

# New York City Board of Correction COVID-19 Update

*September 14, 2021*

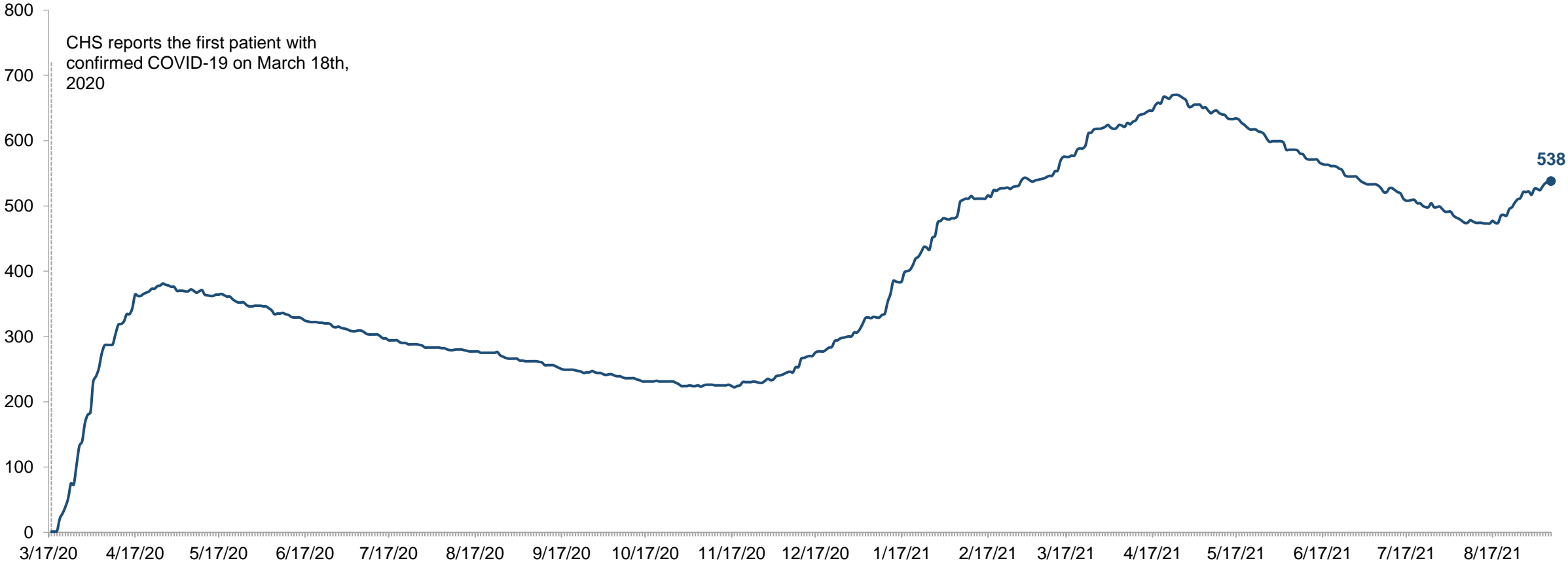
# COVID-19 Update September 14, 2021

- 1) Confirmed Cases
- 2) Jail Population & Decarceration
- 3) Housing Area Density
- 4) Testing Strategy Staff & People in Custody
- 5) Vaccinations

## Confirmed Cases

- The number of active and recovered COVID-19 patients in jail began to fall in late-April 2021 and rise again in mid-August 2021.
- On September 7, 2021, CHS reported there were: (1) 538 active and recovered COVID-19 patients in custody and (2) 61 patients with an active infection.<sup>2</sup>

