



Allegheny County
Department of
Human Services

DHS Provider Briefing

May 27, 2021

*The briefing will be recorded and posted on [Allegheny County Analytics](#).



Agenda

- Current and Upcoming Opportunities
- Policy Updates
- Health Department Update
- Election Results
- Q&A

Opportunities

Active Solicitations

RFP for the Operator of the Low-Barrier Shelter and Drop-In Center at Second Avenue Commons

- Proposals are due at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 25

RFI for a Racial Equity Training and Support Directory

- The quarterly submission deadline in June is coming up on Tuesday, June 15 at 3 p.m.

[Link to DHS Solicitations](#)

Please Submit Uncovered COVID-related Expenses

Please submit these expenses into MPER no later than 7/8/21

Expenses must be incurred between 7/1/20 and 6/30/21

All expenses submitted will be reviewed by the DHS compliance unit

Supporting information can be sent to Lisa Impavido
lisa.impavido@alleghenycounty.us

Submitted expenses are not guaranteed to be paid

Payment is also dependent on availability of funding

Lost revenue cannot be considered

Policy Updates

State – Emergency Disaster Declaration

- Last week, PA voters approved constitutional amendments that limit a governor's ability to issue and extend emergency declarations.
- Gov. Tom Wolf has since renewed the state's COVID-19 declaration and has challenged the General Assembly's understanding of the new amendment.
- A House resolution to rescind several components of the recently renewed emergency declaration advanced this week and will soon be taken up by the Senate.
 - The resolution reinstates work search requirements for unemployed individuals, ends the administration's ability to engage in no-bid contracts, and eliminates the governor's ability to enact occupancy limits, business closures and stay-at-home orders.
- Disagreement continues about executive vs legislative emergency power:
 - Gov. Wolf maintains the executive orders he issued under the power of the disaster declaration cannot be undone by the legislature's resolution because the orders are separate from the declaration itself.
 - The General Assembly is challenging this assertion since the enabling disaster declaration could be ended by their vote under the new amendments, but it seems clear the conflict will be decided ultimately by the Courts.

State – Opioid Disaster Declaration

- Questions still remain on whether or not the General Assembly will act to repeal the opioid state of emergency Gov. Wolf has kept going for two years.
- The current opioid declaration limits the number of opioid prescriptions doctors can prescribe, provides access to medication-assisted treatment programs, and established the Centers of Excellence. The order also waived birth certificate requirements to enter into a treatment program.

State – Oversight of COVID-19 Funds

- Recently-elected Auditor General Timothy DeFoor is calling on state lawmakers to implement a series of safeguards and regulations on the spending of federal COVID-19 dollars, Coronavirus State Fiscal Relief, that the state is receiving.
 - Appearing with the Auditor General, State Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill, a frequent champion of fiscal reform policies, is sponsoring legislation that would tighten oversight of state-issued grants and allow the state to “claw-back” surplus grant funds.
 - This legislation is still in Committee in the Senate.

Local – Community Health Survey

- The Allegheny County Health Department seeks public participation in its [Community Health Assessment Survey](#) supplement on the impacts of 2020.
- This survey is part of the ACHD's 2021 Community Health Assessment, which when complete will serve as a living document of community health data to support decision making, grant making, and health improvement strategies.
- Survey results will be combined with results from a larger health survey conducted by the ACHD in 2019.
- The survey is accessible online in English and Spanish [here](#).
- Community organizations can request paper surveys in multiple languages through a form shared on the online survey and available directly [here](#).
- Residents who complete the survey can enter an optional raffle for a Giant Eagle gift card.

Local – Children Initiatives Department Director

- County Executive Fitzgerald announced that Rebecca (Becky) Mercatoris has been named the first director of the new Department of Children Initiatives.
- Mercatoris begins her new role on June 7, 2021.
- Mercatoris previously worked for Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) as the Bureau Director of the Bureau of Early Learning Policy and Professional Development. Prior experience also includes positions with the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC), the Southwest Regional Key, and Tender Care Learning Centers.

Health Department Update

Dr. Debra Bogen



ACHD COVID-19 Update

DHS Provider Call

May 27, 2021



COVID-19 in ALLEGHENY COUNTY



OVERALL

Cases: 101,056	Individuals Tested: 558,926	Positivity (PCR): 6.7%	Hospitalizations: 7,121	Deaths: 1,942
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7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE

Cases: 111	Individuals Tested: 3,038	Positivity (PCR): 3.6%	Hospitalizations: 10	Deaths: 1
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WEEKLY DATA AND TRENDS

Time Period

All

Case Data

Probable

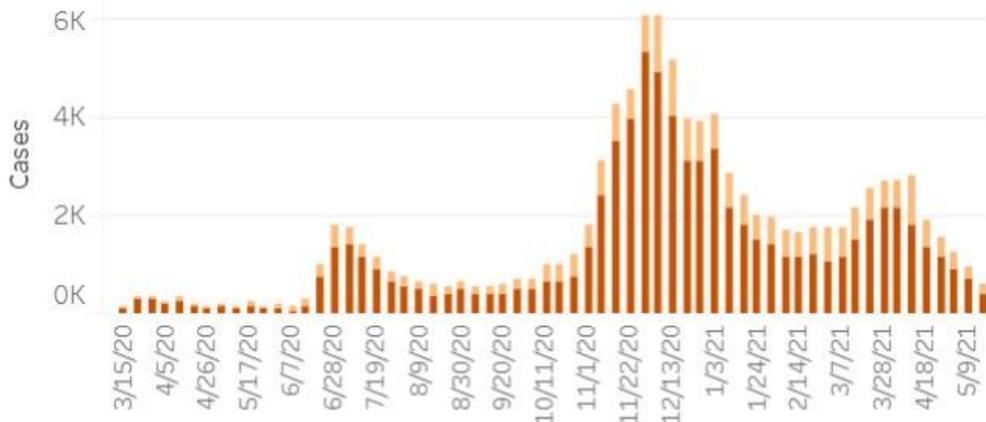
Confirmed

Test Data

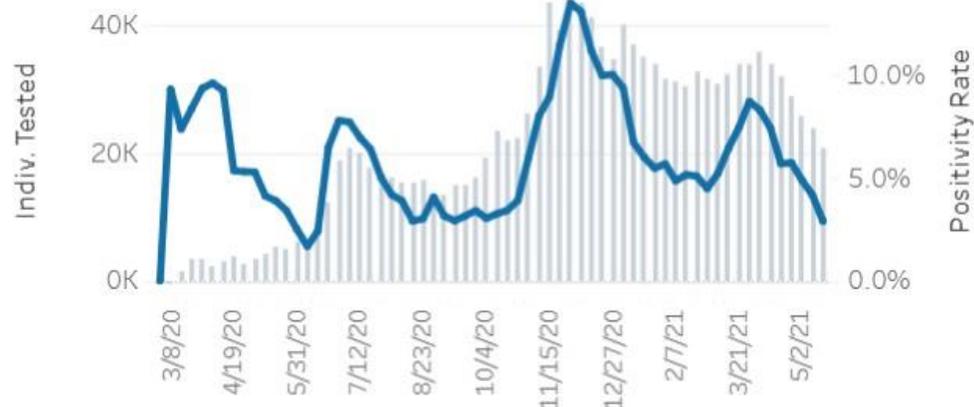
Individuals Tested

Positivity (PCR)

