Network Systems Science & Advanced Computing

Biocomplexity Institute & Initiative

University of Virginia

Estimation of COVID-19 Impact in Virginia

May 11th, 2022

(data current to May 7th – 10th)

Biocomplexity Institute Technical report: TR BI-2022-1121

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About Us

- Biocomplexity Institute at the University of Virginia
  - Using big data and simulations to understand massively interactive systems and solve societal problems
- Over 20 years of crafting and analyzing infectious disease models
  - Pandemic response for Influenza, Ebola, Zika, and others

Points of Contact

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Model Development, Outbreak Analytics, and Delivery Team

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Overview

- **Goal**: Understand impact of COVID-19 mitigations in Virginia
- **Approach:**
  - Calibrate explanatory mechanistic model to observed cases
  - Project based on scenarios for next 4 months
  - Consider a range of possible mitigation effects in "what-if" scenarios
- **Outcomes:**
  - Ill, Confirmed, Hospitalized, ICU, Ventilated, Death
  - Geographic spread over time, case counts, healthcare burdens

Key Takeaways

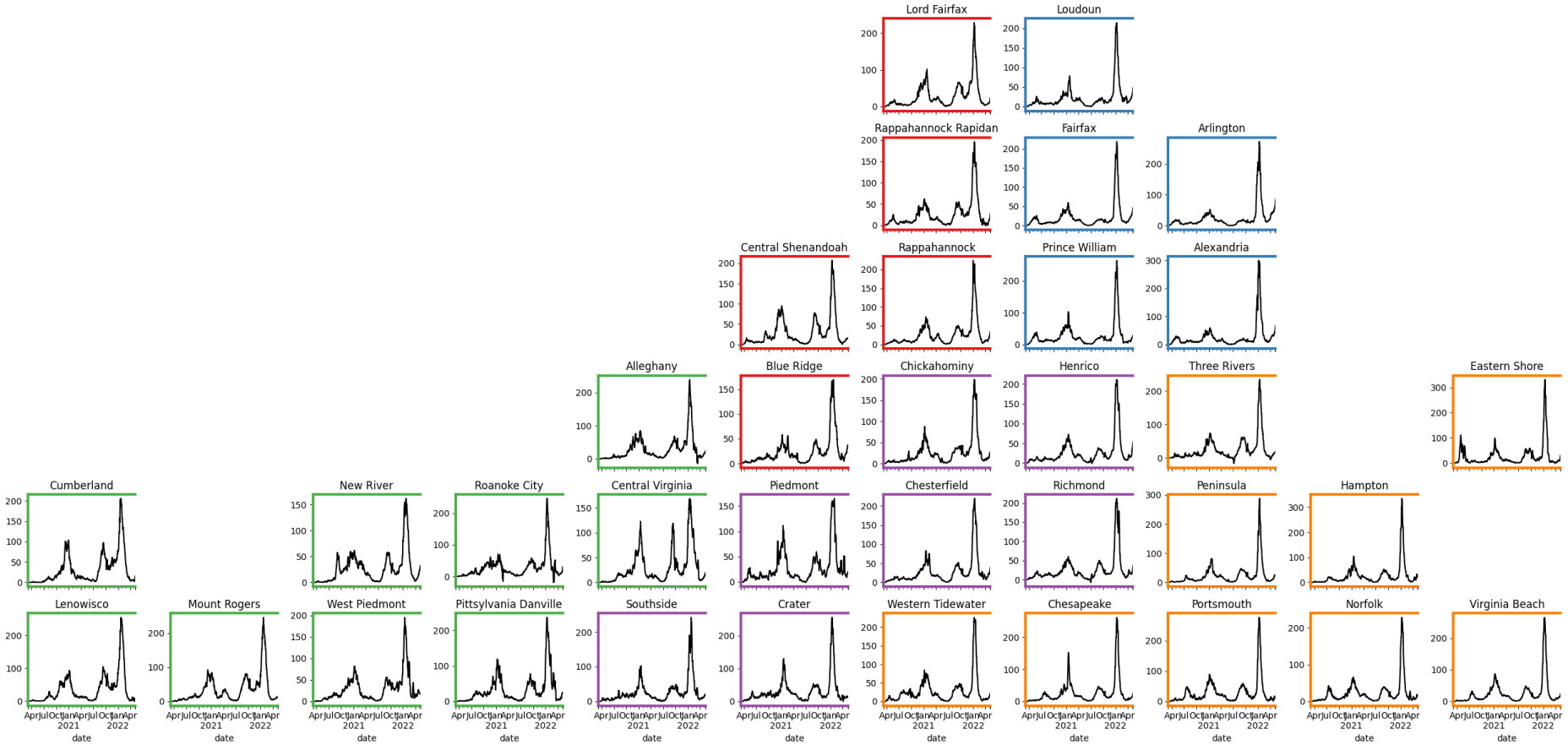
Projecting future cases precisely is impossible and unnecessary.
Even without perfect projections, we can confidently draw conclusions:

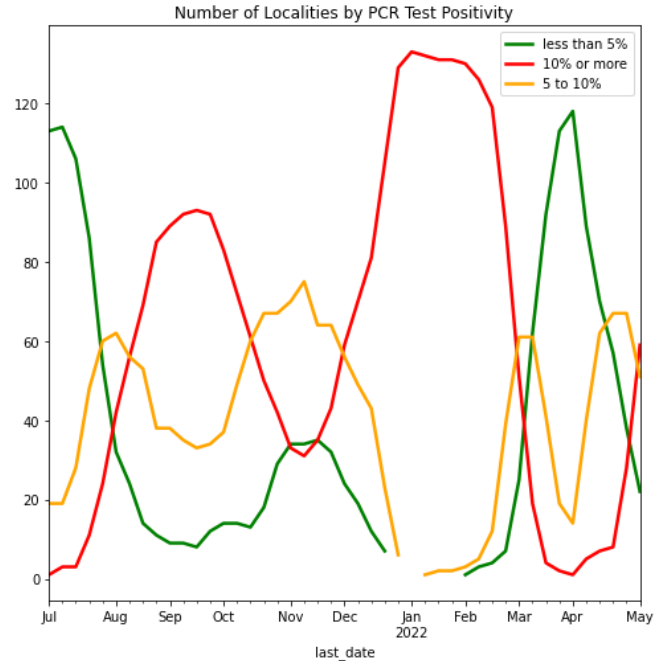
- **Case rates continue to rise as pace picks up as do hospitalizations**
- VA 7-day mean daily case rate increased to 26/100K from 18.5/100K
  - US continues to increase slightly to 22/100K (from 18.5/100K)
  - VA hospital occupancy (rolling 7 day mean of 240) has steadily rising for nearly a month
- Surveillance anomalies continue as QA processes rebalance previously reported cases though is slowing
- Projections anticipate future growth in cases but more limited growth in more severe outcomes:
  - Recently emerging BA.2.12.1 subvariant seems to driving growth, VA has tracked BA.2.12.1 scenario of April 23rd projections closely
  - Potential for significant number of infections remains high, uncertainty surrounds impact of weather and changing social interactions
- Model updates:
  - Adjusted fitting to work on district level to reduce biases from limited outbreaks within counties and surveillance anomalies
  - Adaptive scenario BA.2.12.1 scenario to capture the future growth of this more transmissible variant
  - Models need to change their focused outcome to hospitalization or aggregate counties to districts to minimize noisy fluctuations

The situation continues to change. Models continue to be updated regularly.

Situation Assessment

Case Rates (per 100k) and Test Positivity





County level RT-PCR test positivity

Green: <5.0% (or <20 tests in past 14 days)

Yellow: 5.0%-10.0% (or <500 tests and <2000 tests/100k and >10% positivity over 14 days)

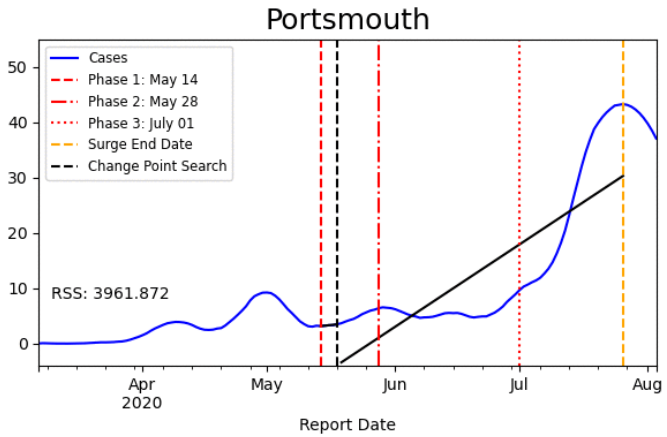
Red: >10.0% (and not "Green" or "Yellow")

District Trajectories

Goal: Define epochs of a Health District's COVID-19 incidence to characterize the current trajectory

Method: Find recent peak and use hockey stick fit to find inflection point afterwards, then use this period's slope to define the trajectory

Hockey stick fit

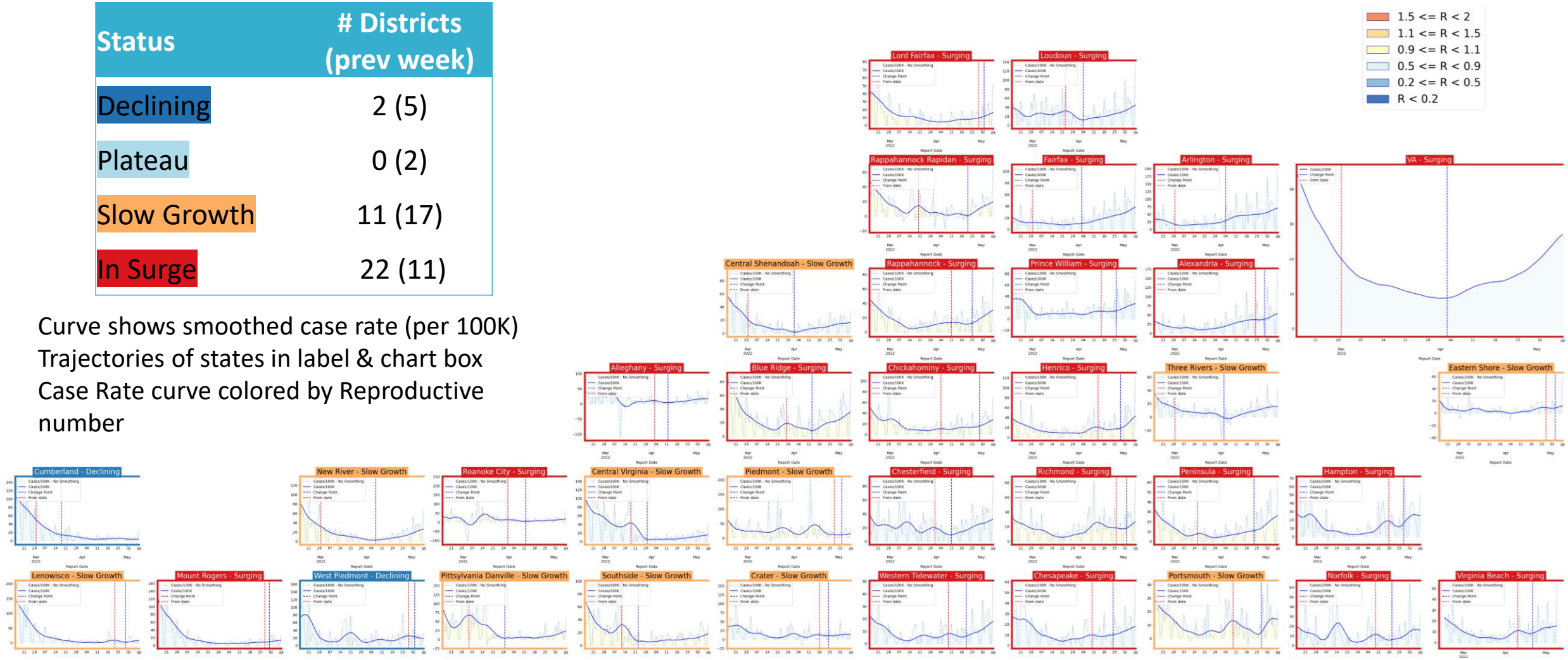


Trajectory	Description	Weekly Case Rate (per 100K) bounds
Declining	Sustained decreases following a recent peak	below -0.9
Plateau	Steady level with minimal trend up or down	above -0.9 and below 0.5
Slow Growth	Sustained growth not rapid enough to be considered a Surge	above 0.5 and below 2.5
In Surge	Currently experiencing sustained rapid and significant growth	2.5 or greater

District Trajectories – last 10 weeks

Status	# Districts (prev week)
Declining	2 (5)
Plateau	0 (2)
Slow Growth	11 (17)
In Surge	22 (11)

Curve shows smoothed case rate (per 100K)
Trajectories of states in label & chart box
Case Rate curve colored by Reproductive number



CDC's new COVID-19 Community Levels

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

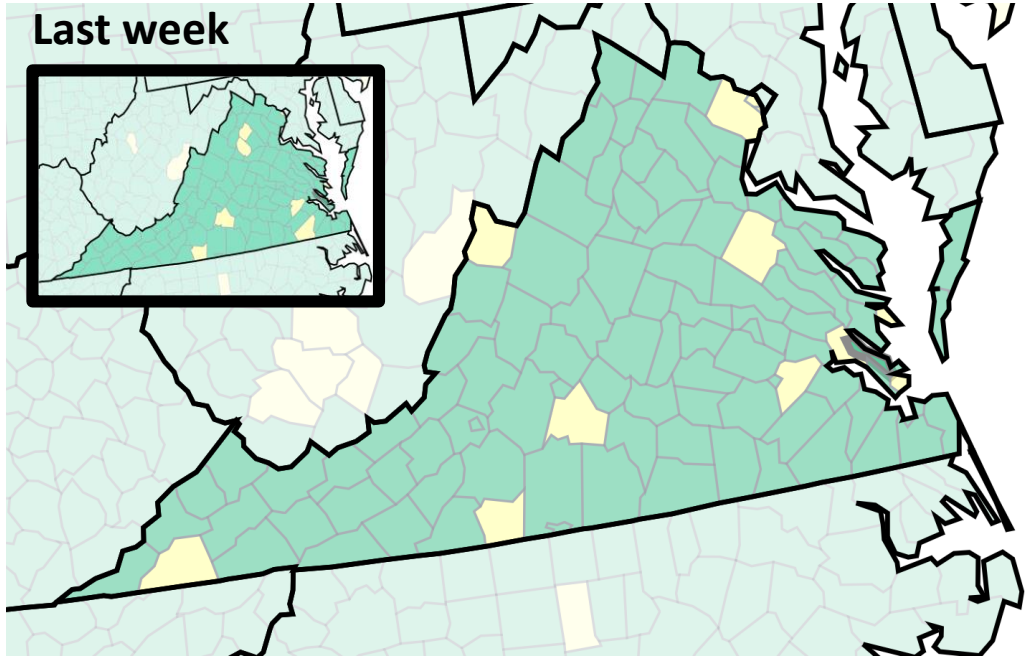
Low	Medium	High
• Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms	• If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms	• Wear a mask indoors in public • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms • Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness

People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

The COVID-19 community level is determined by the higher of the new admissions and inpatient beds metrics, based on the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days



[CDC Data Tracker Portal]

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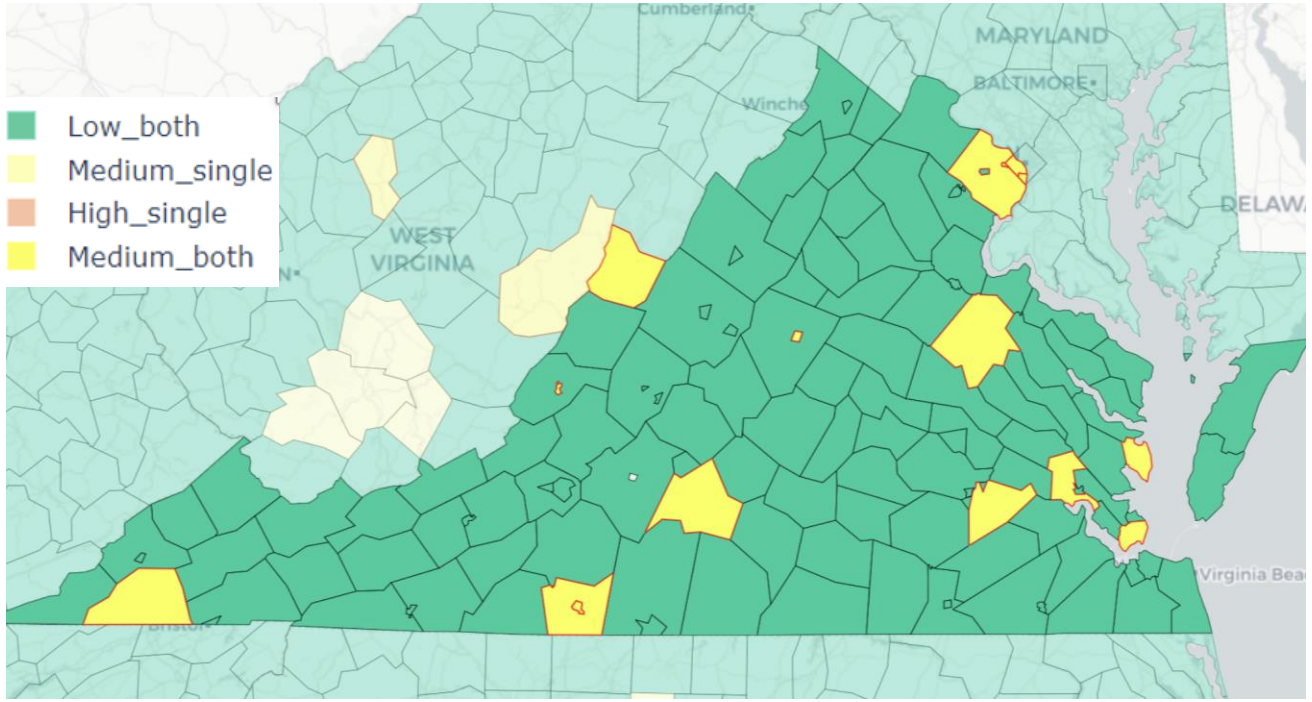
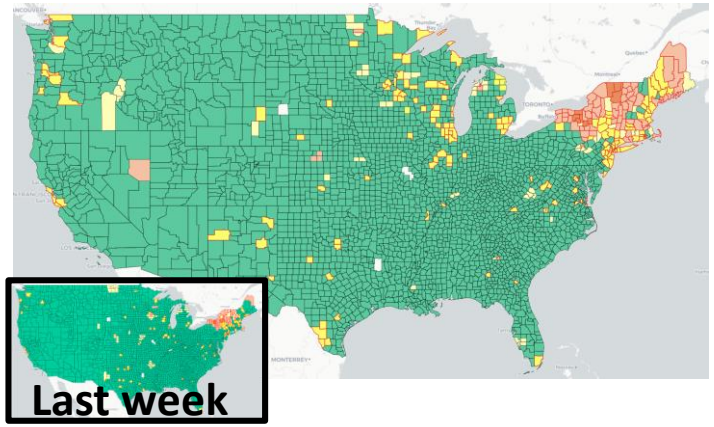
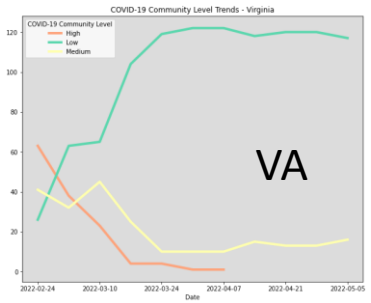


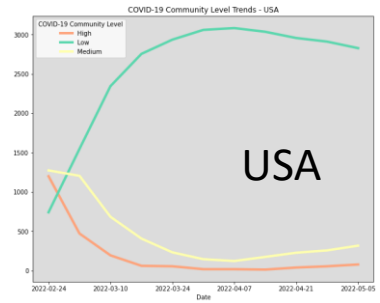
Red outline indicates county had 200 or more cases per 100k in last week

Pale color indicates either beds or occupancy set the level for this county

Dark color indicates both beds and occupancy set the level for this county







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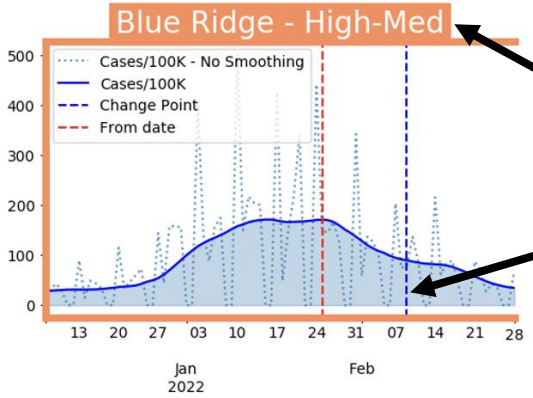
Data from: CDC Data Tracker Portal

District Trajectories with Community Levels

Community Level (Title Color)
- High
- High-Med
- Med-High
- Medium
- Med-Low
- Low-Med
- Low

Curve shows smoothed case rate (per 100K)
CDC's new Community Level aggregated to district level in label & chart box color
Case Rate curve colored by Trajectory

Trajectory (Curve Shading)
- In Surge
- Slow Growth
- Plateau
- Declining



District's Aggregate Community Level

Aggregate level a simple mean of all levels for counties in district

Case rate Trajectory

Last week

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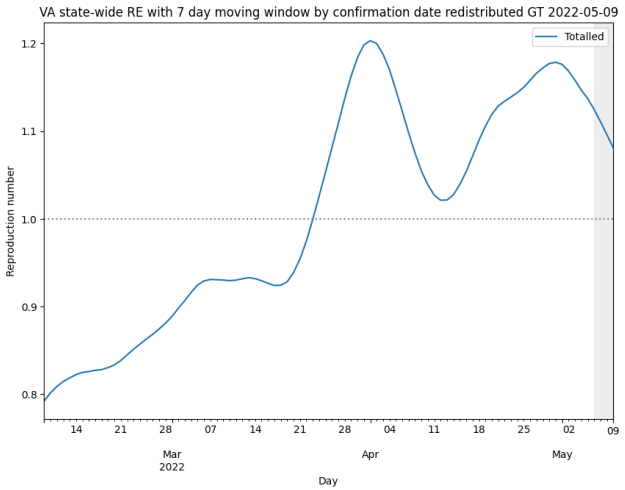
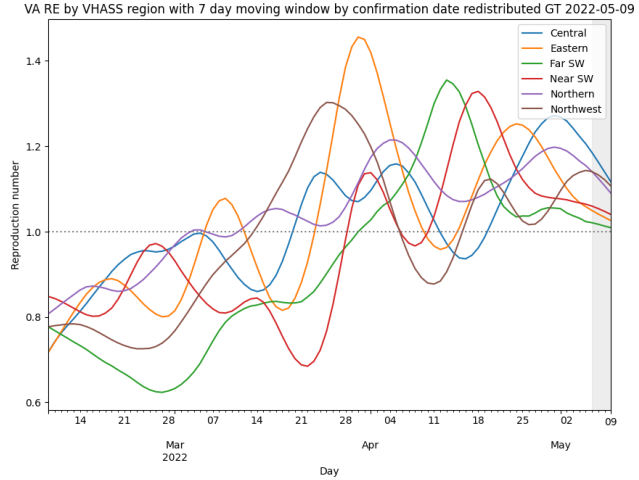
Estimating Daily Reproductive Number –
Redistributed gap

