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.
- 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 Moderna, 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
  • 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](https://bit.ly/3jglcAF)
  • COVID-19 Information available in 11 languages at: [https://hip.phila.gov/Newsletters](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.

• How to stay connected
  • Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 and get updates on your phone and find the latest information at [phila.gov/COVID](https://www.phila.gov/COVID), [facebook.com/phillyhealth](https://www.facebook.com/phillyhealth) and [twitter @PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth)
  • Questions or suggestions? Email [COVIDVax@phila.gov](mailto:COVIDVax@phila.gov)
  • This newsletter is sent to the Community Response Partner Network Sign up at [https://hip.phila.gov/EmergencyResponse/CommunityResponse](https://hip.phila.gov/EmergencyResponse/CommunityResponse) to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.

Be safe!