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| January 28, 2021 |

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| **[COVID 19 UPDATE - VIRGINIA NEWS](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fboard%2Fcontent%2Fenterprise%2Fvccscovid19update%2Ftag%2F4b9f3c4c-42b4-42bf-9934-1de381779cfa&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419714271%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=O64Uj%2FO1M9HNdbWQ73Dbf3LKYoHj2OGTtjXiImVBfrg%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank)** |  |

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| [**Virginia Employment Commission**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FFy3VJ11srJ7WiTPM6nbL06kpPr28ZRWFGN1T1qh7ocA%3D_1774a91cc8b%3A4ab07f%3Af0cd32f4&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419794222%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=vMjCTV7kbhyY2gL%2FErjRJQlF%2BgTbuockh9GDFuByqyk%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.vec.virginia.gov%2FUI-press-release&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419794222%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=yibzTE1wHmAgPpp0rc%2FUwNKguEI7VG14gC2cB2lMs1I%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * RICHMOND—The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced that the number of initial claims filed during the January 23 filing week remained elevated when compared to recent months’ levels, according to figures released today.
* For the filing week ending January 23, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 18,312.
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| [**Gov. Northam: Va. COVID restrictions extended, vaccine sign-ups to be streamlined**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FFy3VJ11srJ7WiTPM6nbL06kpPr28ZRWFGN1T1qh7ocA%3D_1774a915262%3A498665%3Ab43104f5&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419804220%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=DpewD7d7O3fOEpt6hDjftoNbCw0UJlc3loEvo6TlYmw%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [WJLA](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwjla.com%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fva-gov-northam-covid-restrictions-extended-through-february-more-vaccine-coming-soon&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419804220%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=4ebKJhAO9k614rWFy08EmaY2G1%2BZtceG952VIh7K8ZI%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Governor Ralph Northam issued an executive order to extend the current COVID-19 restrictions through the end of February. The order limits gatherings to 10 people and includes a statewide curfew of midnight.](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FFy3VJ11srJ7WiTPM6nbL06kpPr28ZRWFGN1T1qh7ocA%3D_1774a915262%3A498665%3Ab43104f5&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419814216%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=KXhLCf0AX%2BGp%2FZ%2FDtFvEGUChw8EG6ZqWzdPvEK9VhNs%3D&reserved=0)  |  |

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| [**Coronavirus update: Case numbers above over 5,000 once again**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fa7ygYK4H%2BO92hOf1WNl7nib1addh8vp%2BrvFuRIia7o8%3D_1774994b13f%3A620965%3Acafbbc00&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419814216%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=yZSYhjypbI6C7Ait8Qe5PGlBJvQeI6PnEgRmvoye3O4%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [8News](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wric.com%2Fnews%2Flocal-news%2Fcoronavirus-update-case-numbers-above-over-5000-once-again%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419824212%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=m%2FoqLq6DCOy4SJgEMpECBmJGLpQcN81dYwhGaLgd%2Fok%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * The Virginia Department of Health is reporting 5,121 new cases of COVID-19.
* VDH is reporting that 524,722 first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered as of Jan. 27, with 602,983 total doses administered.
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| [**VDH will begin texting people who test positive for COVID-19**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FPJWScc%2F4lkEqQ6JyrrO1ZjVBLh6YO03KX5MqTz5ah0A%3D_17749eef18d%3A647a0b%3Afa0a53c4&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419824212%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=CzAd%2FvGm3tX1VYoEQdF1jLJYAWhbpD86oZasaPLZ%2B3Q%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Business](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiabusiness.com%2Farticle%2Fvdh-will-begin-texting-people-who-test-positive-for-covid-19%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420024096%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=GRuHG11z1mE4JQI%2BVo6vYA5CvGfoHQ1OQY42mEB8Qr0%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * Texts will come only from (804) 336-3915 and will be sent between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Messages will share a link to the COVIDWISE verification code portal, which will let recipients send test results anonymously to the state’s COVID exposure notification app.
* The texts will automatically be sent to anyone with a positive lab test who has a valid mobile number, providing faster notification of results and allowing Virginia residents to share their results with anyone else who may have been exposed, VDH announced Thursday.
