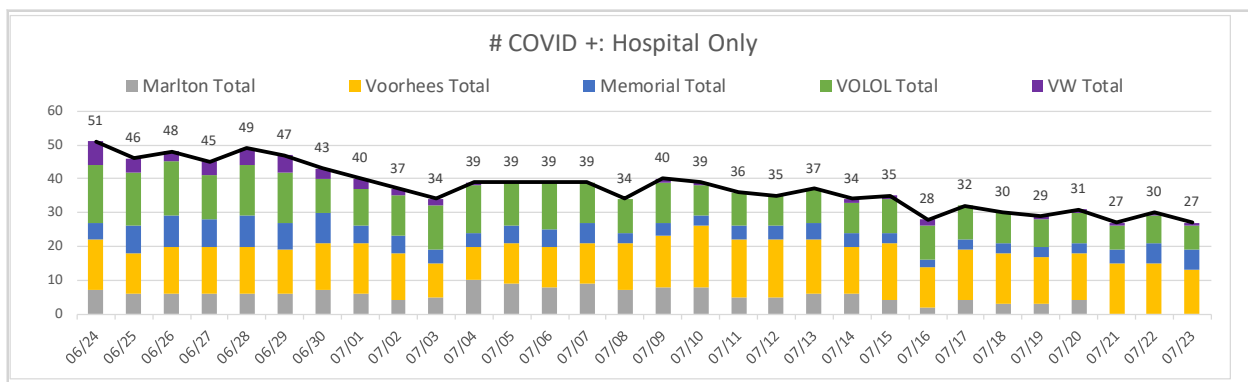
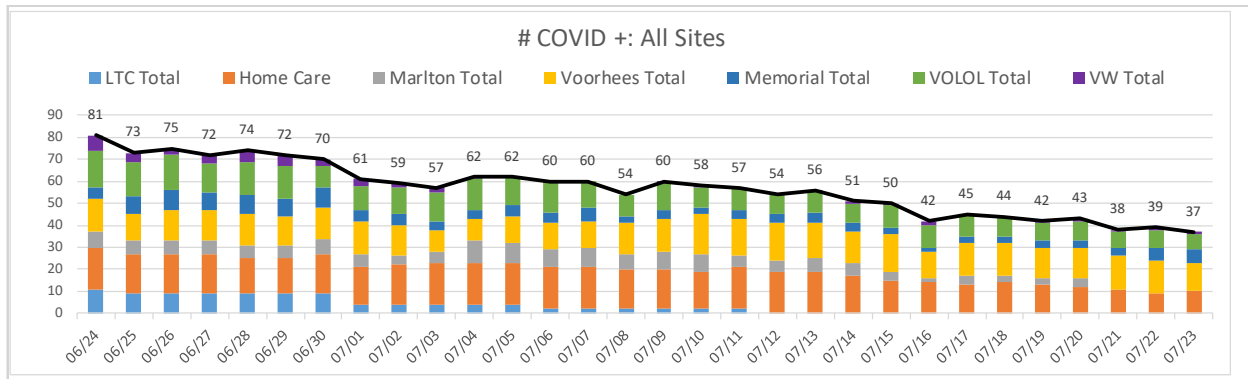


# COVID-19 Clinician Update

July 23, 2020

## By the Numbers

The following charts reflect the latest figures for Virtua-site cases of COVID-19.



## Fast Facts

- Currently, the rate of transmission in New Jersey is 0.9.
- Locally, in the tri-county area, there have been a total of 1,129 confirmed deaths, as of 1 p.m. today. 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 103 fatalities.
- The total number of cases are as follows:
  - Burlington County 5,502
  - Camden County 7,910
  - Gloucester County 2,894

## Travel Advisory

Governor Phil Murphy has advised individuals between New Jersey and states with significant community spread of COVID-19 to quarantine for a 14-day period from the time of last contact within the identified state.

The updated advisory from **Tuesday, July 21**, includes 10 additional states: **Alaska, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Virginia, and Washington**. Minnesota has been removed from the list. The travel advisory applies to any person arriving from a state with a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents, or a state with a 10 percent or higher positivity rate over a seven-day rolling average.

As of today, **Thursday, July 23**, there are **31 states that meet the travel advisory criteria**: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

According to the governor, several outbreaks across New Jersey have been directly tied to travel from COVID-19 hotspots nationwide.

