

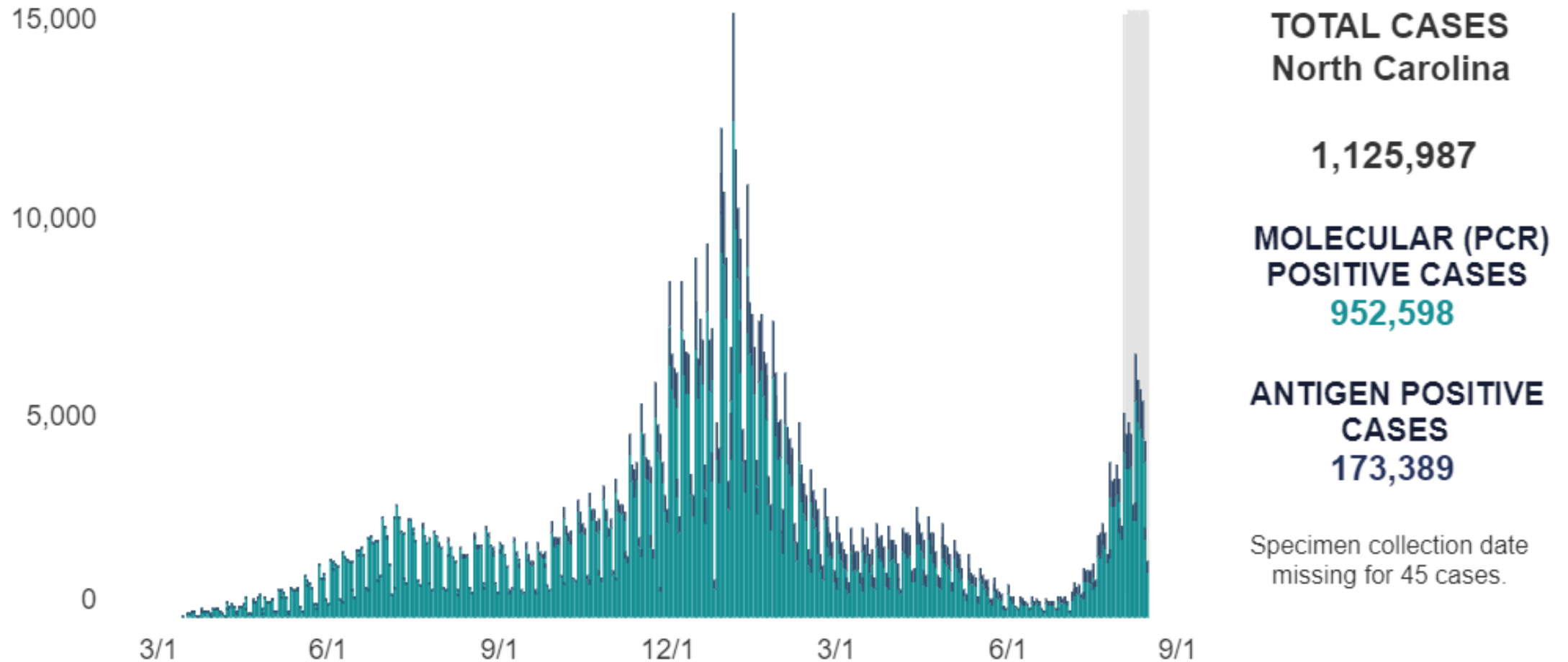
COVID Update for the Board of Commissioners

