

The Virgin Islands Consortium

44-Year-Old Woman, 89-Year-Old Man Become 70th and 71st Covid-19 Deaths in U.S. Virgin Islands

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The V.I. Dept. of Health on Monday announced the 70th and 71st Covid-related deaths in the U.S. Virgin Islands, among the a 44-year-old woman.

"After further investigating cause of death and ensuring notification of next of kin, the Virgin Islands Department of Health is saddened to confirm the territory's seventieth [and seventy-first deaths] related to Covid-19. The deceased are an 89-year-old male on St. Croix and a 44-year-old female on St. Thomas," D.O.H. said.

D.O.H. Territorial Epidemiologist Dr. Esther Ellis said Monday that health officials were seeing a high number of active cases among children and young adults on St. Croix. She

said a majority of the cases last week were in the 0-17 age group.

She reported that the current median age of all positive cases in the USVI was 27.5 years as of Monday, and that contributing factors include outbreaks within daycare centers and school-aged children, with outbreaks among the latter being attributed to household exposures.

Dr. Ellis encouraged parents to get their children vaccinated against Covid-19 if they are eligible. "It is especially important for children 12 and up as well as those that work with children to get vaccinated and keep our schools safe and our students safe," she said. Dr. Ellis also urged parents with children 11 and under to get vaccinated themselves, which she said would help keep children safe.

D.O.H. reported 190 active cases territory, with 139 on St. Croix, 46 on St. Thomas and 5 on St. John.

There were three Covid-19 hospitalized patients territory-wide, with one patient requiring a ventilator on St. Croix, while one of the two patients at the Schneider Regional Medical Center in St. Thomas was ventilated.