**Number of Currently Incarcerated Patients with Confirmed COVID-19**  
**March 17, 2020 – September 7, 2021**



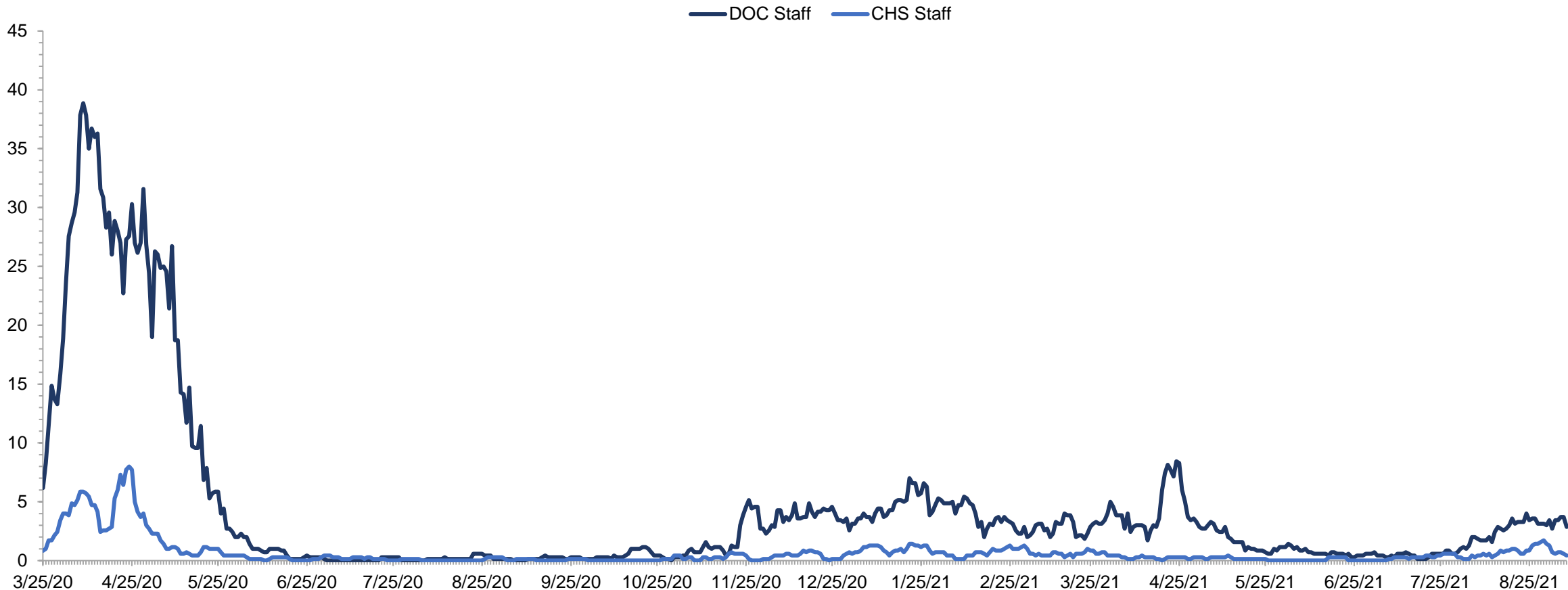
<sup>1</sup> This metric includes active and recovered patients with confirmed COVID-19.

<sup>2</sup> Data reported by CHS reflects data collected on the prior day.

- As of September 7, 2021, there have been 353 COVID cases among CHS staff and 2,285 COVID cases among DOC staff.
- DOC reported 85 new staff cases in August 2021, nearly six times the number of cases reported in July 2021.
- CHS reported 26 new staff cases in August 2021, nearly three times the number of cases reported in July 2021.

