

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.