Steve Eaton, MPH
Public Health Director

August 24, 2021

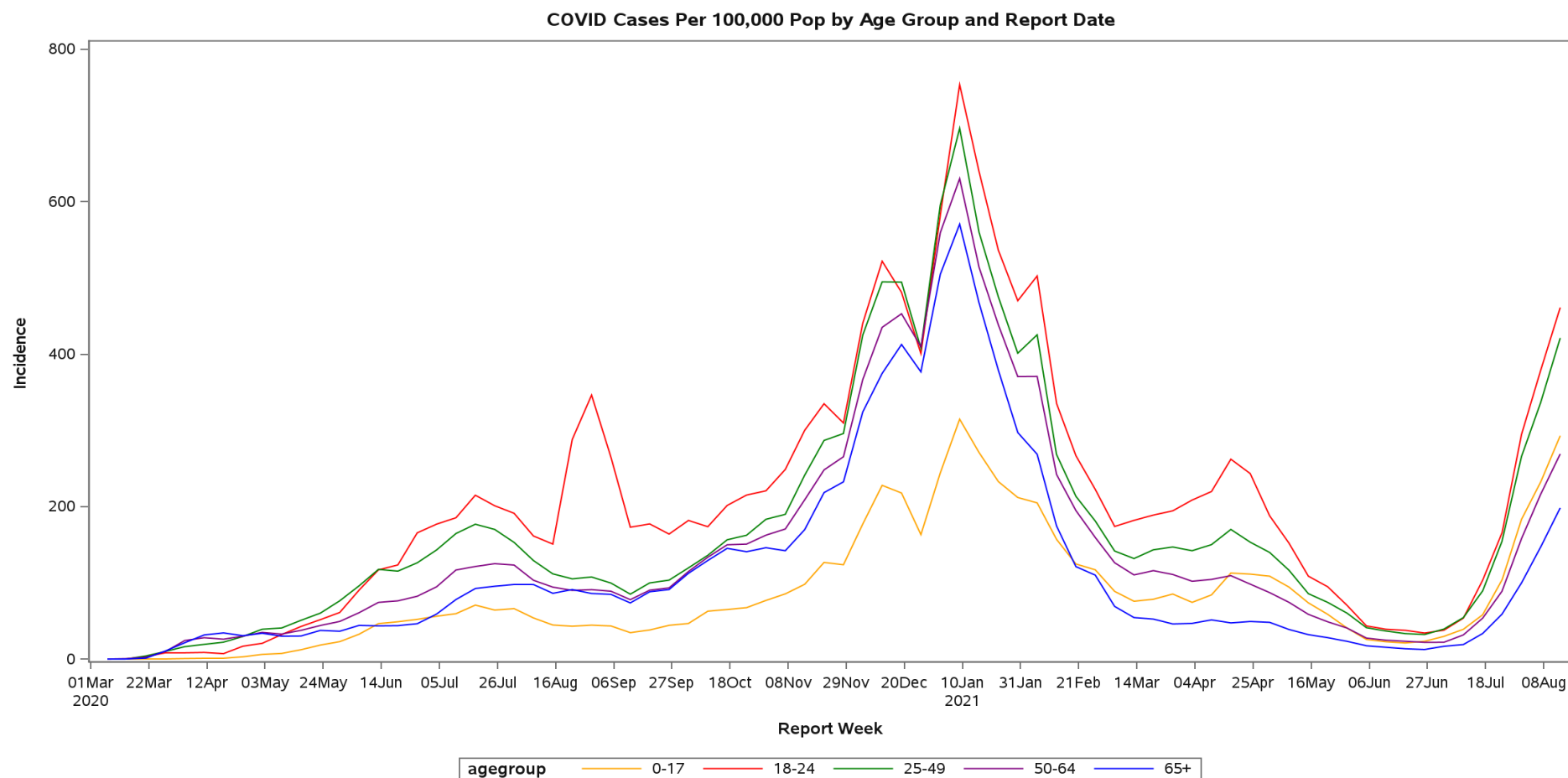


Case Numbers Continuing to Rise

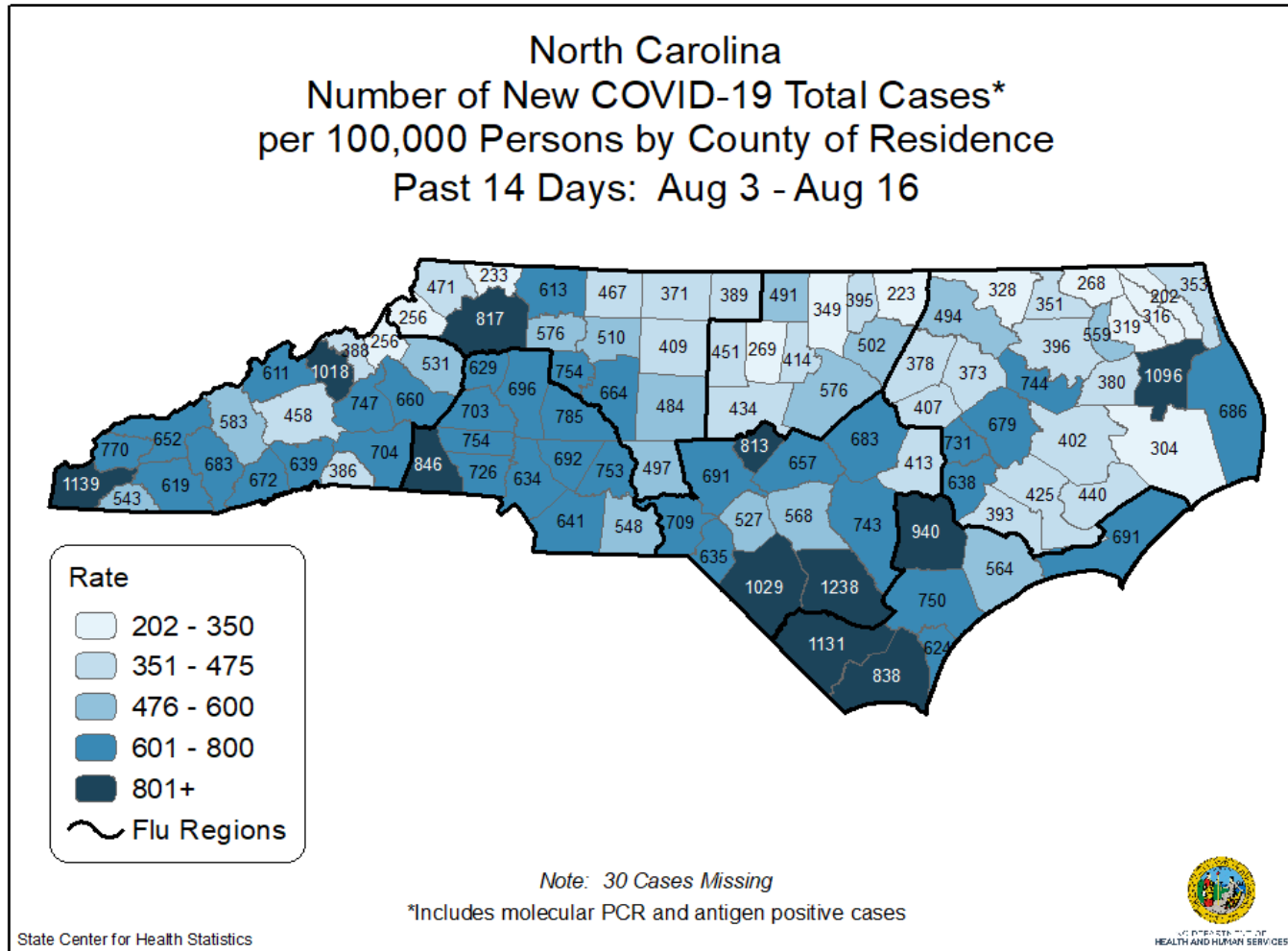


Case Rates Increase Across All Age Groups

Case rates are increasing across all age groups, with the greatest increases occurring among 18–24 and 25–49-year-olds.

