



Important Update Regarding COVID-19

Date: March 2nd, 2021

Time: 11:00 am CST

Agenda

- ☐ Welcome from the Commissioner
- ☐ Governor's Update
- ☐ DHHS Update
- ☐ NDE Update
- ☐ Commissioner's Thoughts
- ☐ Wrap- UP

Governor's Update

Nebraska COVID-19 Vaccinations | Nebraska DHHS

Nebraska DHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Program

Total Allocated

446,525

1st Dose Allocated

278,440

2nd Dose Allocated

168,085

Doses allocated through: 2/26/2021.

1st Dose Administered

245,309

% 1st Dose Administered

88.1%

2nd Dose Administered

119,611

% 2nd Dose Administered

71.2%

Federal Retail and Long Term Care Vaccination Program

Total Allocated

84,680

1st Dose Allocated

45,190

2nd Dose Allocated

39,490

Doses allocated through: 2/24/2021.

1st Dose Administered

37,842

% 1st Dose Administered

83.7%

2nd Dose Administered

25,269

% 2nd Dose Administered

64%

Combined DHHS and Federal Retail and Long Term Care Vaccination Program Doses

Total Allocations

531,205

Total Administered

428,031

% of Allocated Doses Administered

80.6%

% of Population ≥ 16 Completing Vaccination

9.8%

of 1.48 M People

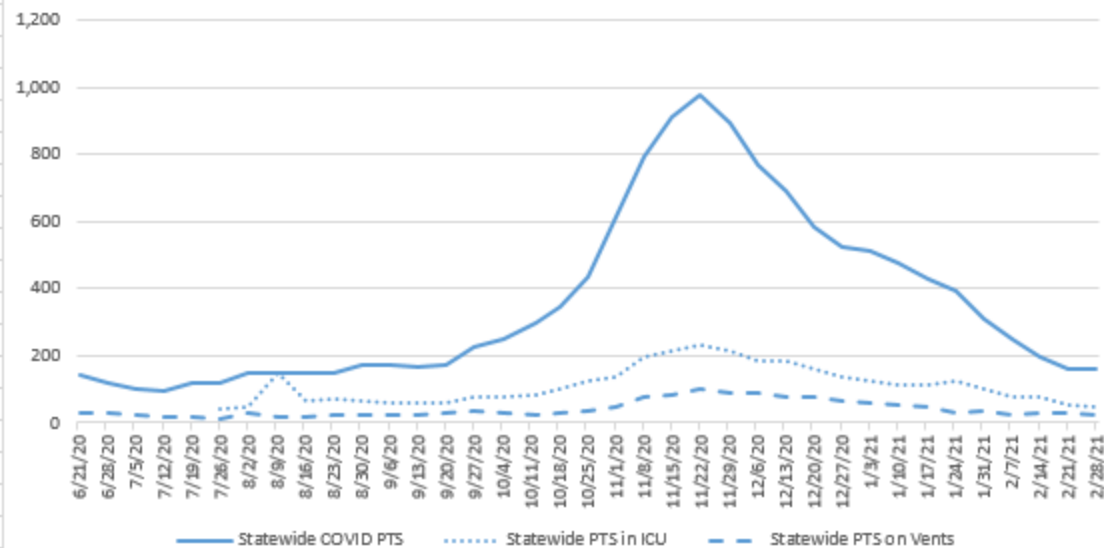
Vaccination Timeline

Vaccination Timeline (tentative)