May 9th Estimates

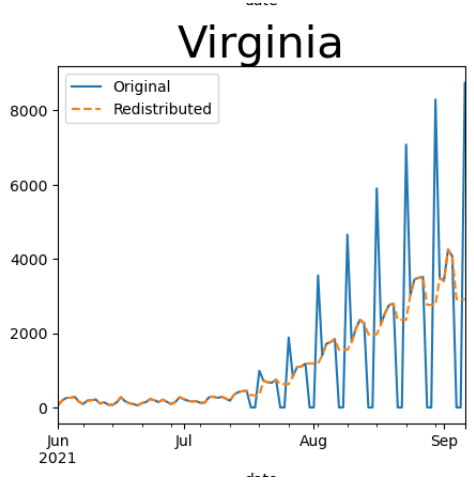
Region	Date Confirmed R_e	Date Confirmed Diff Last Week
State-wide	1.081	0.057
Central	1.116	0.096
Eastern	1.026	-0.083
Far SW	1.009	0.177
Near SW	1.040	0.049
Northern	1.090	0.039
Northwest	1.107	0.268





Skipping Weekend Reports & holidays biases estimates

Redistributed "big" report day to fill in gaps, and then estimate R from "smoothed" time series



Methodology

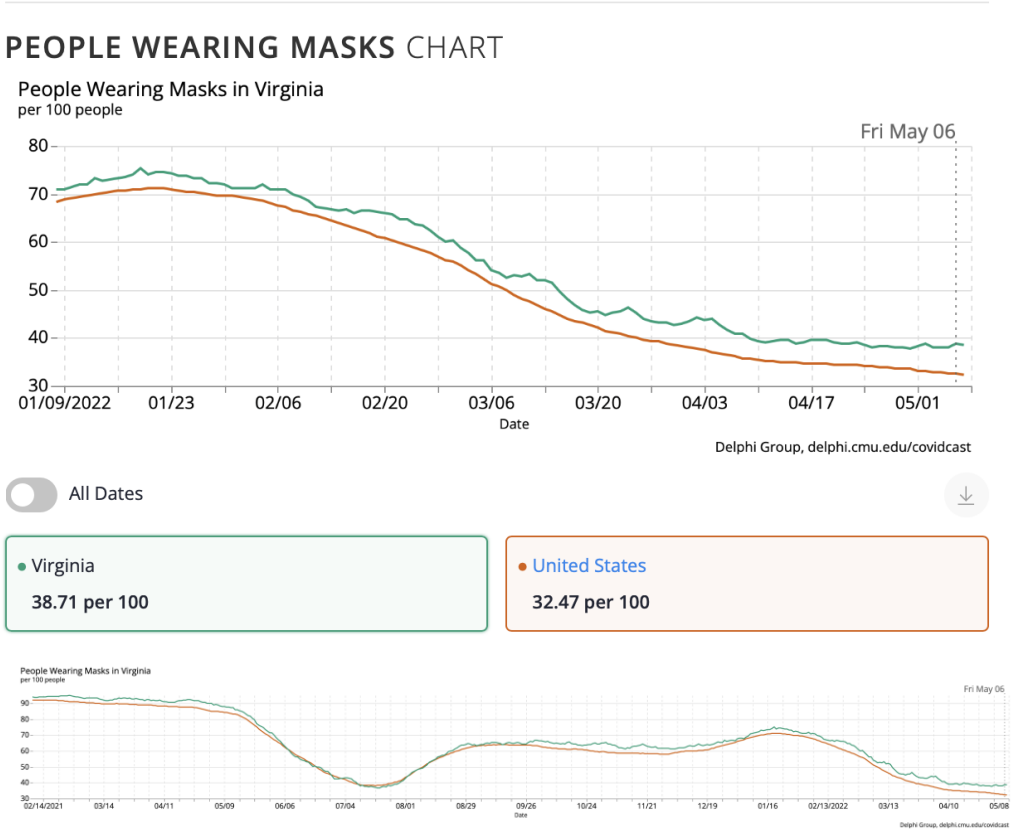
- Wallinga-Teunis method (EpiEstim[1]) for cases by **confirmation date**
- Serial interval: updated to discrete distribution from observations (mean=4.3, Flaxman et al, Nature 2020)
- Using Confirmation date since due to increasingly unstable estimates from onset date due to backfill

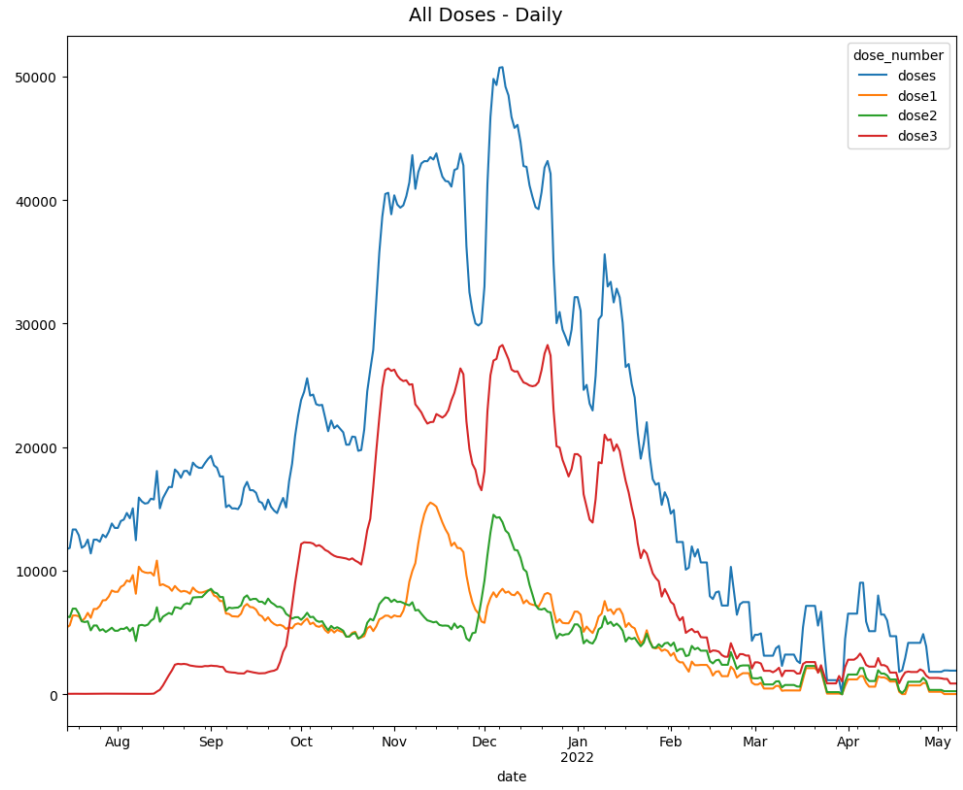
1. Anne Cori, Neil M. Ferguson, Christophe Fraser, Simon Cauchemez. A New Framework and Software to Estimate Time-Varying Reproduction Numbers During Epidemics. American Journal of Epidemiology, Volume 178, Issue 9, 1 November 2013, Pages 1505–1512, https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwt133

Mask Usage and Vaccination

Self-reported mask usage continues to fall

- US and VA experienced similar decreases
- Vaccination has leveled off and has leveled off after a slight rise in early April





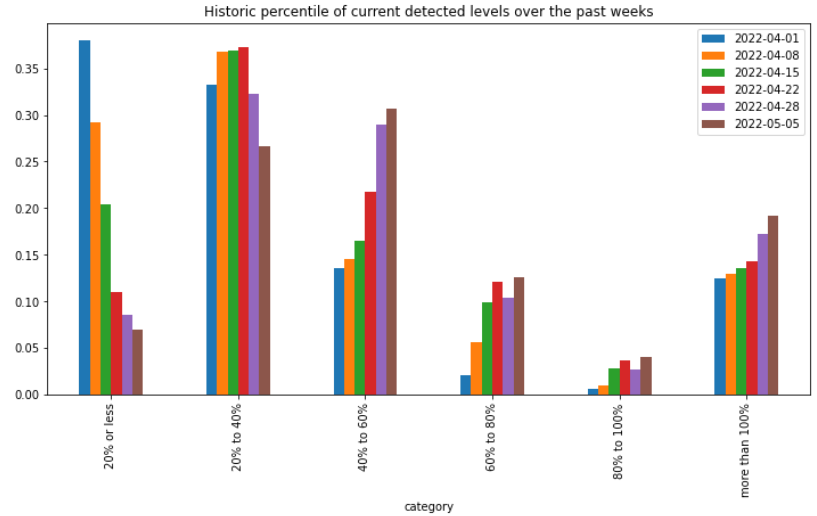
Data Source: https://covidcast.cmu.edu

Wastewater Monitoring

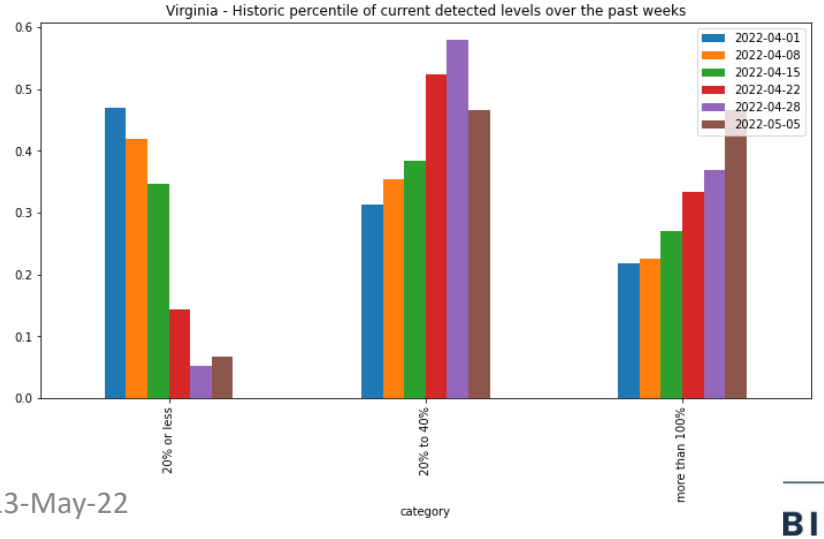
Wastewater provides a coarse early warning of COVID-19 levels in communities

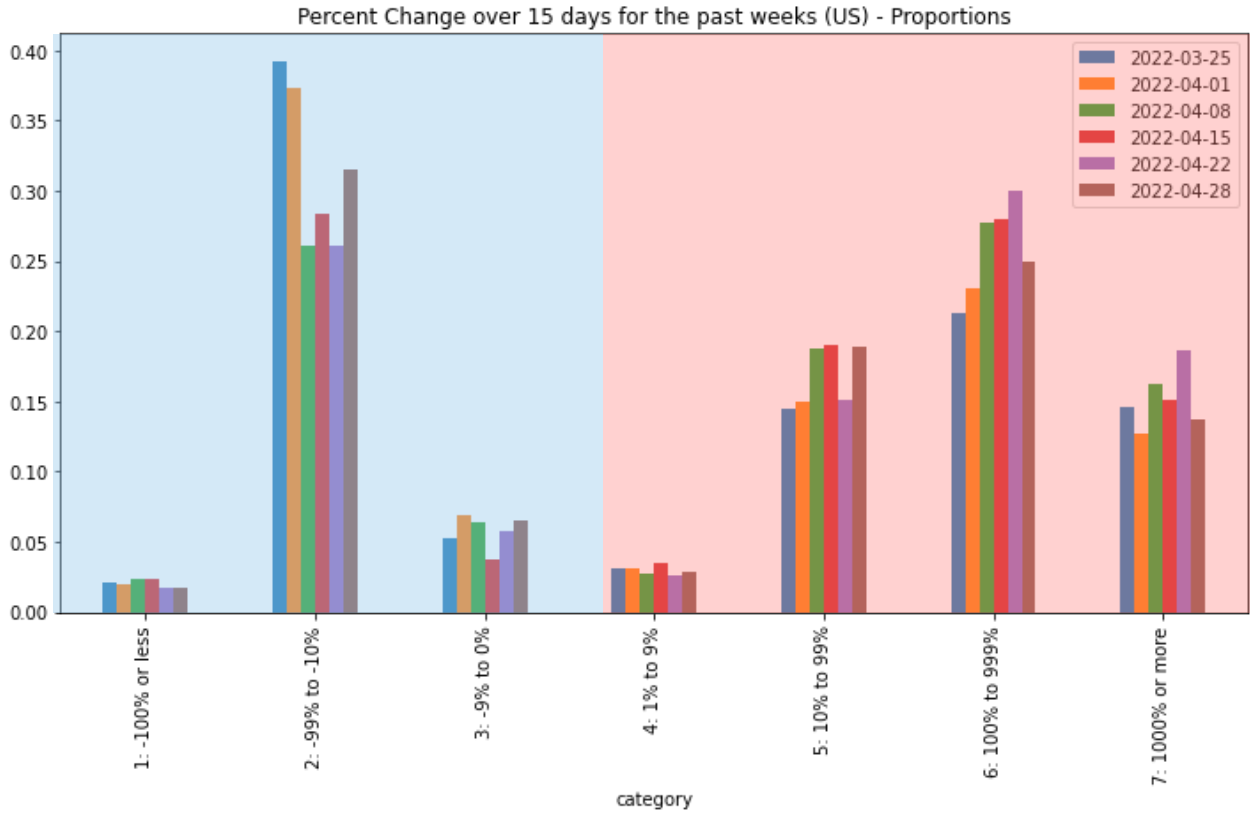
- Overall in the US, there is an increase in sites with increased levels of virus compared to 15 days ago, however the pace of growth slows
- Current virus levels are at or exceeding max of previous historical levels, has slowed, though more sites are entering upper quintiles

USA



VA



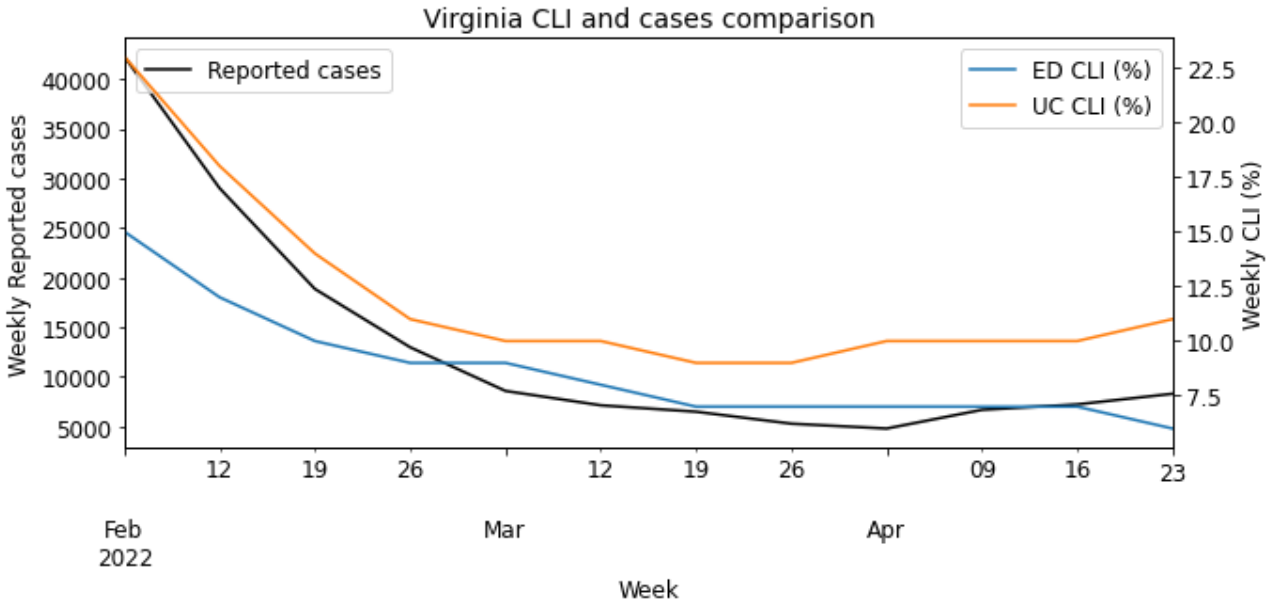


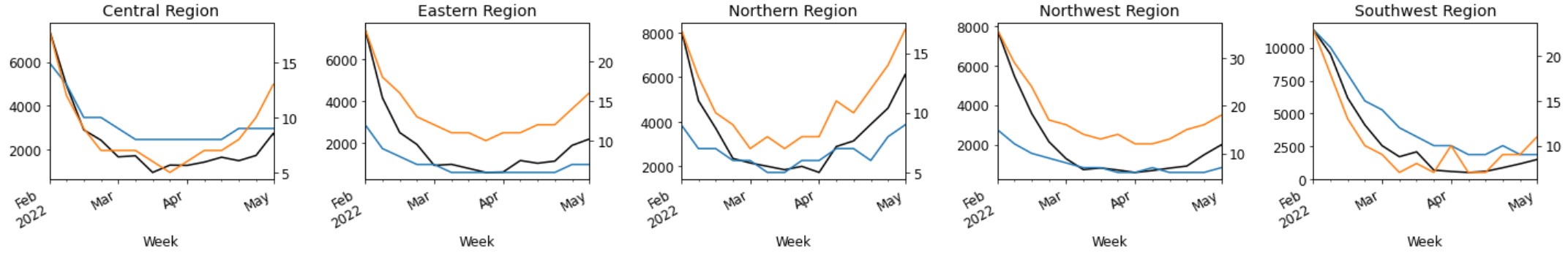
Data Source: [CDC Data Tracker]

COVID-like Illness Activity

COVID-like Illness (CLI) gives a measure of COVID transmission in the community

- Emergency Dept (ED) based CLI is more correlated with case reporting
- Urgent Care (UC) is more sensitive and is a leading indicator but is prone to some false positives
- As testing behaviors and case ascertainment levels shift, these measures may capture disease better than confirmed cases
- Current trends in UC CLI are slightly up





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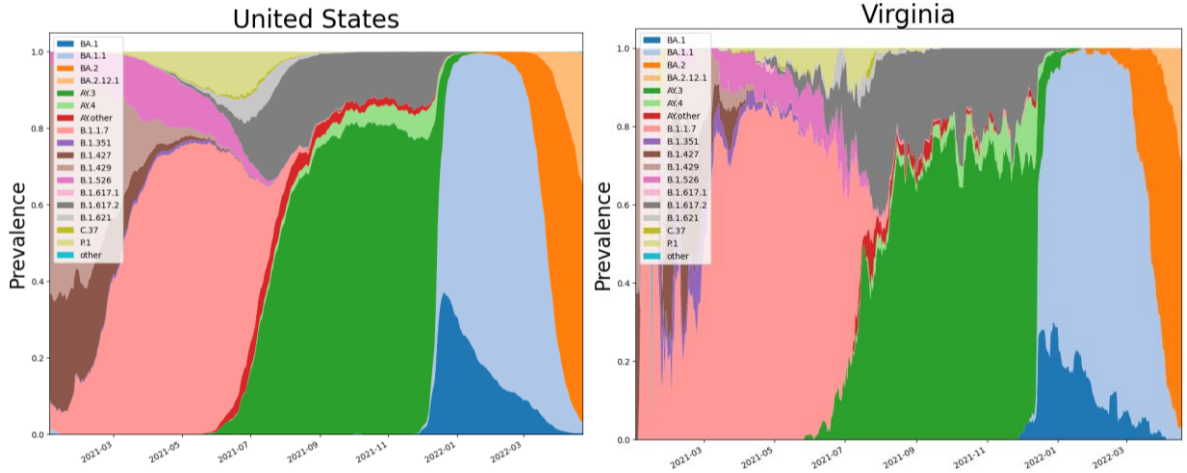
SARS-CoV2 Variants of Concern

Emerging new variants will alter the future trajectories of pandemic and have implications for future control

- Emerging variants can:
  - Increase transmissibility
  - Increase severity (more hospitalizations and/or deaths)
  - Limit immunity provided by prior infection and vaccinations
- Genomic surveillance remains very limited
  - Challenges ability to estimate impact in US to date and estimation of arrival and potential impact in future



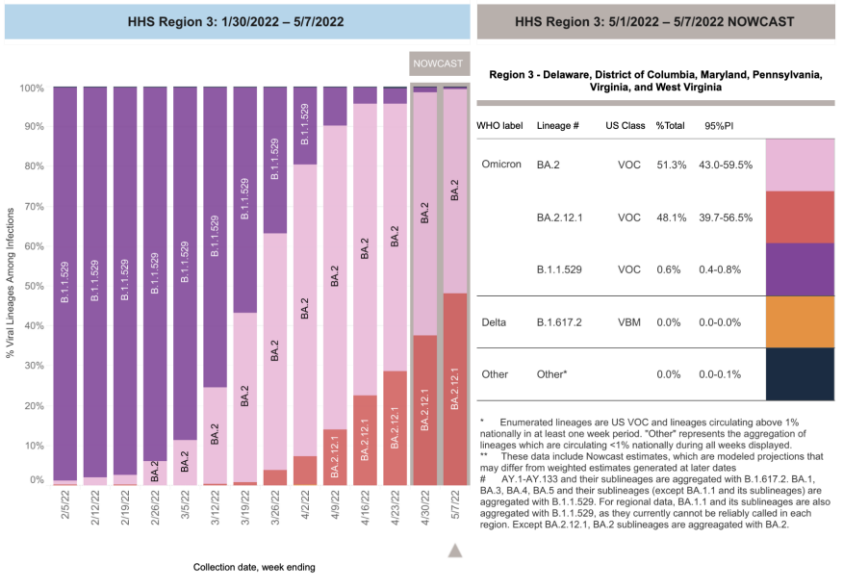
WHO label	Pango lineage*	GISAID clade	Nextstrain clade	Additional amino acid changes monitored*	Earliest documented samples	Date of designation
Alpha	B.1.1.7	GRY	20I (V1)	+S:484K +S:452R	United Kingdom, Sep-2020	18-Dec-2020
Beta	B.1.351	GH/501Y.V2	20H (V2)	+S:L18F	South Africa, May-2020	18-Dec-2020
Gamma	P.1	GR/501Y.V3	20J (V3)	+S:681H	Brazil, Nov-2020	11-Jan-2021
Delta	B.1.617.2	G/478K.V1	21A, 21I, 21J	+S:417N +S:484K	India, Oct-2020	VOI: 4-Apr-2021 VOC: 11-May-2021
Omicron*	B.1.1.529	GRA	21K, 21L	+R346K	Multiple countries, Nov-2021	VUM: 24-Nov-2021 VOC: 26-Nov-2021