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| [**Virginia enacts permanent COVID-19 workplace safety regulations**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fa7ygYK4H%2BO92hOf1WNl7nib1addh8vp%2BrvFuRIia7o8%3D_17746103feb%3A132cbe9%3Ae30f41ea&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420024096%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=zPmvAQP9E%2F%2BoElvxrulpofqDDU8Bm8gczOltfGRyZMA%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [8News](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wric.com%2Fnews%2Fvirginia-news%2Fvirginia-enacts-permanent-covid-19-workplace-safety-regulations%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420034087%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=koG26q8EpwSABCUTJMTYDZboXU%2FqouOTPwJGoelKby0%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * (WRIC) -- Virginia's temporary workplace safety regulations for COVID-19 prevention were made permanent Wednesday, requiring employers to enforce rules such as mandating masks for all public-facing employees and providing adequate sanitation throughout the pandemic.
* Last week, the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry’s Safety and Health Codes Board voted to extend COVID-19 workplace standards that align closely with those adopted in July .
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| [**Bills advance to facilitate COVID-19 vaccine distribution**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FPJWScc%2F4lkEqQ6JyrrO1ZjVBLh6YO03KX5MqTz5ah0A%3D_177462a0d29%3A2abc%3A5ea567f8&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420034087%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=6VPr9539pW5byPaGaFlOBzIzvAxI6gK92ynq7PHEr%2FQ%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Business](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiabusiness.com%2Farticle%2Fbills-advance-to-facilitate-covid-19-vaccine-distribution%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420044079%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=0bdhwBAKlOriRVj2VGPkGE7vnTASpn7w0RH1C%2FNXepE%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * House Bill 2333, introduced by Del. Lamont Bagby, D-Richmond, intends to strengthen the state’s vaccine distribution efforts and also bolster data collection.
* — The Virginia House and Senate have unanimously advanced separate bills to facilitate administration of the COVID-19 vaccine.
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| [**Essential changes for success**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FyT%2BeOE3Q975AwLALTpvdZ%2FHttzCyCe5XsEd8RhhAhk0%3D_17746de9955%3A14ca9d%3A49029f4e&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420044079%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=zoVoEZUCudWL3Cczg0H4ukZsAJy%2F01Q1cU%2B4KUo6VH4%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Community College Daily](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ccdaily.com%2F2021%2F01%2Fessential-changes-for-success%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420054071%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2B0A9wmZ4Et3vdTeDo93R%2FnGOMuTP4EYqUTM5%2BHC4cE0%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * Pando was among four community college presidents discussing changes they’ve made at their institutions to ensure they are supporting all students’ needs.
* The pandemic has exposed some gaps in the supports that community colleges provide to students, but it also has led to creative problem-solving.
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| [**Virginia lags behind 29 U.S. states, territories in reported vaccine jabs among populations**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fa7ygYK4H%2BO92hOf1WNl7nib1addh8vp%2BrvFuRIia7o8%3D_177420c6141%3Ac0c275%3Acafbbc00&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420054071%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Gl3R%2Bbd093M6T12WKQQOmoasYlIV87a6q5F1Gh2iOX4%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [8News](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wric.com%2Fhealth%2Fcoronavirus%2Fvirginia-lags-behind-29-u-s-states-territories-in-reported-vaccine-jabs-among-populations%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420064068%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=fJgROElkHrhBtkICYMaYUDQRvsJ73JjsrkeGOu6Dirs%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * Last week the state’s new vaccination tsar Dr. Danny Avula said hundreds of thousands of doses in-hand are reserved for seniors in long term care facilities, and not all have administered them.
* “Many of our long-term care facilities are actually experiencing active Covid outbreaks, which means we have got to put up those vaccination events by couple of weeks or until things settle down," he said.
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| [**Virginia shifts vaccine distribution strategy, triggering thousands of canceled appointments - Virginia Mercury**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_17744b3682d%3A3752bd%3Ad63d4a0&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420064068%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=NKzlvw05CuzCAIdL%2B4C2Zo%2F386eUQQfDWgc9Ny9YMks%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Mercury](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiamercury.com%2F2021%2F01%2F27%2Fvirginia-shifts-vaccine-distribution-strategy-triggering-thousands-of-canceled-appointments%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420074057%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=81OwFVIo%2B9PnmO1b50Awp5VOO3%2BSVO2WPUAmptNcbRE%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * Teachers and other frontline employees in Fairfax County received an unwelcome surprise on Monday when Inova — one of the largest hospital systems in Northern Virginia — announced it was canceling COVID-19 vaccination appointments for educators and other workers in the state’s 1b priority group .
