

Ammanuel Church COVID 19 Updates May 20th, 2022

Health Department

COVID-19 cases are **spiking once again** in and around Philadelphia as a **subvariant of omicron** continues to spread.

The reported case counts are surely undercounts, due to people who are using at-home tests or dismissing mild symptoms.

The University of Delaware's epidemiology program study shows, "There are a lot of people who are like, 'I have **allergies**' or '**I have something else**,' but they probably have COVID."

COVID-19 cases rise in South Jersey as new omicron subvariant takes over

In New Jersey and New York, the subvariant has edged out its predecessor, **BA. 2**, to become the dominant strain, according to CDC data — accounting for two-thirds of cases there last week. **BA. 2 overtook the original omicron strain at the end of March.**

New Jersey health officials are attributing the increase in cases in part to the **high transmissibility of the two variants**, with **BA. 2.12.1**-driven case spikes as the subvariant takes over.

The United States could see up to 100 million infections this fall and winter, warning that the country will run out of tests, treatments, and vaccines if Congress doesn't authorize more coronavirus spending.

South Jersey is now seeing about 53 new reported cases a day per 100,000 people — compared to 23 and 28 in Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania suburbs, respectively.

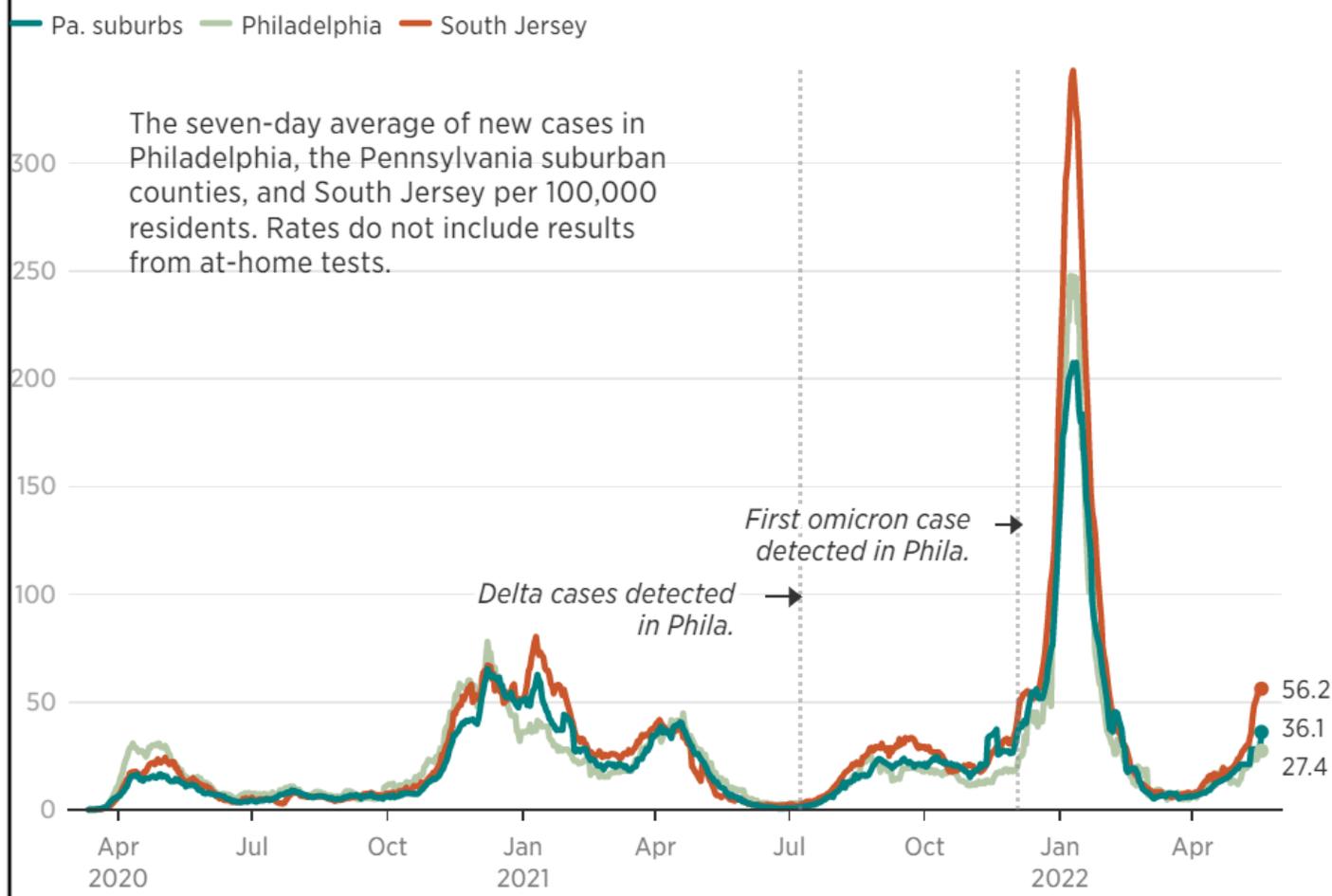
COVID hospitalizations are also increasing in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey, following the steady, weeklong increase in cases. There were **308 people**

