

STAY SAFE MN

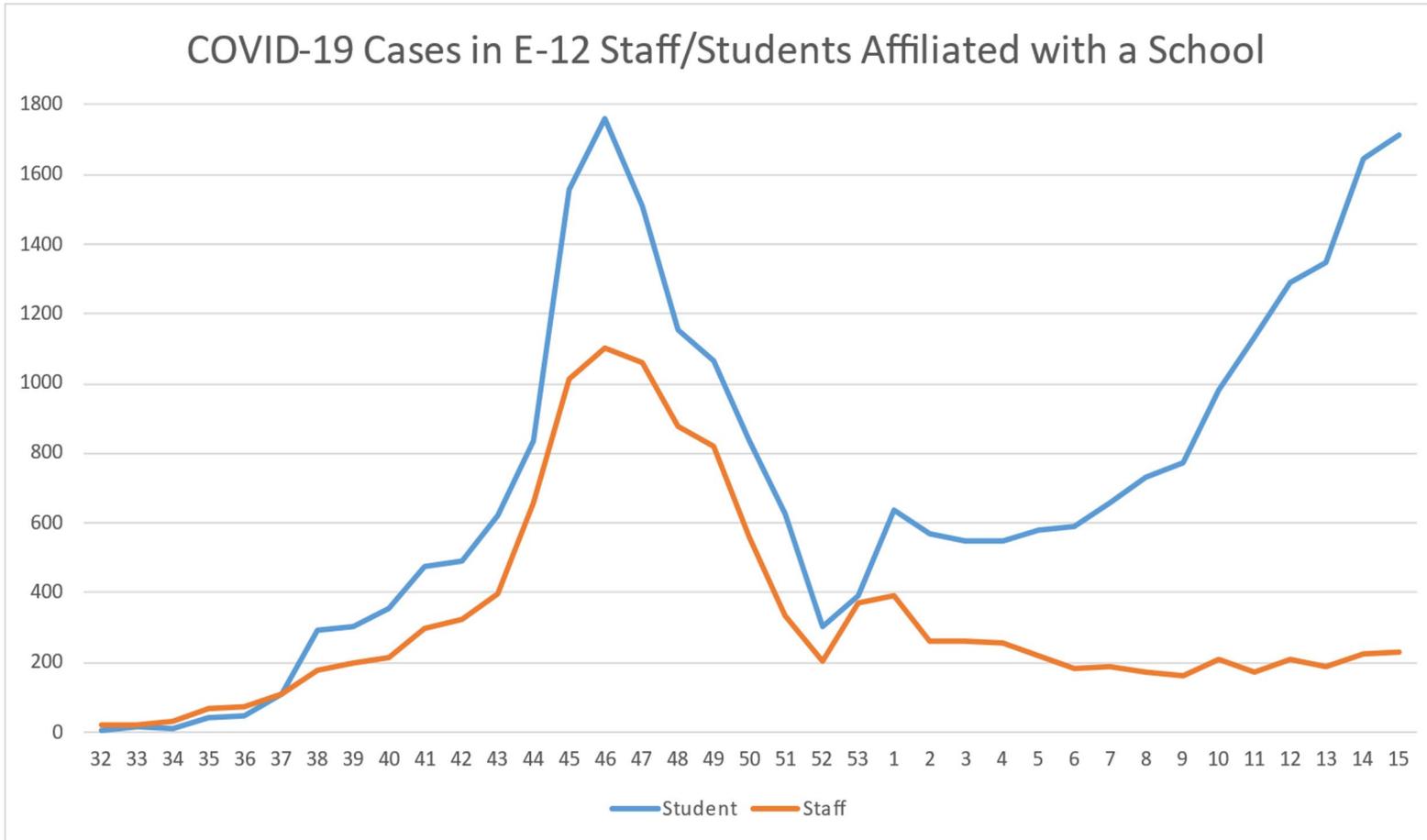
Senate Education, Finance and Policy Committee

Commissioner Jan Malcolm

April 25, 2021

mn MINNESOTA

Student Cases Rising; Teacher Cases Steady



- Number of cases among E-12 students; infectious in school and were either in quarantine or distance learning are now reaching the same peak as Fall 2020
- Cases among teachers are stable

