



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Mohammed Choudhury
DATE: October 26, 2021
SUBJECT: Reopening Logistics and Transmission Rates in Schools - Update

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on reopening logistics and transmission rates in schools.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

The first day for schools to open for full in-person instruction in the 2021-2022 school year began with schools opening in Frederick County on August 18, 2021. Allegany County Public Schools opened on August 25, 14 school systems opened the week of August 30, and the remaining eight school systems opened the week of September 7. The opening of schools in the 2021-2022 school year required the development of extensive logistics, detailed planning, and more considerations than any previous year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Data on how the local school systems addressed vaccinations, ventilation, physical distancing, screening, testing, and contact tracing, scenario preparation (i.e., what are the plans in the event of students or staff testing positive for COVID-19), guidance, and messaging will be updated. In addition, data on the number of students and staff who needed to be quarantined, positivity rates, 7-Day moving average case rates per 100K by jurisdiction, community transmission levels, and active COVID-19 outbreaks in local school systems will be updated.

ACTION:

For discussion only.

ATTACHMENT:

Reopening Logistics and Transmission Rates in Schools PowerPoint October 26, 2021



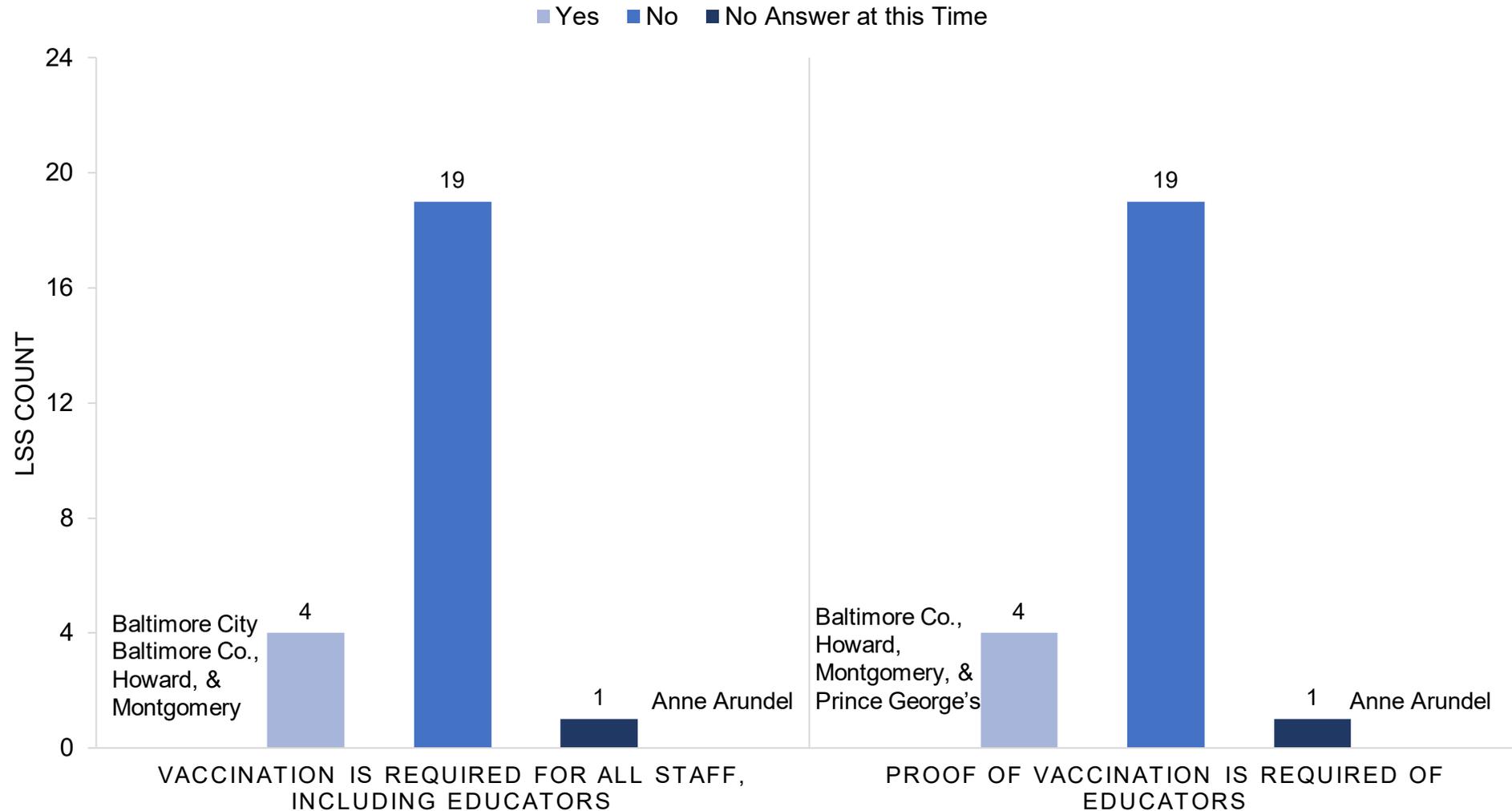
Reopening Logistics and Transmission Rates in Schools – Update

Maryland State Board of Education
October 26, 2021

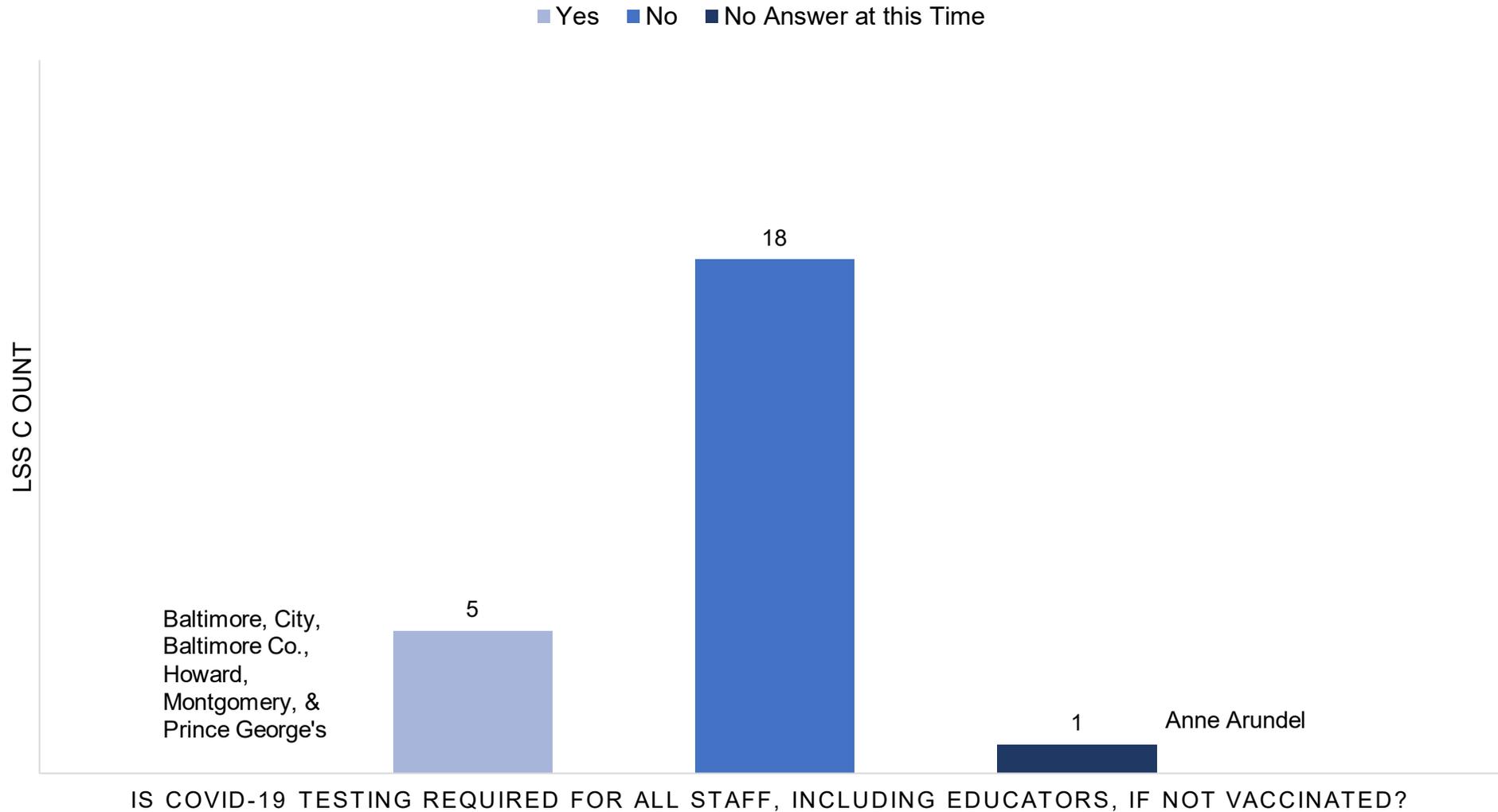
- The purpose of this presentation is to review **data collected in a survey of the 24 Local School Systems (LSSs) through October 21, 2021 (LSSs are updating the data weekly)**. The survey contains certain core COVID-19 related questions pertaining to reopening logistics, including:
 - (1) vaccinations;
 - (2) ventilation;
 - (3) physical distancing;
 - (4) screening, testing, and contact tracing;
 - (5) scenario preparation (i.e., what is the plan if a student or educator tests positive, etc.);
and
 - (6) guidance and messaging.
- The presentation also includes data published by the Maryland Department of Health on the most recent positivity rates as well as the 7-day moving average case rates per 100K population for each jurisdiction, community transmission levels, and active COVID-19 outbreaks in local school systems in Maryland.

