

Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

The Latest Numbers

- 951,316 people got at least one dose of vaccine and 759,689 people are “fully vaccinated” in Philadelphia, as of June 17, 2021 .
- The latest information is available on PDPH's [COVID-19 webpage](#) and social media ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)).

Latest COVID Vaccine News

- **Free Phillies Tickets!** The first 500 people to be vaccinated at the following clinics will receive two tickets to an upcoming Phillies game:
 - **Friday, June 18**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., University of the Sciences, Athletic/Recreation Center ARC, 730 S 43rd St, Philadelphia, PA 19104.
 - **Saturday, June 19**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Esperanza, 4261 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, PA 19140

FAQ on the Delta Variant

- **What is a variant? Should I be worried the virus will mutate and get worse?**
 - Viruses are expected to mutate and change over time.
 - As a virus changes and makes new mutations, a new variant can be created.
 - The COVID-19 virus we have now is not the same as when the pandemic started, and this is expected. There are many variants of the COVID-19 virus. Most are harmless, but others can spread more easily or cause people to get more sick, such as the variants causing the current pandemic.
 - For example, the Alpha variant is responsible for most of the COVID-19 cases in Pennsylvania right now and is more easily spread than the types of COVID-19 that we experienced at the start of the pandemic.
 - By carefully studying viruses, scientists learn how mutations (changes) to the virus might affect how it spreads and how sick people will get from it. This information helps public health experts to make recommendations that can help keep you safe.
- **What is the Delta variant?**
 - The Delta variant is one of these newer types of the COVID-19 virus.
 - Scientists are still learning about the Delta variant, but it may be more easily passed between people and may cause more serious disease. However, research is still in progress because COVID-19 is a new virus.
- **Is the Delta variant in Philadelphia?**
 - We are not aware of any cases with the Delta variant in Philadelphia currently. But we know that as many as 10% of COVID-19 cases in the U.S. are Delta, so we expect there will be cases with the Delta variant in Philadelphia soon.
- **Will I get COVID-19 from the Delta variant even if I am fully vaccinated?**
 - People who are fully vaccinated have more protection against the Delta variant.
 - People who only had one dose of the two-dose vaccines (Pfizer or Moderna) have much less protection from the Delta variant.
- **What can I do to stay safe from the Delta variant?**
 - Getting vaccinated is the best protection against all variants (types) of COVID-19.
 - In fact, fully vaccinated people are more protected from severe illness, hospitalization, and death from the COVID-19 variants in our community.
 - Get fully vaccinated and help loved ones get vaccinated.
 - Go to phila.gov/vaccine or vaccines.gov to find a vaccine clinic near you.

FAQ on the Delta variant

- If you are not fully vaccinated:
 - Wear a mask over your nose and mouth to help protect yourself and others.
 - Stay 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you.
 - Avoid crowds and indoor spaces without good air circulation.
- Everyone, vaccinated or not, should wash their hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.
- **Where can I learn more?**
 - Call 3-1-1 to get your questions answered by a public health staff member.
 - Visit the CDC's information page for the latest information on the Delta variant: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/variant.html>.

Where to get more information about the COVID-19 vaccines:

- 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 to receive updates to your phone and find the latest information at phila.gov/COVID, facebook.com/phillyhealth, and on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth) (@PHLPublicHealth).
- Questions or suggestions? Email COVIDVax@phila.gov.
- This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](https://hip.phila.gov/CommunityResponse/CommunityResponse). Sign up at <https://hip.phila.gov/CommunityResponse/CommunityResponse> to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.