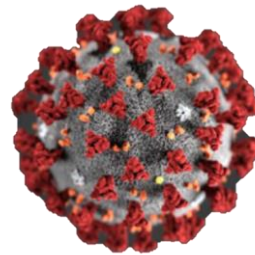


# New Hampshire COVID-19 Education and Childcare Partner Call

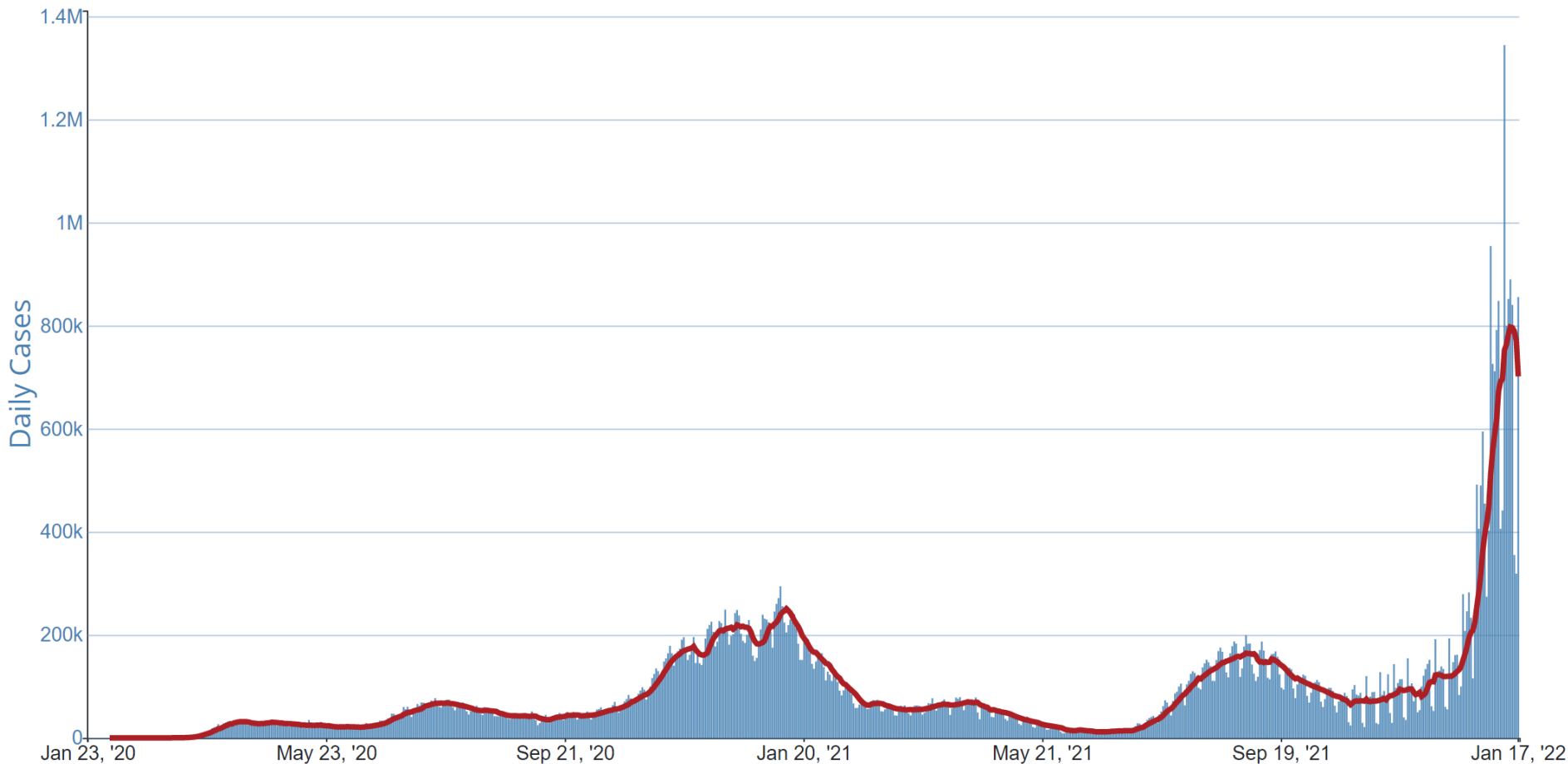
January 19, 2022



# Epidemiology Update

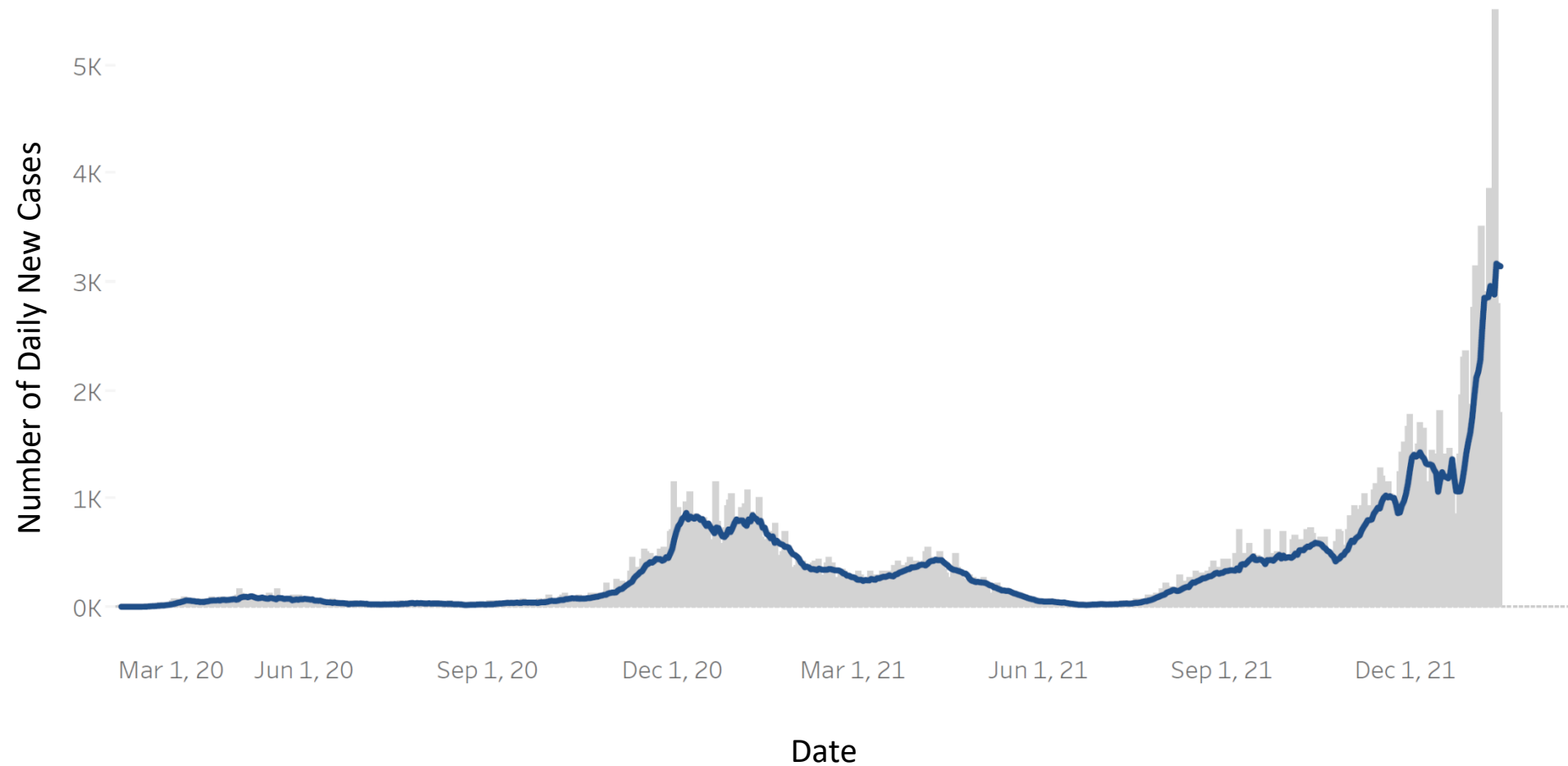
# U.S. National Daily Incidence of COVID-19

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in The United States Reported to CDC



[https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends\\_dailytrendscases](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_dailytrendscases)

