



**REPORT:**  
**COVID-19 Cases in U.S. Nursing Homes  
Remain at Historic Lows**

**Only a small number of nursing homes are reporting cases—  
primarily in communities with high spread and low vaccination  
rates among the general public.**

**JULY 30, 2021**

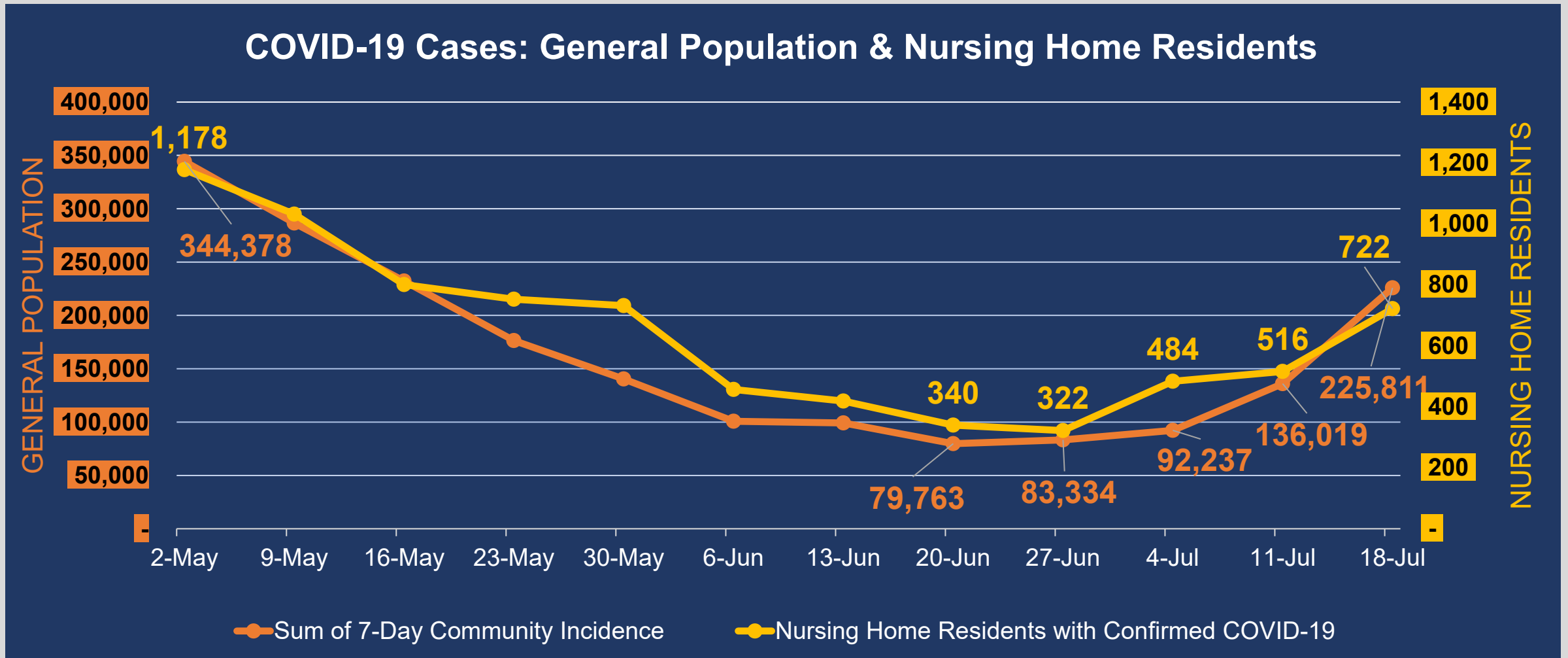
Since the vaccines were offered in long term care in late December, new resident cases were declining and for months, have been at historic lows since the beginning of the pandemic.

