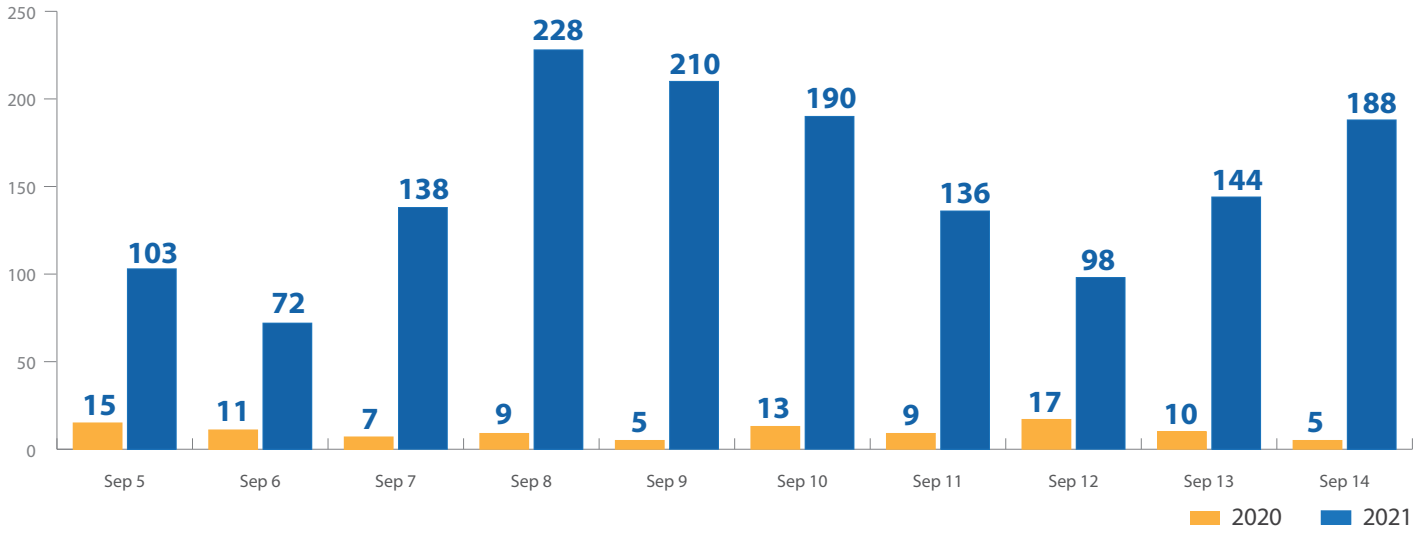
COVID-19 Report:
A Focus on Schools and Hospitals

Schools

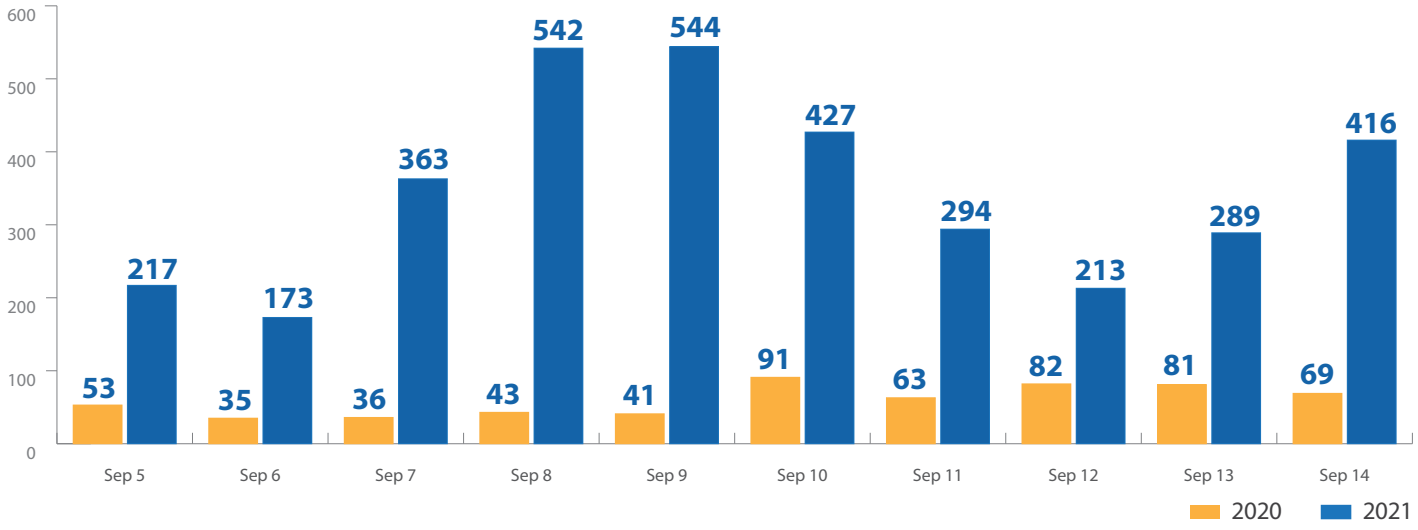
Comparing COVID-19 cases among school-aged children from 2020 and 2021

Cases among school-aged children from the last 10 days are **5.9 times higher** than they were last year at this time. Cases are expected to continue to increase dramatically over what we saw in schools last fall. This school year is starting with a higher number of cases, limited safety protocols in place, and the highly transmissible Delta variant.