Vaccinations

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS as of 10/20/2021



COVID-19 TESTING as of 10/20/2021

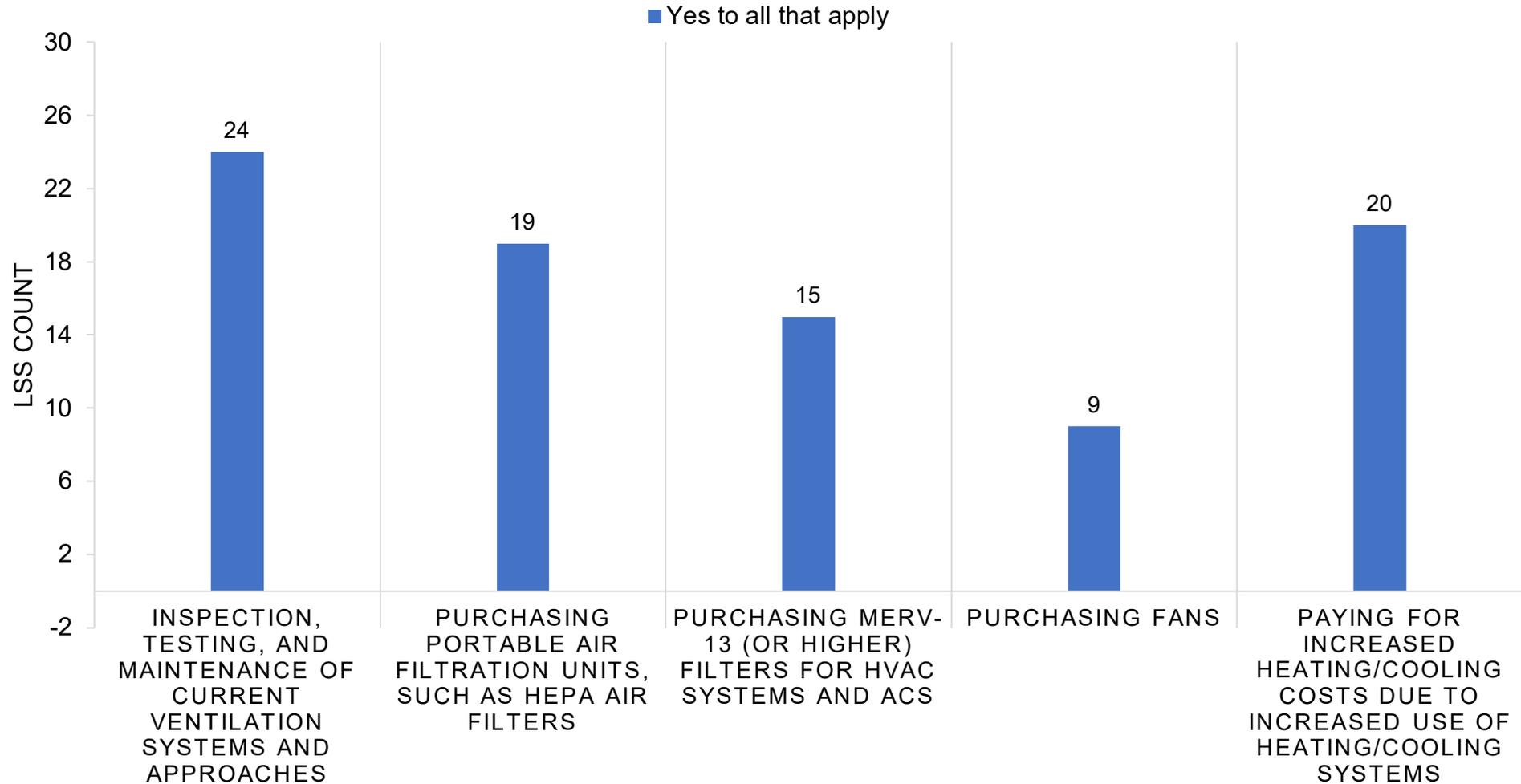


Percentage of Teachers Vaccinated as of 10/13/2021

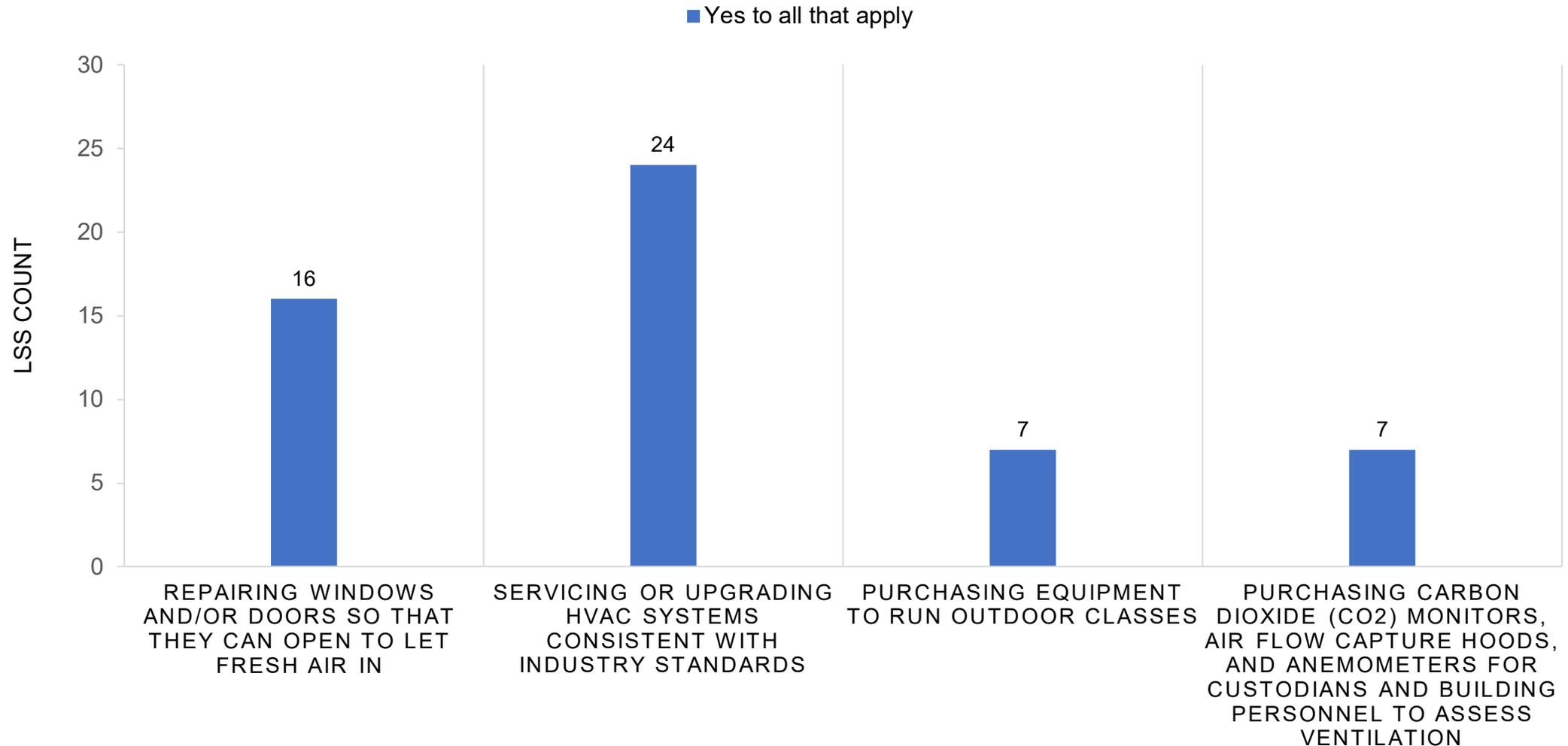
Allegany County	75%+ all of staff	Charles County	70-80%	Prince George's County	87%
Anne Arundel County	Will be collecting data.	Dorchester County	48%	Queen Anne's County	Approximately 85%
Baltimore City	87%	Frederick County	70%+	Somerset County	68%
Baltimore County	83%	Garrett County	75%	St. Mary's County	Approximately 79%
Calvert County	82%	Harford County	50% of teachers who are Harford County Residents	Talbot County	85% all staff
Caroline County	65-70% of all staff	Howard County	89%	Washington County	72%+
Carroll County	85% for all staff based on Health Dept info	Kent County	80%	Wicomico County	Approximately 63%
Cecil County	85%	Montgomery County	80% of the 82% who have reported	Worcester County	66%

Ventilation and Supplies

AIR QUALITY AND VENTILATION IMPROVEMENT



AIR QUALITY AND VENTILATION IMPROVEMENT



Physical Distancing

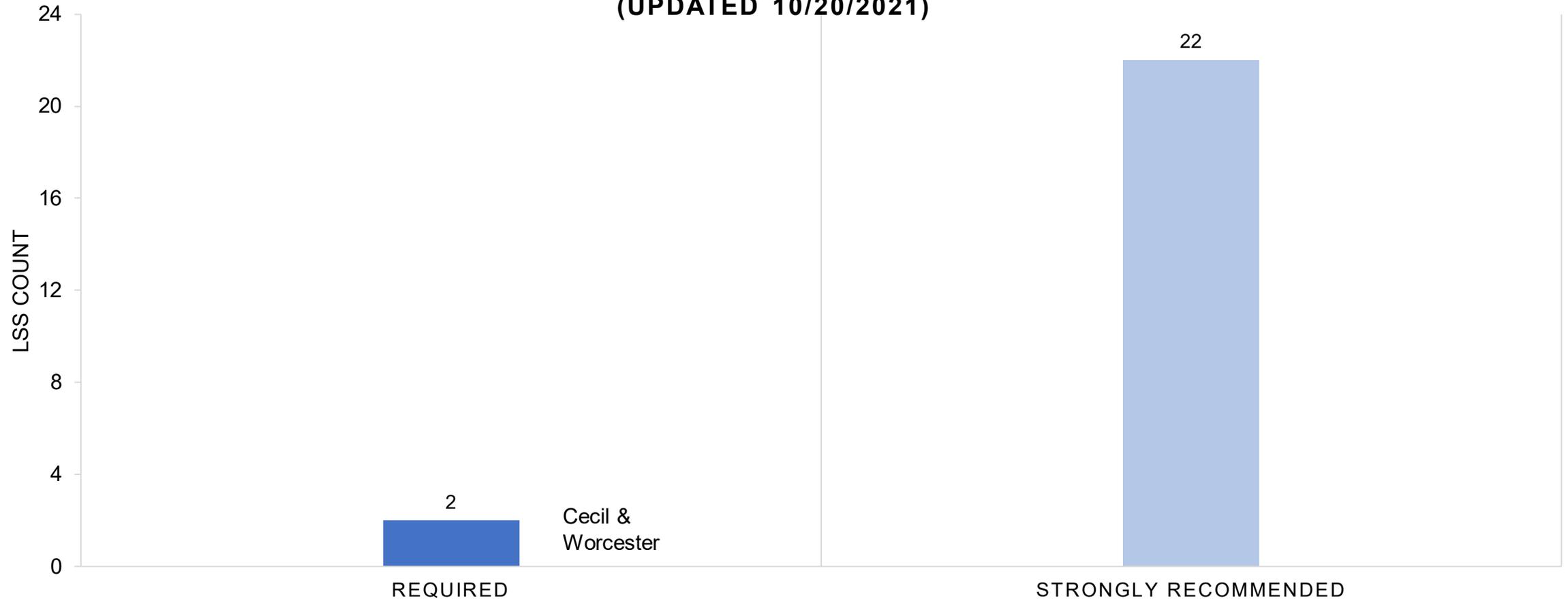
Physical Distancing

COMBINED WITH OTHER LAYERED PREVENTION STRATEGIES TO REDUCE TRANSMISSION RISK, AT LEAST 3 FEET OF PHYSICAL DISTANCE BETWEEN STUDENTS UNDER 12 WILL BE REQUIRED, STRONGLY RECOMMENDED, OR OPTIONAL (UPDATED 10/20/2021)