**DOC & CHS Staff with Confirmed COVID-19, Daily Change**  
**March 25, 2020 – September 7, 2021**

*Figures are presented as a 7-day moving average*



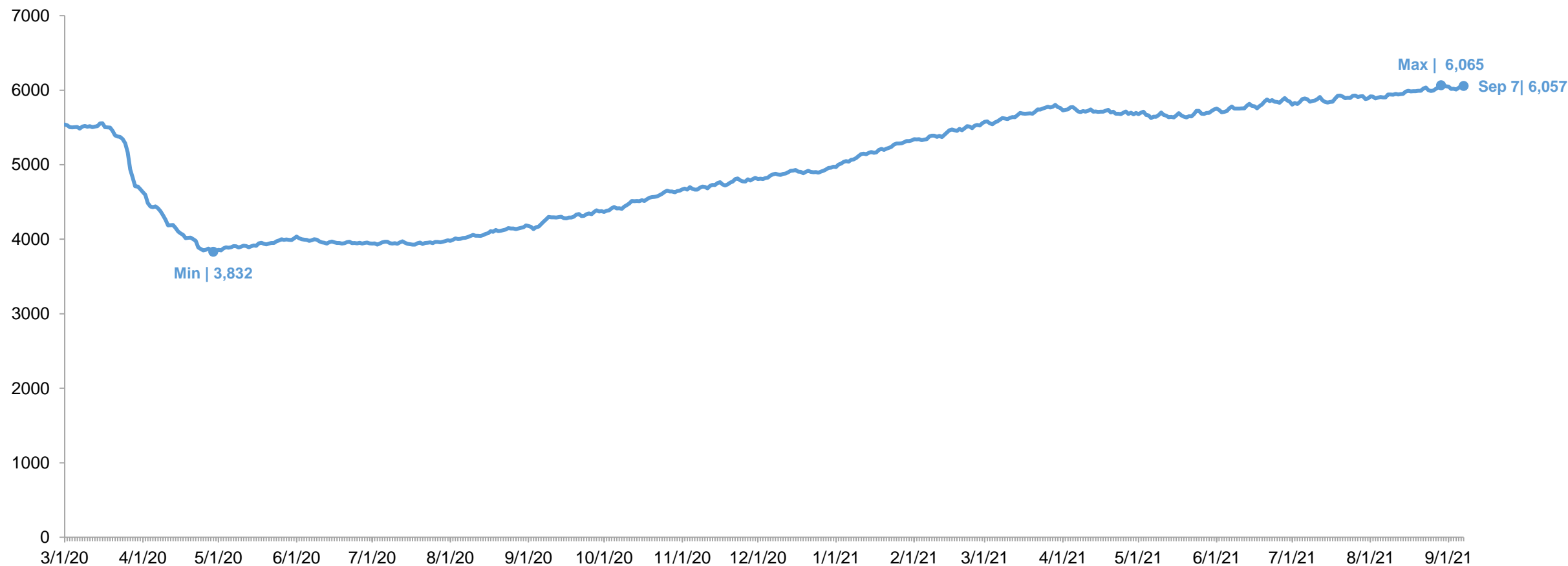
NOTE: CHS began reporting positive staff cases to the Board on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. DOC began reporting positive staff cases to the Board on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

SOURCE: BOC analysis of daily DOC and CHS COVID-19 Reports to BOC

# Jail Population & Decarceration

- The first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic prompted coordinated efforts to rapidly reduce the jail population. By April 29, 2020, the jail population fell to a historic low of 3,832.
- This trend slowly reversed for much of the latter part of the pandemic. On August 29, 2021, the jail population reached a new high of 6,065—a 58 percent increase compared to April 29, 2020.
- The jail population remains relatively high. As of September 7, 2021, there were 6,057 people in jail.

### Total Jail Population March 1, 2020 – September 7, 2021



# **DOC Population by Custody Status and Key Demographics as of September 7, 2021**

As of Tuesday, September 7, New York City's jails held:

- 5,402 people in pre-trial detention
- 237 people serving a city sentence
- 271 people held on technical parole violations with no open case
- 147 people in custody for other reasons (e.g., state sentenced, state ready)
- 874 people aged 50 and over, including 61 held solely on a technical parole violation