World Health Organization [WHO](#)

Omicron Prevalences
subvariant BA.2 dominates

CDC nowcast for week ending May 7th shows 99% overall BA.2 in Region 3 with BA 2.12.1 at 48%

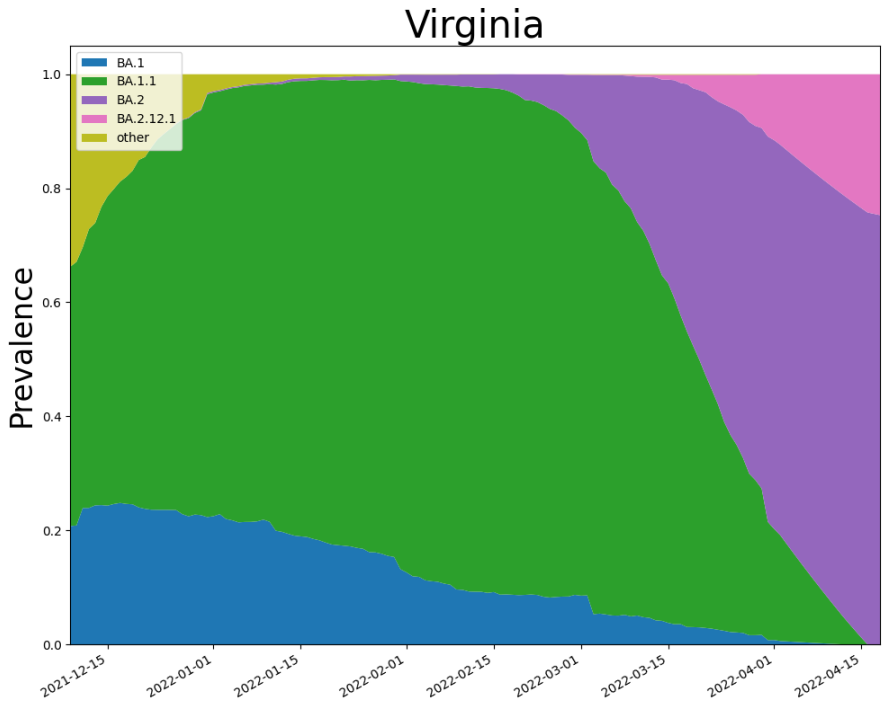
Overall BA.2 in USA now at 99% (BA.2.12.1 at 43%)

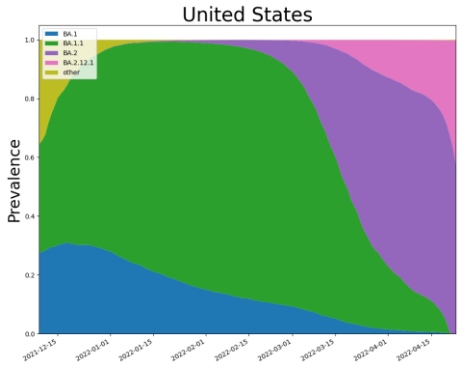


CDC [CDC Variant Tracking](#)

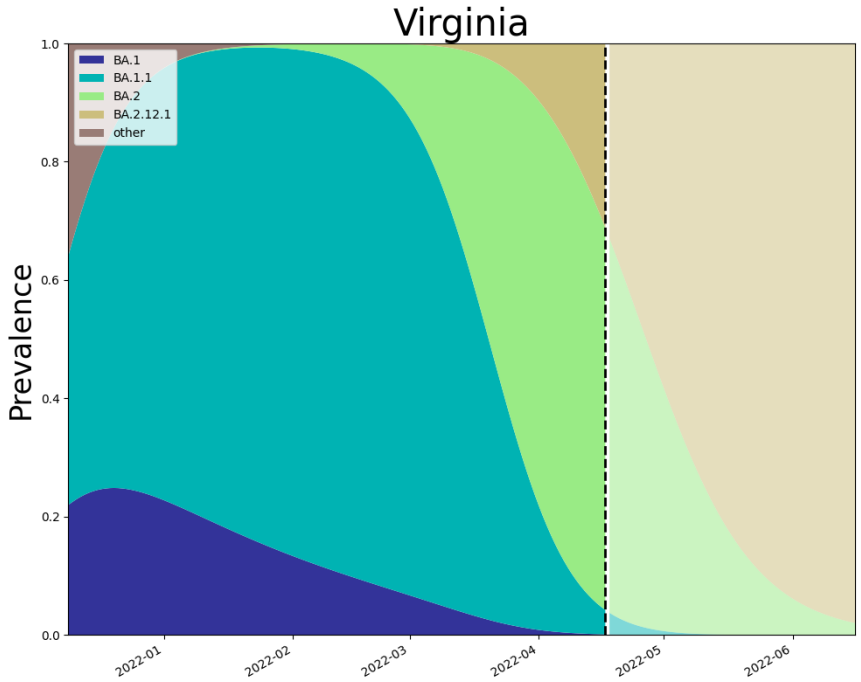
SARS-CoV2 Omicron and Sub-Variants

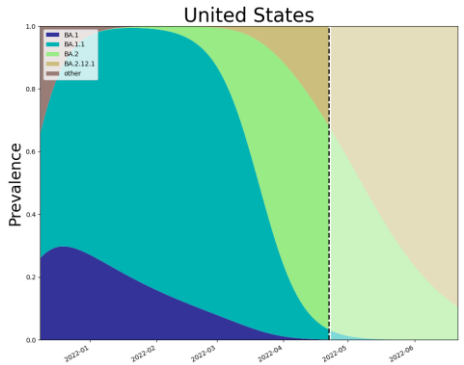
As detected in whole Genomes in public repositories





VoC Polynomial Fit Projections





Note: Data lags force projections to start in past. Everything from dotted line forward is a projection.

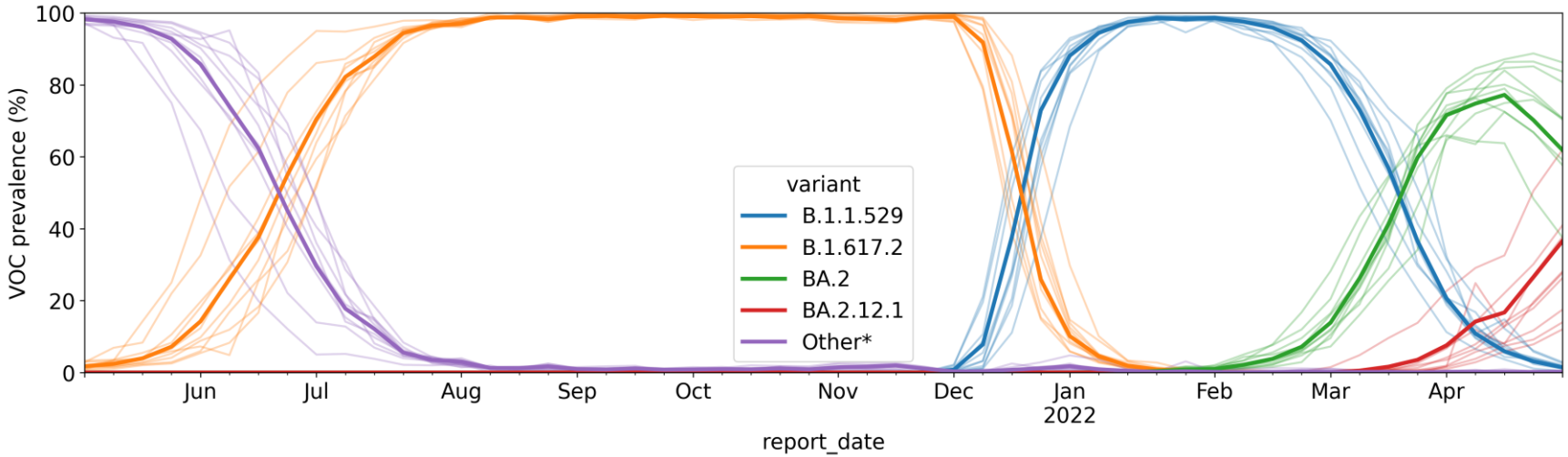
GISAID outbreak.info

Influence of Previous Waves on Next Wave

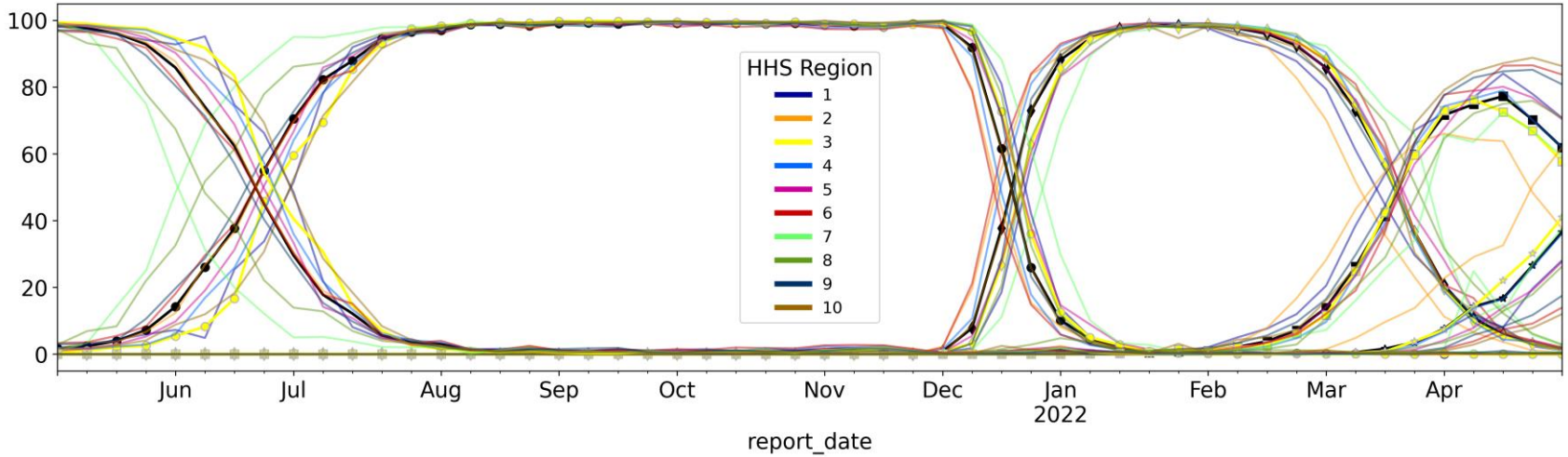
Variability in timing and intensity of some variant-driven waves influence the timing and severity of subsequent waves

- Some regions had early Delta waves, others lagged; subvariants of Omicron have similar variability
- Not all states are in sync within their HHS regions
- Note outliers for Omicron subvariants

Region level Variant prevalence



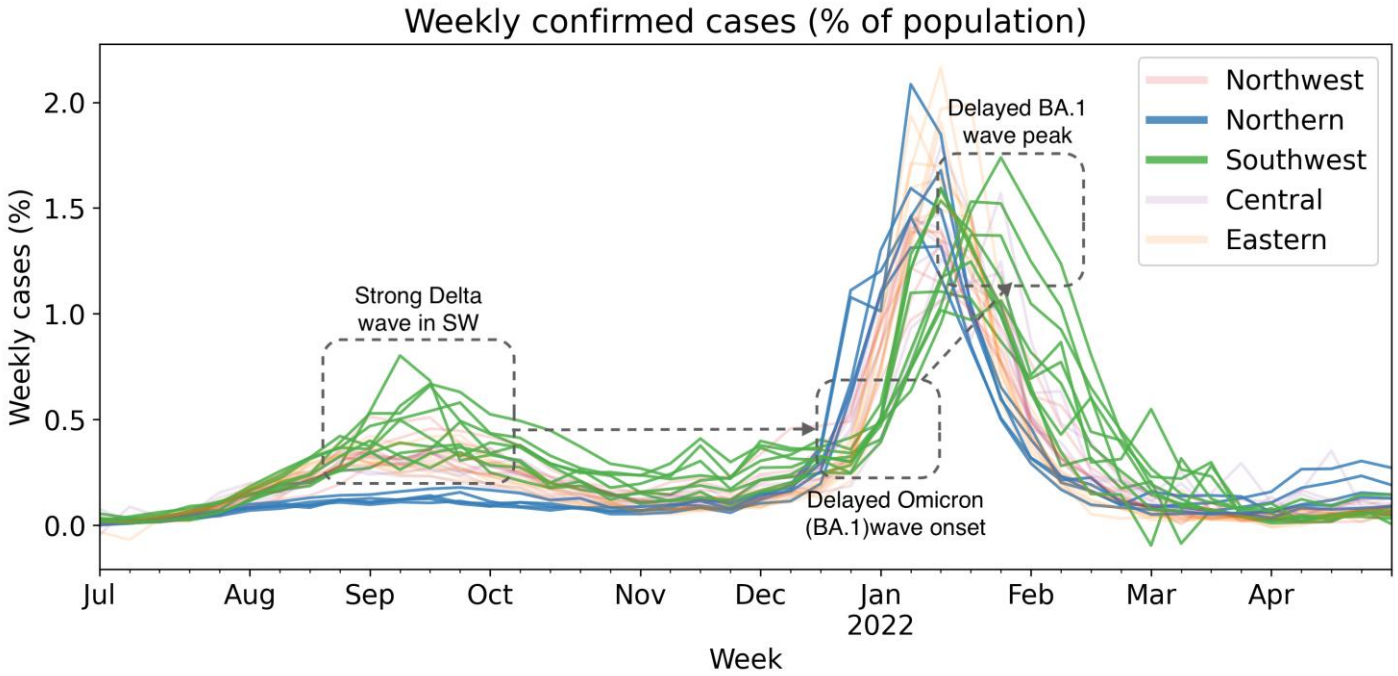
Region and prevalence of each successive VoC



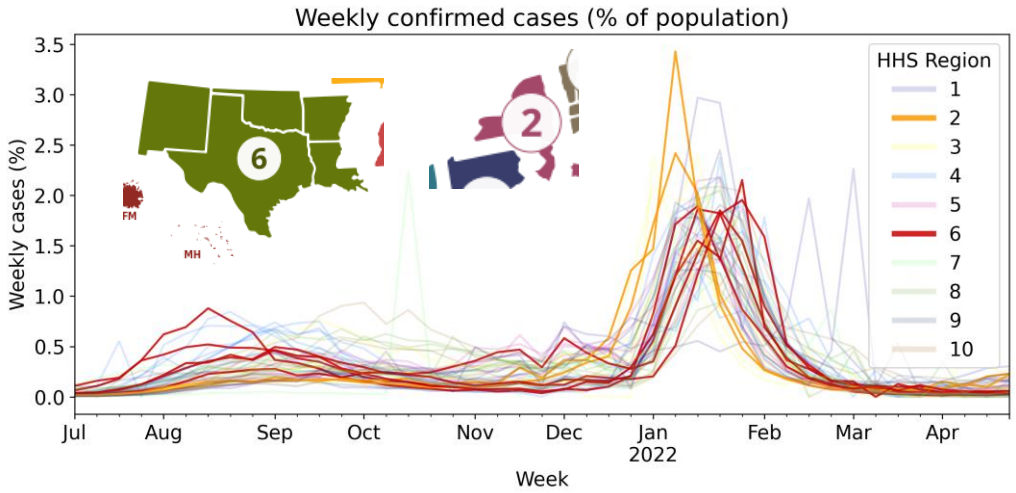
Influence of Previous Waves on Next Wave

Strong Delta wave leads to delayed Omicron BA.1 wave

- At US state level (right), Region 6 (AK, TX, OK, LA, NM) was hit early and hard with Delta, however, Omicron arrived later than in Region 2 (NY, NJ) which had a negligible Delta wave



Proportion of cases since July by state



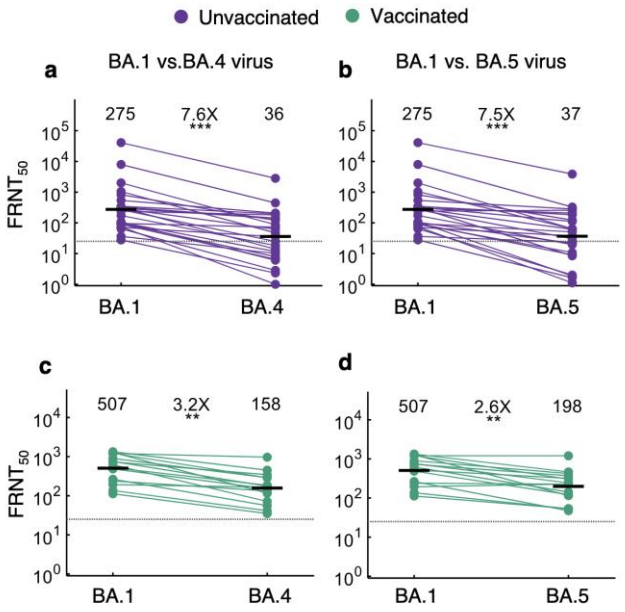
Similar pattern plays out in the regions of VA

- The Southwest had a strong Delta wave and a more delayed Omicron BA.1 wave
- The Northern region had very minimal cases during Delta but experienced an early and strong Omicron BA.1 wave
- Current uptick in Northern regions from BA.2 and BA.2.12.1 may presage a delayed wave in Southwest as well

Pandemic Pubs

1. Observed escape of BA.4 and BA.5 from BA.1 immunity is not as severe as BA.1 against previous immunity but low absolute neutralization levels for BA.4 and BA.5, particularly in the unvaccinated group, indicate low protection against infection
2. BA.4 and BA.5 have weaker ACE2 binding than BA.2 which may result in lower intrinsic transmissibility
3. Estimated US seroprevalence increased from 33.5% to 57.7% from December 2021 to February 2022; higher among children
4. A systematic review of Long-Covid studies show prevalence from 51-80% for mild to severe infections

1



Researchers in SA isolated live BA.4 and BA.5 viruses and tested them against neutralizing immunity elicited to BA.1 infection in participants who were Omicron/BA.1 infected but unvaccinated (n=24) and participants vaccinated with Pfizer BNT162b2 or Johnson and Johnson Ad26.CoV.2S with breakthrough Omicron/BA.1 infection (n=15)
https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.04.29.22274477v1

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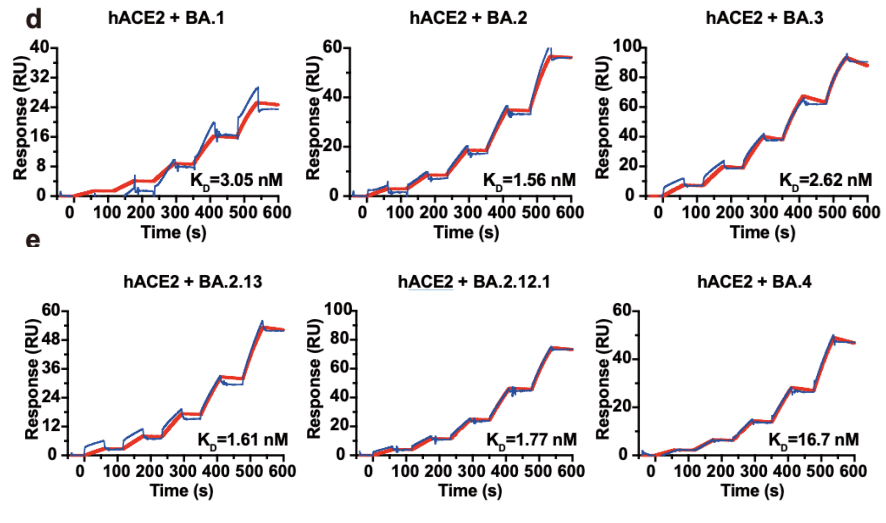
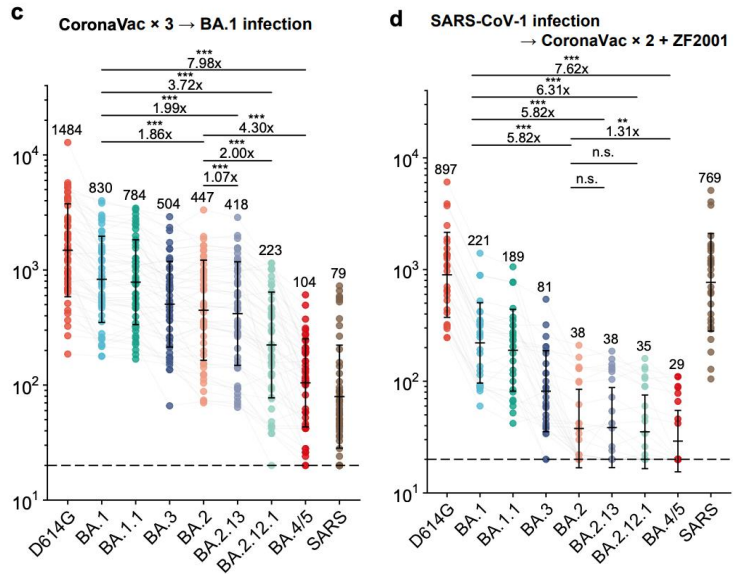
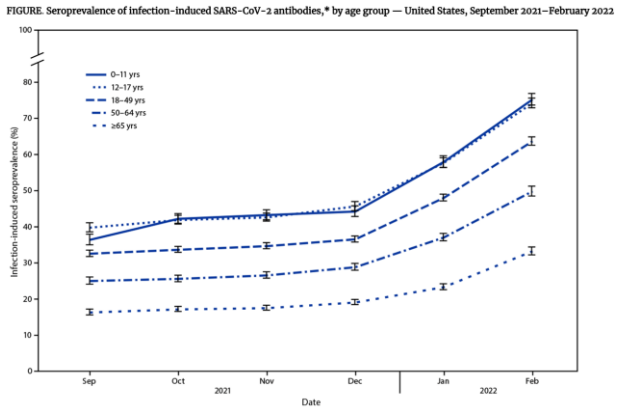




Researchers show variants BA.2.12.1, BA.4 and BA.5 have increased immune evasion relative to BA.2 but some associated mutations result in weaker ACE2 binding which may lead to reduced intrinsic transmissibility.
https://www.researchsquare.com/article/rs-1611421/v1