Positive cases of children ages 5-10



Positive cases of children ages 5-17



Children have low COVID-19 vaccination rates

Children ages 12-17 years old are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, yet there are no health districts with more than 60% of children who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Two health districts have less than 20% of children fully vaccinated. Schools can request to host a mobile vaccination clinic by visiting coronavirus.utah.gov/vaccine-event-request.

	Local Health District	Children who got at least one dose	Percent of children who got at least one dose	Children who are fully vaccinated	Percent of children who are fully vaccinated
<20% fully vaccinated	TriCounty	1,753	27.7	1,105	17.4
	Central Utah	2,286	26.5	1,590	18.4
<40% fully vaccinated	Southwest Utah	6,681	28.4	4,714	20.1
	Southeast Utah	1,127	30.8	798	21.8
	Utah County	32,327	46.6	23,871	34.4
	Bear River	9,089	47.2	6,776	35.2
	San Juan	752	46	652	39.9
<60% fully vaccinated	Weber-Morgan	13,232	51	10,561	40.7
	Tooele County	4,270	52	3,406	41.5
	Wasatch County	1,947	51.6	1,595	42.2
	Salt Lake County	66,138	63.3	56,731	54.3
	Davis County	25,118	64.9	21,423	55.4
	Summit County	2,887	71.7	2,392	59.4

Schools approaching the Test to Stay threshold

Utah Code requires schools to do a Test to Stay event when:

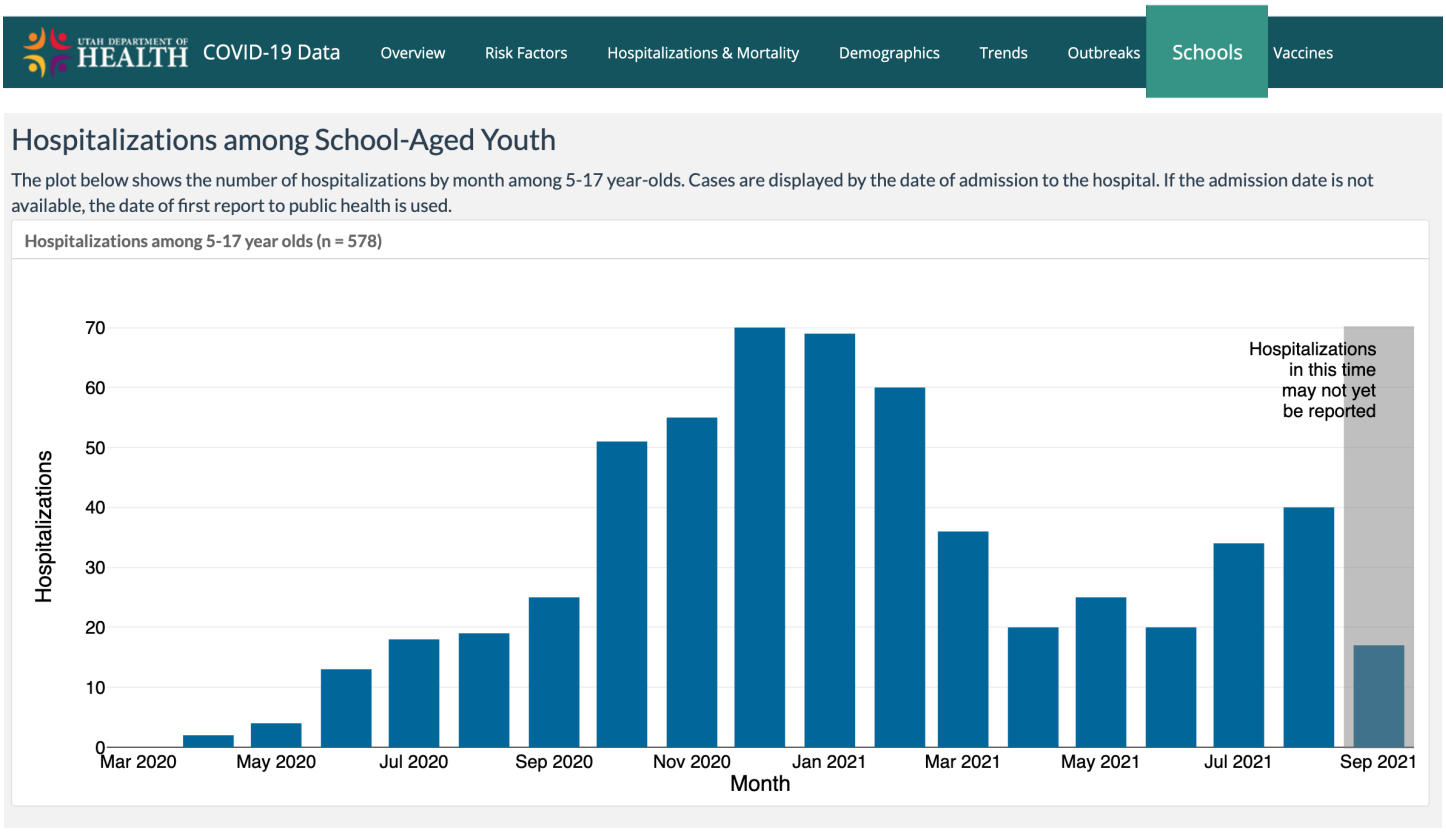
- Two percent (2%) of the students in the school have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days (in schools with 1,500 or more students).
- Schools with fewer than 1,500 students have 30 students test positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days.