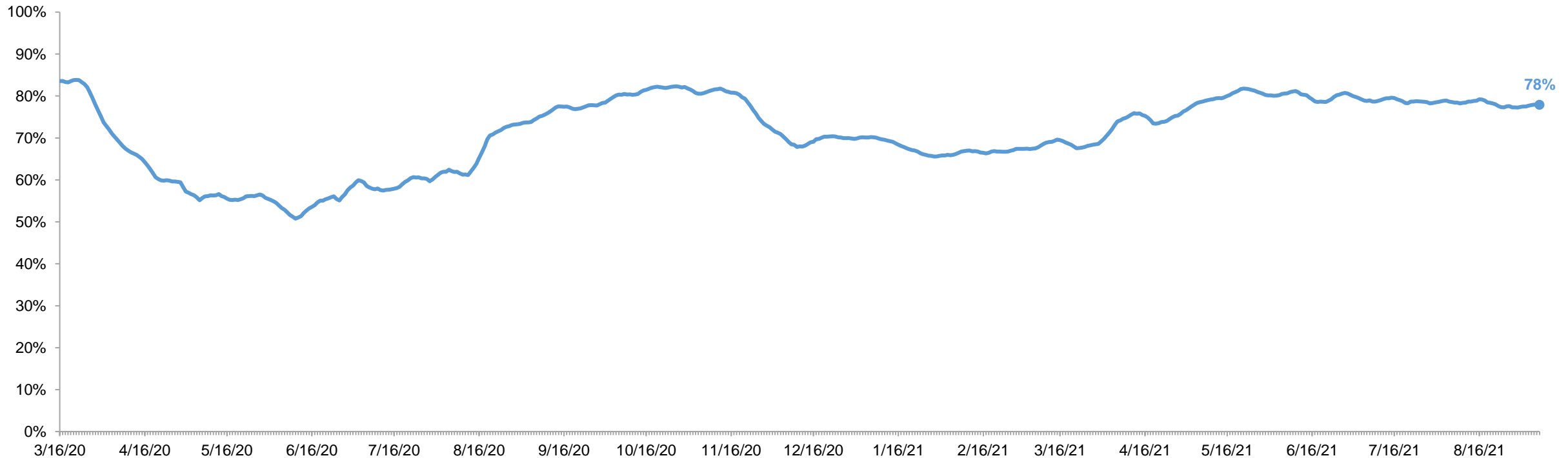
# Housing Area Density

- Throughout the pandemic, most people in jail have been housed in units operating above 50 percent of their design capacity.
- As of September 7, 2021, 78 percent of people in jail were housed in units that exceeded 50 percent capacity.

### Percentage of Jail Population Housed in Units Above 50% Capacity

March 16, 2020 – September 7, 2021

*Figures are presented as a 7-day moving average*



#### NOTES:

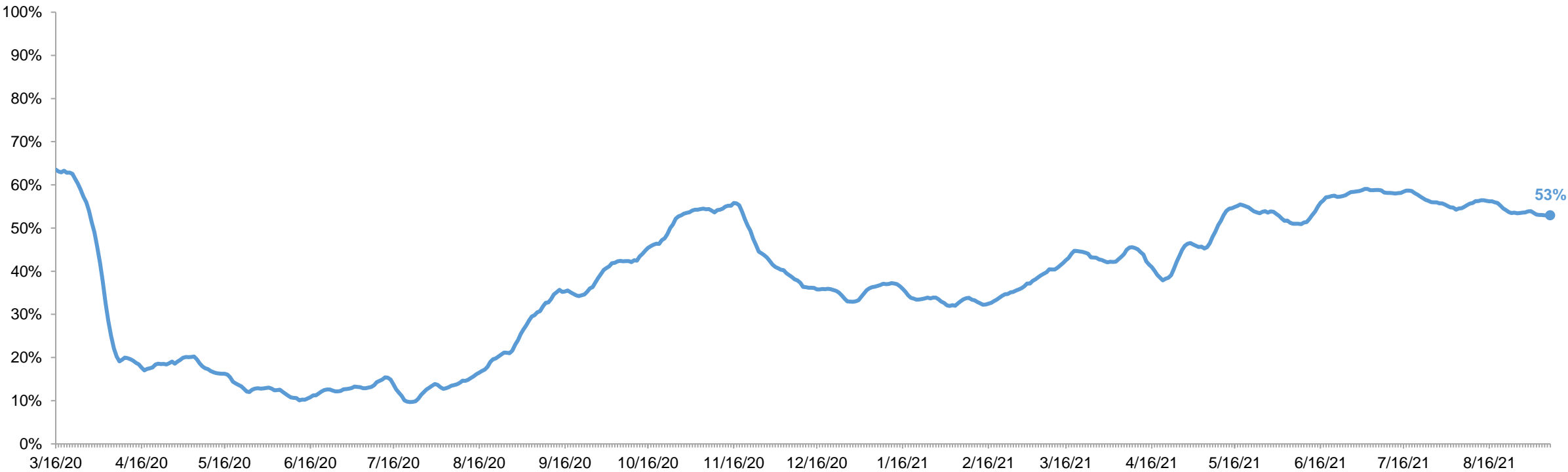
- 1) Design capacity reflects the maximum number of beds each housing area was designed to accommodate. DOC believes this metric serves as the best available proxy for housing area size. Accordingly, the capacity figures presented above are calculated by dividing housing area census by housing area design capacity.
- 2) The census data presented in the table above comes from DOC's 5am census, which reflects a head count conducted by DOC staff each morning. The census data presented on all other slides is sourced from DOC's Inmates in Custody files.
- 3) Dorm count includes modular dorm units in AMKC, RMSC, and RNDC.
- 4) The values above exclude counts of people in Contagious Disease Units (CDUs) (where people in custody share no communal space), intake areas (where the census changes throughout the day), and the Bellevue Hospital Prison Ward (BHPW).

