Gallatin County Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report – December 23, 2021

As a supplement to the data provided on the COVID-19 Dashboard, Gallatin City-County Health Department (GCCHD) will release this weekly surveillance report each Friday. The report includes additional epidemiologic data useful for understanding the current COVID-19 pandemic in Gallatin County, Montana.

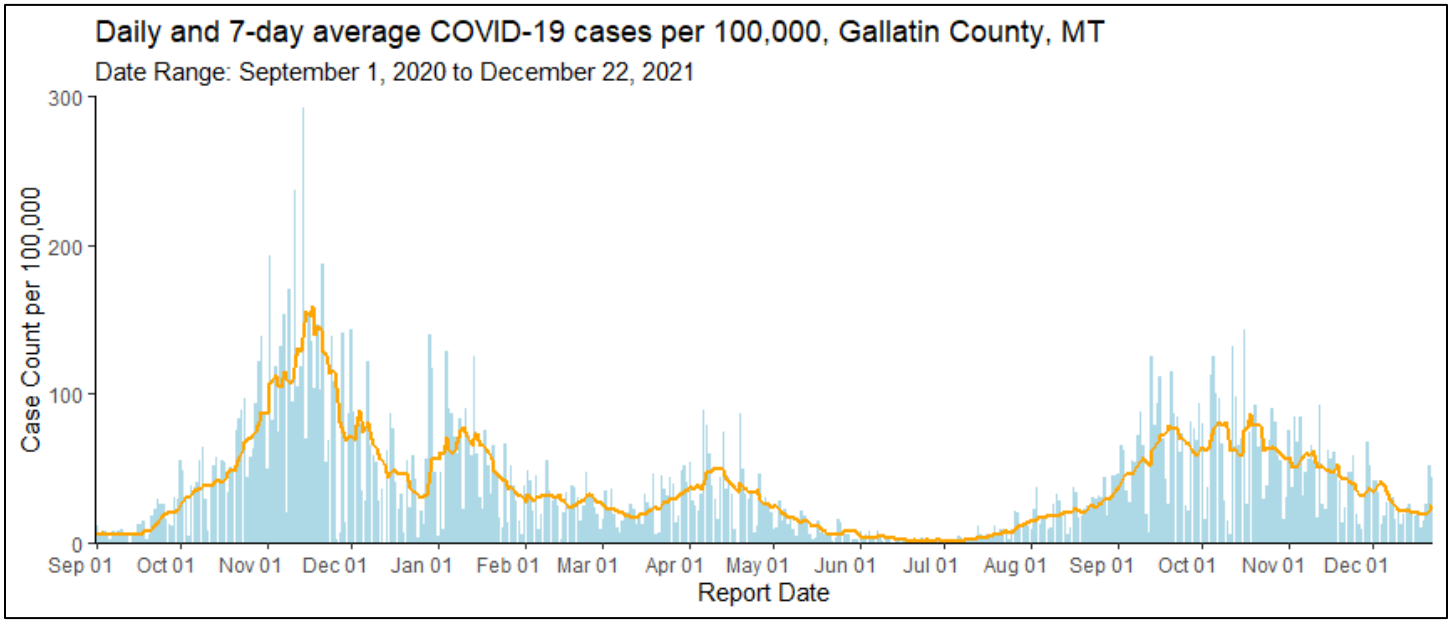

Figure 1. Describes the number of daily cases and 7-day rolling average of cases per 100,000 residents in Gallatin County. Blue bars indicate daily case reports per 100,000 residents and the orange line represents the 7-day rolling average of cases per 100,000 residents from 9/1/2020 to 12/22/2021. The 7-day rolling average of daily cases per 100,000 residents was 26.3 cases per 100,000 on 12/22/2021, a 31% increase from 20.1 cases per 100,000 on 12/15/2021.