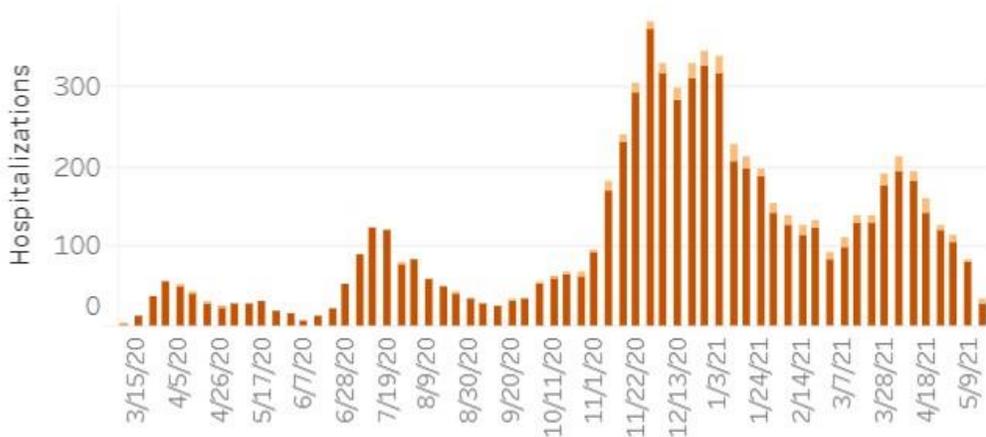
Cases



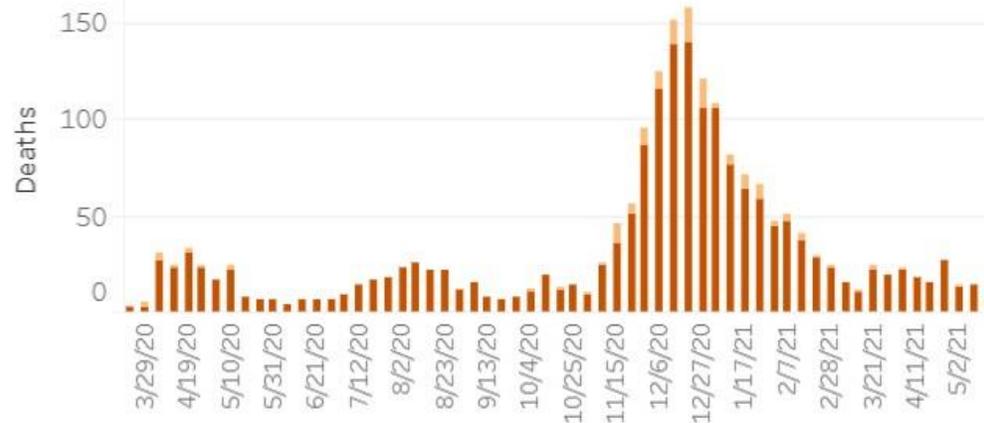
Individuals Tested



Hospitalizations



Deaths





COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard

Updated on 5/21/2021

Select a County
ALLEGHENY

Page Navigation
All Counties



Newly reported confirmed cases



Decreased from 785 confirmed cases the previous seven days to 518 in the most recent seven days.

785

Previous 7 days

518

Most recent 7 days



Incidence rate per 100,000 residents



Decreased from a rate of 64.6 per 100,000 residents in the previous seven days to 42.6 per 100,000 residents in the most recent seven days.

64.6

Previous 7 days

42.6

Most recent 7 days



PCR testing positivity rate



Decreased from a PCR testing positivity rate of 5 percent during the previous seven days to 4 percent over the most recent seven days.

5.0%

Previous 7 days

4.0%

Most recent 7 days



Average daily COVID-19 specific hospitalizations



Decreased from 157.4 daily COVID-19 specific hospitalizations, on average, over the previous seven days to 137.4 daily COVID-19 specific hospitalizations, on average, over the most recent seven days.

157.4

Previous 7 days

137.4

Most recent 7 days



Average daily COVID-19 patients on ventilators



Increased from 28.4 daily COVID-19 patients on ventilators, on average, over the previous seven days to 29.7 daily COVID-19 patients on ventilators, on average, over the most recent seven days.

28.4

Previous 7 days

29.7

Most recent 7 days



Percent of hospital emergency department visits due to COVID-like-illness (CLI)



Decreased from 0.5 percent of hospital emergency department visits in the previous seven days due to COVID-like-illness (CLI) in the previous seven days to 0.3 percent in the most recent seven days.