# Number of New COVID-19 Cases per Day in NH



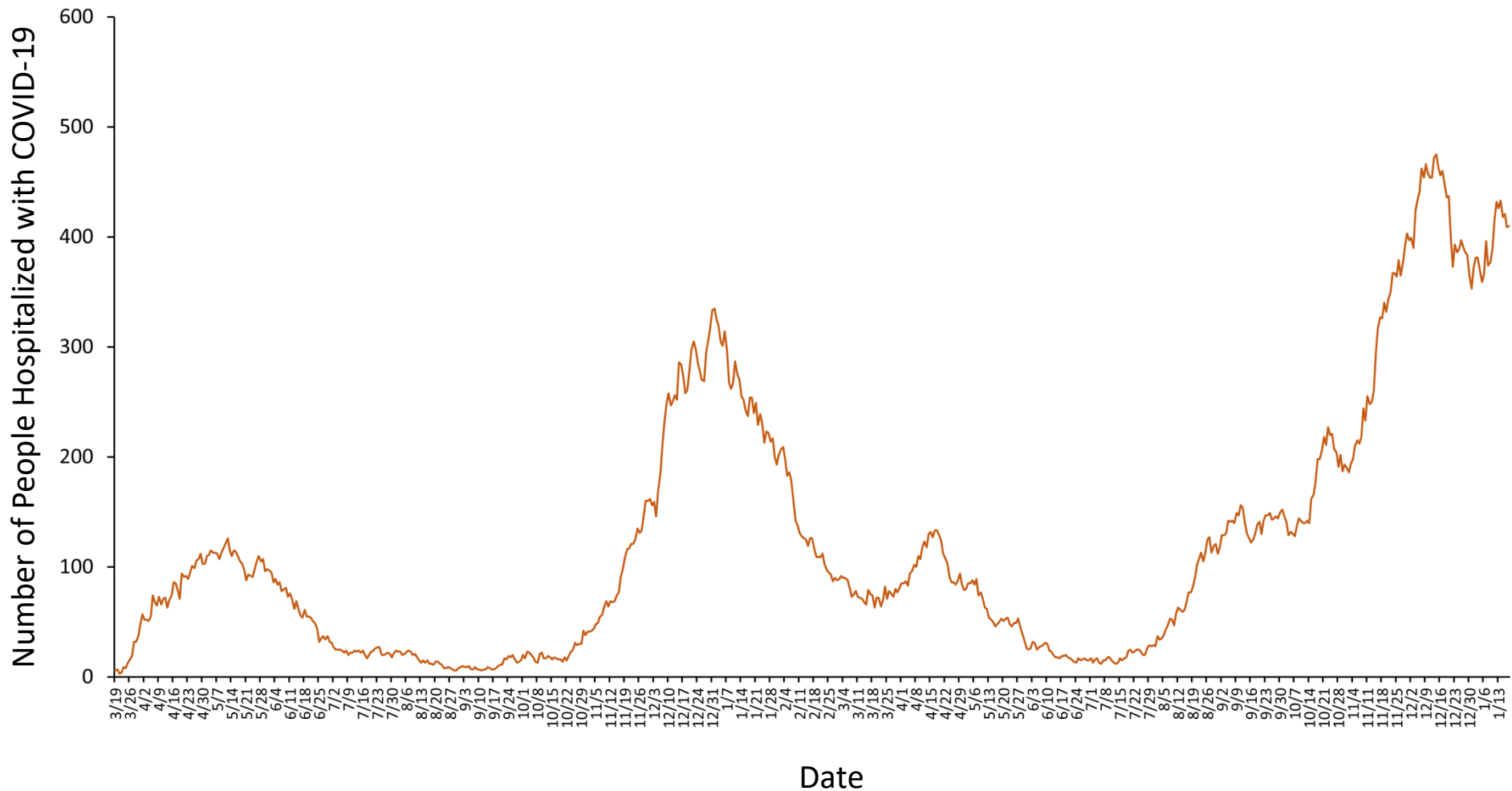
<https://www.nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/overview.htm#dash>

