

Historical Reinfection Data

March 1, 2020 – September 20, 2021

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated the definition of [COVID-19 surveillance case](#). To align with the national definition, NCDHHS will begin reporting reinfections with COVID-19 as part of COVID-19 case counts starting Oct. 4. The dashboard does not currently include subsequent COVID-19 infections for people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 more than once so the change will cause an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases being reported in the state.

Updated CDC Definition

A reinfection case is defined for surveillance purposes as a case of COVID-19 in someone with a positive laboratory test who previously had laboratory confirmed COVID-19 at least 90 days prior.

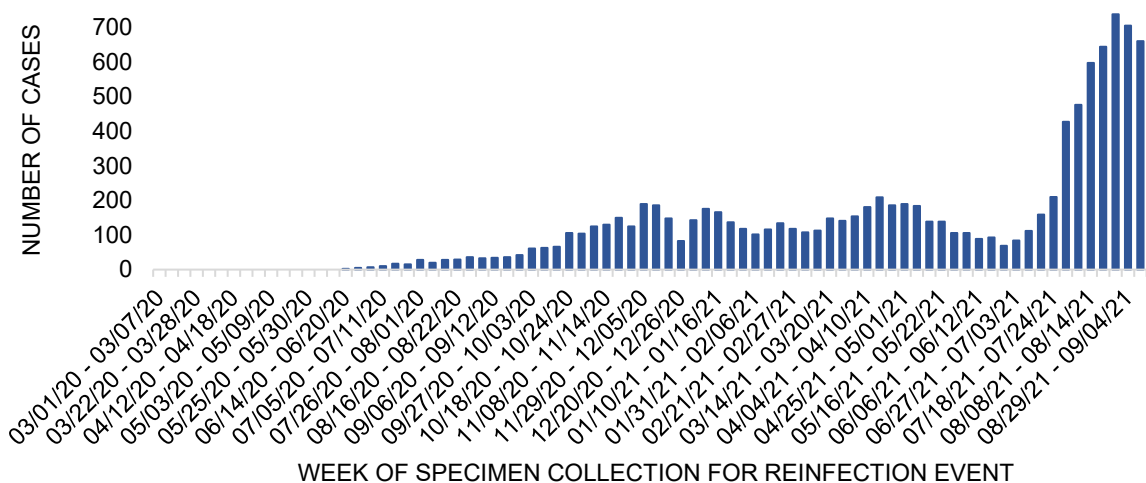
Important things to know about NC’s historical reinfection data

- Data in this report represent cases meeting the surveillance definition above. Reinfection can only be distinguished from prolonged viral shedding if specimens from both infections undergo whole genome sequencing.
- These numbers may change as cases are reclassified through NC DPH’s ongoing data quality efforts.
- Reinfections reported on or after October 1, 2021 will be reported on the NC DHHS COVID-19 Dashboard.

Summary

The number of reinfections has increased with the surge caused by the more infectious Delta variant. Reinfections were less often identified in children and persons of Hispanic ethnicity and more often identified in females but were otherwise similar compared to those with initial/primary infections.

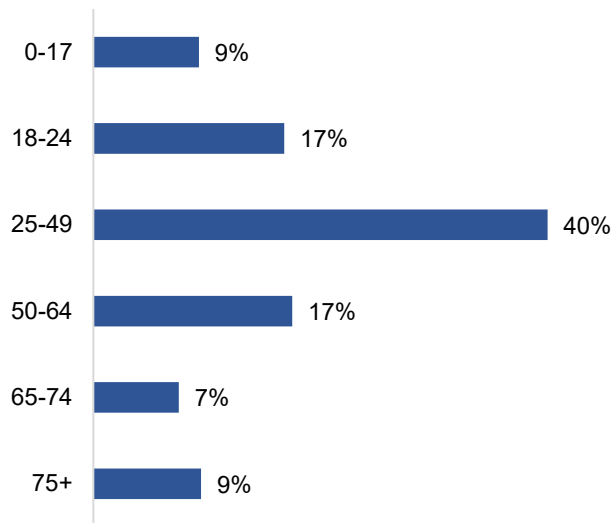
Reinfection Cases	Post-Vaccination Reinfection Cases	Reinfection Deaths
10,812	200	94



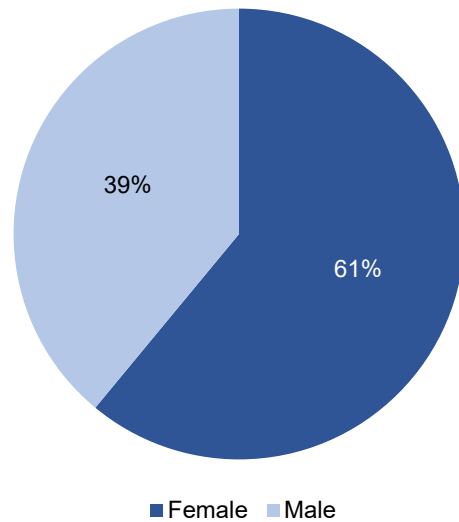
Demographics of Historical Reinfection Cases

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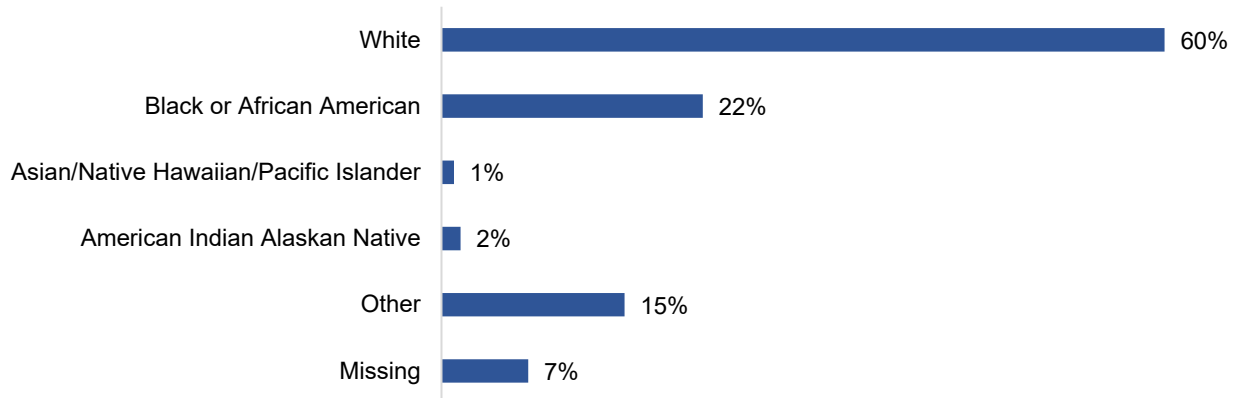
Reinfection Cases by Age



Reinfection Cases by Gender



Reinfection Cases by Race



Reinfection Cases by Ethnicity

