



**VIRGINIA'S
HEALTH
IS IN YOUR
HANDS.**

Do your part,
stop the spread.

Covid-19 Testing Update

Weekly Covid-19 Partners Call

Brooke Rossheim, MD, MPH

March 5, 2021

Agenda

- Data about current status of pandemic in Virginia*
- Data about the amount of testing currently in Virginia*
- Data about SARS-CoV-2 variants in Virginia*
- Update about Abbott BinaxNOW Covid-19 Antigen Cards*
- New home-based antigen test*



HANDS.
Do your part,
stop the spread.

Dashboard Updated: 3/4/2021
Data entered by 5:00 PM the prior day.

**Total
Cases***

581,408

Confirmed+
457,348

Probable+
124,060

**Total
Hospitalizations****

24,414

Confirmed+
23,138

Probable+
1,276

**Total
Deaths**

9,357

Confirmed+
8,018

Probable+
1,339

Select Measure

(Affects Map and Bar Chart)

- ☒ Cases
- ☐ Hospitalizations
- ☐ Deaths

**Counts of
Cases**

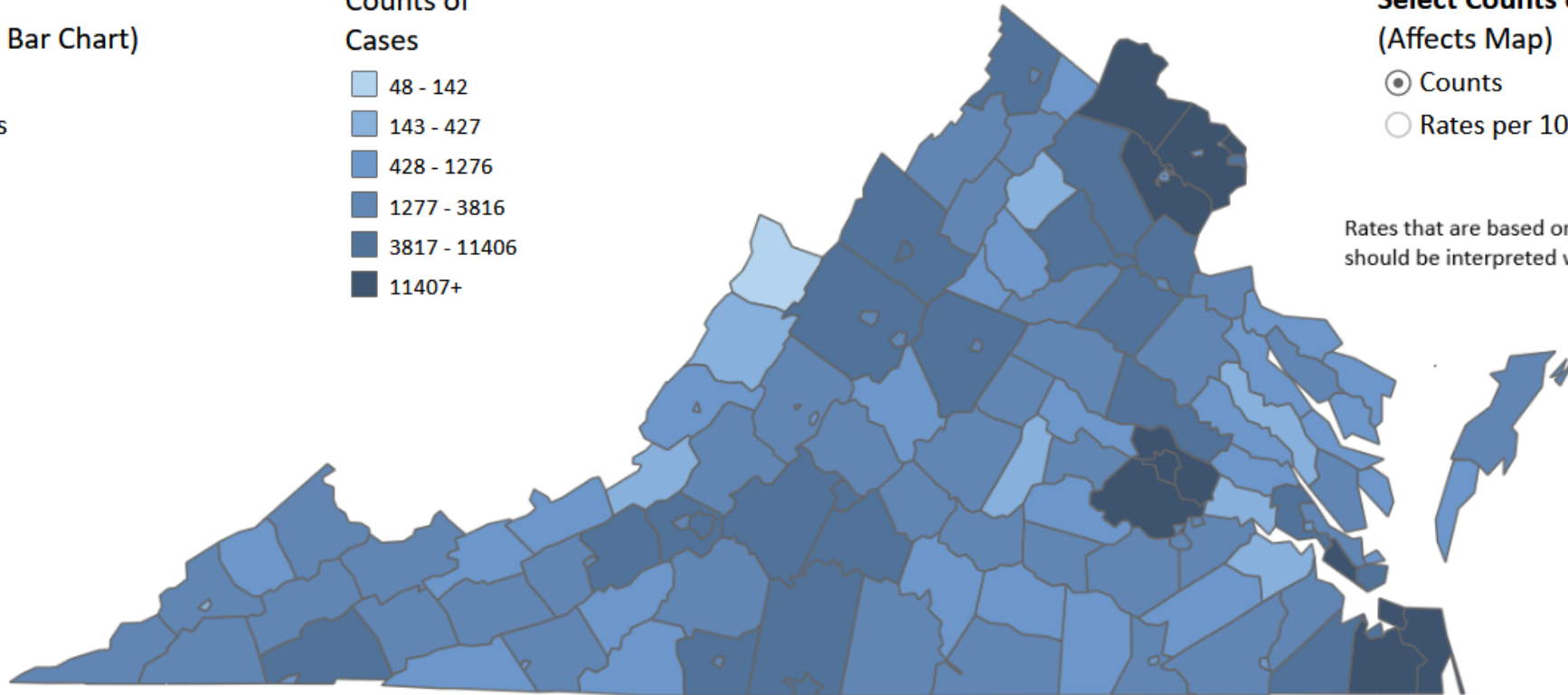
- 48 - 142
- 143 - 427
- 428 - 1276
- 1277 - 3816
- 3817 - 11406
- 11407+