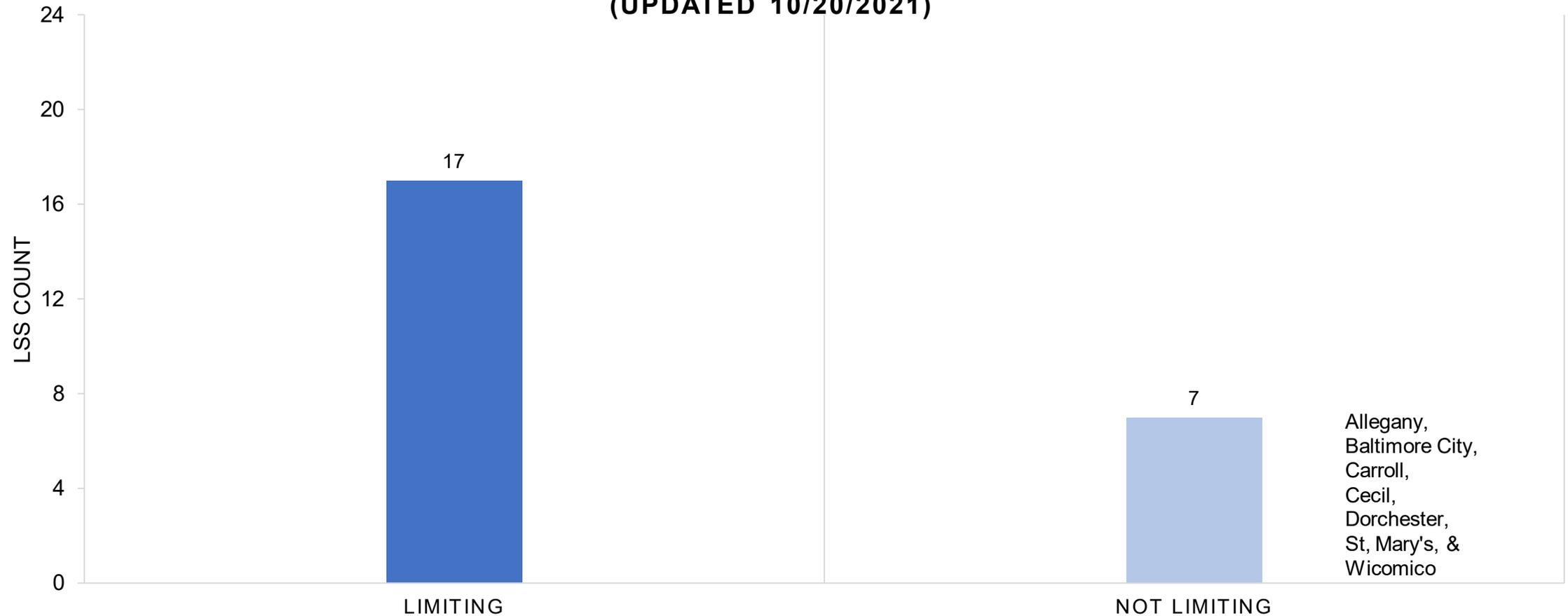
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(UPDATED 10/20/2021)



Physical Distancing

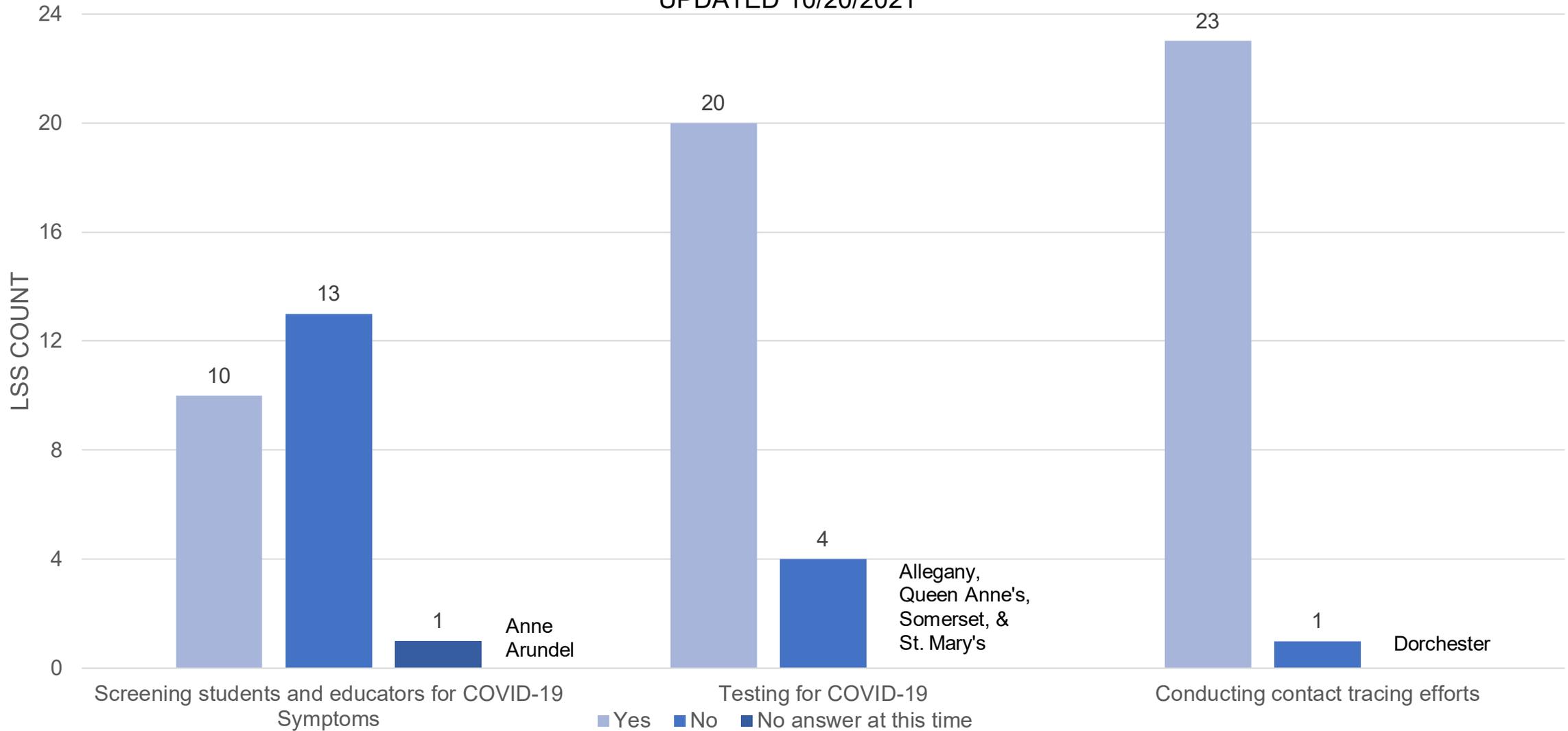
**NUMBER OF SCHOOL SYSTEMS LIMITING NONESSENTIAL VOLUNTEERS, AND
ACTIVITIES INVOLVING EXTERNAL GROUPS OR ORGANIZATIONS TO SCHOOL
BUILDINGS, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS
(UPDATED 10/20/2021)**