Student and parent age groups leading case growth

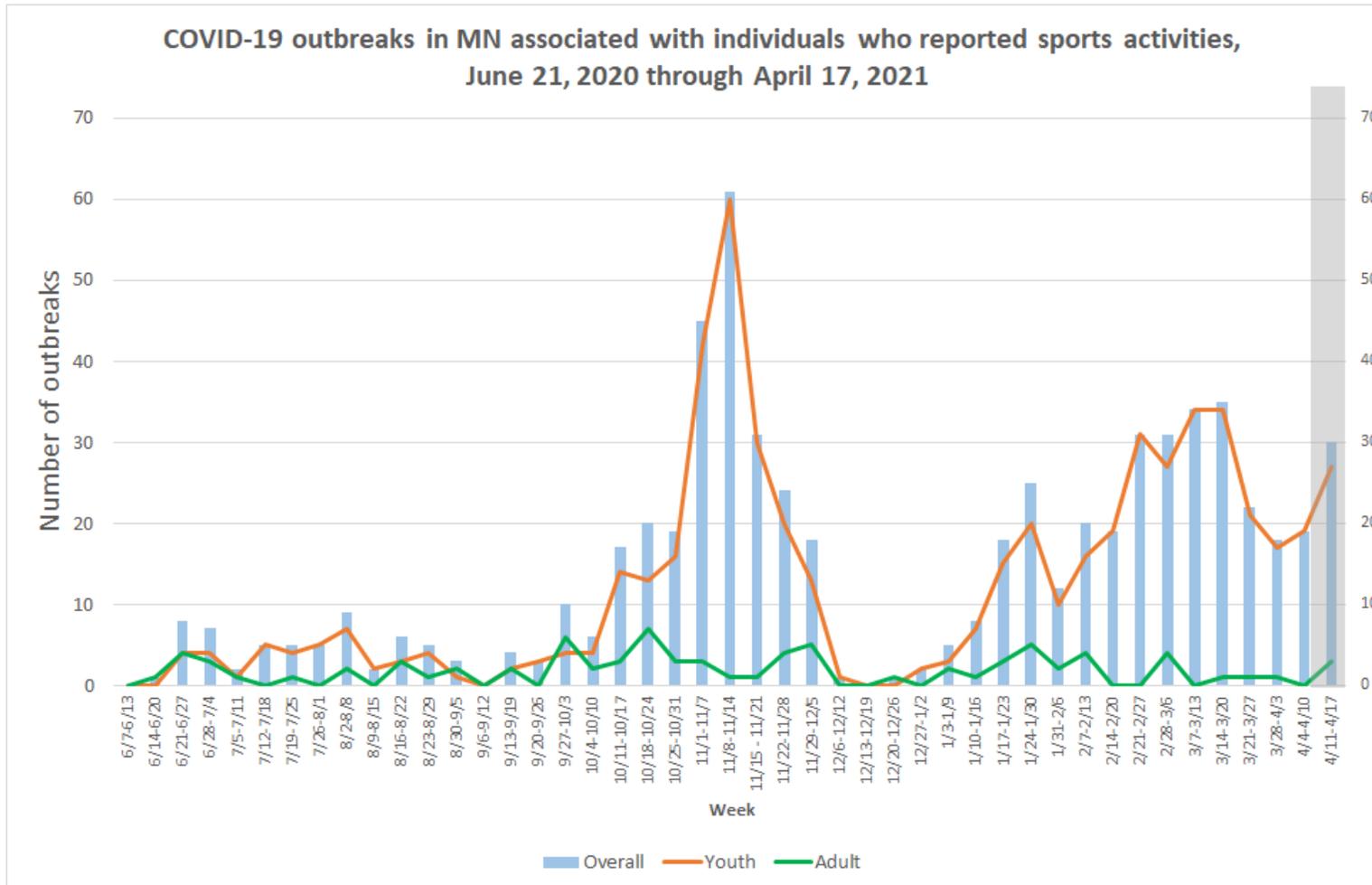
	Weekly Positivity Rates						
Age groups	2/28 – 3/6	3/7 – 3/13	3/14 – 3/20	3/21 – 3/27	3/28 – 4/3	4/4 – 4/10	4/11 – 4/17
0-9	3.3%	3.6%	4.4%	4.9%	5.8%	6.3%	5.9%
10-19	4.7%	5.7%	5.9%	5.9%	7.2%	7.6%	7.0%
20-29	2.8%	3.5%	4.4%	5.5%	6.3%	6.8%	6.2%
30-39	3.1%	3.6%	4.4%	5.7%	7.3%	7.2%	6.8%
40-49	3.7%	4.4%	4.9%	6.2%	7.9%	7.9%	6.6%
50-59	3.7%	4.5%	5.0%	6.3%	7.8%	7.5%	6.6%
60-69	3.0%	3.5%	4.2%	5.0%	5.9%	5.7%	5.1%
70-79	2.1%	2.8%	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%	3.2%	3.1%
80+	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.1%

- Positivity started increase in 10-19 age group, followed by increasing trend in older age groups
- Highest positivity rates among school aged children and parent age groups

COVID-19 outbreaks associated with sports activities

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June 1, 2020 – April 17, 2021



- Outbreak trends follow overall statewide trends in case numbers
- Number of outbreaks associated with sports teams or activities increased from pause
- Outbreak: 2 cases in the same team in different households in a 14 day period.