# % of Tests (Antigen and PCR) Positive for COVID-19 (7-Day Average)



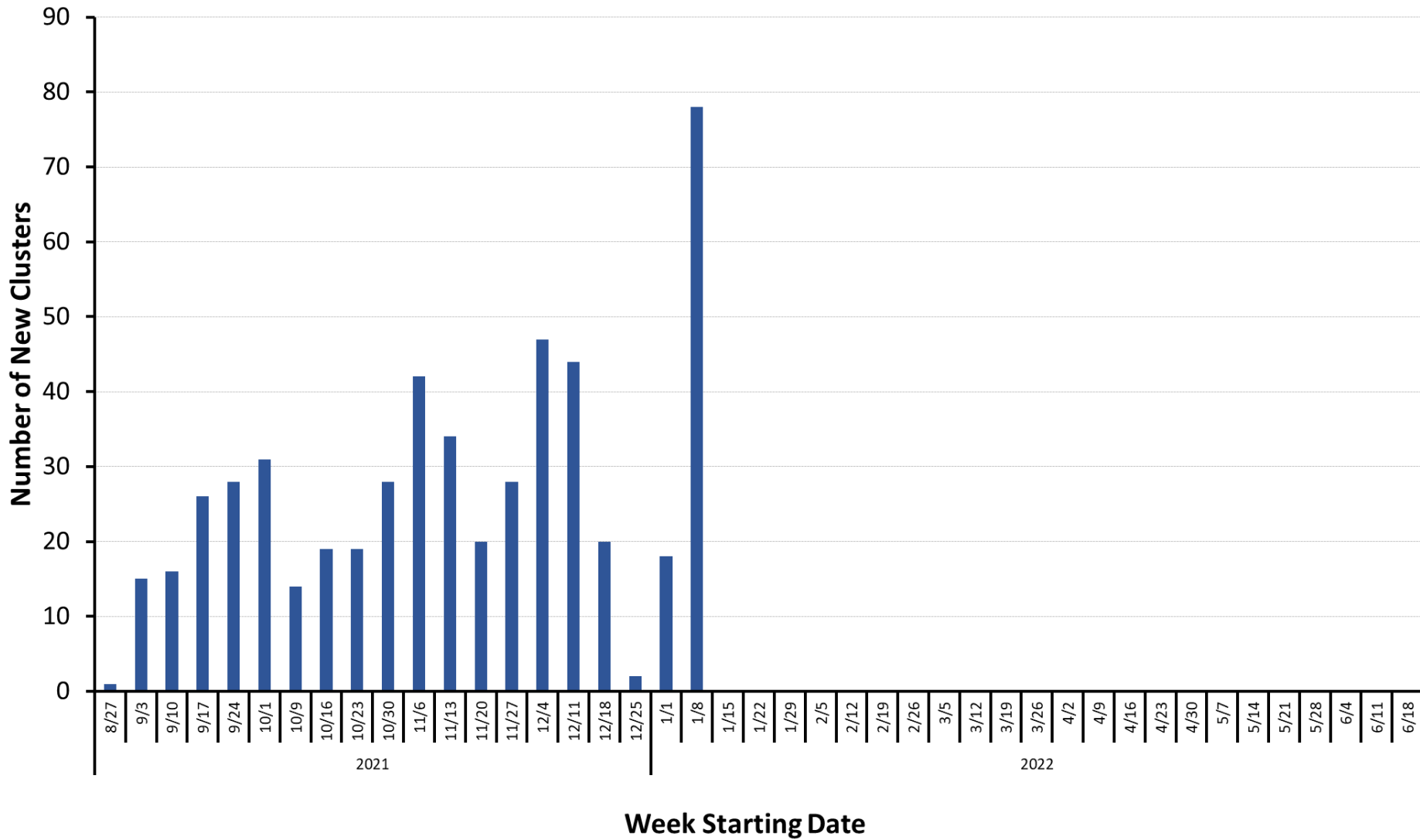
Date Laboratory Test Completed

# Number of People Hospitalized with COVID-19 Each Day in NH (Hospital Census)

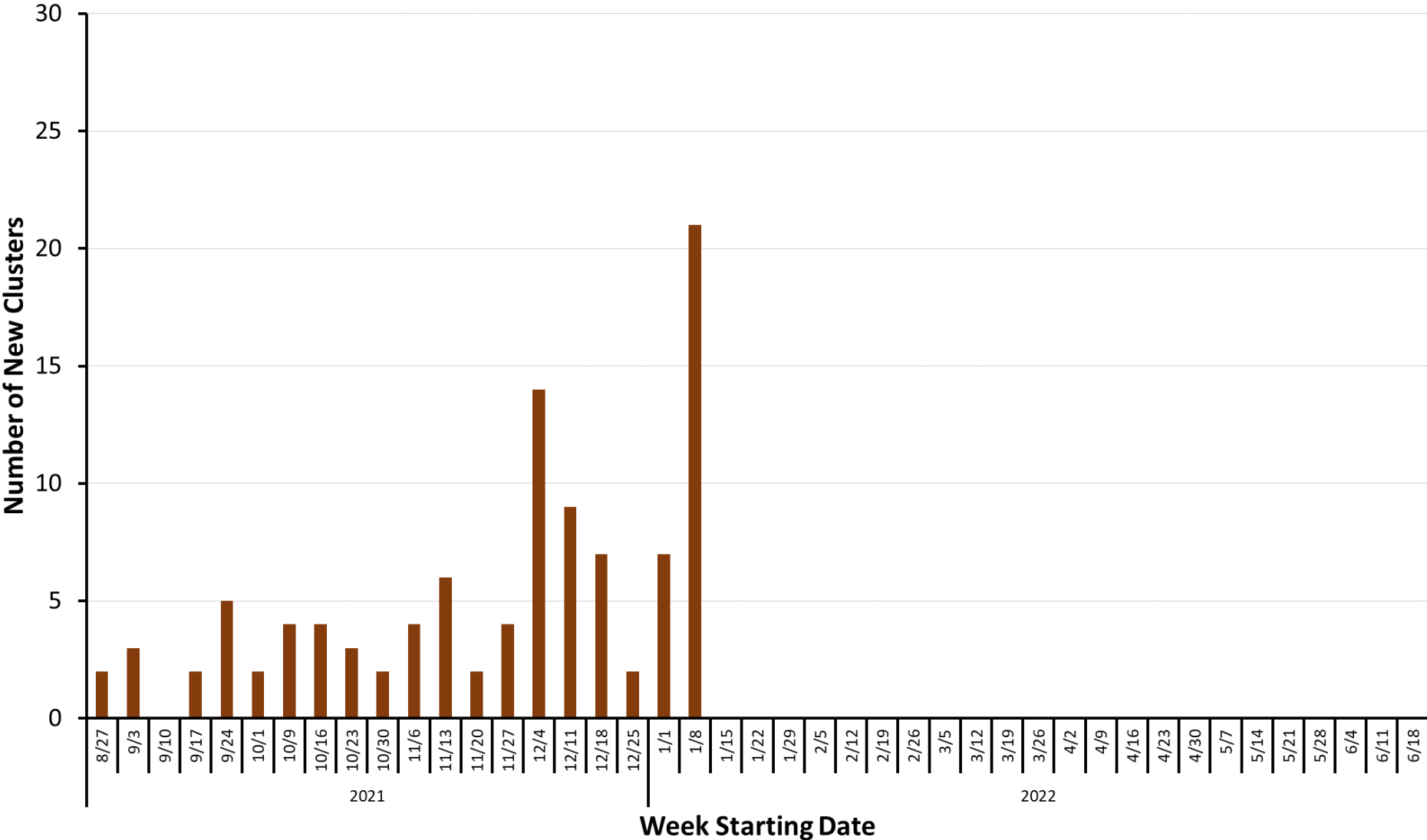