3



https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7117e3.htm

4

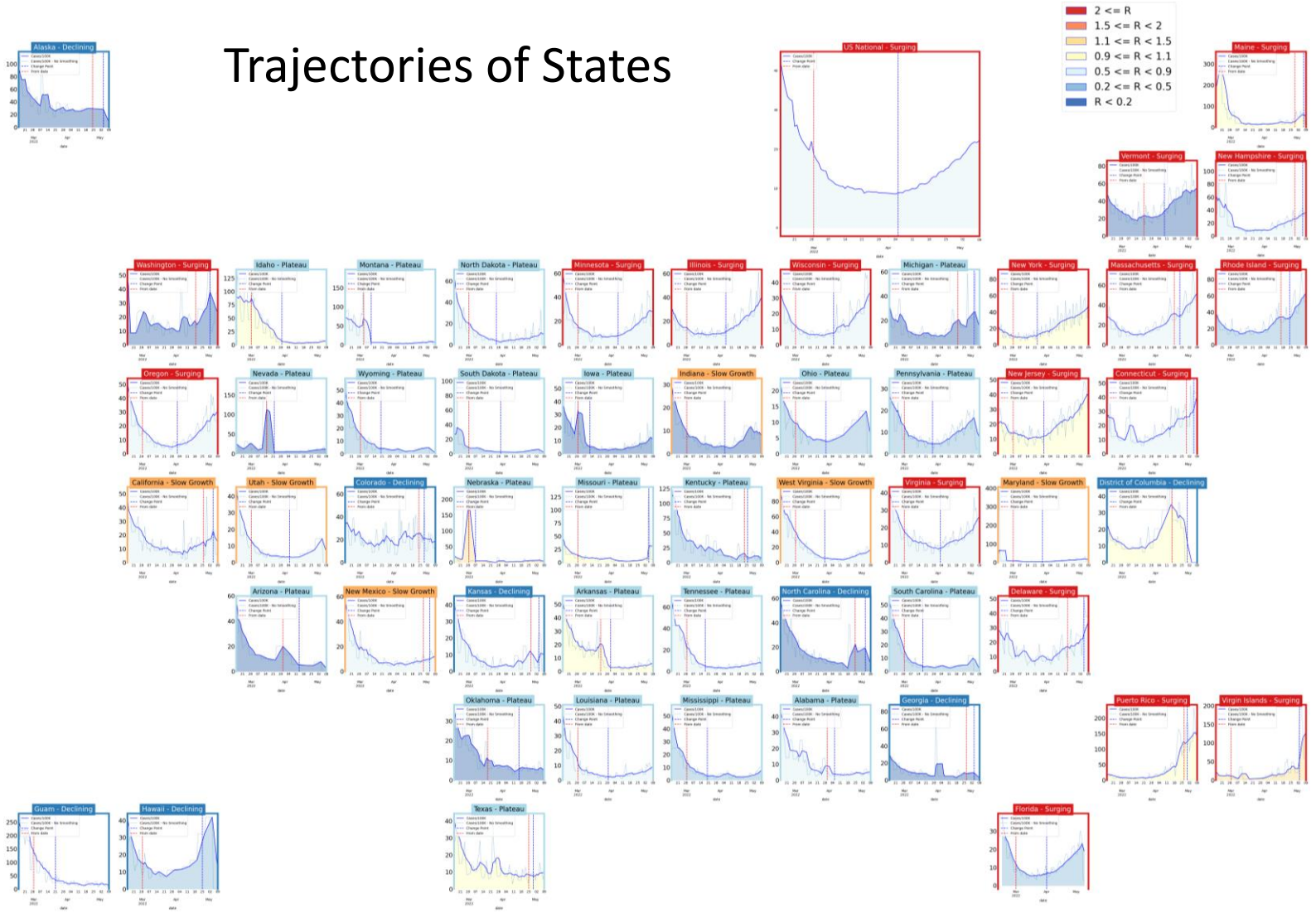
Pooled mean prevalence results for any experience of PACS, extracted from nine systematic reviews, ranged from 51%–80%.
-Evidence indicates PACS is a condition experienced by a substantial number of individuals with previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. Care for patients with PACS will likely place added stresses on health care and social support systems, including increased emergency department visits, outpatient care, inpatient care and rehabilitation involving multidisciplinary teams.

https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/ipac/2022/04/post-acute-covid-syndrome-pacs.pdf?sc_lang=en

United States Case Rates

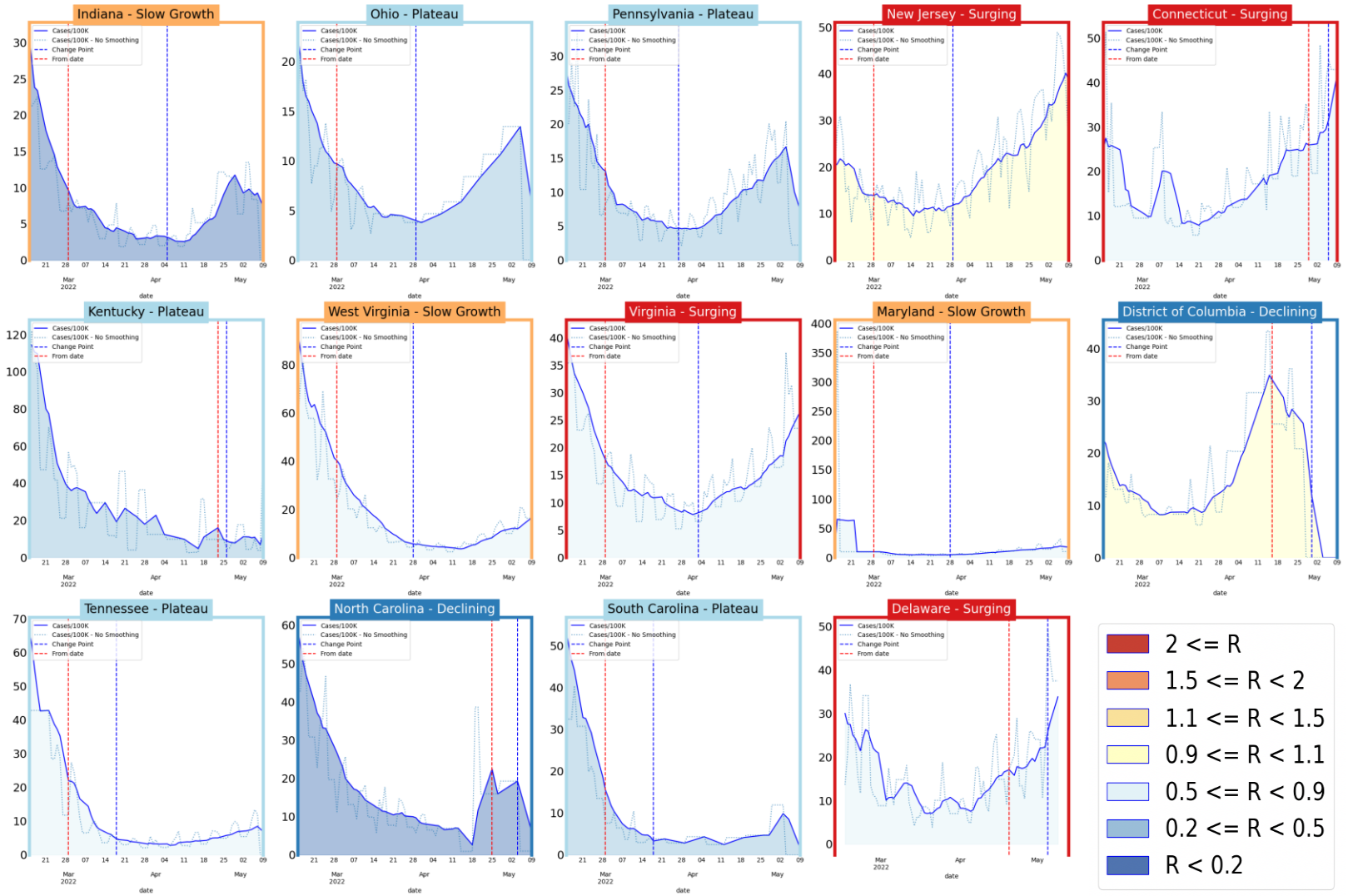
- Rebounding activity, mainly in the Northeast

Status	# States
Declining	8 (14)
Plateau	22 (21)
Slow Growth	6 (9)
In Surge	18 (10)



Virginia and Her Neighbors

- All have dramatically dropped from peaks
- Rates have moderated
- All but Kentucky are below 10/100K



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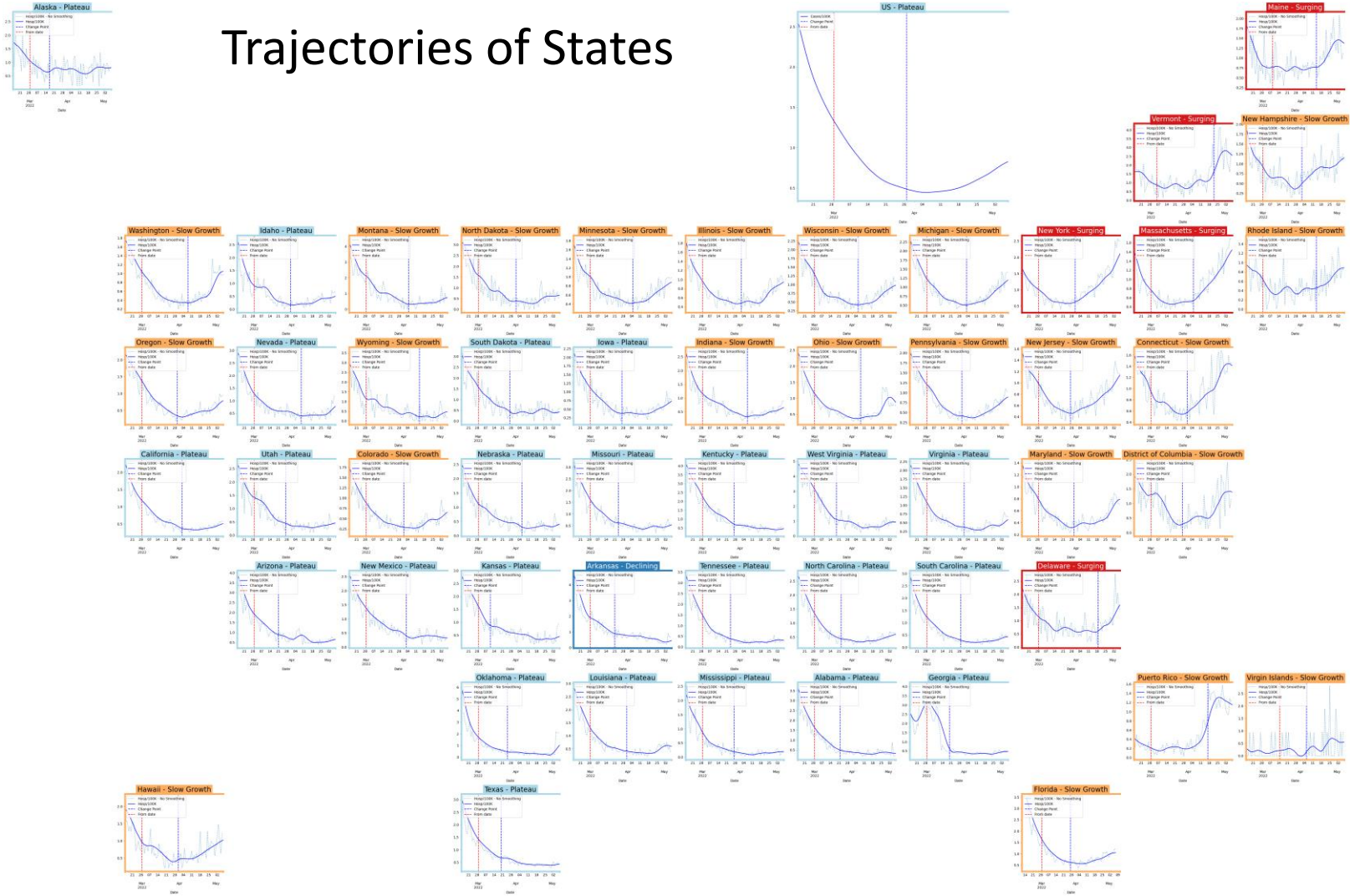
United States Hospitalizations

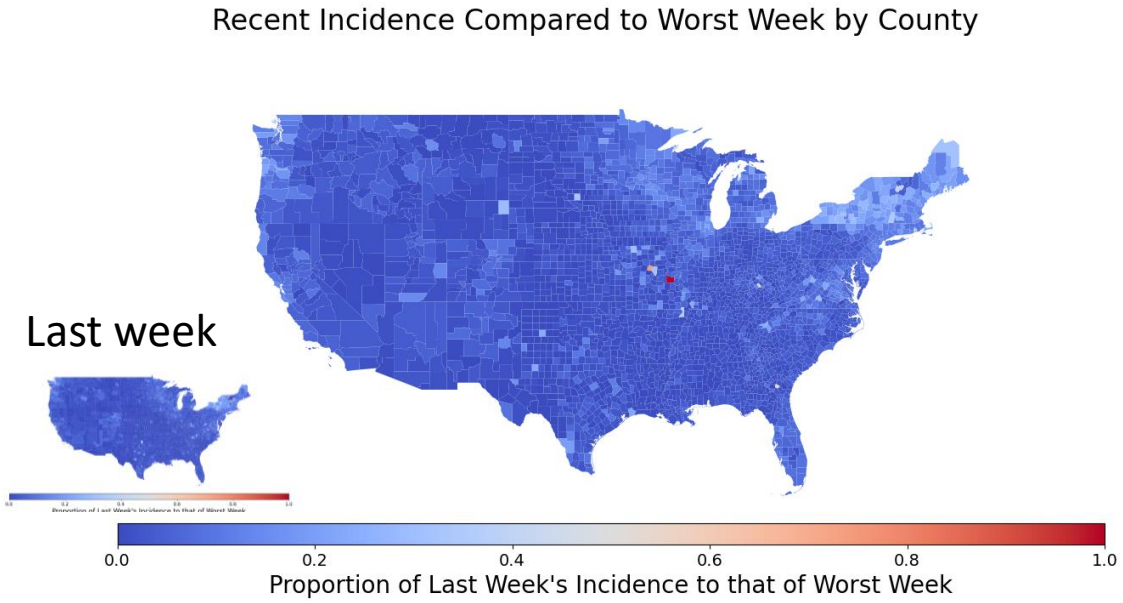
- Hospital admissions are lagging case rates, and have mainly entered plateaus
- Rebounds in the Northeast seen with some rising hospitalization rates

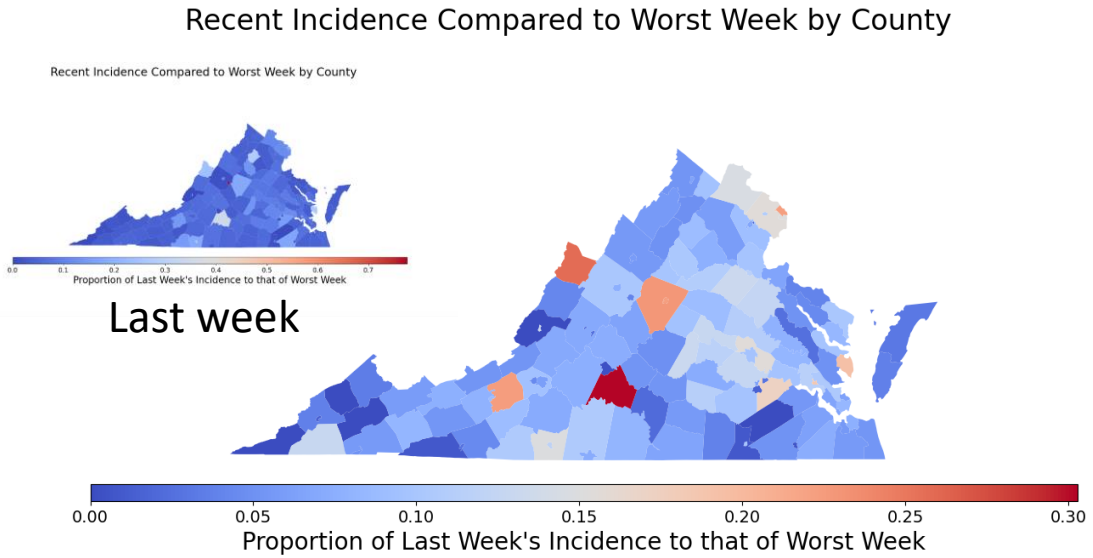
Status	# States
Declining	1 (7)
Plateau	21 (26)
Slow Growth	23 (13)
In Surge	5 (4)

Trajectories of States



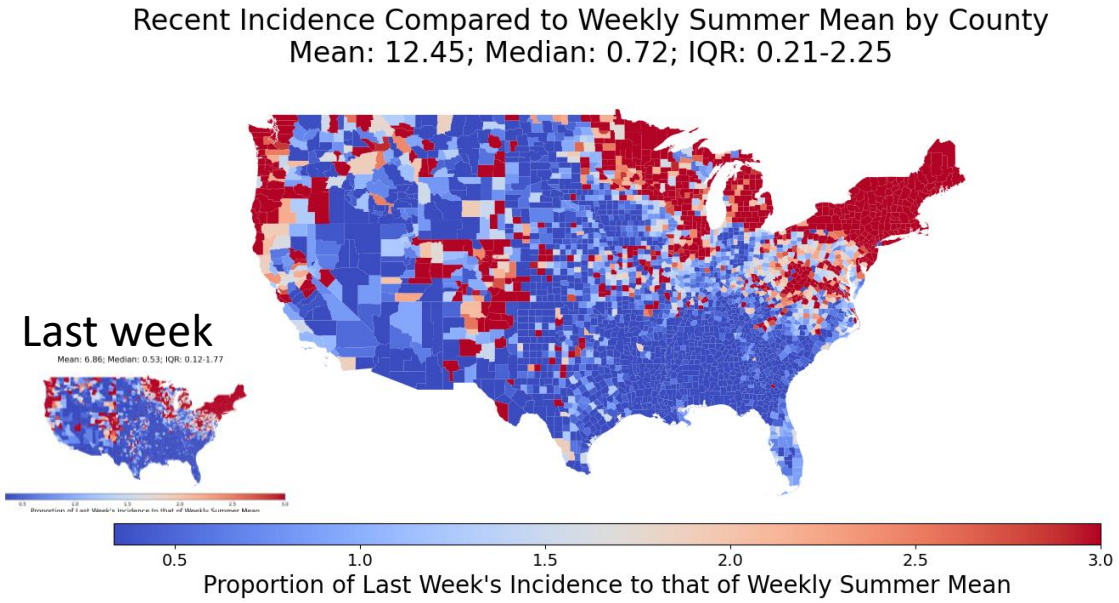
County-level comparison to previous highest peak

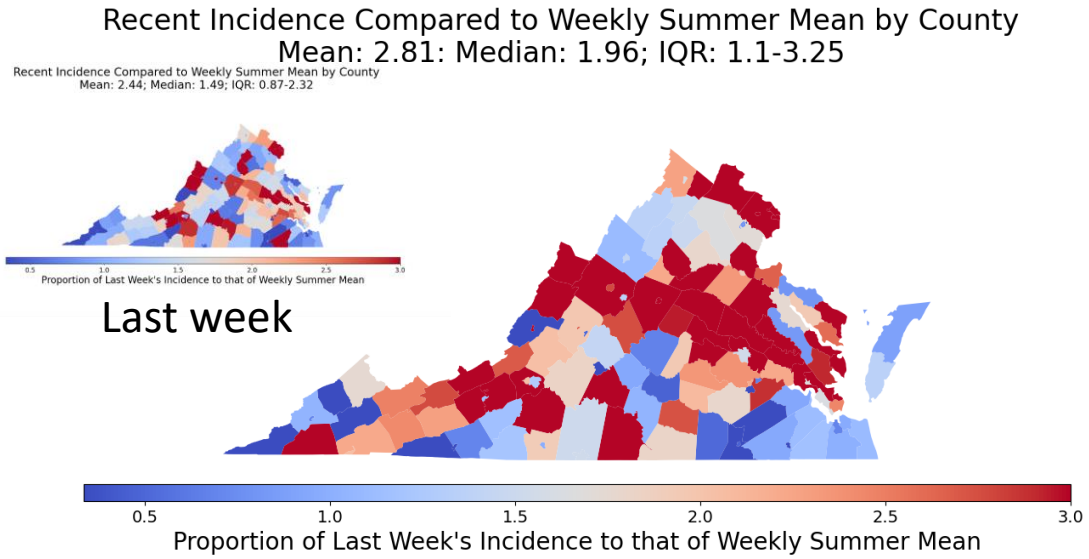




County-level comparison to last Summer

- Most counties in VA have had the highest case rate of the pandemic in the last week
- Nationally the number of counties at their highest rate has expanded considerably





Zip code level weekly Case Rate (per 100K)

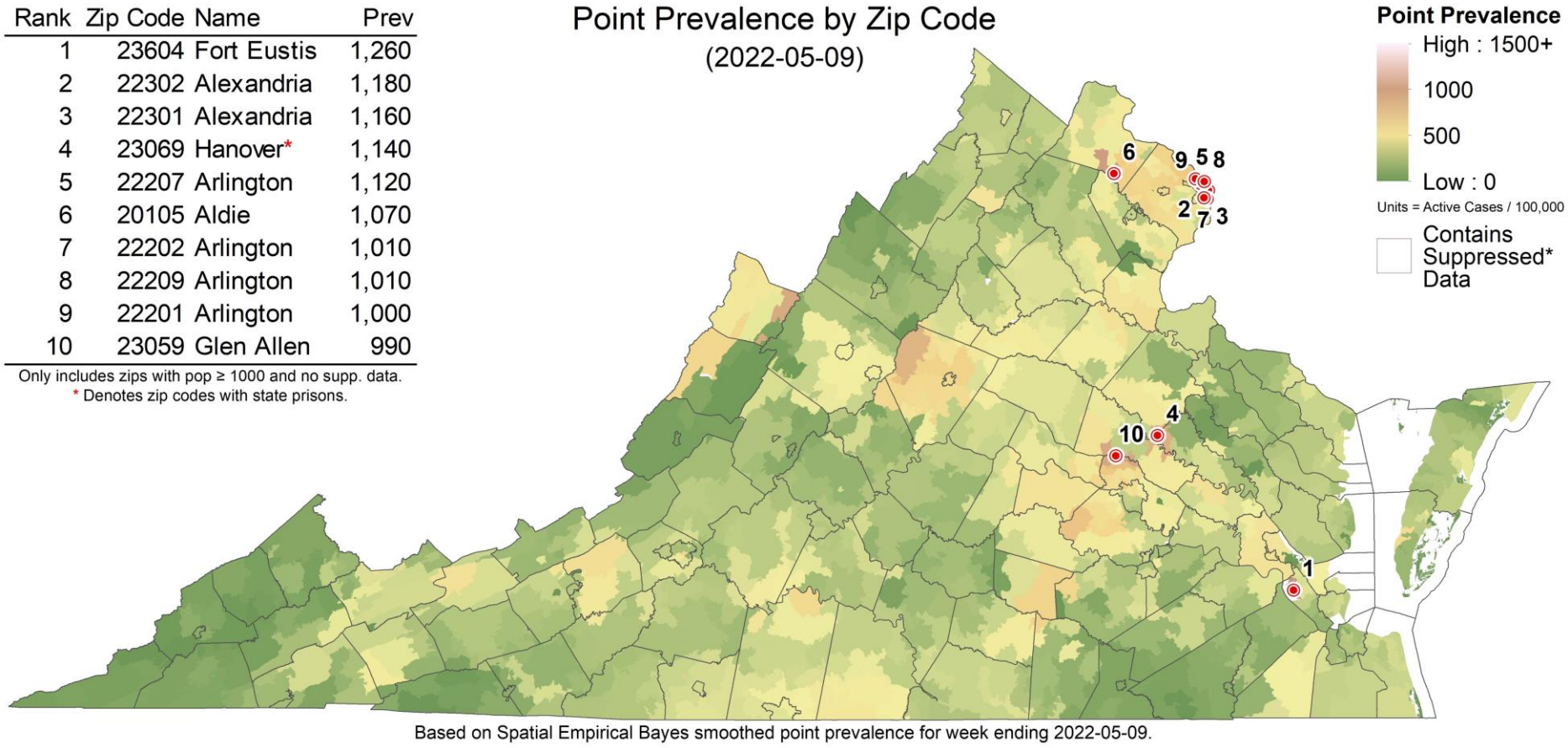
Case Rates in the last week by zip code

- Some counts are low and suppressed to protect anonymity, those are shown in white

Rank	Zip Code	Name	Prev
1	23604	Fort Eustis	1,260
2	22302	Alexandria	1,180
3	22301	Alexandria	1,160
4	23069	Hanover*	1,140
5	22207	Arlington	1,120
6	20105	Aldie	1,070
7	22202	Arlington	1,010
8	22209	Arlington	1,010
9	22201	Arlington	1,000
10	23059	Glen Allen	990

Only includes zips with pop ≥ 1000 and no supp. data.
* Denotes zip codes with state prisons.