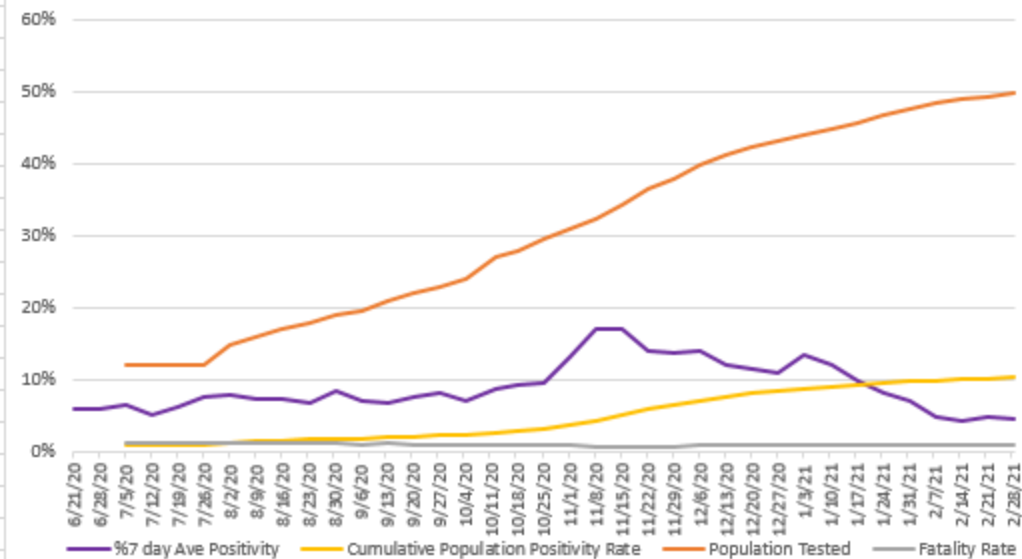
Phase	Population Group	January	February	March	April	May	June - Dec
1A	Healthcare and long term care facility residents						
1B	Persons aged 65 and older						
1B	First responders, utilities, homeless shelter staff, corrections staff, educators						
1B	Funeral homes, grocery, food processing						
1B	Transportation, US postal service, public transit						
1C	Congregate living (residential treatments, corrections, homeless shelters)						
2A	Persons aged 50-64						
2B	Persons aged 16-49						

Date	Statewide COVID PTS	%7 day Ave Positivity	Statewide PTS on Vents	Douglas Covid PTS	Doug Covid PTS on Vents	Lanc COVID PTS	Lanc COVID PTS on Vents	Population Tested	Cumulative Population	Fatality Rate	Statewide PTS in ICU	Douglas PTS in ICU	Lancaster PTS in ICU
6/21/2020	141	6.00%	31	84	23	28	6						
6/28/2020	117	5.90%	27	80	22	15	3						
7/5/2020	101	6.60%	21	74	17	9	2	12.2%	0.96%	1.34%			
7/12/2020	98	5.30%	19	55	14	26	3	12.2%	0.96%	1.34%			
7/19/2020	121	6.20%	18	70	15	29	3	12.2%	0.96%	1.34%			
7/26/2020	121	7.60%	11	67	7	19	2	12.2%	0.96%	1.34%	43	30	3
8/2/2020	147	8.00%	27	79	16	26	6	15.0%	1.20%	1.24%	46	30	8
8/9/2020	146	7.50%	15	88	10	20	4	16.0%	1.50%	1.21%	146	41	5
8/16/2020	146	7.40%	18	87	12	18	4	17.0%	1.60%	1.18%	64	45	6
8/23/2020	146	6.90%	22	88	18	17	1	18.0%	1.70%	1.18%	74	59	1
8/30/2020	172	8.60%	22	74	13	30	3	19.0%	1.80%	1.15%	66	44	5
9/6/2020	175	7.00%	24	73	11	35	3	19.5%	1.90%	1.13%	60	30	5
9/13/2020	169	6.80%	26	74	16	31	3	21.0%	2.00%	1.14%	59	32	3
9/20/2020	170	7.80%	27	66	15	32	4	22.0%	2.10%	1.08%	59	26	2
9/27/2020	224	8.30%	35	92	15	62	10	23.0%	2.30%	1.07%	80	37	15
10/4/2020	249	7.20%	31	102	14	59	10	24.0%	2.40%	1.05%	78	33	14
10/12/2020	300	8.80%	22	115	5	59	8	27.0%	2.70%	1.00%	86	33	12
10/18/2020	343	9.20%	29	127	18	67	1	28.0%	3.00%	0.96%	102	46	4
10/25/2020	435	9.70%	38	161	13	60	9	29.5%	3.30%	0.95%	125	52	9
11/1/2020	613	13.30%	47	223	19	95	12	31.0%	3.70%	0.91%	136	52	19
11/8/2020	794	17.10%	76	309	38	129	11	32.5%	4.30%	0.84%	198	84	21
11/15/2020	914	17.00%	84	333	34	143	22	34.4%	5.10%	0.79%	216	87	27
11/22/2020	976	14.00%	99	355	36	169	30	36.6%	5.90%	0.80%	235	86	39
11/29/2020	896	13.70%	89	321	34	181	23	38.0%	6.50%	0.78%	214	78	35
12/6/2020	768	14.00%	89	278	40	138	18	40.0%	7.20%	0.86%	186	67	35
12/13/2020	692	12.20%	80	276	35	119	23	41.3%	7.70%	0.92%	184	73	29
12/20/2020	582	11.60%	75	251	32	94	21	42.4%	8.10%	0.95%	163	68	26
12/27/2020	527	11.00%	63	238	29	101	12	43.3%	8.40%	0.96%	139	65	22
1/3/2021	511	13.40%	57	232	32	98	14	44.1%	8.70%	0.99%	126	62	17
1/10/2021	475	12.10%	52	204	28	101	11	45.0%	9.10%	1.00%	115	54	18
1/17/2021	429	10.00%	45	195	21	95	10	45.8%	9.40%	1.00%	115	56	14
1/24/2021	392	8.30%	29	185	14	71	5	46.9%	9.70%	1.00%	126	69	9
1/31/2021	312	7.10%	33	166	22	52	4	47.8%	9.90%	1.00%	100	63	4
2/7/2021	250	4.80%	24	124	16	43	4	48.5%	10.00%	1.02%	76	43	7
2/14/2021	195	4.30%	31	107	20	27	7	49.1%	10.20%	1.02%	75	43	9
2/21/2021	161	4.90%	29	79	20	29	5	49.5%	10.30%	1.03%	54	30	12
2/28/2021	158	4.70%	22	70	17	37	4	49.9%	10.40%	1.04%	50	20	14