Screening, Testing, and Contact Tracing

Screening, Testing, and Contact Tracing

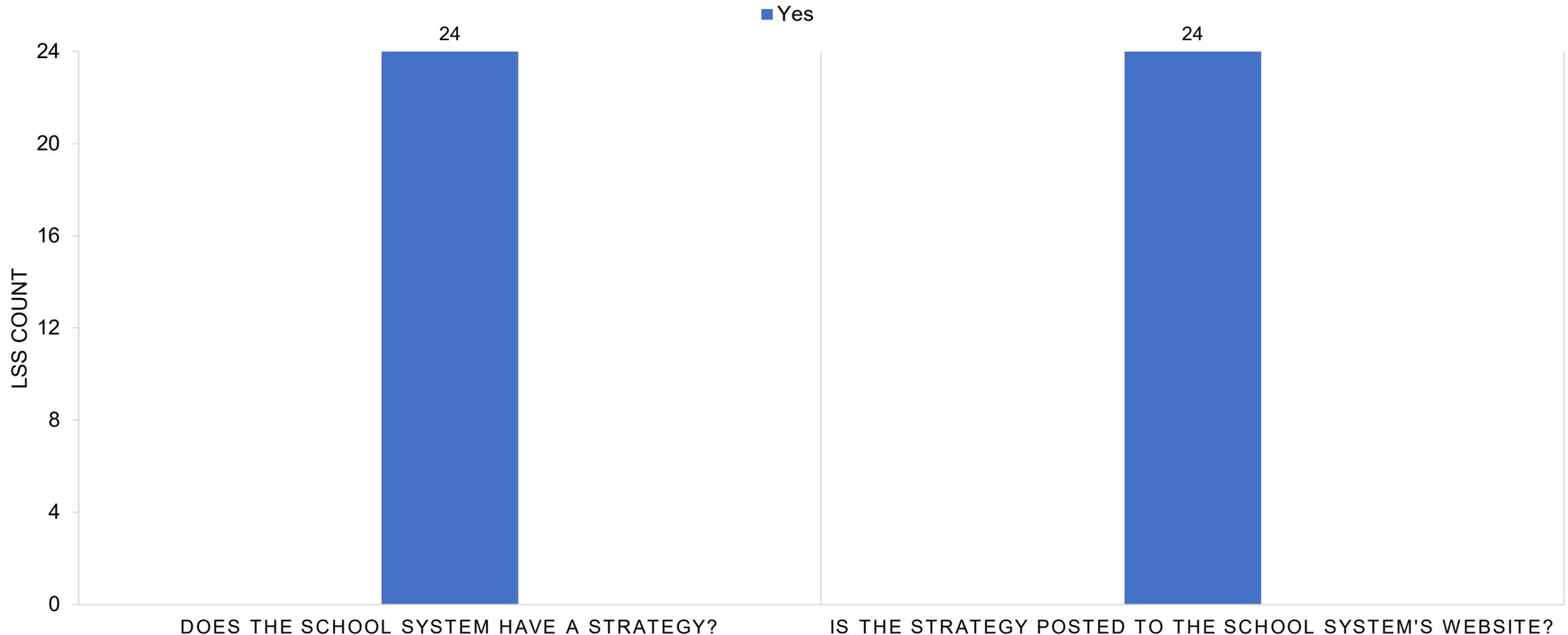
UPDATED 10/20/2021



Scenario Preparation

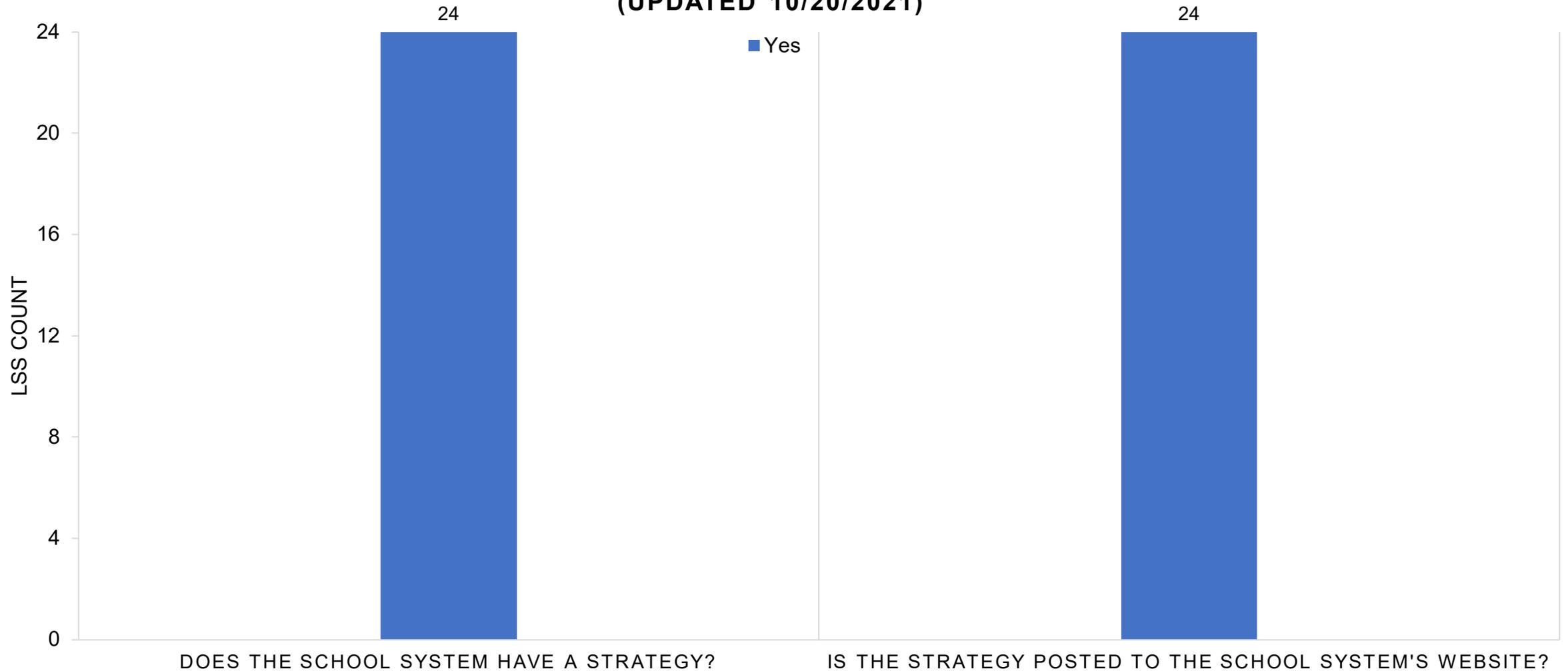
Scenario Preparation

STRATEGIES IN THE EVENT THAT A STUDENT OR EDUCATOR, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS, TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 OR HAS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 (UPDATED 10/13/2021)



Scenario Preparation

**STRATEGIES IN THE EVENT OF A COVID-19 OUTBREAK
(UPDATED 10/20/2021)**



Scenario Preparation / Staff Quarantine



The number of confirmed staff who have been required to quarantine due to close contact with a COVID-19 case since the start of the school year as of October 20, 2021

Allegany County	35	Charles County	*16	Prince George's County	591
Anne Arundel County	64	Dorchester County	37	Queen Anne's County	26
Baltimore City	154	Frederick County	30	Somerset County	41
Baltimore County	70	Garrett County	15	St. Mary's County	98
Calvert County	28	Harford County	61	Talbot County	16
Caroline County	13	Howard County	18	Washington County	55
Carroll County	26	Kent County	4	Wicomico County	51
Cecil County	260	Montgomery County	25	Worcester County	69

Cumulative data as of October 20, 2021, since the start of the school year

* LSS included different reporting metrics in September. October number is correct.

Scenario Preparation / Student Quarantine



The number of confirmed students who have been required to quarantine due to close contact with a COVID-19 case since the start of the school year as of October 20, 2021

Allegany County	1,327	Charles County	861	Prince George's County	4,848
Anne Arundel County	5,676	Dorchester County	1,132	Queen Anne's County	934
Baltimore City	2,104	Frederick County	2,102	Somerset County	528
Baltimore County	4,248	Garrett County	859	St. Mary's County	1,009
Calvert County	1,102	Harford County	2,468	Talbot County	1,066
Caroline County	806	Howard County	3,074	Washington County	1,276
Carroll County	3,912	Kent County	236	Wicomico County	1,531
Cecil County	1,999	Montgomery County	5,123	Worcester County	1,116

Cumulative data as of October 20, 2021, since the start of the school year

Scenario Preparation / Staff Cases



The number of confirmed staff cases of COVID-19 since the start of the school year as of October 20, 2021

Allegany County	56	Charles County	79	Prince George's County	*108
Anne Arundel County	124	Dorchester County	20	Queen Anne's County	30
Baltimore City	159	Frederick County	96	Somerset County	34
Baltimore County	282	Garrett County	19	St. Mary's County	102
Calvert County	28	Harford County	*84	Talbot County	15
Caroline County	33	Howard County	74	Washington County	139
Carroll County	49	Kent County	3	Wicomico County	47
Cecil County	84	Montgomery County	135	Worcester County	35

Cumulative data as of October 20, 2021, since the start of the school year

* LSS included different reporting metrics in September. October number is correct.

Scenario Preparation / Student Cases



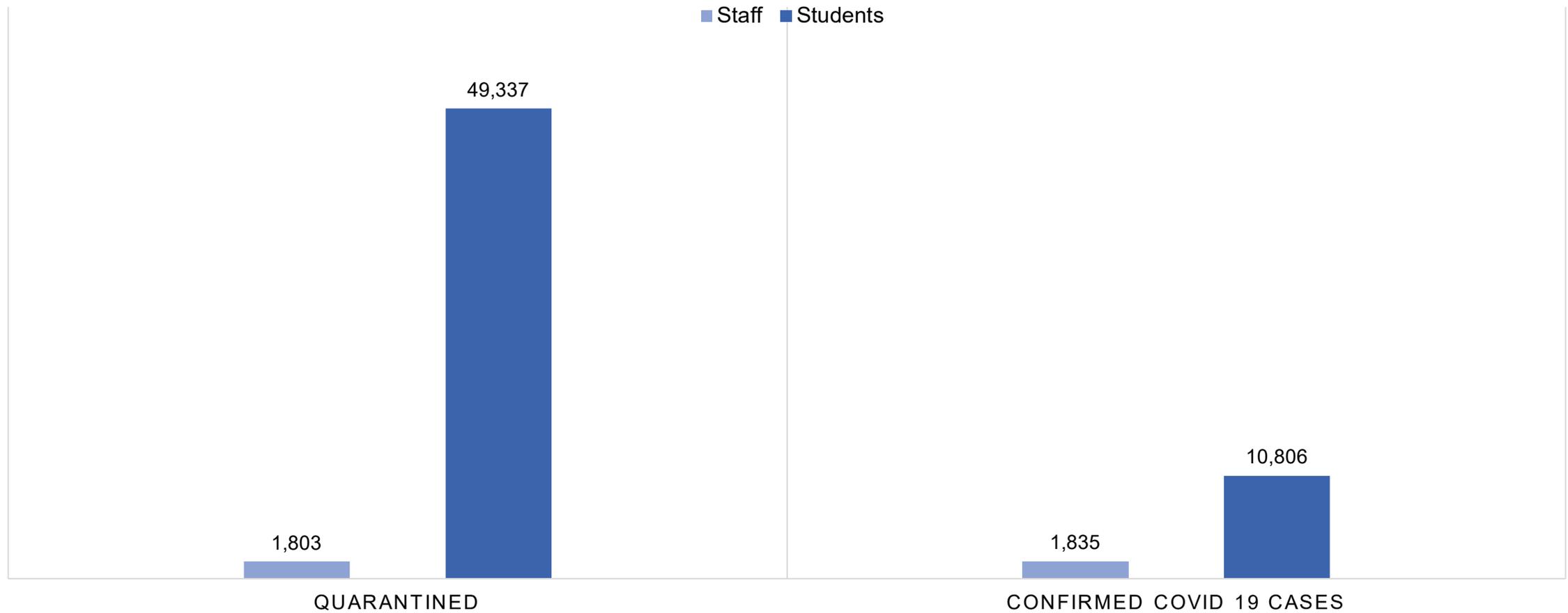
The number of confirmed student cases of COVID-19 since the start of the school year as of October 20, 2021

Allegany County	373	Charles County	488	Prince George's County	*563
Anne Arundel County	843	Dorchester County	161	Queen Anne's County	145
Baltimore City	718	Frederick County	707	Somerset County	153
Baltimore County	1,261	Garrett County	202	St. Mary's County	824
Calvert County	370	Harford County	*557	Talbot County	120
Caroline County	196	Howard County	371	Washington County	745
Carroll County	484	Kent County	17	Wicomico County	353
Cecil County	473	Montgomery County	497	Worcester County	185

Cumulative data as of October 20, 2021, since the start of the school year

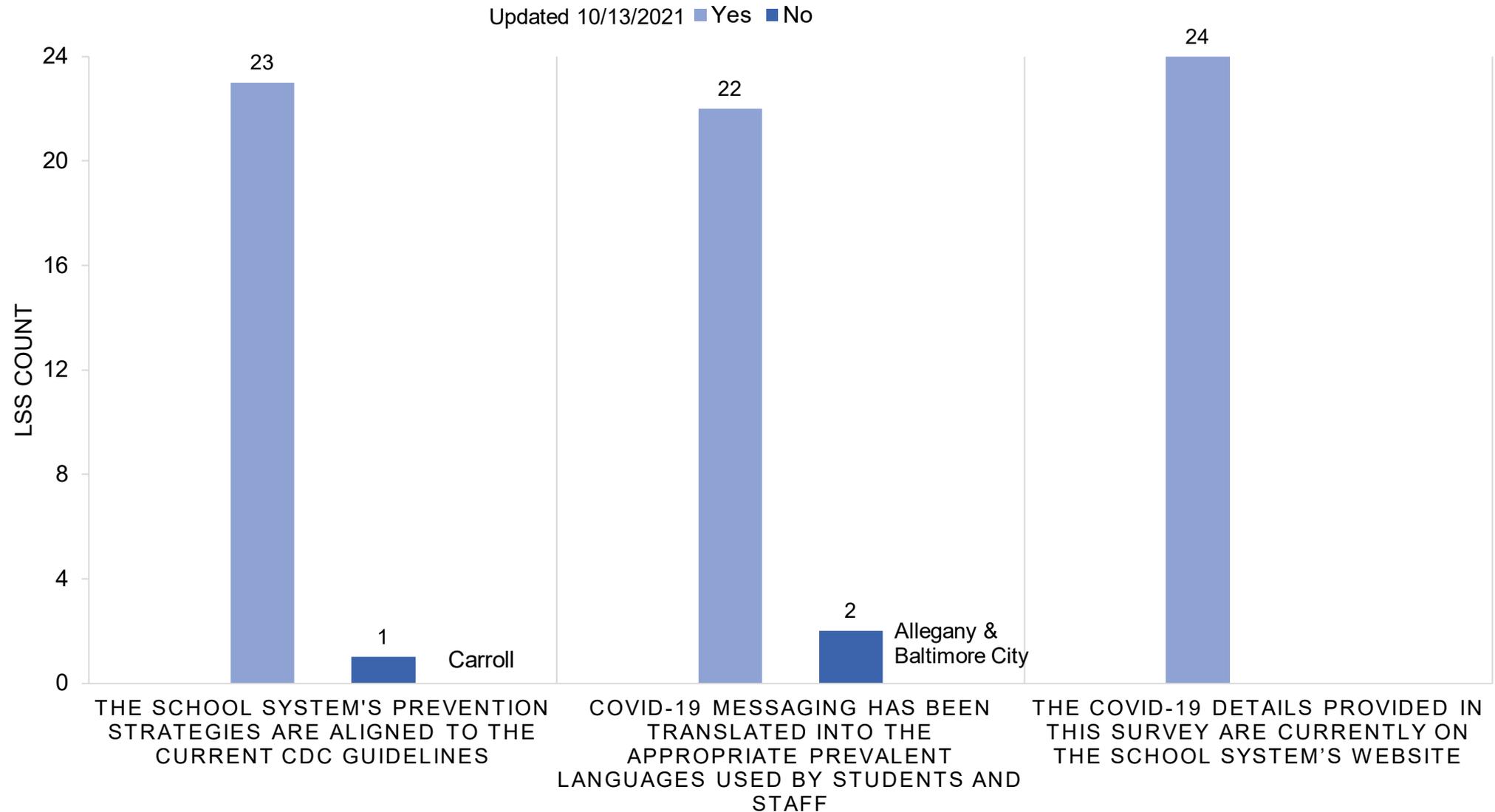
* LSS included different reporting metrics in September. October number is correct.