Schools at or above 2% of students testing positive for COVID-19 test in the last 14 days	Syracuse Elementary, Antelope Elementary
Schools with more than 1% of students testing positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days	Bluff Ridge Elementary, West Point Elementary, West Point Jr High, American Preparatory Academy - Draper 2, Sunset Jr High, Syracuse Jr High, Mountain Crest High, Sky View High, Spanish Fork Jr High, North Davis Jr High, Syracuse High, Layton High
Schools with less than 1% of students testing positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days	All other schools

Data shown in the table above are updated weekly and may not match current data reported on local health department, school district, or UDOH websites. School-by-school case counts are updated daily at coronavirus.utah.gov/case-counts/#schools. There may be a delay in reporting school-associated cases to the Utah Department of Health. Local health departments will have the most accurate and timely data to determine public health actions in specific schools and it may not be fully reflected on this report.

Hospitalizations among school-aged children

The Utah Department of Health has added data on school-level case data; case counts by elementary, middle, and high school-aged youth; hospitalizations and vaccinations among school-aged youth; and information on MIS-C at coronavirus.utah.gov/case-counts/#schools. Local health departments will have the most accurate and timely data to determine public health actions in specific schools, which may not be fully reflected in this report.



In-person school days lost due to isolation for COVID-19

School-aged children who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate at home for 10 days from the date they first had symptoms or from the date of their positive test.

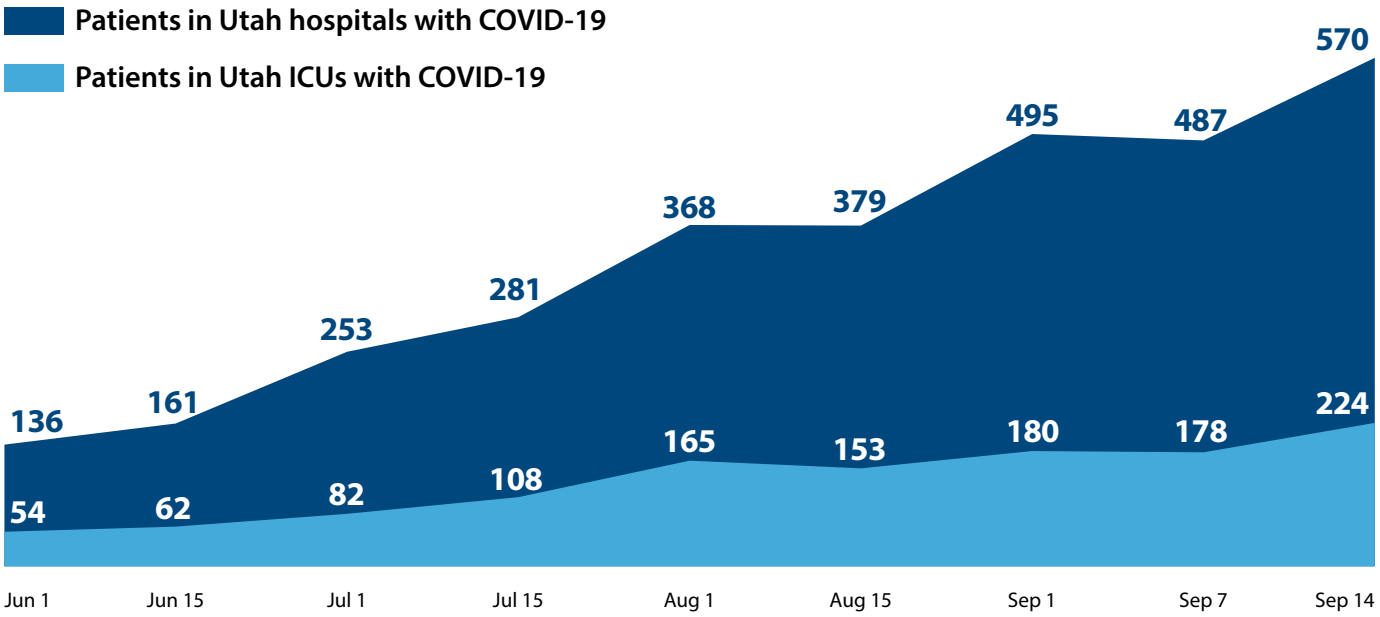
Total school-aged cases in the past 10 days