hospitalized in Philadelphia and its suburbs and 224 people hospitalized in South Jersey as of Monday.

Pennsylvania and New Jersey have the same hospitalization rate per capita: an average of 9 people per 100,000 were hospitalized in each state as of Monday

Hospitalizations have increased by **38% in New Jersey and 44% in Pennsylvania** in the last two weeks, with **773 COVID patients hospitalized in New Jersey and 1,194 in Pennsylvania as of Sunday.**

New-Case Rates in the Region

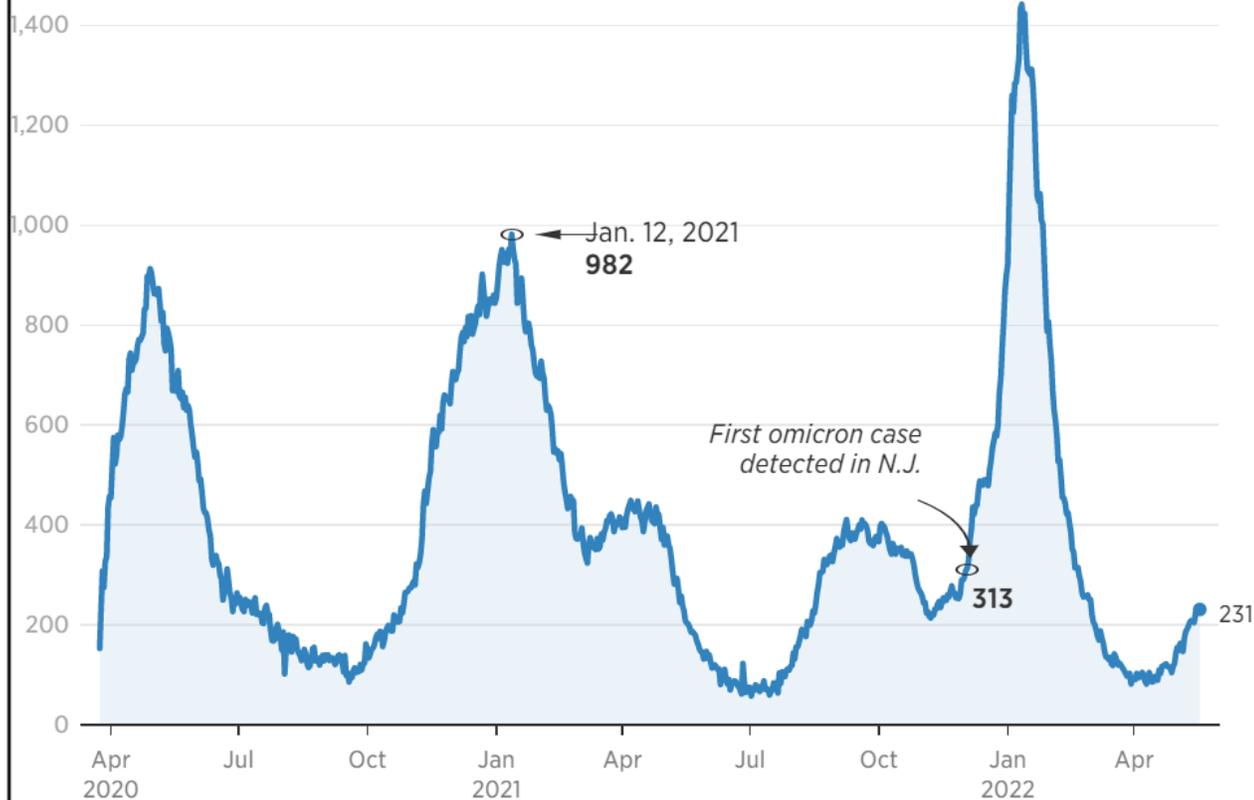


The South Jersey region leads the state in hospitalizations, with averages of 11 in Atlantic County, 10 in Camden County, and 9 in Burlington County.

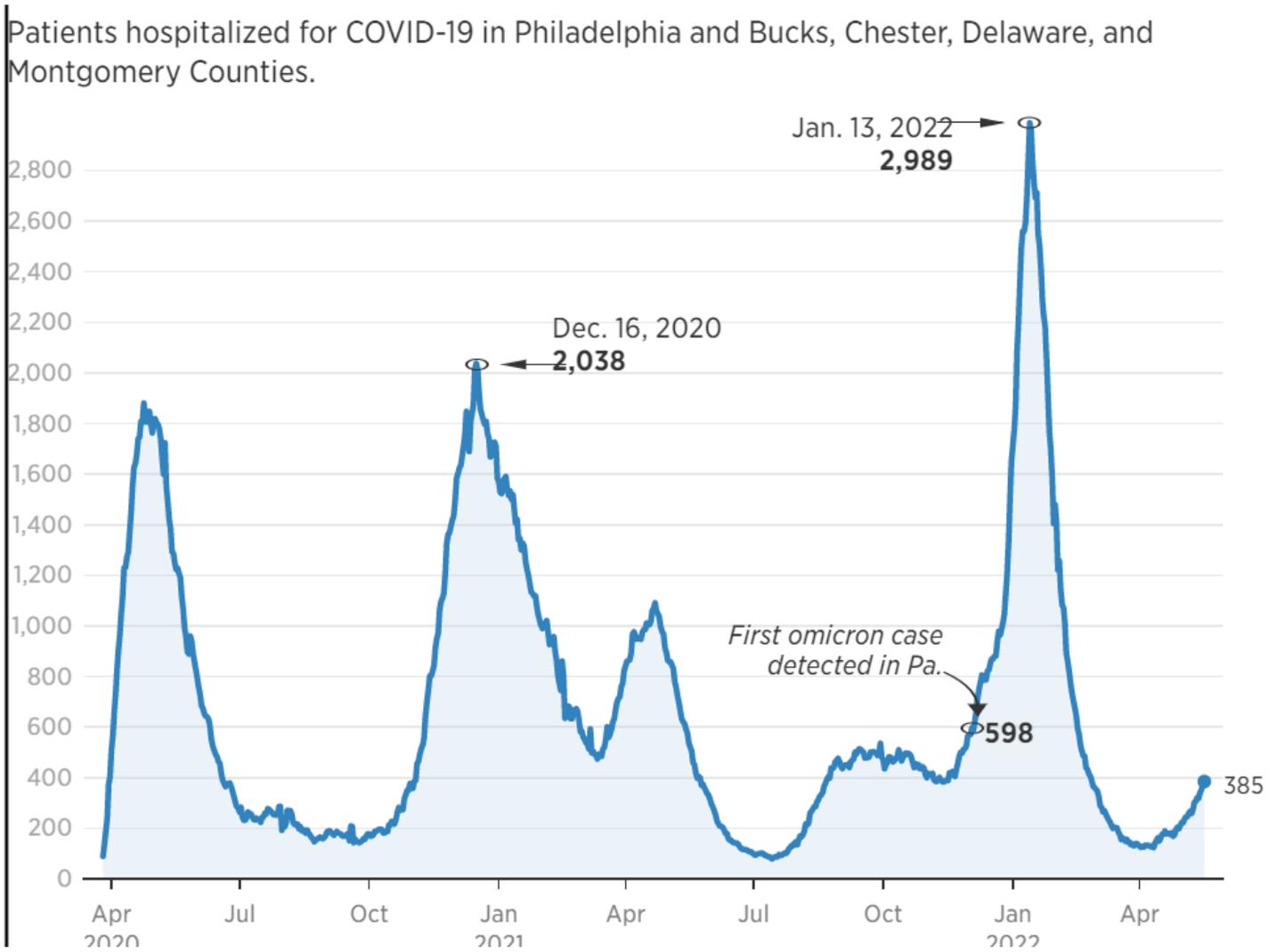
Some Pennsylvania counties have similarly high hospitalization numbers, with 44 people per 100,000 hospitalized in Montour County, 23 each in Wayne and Susquehanna Counties, and 22 in Northumberland County.