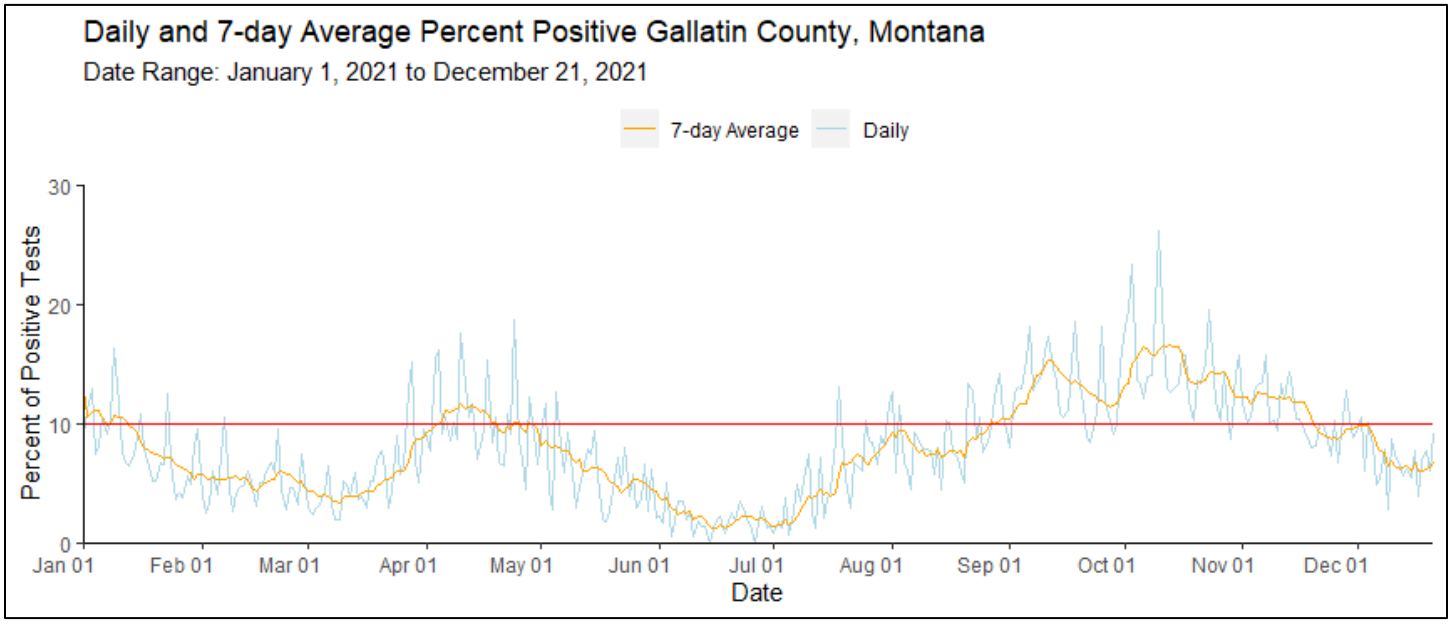

Figure 2. Describes the percent of positive tests by day and a 7-day rolling average of the percent of positive tests. The World Health Organization recommends a test positivity rate below 5% as a criteria for re-opening businesses. Public health experts say a positivity rate above 10% (red line) may mean more testing is necessary in order to avoid missing a significant number of cases in the community. The 7-day rolling average of percent positive was 6.8% on 12/21/2021, a 6% increase from the 6.4% positivity rate for the 7-day period that ended on 12/14/2021.