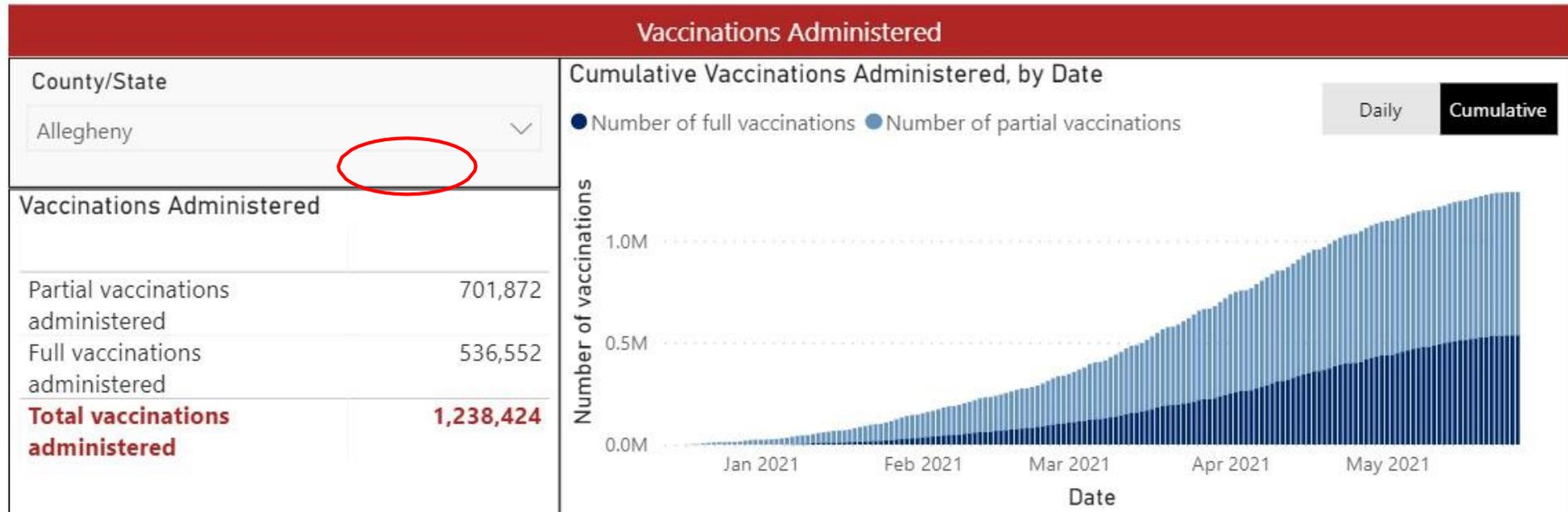
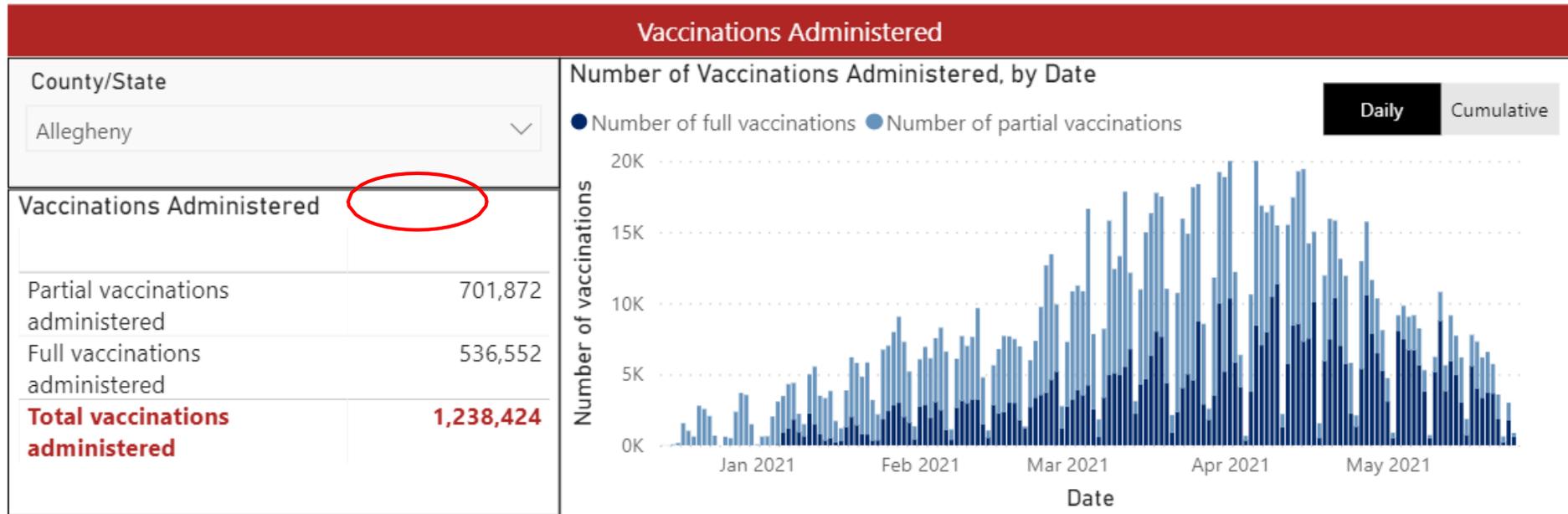
0.5%

Previous 7 days

0.3%

Most recent 7 days





<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/Dashboard.aspx>



County Vaccination

- 71% of population with at least one vaccine
 - 65 and older: 98%
 - 50 to 64: 74%
 - 35 to 49: 66%
 - 20 to 34: 56%
 - 15 to 19: 37%
 - 12 to 14: 9%

Individuals Vaccinated Allegheny County

- Partially	199,762
- Fully	<u>536,552</u>
- Total	736,314



Commonwealth COVID Mitigation Orders

- PA Guidance <https://www.pa.gov/guides/responding-to-covid-19/>
 - May 31, 2021, lifting COVID mitigation orders.
 - Masking order will be lifted on June 28 or when 70% adults get their second dose of vaccine, whichever comes first.
 - These updates will not prevent municipalities and school districts from continuing and implementing stricter mitigation efforts.
 - DOH recommends that Pennsylvanians refer to CDC guidance and recommendations regarding ongoing COVID-19 safety measures and procedures.
- CDC:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/communication/guidance.html>
- Use what learned about COVID past 15 months
 - Consider risk level of different experiences
 - Consider your own risk level and that of those you come into contact

LISC Vaccine Access Fund

- LISC is providing grants to 501c3 partner organizations to coordinate free rides to vaccination sites for residents who cannot get there on their own.
 - Funds will cover the cost of Uber rides, staffing, and other operational costs.
 - Partners are expected to coordinate rides for at least 250 people.
 - Riders do not need to have a smart phone, credit card, or Uber/Lyft app.
 - The program will run through December 31, 2021 (whereas free ride offers directly through Lyft and Uber extend only through July 4th)
- To view the guidelines and apply, visit the [Overview](#) and [Intake Questionnaire](#)

Vaccine Transportation Options for Individuals

- Call 2-1-1 to access:
 - Free transportation to an ACHD clinic through ACCESS for those aged 65+, MATP eligible, or with mobility needs
 - This option may provide the best vehicle fit for those with mobility needs
 - Free transportation to any vaccination site through Ride United partnership with Lyft
- Open the Uber app and tap “Vaccine” for \$25 off each of up to four rides (first and second doses) through July 4th
- Open the Lyft app and enter code LYFTVACCINE for \$15 off each of up to two rides through July 4th

Pop-up Vaccination Opportunity

- Squirrel Hill Health Center is looking for indoor or outdoor locations for pop-up vaccination sites
 - Mobile Unit is available for outdoor sites
 - Offerings include one- or two-dose vaccines (J&J or Moderna), evening & weekend hours depending on availability
- If you are interested, please contact Emily Magoc
EMagoc@squirrelhillhealthcenter.org

