



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**June 3, 2021**

Dear Community Partner,

As we move into our 16<sup>th</sup> month of large-scale response to this pandemic, the role of public health is again evolving. Community transmission rates are quite low, but unfortunately so now is the demand for vaccinations. We continue to work with other vaccine administrators and community partners to answer people's questions and offer smaller vaccination clinics. But we also are looking to the future and how we can continue offering disease prevention/control services while also assisting with recovery – namely, to prevent secondary impacts of the pandemic by addressing other community health needs.

As mentioned, the number of new cases remains quite low - just 50 new confirmed COVID cases in the last week! (Total 18,052). Sadly, three new deaths were reported – though two were late reported and occurred back in December. This raises the total number of lives lost in St. Louis County to 310.

**Vaccine updates:**

As of June 1, a total of 109,406 people in St. Louis County have received their first dose of a vaccine; and 99,682 people have completed their series. Just 940 people received first doses in the last week, putting our percentage of people age 16+ who've received at least their first dose at 64.2%. The goal is 70%

**Other updates/resources you may find helpful:**

- With summer school and other youth activities about to begin, the state has [updated its COVID-19 decision tree](#) with guidance for what to do when someone has symptoms.
- The online reward redemption form for the state's vaccine incentive program is now live. For anyone just now getting their first vaccine, [here's where to apply](#) for one of the various ticket/passes and other rewards begin offered.
- We're bringing back the COVID Ref! And this time he's going to be joined by a lot of well-known local athletes, for a message about the importance of getting vaccinated. The series of videos will debut later this month with athletes sharing their personal reasons for getting vaccinated, as well as talking about concerns they may have had, and what convinced them the vaccine is safe. We'll share links as soon as we are able!

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership. Call or email me with any COVID/vaccination questions you may have.

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*Looking for accurate, up to date COVID-19 information? Find it here:*

*[Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\)](#)*

*[Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)*

*[St. Louis County COVID-19 online dashboard](#)*

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