SOURCE: BOC analysis of DOC 5am census reports and DOC designed capacity data.

- Since May 10, 2021, most people in jail have been housed in units that exceed 75 percent of their design capacity.
- As of September 7, 2021, 53 percent of people in jail were housed in units that exceeded 75 percent capacity.

**Percentage of Jail Population Housed in Units Above 75% Capacity**  
**March 16, 2020 – September 7, 2021**

*Figures are presented as a 7-day moving average*



**NOTES:**

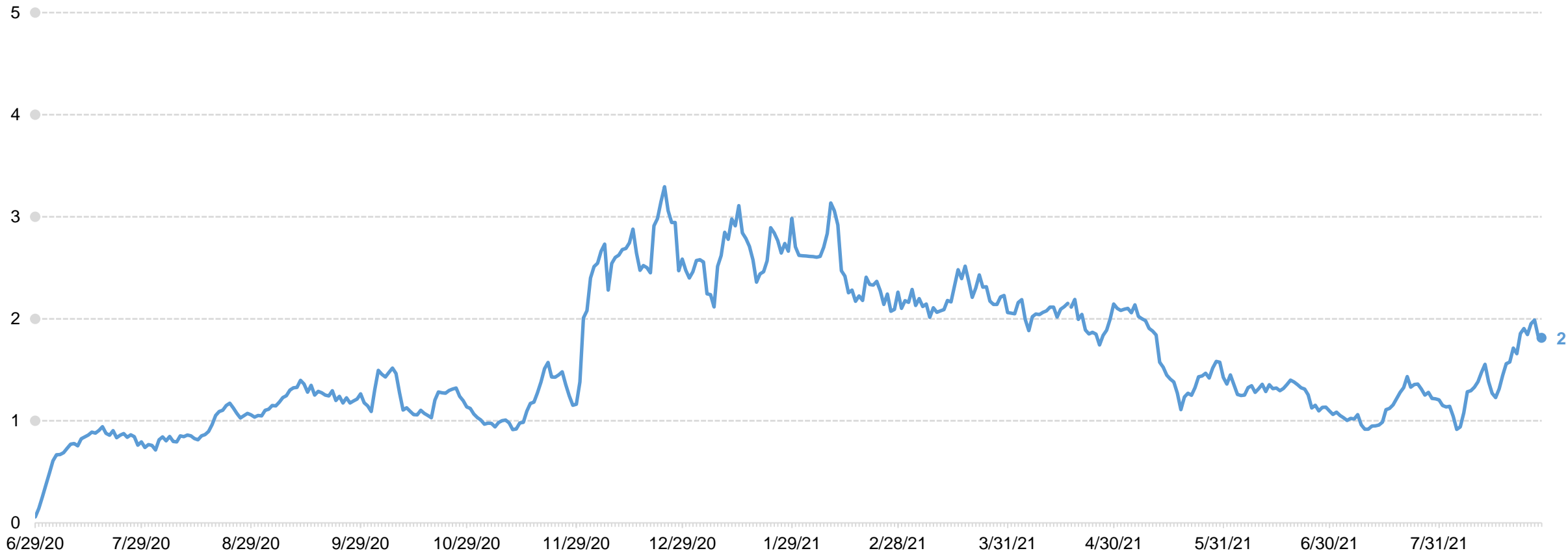
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SOURCE: BOC analysis of DOC 5am census reports and DOC designed capacity data.