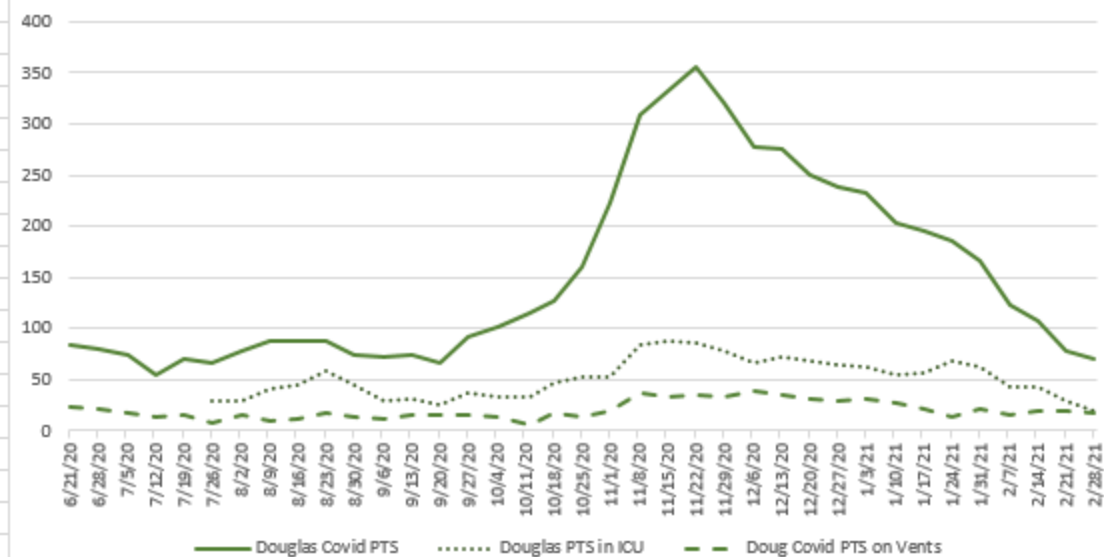
Nebraska Patient, ICU, & Ventilator Counts



