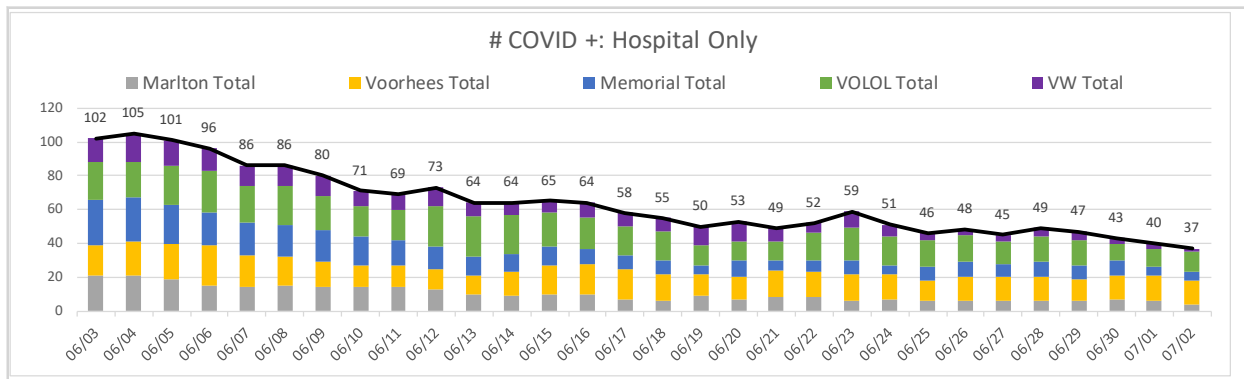
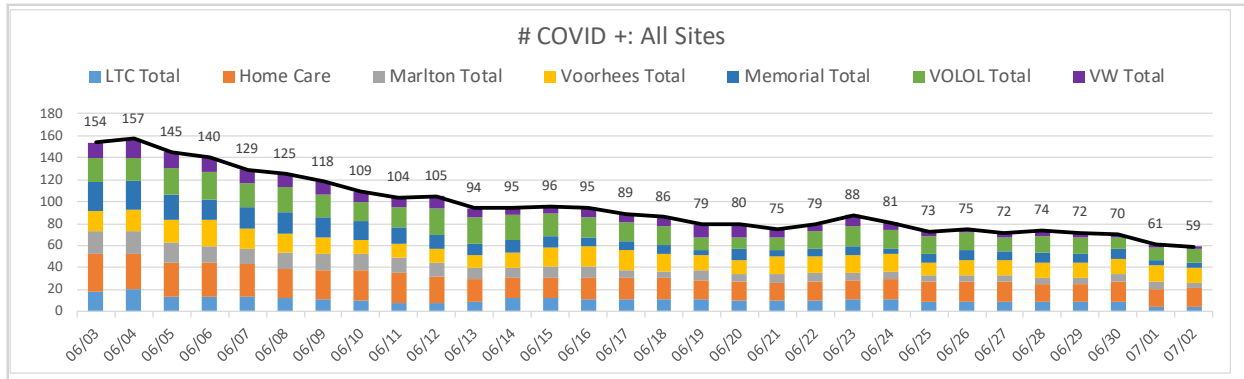


# COVID-19 Clinician Update

July 2, 2020

## By the Numbers

The following charts reflect figures for Virtua-site cases of COVID-19, as of today.



### Fast Facts

- Based on tests returned from July 1, the statewide test positivity rate is 2.29 percent.
- Currently, the rate of transmission in New Jersey is 0.82.
- Locally, in the tri-county area, there have been a total of 1,003 confirmed deaths, as of 1 p.m. July 1. Recently, the state has begun accounting for “probable” deaths from COVID-19, with figures shared separately on the [state dashboard](#). For the three counties, probable deaths would account for an additional 92 fatalities.
- The total number of cases are as follows:
  - Burlington County 5,168
  - Camden County 7,317
  - Gloucester County 2,578

### Horizon Continues to Waive Cost Share for Telemedicine and COVID-19 Treatment

Earlier this week, Horizon Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey (BCBSNJ) issued an update concerning telehealth services, as well as COVID-19 treatment. In the notice, they indicated that they will continue to cover telehealth and telemedicine services through the public health State of

Emergency declared by Gov. Phil Murphy's executive order 103. Highlights of the notice, which can be found in its entirety [here](#), are summarized below:

- Out-of-pocket costs are waived for member telemedicine and telephone visits provided by in-network health care professionals.
- Telemedicine and telephone visits are available to members with out-of-network benefits who choose to get care from out-of-network health care professionals, but the member is responsible for any difference between the plan allowance and the billed amount.
- Horizon is extending the waiver of member cost sharing for treatment of COVID-19 through August 31, 2020. Members will pay no deductible, copay or coinsurance for inpatient and outpatient care when claims indicate treatment was directly related to treatment of COVID-19 as the primary diagnosis.
- Horizon BCBSNJ will evaluate the expansion of coverage for certain services that offered during the initial stage of the public health emergency once the emergency ends.
- The update applies to all covered services, including the diagnosis or treatment of COVID-19, routine care, therapy, and mental health care.

Horizon BCBSNJ's telemedicine policy can be found [here](#).

### **Travel Advisory**

The governors of New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut issued a 14-day quarantine travel advisory for individuals traveling to or returning to New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut from states with increasing rates of COVID-19. This includes travel via all methods of transportation — car, train, bus, plane, etc. Certain states have been identified as having rates higher than 10 per 100,000 residents or have a 10 percent higher positivity rate over a 7-day average.

**As of June 30, there are 16 states that meet this criteria:** Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Nevada, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah.

Colleague travel is therefore restricted to these areas. Colleagues traveling to or from the above advisory areas will be subject to a 14-day period of self-monitoring before returning to work. During that monitoring period, colleagues will be required to use their own paid time off and/or may need to take time off on an unpaid basis if no paid time off is available. For colleagues traveling to the areas identified above, as well as any international travel, you are required to call the colleague hotline at 609-444-2828 upon return for guidance and return to work.

Please be advised this is a fluid situation and additional states may be added in the future and may be subject to quarantine.

This Fourth of July, we remind everyone to stay healthy by maintaining social distancing, continuing to wear masks in public, and avoiding large gatherings and settings where risk of infection may occur.