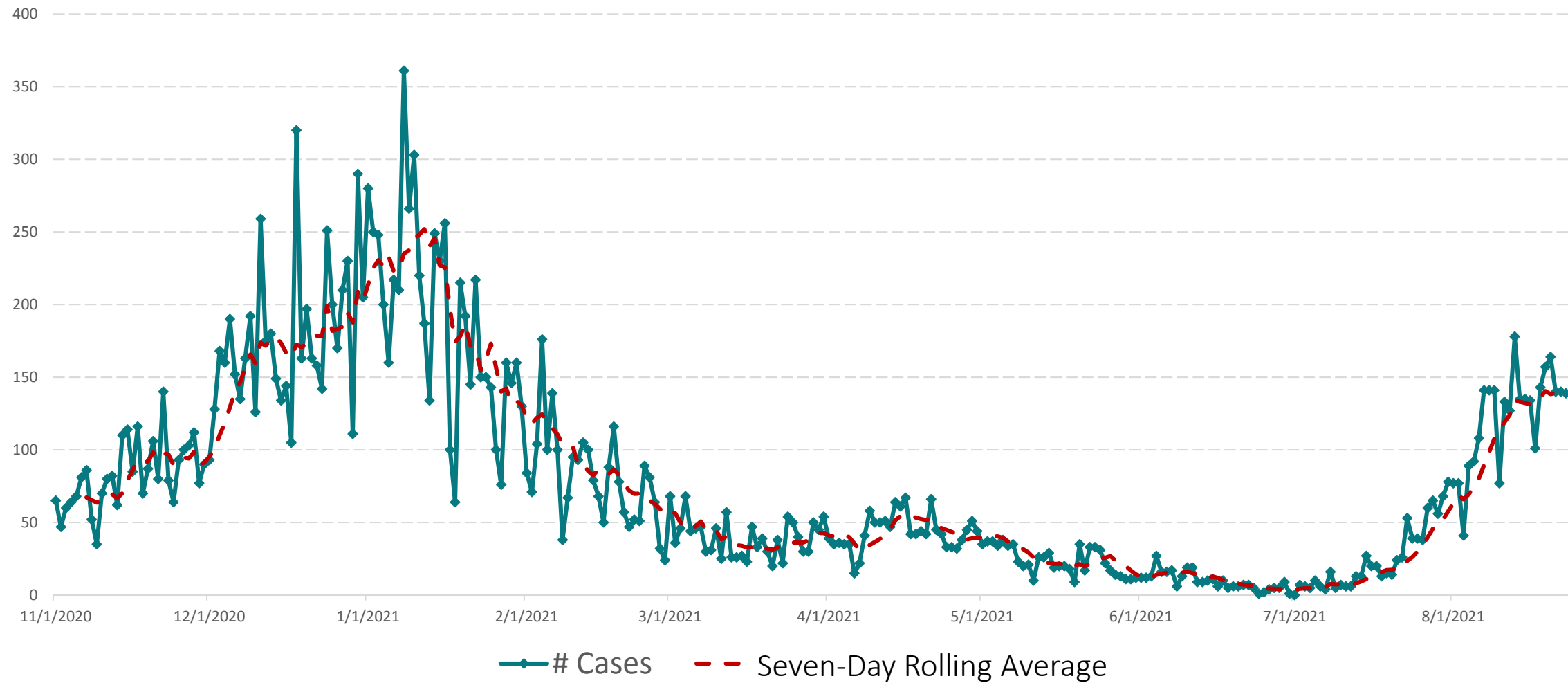


Incidence Rising Statewide



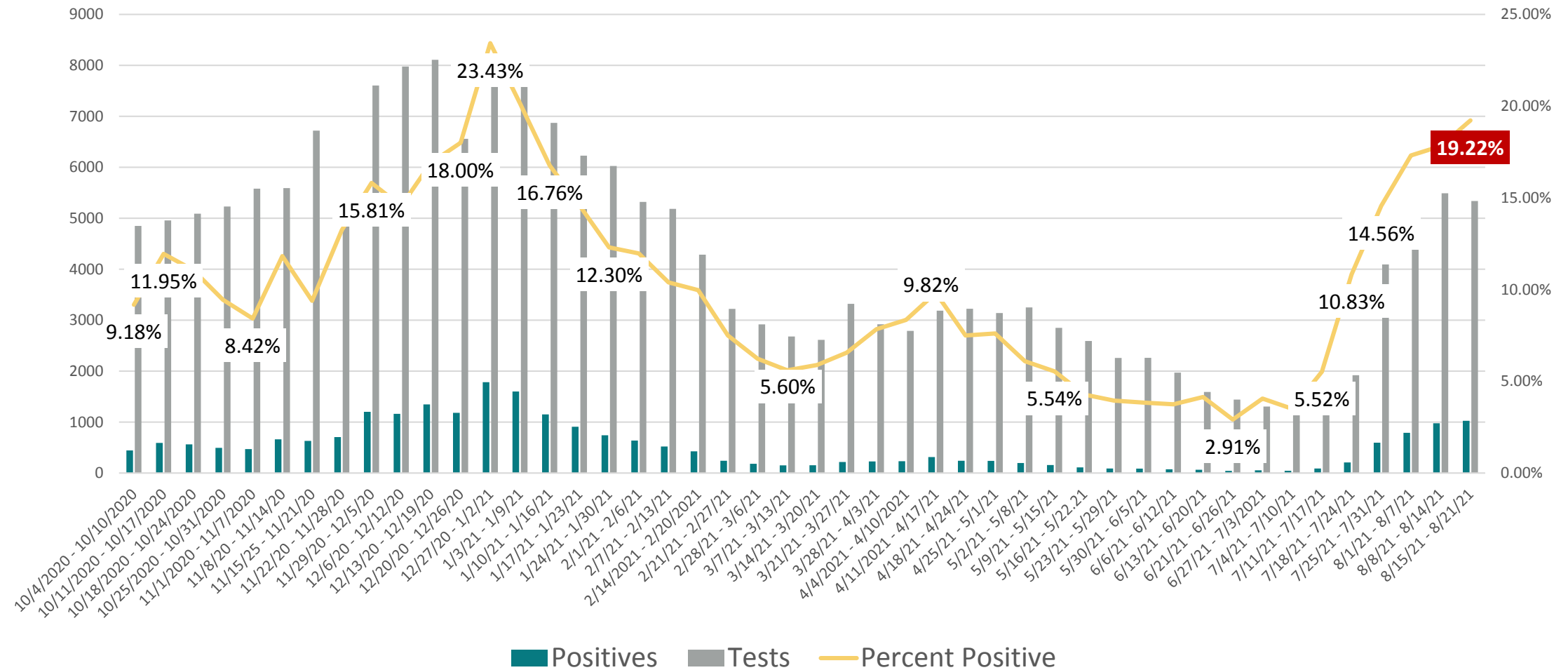
- Cases per 100,000 increased by 25% to 330 during the week ending 8/14 (660 per 100,000 for 14 days)
- Highest incidence rates in Sandhills