### New COVID-19 Cases Among Nursing Home Residents, Weekly



Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), December 20, 2020 – July 18, 2021

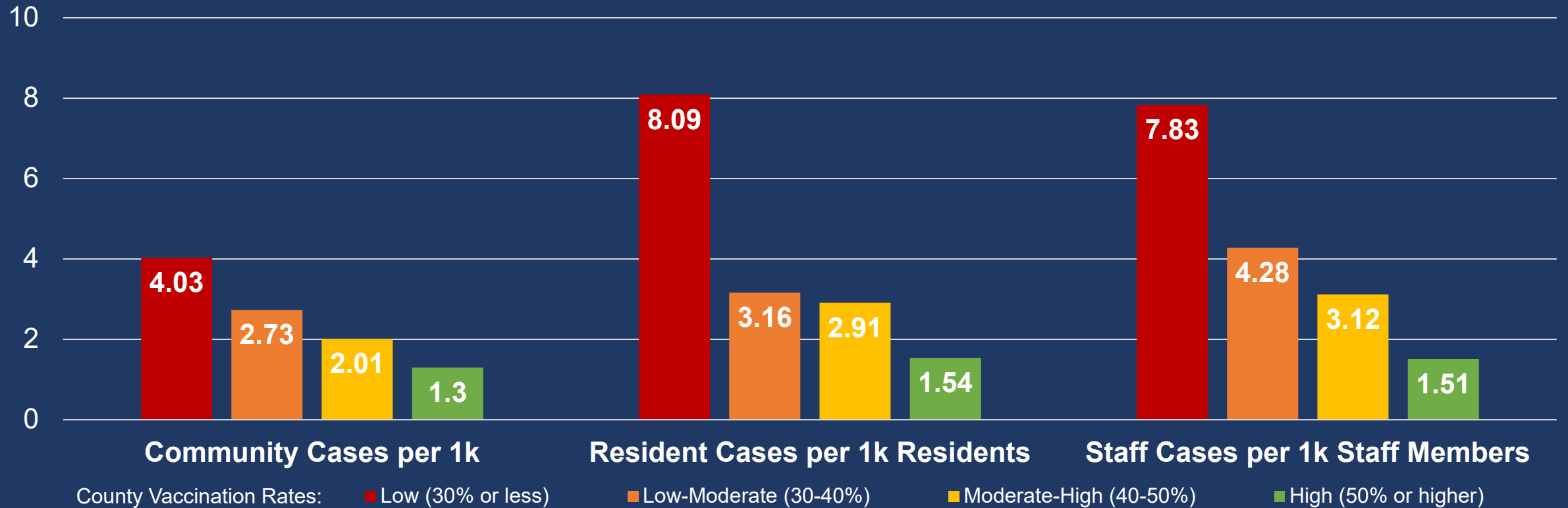
While nursing homes have seen a slight uptick over the last three weeks as cases rise across the country, cases are still below where they were in May.



Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Johns Hopkins University, May 2-July 18, 2021

**Vaccination rates among the general population correlate with nursing home cases. Nursing homes in low vaccinated counties had **five times the number of cases** than those in highly vaccinated counties, regardless of staff vaccination rates.**

**Cases per 1,000 by County Vaccination Rates**



Sources: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) June 7-July 18, 2021; Johns Hopkins University, June 7-July 18, 2021; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), July 19; and Texas Department of State Health Services, July 20

**Staff vaccination is important, but it's not the only solution.**

The small portion of nursing homes that are experiencing new cases are typically bigger facilities in urban communities that are experiencing high spread and low vaccination rates among the general public—where the virus is more easily transmissible.

Quality metrics, such as the facility's Five-Star rating and total nurse hours, are not associated.

	RESIDENT CASES		STAFF CASES	
	<i>0 Cases</i>	<i>At Least 1 Case</i>	<i>0 Cases</i>	<i>At Least 1 Case</i>
<b>Bed Size</b>	105	<b>128</b>	104	<b>119</b>
<b>SNF Location – Urban</b>	72.4%	<b>76.0%</b>	72.4%	<b>73.8%</b>
<b>Community Cases per 1,000</b>	2.12	<b>3.49</b>	1.91	<b>3.56</b>
<b>Staff Vaccination Rate</b>	58.5%	<b>55.1%</b>	59.2%	<b>54.1%</b>
<b>Resident Vaccination Rate</b>	81.8%	<b>79.3%</b>	81.9%	80.6%
<b>Community Vaccination Rate</b>	44.2%	<b>43.1%</b>	44.6%	<b>42.2%</b>
<b>Five-Star Overall Rating</b>	3.24	3.23	3.23	3.27
<b>Total Nurse Hours (hours per resident per day)</b>	4.10	4.16	4.08	4.29