<https://www.nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/overview.htm#dash>

# Number of New K-12 School Clusters Each Week in NH



# Number of New Child Care Clusters Each Week in NH





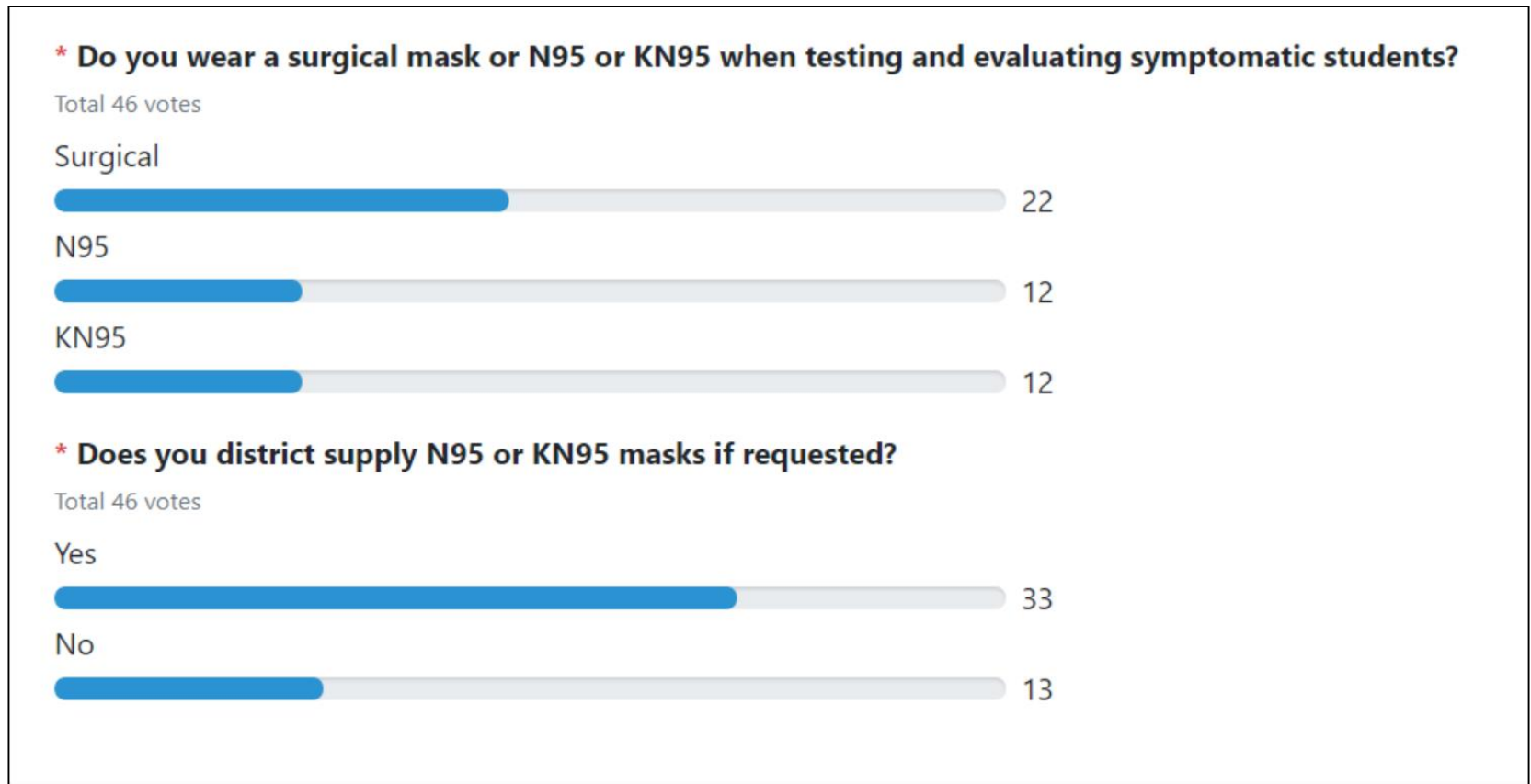
# K-12 School and Child Care Clusters in NH