STAFF VS. STUDENT COMPARISONS as of OCTOBER 20, 2021



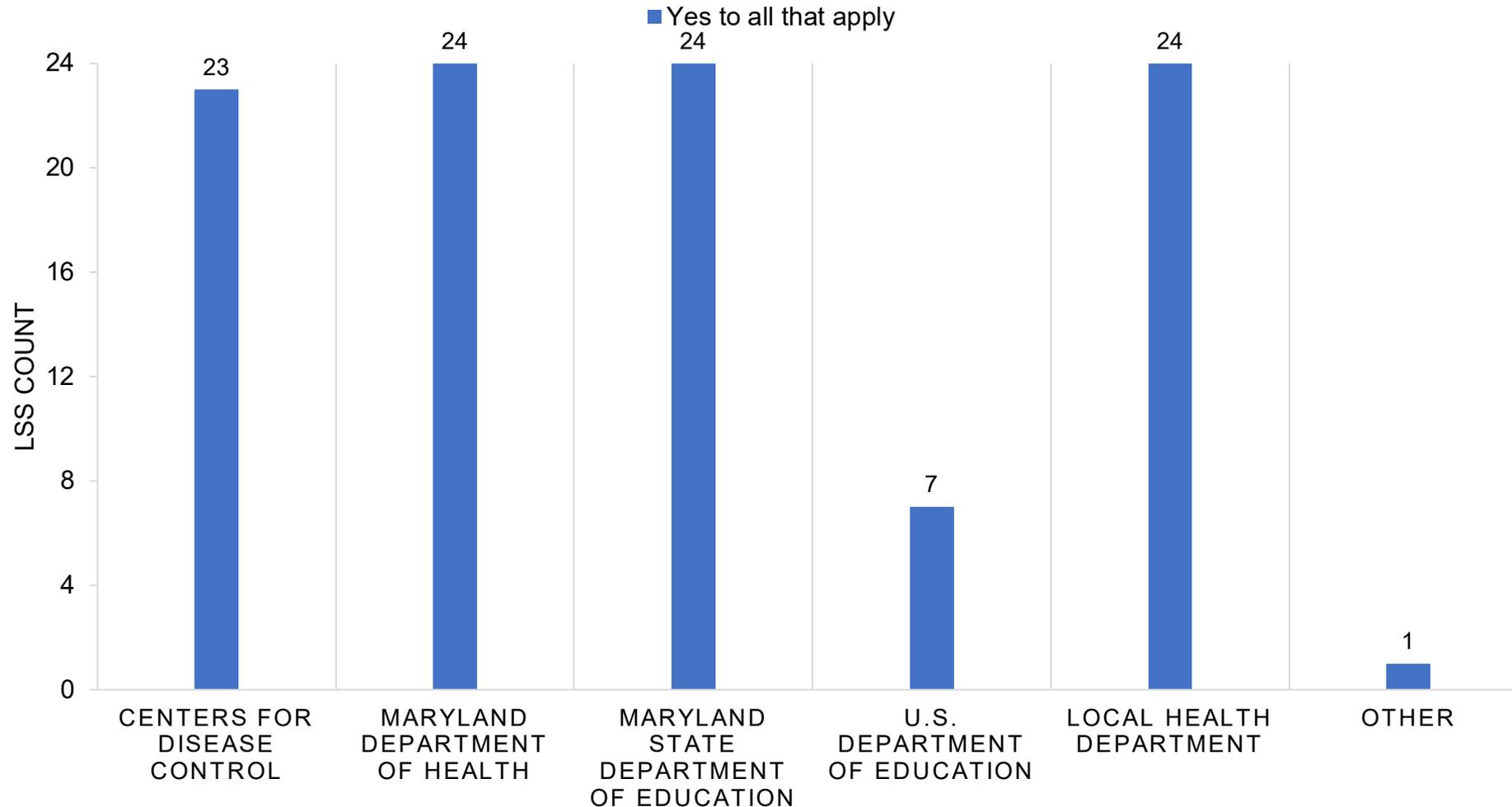
Guidance and Messaging

Guidance and Messaging



Guidance and Messaging

GUIDANCE THAT DETERMINES SCHOOL SYSTEM'S COVID-19 PREVENTION STRATEGIES



Other Guidance

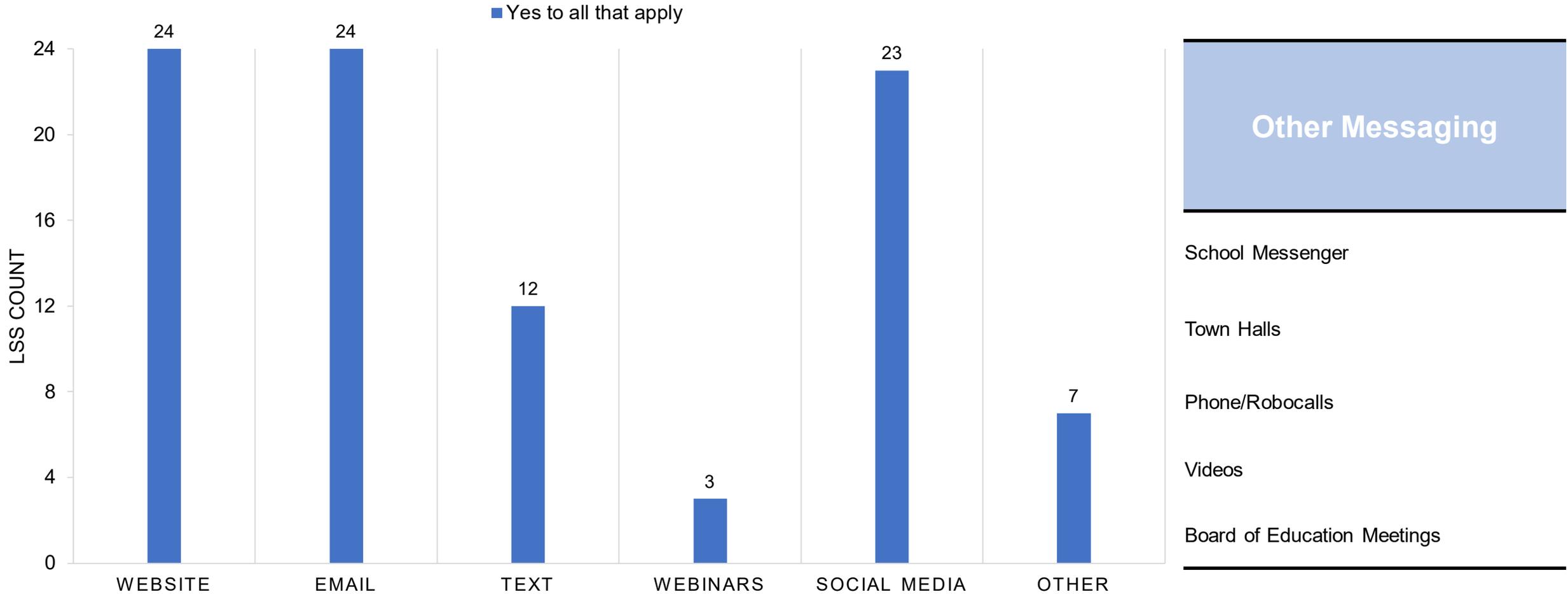
American Academy of Pediatrics

World Health Organization

American Society of Heating,
Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning
Engineers

Guidance and Messaging

MEDIUM USED BY THE SCHOOL SYSTEM TO PROVIDE COVID-19 RELATED UPDATES AND INFORMATION TO EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS



Positivity Rates,
7-Day Moving Average Case Rates per
100K by Jurisdiction,
Community Transmission Levels, and
Active COVID-19 Outbreaks