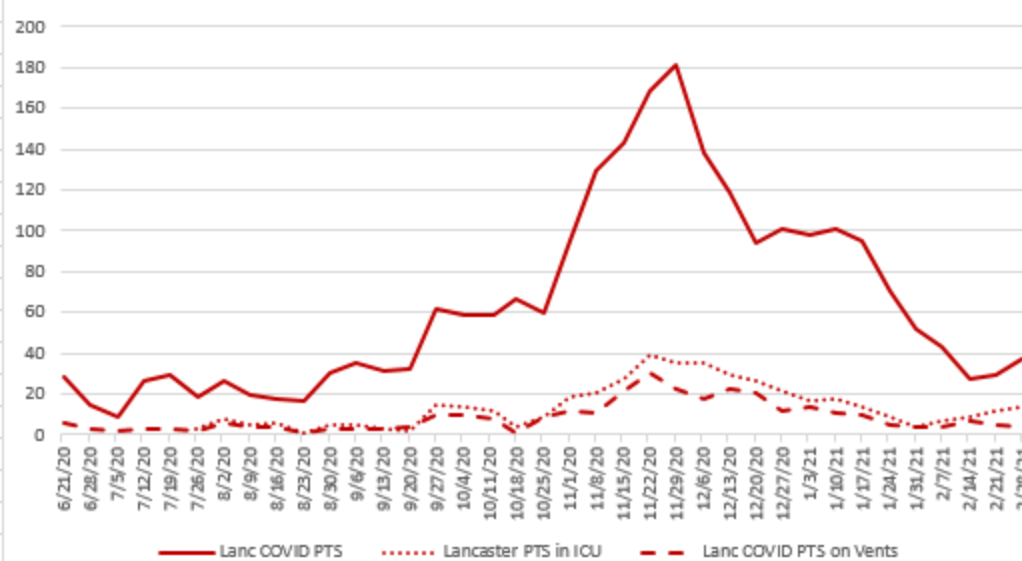
Nebraska COVID Rates



Douglas County Patient, ICU, & Ventilator Counts



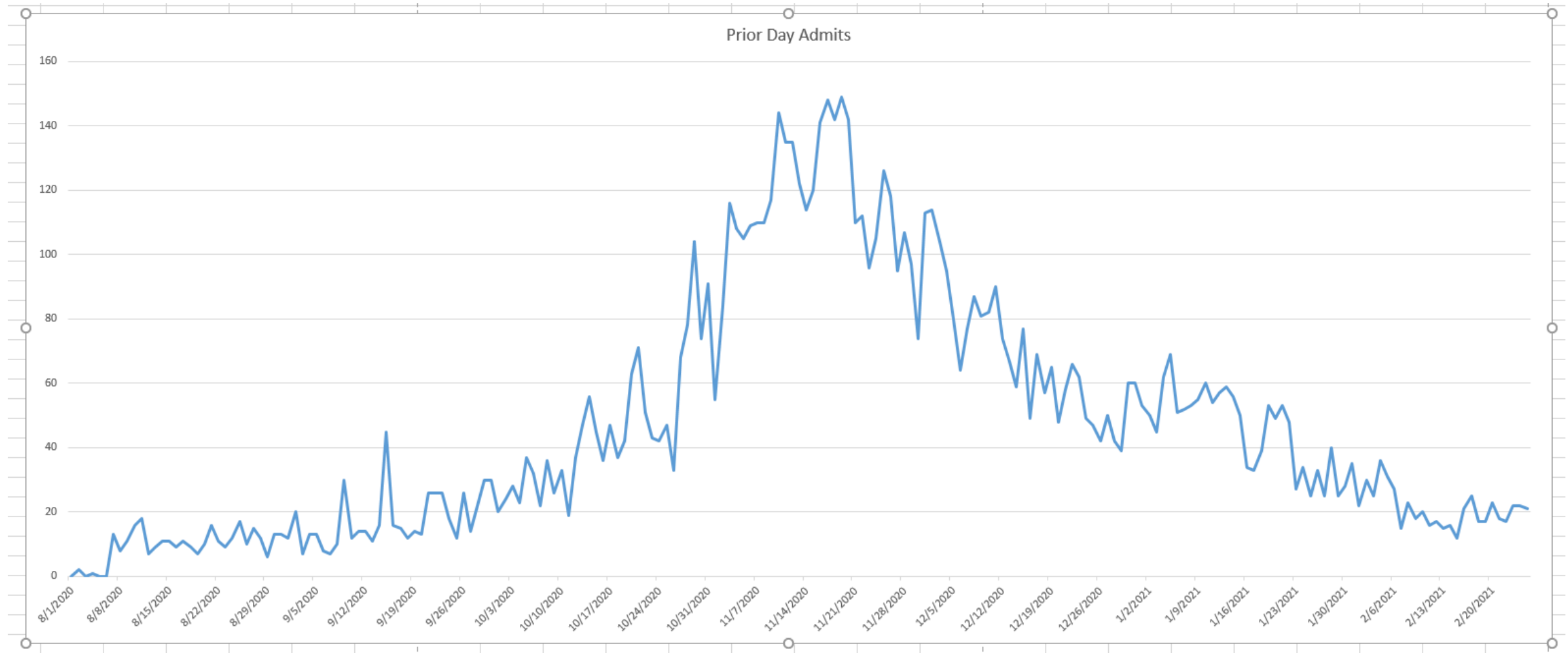
Lancaster County Patient, ICU, & Ventilator Counts