=

*Assumes a school-aged child will miss an average of 7 days of in-person instruction during their isolation period

COVID-19 related hospitalizations

The number of patients being treated for COVID-19 in hospitals and ICUs has increased dramatically since the beginning of summer. Since June 1, the number of patients who are currently hospitalized COVID-19 has increased by 319% and the number of patients currently being treated for COVID-19 in ICUs has increased by 351%.



Rising pressure on hospitals

Patient transfers are another indicator of the current demand on hospitals. Patients may need to be transferred to another hospital for many reasons: hospitals may not have the equipment needed or specialized staff to treat patients with cardiac problems, severe injuries from car crashes, burns or COVID-19, etc. Currently, many transfers occur because the hospital where the patient originally arrives does not have enough staffed ICU beds when the person arrives at the ER. This need for patient transfers affects all patients.

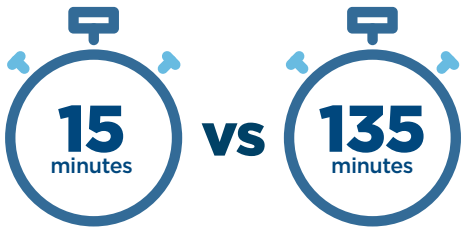
Delays in getting into a hospital aren't just inconvenient, they can also impact the care a patient receives or the ability of a family to visit a patient during their hospital stay. Despite efforts to initiate a patient transfer, in the last week, two people were unable to be transferred to a hospital in Utah capable of providing the care they needed. One of these people died while waiting to be transferred. The other person had to be sent to a hospital in Las Vegas after staff tried for three hours to find an available ICU bed in Utah.

Patients needing a transfer*

the 2nd week of August | the 2nd week of September

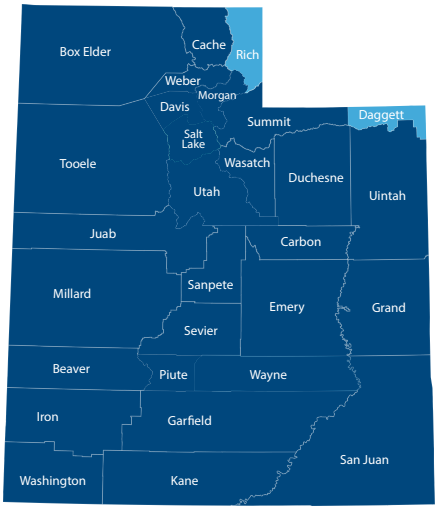
*People who needed to be transferred to another hospital for higher levels of care. Not all patients who need to be transferred have COVID-19.

Wait time to find an ICU Bed**



the 2nd week of August | the 2nd week of September

**The time for hospital staff to locate an available ICU bed. Does not include transfer or transportation time.



COVID-19 Transmission Index

The COVID-19 Transmission Index places counties in high, moderate, or low levels of transmission using defined public health metrics. These levels correspond directly to case rates, positivity rates, and ICU utilization. The transmission index is updated weekly on Thursdays.

LEVEL OF TRANSMISSION
HIGH
MODERATE
LOW

Visit coronavirus.utah.gov/utah-health-guidance-levels to see your county's current transmission level.

HB 294 Metrics

House Bill 294 established criteria for when COVID-19 public health orders would be lifted. The metrics were met, and health orders lifted, on May 4, 2021. Right now, the state is far exceeding the hospitalization metrics and the case rates established in the legislation.

Metrics	Current
Statewide 7-day average COVID-19 ICU utilization is less than 15%	**41.4%** (2.8x higher)
Statewide 14-day case rate is less than 191 cases per 100,000	**663.2 per 100,000 people** (3.5x higher)
1,633,000 prime doses of COVID-19 vaccine allocated to the state	**Target met May 4** (1,858,732 people have received at least one dose)