [Email Rey Cheatham-Banks](mailto:Email Rey Cheatham-Banks)

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[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

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