

Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

The Latest Numbers

- 1,100,946 people got at least one dose of vaccine and 899,383 people are “fully vaccinated” in Philadelphia, as of September 7, 2021
- 66.3% of Philadelphia adults are fully vaccinated, and 80.9% of Philadelphia adults have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at phila.gov/COVID, PDPH [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

Latest COVID Vaccine News

- **The COVID-19 Prevention & Response Fund applications are open September 13 - 27, 2021**
 - The Fund seeks to increase rates of vaccinations in communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and address challenges exacerbated as a result of the pandemic.
 - Community organizations, individuals and businesses are encouraged to apply.
 - This is a low-barrier grant, with applications available in Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese, and English.
 - More information available at: <https://philanthropynetwork.org/covid-19-prevention-response-fund>
- **Pfizer, now known as Comirnaty, is fully approved by the FDA for ages 16 and older**

Latest COVID Vaccine Information

- **Where can I get a vaccine?**
 - Call 3-1-1 or go to phila.gov/vaccine or vaccines.gov to find a vaccine clinic near you.
 - Walk in and pre-scheduled appointments are available
 - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
 - All vaccines are free. No insurance or ID required
- **Lost Vaccination Card?**
 - Philadelphia residents who lost their COVID-19 vaccination card or cannot get a copy of their record from their provider, can call 215-685-5488 or email covid@phila.gov for instructions on how to request a copy of their immunization record.
- **Looking to get tested for COVID-19?** - Testing is FREE at most sites in Philadelphia
 - For a site near you, please see the City of Philadelphia’s COVID-19 testing location finder, *available in 6 languages*: <https://www.phila.gov/covid-testing-sites/?services=>
- **Need transportation to your COVID-19 vaccine appointment?**
 - **Community-based shuttle services** are available to communities that have accessibility needs. Must schedule two weeks in advance. To schedule a shuttle bus to a vaccination site, email oem@phila.gov.
- **Sport’s Corner - Free Phillies tickets** are being offered at all PDPH Indoor vaccination clinics!!
 - Only two tickets per person, please inquire at the clinic when you arrive.
 - Available on a first come, first served basis. *Get them before they are gone!*

FAQ on Breakthrough Infections

- **What is a breakthrough infection and how common are they?**
 - When someone is vaccinated against a disease, but still gets infected with that disease, it is called a vaccine breakthrough; the disease “broke through” the vaccine protection.

- No vaccine, including the COVID vaccines, are 100% perfect, so a very small number of breakthrough infections are expected.
 - People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can be infected with COVID-19 and end up in the hospital or even die, although this is much less likely.
 - Breakthrough cases usually tend to be milder than when someone who is unvaccinated gets sick with COVID-19.
- **What is the point of a COVID vaccine if I can still get an infection?**
 - Even with the much lower threat of breakthrough cases, being fully vaccinated is still much safer than being unvaccinated.
 - Since January 2021, more than 98% of everyone who tested positive for COVID in Philadelphia was unvaccinated and 99% percent of everyone who has died due to COVID in Philadelphia was unvaccinated.
- **Should I get another dose of the vaccine to protect myself from a breakthrough infection?**
 - Research has shown that the current recommended dose of the COVID vaccines (2 doses of Pfizer or Moderns, 1 dose of J&J) are still the best way to reduce your risk of:
 - Being infected with COVID
 - Spreading COVID to others
 - Having a severe case of COVID
 - Being hospitalized with COVID
 - Being put in intensive care due to COVID
 - Dying from COVID
 - Only people with certain immunocompromised conditions should get additional COVID vaccine at this time. More information here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>
 - As soon as there is official information on boosters from the FDA and CDC, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health will update this recommendation.
- **Where to get more information about the COVID-19 vaccines**
 - Find a vaccination clinic nearest you: <https://bit.ly/3jglcAF>
 - **COVID-19 Information available in 11 languages at:** <https://hip.phila.gov/Newsletters>
 - Check out the Summer Edition COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter available in Arabic, Bengali, English, French, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese with an extended FAQ and more.
 - Questions on Pfizer and Moderna from PDPH in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian, French and Korean available at: <https://bit.ly/2doseFAQ-PDPH>
 - Questions on all 3 vaccines from PDPH at <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH> (English) and from the CDC at <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC> (English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more)
- **How to stay connected**
 - Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 and get updates on your phone and find the latest information at phila.gov/COVID, facebook.com/phillyhealth and [twitter @PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth)
 - Questions or suggestions? Email COVIDVax@phila.gov
 - This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](https://hip.phila.gov/EmergencyResponse/CommunityResponse) Sign up at <https://hip.phila.gov/EmergencyResponse/CommunityResponse> to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.

Be safe!