Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter
Philadelphia Department of Public Health

The Latest Numbers
- 748,383 people have received at least one dose and 500,411 people are fully vaccinated in Philadelphia as of April 28, 2021.
- The latest information is available on PDPH's COVID-19 webpage and social media (Facebook and Twitter).

Latest COVID Vaccine News
- May 1 is Deaf Vaccination Day at Esperanza, encouraging the deaf and hard of hearing community, friends, family and caregivers to come out and get vaccinated!
- You can schedule your own vaccine appointment at a community or mass vaccination clinic by visiting phila.gov/vaccine or calling 3-1-1.
  - Both the Center City Vaccination Center and Esperanza Community Vaccination Center are accepting and encouraging walk-ups.
- Free round-trip SEPTA transit passes for people getting vaccinated at all City-supported clinics. A flyer can be found here.
- PDPH will follow new CDC guidelines for people who are fully vaccinated.
  - Bottom Line: If you are in a crowd of people outdoors, still wear a mask.

FAQ About COVID-19 Vaccines
- I’m still unsure about getting any of the vaccines, what are the side effects?
  - Side effects can include: fever, sore arm, headache, muscle pain, and tiredness.
  - All vaccines are expected to produce some side effects. These are signs that your body is building protection against COVID-19.
- Can you get COVID from the vaccine?
  - No, these vaccines do not contain COVID-19 virus and cannot give you COVID-19.
- Why do some people get COVID after getting vaccinated?
  - Some people may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus close to the time they got vaccinated, so their body may not have had enough time to build immunity and protection against the virus.
  - No vaccine is 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 infection. The amount of people who get COVID-19 after being fully vaccinated is extremely low.
  - It is possible that vaccination makes your illness with COVID less severe and makes it harder for you to pass on the virus to others.
- Why is the Johnson and Johnson vaccine being given out again?
  - 8 million doses of the J&J vaccine were given out and 15 people who got the vaccine developed a very rare type of blood clot.
  - Experts reviewed all safety reports and data available at this time and decided that the benefits to protect against the COVID-19 virus, outweigh the known and possible risks of this vaccine.
FAQ About COVID-19 Vaccines

• I got a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, why do I need a second dose?
  • One dose is not enough to give you full protection against COVID or against passing COVID to others. You are not “fully protected” until 2 weeks after your second dose.
  • You can still get your second dose by calling 3-1-1 to make an appointment or, if you got Pfizer, walk up to the Center City Vaccination Center and Esperanza Community Vaccination Center.

How to Stay Connected

• Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 to receive updates to your phone.
• Questions or feedback? Email COVIDVax@phila.gov.
• This newsletter is distributed to the Community Response Partner Network. Sign up to receive this and other essential information, then pass it on to your family, friends and community.