COVID 19 Hospitalization in South Jersey

Patients hospitalized for COVID-19 in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties.



COVID 19 Hospitalization in Southeastern PA



Second boosters for adults 50 and older and anyone immunocompromised — and to mask in crowded indoor spaces, where the virus is far more likely to spread than outside.

On Sunday, **New Jersey's** daily average number of new reported cases was **4,751** — the number has been **climbing steadily since late March**. Pennsylvania's daily average number of new reported cases was **3,100 on Sunday**, the highest number since late February.

For people who do test positive for COVID-19, **talk to your health care provider as soon as possible for information on treatments like Paxlovid**, which can reduce hospitalizations due to COVID-19 by up to 90 percent.

The HD to remind people that, as we move into **prom, wedding, and graduation season, that the risk of exposure to COVID-19 goes up as you're around more people.**

You should assume that, at these big events, **someone there will have COVID-19 and take precautions to avoid infecting people who are vulnerable."**

Recommendations for Event Safety: The Health Department recommends that everyone take the following steps to make sure that their prom, wedding, or graduation event can be as safe as possible. With infection levels rising, you should assume that a crowded indoor space will include people who are infectious with COVID-19. That doesn't mean you shouldn't go, but it does mean that you should take common sense precautions before, during, and after the event:

Before:

- Test before you attend big events to help lower risk for everyone.
- If you've been exposed to COVID-19, remember that even if you are vaccinated and boosted, you could still pass the virus to others (although the chance is lower). If you choose to attend an event after a COVID exposure, make sure you keep your mask on and think about remote options to help protect others.

During:

- Outside events are much safer than inside events.
- Consider your own risk level and that of those you will potentially expose after the event. Wearing a high quality mask or double masking lowers your risk even if others are not masked, but only if you keep your mask on.
- If the event has food, eat outside if possible. And minimize the amount of time **your mask** is off if eating or drinking inside.

After:

- If you've recently attended a large indoor event without wearing a mask consistently, **test 3-5 days later and avoid seeing people who are at higher risk until you have tested negative.**

- If you test positive for COVID-19, **contact your healthcare provider** to see if you can get treated. Medications like Paxlovid can reduce hospitalizations due to COVID-19 by up to 90 percent.

Symptoms

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Where to get a COVID-19 vaccine: phila.gov/vaccine.

- Where to find COVID-19 testing: phila.gov/testing.
- **Frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 response.**
- Greater Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline: 1 (800) 722-7112.
- Health Department COVID Call Center: 215-685-5488.
- Residents can text COVIDPHL to 888-777 to get updates sent to their phones.