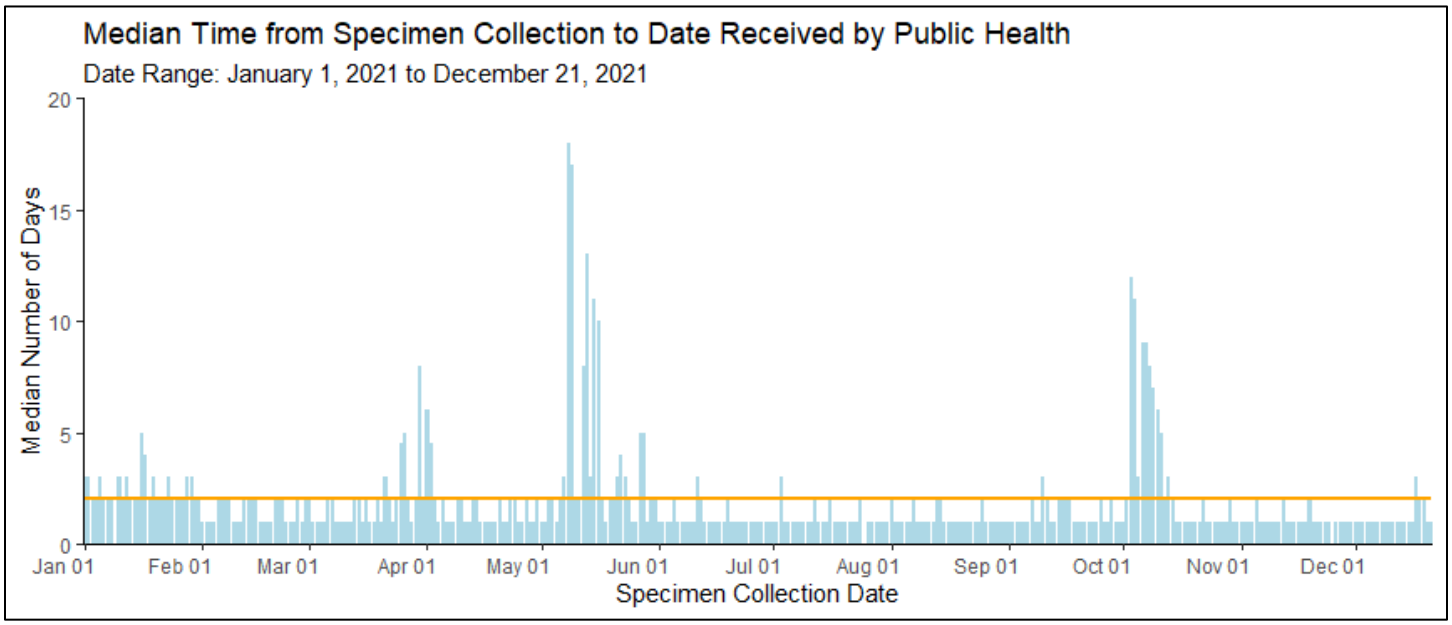

Figure 3. Describes the median number of days it takes a specimen collected until the result of the laboratory test is sent to GCCHD. The orange line in the figure above denotes 2 days. These data only include laboratory tests transmitted electronically via the Montana Infectious Disease Information System (MIDIS). Ideally, local health departments receive test results within 24-48 hours of specimen collection. Consistent delays greater than that make it more difficult to slow spread of the disease through isolation and quarantine. For cases reported during the period 11/23/2021 to 12/21/2021 the median time from specimen collection to report to public health was 1 day.