GASTON COUNTY COVID-19 CASES



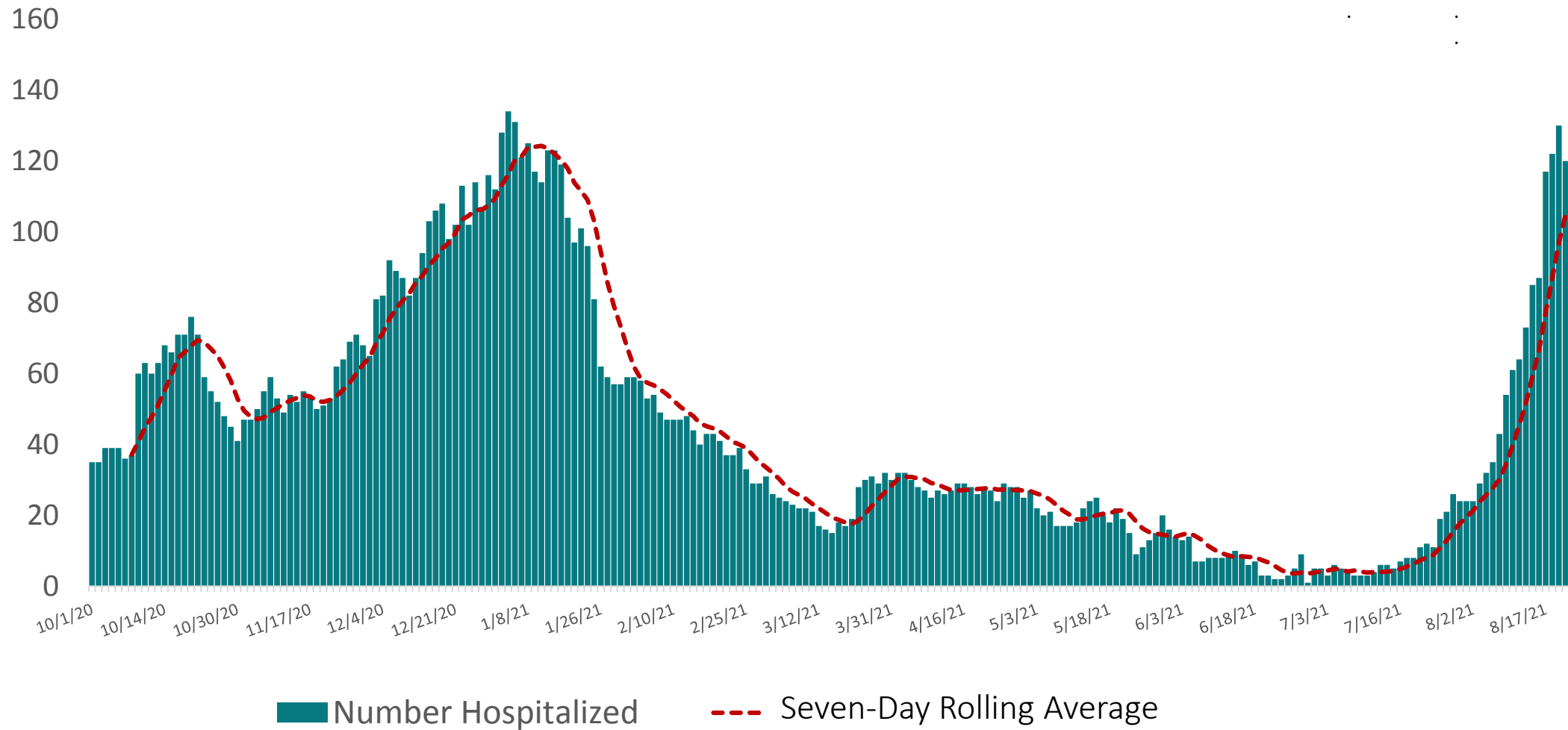
Source: NC EDSS

Gaston County Percent Positive



Source: NC EDSS; Updated each Monday. Some tests from the most recent week may be missing, previous weeks will be updated as information is received.

GASTON COUNTY COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS



Source: Gaston County DHHS

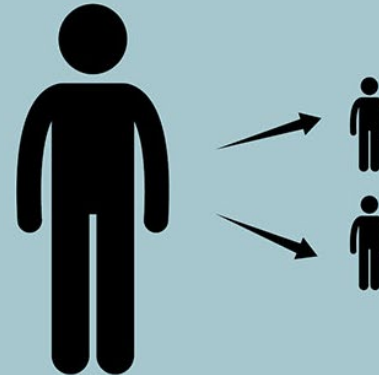
Delta Variant



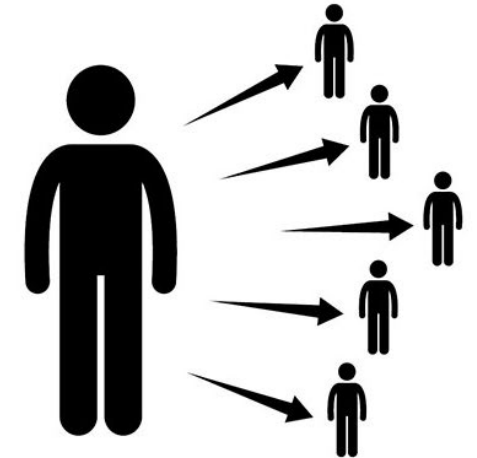
- More contagious
- Potentially causes more severe illness in unvaccinated persons
- Fully vaccinated infections are much less common compared to those among unvaccinated, but all individuals who are infected can spread to others

The Delta variant is more contagious than previous strains—it may cause more than **2x as many infections**