* The state is directly involved in distributing doses to hospitals and local health departments — the providers responsible for administering the vast majority of doses in Virginia, according to VDH data .
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| [**Virginia's jobless rate ticked up in December to 4.9% amid uneven recovery and slowdown in hiring**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_17744b25164%3A39a023%3Aa399aa54&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420074057%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=0btXz8tCGIQHpU4UPvmCRgJXs%2BrSC2Yp2xrPTMKQZeA%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Richmond Times-Dispatch](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frichmond.com%2Fbusiness%2Fvirginias-jobless-rate-ticked-up-in-december-to-4-9-amid-uneven-recovery-and-slowdown%2Farticle_cc728f18-fc0c-573d-b6f8-050ed7df306f.html&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420084051%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=mgP%2B4eJ7CotDispl5qsVVHlW46%2Fx3gWx%2BL4ytP4Af14%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * “The goods-producing sector has fully recovered, and employment in those industries are above the pre-pandemic level.
* Virginia’s labor force participation rate also has dipped — it was at 63.7% in December, down from a high of 66.6% in February 2020 before the pandemic hit, Mengedoth said.
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| [**Virginia Employment in 2020**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_17744b12534%3A36e174%3A18cf8c92&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420084051%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=NjG1MkUw%2By1P45q7Lav%2B15qzjp%2BkHDSct8uizbBZl7U%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [The Virginia Public Access Project](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.vpap.org%2Fvisuals%2Fvisual%2Fvirginia-employment-2020%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420094053%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=YEnPElOU26RujK3CG6s5Jlu1o5BByznvgFL0U7cPj9A%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Employment changes in 2020 COVID-19 resulted in job losses last year across every sector in Virginia except one.](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_17744b12534%3A36e174%3A18cf8c92&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420094053%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=S7CaopQM2A1eHbIO6dyXyv6cDc2FViaQ6iE83ljltuU%3D&reserved=0)  |  |

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| [**Unemployment shows minimal improvement in Va., U.S.**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FPJWScc%2F4lkEqQ6JyrrO1ZjVBLh6YO03KX5MqTz5ah0A%3D_17740439f8c%3A87e45b%3A1f8aa64&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420104046%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=kmvCKs8GSgQALA0kXts2yTk5nzukUBYJ20hUpsvcFz4%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Business](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiabusiness.com%2Farticle%2Funemployment-shows-minimal-improvement-in-va-u-s%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420104046%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Ti906tunSbzbuAGTzj3qycamCWdH3ItVWoz6X%2F97oHU%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * From early December 2020 to early January 2021, employment stayed stagnant, according to the Real-Time Population Survey conducted by VCU economics professor Adam Blandin and Arizona State economics professor Alexander Bick.
* From April to October, employment increased by over 10%, meaning that the economy quickly recovered about two-thirds of lost jobs.”
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| [**COMMENTARY: Vaccine clinic at Daniel Center was a flawless ballet**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_1773f6b1c1d%3A10f1020%3A8c52a25a&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420114037%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=OTiVAQHJpXqhRWxmGwUAvLQQH83i0cC0OixjDHCUjCs%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Culpeper Star-Exponent](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fstarexponent.com%2Fopinion%2Fcommentary-vaccine-clinic-at-daniel-center-was-a-flawless-ballet%2Farticle_920afdd2-1970-5084-8ce4-504d4d0ec68a.html&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420114037%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=xvM2BwJUTGGeMPzpYTh8ulRuxof3iwt2QNZoba%2FpVoc%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * In other words, after I receive my second shot, I am well protected against the disease, but I might still spread the virus to others if I have been exposed to it.
* But these trials have not determined whether the vaccine prevents spread of the virus.
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| [**Virginia health experts working with labs to find out how COVID-19 variants spread**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fa7ygYK4H%2BO92hOf1WNl7nib1addh8vp%2BrvFuRIia7o8%3D_1773e8c30cd%3A5e8ea5%3Acafbbc00&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420124033%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QZL8kWxvCmBXnN3aJdW9graJZAuTclKzVHyNa3BcCCE%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [8News](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wric.com%2Fhealth%2Fcoronavirus%2Fvirginia-health-experts-working-with-labs-to-find-out-how-covid-19-variants-spread%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420124033%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=NXgRT5ex90r8WslSf4PirXlz3gnt%2F%2FkA2XQ5gFgaylM%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * DCLS began sequencing back in March of last year, and says they're currently working with other labs across in the state to solicit more samples to get a representation of variants spreading throughout the Commonwealth.