- K-12 Schools: 117 active clusters
  - average of 12.8 cases per cluster
  
- Child Care: 40 active childcare clusters
  - average of 9.6 cases per cluster

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for School Nurses

# School Nurse Survey

- Survey sent to school nurses by Paula Mackinnon (President of NH School Nurses Association), and shared with NH DPHS



# School Nurse Infection Prevention Guidance

- School nurses are healthcare providers and should follow CDC's [Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Healthcare Personnel](https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/guidelines/guidance-for-healthcare-personnel)
- This guidance “applies to all U.S. settings where healthcare is delivered, including home health” (guidance may also apply to other professions)
- Universal PPE (for any patient care encounters where COVID-19 is NOT suspected):
  - Face mask – at least a well-fitted surgical/procedural face mask with multiple layers of fabric
  - N95 respirator for all [aerosol-generating procedures](#) when there is a “substantial” levels of community transmission
  - Eye protection (goggles or a face shield that cover the front and sides of the face) when there is a “substantial” level of community transmission

# School Nurse Infection Prevention Guidance

- PPE when entering a room with a patient with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, and when conducting testing:
  - NIOSH-approved N95 respirator
  - Gown
  - Gloves
  - Eye protection (goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face)
- N95 respirators are ideally fit-tested to the individual, but changing or limited supplies may not make this difficult during a pandemic

# PPE & Disinfectant Supplies

- ▶ All schools are encouraged to procure all PPE needs through their direct vendors
  - Schools are encouraged to anticipate their needs and place advanced orders as necessary
- ▶ Between now and March 1<sup>st</sup>, schools may request PPE & disinfectant supplies should vendors be unable to fulfill orders in a timely manner
  - Non-profit K-12 schools and colleges/universities are eligible to request available supplies from DHHS

- ▶ PPE & disinfectant supplies are subject to availability
- ▶ Available supplies may include:
  - Goggles/face shields
  - Masks (N95 & surgical)
  - Gowns/overalls
  - Thermometers
  - Disinfectant wipes & sprays
  - Hand sanitizer
  - Trash bags

- ▶ DHHS cannot accept returns; some products may be approaching the manufacturer's expiration date
- ▶ Eligible schools may request PPE using [this link](#)
- ▶ Order confirmation
  - The school will be contacted when the order is confirmed
  - Please allow 3 business days for order confirmation
  - Please email questions to [ESU@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:ESU@dhhs.nh.gov)
- ▶ Order pick-up
  - Orders must be picked up within 48 hours of the assigned date or the order will be cancelled
  - Pick-up location: DHHS warehouse, 23 Terrill Park Dr, Concord
    - Available for pick up Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:30pm  
(closed state holidays)