DHHS Update

- Decrease of 3 pts (14 wks of decrease in hospitalizations)
- 7 day ave. of 4.2% of occupied beds being COVID pts (4.6%, 5.5%)
- 32% of COVID pts are in ICU (34%; 39%)
- 44% of ICU COVID pts are on Vents (54%; 41%)
- 14% of statewide ICU pts are COVID pts (15%, 23%)
- COMM/ CAH'S 12 with 15 pts (14 with 21 pts)

DHHS Update



COVID-19 Testing Outreach

- ❖ NDE surveyed districts in December 2020 to gauge interest in pilot
- ❖ 32 sites; 1 200+ tests administered in January and February 2021
- ❖ Lessons learned:
 - Nebraska schools' mitigation efforts have been largely successful. Still, positive cases were detected in this pilot, underscoring the central value testing and the role early detections play in preventing transmission within schools.
 - The NDE and DHHS have improved processes to make the rollout simpler for districts by
 - Coordinating key messages and processes,
 - Increasing time for communication prior to committing to and implementing the testing,
 - Streamlining process for communication with DHHS operations team, and
 - Providing a model consent form for district use.
- ❖ NDE & DHHS are extending this testing opportunity for schools once again

Purpose of Testing

- ❖ Nebraska is committed to keeping school buildings as open as possible. Testing for high school students and staff:
 - ❑ Provides an opportunity to screen for COVID-19 after spring break.
 - ❑ Allows for detection of asymptomatic COVID-19 cases, more common among children.
 - ❑ Makes testing accessible to rural communities with limited access to testing.
 - ❑ Ensures high school staff have access to testing if they are interested.
 - ❑ Allows an additional option for detection and prevention prior to school staff receiving vaccination. Currently, vaccines are not formulated for children.



Why High School?

- ❖ When children develop COVID-19, they are less likely to feel sick (asymptomatic).
- ❖ Asymptomatic individuals will often not seek testing or stay home from school
- ❖ Asymptomatic individuals can still spread the virus
- ❖ Testing allows educators to identify asymptomatic individuals to prevent transmission earlier.

Testing Details

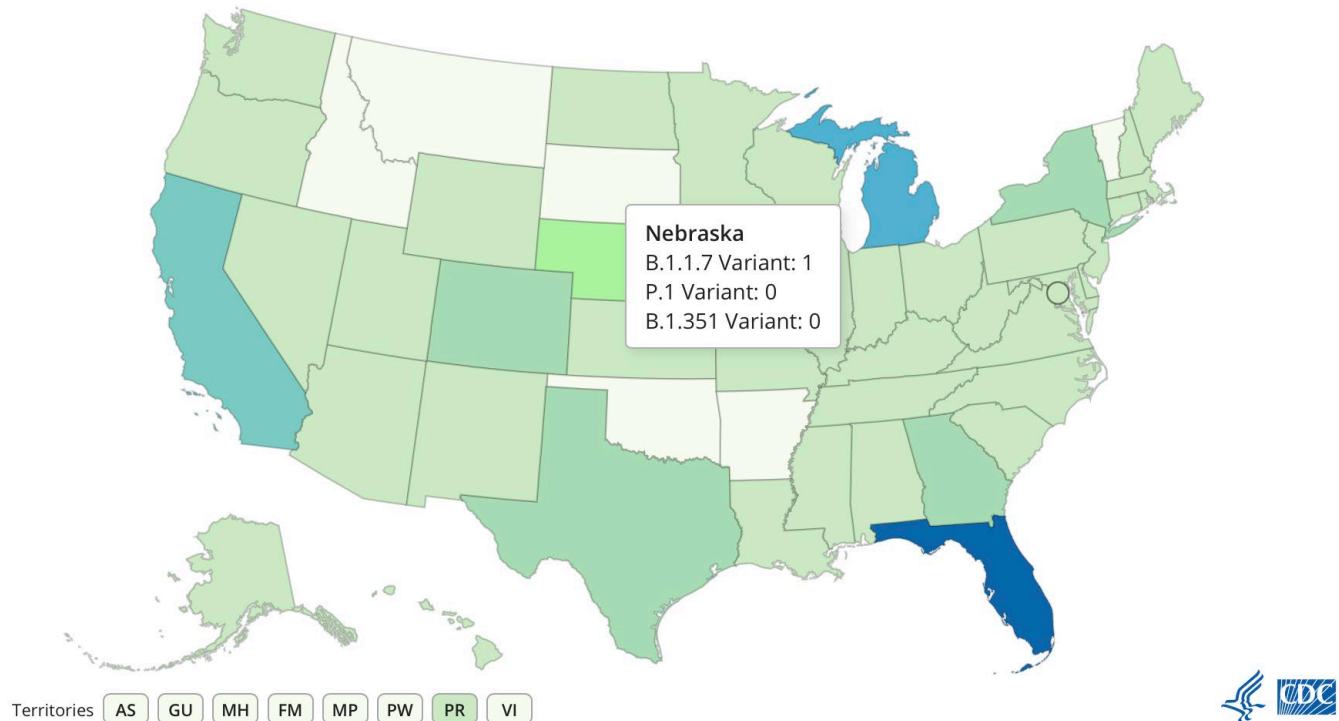
- ❖ Uses Test Nebraska capacity
- ❖ Teams are sent to schools to administer the tests
- ❖ Nasal tests (rather than nasopharyngeal)
- ❖ Turnaround time is around 24 hours
- ❖ Students and staff can continue to be in school until results are returned.
- ❖ No cost for schools.