B.1.1.7 Variant Spread Threatens Our Progress

- High attack rate and rapid spread among unvaccinated population seeds community spread—to a degree not seen in previous spikes
 - Many cases among youth
 - High attack rate in households (siblings, parents) and potential for spread to other sectors (including Child Care, LTC, workforces)
- Potential for more severe illness
- Potential for rapid geographic spread given interconnectedness of activities

Other areas with dominant variants seeing similar spread through kids

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MENU NEWS WEATHER

CBSN Chicago WATCH NOW

UK COVID-19 Variant Threatens To Spread Through Younger Population

By Marie Saavedra April 5, 2021 at 5:20 pm Filed Under: Children, COVID-19, Vaccine



PLAN YOUR VACCINE COVID-19 POLITICS U.S. NEWS OPINION WORLD

CORONAVIRUS

Young people are driving the latest Covid-19 surge, especially in Michigan

"We're seeing more and more young people get into serious trouble," Dr. Anthony Fauci said.

Wisconsin:



Doctors say B.1.1.7 variant and team sports causing rise in youth COVID-19 cases

By: [Cearron Bagenda](#) [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Posted: Apr 6, 2021 7:23 PM CDT | Updated: Apr 6, 2021 9:52 PM CDT

More severe illness among younger people

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Michigan at 'record high' for COVID-19 hospitalizations of children

Kristen Jordan Shamus and Christina Hall | Detroit Free Press
Published 6:02 a.m. ET Apr. 13, 2021 | Updated 6:26 p.m. ET Apr. 14, 2021

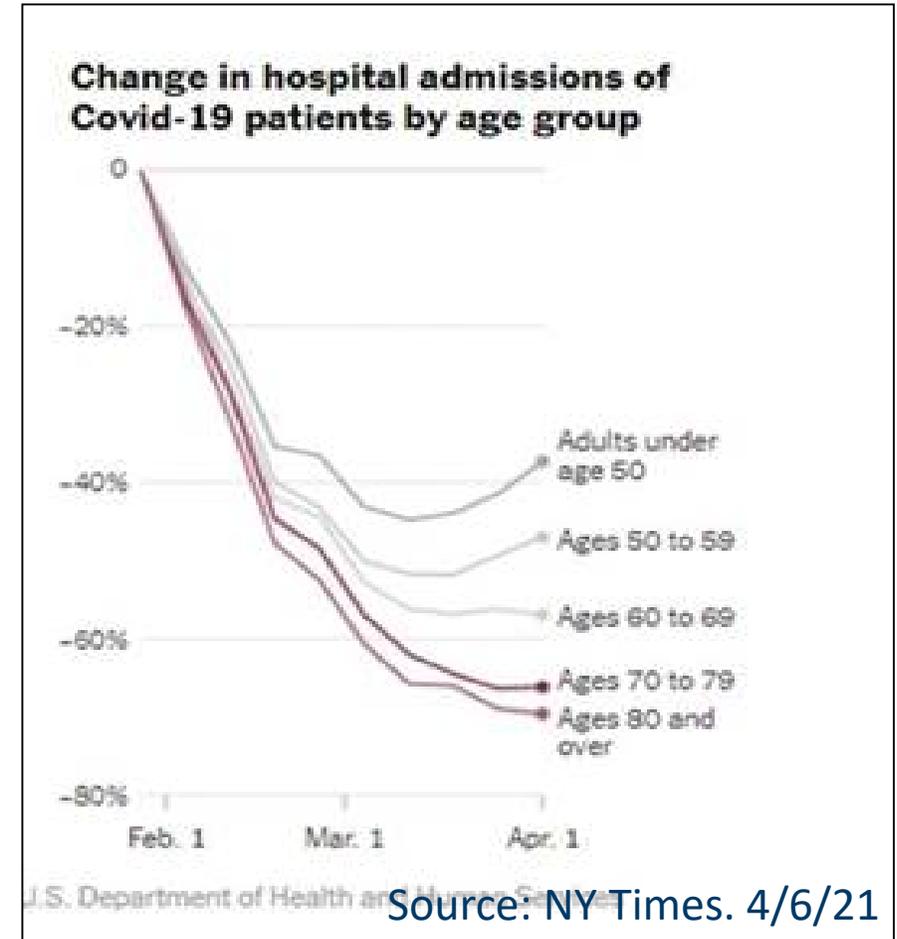
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Children aren't immune to COVID-19. They can get sick, just like adults do. They can be hospitalized, the same as adults. And rarely, they can even die.

SCIENCE

COVID: More cases of postviral syndrome in UK children

In the UK, up to 100 children are now admitted to hospital each week with a dangerous novel post-viral syndrome. In April 2020, there were only about 30 per week. Minorities are hit the hardest.



