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V.I. Dept. of Health Expands Covid-19 Vaccination Rollout; St. Thomas Accounts for Three Quarters of Total Cases in USVI

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The V.I. Dept. of Health has announced Phase IC of its vaccination initiative as St. Thomas accounted for 75 of the 105 Covid-19 cases reported in the USVI as of Tuesday.

The latest vaccination phase includes individuals who work in the following fields:

- Water and waste management
- Food services
- Shelters and housing
- Finance
- Information technology and communications

- Energy
- Legal
- Media

The latest phase does not inhibit the vaccination of those eligible in prior phases 1A and 1B, D.O.H. said during the Bryan administration's Covid-19 response update Tuesday. The initial phase includes clinical healthcare staff, residents and staff in long-term care facilities, persons in need of special care and staff in congregate living facilities (outside of nursing homes), and the elderly throughout the territory. The second phase includes teachers, firefighters, police officers and grocery store workers, among others deemed essential to a functioning economy and are most exposed to the virus. See phases 1A and 1B eligibility [here](#).

Vaccinations administered as of Tues., Feb. 16 2021

- 11,079 first doses
- 4,222 second doses
- 15,301 total doses administered

For information about the COVID-19 vaccines, call the VITEMA hotline Mondays-Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 340-777-VACS (8227).

Pop-Up testing sites

This week, pop-up testing sites will be at the following locations:

- Canegata Rec Center on St. Croix on Tuesday, February 23, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- The V.I. Port Authority Gravel Yard on St. John on Wednesday, February 17, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- The UVI Sports and Fitness Center on St. Thomas on Thursday, February 18, from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Buddhoe Park on St. Croix on Thursday, February 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

COVID-19 cases as of Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021

- Currently tracking 105 active cases (75 in St. Thomas, 25 on St. Croix and 5 in St. John)
- 45,233 individuals tested to date (more than 40% of the population).
- 42,590 of those tests were negative.
- 2,542 tests came back positive.
- 2,412 people tested since March have recovered.
- 25 fatalities.
- One COVID-19 patient is currently hospitalized at Schneider Regional Medical Center on St. Thomas.

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