* “Viruses change all the time, and we expect to see new strains as disease spreads,” said State Health Commissioner M.
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| [**How we get through the pandemic and rebuild for a better future**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FZlfaun7gHjf%2BezBb4FuuczpsZ%2FrJH5fsT39QwuFW9Bk%3D_1773d1494c6%3A327688%3A1f8aa64&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420134028%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=KuBv4XJOcRQj2y1SlEjbr9YBcRyNE3L2f3SyF88xCfY%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Mercury](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiamercury.com%2F2021%2F01%2F26%2Fhow-we-get-through-the-pandemic-and-rebuild-for-a-better-future%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420134028%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=HQRgAWSRVpICQB%2BNz80zi3OS7bIw1X7I1J7%2Fcgwq%2F1Y%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * Black-owned businesses were more likely to close at the start of the pandemic, in part because of proximity to COVID-19 hotspots and in part due to lack of access to Paycheck Protection Program and bank loans to get through the hard times.
* Policymakers are taking some good steps to help people get through this tough time, yet much more must be done to set Virginia on a course where every community can rebuild for a better tomorrow.
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| [**Virginia confirms first case of U.K. coronavirus variant: Health officials say they’re monitoring it closely**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FZlfaun7gHjf%2BezBb4FuuczpsZ%2FrJH5fsT39QwuFW9Bk%3D_1773b1c9f8a%3A141e9%3Acafbbc00&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420144027%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Ambo90cuQFTkDBmCKR36%2Fu7P2MWgfOIS6D%2BKNImrnqE%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Mercury](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiamercury.com%2F2021%2F01%2F25%2Fvirginia-confirms-first-case-of-uk-variant-coronavirus-strain%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645420144027%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=CkFzWEddFkkiKyjkQb85N5d5e03Ykwcq97jMLbb3rxE%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * The state lab has been screening samples that could potentially contain the variant through its PCR testing process, which targets three different regions of the COVID-19 virus.
* Toney said the lab takes a targeted approach, not only sequencing samples identified as potential high-risk variants, but those from unique cases of the disease.
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| [**COVID 19 UPDATE - NATIONAL NEWS**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fboard%2Fcontent%2Fenterprise%2Fvccscovid19update%2Ftag%2F0f68eda4-2573-46f6-8be9-71d09e2f03fe&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419554366%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=TM63R6cBZim%2BrvPZCfhUTKesk%2F2nCCmO1K3qXzGd7iQ%3D&reserved=0) |

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| [**Weekly initial jobless claims fall slightly to 847,000 vs. estimates of 875,000**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fezz8A7EWGAHy1UC0ms%2Fm0qRAagR5Qp4dpGm%2Fx4aLZpc%3D_17749381974%3A55872b%3Acafbbc00&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419614331%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=8S4jx0w%2FJDDuVP3LfniReeJ7stWvM67xc6rQG6S7BZA%3D&reserved=0) |
| [NBC News Top Stories](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nbcnews.com%2Fbusiness%2Feconomy%2Fweekly-initial-jobless-claims-fall-slightly-847-000-vs-estimates-n1255953&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419614331%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=reenHd2ZI%2FBfDPay%2F5eRrfKxBqrlEx%2F92JBji2I61lQ%3D&reserved=0) |
| * With the economic pain far from subsiding, President Joe Biden has laid out a $1.9 trillion relief package that focuses on a new round of stimulus checks to help struggling Americans, as well as an ambitious vaccine distribution plan to help control the deadly pandemic.
* "There's nothing more important to the economy now than getting vaccinated," Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said on Wednesday in a news briefing that highlighted the economic slowdown.