Select Counts or Rates

(Affects Map)

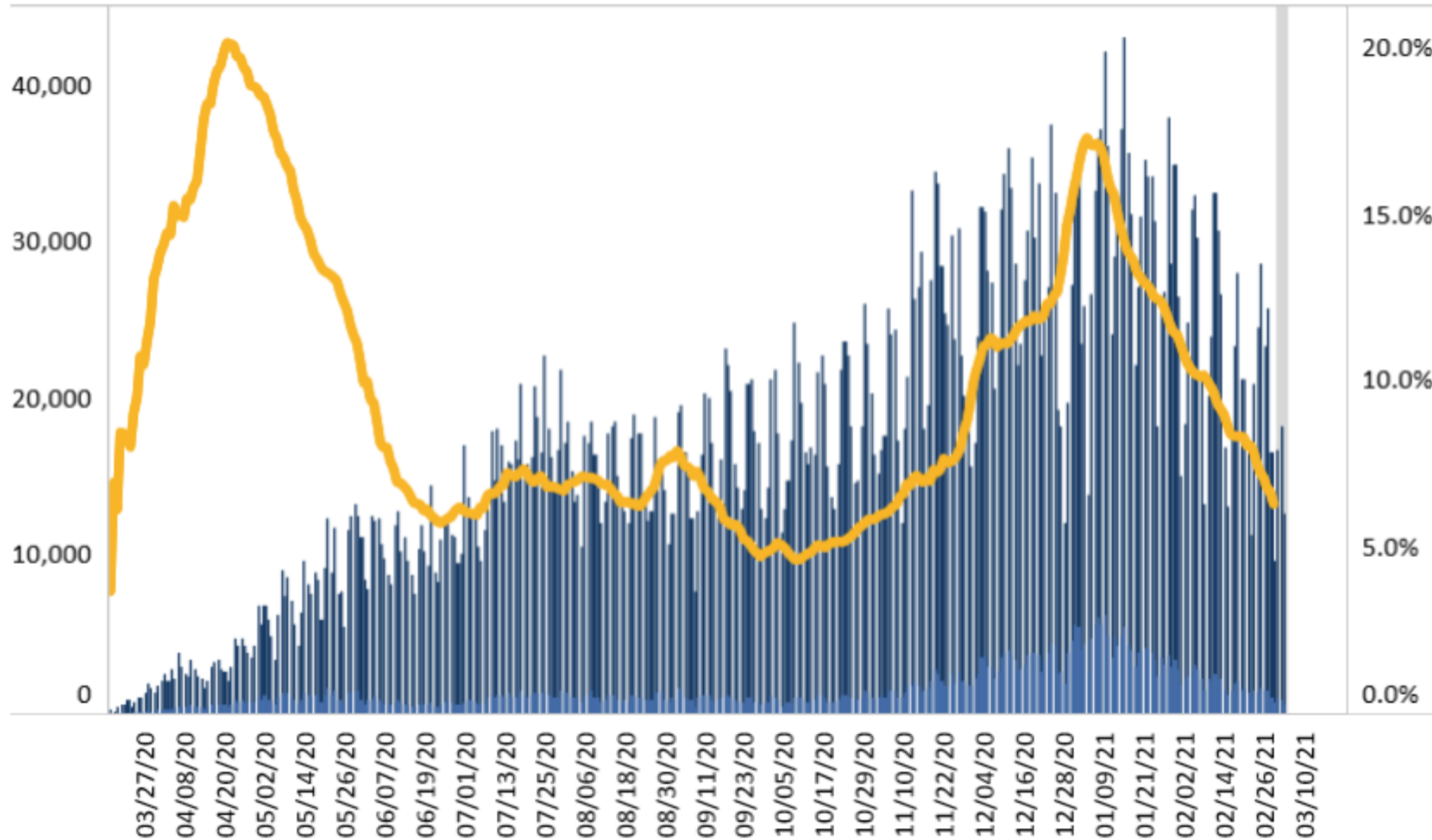
- ☒ Counts
- ☐ Rates per 100,000

Rates that are based on counts less than 15
should be interpreted with caution



Number of Testing Encounters, Number of Positive Testing Encounters, and Percent Positivity by Lab Report Date - All Health Districts, PCR Only**