Color gradient adjusted lower



Based on Spatial Empirical Bayes smoothed point prevalence for week ending 2022-05-09.

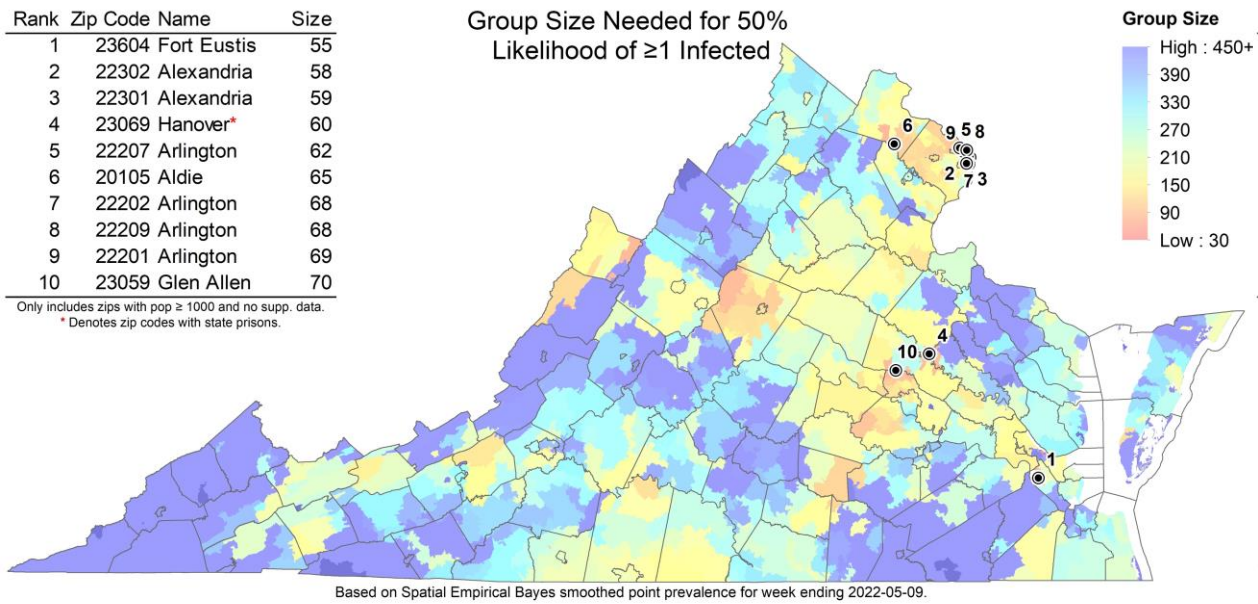
Risk of Exposure by Group Size and HCW prevalence

Case Prevalence in the last week by zip code used to calculate risk of encountering someone infected in a gathering of randomly selected people (group size 25)

- **Group Size**: Assumes 2 undetected infections per confirmed case (ascertainment rate from recent seroprevalence survey), and shows minimum size of a group with a 50% chance an individual is infected by zip code (eg in a group of 55 in Fort Eustis, there is a 50% chance someone will be infected)
- **HCW ratio**: Case rate among health care workers (HCW) in the last week using patient facing health care workers as the denominator / general population's case prevalence

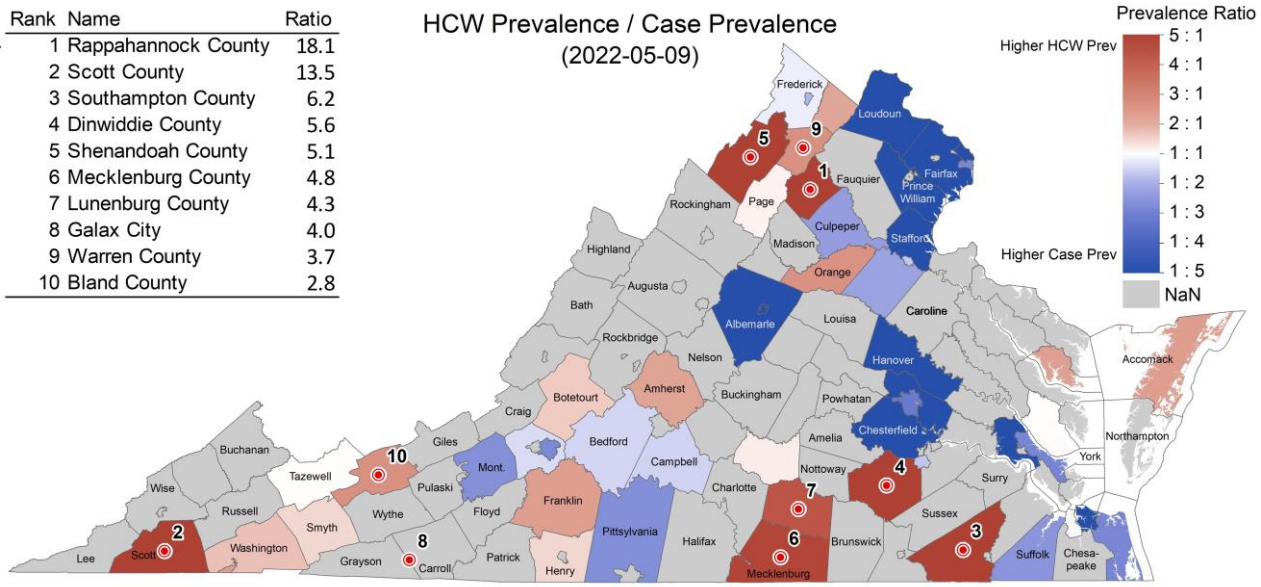
Rank	Zip Code	Name	Size
1	23604	Fort Eustis	55
2	22302	Alexandria	58
3	22301	Alexandria	59
4	23069	Hanover*	60
5	22207	Arlington	62
6	20105	Aldie	65
7	22202	Arlington	68
8	22209	Arlington	68
9	22201	Arlington	69
10	23059	Glen Allen	70

Only includes zips with pop ≥ 1000 and no supp. data.
* Denotes zip codes with state prisons.



Based on Spatial Empirical Bayes smoothed point prevalence for week ending 2022-05-09.

Rank	Name	Ratio
1	Rappahannock County	18.1
2	Scott County	13.5
3	Southampton County	6.2
4	Dinwiddie County	5.6
5	Shenandoah County	5.1
6	Mecklenburg County	4.8
7	Lunenburg County	4.3
8	Galax City	4.0
9	Warren County	3.7
10	Bland County	2.8



Current Hot-Spots

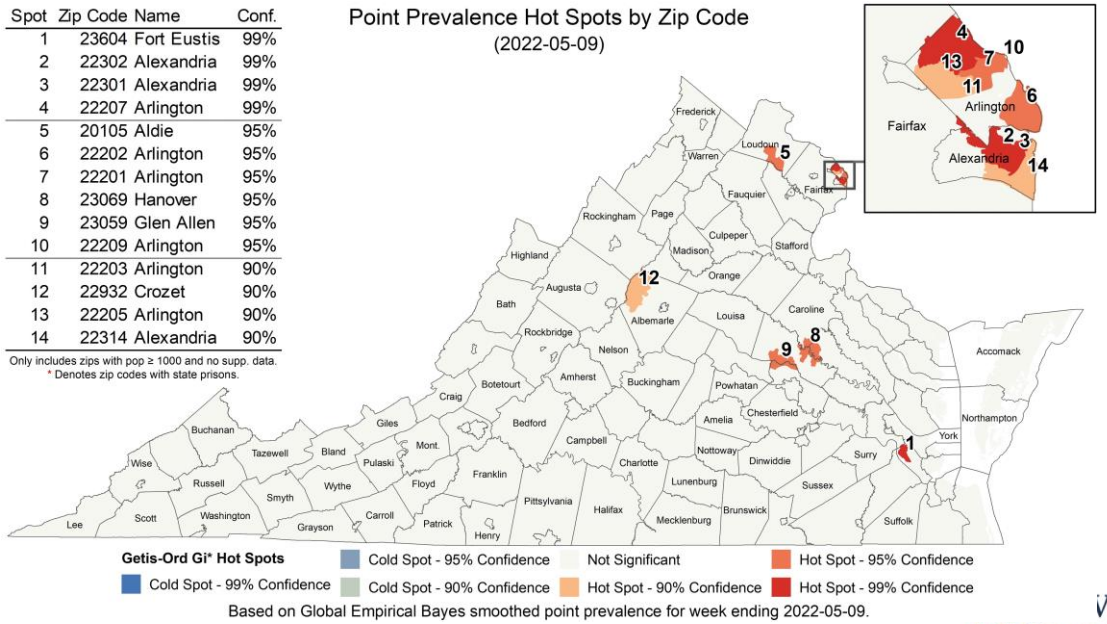
Case rates that are significantly different from neighboring areas or model projections

- **Spatial**: Getis-Ord Gi* based hot spots compare clusters of zip codes with weekly case prevalence higher than nearby zip codes to identify larger areas with statistically significant deviations
- **Temporal**: The weekly case rate (per 100K) projected last week compared to observed by county, which highlights temporal fluctuations that differ from the model's projections

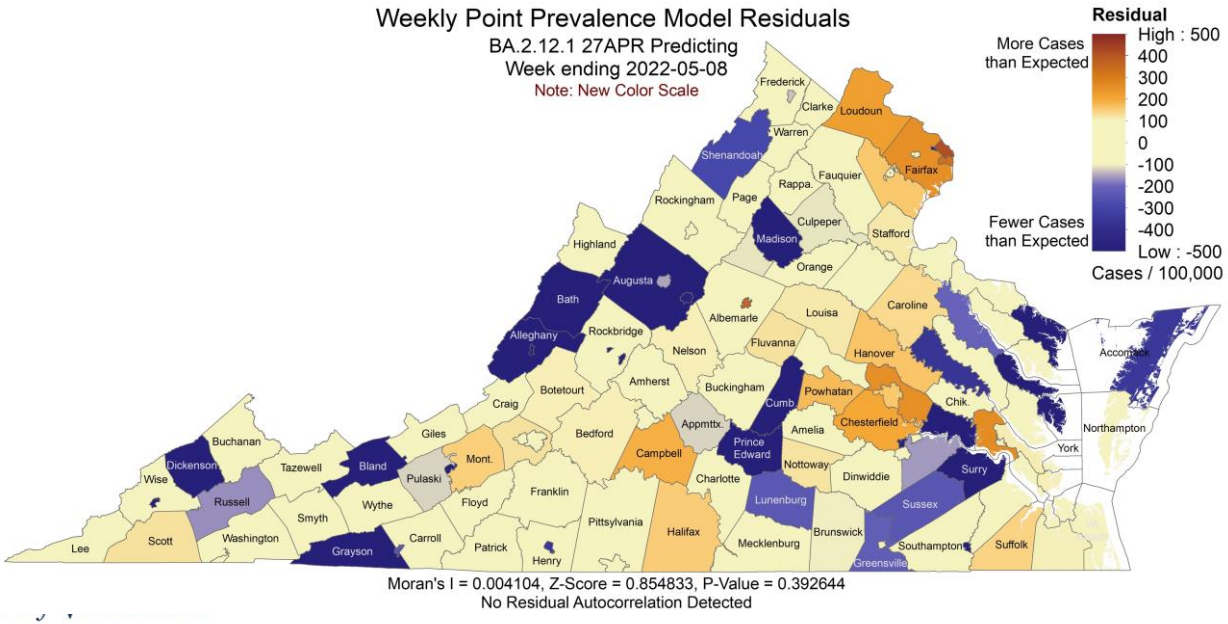
Spatial Hotspots

Spot	Zip Code	Name	Conf.
1	23604	Fort Eustis	99%
2	22302	Alexandria	99%
3	22301	Alexandria	99%
4	22207	Arlington	99%
5	20105	Aldie	95%
6	22202	Arlington	95%
7	22201	Arlington	95%
8	23069	Hanover	95%
9	23059	Glen Allen	95%
10	22209	Arlington	95%
11	22203	Arlington	90%
12	22932	Crozet	90%
13	22205	Arlington	90%
14	22314	Alexandria	90%

Only includes zips with pop ≥ 1000 and no supp. data.
* Denotes zip codes with state prisons.



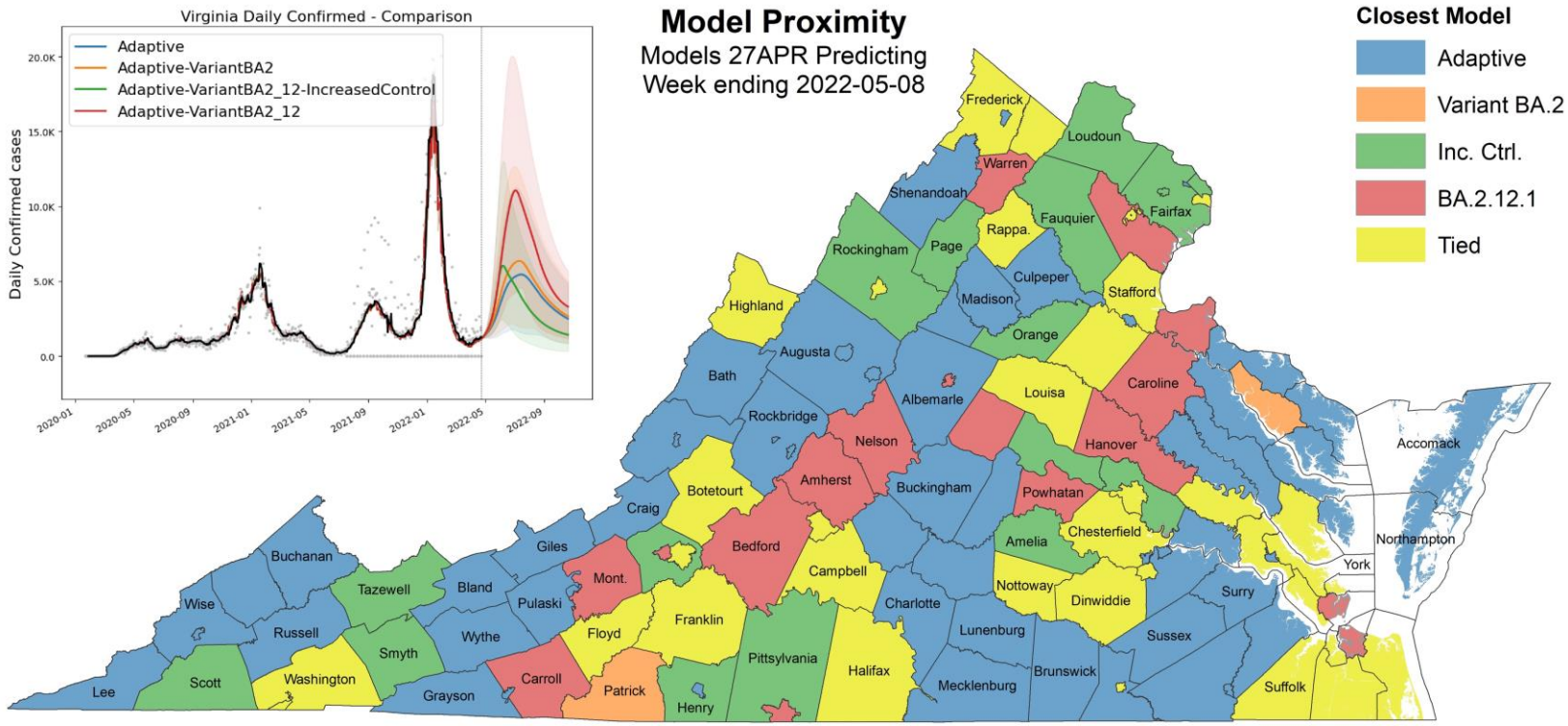
Clustered Temporal Hotspots (from BA.2.12.1)



Scenario Trajectory Tracking

Which scenario from last projection did each county track closest?

- Minimal difference between projections overall
- State level trend tracking BA.2.12.1 scenarios (red and green), but not all, likely due to variation in prevalence across the state

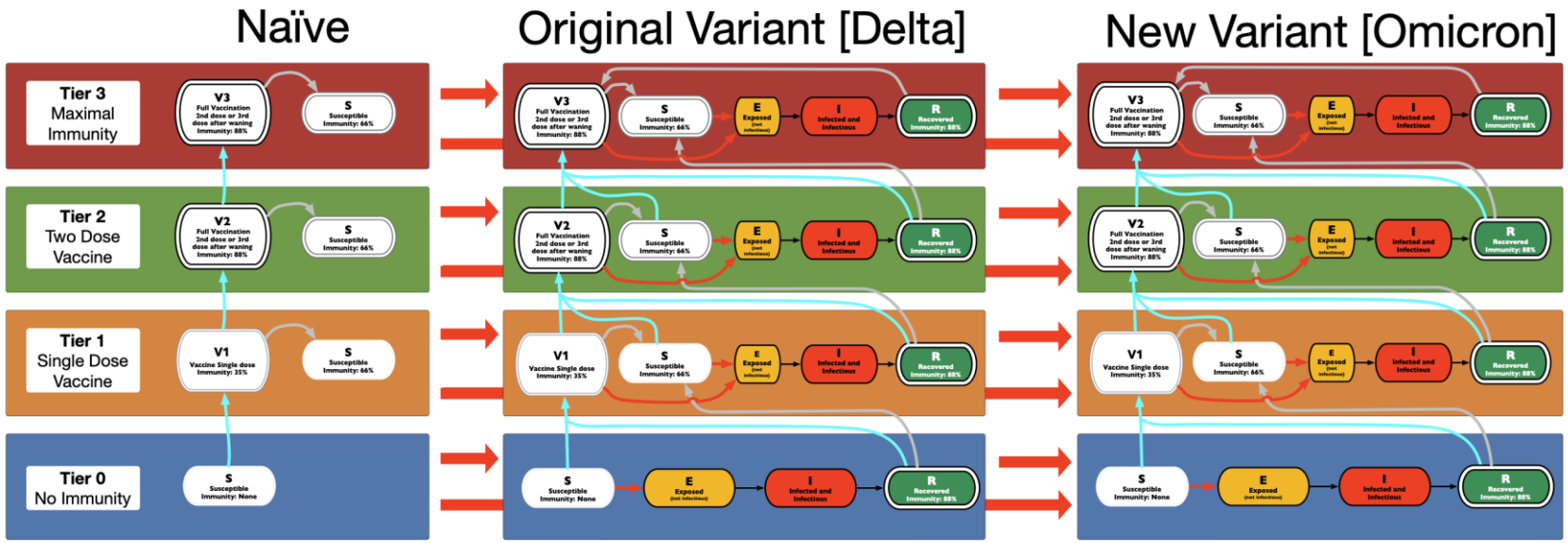


Model Update – Adaptive Fitting

Model Structure Extended for Multiple Strains

Omicron escapes immunity from vaccinated and those infected with Delta

- Multiple strain support allows representation of differential protection based on immunological history
- Severity of outcomes varies by strain and level of immunity, thus allowing model to better capture hospitalizations and deaths from Omicron
- Adaptive fitting approach continues to use simulation to generate the full distribution of immune states across the population



Adaptive Fitting Approach

Each county fit precisely, with recent trends used for future projection

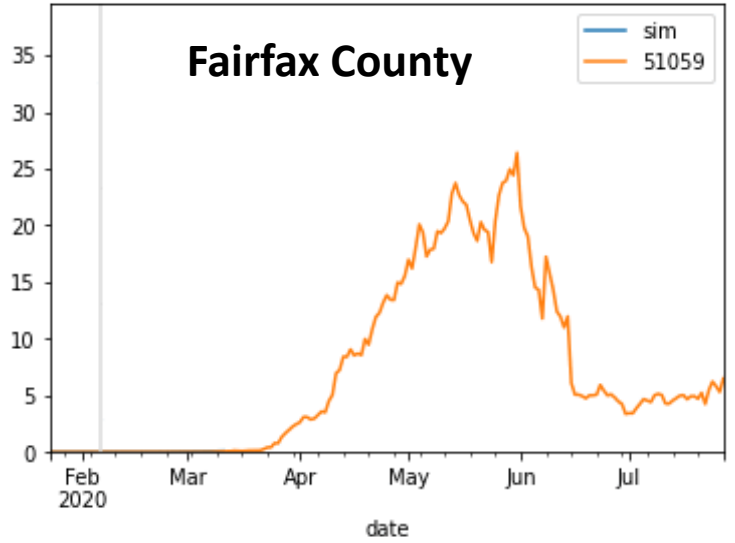
- Allows history to be precisely captured, and used to guide bounds on projections