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| [**CDC says risk of coronavirus in schools is small**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_1774a3021bd%3A40e548%3Ad06fdac1&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419624321%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QEDec%2F8afFilX02%2FS%2BrBi7aMzcJp9ERiZHdIPlb5mMc%3D&reserved=0) |
| [TheHill](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fthehill.com%2Fchanging-america%2Fwell-being%2Fprevention-cures%2F536060-cdc-says-risk-of-coronavirus-in-schools-is-small&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419624321%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=qbrMVoM9oyMZxFF7z4dDOpmsCAoA6TUiNttkNyZMjCY%3D&reserved=0) |
| [Drivers are speeding more on emptier roads. View People may be hesitant about the coronavirus vaccines due to systemic institutionalized racism and distrust in the medical community.](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fs9CTgOD2rBeTJKl68FD0GbsxW6yVPw0NK2yeedQsWnQ%3D_1774a3021bd%3A40e548%3Ad06fdac1&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419634313%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=DRpFPArbcIEvZpmkKIA%2B3gMhoiXNOp4SeEfcgDeAZys%3D&reserved=0)  |

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| [**Biden Wants Colleges to Be 'Partners' in Vaccine Delivery. Here’s What They’re Doing Already.**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FpJObj60hhd4Ufvbp8Z4fAm4U%2BG1RmbCaFfwanQquVGk%3D_177459cf2ee%3A113bfd6%3A1f8aa64&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419634313%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Od2vS3zvCAeRtpTeeb5EZ%2FaChmLFrXCo3Irhrzuil5k%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [The Chronicle of Higher Education | News, Opinion, Advice about Higher Education](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chronicle.com%2Farticle%2Fbiden-wants-colleges-to-be-partners-in-vaccine-delivery-heres-what-theyre-doing-already&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419644310%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=KJcAl%2BuAbojVfxoCyAkyqIFeibYm%2FXKSViun37w4yi0%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * In addition to the health-care workers they already planned to vaccinate that holiday week, the director said, New York state wanted Stony Brook to vaccinate thousands more from the community.
* Sneed, dean of the college of pharmacy at the University of South Florida, has been educating people in the Tampa area about the vaccine since early June.
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| [**Biden administration unveils boost to state COVID-19 vaccine shipments**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FZlfaun7gHjf%2BezBb4FuuczpsZ%2FrJH5fsT39QwuFW9Bk%3D_177410d75b0%3Aa7ec6e%3Ae30f41ea&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419644310%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=PjfLBwiEMbigMfVRBMiTXxs6mgbhjm8piF%2FFgM%2F%2FHw4%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [Virginia Mercury](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiamercury.com%2F2021%2F01%2F26%2Fbiden-administration-unveils-boost-to-state-covid-19-vaccine-shipments%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419654308%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Xv05QVHQlRuaGA1jhJ2bFSJiZNk8Cu7jPCESSwAKzUc%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| * WASHINGTON — Amid frustrations at the slow pace of the national COVID-19 vaccination effort, President Joe Biden says his administration is boosting the number of doses sent to states each week and will be giving state officials more certainty on the number of doses they can expect in future shipments.
* Those anticipated purchases — which Biden said his administration believes they will soon be able to confirm — would bring the total of vaccine doses expected to be delivered in the U.S. by this summer to 600 million, or enough to vaccinate 300 million Americans with the two-dose vaccines.
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| [**How the Pandemic Put More Strain on Students Last Fall**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FpJObj60hhd4Ufvbp8Z4fAm4U%2BG1RmbCaFfwanQquVGk%3D_17740cf8af5%3A966c15%3A1f8aa64&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419654308%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=ecNp1zfw338lknyAKe5jTPOeUXuhm1ob4WR3PUbshyE%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [The Chronicle of Higher Education | News, Opinion, Advice about Higher Education](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chronicle.com%2Farticle%2Fhow-the-pandemic-put-more-strain-on-students-last-fall&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419654308%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=6z9SP%2BeAnrVxBsSxHPk7ZRvGbKy3fieHS2%2FhwYzpQr4%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| [As colleges begin their spring terms, they’re still learning lessons about how students felt about the fall. One thing seems clear about the “new normal”: Students are struggling to make online classes work while worrying about their finances and their health.](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FpJObj60hhd4Ufvbp8Z4fAm4U%2BG1RmbCaFfwanQquVGk%3D_17740cf8af5%3A966c15%3A1f8aa64&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419664298%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gglLehHcRbDNfuoAvgZkYtYF1emkcTuLTHmiEVAKqnE%3D&reserved=0)  |  |

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| [**Refocusing on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion During the Pandemic and Beyond: Lessons from a Community of Practice**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FzmCBFr8kP%2B9g3Ftz3GLDJnkf8sfMYd%2FDuGMk1ENisdU%3D_176fd87ebc4%3A87a1c1%3A7c281fd8&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419664298%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=uvJr8wwNO%2FaXEzgThz%2FTtBjOxb6JWEEIF1BASBZQE5k%3D&reserved=0) |
| [Higher Education Today](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.higheredtoday.org%2F2021%2F01%2F13%2Frefocusing-diversity-equity-inclusion-pandemic-beyond-lessons-community-practice%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419674296%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=GSD1O%2B7vmbPHh6LpJYWV4bwKHfoQFkic1adYJECApc8%3D&reserved=0) |
| * When our institutions were forced to reconsider our approach to DEI in light of COVID-19, I partnered with ACE to lead the first diversity, equity, and inclusion and COVID-19 Community of Practice (the “community”) with senior higher education leaders across the country.