PHILADELPHIA—In response to the CDC’s recommendation that children aged 5 through 11 receive a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine five months after being fully vaccinated, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health has issued this statement:

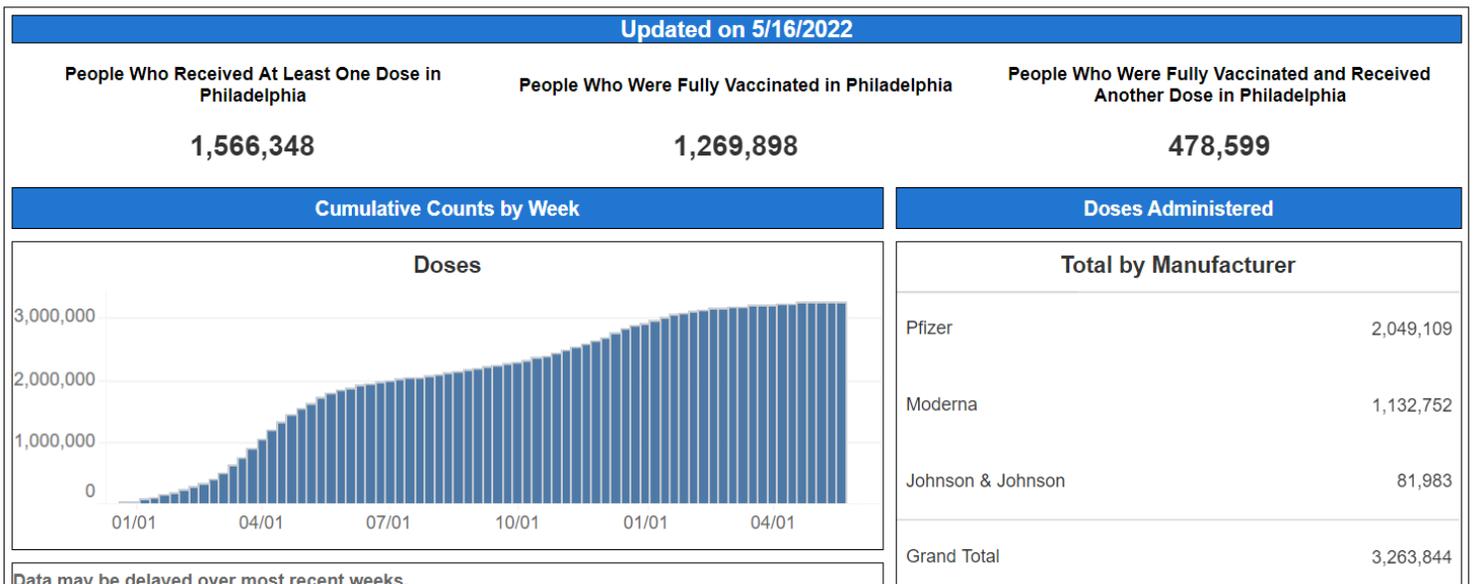
“Being up to date on your **COVID-19 vaccine** is one of **the best protections against hospitalization and death,**” said Health Commissioner Dr. Cheryl Bettigole. “**Boosters** are a key

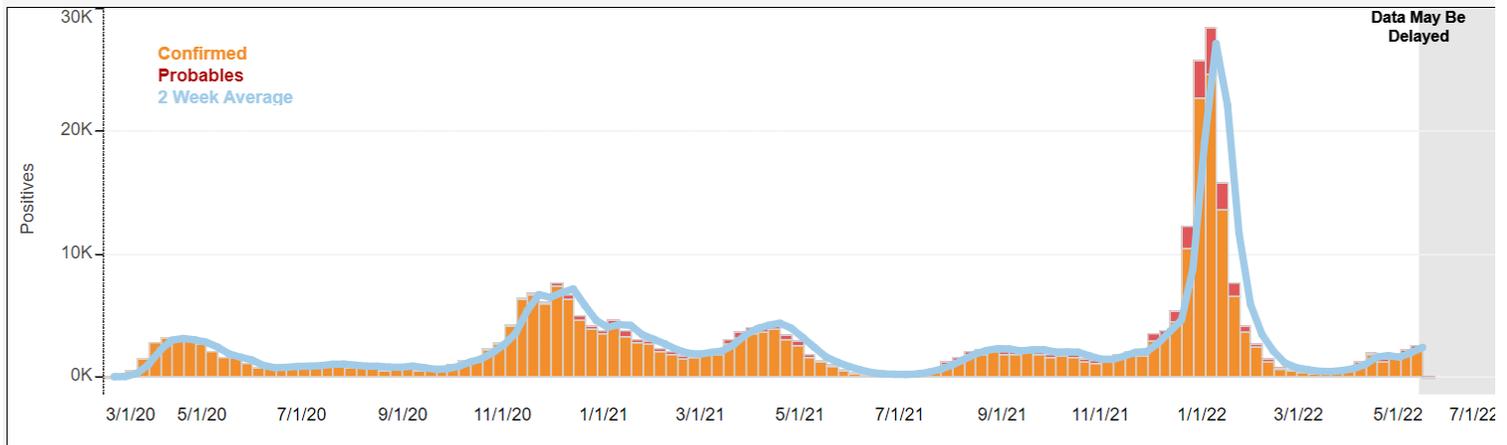
part of being as protected as you can be, and with today’s news, we can expand that extra layer of protection to children as young as five.”

