

COVID-19 update to the Hackney Scrutiny Commission

11 October 2021

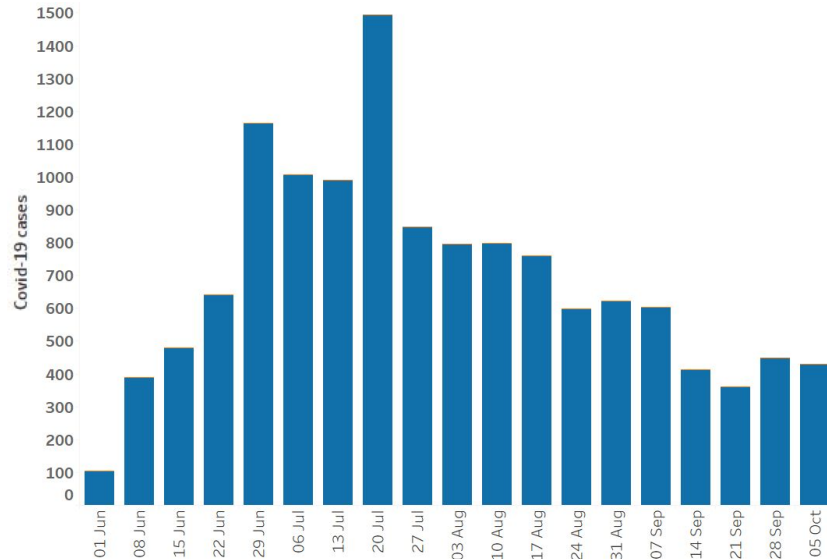
Dr Sandra Husbands
Director of Public Health
City and Hackney Public Health

Key messages

- Weekly COVID-19 incidence rates in Hackney are currently lower than both London and England averages.
- Of the 429 COVID-19 cases recorded in Hackney in the week ending 5 October, 17% were Variants of Concern. All of these were the Delta Variant.
- The most recent cases continue to be diagnosed among 10 to 19 year olds for both genders.
- When looking at total populations (aged 0+), Hackney and the City of London were recording the 4th lowest vaccination rates for first doses and the 7th lowest vaccination rates for second doses in England as of 3 October 2021.
- Since the beginning of August, there have been 20 deaths recorded among residents of Hackney that were due to or involving COVID-19, averaging at 2.5 deaths per week.
- In the week ending 28 September, an average of 13 beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients each day at Homerton University Hospital, 38% less than the previous week.

Weekly COVID-19 incidence rates in Hackney are currently lower than both London and England averages

New COVID-19 cases in Hackney by week, 26 May to 5 October 2021.

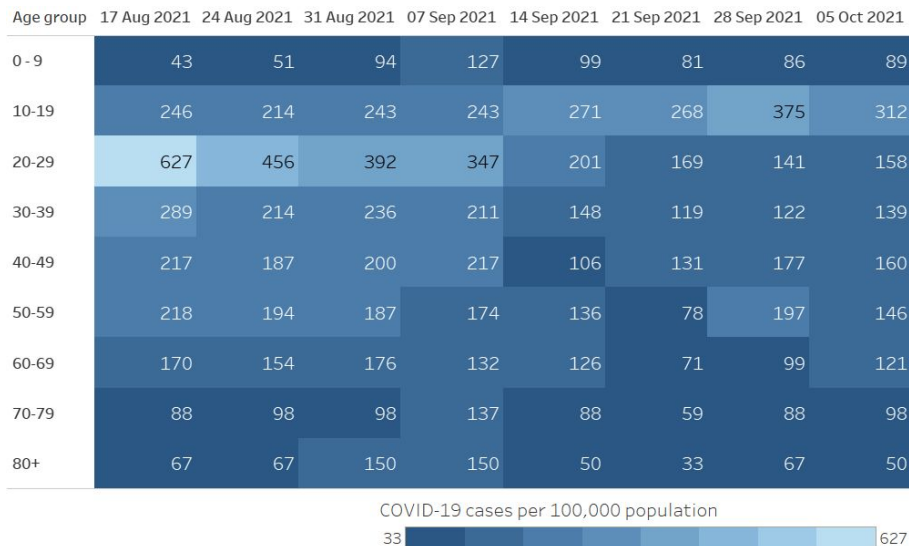


- The number of new COVID-19 cases recorded in the third wave of the pandemic peaked in the week ending 20 July 2021 at 530 cases per 100,000 population.
- In the latest week of available data (ending 5 October) 153 cases were recorded per 100,000 population in Hackney, this is lower than the London and England averages of 205 and 341 cases per 100,000 respectively and similar to the levels recorded in the previous week.
- Of the 429 cases recorded in the week ending 5 October, 17% were Variants of Concern. All of these were the Delta Variant.
- Hackney is yet to record any cases of the Mu Variant of Interest which may have a greater ability to evade vaccine protection.

