# COVID-19 Update **01-21-2022**



VINALHAVEN
PUBLIC HEALTH
TEAM

Jen Desmond
Public Health Officer

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The Public Health Team meets on a semi-regular basis and more frequently when necessary. We will provide the community with relevant COVID-19 information in a timely manner. This collaborative partnership has been in place since March 2020 when Maine declared a civil state of emergency.

#### **Active Case Count**

As of Friday, January 21, 2022, ICMS is reporting that there have been **53\* confirmed cases** of COVID on Vinalhaven, an increase of <u>12 since Thursday 1/13</u>. This count represents the cumulative cases reported since December 26, 2021.

\*This count only represents the confirmed positive tests that have been shared with/by ICMS.

## **MSFS** Message

Businesses and transit operators across the country are struggling with the impact of the recent wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Maine State Ferry Service is no different. The MSFS continues to operate and prioritize the health and safety of our customers, employees, and communities. While no schedule reductions or cancellations are planned at this time, we are experiencing staffing shortages due to COVID-19. These staffing shortages could lead to temporary interruptions of service on short notice.

As we have shared throughout the pandemic, we encourage customers to know that operational changes, including one-time or recurring cancellation of service, may still occur due to the pandemic. Any such changes will be communicated on the message boards at the MSFS terminals and sent through the 5-1-1 notification system.

# Vaccines for Children

Many have asked about the status of receiving vaccines for children on the island. Here is what we know:

- Pfizer is the only FDA-authorized vaccine for people younger than 18, so it is the vaccine used for ages 5 and up as well as a booster for those ages 12 through 17.
- Current protocols distribute the Pfizer vaccine in larger quantities and limits the amount of wasted doses at the administering facilities.
- The vaccine must be stored under certain, cold, conditions and must be used withing a limited timeline.

Due to these factors, ICMS is not able to provide a clinic or administers vaccine doses for ages 5 through 11.

 You can find more answers about the pediatric COVID-19 vaccine <u>here</u>.

#### Known Cases 01-21-2022

Vinalhaven

Confirmed Positive - 53

Maine

Daily Reported Cases – 1,387

State and county data, click here.

## **ICMS UPDATE**

Medical Services are open for business.

Dental Services are open but may be reduced.

Please call ahead if you have any questions, 863-4341.

# From the School

The school the Board's decision on January 19<sup>th</sup>, was to remain with remote instruction one more week, which will be evaluated again on Wednesday January 26<sup>th</sup>.

More information will be on the school's Facebook page this afternoon.

# At Home COVID-19 Test Kits

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order #4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.

Order your tests now so you have them when you need them.

https://www.covidtests.gov/ 1-800-232-0233

# **Questions?**

- Contact 2-1-1 for general information about COVID-19 or visit Maine CDC's website.
- Contact ICMS, 863-4341 if you are looking to schedule an appointment for a vaccine.
- Contact the school, 863-4800, with questions about school COVID policies.
- Businesses with COVID-19 questions can call 2-1-1 or the Town Manager, 863-2042