■ Percent Positivity, 7-Day Moving Average
■ Positive Testing Encounters
■ Number of Testing Encounters



PCR Testing Only – All Health Districts

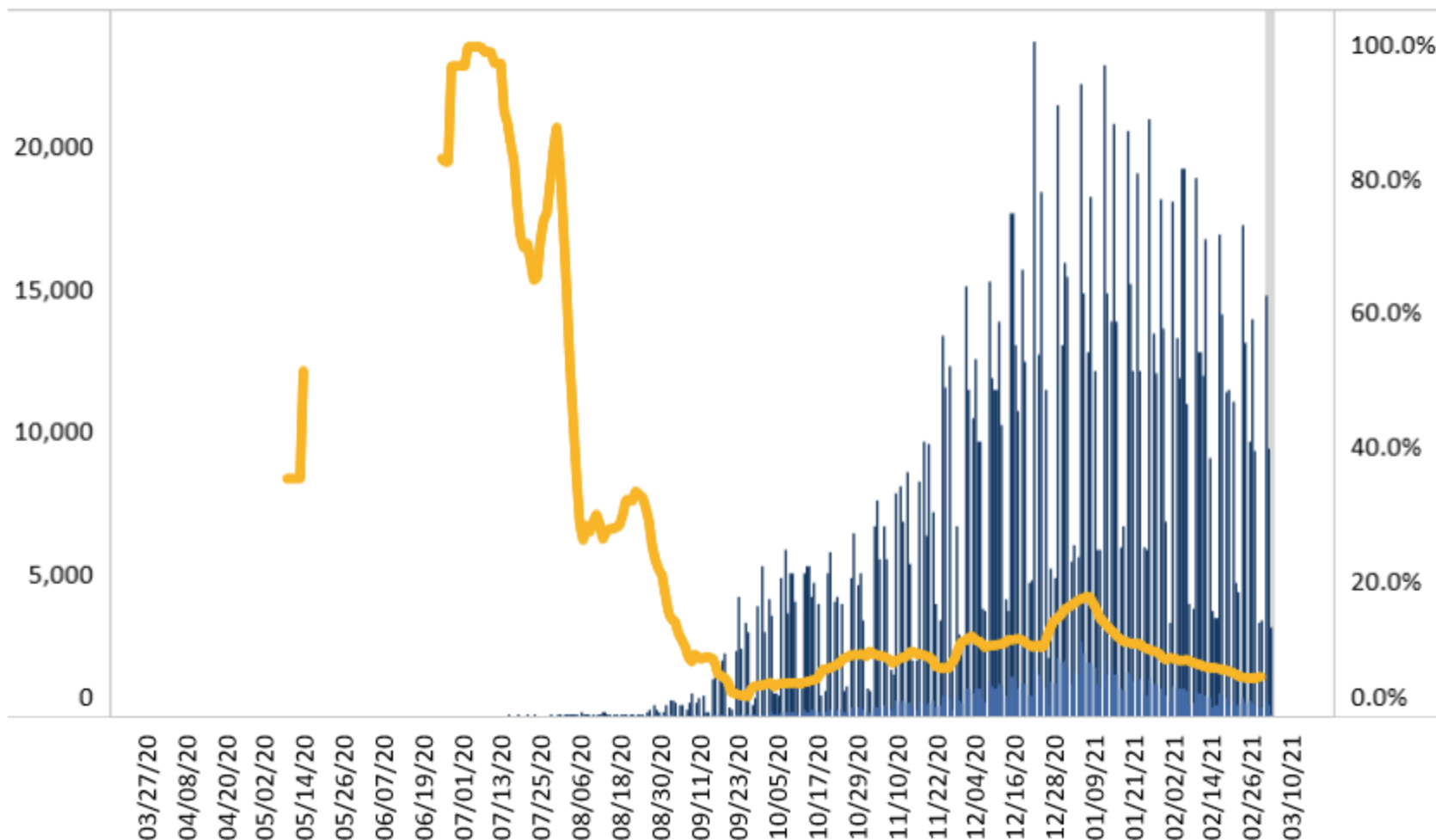
Current 7-day percent positivity rate = 6.3%