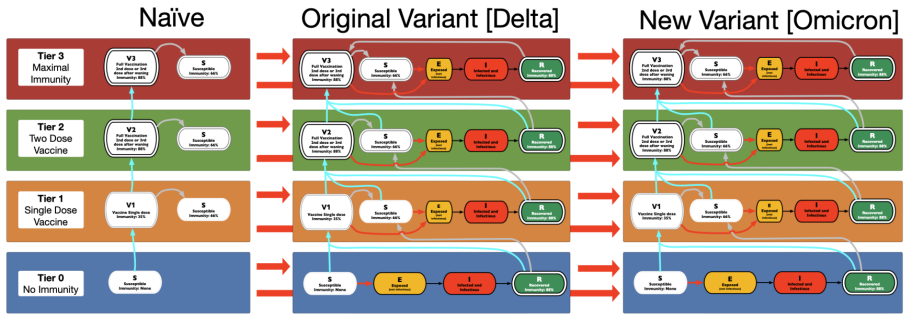
Model: An alternative use of the same meta-population model, PatchSim with multiple tiers of immunity

- Allows for future "what-if" Scenarios to be layered on top of calibrated model
- Allows for waning of immunity and for partial immunity against different outcomes (eg lower protection for infection than death)

External Seeding: Steady low-level importation

- Widespread pandemic eliminates sensitivity to initial conditions, we use steady 1 case per 10M population per day external seeding





Using Ensemble Model to Guide Projections

Ensemble methodology that combines the Adaptive with machine learning and statistical models such as:

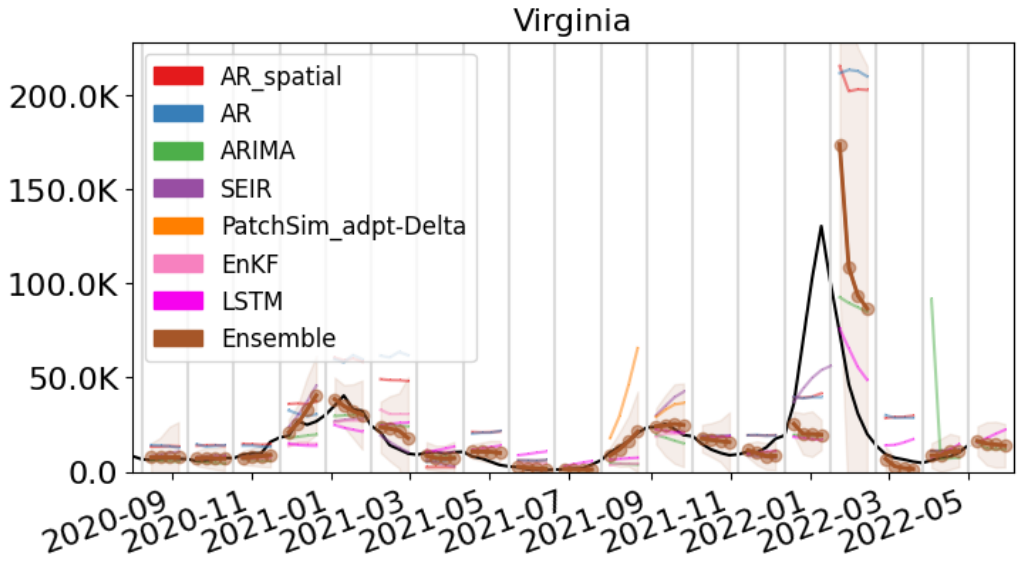
- Autoregressive (AR, ARIMA)
- Neural networks (LSTM)
- Kalman filtering (EnKF)

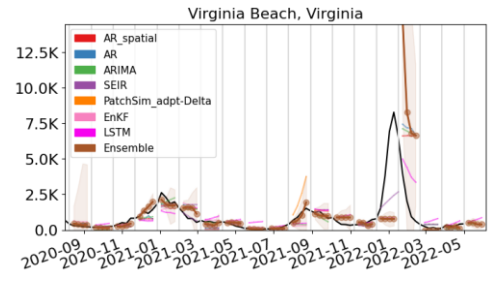
<u>Weekly forecasts</u> done at county level.

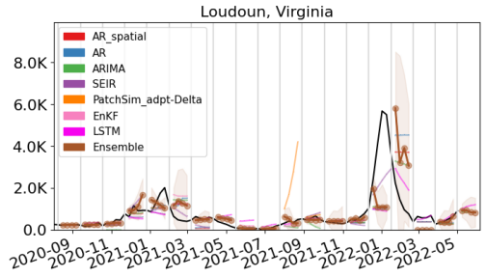
Models chosen because of their track record in disease forecasting and to increase diversity and robustness.

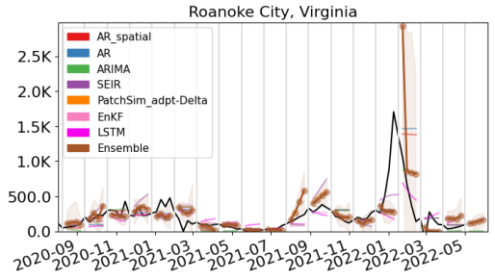
Ensemble forecast provides additional ‘surveillance’ for making scenario-based projections.

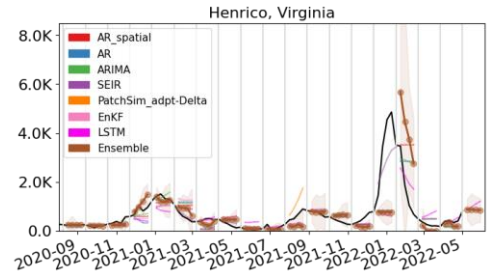
Also submitted to CDC Forecast Hub.











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Seroprevalence updates to model design

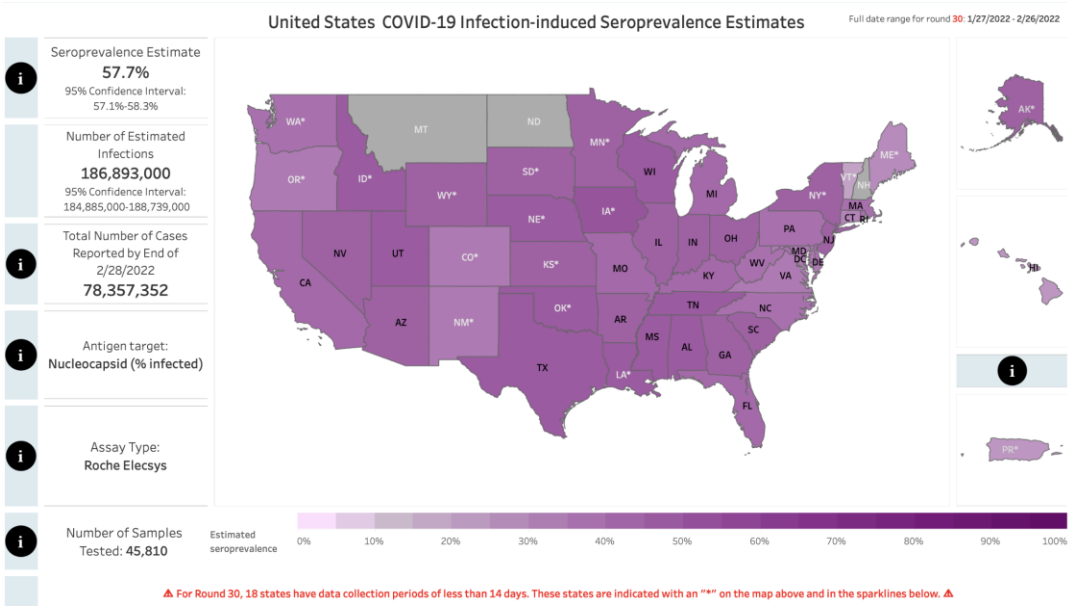
Several seroprevalence studies provide better picture of how many actual infections have occurred

- CDC Nationwide Commercial Laboratory Seroprevalence Survey

Pre-Omicron these findings were consistent with an ascertainment ratio of ~2-3x

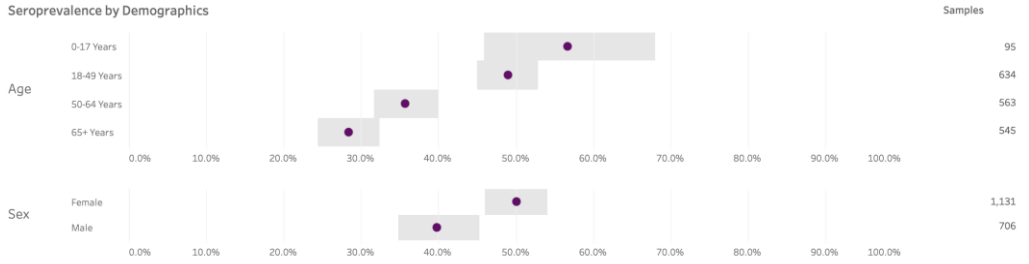
- Thus there were 2.5 total infections in the population for every confirmed case recently
- **Case ascertainment for Omicron infections are half of that for pre-Omicron, thus for every case there are ~5 total infections**
- During the peak of Omicron, the degradation of test seeking and capacity were modeled to have fallen by 3x with a rebound to pre-Omicron levels by mid-Feb

New Data released late on April 26th not yet incorporated in model



Virginia

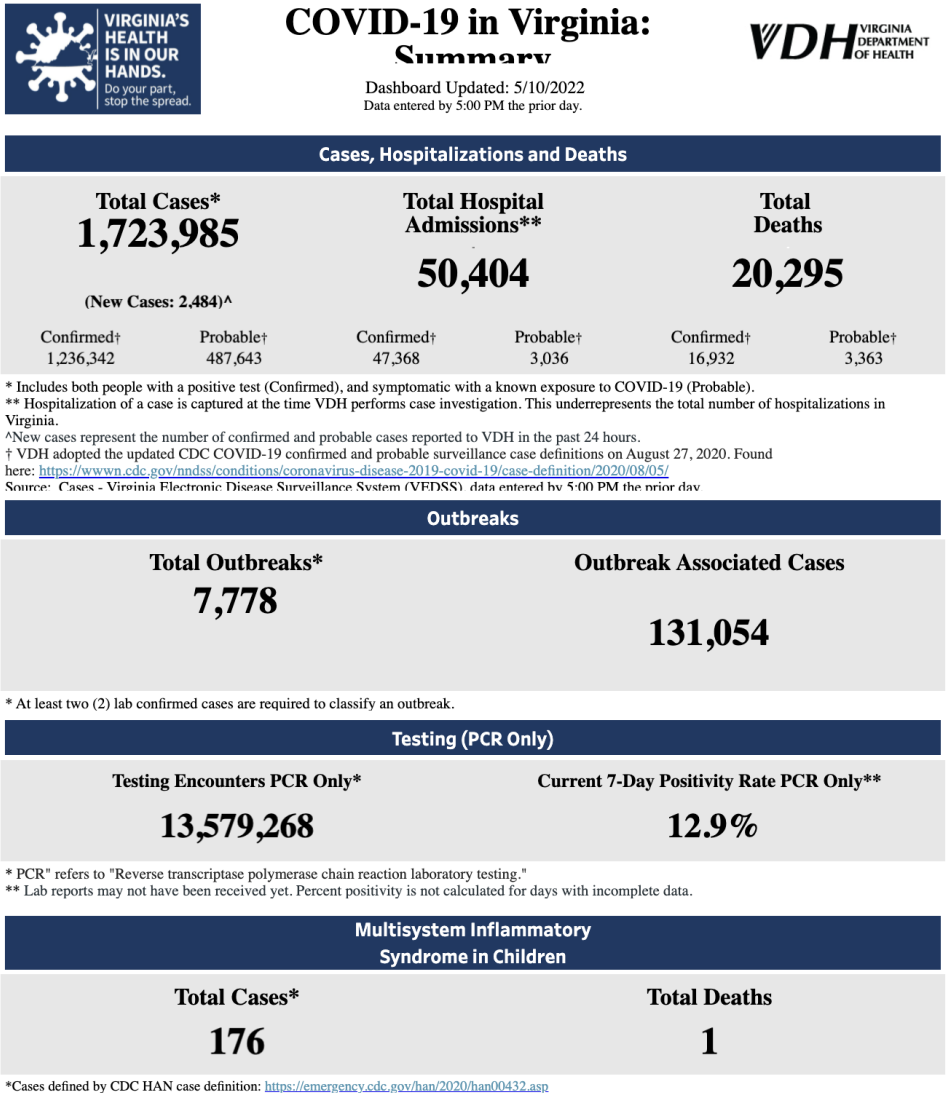
Feb 22nd: 45% [42% - 48%]; Jan 22nd: 34% [31%-39%]



https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#national-lab

Calibration Approach

- **Data:**
  - County level case counts by date of onset (from VDH)
  - Confirmed cases for model fitting
- **Calibration:** fit model to observed data and ensemble's forecast
  - Tune transmissibility across ranges of:
    - Duration of incubation (5-9 days), infectiousness (3-7 days)
    - Undocumented case rate (1x to 7x) guided by seroprevalence studies
    - Detection delay: exposure to confirmation (4-12 days)
  - Approach captures uncertainty, but allows model to precisely track the full trajectory of the outbreak
- **Project:** future cases and outcomes generated using the collection of fit models run into the future
  - **Mean trend from last 7 days of observed cases and first week of ensemble's forecast used**
  - Outliers removed based on variances in the previous 3 weeks
  - 2 week interpolation to smooth transitions in rapidly changing trajectories
- **Outcomes**: Data driven by shift and ratio that has least error in last month of observations
  - Hospitalizations: 3 days from confirmation, 6.8% of cases hospitalized
  - Deaths: 11 days from confirmation, 1.45% of cases die



VIRGINIA'S HEALTH IS IN OUR HANDS. Do your part, stop the spread.

COVID-19 in Virginia: Summary

Dashboard Updated: 5/10/2022
Data entered by 5:00 PM the prior day.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths

Total Cases*	Total Hospital Admissions**	Total Deaths
1,723,985	50,404	20,295
(New Cases: 2,484)^		

Confirmed†	Probable†	Confirmed†	Probable†	Confirmed†	Probable†
1,236,342	487,643	47,368	3,036	16,932	3,363

* Includes both people with a positive test (Confirmed), and symptomatic with a known exposure to COVID-19 (Probable).
** Hospitalization of a case is captured at the time VDH performs case investigation. This underrepresents the total number of hospitalizations in Virginia.
^New cases represent the number of confirmed and probable cases reported to VDH in the past 24 hours.
† VDH adopted the updated CDC COVID-19 confirmed and probable surveillance case definitions on August 27, 2020. Found here: https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/conditions/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/case-definition/2020/08/05/
Source: Cases - Virginia Electronic Disease Surveillance System (VEDSS), data entered by 5:00 PM the prior day

Outbreaks

Total Outbreaks*	Outbreak Associated Cases
7,778	131,054

* At least two (2) lab confirmed cases are required to classify an outbreak.

Testing (PCR Only)

Testing Encounters PCR Only*	Current 7-Day Positivity Rate PCR Only**
13,579,268	12.9%

* PCR" refers to "Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction laboratory testing."
** Lab reports may not have been received yet. Percent positivity is not calculated for days with incomplete data.

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children

Total Cases*	Total Deaths
176	1

*Cases defined by CDC HAN case definition: https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00432.asp

Accessed 8:15am May 11, 2022
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/

Scenarios – Transmission Conditions

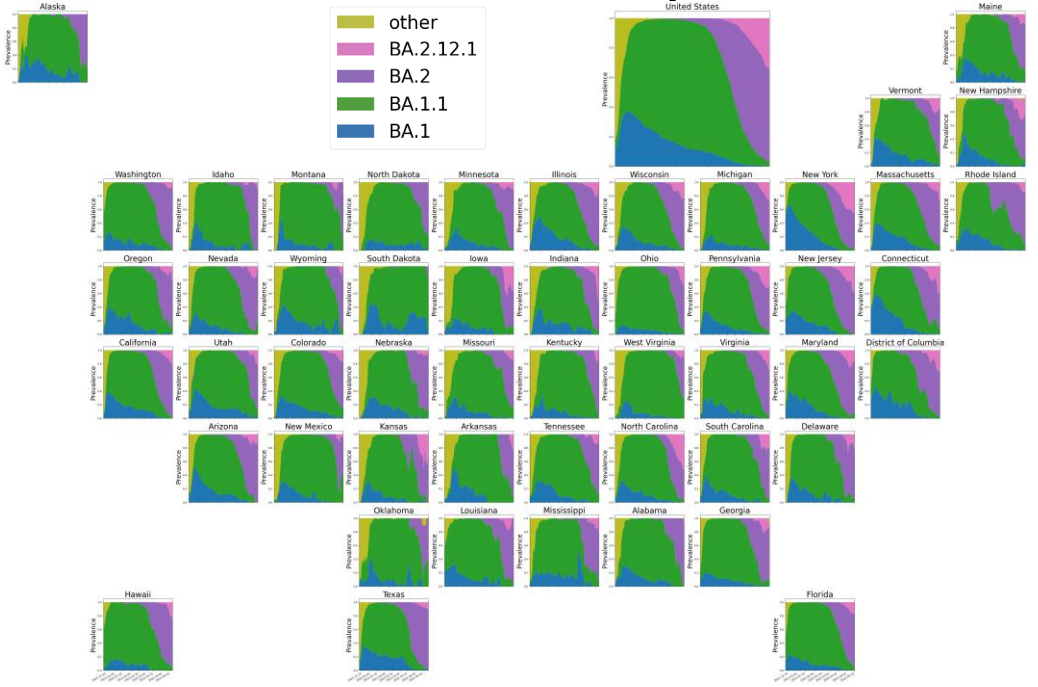
- Variety of factors continue to drive transmission rates
  - Seasonal impact of weather patterns, travel and gatherings, fatigue and premature relaxation of infection control practices
- **Waning Immunity**: Mean of 6 months to a year protection (rate of 0.0027) similar to Pfizer study, Omicron waning with a mean of 4 months
- **Projection Scenarios**:
  - **Adaptive:** Control remains as is currently experienced into the future with assumption that Omicron remains as the majority strain, and that infection with Omicron provides protection against Omicron infection in the future
  - **Adaptive-VariantBA2_12:** Same as Adaptive, but with BA.2.12.1 subvariant continuing predominance and having a 30% transmission advantage over existing Omicron (mainly the overall BA.2 subvariant)
  - **Adaptive-VariantBA2_12-IncreasedControl**: Same as Adaptive-VariantBA2_12, but with a 25% reduction in transmission to increased mitigations starting in 30 days and phasing into full effect over 2 weeks

Scenarios – Omicron BA.2.12 Description

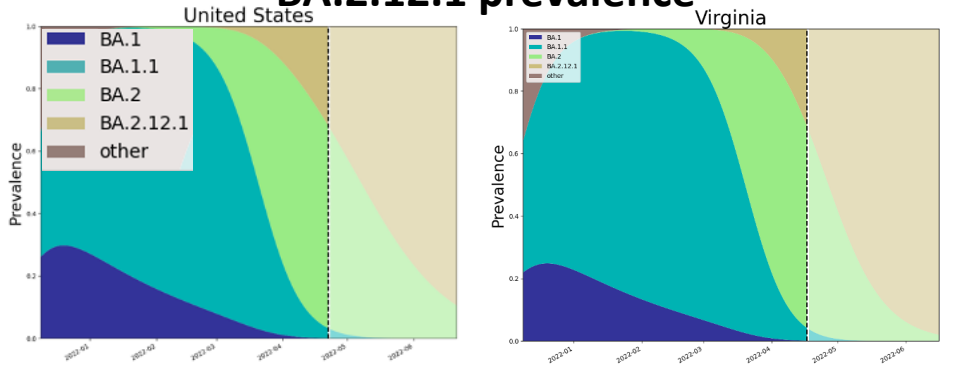
BA.2.12.1 shows signs of increased transmissibility via increasing prevalence in the US, especially the Northeast

- **Transmissibility**: Not as well observed as previous VoCs as mainly in US and worldwide genotyping efforts have slowed
- **Using a 30% boost to transmissibility**
- **Prevalence**: Growth rate compared to BA.2 seems to be similar as to BA.2's vs. BA.1 (and BA.1.1), thus assuming similar prevalence curve (30% growth advantage, doubling ~every 8 days)
- **Conservatively estimating prevalence to hit 50% on June 1st with ~95% 4 weeks later**
- **Severity:** Assumed to be same as for other Omicron subvariants

Observed BA.2.12.1 prevalence



Coarse Polynomial fitted estimates of BA.2.12.1 prevalence



Projection Scenarios – Combined Conditions

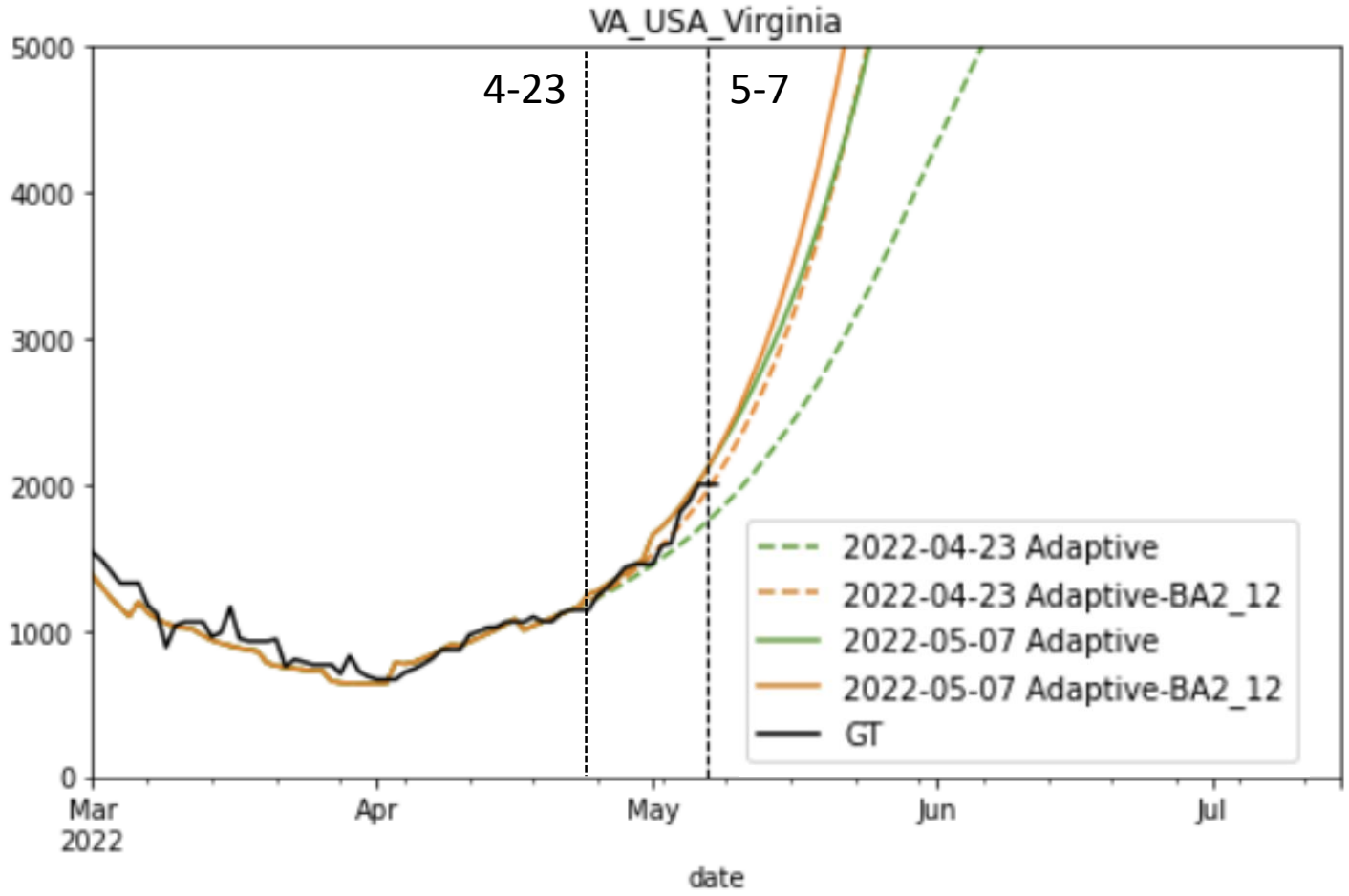
Name	Txm Controls	Vax	Description
Adaptive	C	SQ	Likely trajectory based on conditions remaining similar to the current experience, includes immune escape due to Omicron
Adaptive-VariantBA2	C	SQ	Transmission rates for BA.2 infections are 30% more infectious, BA.2 prevalence reached 50% on April 1st and rises to over 95% by mid-May
Adaptive-VariantBA2_12	C	SQ	Transmission rates for BA.2.12.1 infections are and additional 30% higher, with BA.2.12.1 prevalence reaching 50% on June 1st and rising to ~95% 4 weeks after
Adaptive-VariantBA2_12-IncreasedControl	Increased	SQ	Same as Adaptive-VariantBA2_12 with increased mitigations reducing transmission by 25% starting June 1st