Daily Positivity Rate

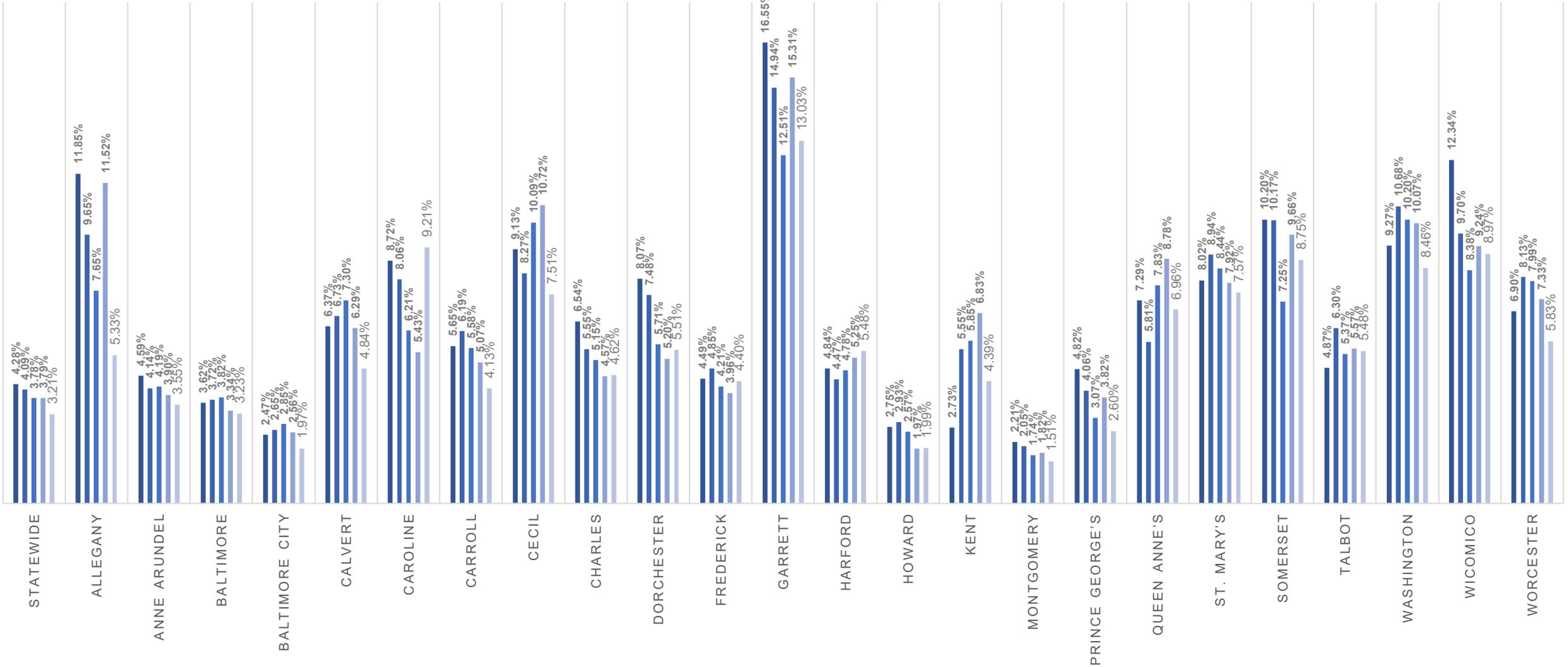


County	Sept 23	Sept 30	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21
Statewide	4.28%	4.09%	3.78%	3.79%	3.21%
Allegany	11.85%	9.65%	7.65%	11.52%	5.33%
Anne Arundel	4.59%	4.14%	4.19%	3.90%	3.55%
Baltimore	3.62%	3.72%	3.82%	3.34%	3.23%
Baltimore City	2.47%	2.65%	2.85%	2.56%	1.97%
Calvert	6.37%	6.73%	7.30%	6.29%	4.84%
Caroline	8.72%	8.06%	6.21%	5.43%	9.21%
Carroll	5.65%	6.19%	5.58%	5.07%	4.13%
Cecil	9.13%	8.27%	10.09%	10.72%	7.51%
Charles	6.54%	5.55%	5.15%	4.57%	4.62%
Dorchester	8.07%	7.48%	5.71%	5.20%	5.51%
Frederick	4.49%	4.85%	4.21%	3.96%	4.40%
Garrett	16.55%	14.94%	12.51%	15.31%	13.03%
Harford	4.84%	4.47%	4.78%	5.25%	5.48%
Howard	2.75%	2.93%	2.57%	1.97%	1.99%
Kent	2.73%	5.55%	5.85%	6.83%	4.39%
Montgomery	2.21%	2.05%	1.74%	1.82%	1.51%
Prince George's	4.82%	4.06%	3.07%	3.82%	2.60%
Queen Anne's	7.29%	5.81%	7.83%	8.78%	6.96%
St. Mary's	8.02%	8.94%	8.44%	7.92%	7.57%
Somerset	10.20%	10.17%	7.25%	9.66%	8.75%
Talbot	4.87%	6.30%	5.37%	5.57%	5.48%
Washington	9.27%	10.68%	10.20%	10.07%	8.46%
Wicomico	12.34%	9.70%	8.38%	9.24%	8.97%
Worcester	6.90%	8.13%	7.99%	7.33%	5.83%

Source: https://state-of-maryland.github.io/DailyPositivitybyJurisdiction/index_fullscreen.html

Daily Positivity Rate

■ as of Sept 23 ■ as of Sept 30 ■ as of Oct 7 ■ as of Oct 14 ■ as of Oct 21



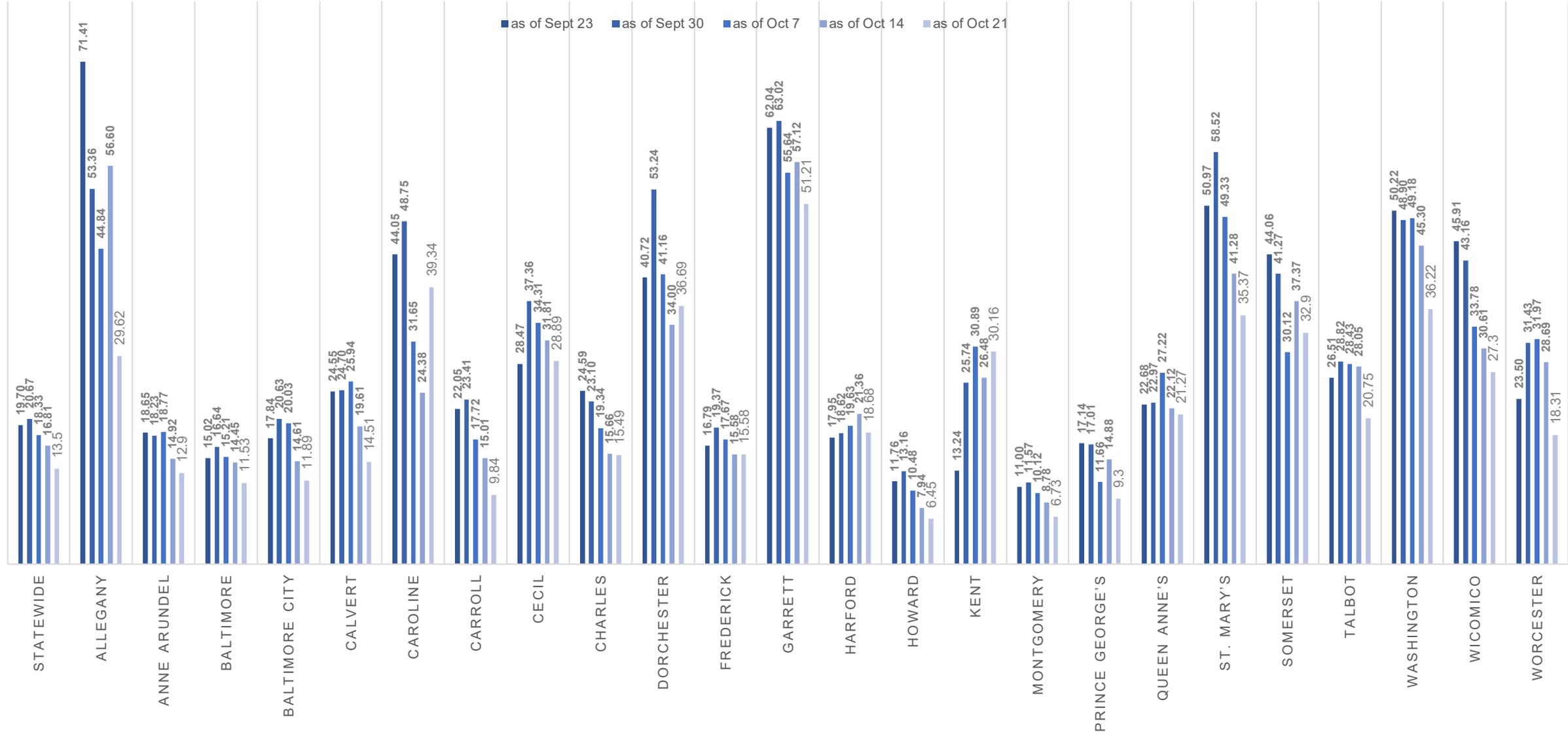
7-Day Moving Average Case Rate per 100K by Jurisdiction



County	as of Sept 23	as of Sept 30	as of Oct 7	as of Oct 14	as of Oct 21
Statewide	19.70	20.67	18.33	16.81	13.50
Allegany	71.41	53.36	44.84	56.60	29.62
Anne Arundel	18.65	18.23	18.77	14.92	12.90
Baltimore	15.02	16.64	15.21	14.45	11.53
Baltimore City	17.84	20.63	20.03	14.61	11.89
Calvert	24.55	24.70	25.94	19.61	14.51
Caroline	44.05	48.75	31.65	24.38	39.34
Carroll	22.05	23.41	17.72	15.01	9.84
Cecil	28.47	37.36	34.31	31.81	28.89
Charles	24.59	23.10	19.34	15.66	15.49
Dorchester	40.72	53.24	41.16	34.00	36.69
Frederick	16.79	19.37	17.67	15.58	15.58
Garrett	62.04	63.02	55.64	57.12	51.21
Harford	17.95	18.62	19.63	21.36	18.68
Howard	11.76	13.16	10.48	7.94	6.45
Kent	13.24	25.74	30.89	26.48	30.16
Montgomery	11.00	11.57	10.12	8.78	6.73
Prince George's	17.14	17.01	11.66	14.88	9.30
Queen Anne's	22.68	22.97	27.22	22.12	21.27
St. Mary's	50.97	58.52	49.33	41.28	35.37
Somerset	44.06	41.27	30.12	37.37	32.90
Talbot	26.51	28.82	28.43	28.05	20.75
Washington	50.22	48.90	49.18	45.30	36.22
Wicomico	45.91	43.16	33.78	30.61	27.30
Worcester	23.50	31.43	31.97	28.69	18.31

Source: https://state-of-maryland.github.io/DailyCaseRatebyJurisdiction/index_fullscreen.html

7-Day Moving Average Case Rate per 100K by Jurisdiction



Level of Community Transmission over past 7 Days by Jurisdiction (as Reported by CDC)