* However, the recent triple crisis—the COVID-19 pandemic, the systemic racism in this country, and racial inequities in higher education—has prompted a clarion call for more effective strategies that will result in more equitable outcomes for underrepresented populations by placing DEI at the core of our institutional practice.
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| [**The 5 Biggest Lessons We’ve Learned About How Coronavirus Spreads on Campus**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FFy3VJ11srJ7WiTPM6nbL06kpPr28ZRWFGN1T1qh7ocA%3D_1773a14601b%3Ab36d73%3A8c52a25a&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419684287%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=M%2BdYEx7u8NqwVd8KwmuNUiXwlKBPs5uam1DHFctslm4%3D&reserved=0) |
| [CHE](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chronicle.com%2Farticle%2Fthe-5-biggest-lessons-weve-learned-about-how-coronavirus-spreads-on-campus&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419694283%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=i1dt7DiXiGn1yW5ToIqjFuv09l6N0usqPZeLD2BBSqE%3D&reserved=0) |
| * Campus contact tracers at several institutions said staff and faculty members have tested positive recently after gathering socially outside of work.
* (Residence halls are an exception; for more on that, see Lesson 3.) At Temple University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, both of which had to flip online because they couldn’t contain student infections, administrators cited no instances of student-to-faculty transmission.
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| [**Community College Graduates and the COVID-19 Pandemic**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2FFy3VJ11srJ7WiTPM6nbL06kpPr28ZRWFGN1T1qh7ocA%3D_1773a12c845%3Ab1c68e%3A340f5fd8&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419694283%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=hovzj8hoAlYmYp6BpsmsIZ%2Bxm5N7LOFPItTEanCi1qc%3D&reserved=0) |
| [Community College Research Center](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fccrc.tc.columbia.edu%2Feasyblog%2Fcommunity-college-graduates-covid19.html&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419704274%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gZsU1ko54dOnorU7CP2ING08xf%2BOf6gtMdhic3H4Als%3D&reserved=0) |
| * Historically, community college graduates have had more economic success than high school graduates as measured by employment rates and earnings.
* High School and Community College Graduates Whose Work Was Directly Affected by COVID-19
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| [**Colleges should do much more to support students who have been in foster care (opinion)**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffeedly.com%2Fi%2Fentry%2Fo3SSqIWWG2gYayKaXccfVpg%2FzOCVxn%2FqF9iZLeGk8SI%3D_17738983bd7%3Ae9e30a%3Acafbbc00&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419704274%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=55VbEusP%2BXHiV8yX7rfZBIszagsuGIDGVkk8xOK%2FSQs%3D&reserved=0) |
| [Inside Higher Ed](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.insidehighered.com%2Fviews%2F2021%2F01%2F25%2Fcolleges-should-do-much-more-support-students-who-have-been-foster-care-opinion&data=04%7C01%7Cjandre%40vccs.edu%7C2c635c0fbee443e01b7d08d8c3cfffd0%7Cfab6beb5360442dfbddcf4e9ddd654d5%7C0%7C0%7C637474645419714271%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=6nm%2BNht9sbZKg4r8j16GMEp9u4Y%2FUEFPeFxNVqiS%2Fr0%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank) |
| * Unless colleges and universities work deliberately to help students who’ve been in foster care continue to navigate the pandemic, even more barriers may arise.
* In this difficult time, we should be particularly concerned about an often-overlooked population of students at our institutions for whom fear and uncertainty are especially well-known: youth who were formerly in foster care.
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