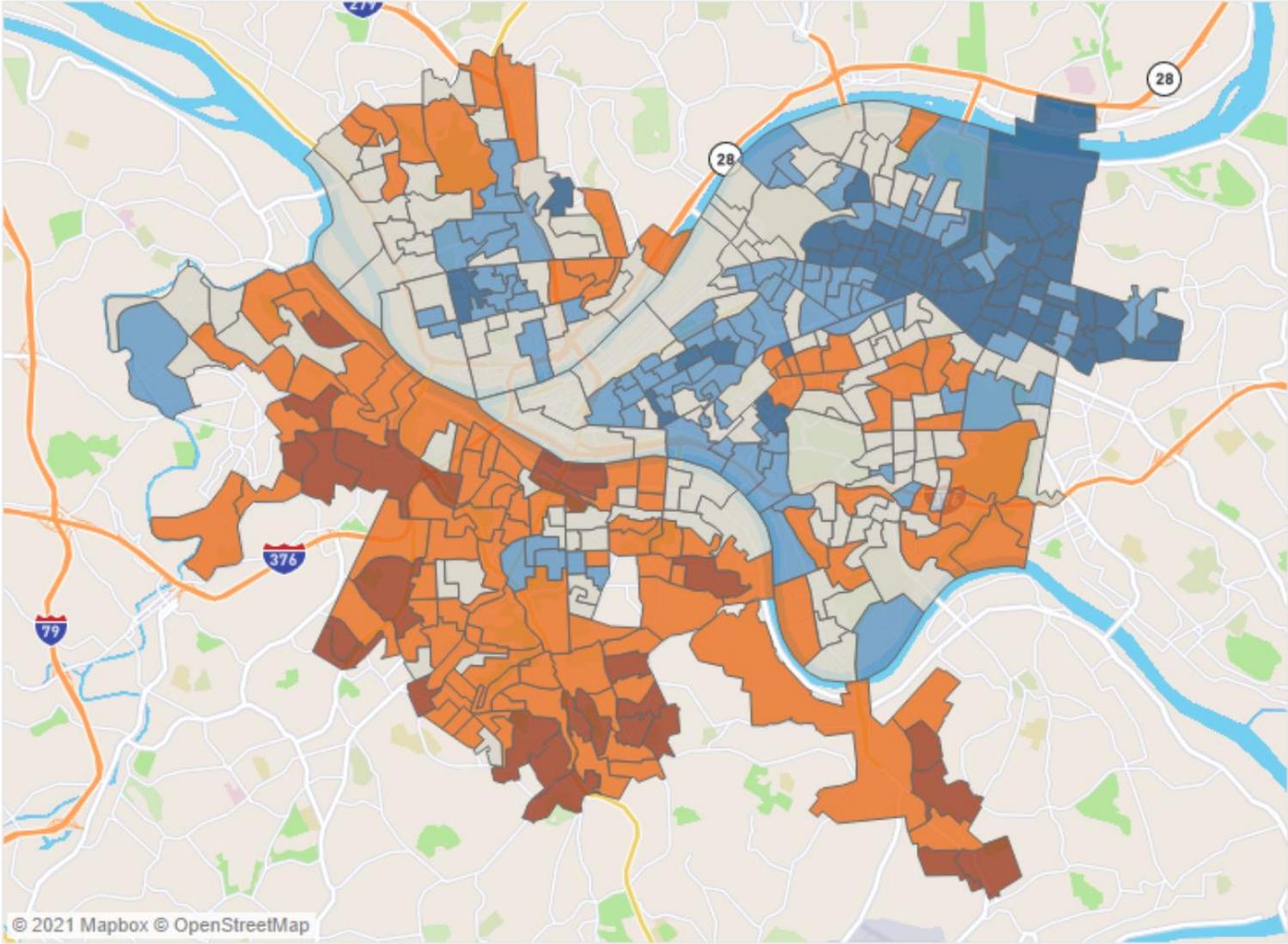
Election Results

Brandon Forbes

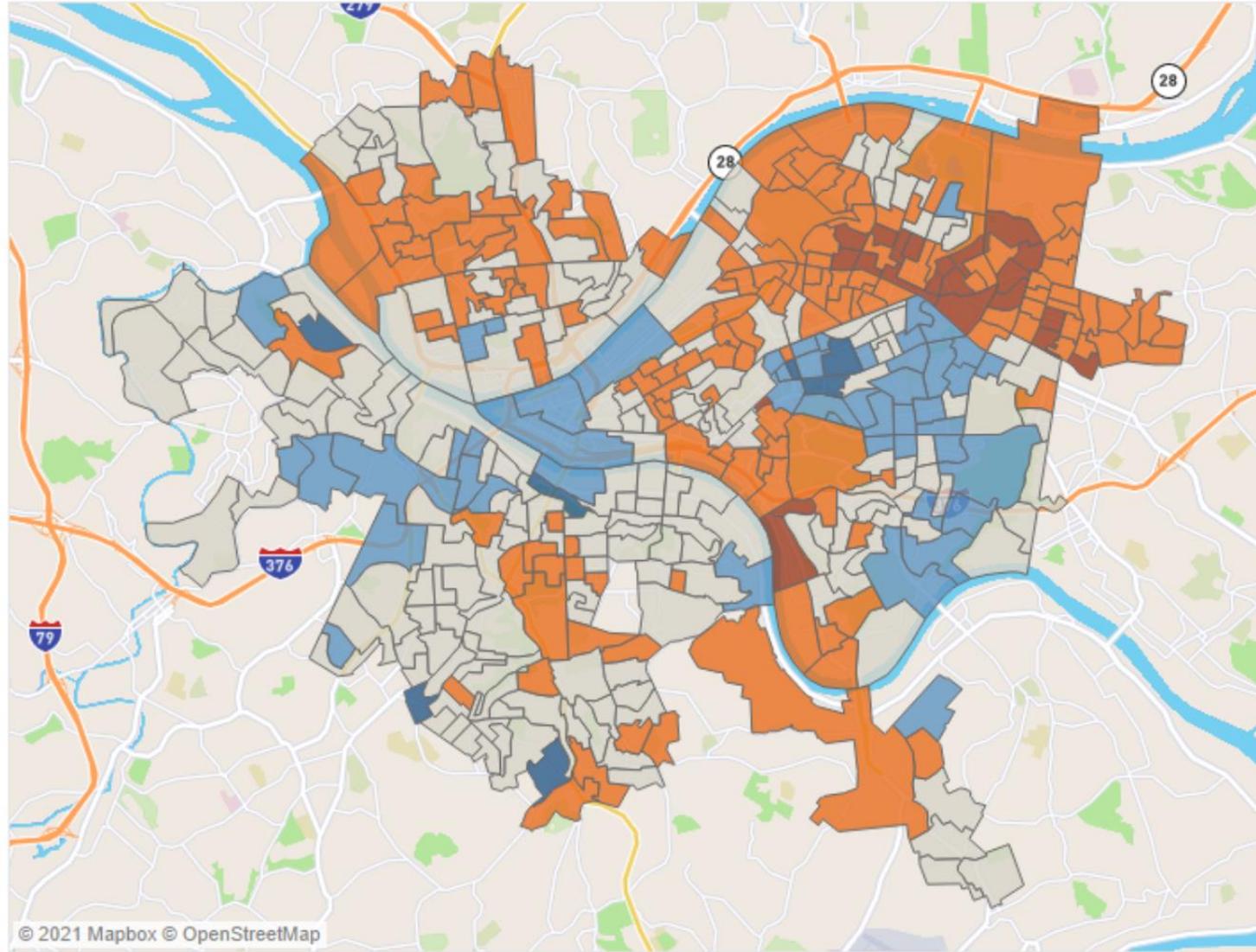
Pittsburgh Mayoral Race

- **State Rep. Ed Gainey** defeats Mayor Bill Peduto
 - Paving the way for him to become the first Black Mayor of Pittsburgh
 - First time an incumbent mayor has lost since 1933 (New Deal realignment knocked Republicans out of office after 28 years)
 - Gainey defeated Peduto in the East End, though lost almost every precinct south of the Mon
 - Turnout was almost 40%!
- Former Police Detective Tony Moreno's candidacy, even finishing a distant third, had a direct impact on the election
 - Won 13%, roughly 3500 votes over the difference between Gainey and Peduto
 - Moreno also won the write-in for Republican ticket. Has not committed to running yet.