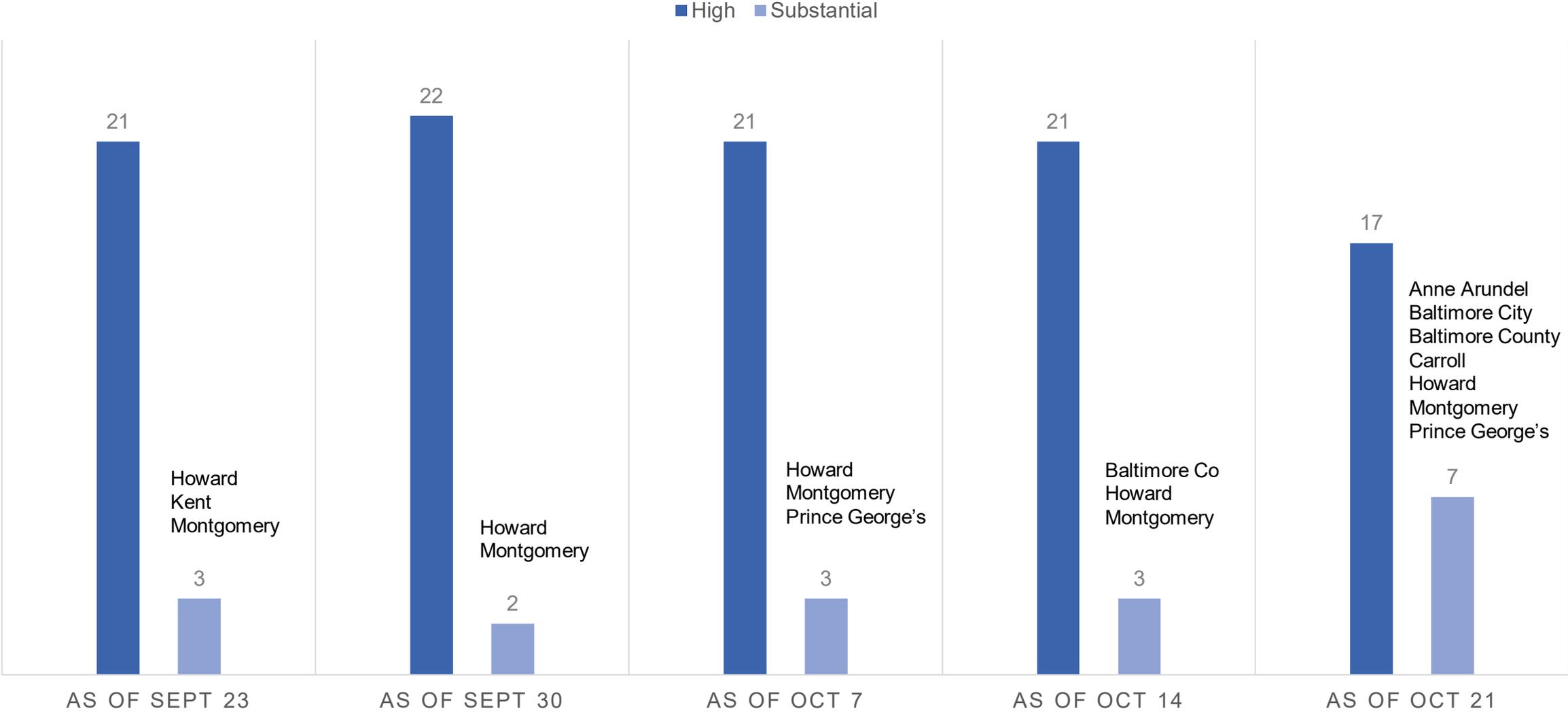
County	as of Sept 23	as of Sept 30	as of Oct 7	as of Oct 14	as of Oct 21
Statewide	High	High	High	High	Substantial
Allegany	High	High	High	High	High
Anne Arundel	High	High	High	High	Substantial
Baltimore	High	High	High	Substantial	Substantial
Baltimore City	High	High	High	High	Substantial
Calvert	High	High	High	High	High
Caroline	High	High	High	High	High
Carroll	High	High	High	High	Substantial
Cecil	High	High	High	High	High
Charles	High	High	High	High	High
Dorchester	High	High	High	High	High
Frederick	High	High	High	High	High
Garrett	High	High	High	High	High
Harford	High	High	High	High	High
Howard	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Kent	Substantial	High	High	High	High
Montgomery	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Prince George's	High	High	Substantial	High	Substantial
Queen Anne's	High	High	High	High	High
St. Mary's	High	High	High	High	High
Somerset	High	High	High	High	High
Talbot	High	High	High	High	High
Washington	High	High	High	High	High
Wicomico	High	High	High	High	High
Worcester	High	High	High	High	High

How the CDC classifies transmission levels:

- Low: 0-10 new cases per 100K residents over the past week or 0-5% positivity rate
- Moderate: 15-50 new cases per 100K residents over the past week or 5-8% positivity rate
- Substantial: 50-100 new cases per 100K residents over the past week or 8-10% positivity rate
- High: 100+ new cases per 100K residents over the past week or 10%+ positivity rate

Source: https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/index.html#county-view|Maryland|Risk|community_transmission_level

Level of Community Transmission over past 7 Days – Count by Jurisdiction (as Reported by CDC)



Classroom/cohort outbreak definition:

- At least two confirmed COVID-19 cases among students/teachers/staff within a 14-day period and who are epidemiologically linked, but not household contacts; or

School-wide outbreak definition:

- Three or more classrooms or cohorts with cases from separate households that meet the classroom/cohort outbreak definition that occurs within 14 days; or
- Five percent or more unrelated students/teachers/staff have confirmed COVID-19 within a 14-day period (minimum of 10 unrelated students/teachers/staff).

Source: Maryland Department of Health

Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – New Student Cases in Past 30 Days



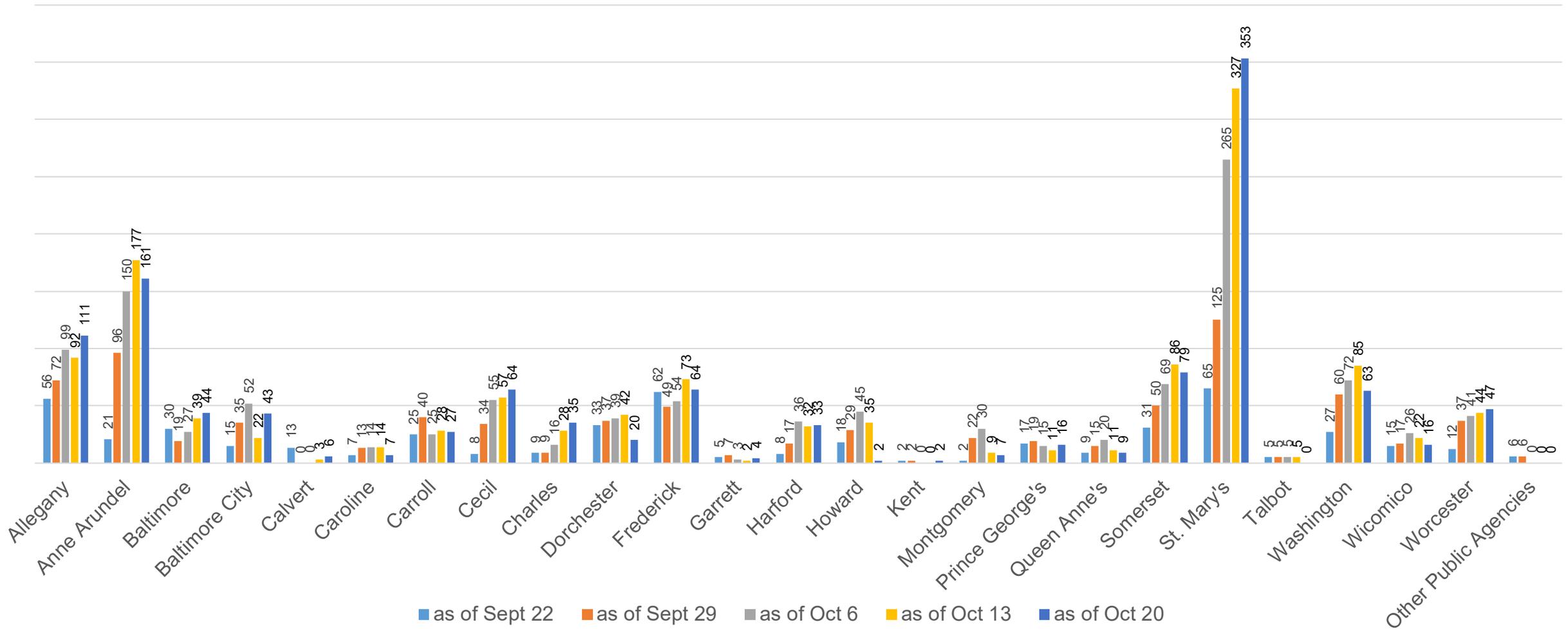
LSS	New Student Case Totals				
	as of Sept 22	as of Sept 29	as of Oct 6	as of Oct 13	as of Oct 20
Allegany	56	72	99	92	111
Anne Arundel	21	96	150	177	161
Baltimore	30	19	27	39	44
Baltimore City	15	35	52	22	43
Calvert	13	0	0	3	6
Caroline	7	13	14	14	7
Carroll	25	40	25	28	27
Cecil	8	34	55	57	64
Charles	9	9	16	28	35
Dorchester	33	37	39	42	20
Frederick	62	49	54	73	64
Garrett	5	7	3	2	4
Harford	8	17	36	32	33
Howard	18	29	45	35	2
Kent	2	2	0	0	2
Montgomery	2	22	30	9	7
Prince George's	17	19	15	11	16
Queen Anne's	9	15	20	11	9
Somerset	31	50	69	86	79
St. Mary's	65	125	265	327	353
Talbot	5	5	5	5	0
Washington	27	60	72	85	63
Wicomico	15	17	26	22	16
Worcester	12	37	41	44	47
Other Public Agencies	6	6	0	0	0
LSS/Other Public Agencies Totals	501	815	1,158	1,244	1,213
All Nonpublic Schools/Childcare Providers Totals	297	365	357	309	187

Source: Maryland Department of Health

Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – New Student Cases by LSS in Past 30 Days



Student Case Totals



Source: Maryland Department of Health

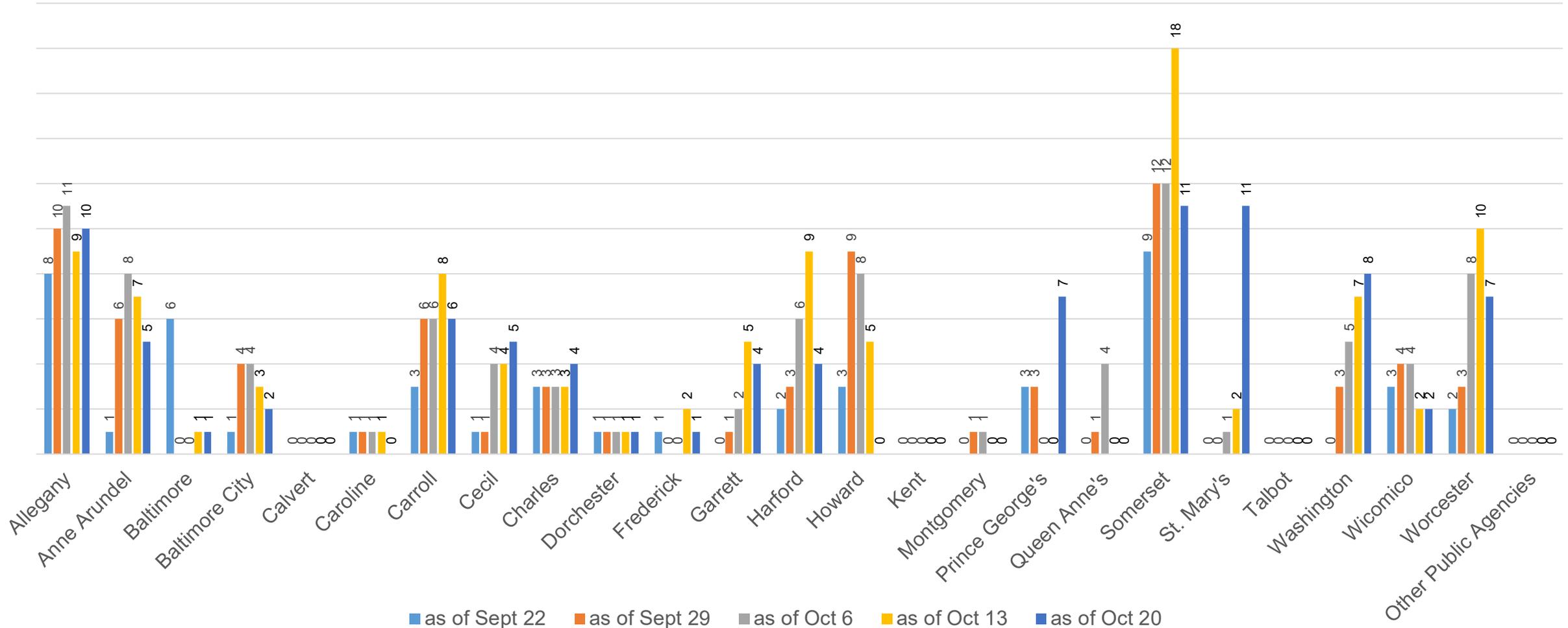
Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – New Staff Cases in Past 30 Days