# Testing Strategy

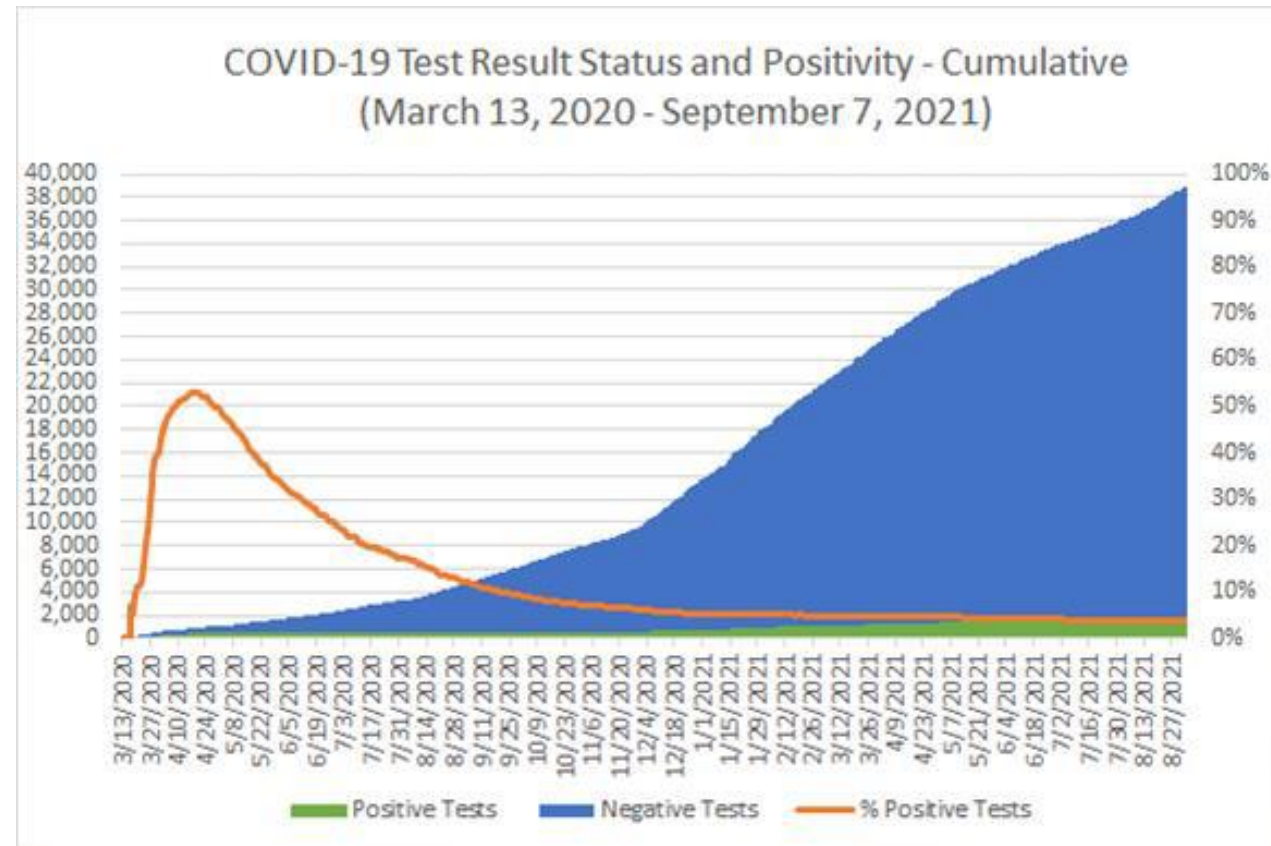
- The COVID-19 testing rate rose notably in August, after following a downward trend for much of 2021.
- Since mid-August 2021, there have been roughly two (2) COVID-19 test administered for every 100 people in custody.

**Daily COVID-19 Tests Per Hundred People in Custody<sup>1</sup>**  
**June 29, 2020 – August 29, 2021**  
*Figures are given as a moving 7-day average*



<sup>1</sup> BOC calculates the rate of testing as the proportion of (a) the daily number of tests administered to individuals per (b) the daily jail census count: (a) is derived from metric # 4 in [CHS's Local Law 59 reports](#) and (b) is derived from DOC's Inmates in Custody files.

- On September 8, 2021, CHS reported there were 64 COVID patients with an active infection in jail as of September 7, 2021.
- As of the same day, the 7-day average daily positivity rate was 5.96 percent.