Gainey % of Total Vote



Peduto % of Total Vote



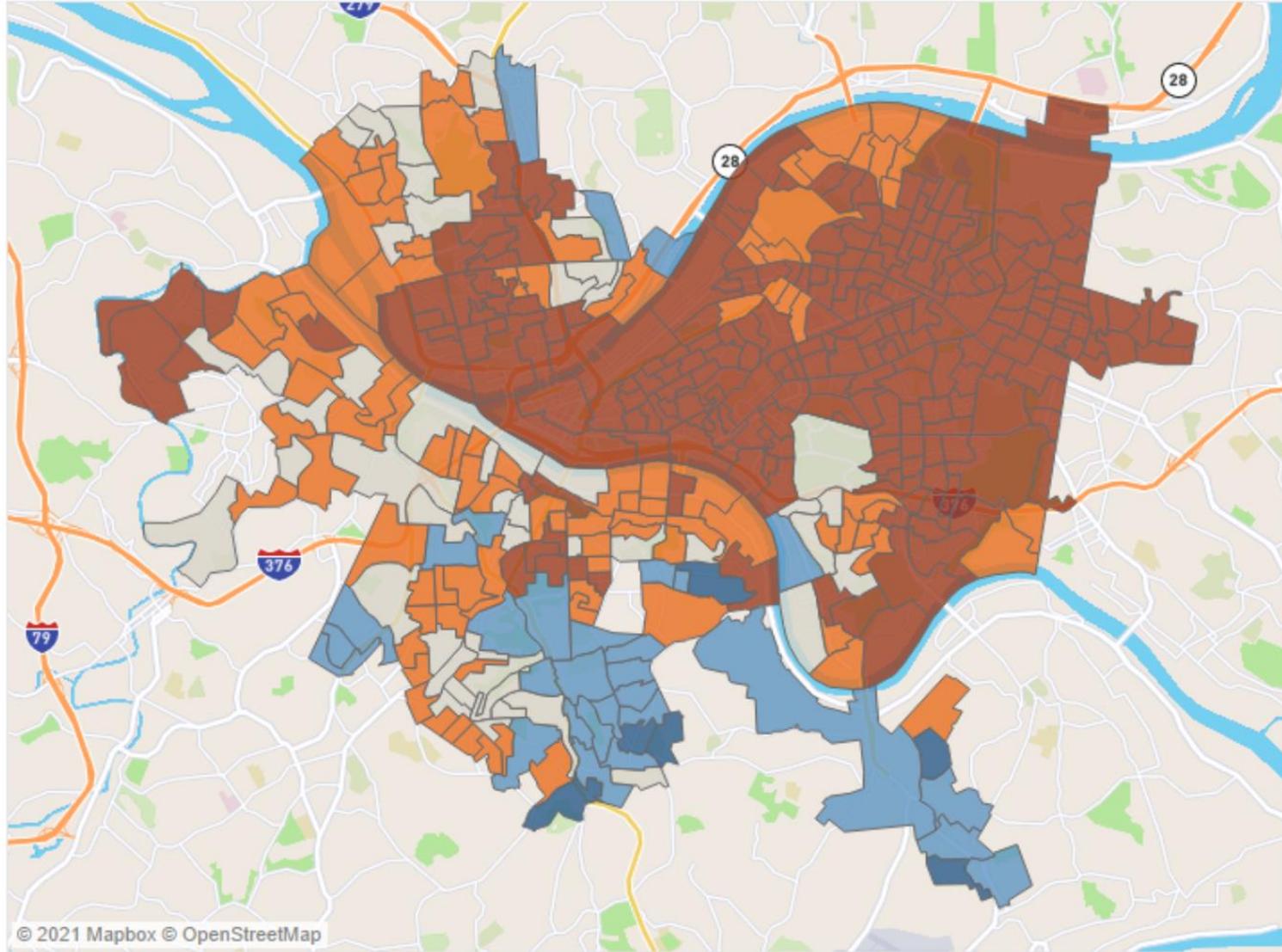
peduto % of total

0.0000



0.8571

Moreno % of Total Vote



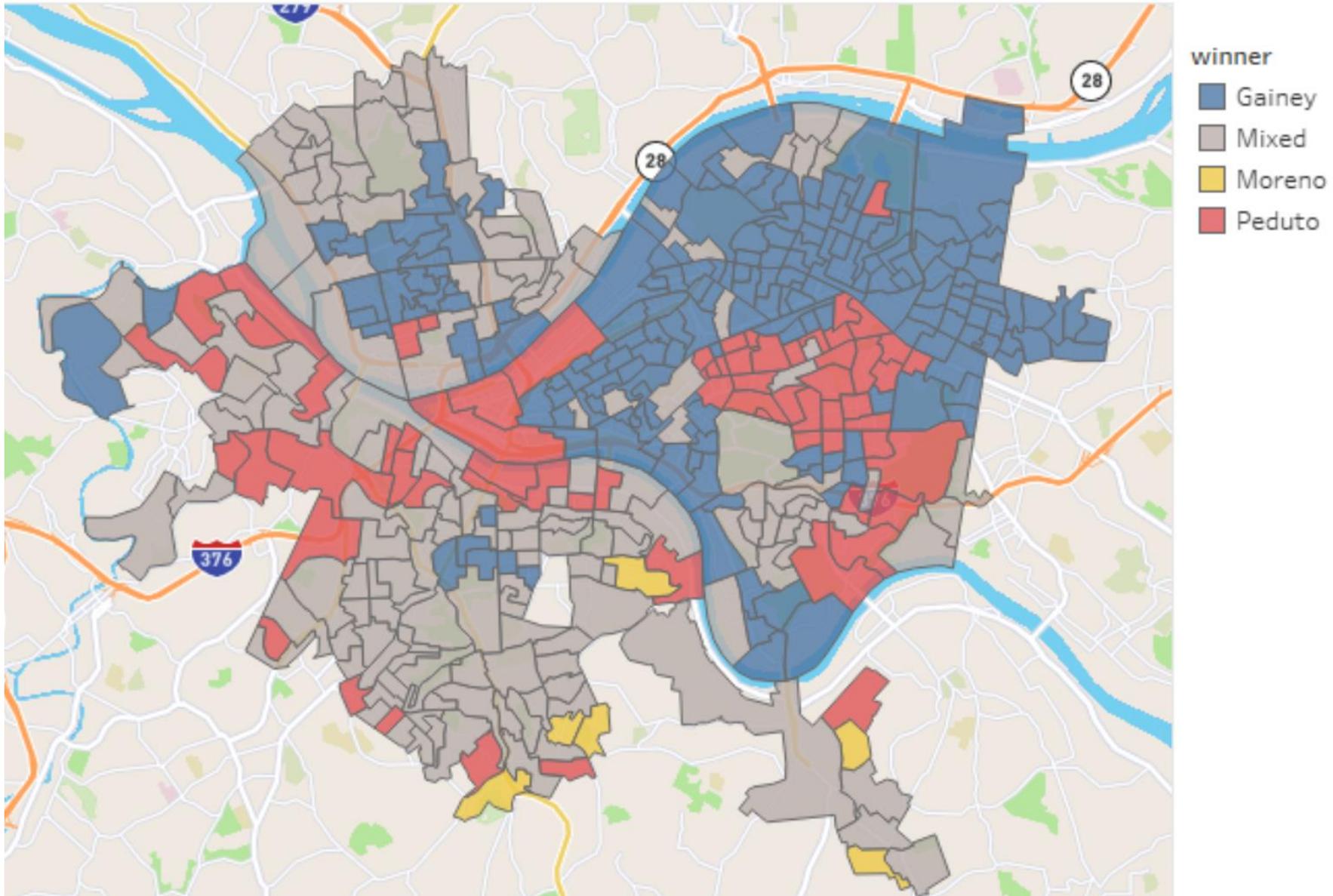
moreno % of total

0.0000



0.6170

Winners of each district (>50%)