Therefore, colleague travel is strongly discouraged to these areas at this time. Colleagues (and clinicians practicing at Virtua locations) traveling to the areas identified above, as well as any international travel, are required to call the colleague hotline at 609-444-2828 upon return for guidance and return to work instructions. Colleagues traveling to or from these areas, provided they are not exhibiting symptoms, will return to work. Per updated NJ Department of Health guidelines, health care workers, as “critical infrastructure workers,” are exempt from the NJ Travel Advisory 14-day quarantine period.

### **Tracking Travelers**

In a related story, the New Jersey Department of Health has begun using a digital form for travelers to fill out when they arrive in New Jersey from any of the areas identified in the Travel Advisory. Travelers are being asked to complete an online survey, which is being shared with state public health officials for the purposes of tracking individuals who may need to self-quarantine. Points of entry such as airports and major highways are displaying messages in the form of posters and digital signage. In addition, announcements are being made on incoming flights. You can view the survey [here](#) or text “NJTRAVEL” to 898211.

### **Recent Accolades for Virtua Hospitals**

Despite the pandemic, Virtua hospitals have continued to acquire awards and recognitions for their outstanding services. Here are a few of our recent accolades:

- Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes and Virtua Voorhees Hospital were named to *Newsweek*'s list of Best Maternity Hospitals 2020. *Newsweek* partnered with The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit organization that reports on the safety and quality performance of health care facilities throughout the United States. The list presents 231 entries in 36 states, categorized by region. A panel of national experts advised Leapfrog on standards for excellence in maternity care, including achieving low rates of C-section, episiotomy, and early elective deliveries, and following crucial protocols to protect mothers and babies. Though these are standards aligned with medical research and best practices, not all hospitals achieve them. The facilities cited by *Newsweek* as Best Maternity Hospitals 2020 are an elite group demonstrating excellence in maternity care.
- Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital has achieved a score of A+ in a newly created index by the Lown Institute, a Massachusetts-based non-profit think tank whose mission is to address issues related to

health care accountability, health equity, and value-based care. Using Medpar data and other quality metrics, along with financial and community benefit information, the Institute ranked all U.S. acute-care hospitals on patient outcomes, value of care, and “civic leadership,” which they define as a commitment to equity, inclusion, and community health. Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes was ranked in the top 7 percent of hospitals nationally, and 6<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey—and the highest ranking among South Jersey hospitals.

- The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses has awarded the gold-level Beacon Award for Excellence to the Special Care Nursery at Virtua Memorial Hospital. This award recognizes caregivers who utilize a consistent and systematic approach to evidence-based care that improves patient outcomes. Virtua Memorial’s Special Care Nursery is one of only 10 neonatal units in the country — and one of three in New Jersey — to receive this three-year award. The nursery had previously earned the silver-level Beacon Award for Excellence in 2017, and is one of seven units within the Virtua system with an active designation.
- A medical-surgical unit at Virtua Marlton Hospital has earned a prestigious national honor for the second consecutive time. The hospital’s cardiopulmonary (heart and lung) unit received the [AMSN PRISM Award®](#), which recognizes exceptional nursing practice, leadership, and outcomes in hospital medical-surgical units across the country. The unit, known as 3 North, received its previous, three-year PRISM Award in 2016. Through this distinguished honor, AMSN and MSNCB appraisers unanimously identified and recognized the Virtua Marlton 3 North team for achieving sustained excellence in areas such as effective leadership, evidence-based practices, and positive patient outcomes, among others.

### **Virtua’s Impact Seen and Shared through Media**

Virtua Health colleagues are offering their expertise and perspective during the pandemic, as well as sharing their uplifting stories through media outlets and social media.

Virtua’s Dorothy “Dodi” Iannaco, DNP, RN, APN, NE-BC, spoke to the *Burlington County Times* and other news outlets about the safest ways to socially interact with others this summer.

One of her tips includes “keeping gatherings to one or two people outside of your household as it limits the potential spread of COVID-19 ... During the gathering, each invitee should wear a mask and stay six feet apart at all times. Set up chairs and tables apart from one another and stay outside.” Read the entire article and more of her expert advice [here](#).

At Virtua Marlton Hospital, our colleagues experienced a surprise of a lifetime when country music icon Tim McGraw “dropped in” on a recent Zoom call.

During the call, he said, "I just want to thank you guys for all the work you are doing ... One of the bright lights through all of this is being able to see how much people care, how hard people work, and how selfless people can be. You give our kids something to emulate."

See Tim McGraw's unexpected visit and private performance on [Facebook](#).

Note: Don’t forget to follow Virtua’s social media channels:

- [Facebook](#) and the [Virtua Colleagues Facebook Group](#)
- [Twitter](#)

- [Instagram](#)
- [Linkedin](#)