



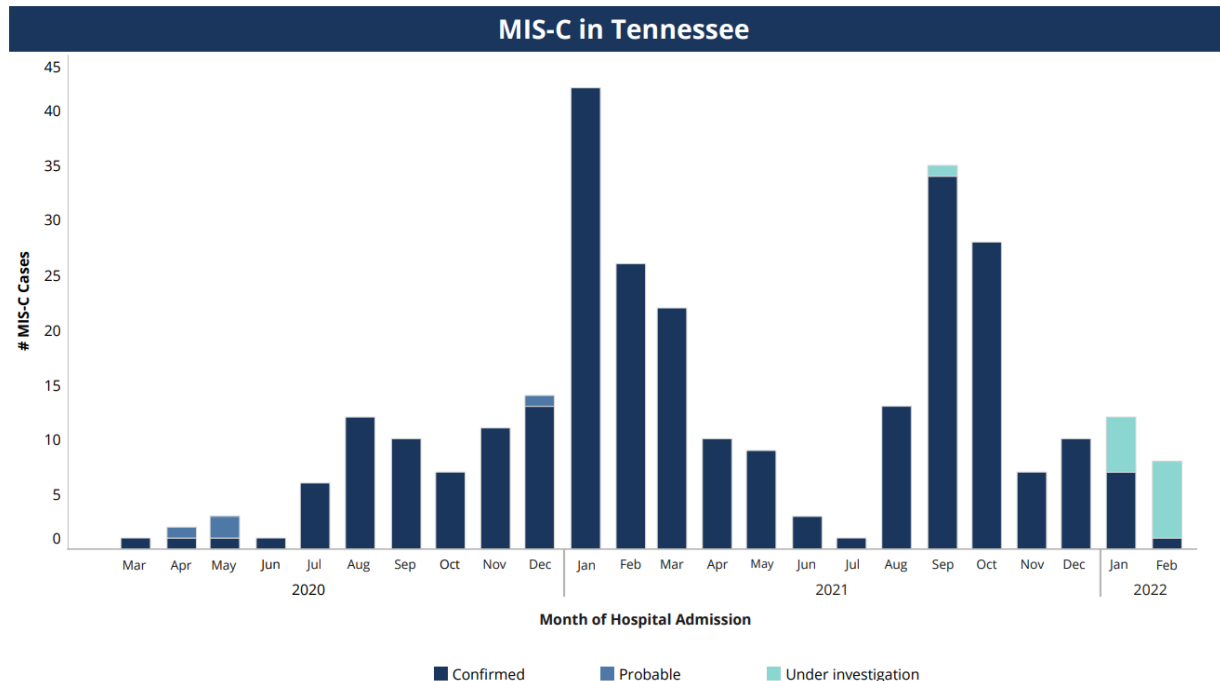
COVID-19 Pediatric Vaccination in Tennessee

Health Disparities Task Force: Infectious Disease/Environmental Health Meeting

February 17, 2022

COVID-19 in children

- Kids can contract COVID-19 and spread it to others
- COVID-19 in children can result in
 - Hospitalization
 - MIS-C and long-term complications, such as “long COVID”
 - deaths