LSS	New Staff Case Totals				
	as of Sept 22	as of Sept 29	as of Oct 6	as of Oct 13	as of Oct 20
Allegany	8	10	11	9	10
Anne Arundel	1	6	8	7	5
Baltimore	6	0	0	1	1
Baltimore City	1	4	4	3	2
Calvert	0	0	0	0	0
Caroline	1	1	1	1	0
Carroll	3	6	6	8	6
Cecil	1	1	4	4	5
Charles	3	3	3	3	4
Dorchester	1	1	1	1	1
Frederick	1	0	0	2	1
Garrett	0	1	2	5	4
Harford	2	3	6	9	4
Howard	3	9	8	5	0
Kent	0	0	0	0	0
Montgomery	0	1	1	0	0
Prince George's	3	3	0	0	7
Queen Anne's	0	1	4	0	0
Somerset	9	12	12	18	11
St. Mary's	0	0	1	2	11
Talbot	0	0	0	0	0
Washington	0	3	5	7	8
Wicomico	3	4	4	2	2
Worcester	2	3	8	10	7
Other Public Agencies	0	0	0	0	0
LSS/Other Public Agencies Totals	48	72	89	97	89
All Nonpublic Schools/Childcare Providers Totals	52	72	67	75	58

Source: Maryland Department of Health

Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – New Staff Cases by LSS in Past 30 Days

Staff Case Totals



Source: Maryland Department of Health

Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – New Outbreaks Count in Past 30 Days

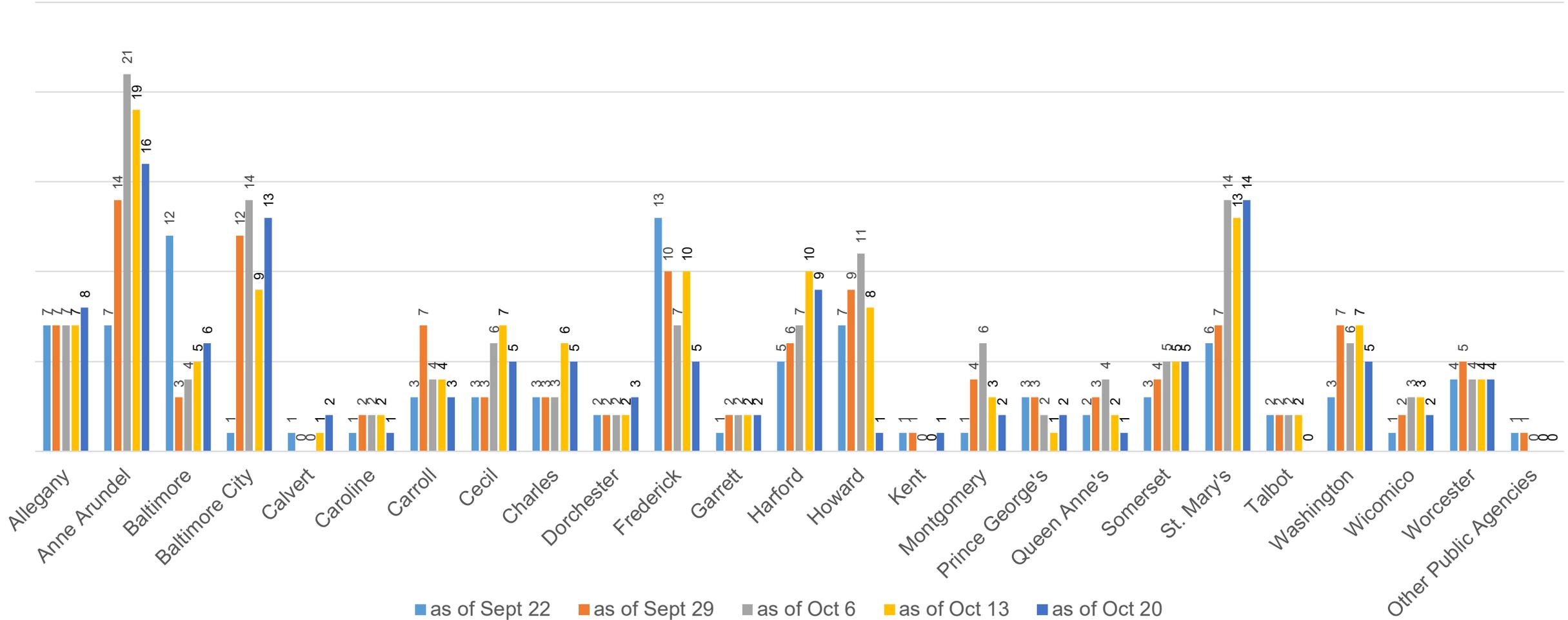


LSS	New Outbreak Count Totals				
	as of Sept 22	as of Sept 29	as of Oct 6	as of Oct 13	as of Oct 20
Allegany	7	7	7	7	8
Anne Arundel	7	14	21	19	16
Baltimore	12	3	4	5	6
Baltimore City	1	12	14	9	13
Calvert	1	0	0	1	2
Caroline	1	2	2	2	1
Carroll	3	7	4	4	3
Cecil	3	3	6	7	5
Charles	3	3	3	6	5
Dorchester	2	2	2	2	3
Frederick	13	10	7	10	5
Garrett	1	2	2	2	2
Harford	5	6	7	10	9
Howard	7	9	11	8	1
Kent	1	1	0	0	1
Montgomery	1	4	6	3	2
Prince George's	3	3	2	1	2
Queen Anne's	2	3	4	2	1
Somerset	3	4	5	5	5
St. Mary's	6	7	14	13	14
Talbot	2	2	2	2	0
Washington	3	7	6	7	5
Wicomico	1	2	3	3	2
Worcester	4	5	4	4	4
Other Public Agencies	1	1	0	0	0
LSS/Other Public Agencies Totals	93	119	136	132	115
All Nonpublic Schools/Childcare Providers Totals	73	78	67	64	47

Source: Maryland Department of Health

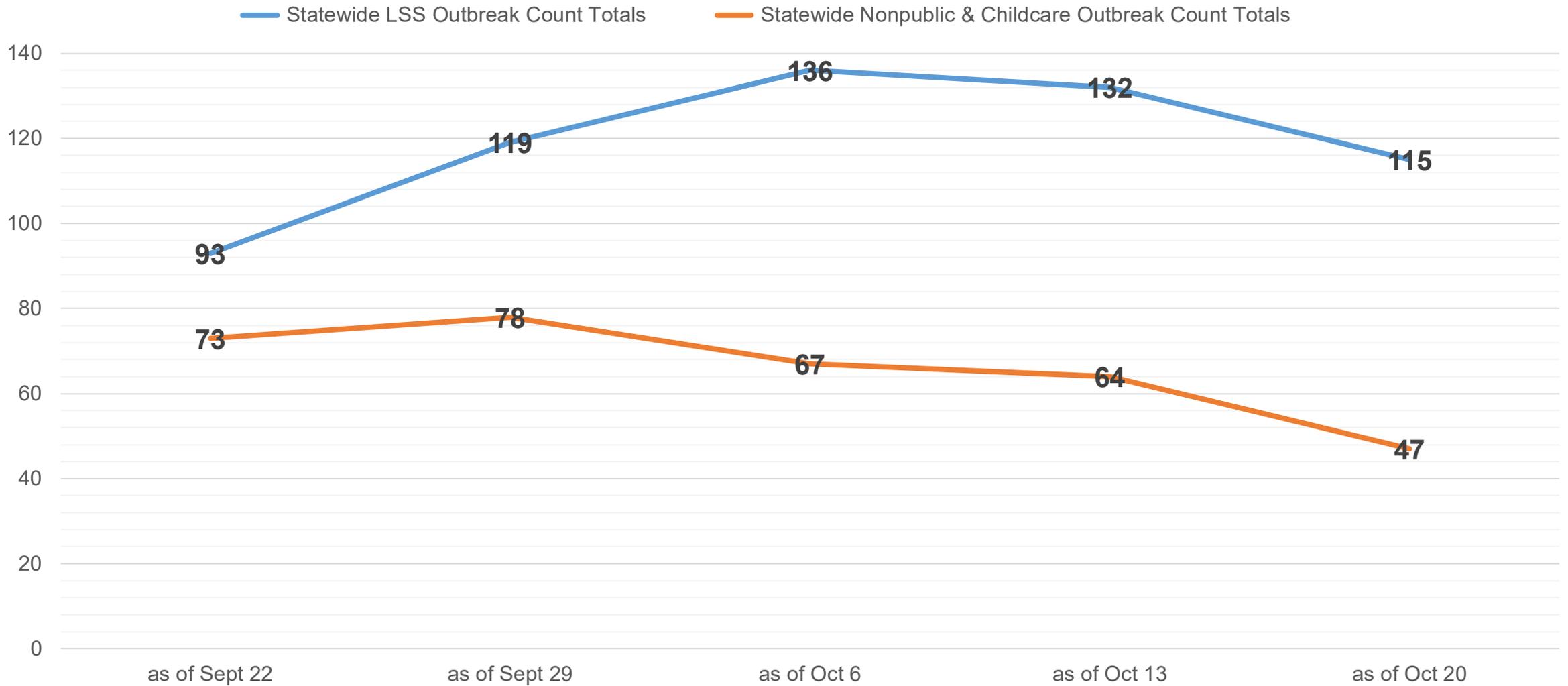
Active COVID-19 Outbreaks by LSS – New Outbreaks Count by LSS in Past 30 Days

Outbreak Count



Source: Maryland Department of Health

Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – New Outbreaks Count Statewide in Past 30 Days



Source: Maryland Department of Health

Active COVID-19 Outbreaks – Current Data Trends



- The most recent dataset (as of October 20th) shows statewide decreases in the number of staff and student cases for all K-12 institutional types (public schools, nonpublic schools, and childcare providers) compared to the previous week's dataset (as of October 13th).
- When comparing the October 20th and October 13th datasets, one noteworthy development is that the count of active outbreaks over the past 30 days involving public schools decreased from 132 to 115.
- Overall, as reported by the Maryland Department of Health, the number of K-12 outbreaks declined by 15% between October 13th and October 20th.
- The proportion of outbreaks involving school sports teams also declined over this same period (to <12%).