Data as of 3/4/2021

www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia-testing/

Number of Testing Encounters, Number of Positive Testing Encounters, and Percent Positivity** by Lab Report Date - All Health Districts, Antigen Only

■ Percent Positivity, 7-Day Moving Average
■ Positive Testing Encounters
■ Number of Testing Encounters



Antigen Testing Only – All Health Districts

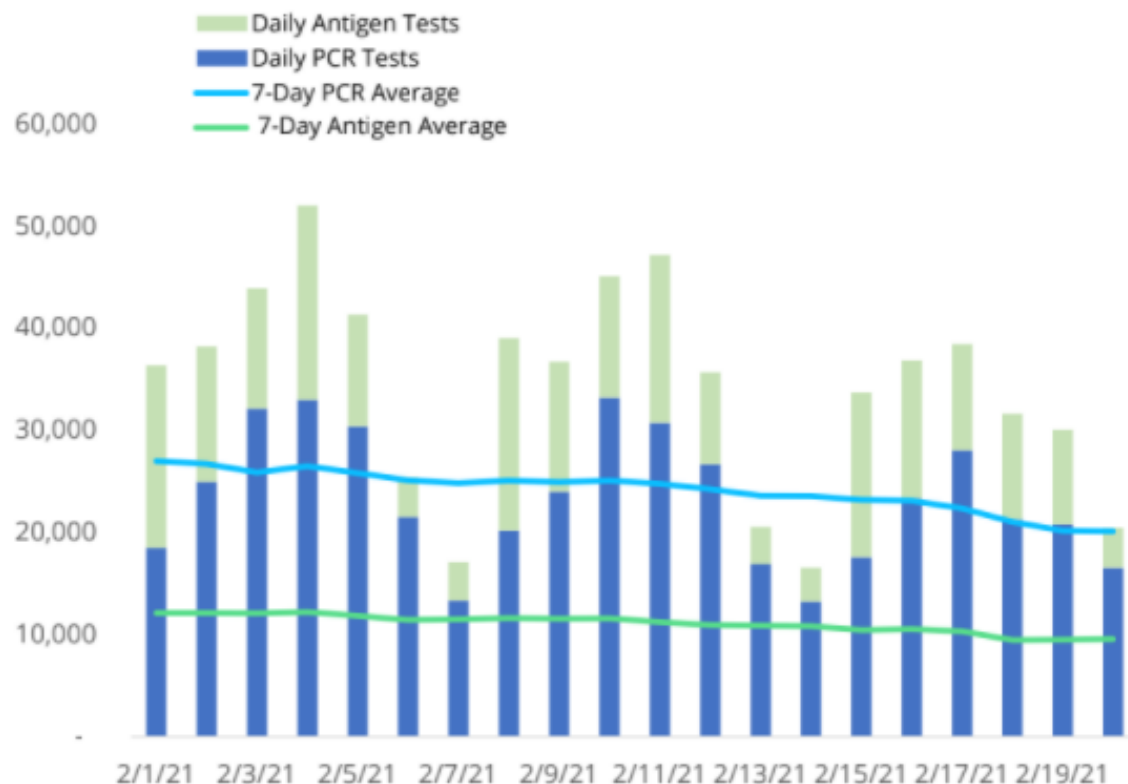
Current 7-day percent positivity rate = 6%

Data as of 3/4/2021

www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia-testing/

Daily Statewide Number of Tests Conducted: February¹

Across the Commonwealth, an average of **29,681 tests (antigen and PCR)** were conducted per day over the past seven days. The current 7-day average PCR tests per day is 20,129 and the 7-day average antigen tests per day is 9,551.