COVID-19 Cases among Children in TN

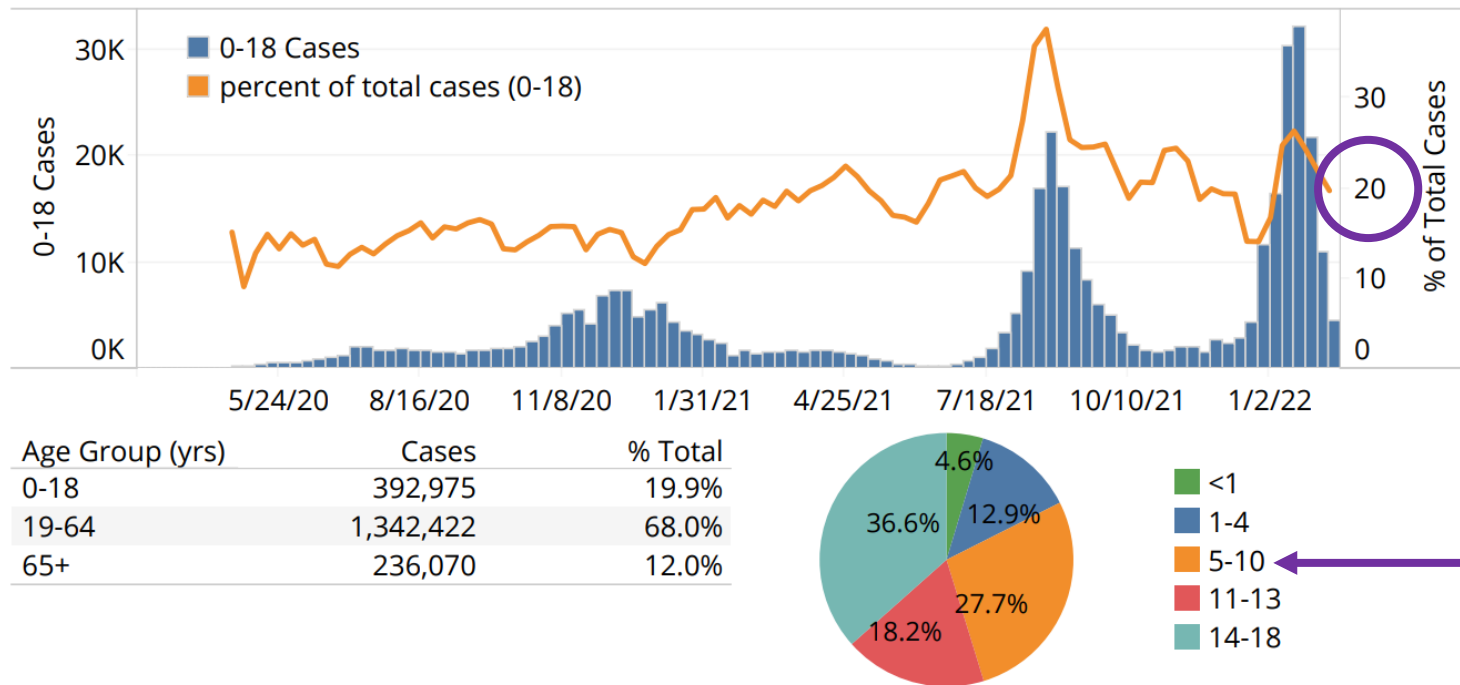
- Kids are making up a greater percentage of cases than earlier in the pandemic

SARS-CoV-2 Child Dashboard

Demographics

Data Updated: 2/12/2022

Epi Curve among Children aged 0-18 years



Parents and Families have been Struggling

EDUCATION

Dozens of Tennessee school districts close due to staff shortages brought on by illness



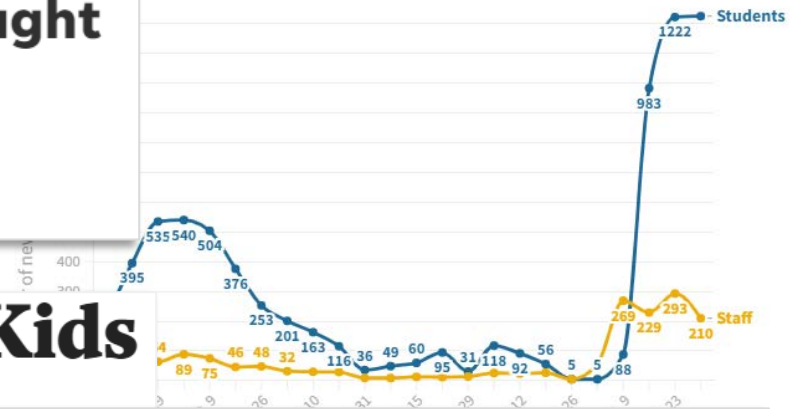
Meghan Mangrum

Nashville Tennessean

Published 12:05 p.m. CT Jan. 20, 2022 | Updated 1:49 p.m. CT Jan. 21, 2022

New confirmed COVID-19 cases among MNPS students and staff

Metro Nashville Public Schools reports the number of new confirmed COVID-19 cases among students and staff (that are reported to the district) every Monday.