Residents can be boosted at pharmacies throughout Philadelphia, City Health Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and at many pediatrician’s offices throughout the city.

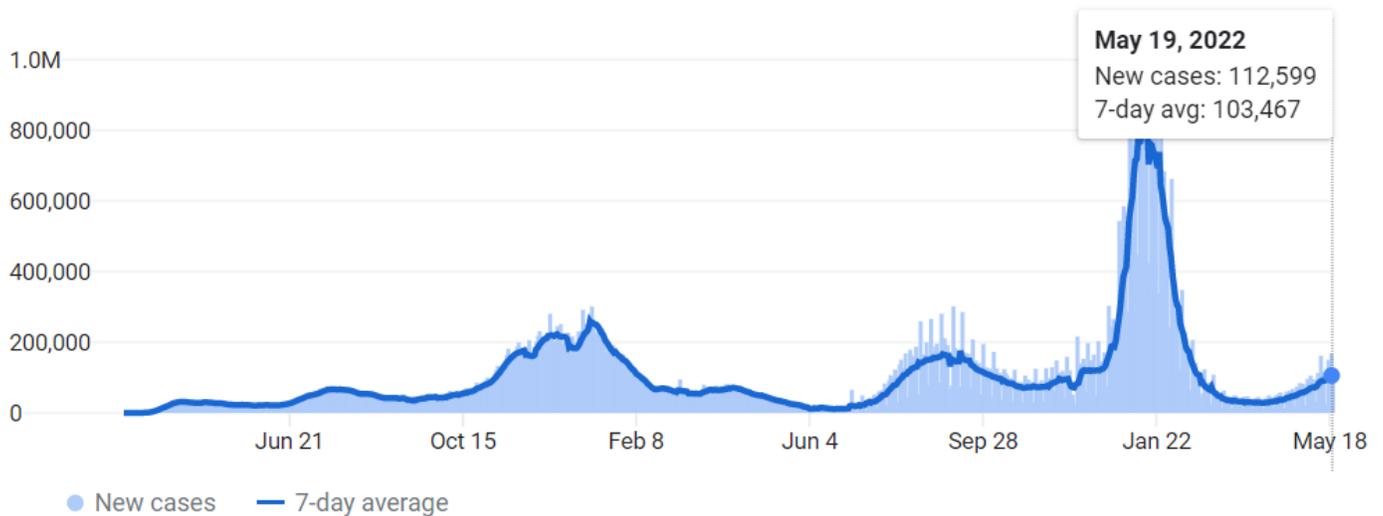
According to the **American Academy of Pediatrics, COVID-19 cases among children have been rising, with the number of new cases in the U.S. increasing nearly 76% last week over the prior two weeks.** Therefore, it is **extremely important** to not let down our guard and continue to do all we can to stave off severe COVID and prevent its spread. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health is actively urging all Philadelphians to be vaccinated, including all recommended boosters for both eligible children as well as older adults and those most at risk of hospitalization.

Philadelphia COVID and Vaccine Status shown the two graph below





USA COVID 19 Status



[U.S. COVID-19 vaccine tracker: See your state's progress - Mayo Clinic](#)

[U.S. Coronavirus Map: Tracking the Trends - Mayo Clinic](#)

[Frequently asked questions | Department of Public Health | City of Philadelphia](#)

If you have any **symptom**, please take a test and **Quarantine**.

END of COVID PRESENTATION