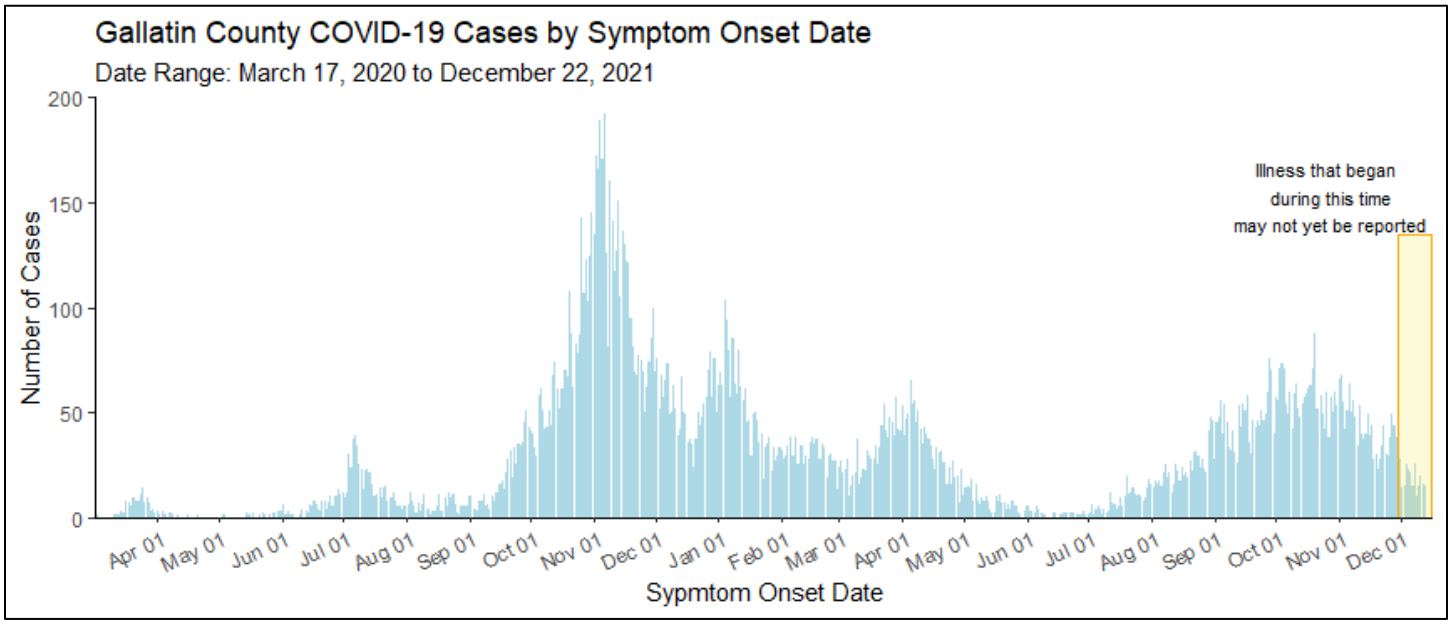

Figure 4. Epidemic curve of cases residing or recovering in Gallatin County at the time of COVID-19 diagnosis displayed by date of symptom onset. Data only includes cases with onset date information reported to GCCHD between 3/17/2020 to 12/22/2021. Onset date data may be unavailable because the COVID-19 case was asymptomatic, unable to determine when symptoms started, onset date is not yet reported or the case was not responsive to public health outreach.

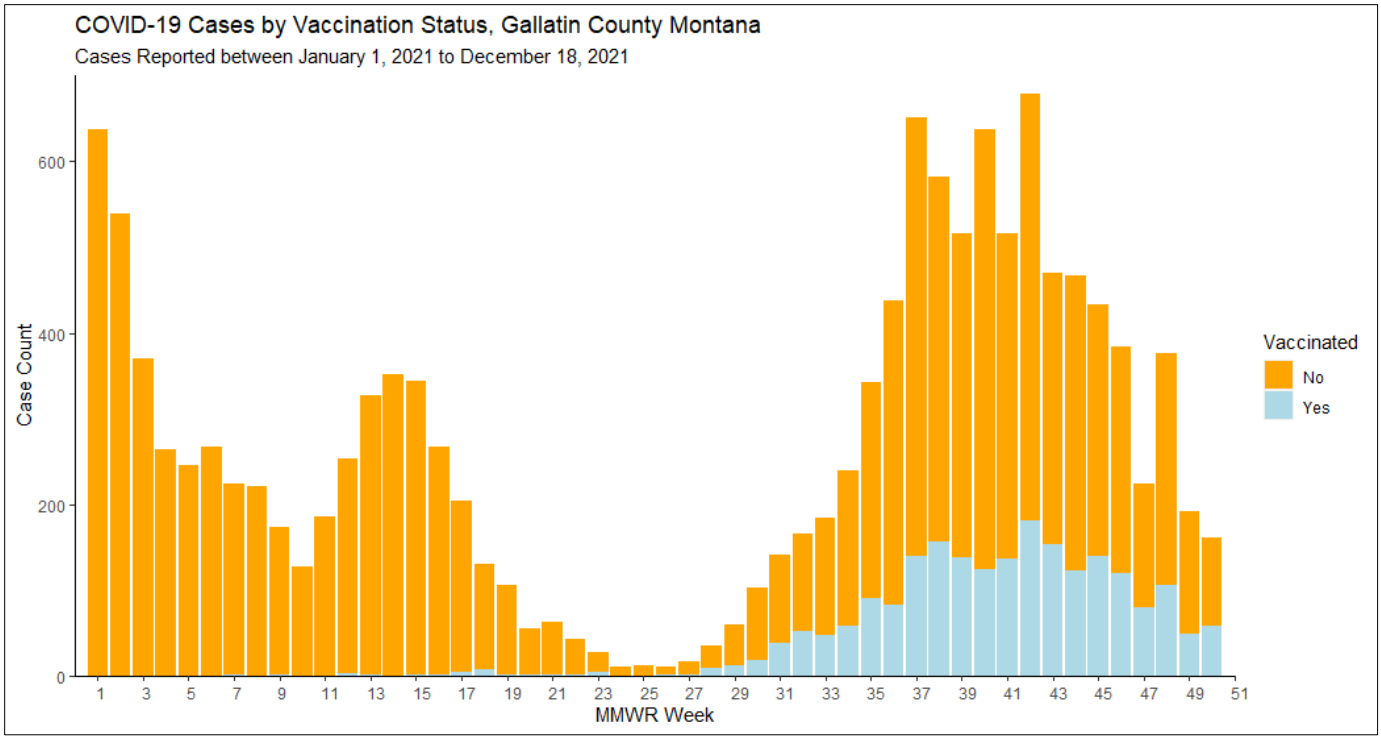

Figure 5. Describes the number of COVID-19 cases by vaccination status and CDC MMWR Week from January 1, 2021 to December 18, 2021. Light blue bars represent weekly cases counts among fully vaccinated Gallatin County residents ad orange bars represent weekly cases counts among unvaccinated Gallatin County residents.