Data sources: UK Health Security Agency and [Greater London Authority](#). Most recent days are excluded as they are subject to reporting delay.

School-aged populations are currently recording incidence rates twice as high as the average population in Hackney and the City of London

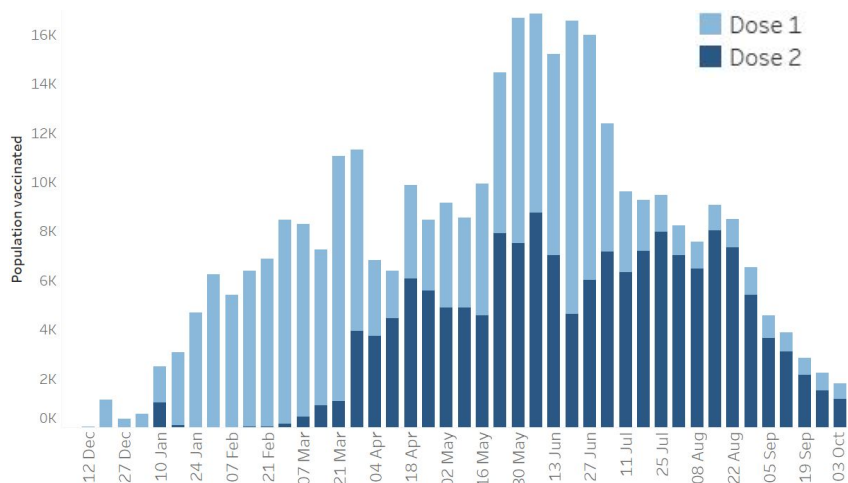
COVID-19 incidence rate by age group in Hackney and the City of London (11 August to 5 October 2021)



- The most recent cases continue to be diagnosed among younger populations for both genders.
- Since the return of schools, the highest incidence rates have been recorded among 10 to 19 year olds.
- In the week ending 5 October, 10 to 19 year olds recorded an incidence rate of 312 cases per 100,000 population, double the average incidence rate of 154 cases per 100,000 population recorded across Hackney and the City.
- In the last fortnight, positivity rates have begun to increase. In the week ending 28 September, 3.3% PCR test and 0.8% LFD tests returned positive results. This has largely been caused by an increase in positivity rates among tests taken at home and at lateral flow and local testing sites.

Hackney and the City of London have the 4th lowest rates for first dose COVID-19 vaccination in England

COVID-19 vaccinations in Hackney and the City by dose type as of 3 October 2021.



- As of 3 October, 59% of Hackney's population aged 12+ had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- In line with national trends, there has been a week on week decrease in the number of residents receiving a dose of the vaccine each week since the middle of August.
- In the week ending 3 October there was a 15% decline in the number of residents receiving their first dose and a 23% decline in the number receiving their second.
- This is despite Hackney and the City of London recording the 4th lowest total population (aged 0+) vaccination rates for first doses and the 7th lowest vaccination rates for second doses in England as of 3 October.

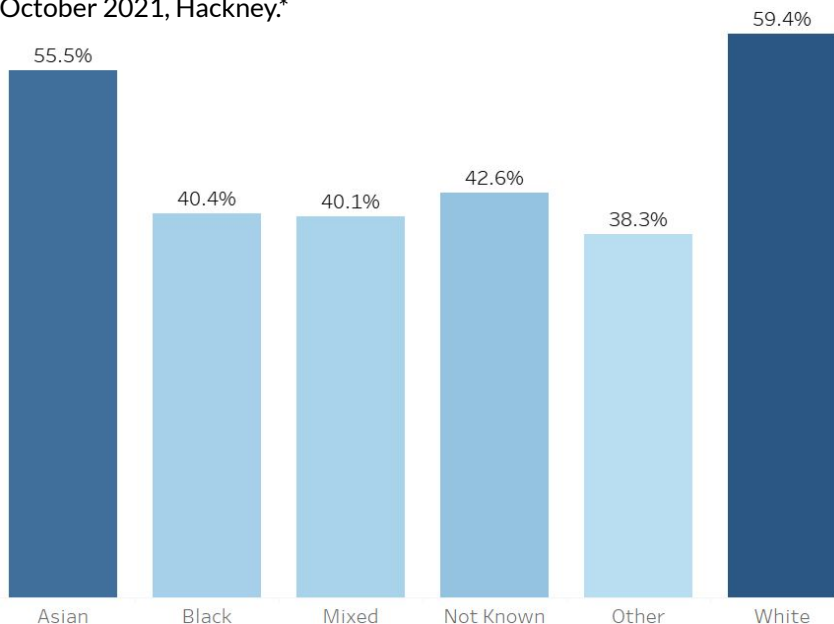
Data sources: UK Health Security Agency; NHS, [COVID-19 vaccinations weekly data](#).
Population denominators from NHS England National Immunisation Management System (NIMS).