# Isolation and Quarantine Guidance (with FAQs)

# Background and Definitions

- Decreasing Isolation and Quarantine to 5 days requires a “package” of interventions be implemented
- Up-To-Date (UTD) on COVID-19 vaccination: A person is “up to date” on COVID-19 vaccination when they have completed a primary COVID-19 vaccine series AND any booster shots which they are eligible for and recommended to receive.
  - CDC has information about [staying up to date on COVID-19 vaccination](#) and who should get a booster shot.
- Under NH guidance, only Household Contacts (HHCs) who are unvaccinated or NOT Up-To-Date on all recommended vaccines need to quarantine
- Healthcare workers have separate guidance:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>

# Isolation Guidance

Persons who should isolate	Recommended Action
<p>Any person who tests positive for COVID-19 or who has <a href="#">symptoms of COVID-19</a> while <a href="#">awaiting testing</a> – regardless of vaccination status, previous infection, or lack of symptoms.</p> <p>(Note: CDC recommends longer periods of isolation for people who are severely ill with COVID-19 and require hospitalization or intensive care unit support, or for people with severely compromised immune systems.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay home and away from others (including people in your household) for at least 5 days.</li><li>• Isolation can end after day 5 if you are fever-free (off fever-reducing medications) for at least 24 hours and other symptoms are improving.</li><li>• If fever has been present in the prior 24 hours, or if other symptoms are not improving, then you should continue to isolate until fever free and symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours, or until after 10 days of isolation.</li><li>• For 10 days:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Wear a <a href="#">well-fitting</a> medical face mask when around other people.</li><li>○ Avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high-risk for severe disease.</li><li>○ Avoid travel, if possible.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>Note: per CDC guidance, you can take an antigen test on day 5 before ending isolation and, if positive, you should continue to isolate for a total of 10 days. Individuals and businesses/organizations can consider but do not have to adopt this testing strategy.</p>

# Quarantine Guidance

Persons who should quarantine after being exposed to someone with COVID-19	Recommended Action
<p>Household contacts who are either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unvaccinated; OR</li><li>• Not “up to date” on receiving all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay home and away from others for 5 days after the last exposure.</li><li>• Watch for symptoms for COVID-19 for 10 days after the last exposure, and get tested if symptoms develop.</li><li>• Get tested at least 5 days after the exposure, even if no symptoms develop. If positive, move to isolation.</li><li>• For 10 days:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Wear a <a href="#">well-fitting</a> medical face mask when around other people.</li><li>○ Avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high-risk for severe disease.</li><li>○ Avoid travel, if possible.</li></ul></li></ul>

# Guidance for People Exposed but NOT Required to Quarantine

<b>Persons who do NOT need to quarantine after being exposed to someone with COVID-19</b>	<b>Recommended Action</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lower risk exposures in the community setting (e.g., non-household contacts)</li><li>• Household contacts who are “up to date” on receiving all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses</li><li>• Unvaccinated household contacts who are within 90 days of testing positive for COVID-19 by antigen or PCR-based testing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wear a well-fitting face mask around other people for 10 days, especially in indoor settings.</li><li>• If symptoms develop, stay home and get tested for COVID-19.</li><li>• Get tested for COVID-19 on day 5, even if you don’t have symptoms.</li><li>• If testing is positive, follow isolation recommendations above.</li></ul>

# Flowchart for Deciding Quarantine

Is the person with COVID-19 in the household able to follow all recommendations for isolation (i.e., isolation from other household members for 5 days followed by wearing a well-fitting face mask\* at home for 5 days)?

Yes

No

Is the HHC able to wear a well-fitting face mask when around other people?

Is the HHC able to wear a well-fitting face mask when around other people?

Yes

No

Yes

No

The HHC should quarantine for 5 days after last exposure to the person with COVID-19 followed by 5 days of wearing a well-fitting mask when around others

The HHC should quarantine for 10 days after last exposure to the person with COVID-19 and wear a well-fitting mask at home, if possible

The HHC should quarantine for 5 days after last exposure to the person with COVID-19 during their isolation period followed by 5 days of wearing a well-fitting mask when around others

The HHC should quarantine for 10 days after last exposure to the person with COVID-19 during their isolation period and wear a well-fitting mask at home, if possible