Transmission Controls:
C = Current levels persist into the future
Increased = Transmission rates are reduced by 25% over 2 weeks starting May 1st
Spring = Transmission rates from mid-Jan 2021 through mid-March 2021 are coarsely replayed, representing a 60% reduction in transmission rate drivers, with Omicron remaining dominant

Vaccinations:
SQ = Status quo acceptance leads to low rates of vaccination through the summer
VO = Vaccination acceptance optimistically expands with increased rates through the summer

Last projection comparison – two weeks ago

- Growth to present still tracking April 23rd BA.2.12.1 scenario (orange dashed)
- Solid lines are current projections, dashed lines are from 2 weeks ago
- Current projections not significantly different from previous projection



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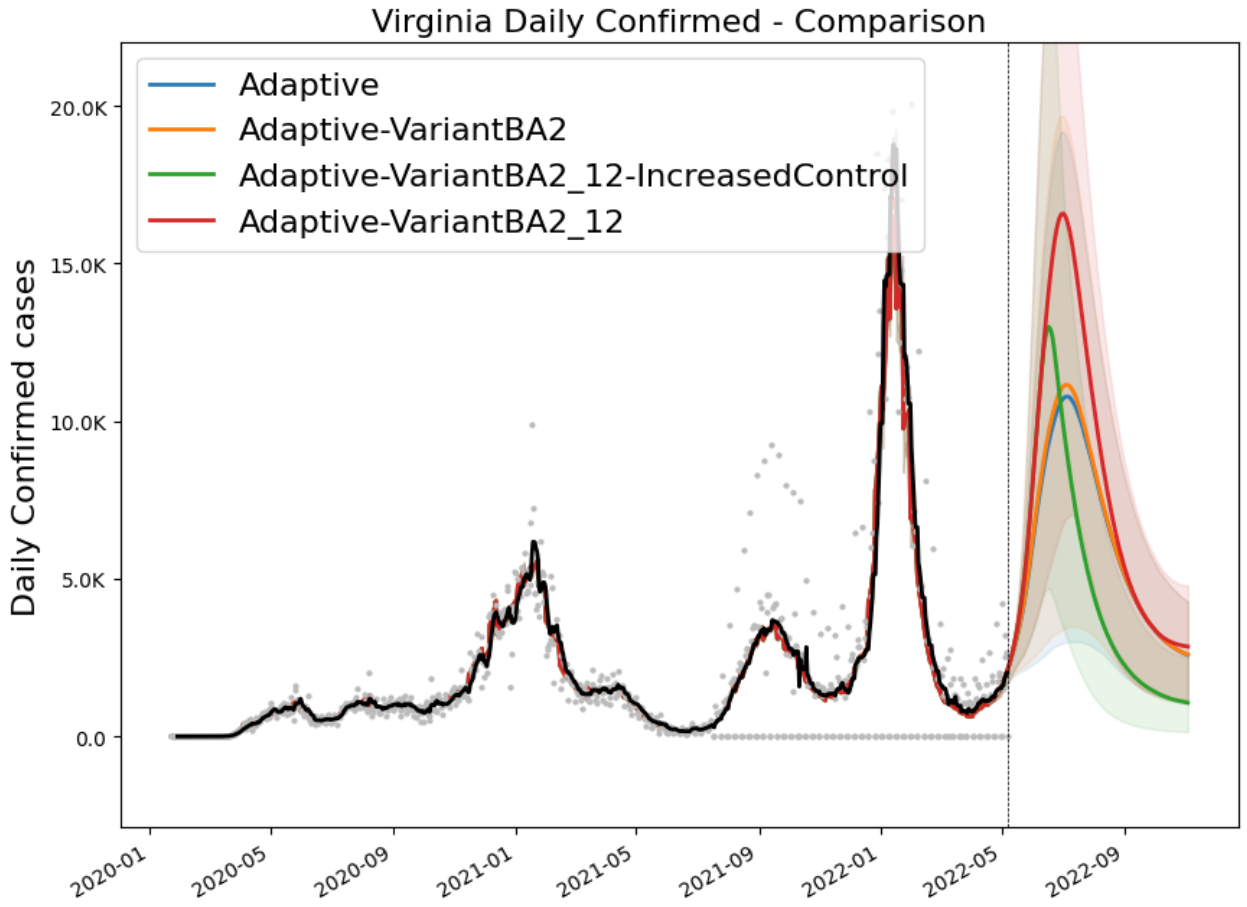
Model Results

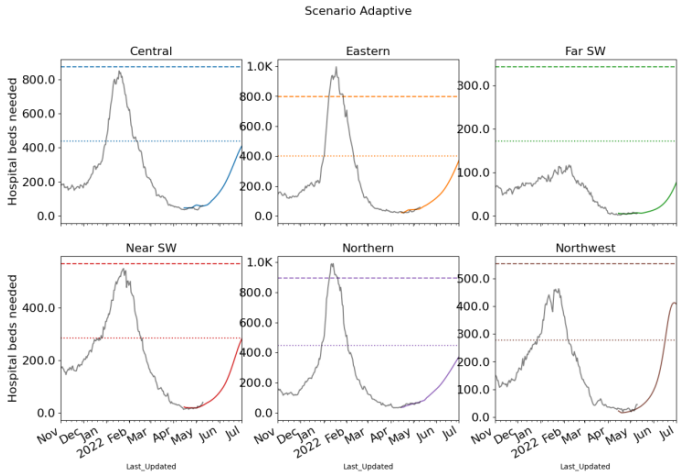
Outcome Projections

Confirmed cases

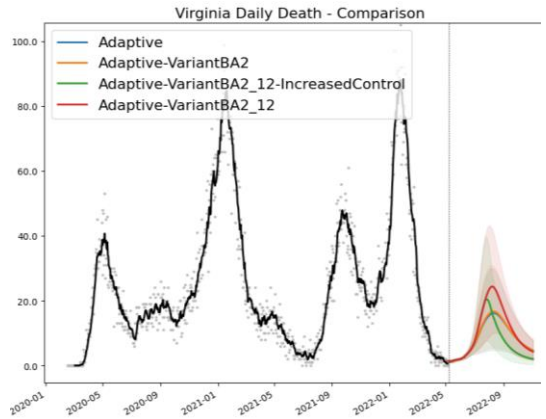


* without surveillance correction VariantBA2 peaked over 10K in July

Estimated Hospital Occupancy

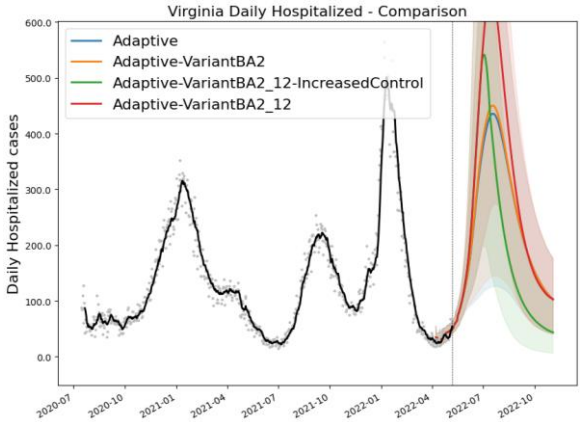


Daily Deaths



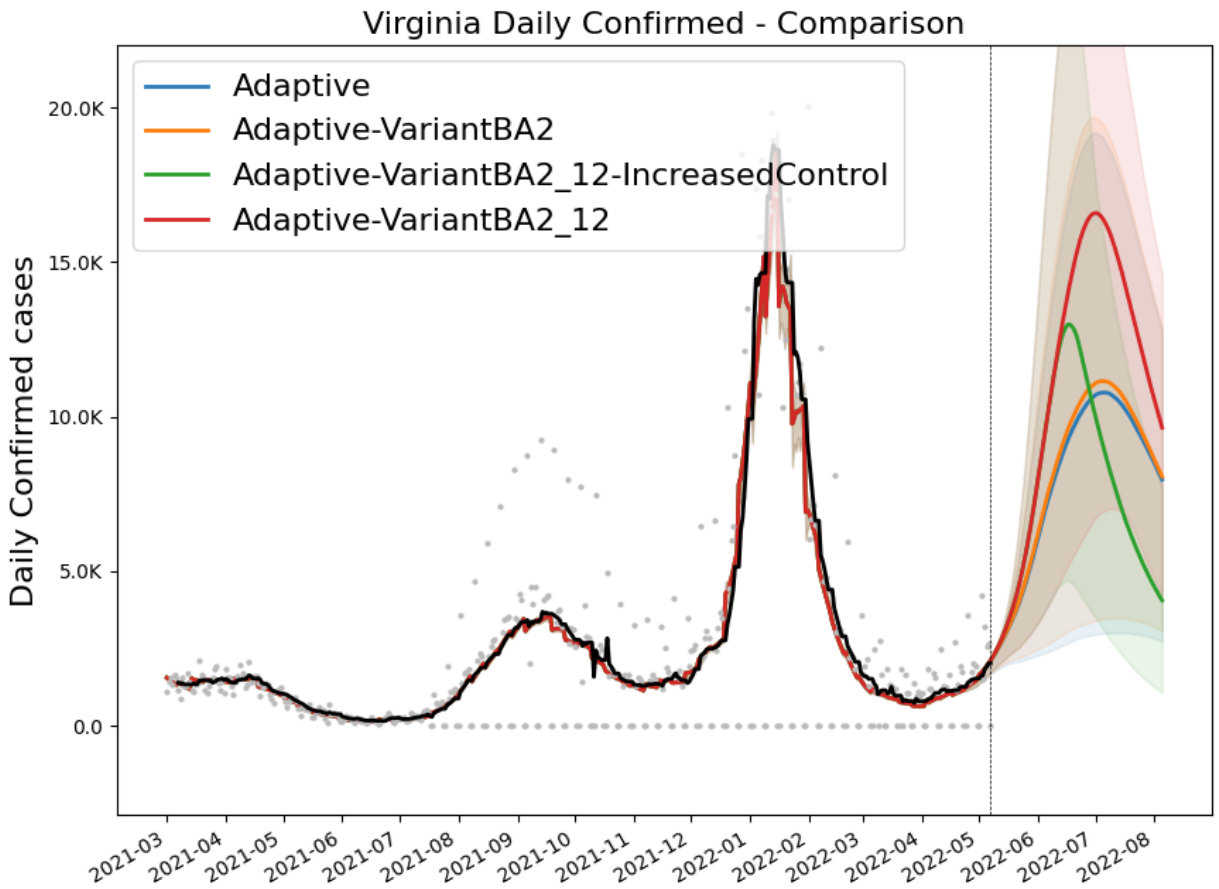
Death ground truth from VDH "Event Date" data, most recent dates are not complete

Daily Hospitalized



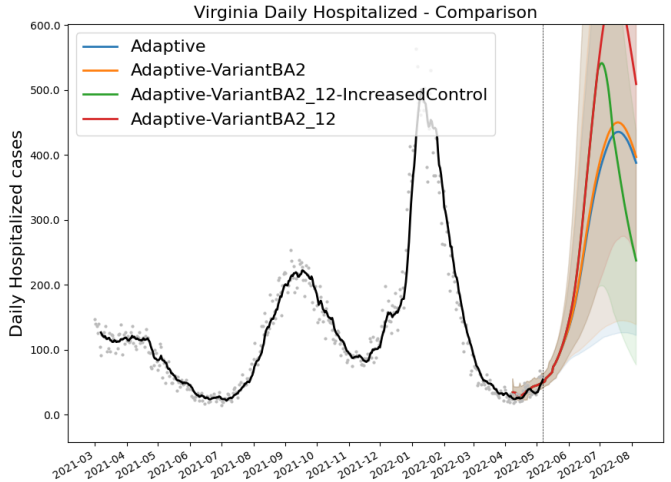
Outcome Projections – Closer Look

Confirmed cases

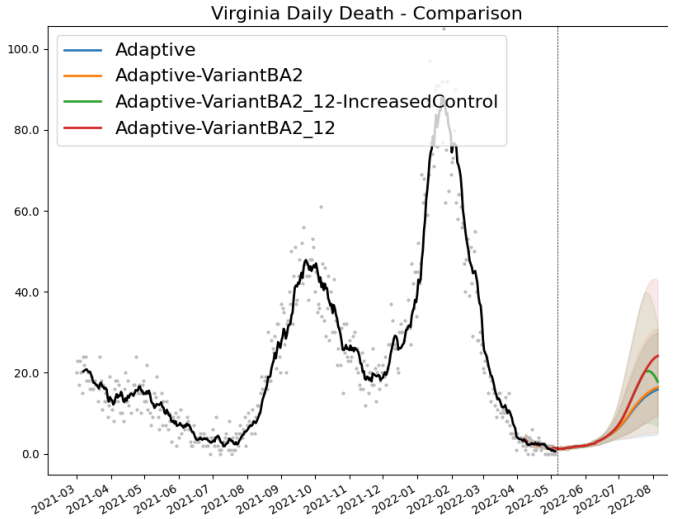


* without surveillance correction VariantBA2 peaked over 10K in July

Daily Hospitalized



Daily Deaths



Death ground truth from VDH "Event Date" data, most recent dates are not complete

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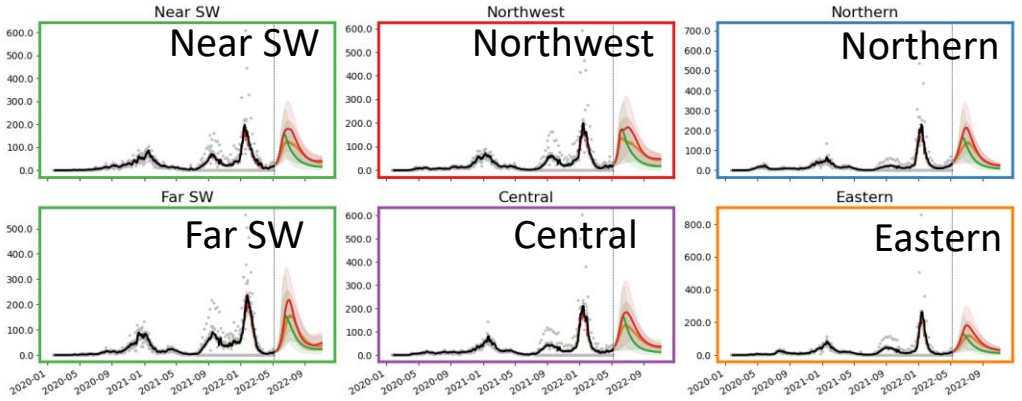
Detailed Projections: All Scenarios

Projections by Region

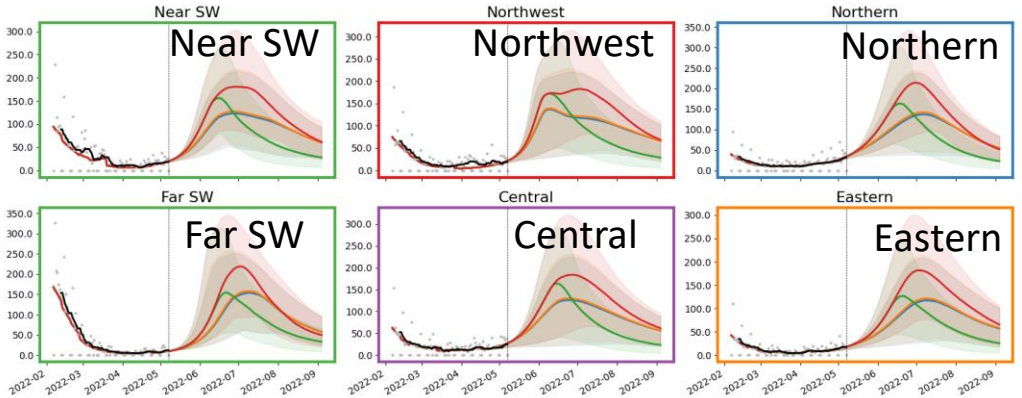


Projections by District

Daily confirmed cases) by rate (per 100K) District (grey with 7-day average in black) with simulation colored by scenario

Detailed Projections: All Scenarios - Closer Look

Projections by Region



Projections by District

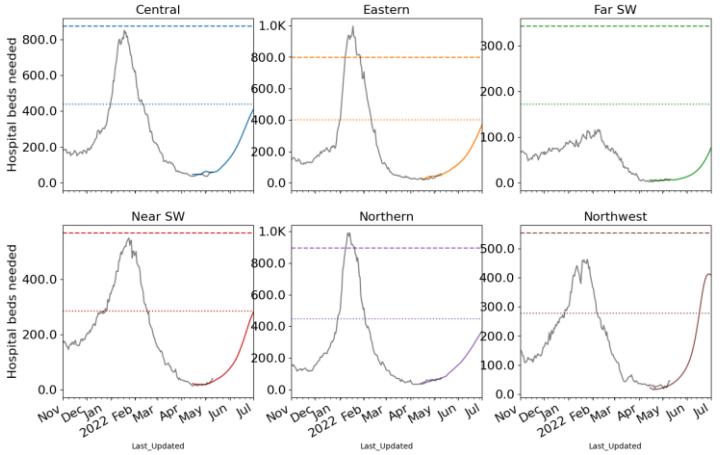
Daily confirmed cases by rate (per 100K) District (grey with 7-day average in black) with simulation colored by scenario

Hospital Demand and Bed Capacity by Region

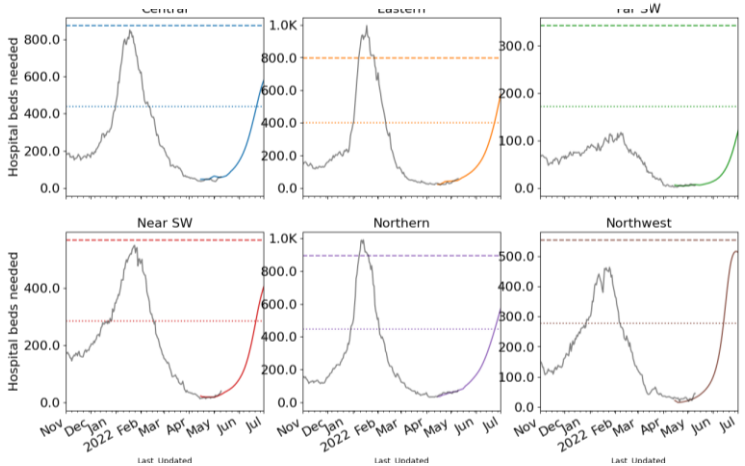
Capacities by Region

COVID-19 capacity ranges from 80% (dots) to 120% (dash) of total beds

Adaptive



Adaptive – Variant BA2_12



Length of Stay more variable with Omicron, occupancy projections may vary as a result, ad-hoc estimation performed per region

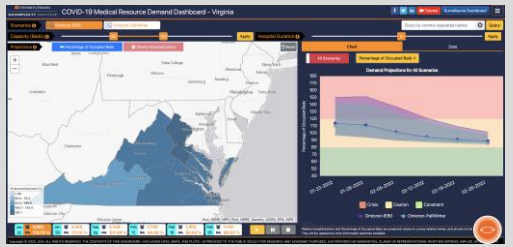
Estimated LOS shortened to better fit observed data

Projections show continued declines and with expanded capacities and adjusted length of stay, no capacities exceeded