ORIGINAL COVID-19 STRAIN



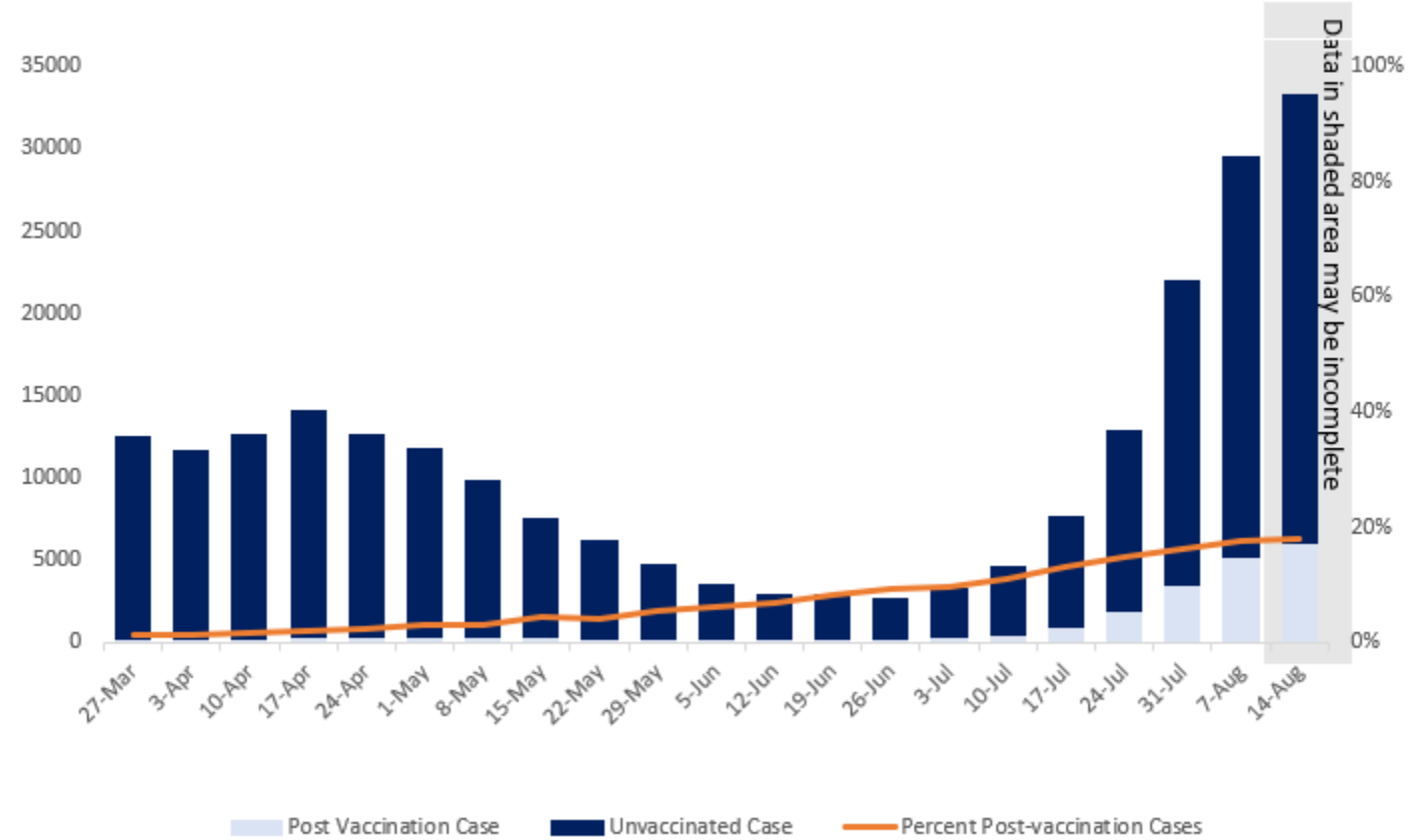
DELTA VARIANT



Number and Percent of Post-Vaccination Cases Increasing

Post-vaccination cases made up 18% of COVID-19 cases in North Carolina the week ending August 14, 2021.