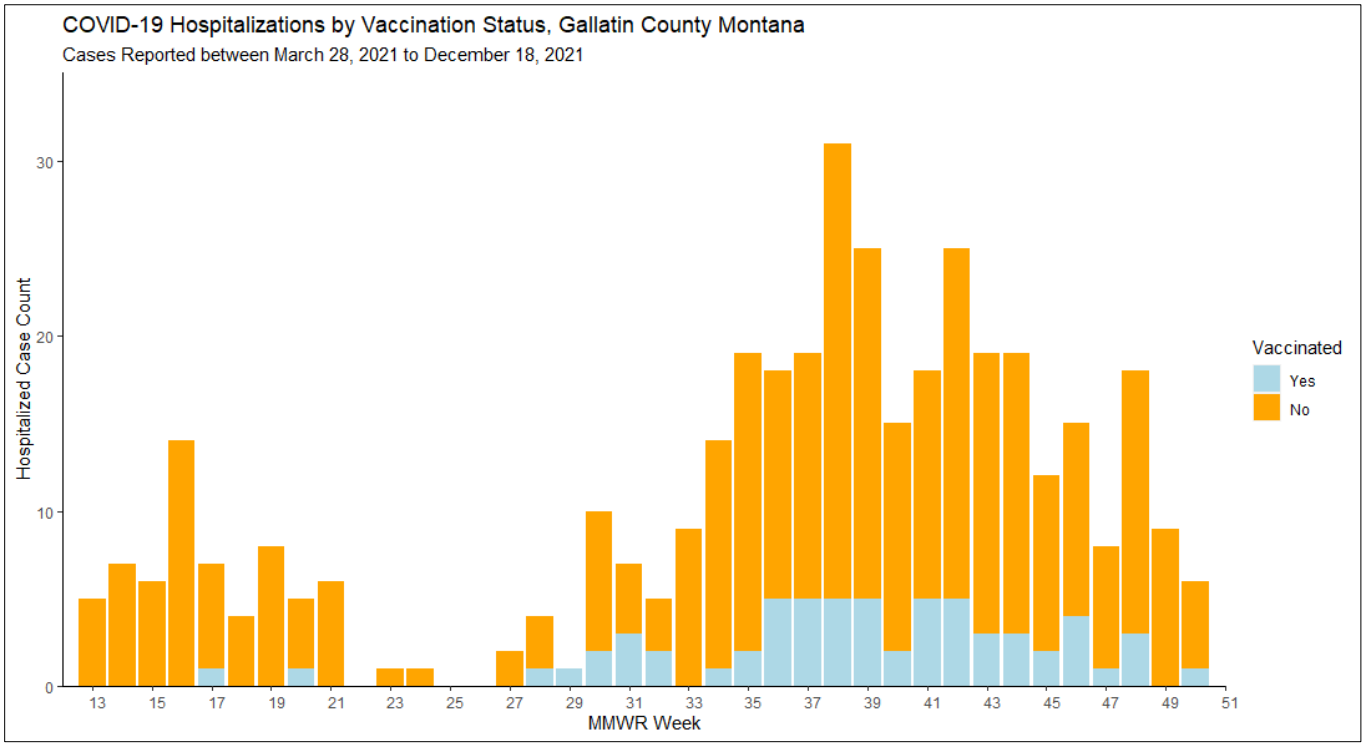

Figure 6. Describes the number of hospitalized COVID-19 cases by vaccination status and CDC MMWR Week from March 28, 2021 to December 18, 2021. Light blue bars represent weekly hospitalizations counts among fully vaccinated Gallatin County residents and orange bars represent weekly hospitalizations counts among unvaccinated Gallatin County residents.