The Agony of Parents With Kids Under 5

BY JAIME GREEN JAN 11, 2022 • 2:37 PM



WZTV - Nashville

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Tennessee COVID cases among school-aged children rises to 45,549

Adrian Mojica - Monday

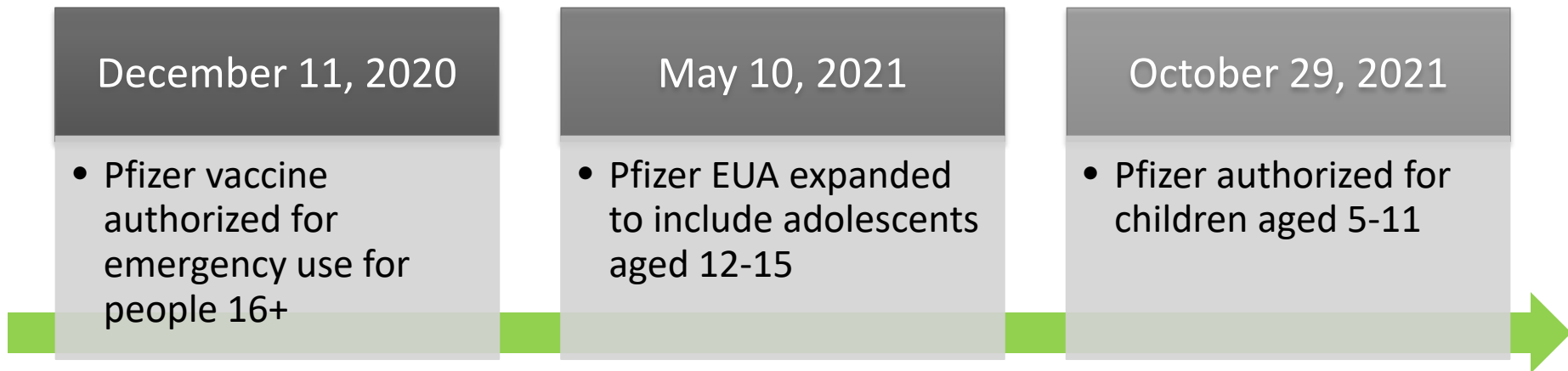
Moms with kids under 5 are not OK right now

After Pfizer pulled their FDA request for the COVID-19 vaccine for children under 5, moms of young kids continue to struggle. The problem? No one seems to care.

TN

COVID-19 Vaccination

- Vaccination in children
 - Greatly reduces the likelihood of severe disease and complications
 - Reduces disruptions to in-person learning and activities
 - Is safe, having undergone intensive monitoring
 - Is effective – 91% effective in preventing COVID-19 in children 5-11 (pre-Omicron trials)



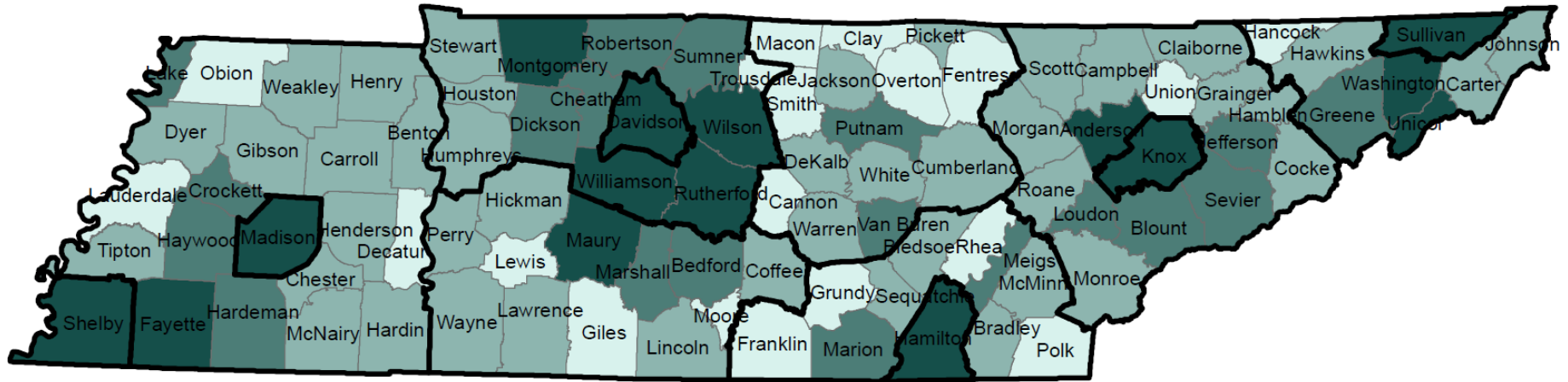
- Pfizer for children under 5: To be determined...