Vaccinated vs. Unvaccinated Cases

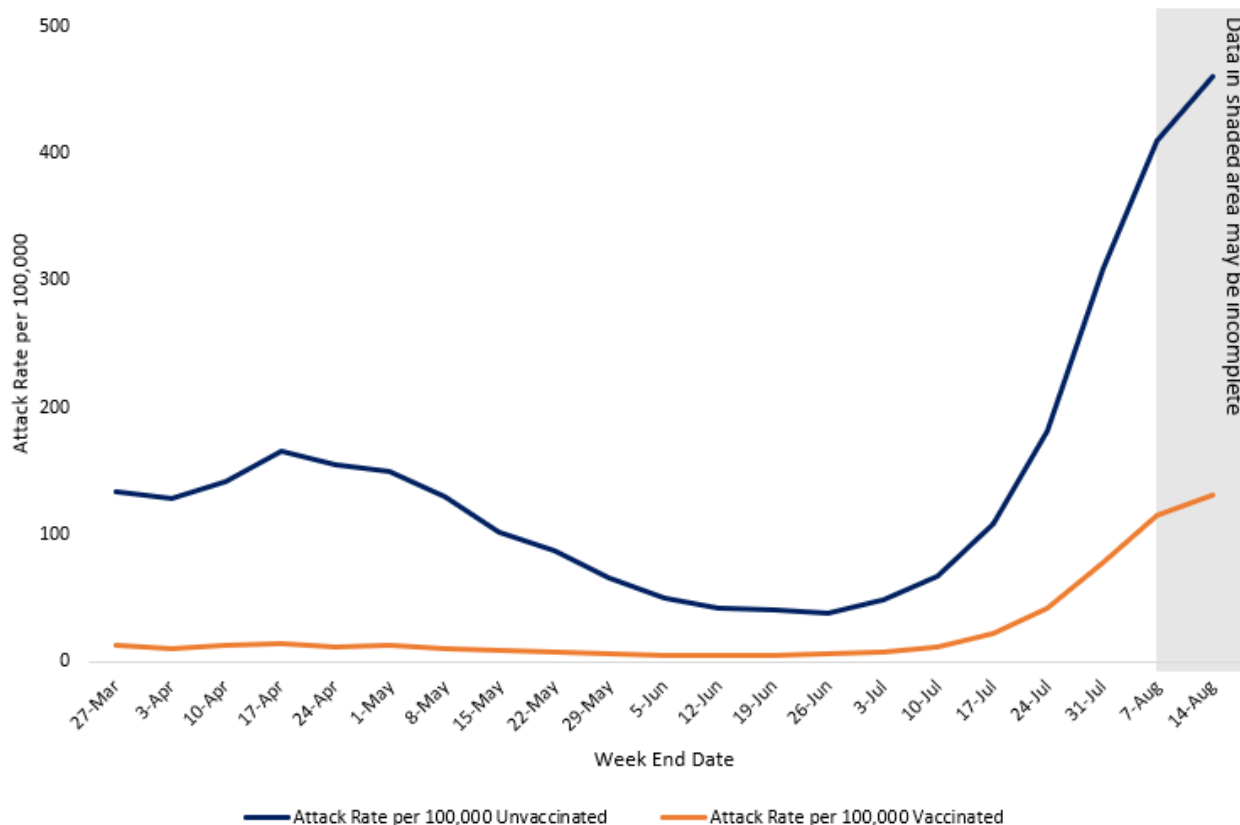


*People who are not fully vaccinated are considered “unvaccinated”. All data provisional and subject to change

Attack Rate Increasing for Vaccinated Individuals

Unvaccinated individuals are three and a half times more likely to get COVID-19 as vaccinated individuals.

What is the risk of getting COVID-19 for people who are vaccinated vs. unvaccinated?



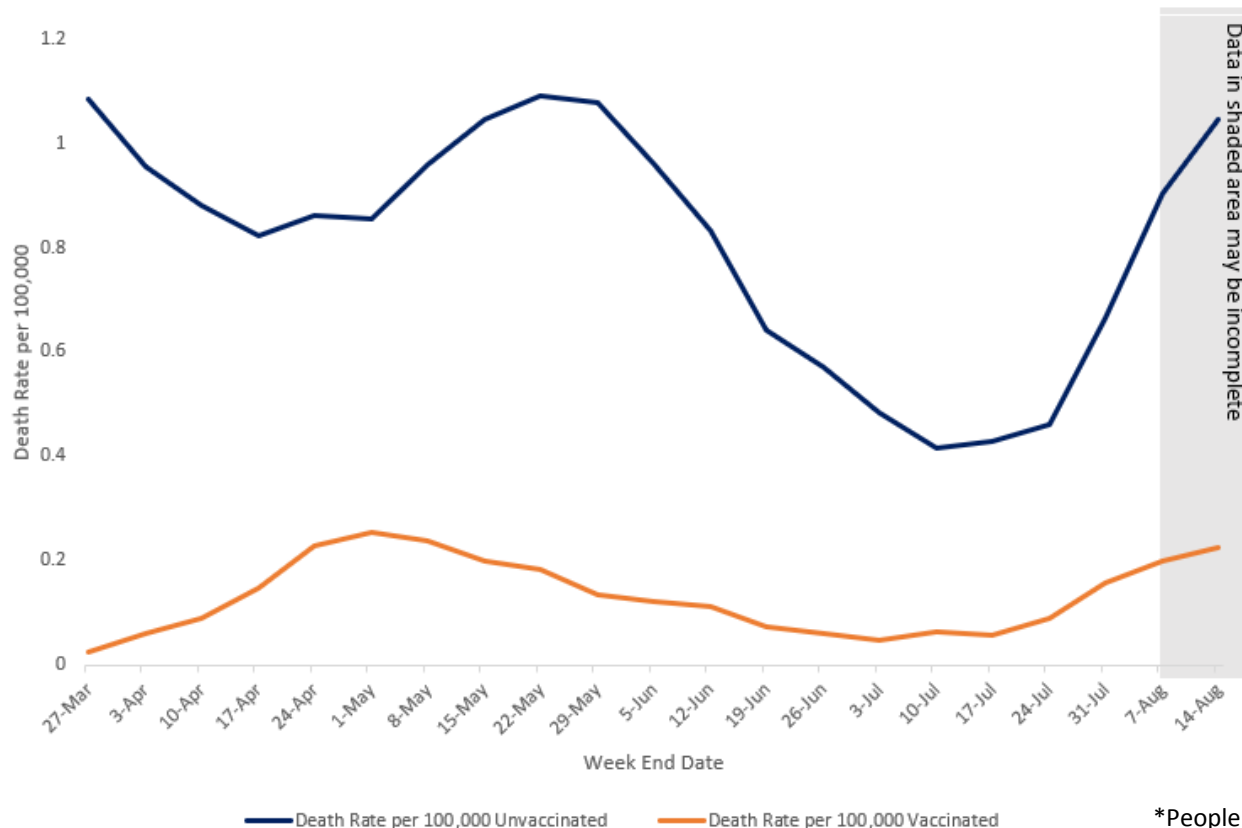
- Attack rate among unvaccinated individuals was **461 cases per 100,000**
- Attack rate among vaccinated individuals was **131 per 100,000**
- Unvaccinated individuals were **three and a half times more likely to get COVID-19** as vaccinated individuals.