# Rapid Fire FAQs

- **Do children at school or childcare need to isolate/quarantine for 10 days just because masks are taken off during lunch? Or is a separate lunch room needed for people coming off shortened isolation/quarantine?**
  - No (to both questions) – students should wear masks when not eating, minimize time with masks off, and schools should continue to maximize physical distancing in the lunch room to the extent possible.
- **If a person can't/won't consistently wear a face mask, should they isolate/quarantine for 5 or 10 days?**
  - 10 days
- **Can the responsibility for enforcing mask use on day 6-10 be left up to the person coming off isolation/quarantine if an organization has a general “optional” mask policy?**
  - We continue to recommend face masks for everybody in indoor public locations. Alternately, we recommend you can keep track of and require individuals to wear a face mask – CDC estimates ~30% of people with COVID-19 will continue to be infectious after day 5.
- **Can a school stick to the 10-day isolation/quarantine period?**
  - Per NH DOE, No, unless the person does not/cannot comply with the 5-day post-isolation/quarantine mask requirements. Other businesses/organizations could decide to stick with a 10-day isolation/quarantine period, but this should be based on whether other mitigation measures can't be implemented.
- **Should face masks be required outdoors for people ending isolation/quarantine early?**
  - No. Everybody needs face mask breaks, and outdoors is the appropriate place for a face mask break. We also don't want individuals singled out or stigmatized.

# Rapid Fire FAQs

- **Should a person coming off isolation/quarantine early still be excluded from some extracurricular activities for a full 10 days?**
  - It should be considered for certain high-risk activities, especially if mask use is difficult (e.g. some sports), or there will be exertion and close contact (e.g. wrestling). Alternatively we would recommend a negative test before being allowed back to high-risk activities after 5 days of isolation/quarantine. See also [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP) and [DHMC CHaD](#) guidance about return to physical activity after COVID-19.
- **If a person tests negative after 2-3 days can they end their isolation/quarantine before day 5?**
  - No. Any testing performed should be at ~ day 5 (as close as possible to the time a person is coming off isolation/quarantine); if a person tests negative earlier, they still need to complete a full 5 days of isolation/quarantine
- **If a person is NOT up to date (UTD) on all recommended vaccines and then gets exposed in the home, can that person get a booster to come off quarantine?**
  - No. Once a person is exposed they need to quarantine if not UTD on vaccinations. However, a booster takes effect immediately, so if a person is boosted and then exposed to someone the following day who is considered infectious (a person who has COVID-19 is still considered infectious starting 2 days before symptom onset), that person does NOT need to quarantine.
- **If a person is exposed in the home, but the individual with COVID-19 is NOT able to fully separate themselves and/or won't wear a mask, how long do the household contacts who are unvaccinated or not UTD on vaccination need to stay home?**
  - Household contacts need to stay home while exposure is occurring, and then during quarantine which starts the day AFTER the last day of exposure. This can take various scenarios...



# Rapid Fire FAQs

## Quarantine Scenarios for Exposure in the Home:

Person with COVID-19	Quarantine Timeframe for Household Contacts (HHCs)
Able to separate from others in the home AND wears a face mask for 10 days in the home	5 day quarantine starts the day after the person with COVID-19 goes into isolation (i.e., the last day of exposure)
Does NOT separate from others in the home, but DOES wear a face mask for 10 days in the home	HHCs stay home for the 5 days the person with COVID-19 is required to isolate (while exposure is occurring in the home), then a HHC's 5 day quarantine starts the day the person with COVID-19 comes off isolation
Does NOT separate from others in the home and does NOT wear a face mask in the home	HHCs stay home for the 10 days the person with COVID-19 is required to isolate (while exposure is occurring in the home), then a HHC's 5 day quarantine starts the day the person with COVID-19 comes off isolation

# Federal COVID-19 At-Home Test Kits

COVIDtests.gov is up and running early to help prepare for the full launch tomorrow. We have tests for every residential address in the U.S. Please check back tomorrow if you run into any unexpected issues.

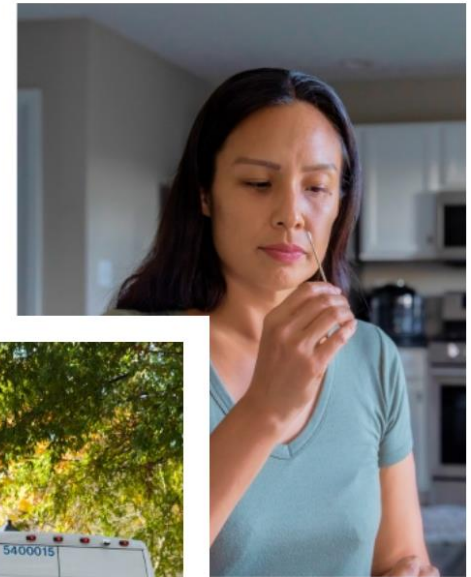
## Get free at-home COVID-19 tests

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.

Order your tests now so you have them when you need them.

[Order Free At-Home Tests](#)

If you need a COVID-19 test now, please see [other testing resources](#) for free testing locations in your area.



# Q&A