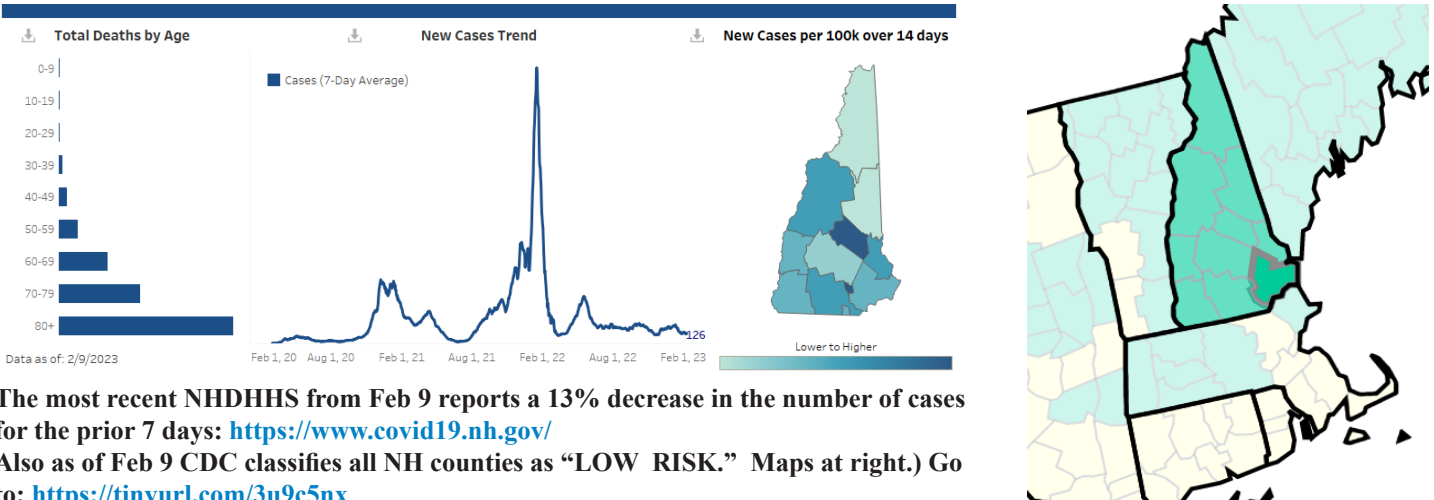


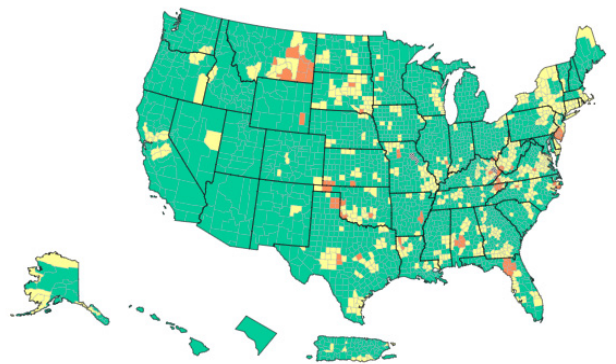
HEALTH BULLETIN BOARD 2/9/23



The most recent NHDHHS from Feb 9 reports a 13% decrease in the number of cases for the prior 7 days: <https://www.covid19.nh.gov/> Also as of Feb 9 CDC classifies all NH counties as “LOW RISK.” Maps at right.) Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3u9c5nx>

CDC COVID-19 TESTING LOCATOR WEBSITE –
Go to COVID-19 Testing Locator website <https://testinglocator.cdc.gov/> to search for free COVID-19 testing sites nearby.

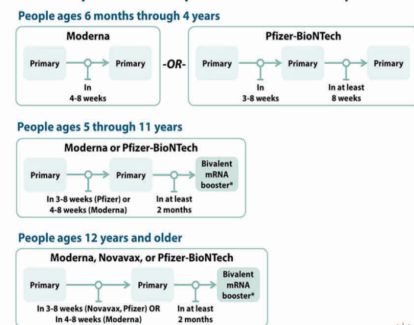
NH DHHS AND CDC RECOMMEND EVERYONE OVER 6 MONTHS RECEIVE COVID-19 BOOSTER VACCINES – On the NH DHHS’s Dr. Chan noted that cases of COVID-19 are driven by the low uptake in boosters designed to address recent variants AND because many months have passed for those who received the primary vaccine series whose effectiveness decreases over time. Go to Vaccination FAQs: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/vaccination-faqs>
NHDHHS ALSO RECOMMENDS this season’s FLU shots for all.



ON-SITE MEDICAL OFFERS FREE TELEHEALTH CONSULTATIONS
-- Those who test positive for COVID-19 but experience delays in being seen by their PCP, or other medical professional (possibly losing the effectiveness window for some treatments that could be helpful) can call 1-800-816-5803 or log onto the On-Site Medical website: <https://www.on-sitemedservices.com/> The telehealth appointment can also include prescribing any needed medication/treatments.

FREE RADON TEST KITS – NH DHHS is offering NH residents free kits from Alpha Energy Laboratories, the radon lab contracted by the NH Radon program. For more information about radon and its health risks, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3fsra9st> To receive a kit go to: <https://states.aelabs.com/#/nh>

COVID-19 Vaccination for People NOT Moderately-Severely Immunocompromised



MEDICAID EXTENSION PROGRAM ENDS MARCH 31, 2023 -- That means that approximately 72,500 NH residents who are not already working on the process with NH DHHS will lose their Medicaid coverage if they don’t get in touch and re-apply. Beginning April 1, NH DHHS will resume its pre-pandemic annual review of recipients’ eligibility, a process called “redetermination.” The impact is: 1) If the department doesn’t hear from them by the time their current benefits end, they will no longer have Medicaid coverage. 2) If they complete the redetermination process and continue to qualify, they’ll keep their Medicaid benefits. 3) If that redetermination process shows they no longer qualify, most likely because their income has gone up, they will get help exploring other options, such as a federally subsidized health plan. **However, for those determined ineligible, Medicaid benefits will end gradually.** NH DHHS is reaching out to Medicaid beneficiaries by mail and through their NH EASY accounts, to let them know when their redeterminations are due. They will look first at people whose benefits are set to end on March 31 and prioritize people who have not used their benefits for the past year, are no longer in touch with the department, or are known to no longer qualify financially. **DHHS will leave children, people in long-term-care settings, and those who are otherwise vulnerable to the end, a process that is expected to take about a year.** Those who no longer qualify will continue to receive benefits for one year after the department has ruled them no longer eligible but should act now. As they may be eligible to buy federally subsidized health insurance through the Marketplace. **The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will hold a special enrollment for people who lose their Medicaid benefits, from March 31 to July 31.**

For more information and assistance, go to nheasy.nh.gov, the state’s online portal to government benefits and local services. Call the department at 1-844-ASK-DHHS (1-844-275-3447), or visit one of the department’s local offices. First Choice Services (firstchoiceservices.org) and Health Market Connect (hmcnh.com) both provide free assistance in multiple languages. The New Hampshire Insurance Department is another option.