Variants

Why we need to stay vigilant

Variant	Reported Cases in US	Number of Jurisdictions Reporting
B.1.1.7	2400	46
B.1.351	53	16
P.1	10	5

Emerging Variant Cases in the United States*†



News Release

Nebraska Identifies B-117 Variant Of COVID-19

For Immediate Release: 2/26/2021



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Lincoln – The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Nebraska Public Health Lab (NPHL) have confirmed the first known case of the U.K. variant of COVID-19, known as B.1.1.7 (B-117) in the state.

News Release

Nebraska Identifies B.1.429 Variant Of COVID-19

For Immediate Release: 2/27/2021



Variants in NE reinforce the importance of NPIs

- Masking, distancing, avoiding 3Cs
- Get a test if exposed or sick
- Register for a vaccine at vaccinate.ne.gov

Vaccination

- Vaccines protect against serious illness
- Possible to still spread(?)
- Why and how are priority groups identified? Who sets this?
- Need to continue wearing mask – why?
- Finish Strong Nebraska

ESSER II Guidance

- ❖ Allocations
- ❖ Period of Availability
- ❖ Additional Spending Rules and Considerations for ESSER II
- ❖ Reporting
- ❖ Considerations
- ❖ Core Actions

Nebraska's Framework for School Renewal & Acceleration

- Systems Considerations
- High-Quality Instructional Materials & Content
- Diagnosing Unfinished Teaching and Learning
- Planning for Acceleration
- Ensuring Equitable Instruction
- Professional Learning for Teachers and School Leaders