Length of Stay Estimates

Central	6
Eastern	6
Far SW	6
Near SW	6
Northern	3
Northwestern	8

Interactive Dashboard with regional projections

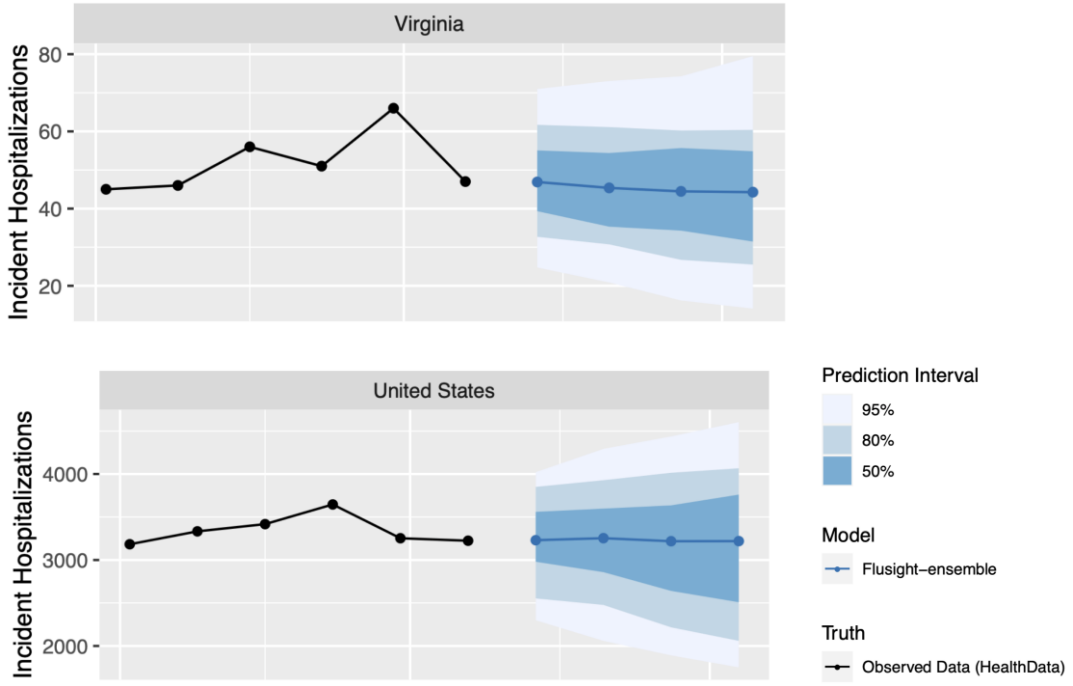


https://nssac.bii.virginia.edu/covid-19/vmrddash/

Current Influenza Hospitalization Forecast

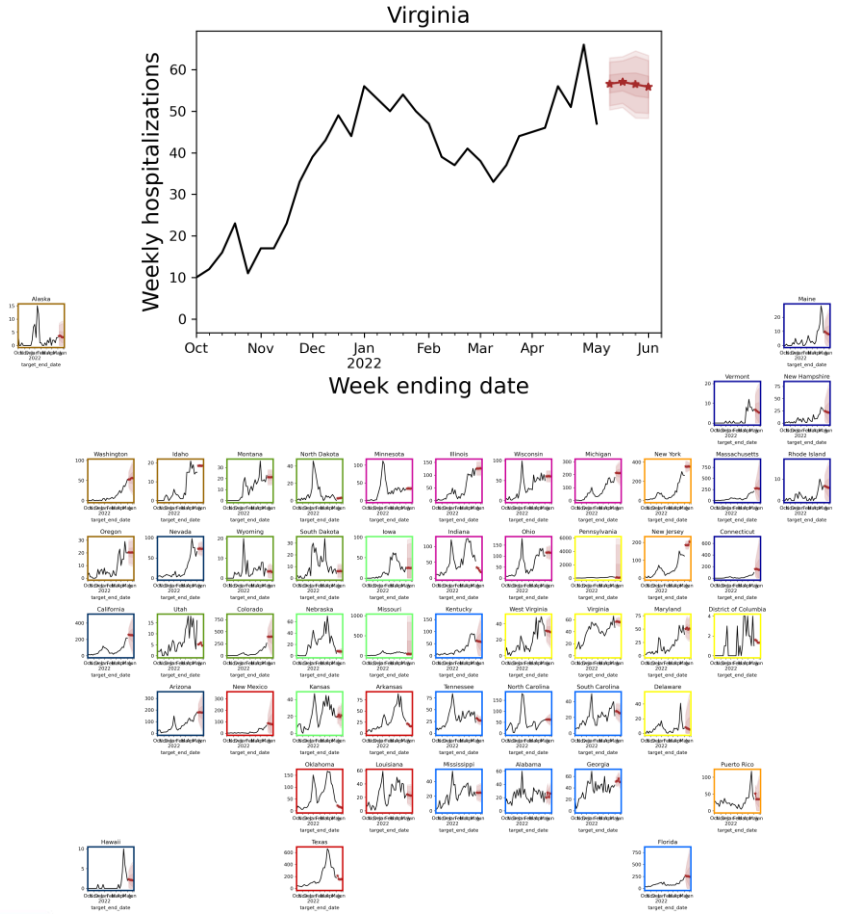
Statistical models for submitting to CDC FluSight forecasting challenge

- Hospitalizations nationwide are rising, VA still steady



[CDC FluSight](#)
Ensemble Forecasts

Hospital Admissions for Influenza and Forecast for next 4 weeks (UVA ensemble)



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Key Takeaways

Projecting future cases precisely is impossible and unnecessary.
Even without perfect projections, we can confidently draw conclusions:

- **Case rates continue to rise as pace picks up as do hospitalizations**
- VA 7-day mean daily case rate increased to 26/100K from 18.5/100K
  - US continues to increase slightly to 22/100K (from 18.5/100K)
  - VA hospital occupancy (rolling 7 day mean of 240) has steadily rising for nearly a month
- Surveillance anomalies continue as QA processes rebalance previously reported cases though is slowing
- Projections anticipate future growth in cases but more limited growth in more severe outcomes:
  - Recently emerging BA.2.12.1 subvariant seems to driving growth, VA has tracked BA.2.12.1 scenario of April 23rd projections closely
  - Potential for significant number of infections remains high, uncertainty surrounds impact of weather and changing social interactions
- Model updates:
  - Adjusted fitting to work on district level to reduce biases from limited outbreaks within counties and surveillance anomalies
  - Adaptive scenario BA.2.12.1 scenario to capture the future growth of this more transmissible variant
  - Models need to change their focused outcome to hospitalization or aggregate counties to districts to minimize noisy fluctuations

The situation continues to change. Models continue to be updated regularly.

Additional Analyses

Overview of relevant on-going studies

Other projects coordinated with CDC and VDH:

- **Scenario Modeling Hub:** Consortium of academic teams coordinated via MIDAS / CDC to that provides regular national projections based on timely scenarios
- **Genomic Surveillance:** Analyses of genomic sequencing data, VA surveillance data, and collaboration with VA DCLS to identify sample sizes needed to detect and track outbreaks driven by introduction of new variants etc.
- **Mobility Data driven Outreach locations:** Collaboration with VDH state and local, Stanford, and SafeGraph to leverage anonymized cell data to help identify sites most frequently visited by different demographic groups

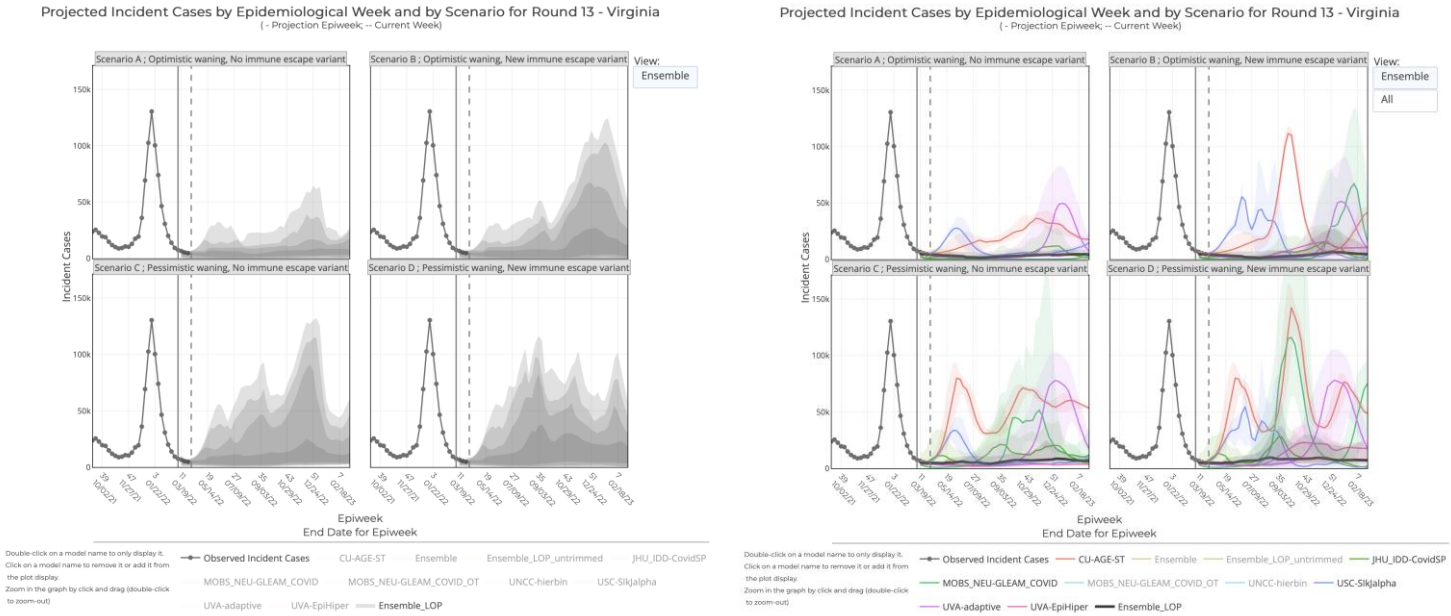
COVID-19 Scenario Modeling Hub – Round 13

Collaboration of multiple academic teams to provide national and state-by-state level projections for 4 aligned scenarios

- Round 13 results getting finalized
  - Scenarios: New Variant in Summer and waning compared (yes/no new variant vs. 4 month or 10 month waning)
- Prelim results shared internally
- Only national consortium tracking Omicron wave well
- Rounds 4-12 now available

Round 4 Results were published May 5th, 2021 in MMWR

https://covid19scenariomodelinghub.org/viz.html



Busiest Places: Mobility Data Can Assist

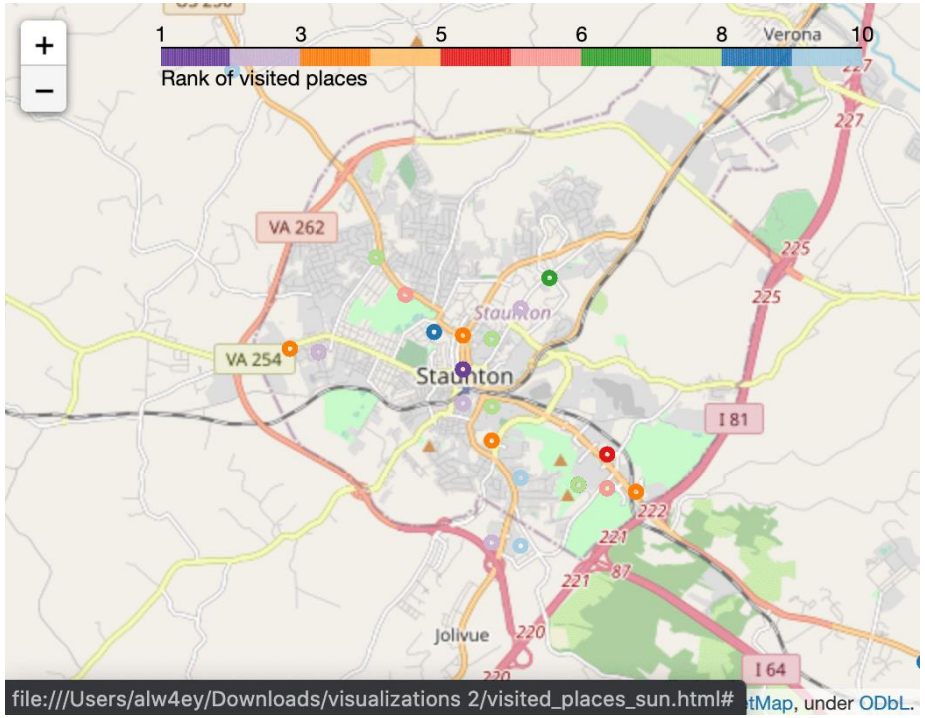
SafeGraph provides fine-grained mobility measures

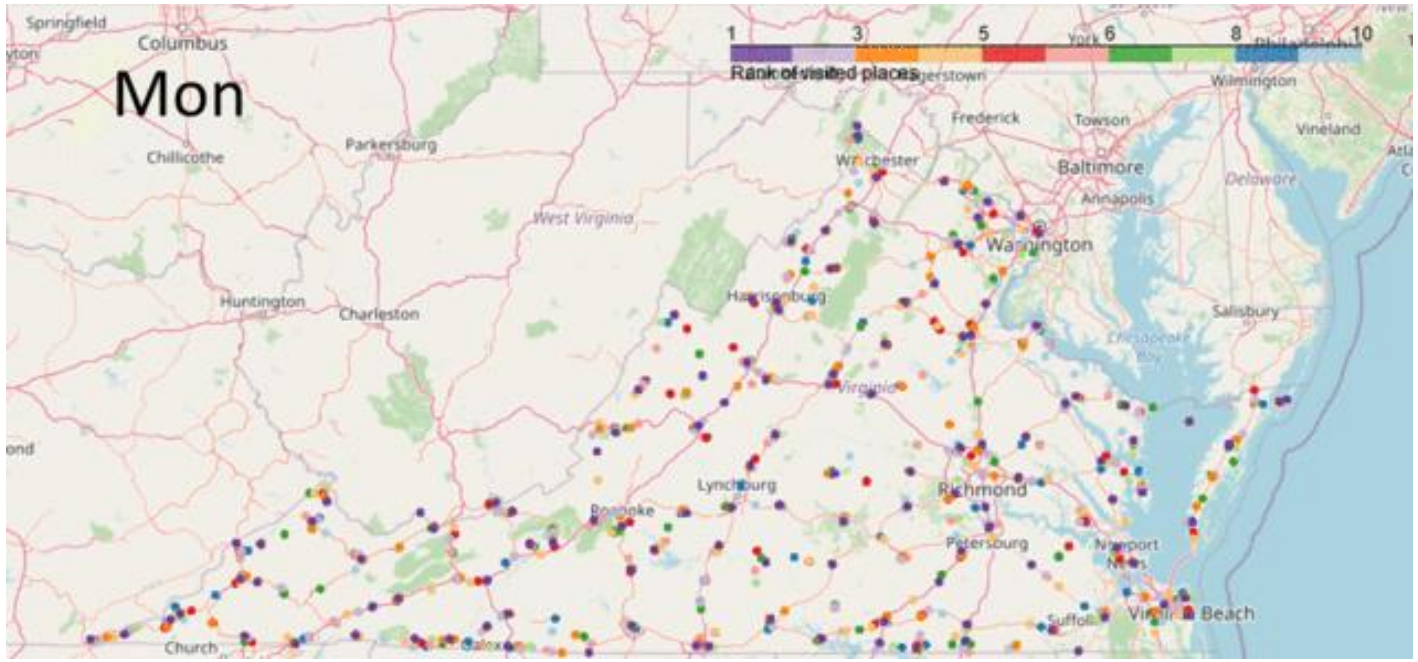
- SafeGraph: anonymized geolocation data aggregated from numerous cell phone apps
- One of the most fine-grained and high-coverage mobility data sources available: 6.4 million POIs in the US; 158,869 POIs in VA
- Has been utilized by hundreds of researchers, governments, and the CDC to aid COVID-19 efforts (Chang, Pierson, Koh, et al., *Nature* 2020; Chang et al, KDD 2021)
- Daily and hourly number of visits to points-of-interest (POIs), i.e., non-residential locations such as restaurants, bars, gas stations, malls, grocery stores, churches, etc.
- Weekly reports per POI of ***where visitors are coming from*** (at the census block group level)
- Still has limitations to be aware of (e.g., less representation among children and seniors)

SAFEGRAPH

Find the Busiest Locations

POIs are individual addresses, need some aggregation to busy areas

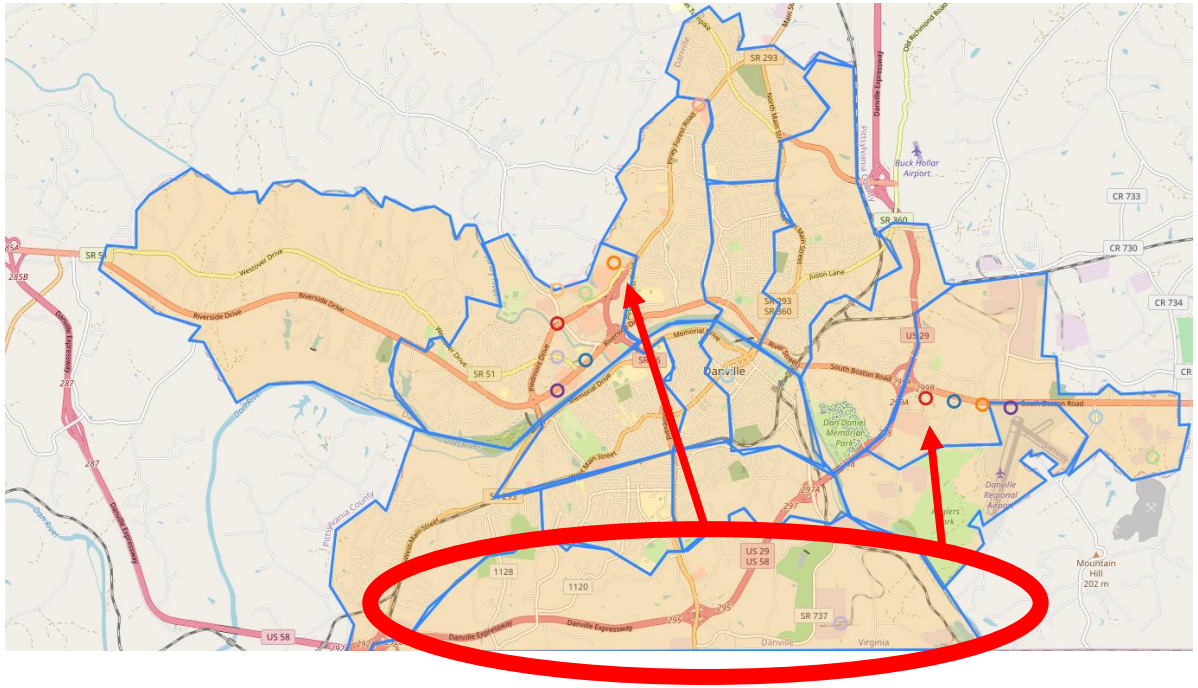




Busiest locations vary by day of week (and time of day)

Find locations visited by Target Population

Census Block Groups in Danville



1. Use census data to characterize the populations of the different census block groups
2. Identify most frequently visited POIs for each CBG
3. Cluster most visited POIs
4. Provide potential sites grouped by the demographic groups they likely serve

Goal: Provide frequently visited locations based on populations and vaccination levels one desires to reach

Example: List of locations in the Southside frequented by Black Virginians

Overview of the current roster of targeted populations

These are the current roster of targeted population groups that we are providing as part of the weekly delivery to VDH. (This roster is subject to change.)

- Whole population (eg, no target population filters are applied)
- Race Black
- Ethnicity Latinx
- Ages 20-40
- Ages 20-30
- Ages 30-40
- Unvaccinated populations
- Latinx or Black NEW

Data Elements in the CSV

HighlyVisitedAddress
This is the address of the POI in the L14 that sees the most visits. It is provided to make it easier to find the L14 on the map.

Rank & LocationWeight
The LocationWeight is estimated # of visits to POIs in the L14 from the target group. Rank indicates the order from most- to 25th most-visited

AreaMostVisitedPeriod
This is the 4-hour period in the week when the L14 sees its highest traffic. This is not target group-specifi

NEW

Population Group
For a targeted file like this one, these will all be the same value.

AreaMostVisitedDay
This is the day of the week when most visitors go to this S2 location. This is not target group-specific.

Lat and Lon
This is the latitude and longitude for the center of the L14.

VDH District

S2 Key (L14)

County

Locality	District	PopulationGroup	LocationID	Rank	LocationWeight	AreaMostVisitedDay	HighlyVisitedAddress	AreaMostVisitedPeriod	Lat	Lon
Accomack Cc	Eastern Shor	Latinx or Black	89ba2b55	1	4966.030095	Friday	25297 Lankford Hwy Rt 13 N, C	Friday 17:00-21:00	37.6978738	-75.716796
Accomack Cc	Eastern Shor	Latinx or Black	89ba2caf	2	3728.476605	Friday	26036 Lankford Hwy, Onley, VA	Friday 15:00-19:00	37.6881681	-75.722612
Accomack Cc	Eastern Shor	Latinx or Black	89ba2b57	3	3508.193676	Saturday	25274 Lankford Hwy, Onley, VA	Saturday 13:00-17:00	37.69859	-75.722612
Accomack Cc	Eastern Shor	Latinx or Black	89bbd4ad	4	2582.802769	Wednesday	25102 Lankford Hwy, Onley, VA	Sunday 11:00-15:00	37.7023677	-75.710981
Accomack Cc	Eastern Shor	Latinx or Black	89ba2b53	5	1844.868961	Sunday	25102 Lankford Hwy, Onley, VA	Friday 16:00-20:00	37.7030842	-75.716796
Albemarle Cc	Blue Ridge	Latinx or Black	89b38647	1	14088.0684	Thursday	1215 Lee St, University of Virg	Thursday 07:00-11:00	38.0327733	-78.500766
Albemarle Cc	Blue Ridge	Latinx or Black	89b477ff	2	6999.363545	Saturday	1980 Rio Hill Ctr, Charlottesvill	Saturday 12:00-16:00	38.087391	-78.472353
Albemarle Cc	Blue Ridge	Latinx or Black	89b38645	3	5824.383454	Wednesday	Cabell Hall 525 Mccormick Roa	Wednesday 11:00-15:00	38.033334	-78.506447
Albemarle Cc	Blue Ridge	Latinx or Black	89b3888d	4	5078.488029	Friday	540 Pantops Ctr, Pantops, VA,	Thursday 11:00-15:00	38.0334982	-78.455301
Albemarle Cc	Blue Ridge	Latinx or Black	89b387fd	5	4655.844131	Saturday	100 Twentyninth Place Ct, Cha	Saturday 11:00-15:00	38.077516	-78.478036

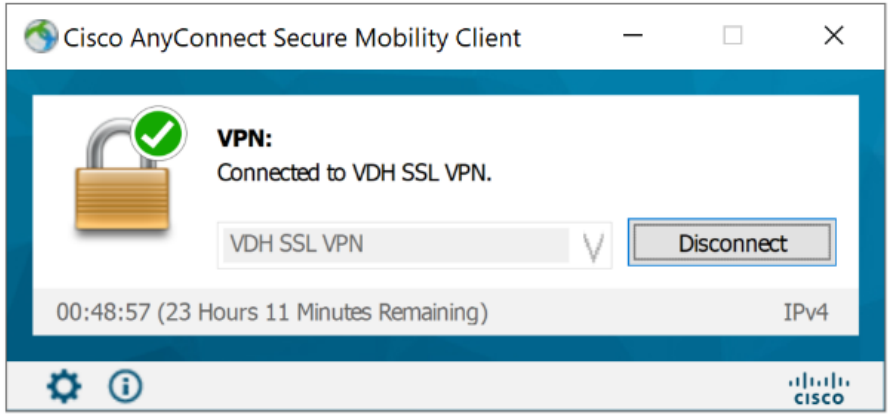
Mobility Data Updated Weekly

Box: https://virginia.box.com/s/03kq8el0kzd9w43wz2g3myozov76uizo

- Excel sheets and simple HTML maps packaged for use

VDH has a dashboard available upon request to allow interactive viewing

- https://arcgis.vdh.virginia.gov/portal/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/8631cfc4f181460fafc7e1923f41d581
- Dashboard is restricted to VDH offices and those who VPN into the CoV Network



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Biocomplexity Institute. COVID-19 Surveillance Dashboard. https://nssac.bii.virginia.edu/covid-19/dashboard/

Google. COVID-19 community mobility reports. https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/

Biocomplexity page for data and other resources related to COVID-19: https://covid19.biocomplexity.virginia.edu/

Questions?

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