Refreshed Hackney and City vaccination outreach and engagement strategy

- Background: London wide shortage of vaccination staff due to increasing number of cohorts for Covid-19 vaccine and flu vaccination programme.
- Hackney strategy:
 - increase uptake of mainstream Covid-19 vaccination offer
 - ongoing programme of outreach clinics providing vaccinations in areas and groups with low uptake
 - wide engagement network of funded and unfunded organisations to promote vaccinations
 - Comprehensive messaging on how to stay safe in the autumn and winter (hands, face, space, ventilation, test & isolate, vaccinations for Covid and flu)

Vaccination rates vary by ethnicity with White populations recording the highest first dose vaccination rates to date

COVID-19 total first dose vaccination rates by ethnic group as of 3 October 2021, Hackney.*

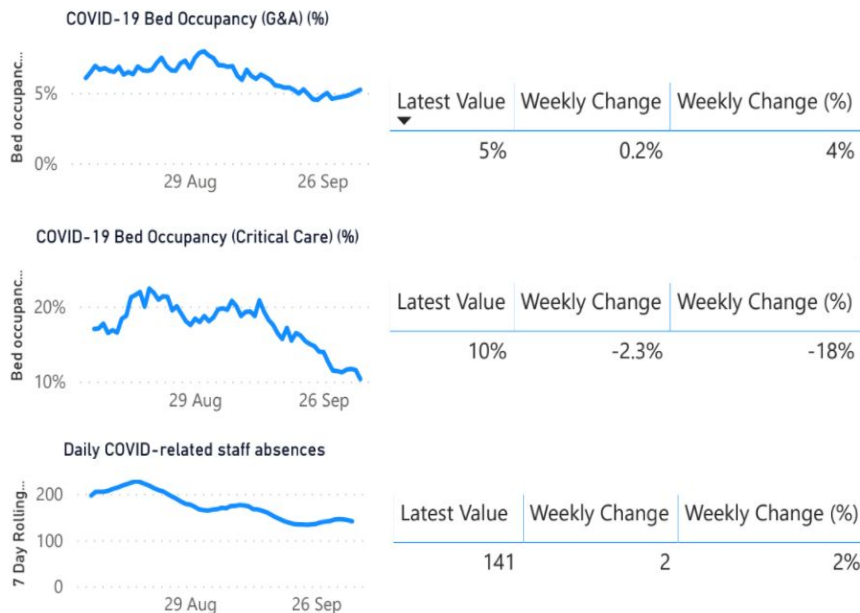


Data sources: UK Health Security Agency; NEL COVID-19 vaccination dashboard. Population denominators from NHS England National Immunisation Management System (NIMS). * Populations aged 0+. **When excluding Arab ethnicities who have a small population size in Hackney.

- Vaccination rates in Hackney and the City are consistently lower across cohorts when compared to NEL as a whole. As of 10 October, first dose vaccination rates:
 - CEV - 79% in Hackney and the City vs 86% in NEL
 - COVID-19 at risk: 71% vs 78%
 - Local Authority Carers: 74% vs 82%
 - NHS and Social Care workers: 82% vs 84%
 - 16 to 17 year olds: 26% vs 35%
- As of 3rd October, White ethnicities had the highest vaccination rates** and Other ethnicities had the lowest.
- To date, White and Asian ethnic groups have also been the quickest to take up the offer of a vaccine when new cohorts are announced. Black ethnic groups have been the slowest.

Despite a consistent number of COVID-19 deaths registered locally, COVID-19 bed occupancy and staff absences have been decreasing

COVID-19 general and critical hospital bed occupancy and COVID-related staff absences, up to 4 October, North East London.



Data source: NEL, Leading indicators dashboard; [NHS, COVID-19 Hospital Activity](#); ONS, [Death registrations and occurrences by local authority and health board](#)

- Since the beginning of August, there have been 20 deaths recorded among residents of Hackney that were due to or involving COVID-19, averaging at 2.5 deaths a week.
- Nationally between January and July 2021 only 0.5% of COVID-19 deaths were recorded among people who had been double vaccinated 14 days before infection.
- Despite a consistent number of weekly COVID-19 deaths throughout the third wave, COVID-19 bed occupancy and staff absences have been decreasing since mid-August.
- In the week up to 4 October, 10% of critical care beds and 5% of G&A beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients across NEL.
- In the week ending 28 September, an average of 13 beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients each day at Homerton University Hospital, 38% less than the previous week.