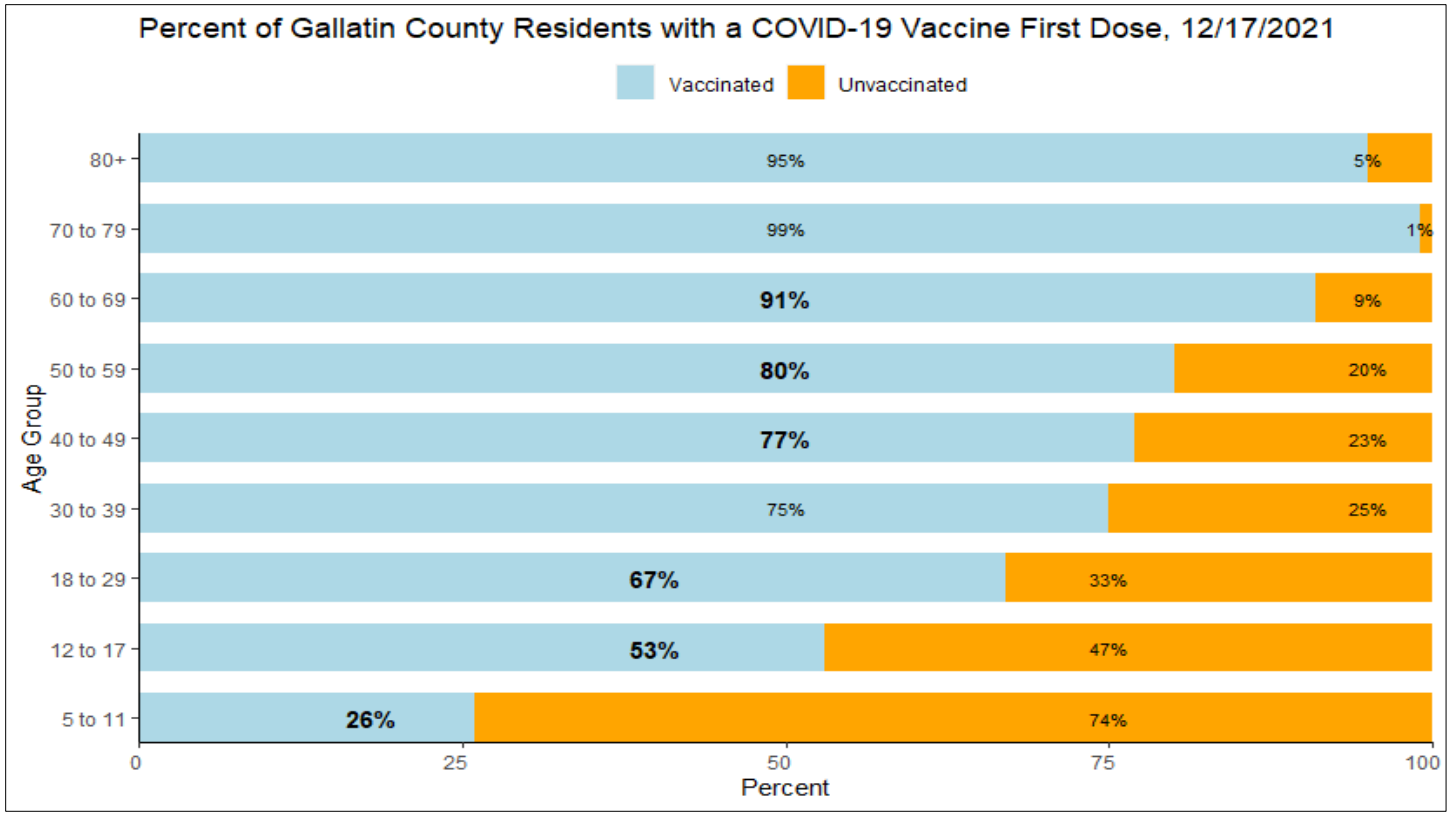

Figure 7. Describes the percentage of Gallatin County residents by age group who have received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Bolded values within blue bars indicate a percent increase from the previous week.