City Council Races - Contested

- [Councilman Lavelle](#) and [Councilwoman Strassburger](#) cruise to reelection with no opponents
- **District 4 – Carrick, Brookline, Beechview**
 - Incumbent City Councilman [Anthony Coghill](#)
 - Former Council staffer Bethani Cameron
- **District 2 – Mt. Washington, West End, Elliot**
 - Incumbent and [City Council President Theresa Kail-Smith](#)
 - Community organizer Jacob Williamson

Pittsburgh Public School Board

- District 1 - Incumbent School Board President **Sylvia Wilson** beat progressive challengers **Grace Higginbotham**, an education consultant, and **Carlos Thomas**, a chef, winning 56% of the vote.
- District 3 - Incumbent **Sala Udin** won with 51% of the vote, defeating **Lamont Frazier Jr.**, a father who works in construction.
- District 5 - **Tracey Reed** unseated incumbent **Terry Kennedy** garnering 58% of the vote. Kennedy assumed the seat in 2013 and is set for a rematch after cross-filing and winning the Republican primary.
- District 7 – With Cynthia Falls not running, social worker **Jamie Piotrowski** emerged victorious in the open seat race against **Khamil Scantling**. Piotrowski won 65% of the vote.
- District 9 – Challenger **Gene Walker** won a three way race with 40% of the votes over incumbent Veronica Edwards, who won 38%, and Delancy Walton who won 22%. Edwards cross-filed as a Republican and won that primary.

Statewide Judicial Races

- PA Supreme Court – One seat
 - **Kevin Brobson (R)** will face **Maria McLaughlin (D)**
 - Allegheny County's Patricia McCoullough came in 2nd on the Rep ballot
- PA Superior Court – One seat
 - **Timika Lane (D)** will face **Megan Sullivan (R)**
 - Allegheny County's Jill Beck and Bryan Neft came in 2nd and 3rd respectively on the Dem ticket.
- PA Commonwealth Court – One seat
 - **Lori Dumas (D)** will face **Stacy Marie Wallace**
 - Allegheny County's Amanda Green-Hawkins (D) came in 3rd on the Dem ticket.

Court of Common Pleas

Democratic ballot winners

Chelsa Wagner – 74k

Sabrina Korbel – 68k

Wrenna Watson – 59k

Lisa Middleman – 59k

Nicola Henry-Taylor – 58k

Elliot Howsie – 54k

Tiffany Sizemore – 54k

Bruce Beemer – 51k

Jessel Costa – 43k

Republican ballot winners

Joseph Patrick Murphy – 26k

Bruce Beemer – 21k

Anthony DeLuca – 20k

Daniel Konieczka Jr – 20k

Bill Caye – 19k

Chuck Porter – 18k

Sabrina Korbel – 18k

Mark Patrick Flaherty – 17k

Lisa Middleman – 14k

County Council

- Six Districts up for reelection, District 4 (Council President Pat Catena – D) and District 12 (Bob Palmosina – D) are both unopposed and have no R challenger. Even if Rs won all three Districts from below in which they will challenge in November (which is not likely), Ds would still have a comfortable County Council majority.
- District 1 Moon, Coraopolis, North Fayette, Ross
 - Incumbent Tom Baker (R) is not running for re-election
 - Jack Betkowski is only (D), Joe Wise is only (R)
- District 3 Shaler, Fox Chapel, West Deer
 - Incumbent Anita Prizio is only (D), Meredith Dolan is only (R)
- District 8 Braddock, Plum, Swissvale
 - Incumbent Paul Zavarella (D), who was appointed to replace the late Charles Martoni, is not running.
 - Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis is only (D), Eric Casteel is only (R)
- District 9 McKeesport, Forward, North Versailles
 - Incumbent Council Vice President Bob Macey (D) easily defeated a primary challenge from teacher Steven Singer (D). There is no (R) on the ballot.

State Ballot Question 1

- **TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS**

- Currently, only Pennsylvania's governor can end a disaster declaration, like the one the state is currently under to deal with COVID-19. State law gives the General Assembly the option to pass a resolution to terminate the declaration, though the state Supreme Court ruled last year the governor still gets the final say. The legislature can overturn a governor's veto with support from two-thirds of members.
- This proposed constitutional amendment would allow a majority of lawmakers to terminate the declaration at any time, without the governor's consent.
- **PASSED 52% to 48%**

State Ballot Question 2

- **DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION AND MANAGEMENT**

- This question asks voters to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to limit a disaster declaration to 21 days. It could only then be continued with the consent of the legislature.
- At the moment, a disaster declaration lasts 90 days and can be renewed as many times as deemed necessary by the governor. The measure would also prevent the governor from issuing a new disaster declaration based on the same or similar facts.
- **PASSED 52% to 48%**

State Ballot Question 3

- **PROHIBITION AGAINST DENIAL OR ABRIDGEMENT OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS BECAUSE OF RACE OR ETHNICITY**

- This proposal amends the Pennsylvania Constitution to enshrine discrimination protections to Pennsylvanians based on race and ethnicity.
- **PASSED**

State Ballot Question 4

- **MAKING MUNICIPAL FIRE AND EMS COMPANIES ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS**
 - This is a statewide referendum (as opposed to a constitutional amendment) that would allow municipal fire departments or companies with paid personnel, as well as EMS companies, to apply for a loan through an existing state-run program for volunteer companies. The money can be used to modernize or purchase equipment.
 - **PASSED**

Allegheny Ballot Question and City of Pittsburgh Ballot Question

- Allegheny County Ballot Question: **PROHIBITING SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY JAIL**
 - If this question is approved by a majority of those voting, the Allegheny County Code, Allegheny County Jail, shall include new sections governing, regulating and documenting the conditions of confinement. The conditions of confinement affected by the proposed ordinance would prohibit solitary confinement (more than 20 hours per day) except for limited circumstances and not to be used as punishment and prohibiting the use of restraining chairs, chemical agents or leg shackles.
 - **PASSED 69% to 31%**
- City of Pittsburgh Ballot Question: **PROHIBITING NO-KNOCK WARRANTS**
 - If this question is approved by a majority of those voting, Article 10, Section 1001, Powers of the Pittsburgh Police will be added to the City of Pittsburgh Home Rule Charter, requiring Pittsburgh Police to physically knock and announce themselves before forcibly gaining entry to execute warrants. “No knock” procedures shall be prohibited.
 - **PASSED 81% to 19%**

Election Takeaways

- Urban progressives continue to make strides
 - Gainey win, plus progressive win in open PPS District 7, and defeat of two PPS incumbents (who did win on R side).
 - Allegheny County Common Pleas judges – four people of color on Dem ticket, Middleman wins on both R and D ticket
 - DA Larry Krasner win in Philly
 - Mayoral candidate of color Wanda Williams defeats Papenfuse in Harrisburg
 - Erie County Executive Dem race goes to Tyler Titus, who would become the first trans county executive in the US if elected in the fall
- Gainey's win opens up his state rep seat (Garfield, Highland Park, Homewood, Wilkinsburg)
- Philly maintains statewide Dem dominance in primaries, taking all three statewide judicial nominations with their candidates.
- Local County and City referendums resounding wins for criminal justice reform.