Pediatric Vaccination Rates in TN

- Children have the lowest rates of vaccination
- Vaccine administration has slowed down
- Rates by county vary widely



County Vaccination Rates (ages 12-17)



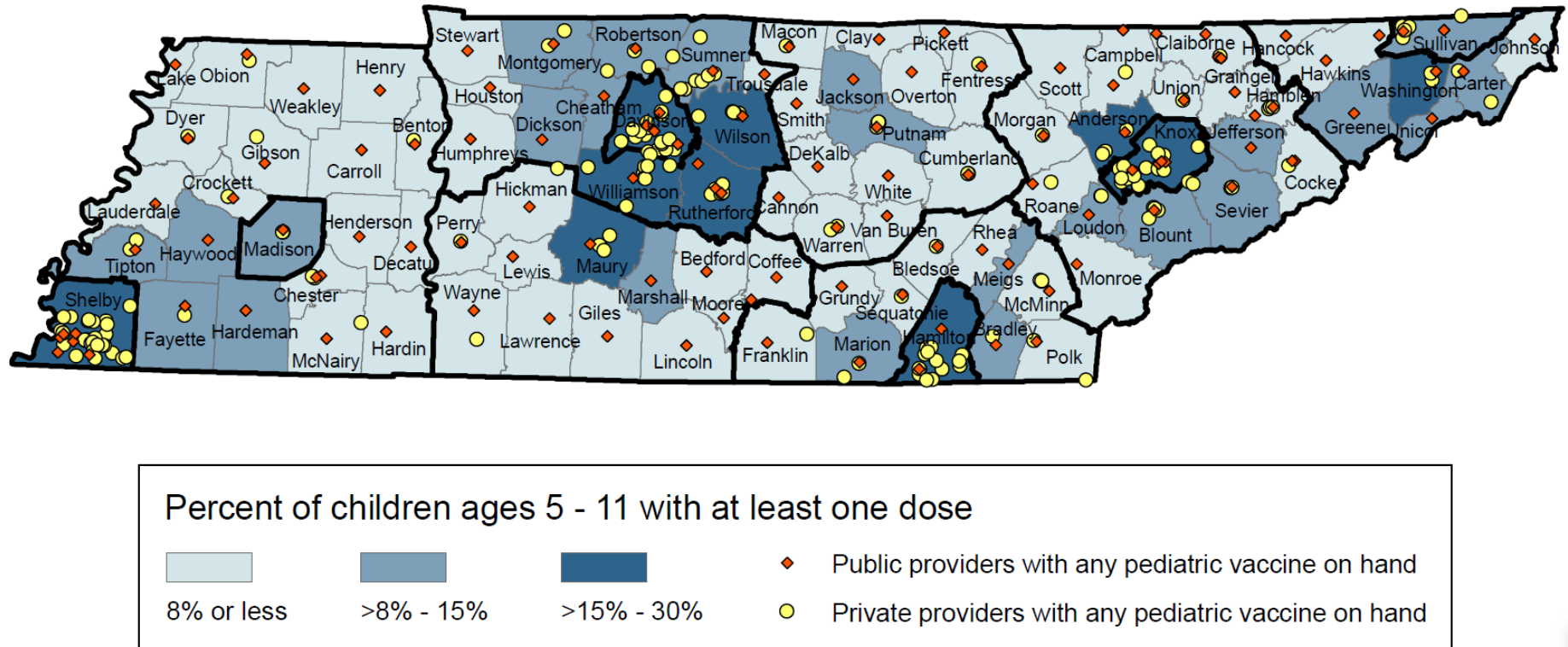
Percent of children ages 12 - 17 with at least one dose



- Statewide average: 43%

Data source: Tennessee Department of Health, Division of PHA (based on interpolated data from the U.S. Census, Annual Estimates of Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2020); Tennessee Immunization Information System

County Vaccination Rates and Providers (ages 5-11)



- Statewide average: 16%

Next Steps

- Lots of pediatricians are not carrying COVID-19 vaccine for children
 - Real and perceived barriers to ordering and storing the vaccine
 - Worried about community/parent backlash
 - Real and perceived belief that demand is low
- We are working with partners to reduce barriers for pediatricians to carry the vaccine
- This work also involves parents and families to help them:
 - Understand the importance of getting children vaccinated
 - Feel empowered to advocate for COVID-19 vaccination with their children's doctor



Questions?
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