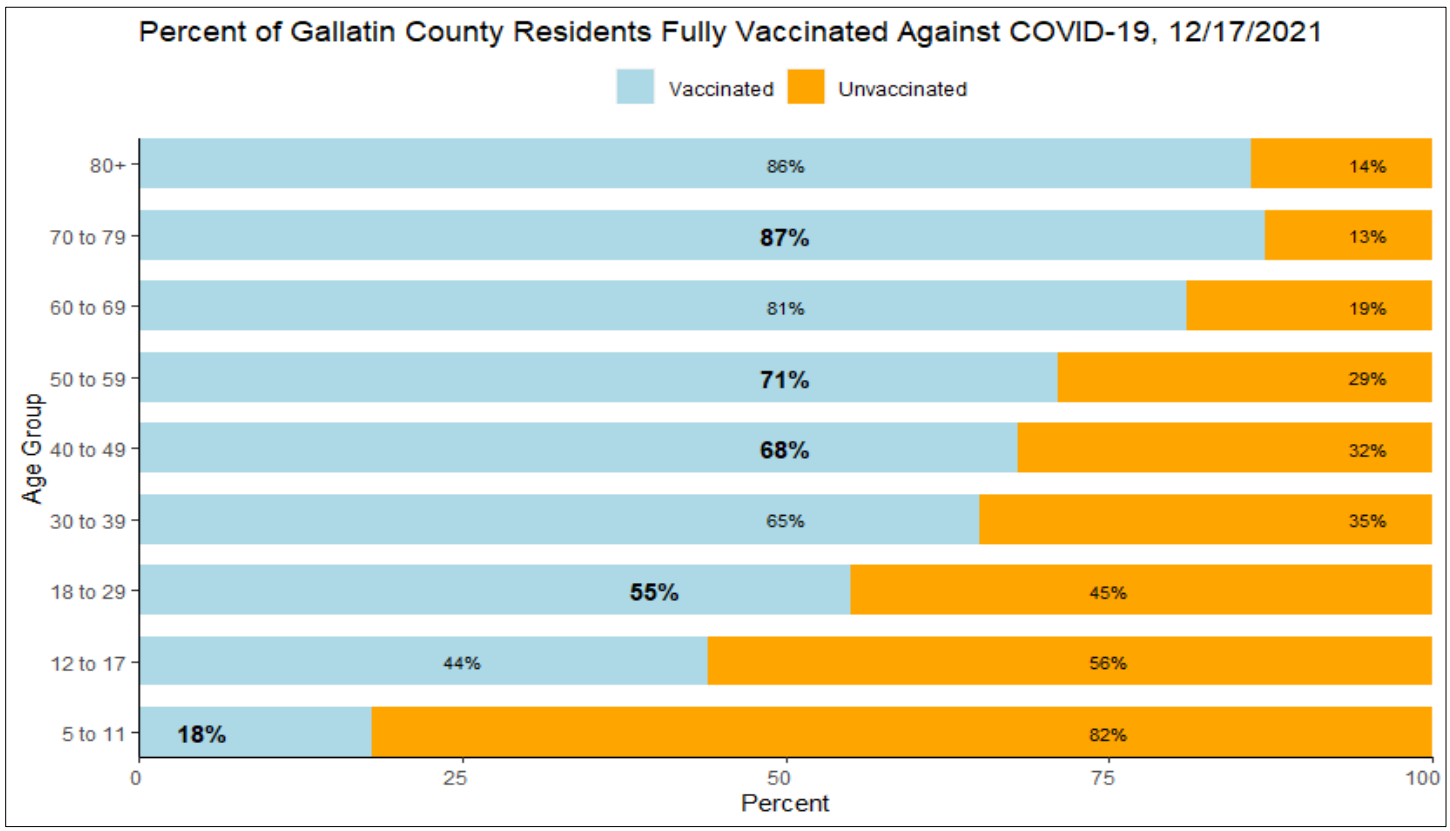

Figure 8. Describes the percentage of Gallatin County residents by age group who are fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine. Bolded values within blue bars indicate a percent increase from the previous week.

Table 1. Describes the number of active cases associated with K-12 schools and Montana State University as of 12/22/2021.

School Name	Active Cases
Montana State University	13
Belgrade Middle School	1
Bozeman Christian School	1
Chief Joseph Middle School	1
Emily Dickinson School	1
Gallatin High School	1
Meadowlark School	1
Ridge View Elementary	1
Sacajawea Middle School	1
Belgrade Middle School	1
Bozeman Christian School	1
Chief Joseph Middle School	1

Table 2. Describes the levels of community transmission based on the number of cases in the last 7 days per 100,000 population and the number of tests in the last 7 days that have a positive result. Gallatin County is currently experiencing "High" community transmission, as depicted by the black circle on the table below. Data regarding levels of transmission and percent of positive tests can be found at the CDC COVID Data Tracker here

Indicator - **If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected**	**Low Transmission Blue**	**Moderate Transmission Yellow**	**Substantial Transmission Orange**	**High Transmission Red**
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9.99	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs[1] that are positive during the past 7 days	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