Nebraska ESSER II Funding Application

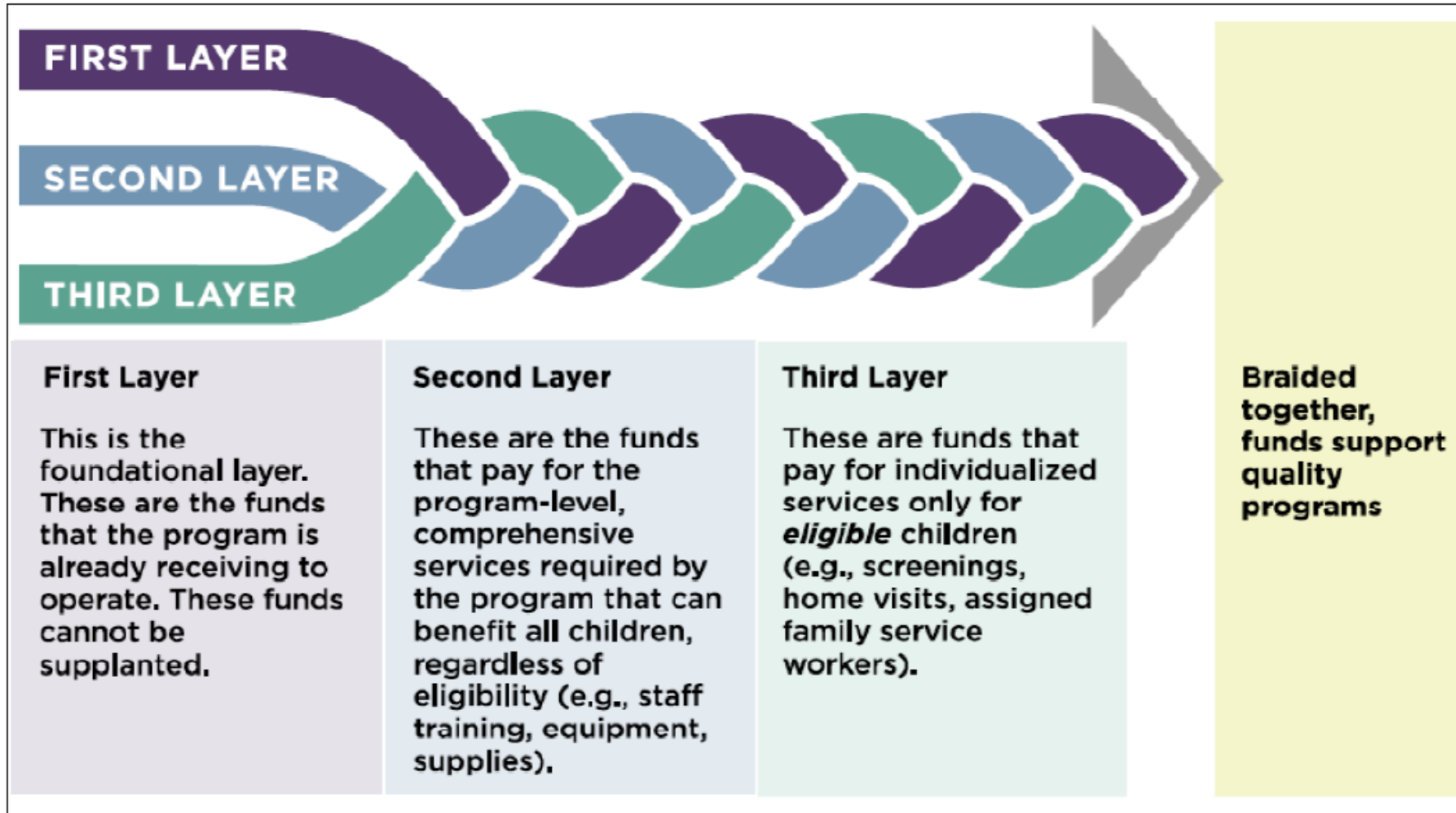
- How will your ESSER investments meet the needs of students that have been historically marginalized (including English learners, students with disabilities, the economically disadvantaged, and students of color) and/or those impacted most by COVID-19?
 - What data did you use to support these investments?
 - Will supports be provided to all students, specific student groups, or individualized to specific students?
- How does your application align to and support Nebraska's Framework for School Renewal and Acceleration?
- How does the application address both immediate (e.g. within the next six months) and long-term (e.g. within the next 12-24 months) needs and priorities?
- How did you engage a diverse set of stakeholders – including students, families, educators, and the broader community – to ensure that the highest-priority needs are met?