Coming up next

- Our next meeting is on June 10, 2021.
- The topic will be Trauma.

Key Contacts

- Provider questions for Allegheny County Health Department
 - DHS-COVID19Planning@alleghenycounty.us
 - Use the subject field to indicate if your qq is about CYF, Aging, BH, CYF, ID, Community Services, or DHS operations (e.g., contracting, payment)
 - <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment/index.aspx>
- Key DHS staff
 - Payment inquiries: Dan Evancho Dan.Evancho@alleghenycounty.us
 - Contract inquiries: Kathy Heinz Kathy.Heinz@alleghenycounty.us
Laura Brigido Laura.Brigido@alleghenycounty.us
- United Way 2-1-1
 - For basic needs assistance or general COVID-19 inquiries call the 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-856-2774. Language services available.



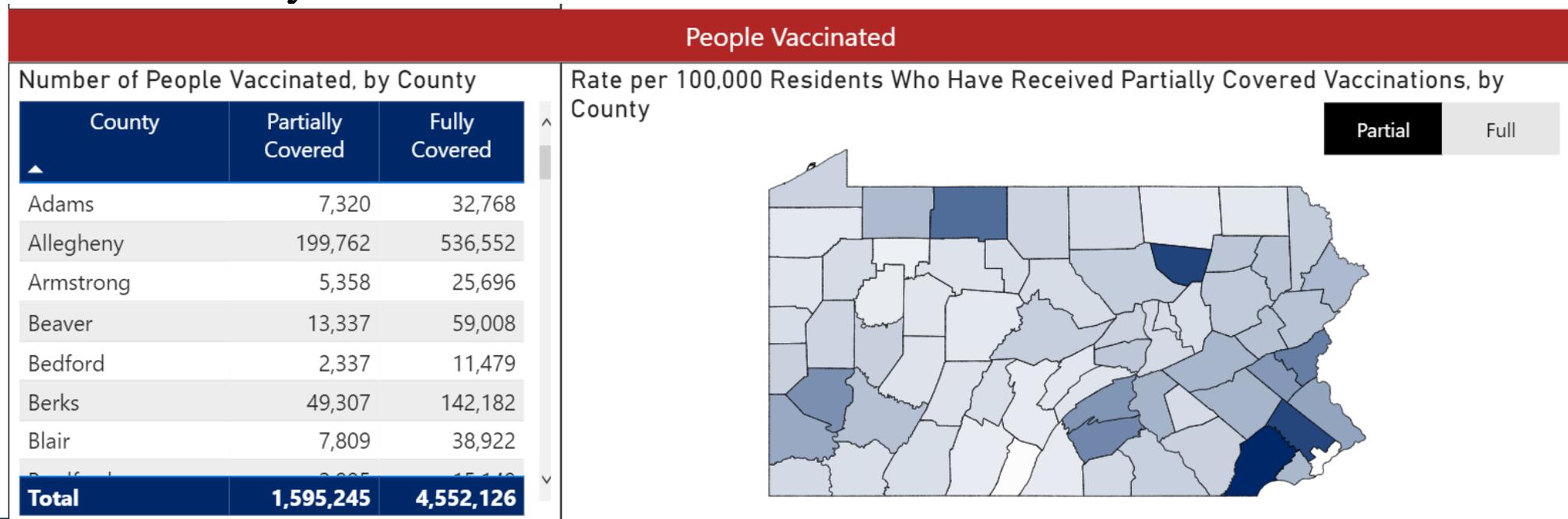
Appendix

Allegheny County Vaccination

Through 5/26/2021:

- 199,762 are partially vaccinated and 536,552 are fully vaccinated
 - 67% of residents have received at least one dose
 - 48% are fully vaccinated

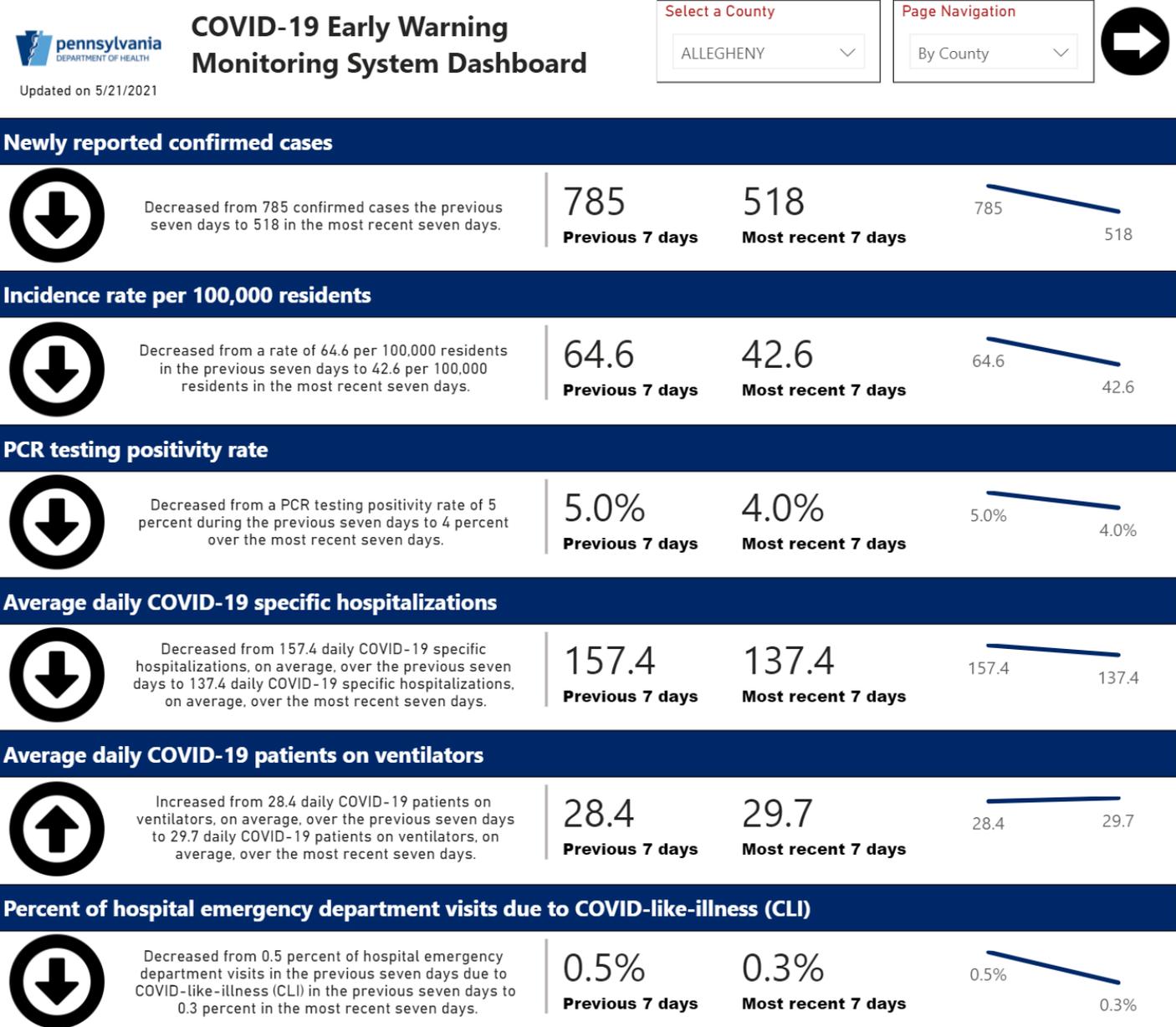
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/Dashboard.aspx>