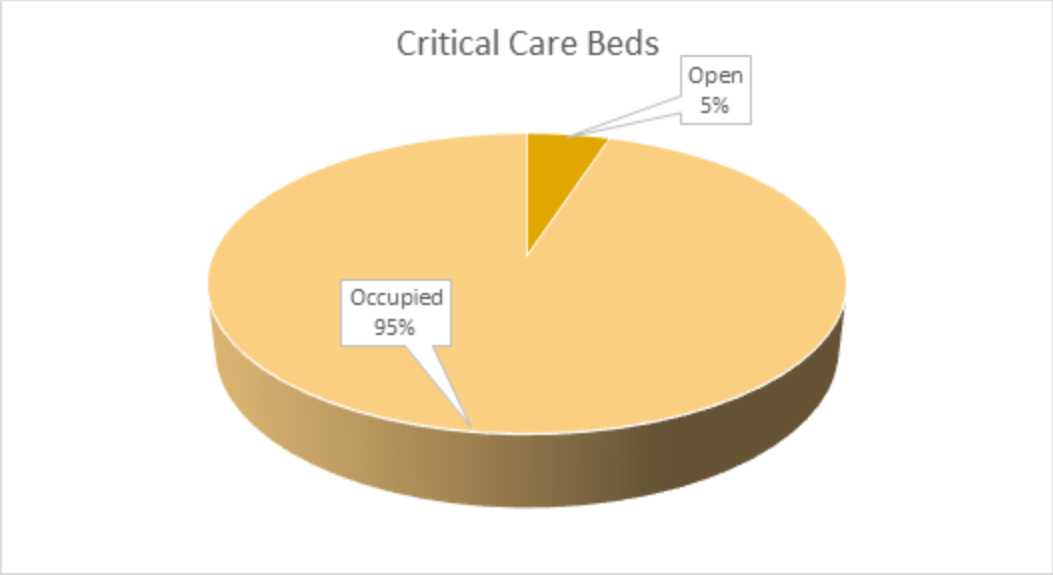

Figure 9. Describes critical care bed occupancy at Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital and Big Sky Medical Center as of 12/23/2021.

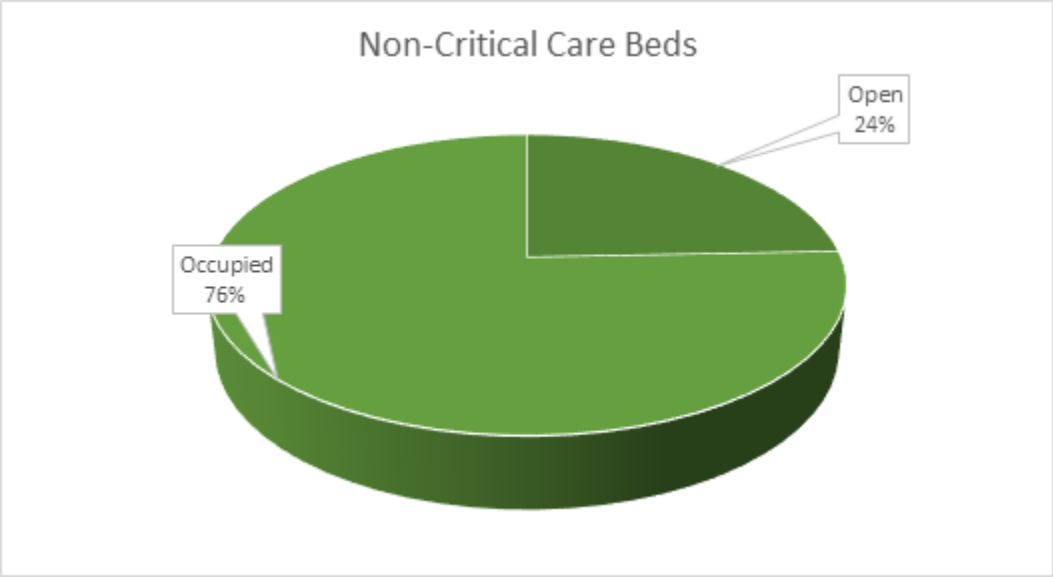

Figure 10. Describes non-critical care bed occupancy at Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital and Big Sky Medical Center as of 12/23/2021. This level of non-critical bed occupancy is not uncommon and similar patient loads are managed on a regular basis.

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Please note the data contained in the report above are subject to change as more information regarding cases and lab tests become available through contact tracing or information sharing. GCCHD reserves the right to edit the format and content of the weekly surveillance report.