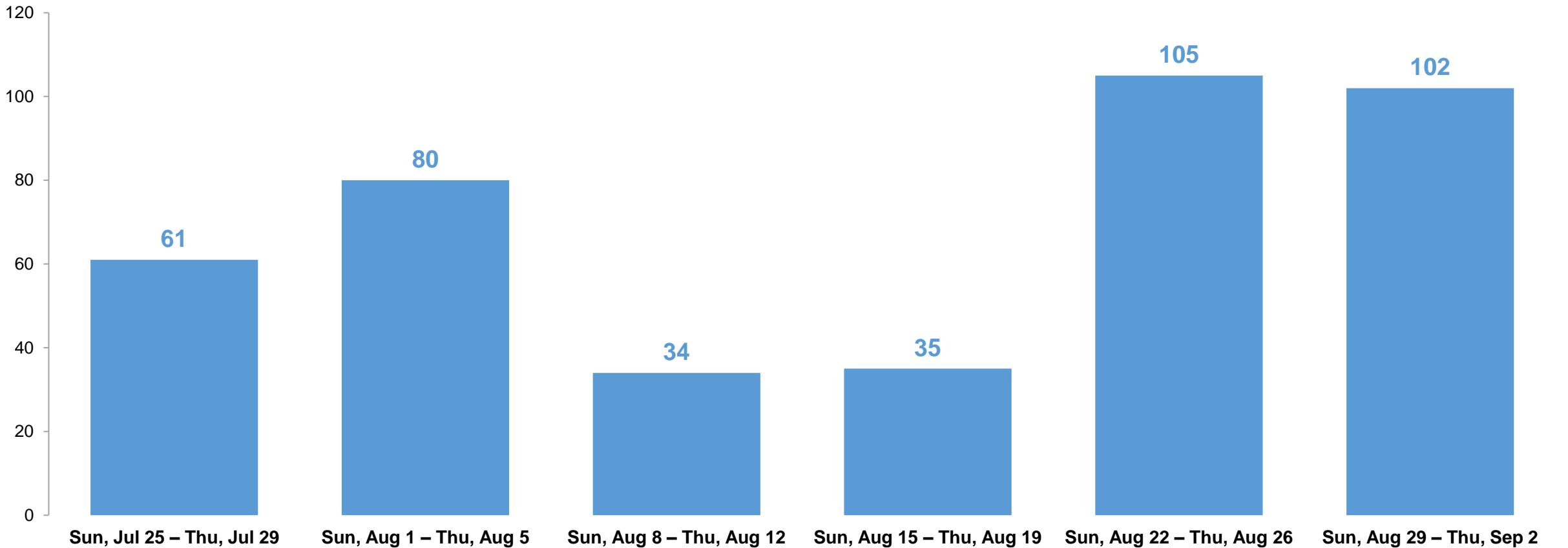


Note: 'Completed' indicates positive or negative test result. Individuals may have multiple negative test results, but only one positive test result reported

# Vaccinations

- On Friday, July 23, 2021, CHS began reporting the total number of patients ever in custody who received at least one vaccination dose by CHS because patients in custody are increasingly receiving one dose of a two-dose regimen from a source external to CHS.
- The number of new vaccination doses administered by CHS rose in late-August.

**New Vaccination Doses Administered by CHS to Patients Ever in Custody**  
**July 25 – September 2, 2021**



<sup>1</sup> No values are reported on holidays or weekends. Additionally, CHS made a change to its vaccination reporting in July. Before July 23rd, CHS reported: (1) the total number of patients ever in custody who received the first vaccination dose by CHS and (2) the total number of patients ever in custody who completed vaccination by CHS. On July 23rd, 2021, CHS began reporting the total number of patients ever in custody who received at least one vaccination dose by CHS because patients in custody are increasingly receiving one dose of a two-dose regimen from a source external to CHS.

SOURCE: BOC analysis of CHS COVID-19 Data Snapshots



- On April 20, 2021, CHS began reporting the percentage of people in jail who had received at least one vaccine dose, and on April 28, 2021, CHS began reporting the percentage of people in jail who had completed vaccination .
- As of September 7, 42 percent of people in jail had received one vaccine dose and roughly 37 percent of people in jail were completely vaccinated.

### Share of Jail Population Vaccinated