Nebraska ESSER II Funding Application

Planning for Acceleration Examples

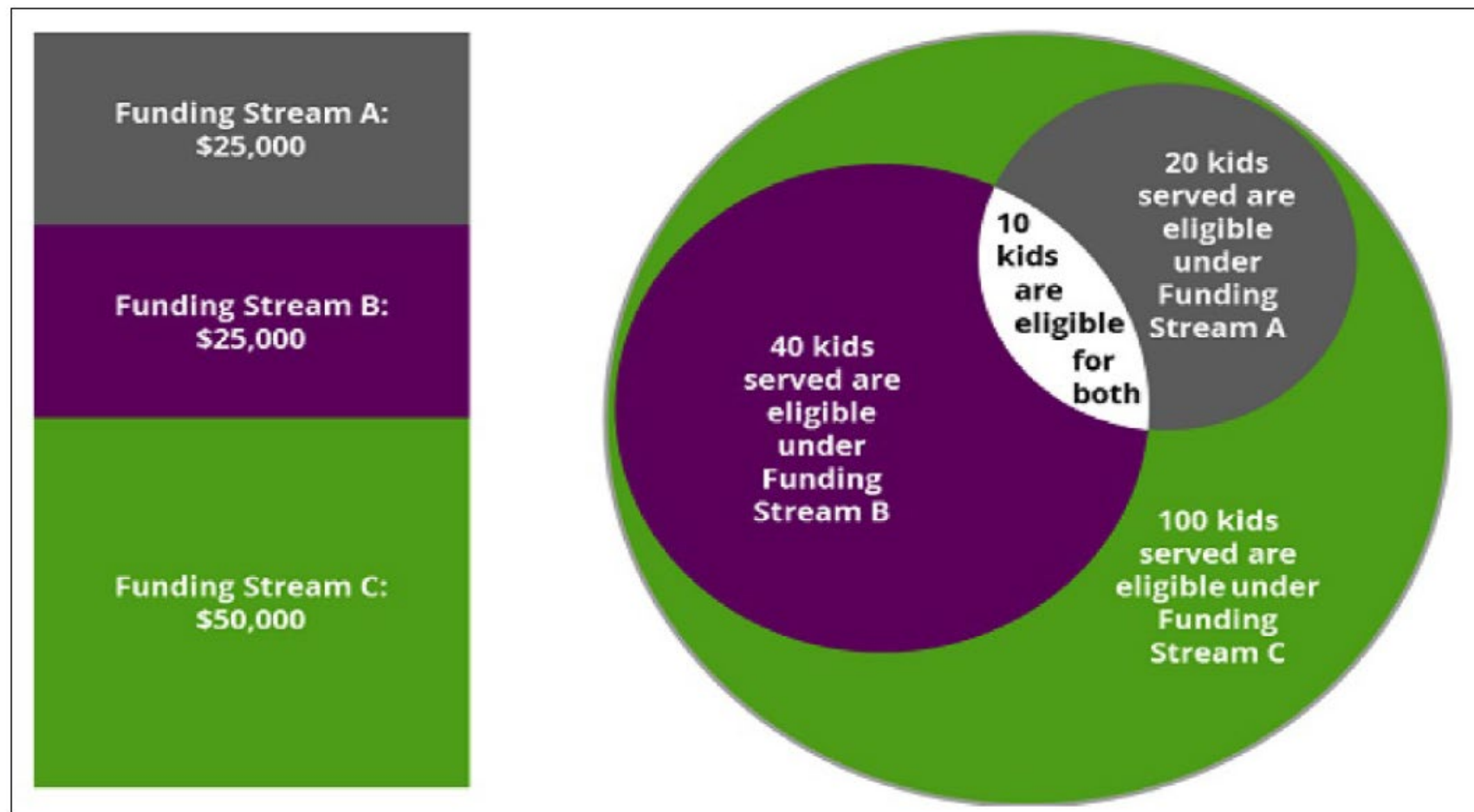
- Academic renewal and accelerated learning initiatives, including:
 - Extending school day directly and/or through partnerships with after-school programs;
 - Extending school year, including summer intensives and acceleration academies;
 - Changing master schedules to promote accelerated learning, team teaching, and differentiated teaching to better support students' needs;
 - Designing and launching high-quality, high-dose tutoring programs (including pay for teachers and tutors)
 - High-quality afterschool and summer programming aligned to the school day.
- Provide targeted resources, supports, and professional learning to help educators prioritize the students most impacted by school building closures, remote instruction, etc.
- Hire additional staff and/or provide additional staff time to implement summer intensive programs and acceleration academies.
- Provide strategies to assist students planning for graduation on how to navigate this unique time so that they graduate high school and successfully transition to postsecondary education

Consideration for Braiding Funds



Source Image: [West Ed National Center for Systemic Improvement](#)

Consideration for Blending Funds



Source Image: [West Ed National Center for Systemic Improvement](#)

Commissioner's Thoughts

- ❖ Rule 10/14 Guidance Update
- ❖ Legislative Session
- ❖ Federal Topics
- ❖ Planning for Fall 2021-CDC Guidance

Wrap-Up

- ☐ All Coronavirus resources for Nebraska's education communities have been moved to the Commissioner's Guidance page on Launch Nebraska: <https://www.launchne.com/commish/>.
- ☐ Staff at the NDE are working to address key FAQs and other topics as we know them.
- ☐ Please use below link and submit your questions and suggestions for next zoom call by Friday, March 12th, 2021
<https://forms.gle/64oTH8XQLFsGNwJ96>
- ☐ Next call- March 16th, 2021





Thank you!