Sports Guidance Changes

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Outdoor masking changes. 4/22/2021

- While strongly encouraged, participants in outdoor group sports, (youth and adult) are no longer required to mask during competition or practice.
- Masking is still required while sports participants are not actively practicing or playing, such as to/from the event and on the sidelines during the event.

*No change in indoor sports masking requirement; face coverings will still be required due to higher risks.



Stan Grossfeld/The Boston Globe, via Getty Images, NYT Dec. 4, 2020



Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board,
<https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/news/2020/02/28/register-your-child-for-sports-and-activities-in-minneapolis-parks-this-summer/>

Enhanced Testing Support Launched

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Offering weekly testing

All teams are strongly encouraged to test **weekly**; especially if they choose not to mask during outdoor practice and play. This includes all people involved in organized sports, including athletes, coaches, staff, and others. Those vaccinated do not need to test.

- Teams and students may access free test kits at school, at home or through participating sports clubs.



Teams that choose to manage testing themselves can obtain free test kits for all participants from Vault and may order them through an electronic portal.

Vaccination for 16-18 Population

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- **All** teams and associations are highly encouraged to promote vaccination for persons ages 16 and older.
- If someone is fully vaccinated and is exposed, **they do not need to quarantine** if ALL the following are true:
 - COVID-19 exposure was at least 14 days after their vaccination series was fully completed
 - They do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19



- Most spring sports are played outdoors
- Outside settings are less risky for transmission than indoor settings
- Many spring sports inherently have more distancing among players and less close or physical contact (e.g., baseball)
- Quarantine assessment is different from winter sports
 - Spring sport teams are less likely to be quarantined after playing with a COVID-19 case

The Shared Role and Partnership of MDH, MDE and Sports Organizations

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MDH and MDE rely on key sports partners like the MSHSL and schools to consider and carry out public health advice to keep kids safe and protect safe, in person learning. Much of the Stay Safe guidance imposes baseline requirements, but sports teams/leagues also have a role to play in some of the decisionmaking.

MDH:

- Communicates potential transmission risks in sports activities
- Provides assistance to sports partners/organizations to limit COVID spread
- Upon request, provides exposure assessment, contact tracing, quarantine, and isolation guidance

Sports Teams and Organizations

- Develop COVID-19 Preparedness Plans including disease mitigation
- Report cases
- Conduct contact tracing and exposure notification
- Oversee adherence isolation and quarantine; the guidance provides a framework for quarantine and allows teams to consider shortened options

MDE Safe Learning Plan

- Provides standardized quarantine requirements; MSHSL enforces Learning Plan requirements.

Looking Ahead to A Brighter Future

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We all have a role to play in giving our students the best chance to learn in-person and participate in sports and activities.

Keep it up, Minnesota!

- 1 Wash your hands
- 2 Get tested when sick
- 3 Stay 6 feet from others
- 4 Wear a mask
- 5 Stay home when able

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COVID-19 Testing for Kids & Families

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3 COVID-19 vaccines are now available in Minnesota.

- Johnson & Johnson
- Moderna
- Pfizer

Each are nearly 100% effective against hospitalization.

Each are highly effective against severe illness.

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES, MINNESOTA

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Questions?

Quarantine Policy to Protect Youth

- Each team or association is required to develop its own quarantine and isolation strategy under the guidelines
 - Team may be subject to more stringent school or organization policies.
- MDH and CDC recommend a 14-day quarantine period.
- Teams may opt to shorten the quarantine to either 10 or 7 days. If the person quarantined has no symptoms, meets specific requirements, then they can shorten to 10 days or seven days with a PCR-negative test.
- MDH recommends additional strategies to prevent transmission for those who choose to shorten quarantine.
 - 7-day quarantine, test at least once on days 8 through 14 and wear a face covering until 14 days have passed
 - 10-day quarantine, test at least once on days 11 through 14 and wear a face covering until 14 days have passed

Outdoors is safer than indoors

Risk of Transmission: Outdoors vs. Indoors

- **Risk of transmission in outdoor sports is not eliminated, but significantly reduced**

Bulfone T et al, [Outdoor Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and Other Respiratory Viruses: A Systematic Review](#)

J Infect Dis 2021 Feb 24; 223(4):550-561

- **"Participants in outdoor sports show lower rates of COVID-19 than indoor sports."**

[Statement on risk of COVID-19 during high school sports. National Federation of State High School Associations](#) (1/27/2021)

- **"The great majority of sports-related spread of COVID-19 does not appear to occur during sports participation, but from social contact. Maximizing efforts to prevent this type of spread remains paramount."**

[Statement on risk of COVID-19 during high school sports. National Federation of State High School Associations](#) (1/27/2021)