*People who are not fully vaccinated are considered “unvaccinated”. All data provisional and subject to change

Risk of Dying of COVID-19 Increasing for Vaccinated Individuals

Unvaccinated individuals are more than 4 times more likely to die of COVID-19 as vaccinated individuals.

What is the risk of dying of COVID-19 for people who are vaccinated versus unvaccinated?



- Mortality rate among unvaccinated individuals was **1.05 cases per 100,000**
- Mortality rate among vaccinated individuals was **0.23 per 100,000**
- Unvaccinated individuals were **more than four times more likely** to get COVID-19 as vaccinated individuals

*People who are not fully vaccinated are considered "unvaccinated". All data provisional and subject to change

COVID-19 Statistics

August 24, 2021
Using 8/23/21 Data

Community Data

Gaston County

63 cases/day/100,000 residents

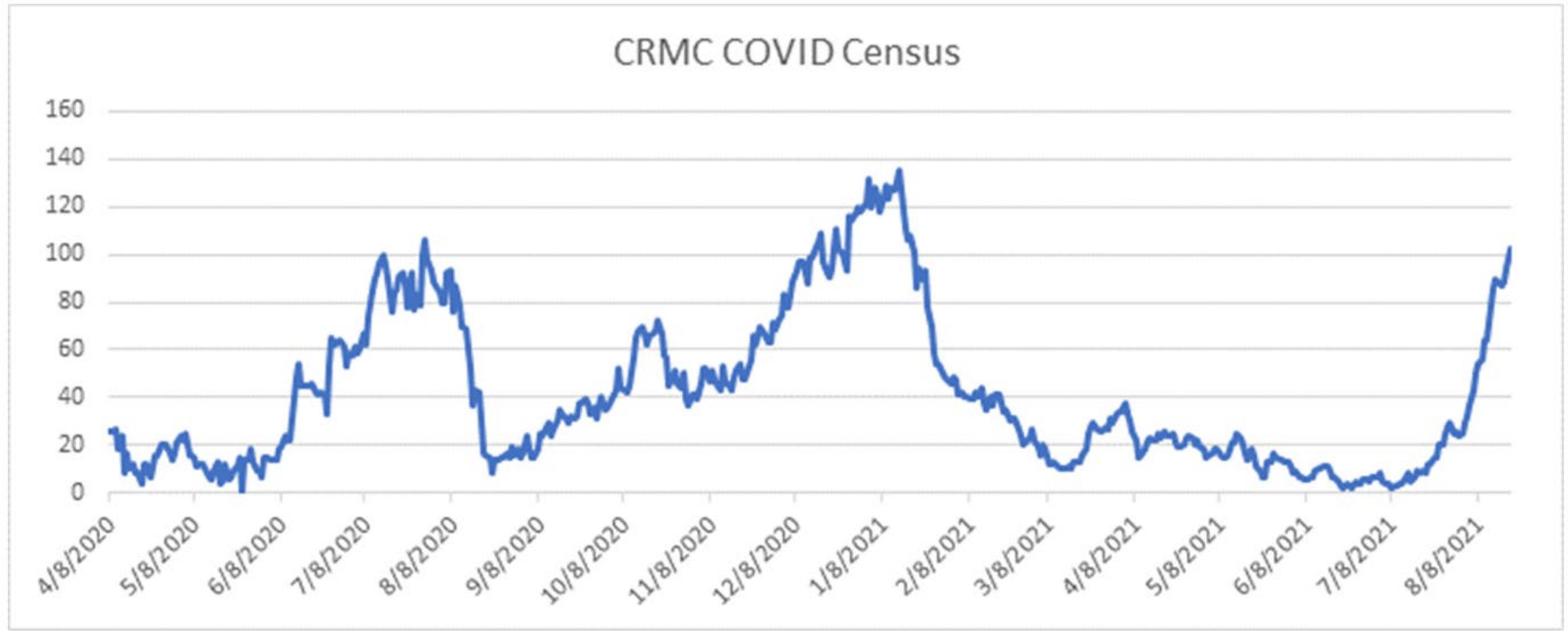
- Case rate at last inpatient peak was 112/cases/day/100,000 residents
- Gaston County's infection rate is generally 20-30% higher than the State and national average

CaroMont Regional

108 COVID inpatients

- COVID inpatient census peaked on 1/14/21 at 135
- Currently caring for over 160 patients at home through our virtual hospital program designed to prevent admissions and ED visits

CaroMont Regional COVID19 Inpatient Census



Impact of Delta Variant

Approximately 90% of inpatients are unvaccinated

Vaccinated inpatients have multiple chronic diseases and are generally over the age of 55

Previously, 2/3 of inpatients were >60 years of age

Now, 2/3 of inpatients are <60 years of age likely due to younger people being less likely to be vaccinated

NC Vaccination Rates by Age

83% of >75 year olds

80% of 65-74 year olds

60% of 50-64 year olds

45% of 25-49 year olds

35% of 18-24 year olds

Questions?

