

COVID-19 Hotspot Advisory

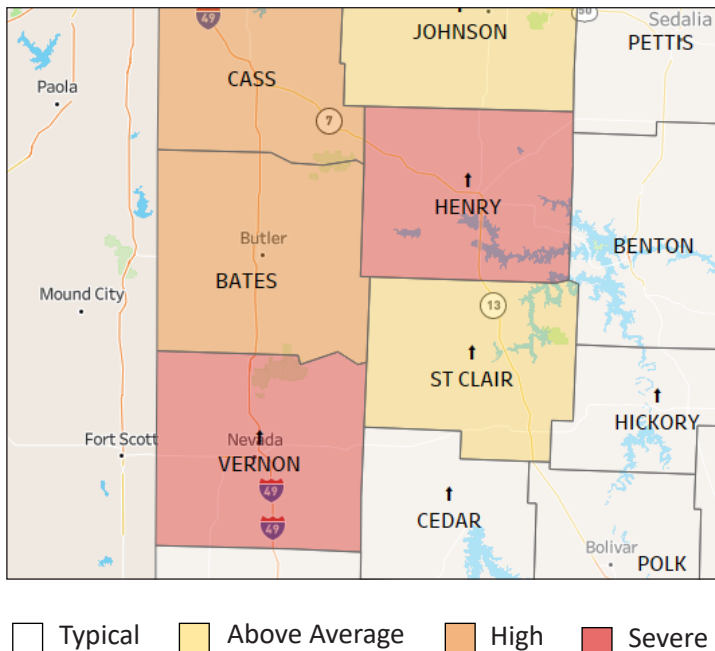
Bates, Henry and Vernon Counties (and surrounding area)

October 21, 2021 (based on data Oct. 8 - 20)

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

MOSTOPSCOVID.COM

Current COVID-19 Severity based on State Averages



SITUATIONAL SUMMARY:

In recent weeks COVID-19 cases in most areas of Missouri have decreased. In contrast, the counties listed in this advisory have experienced an increase in cases and hospitalizations. The Delta variant is the predominant cause. **Cases in Bates, Henry and Vernon counties are elevated with 59, 83 and 106 respectively in the past 14 days.**

Over the last 2 weeks there has been a 38% increase in cases (117 to 161) within Bates, Henry and Vernon counties. Fortunately, hospitalizations in the region have yet to be effected by this current increase in cases.*

The percentage of people fully vaccinated in **Bates (34.8%), Henry (39.2%) and Vernon (30.4%) counties.** Experts say at least 70% - 80% of people, depending on the type of variant virus, need immunity to provide the best chance of minimizing spread within a community.**

Delta Variant Update:

- Delta variant spreads more easily and poses higher risk of hospitalization.
- Vaccination is the best way to prevent COVID-19. Social distancing, masking, handwashing and other precautions remain important.

Value of Vaccination for Individuals:

- All approved vaccines are free and very effective, even against new variants.
- Fully vaccinated individuals are less likely to miss work, school or social events.
- Fully vaccinated individuals are not asked to quarantine when exposed to COVID-19 and not symptomatic.

Value of Vaccination for Workplaces/Communities:

- Helps prevent or reduce outbreaks that create high absenteeism in businesses and hamper community social events.
- Minimizes health care resources and protects workers and patients.

Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines:

- Administered safely to millions in the US under intense safety monitoring.
- Authorized quickly, without ignoring safety checks, by cutting 'red tape'.
- Reduces the risk of COVID-19 and especially prevents severe illness.

Treatment After Positive Test or Significant Exposure:

- Contact your health care provider about a medical evaluation and/or referral for a monoclonal antibody (mAb) infusion. Click [here](https://stateofmissouri.wufoo.com/forms/m1l2ergb0572jxj/) for information regarding monoclonal antibody infusion treatment.****

“The COVID-19 vaccine is Missouri’s pathway to recovery. We strongly encourage Missourians to protect themselves by getting vaccinated as soon as possible.”

— Daniel P. Mehan, President and CEO Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“Missouri’s infection rates are improving, but cold weather and reopening could influence whether the state maintains its progress. Vaccination remains essential.”

— Jon D. Doolittle, President and CEO Missouri Hospital Association

COVID-19 VACCINES ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE:

[MOStopsCovid.com](https://mostopscovid.com) or [VaccineFinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org)

If your business or organization is interested in a COVID-19 vaccine, complete this [form](https://stateofmissouri.wufoo.com/forms/m1l2ergb0572jxj/).***

The vaccine is the best way to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Everyone 12 years of age and older is now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination.

*<https://showmestrong.mo.gov/data/public-health/>

**<https://www.jhsph.edu/covid-19/articles/achieving-herd-immunity-with-covid19.html>

***Business form: <https://stateofmissouri.wufoo.com/forms/m1l2ergb0572jxj/>

****<https://health.mo.gov/monoclonal-antibody-treatment>