February Testing Progress

Tests conducted this month to date

466,574

PCR Tests

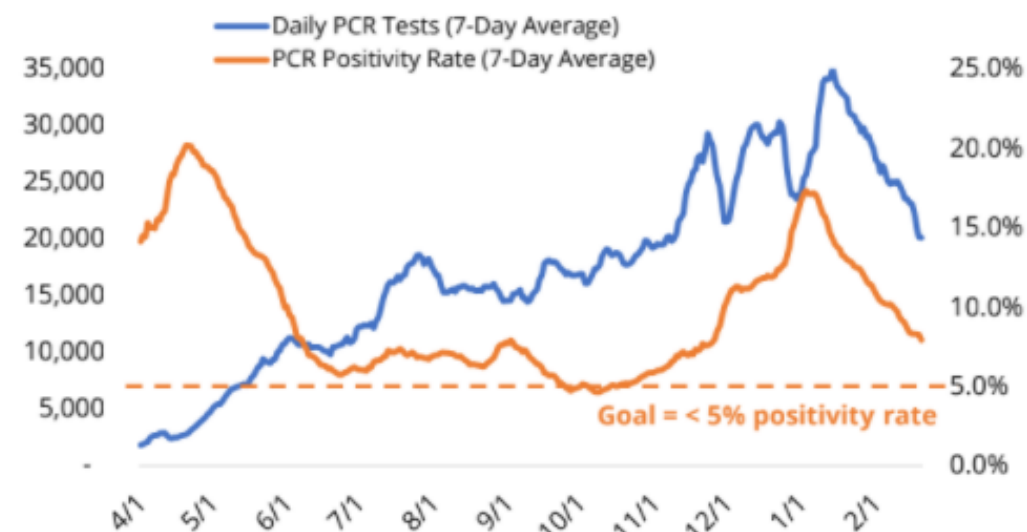
219,931

Antigen Tests

686,505

PCR + Antigen Tests

PCR Tests and Positivity Rate



Across the Commonwealth, **686,505 tests (antigen and PCR)** have been reported to date in the month of February. Approximately 68% of those tests were PCR tests.

The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Public health experts say ‘we can’t give up on testing’ as vaccinations ramp up

By **Jenna Portnoy** and **Rachel Chason**

Feb. 28, 2021 at 7:00 a.m. EST

Coronavirus testing is down by at least a third from its peak during the winter holidays in the greater Washington region, sparking concern among public health experts who worry that lower testing numbers mean officials could be late to recognize a future surge in cases or the next vaccine-resistant variant.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-virginia-maryland-coronavirus-testing-down/2021/02/27/de6ce958-76c3-11eb-948d-19472e683521_story.html



Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern

Confirmed Variants of Concern in Virginia, By Region and Variant Type Data as of 3/2/2021

<i>Region</i>	B.1.1.7	B.1.351	Grand Total
Central	4		4
Eastern	1	2	3
Northern	6		6
Northwest	6	1	7
Southwest	3	1	4
Grand Total	20	4	24

- For national data, see the [CDC website](#)



Extension of expiration date of Abbott BinaxNOW Covid-19 Antigen Cards

- During the week of March 1, 2021, Abbott Labs extended the expiration date of BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Cards by 3 months
- Extended expiration date goes back to early Feb 2021
- If your facility has received BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Cards, you will receive an email this week from the VDH Antigen Testing Team with Abbott's letter and a 9 page list of lot numbers on the boxes of cards, and new expiration dates for those boxes of cards
- If questions, please contact antigeninfo@vdh.virginia.gov or me at brooke.rossheim@vdh.virginia.gov



New Home Antigen Test = Quidel QuickVue At-Home COVID-19 Test

- Received FDA Emergency Use Authorization on 3/1/2021
- Is a prescription item
- Indication = test symptomatic people felt to have Covid-19 within first 6 days of illness
- Specimen = anterior nasal swab
- Can be used on children as young as 8; for children 8-13 years old, adult collects swab
- Written directions go through swab collection and test procedure
- For people ages ≥ 14 , collect swab on their own
- Test results in 10 minutes; patient advised to contact healthcare provider with result
- For more info → go to www.quickvueathome.com