PA State Metrics

- Compares week of May 14th–May 20th to previous week (May 7th–May 13th)

	% change from last week to this week
Newly reported cases	-34%
Incidence rate per 100,000	-34%
Positivity rate	-20%
Ave. daily hospitalizations	-13%
Ave. daily patients on ventilators	+5%
% ED visits due to CLI	-40%



PA state's early warning system dashboard

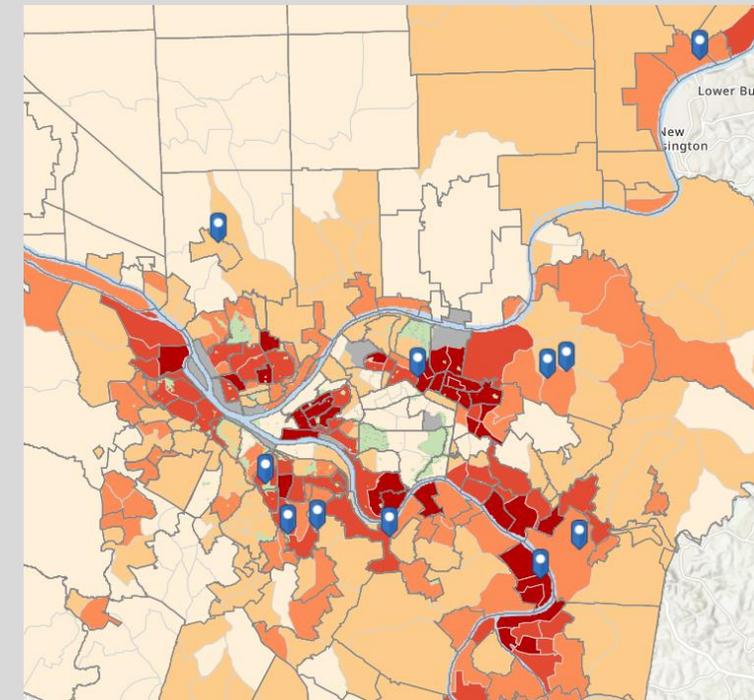
(<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>).

FREE PUBLIC WIFI – 13 SITES LIVE!

FIND THESE AND MORE AT: WIFI.ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US

CYF Mon Valley Regional Office	355 Lincoln Hwy, Suite 500 – Entire Lot	Entire Plaza Lot
CYF Permanency Office	10 Duff Rd, Penn Hills, PA	Entire Lot
CYF East Regional Office/Intake	10700 Frankstown Rd, Pittsburgh, PA	Rear Lot
DHS Gristmill Office	101 Bellevue Rd, Pittsburgh, PA	Upper-Left Lot
Donnelly-Boland HQ	2801 Custer Ave, Pittsburgh, PA	Street and Church Lot
Kingsley Family Center	6435 Frankstown Ave, Pittsburgh, PA	Front Lot
Highlands Family Center	415 E 4th Ave #6, Tarentum, PA,	Entire Lot & Courtyard
Duquesne Family Center	1 Library Pl. Duquesne, PA	Entire Lot & Surrounding Streets
Highlands Family Center	415 E. 4 th Ave Suite 6. Tarentum, PA	Front Lot & Courtyard
DES Main Office	600 Mifflin Rd, Hays, PA	Rear Lot
Phillips Rec Center	201 Parkfield St, Pittsburgh, PA	Middle Seating Area and lower lot
Mckinley Rec Center	900 Delmont Ave. Pittsburgh, PA	Entire Parking lot and Side Playground
Clairton Family Center	734 Miller Ave. Clairton, PA	Entire Parking Lot

Look for these signs!



PUBLIC WiFi HERE!

Free! No username or password required.



SCAN ME



Find more WiFi hotspots at wifi.alleghenycounty.us

Allegheny_Public

WiFi Map

Add a New Location

FAQ

You can **locate yourself** by pressing the crosshair icon, using the search function with the magnifying lens icon on the right, or panning the map to discover nearby publicly-available WiFi hotspots. Quickly **look at a list** of available locations below and **toggle the filters** to discover sites that are near amenities. Add new locations to this map by using the form in the [Add a New Location](#) link above. All efforts are being made to keep the map as current as possible, but because some of this information is crowdsourced, there may be inaccuracies. If you discover any errors in this map, please email Covid19-Supplies@alleghenycounty.us.

Search WiFi Locations

Sort by Name

- 1101 Arlington Ave**
(available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week)
1101 Arlington Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15210
[Select this location on the map for more details.](#)
- 1415 Milan Ave**
(available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week)
1415 Milan Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
[Select this location on the map for more details.](#)
- 1517 Milan Ave**
(available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week)
1517 Milan Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
[Select this location on the map for more details.](#)
- 1731 Potomac Ave**
(available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week)
1731 Potomac Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
[Select this location on the map for more details.](#)

Nearby Restroom

Nearby Seating

Nearby Vending Machines

A dark-themed map of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, showing numerous blue dots representing public WiFi hotspots. The map includes street outlines and a river. On the right side, there are navigation controls (plus, minus, and location icons) and a search bar. At the bottom right, there is a filter menu with three options: 'Nearby Restroom', 'Nearby Seating', and 'Nearby Vending Machines', each with a toggle switch.

WIFI.ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US

Free Housing Legal Services for City of Pittsburgh Renters and Homeowners

Tenant and homeowner legal services are available now through the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh's Housing Opportunity Fund!

To access:

- For a Legal Assistance Program referral through RentHelpPGH, please call: 412-534-6600
- For non-English speakers, call Pittsburgh Hispanic Development Corporation: 412-530-5244

Emergency Broadband Benefit Program now accepting applications

- Temporary program to help households afford internet service during pandemic
- Up to \$50/month discount for internet service
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)
- Households eligible if qualify for Medicaid, SNAP, free-and-reduced priced school lunches, LifeLink or Pell Grants, OR if household lost significant income during pandemic
- Three ways eligible households can enroll:
 - Directly with a local participating provider (find "[companies near me](#)")
 - Enroll online with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) at www.getemergencybroadband.org.
 - Download paper application at the www.getemergencybroadband.org site, fill out the application, and mail it – along with supporting documentation – to USAC
- Additional information: www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit, or call 833-511-0311 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. any day of the week