

Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

Weekly COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter: Week ending 8.9.2021

The Latest Numbers

1,035,970 people have received at least one dose of vaccine and 850,247 people are “fully vaccinated” in Philadelphia, as of August 4.

Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at phila.gov/COVID, PDPH [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Latest COVID Vaccine News

- **Do you need a ride to your COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment?**
 - **Lyft and SEPTA CCT** are offering Free rides to vaccine appointments for Philadelphia residents who are either 65+ or have access or functional needs.
 - **For more information call 311** (For interpretation press #5 and say your language).
- **Free Phillies Tickets** – 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!*
- **Federal COVID-19 vaccine incentives, giveaways, and discounts** – vaccines.gov/incentives.html

FAQ on the Delta Variant

Why is everyone talking about the Delta variant again?

- Compared to previous variants of COVID-19:
 - The Delta variant is causing an increase in cases of COVID-19 in younger people who are not vaccinated.
 - The Delta variant is more contagious and spreads 2-3 times more easily from person to person. This is because people with the Delta variant have more virus in their body (higher viral loads).
 - The Delta variant is more dangerous because people with the Delta variant are more likely to get sick enough that they need to be in the hospital.

Is the Delta variant in Philadelphia?

- Yes, and it was expected that the Delta variant would arrive in Philadelphia.
- Recently in Philadelphia, we have seen a slight increase in number of COVID-19 cases and it is assumed that this is because of the Delta variant.

The Delta variant sounds scary, what can I do to be safe and protect the people I care about?

- Get vaccinated!
 - The COVID-19 vaccines in the United States are **effective** against the Delta variant and prevent severe illness, hospitalizations, and death.
 - Getting vaccinated is the **best way** to protect individuals, families, and communities, especially children who cannot be vaccinated or those who are immunocompromised .
 - If enough people are vaccinated, this will slow and **reduce spread** of the COVID-19 virus and help prevent new variants from emerging.

- Because the Delta variant is so contagious, PDPH recommends you wear a mask indoors even if you are vaccinated and consider wearing 2 masks, if you are not vaccinated. This is because you don't know if everyone in the room is vaccinated.
 - As always outdoor spaces are much safer than indoor spaces.

I heard I can get COVID even if I got vaccinated? Is this a breakthrough infection?

- There is a difference between a breakthrough infection and breakthrough disease.
- A breakthrough infection is when a fully vaccinated person tests positive COVID-19. Breakthrough disease is when a fully vaccinated person both has a COVID-19 infection and experiences symptoms of COVID-19.
- Breakthrough infections are still very unlikely, and breakthrough disease is very rare.
 - Most breakthrough infections cause mild symptoms or no symptoms at all.
- Remember, nearly all of the new COVID-19 cases in the U.S. are among unvaccinated people.

Do breakthrough infections mean that the vaccines don't work?

- Breakthrough infections are expected even with a highly effective vaccine because no vaccine or medication is 100% effective.
- Vaccines are extremely good at protecting people from severe COVID-19 disease and death. So even if a vaccinated person does get sick with COVID-19, the vaccine makes it less likely to get a severe case of COVID that can cause the need to be in the hospital or cause death.

Can I give COVID-19 to someone if I am fully vaccinated?

- Breakthrough infections occur in only a small proportion of vaccinated people and of the breakthrough infections, transmission by the vaccinated appears to only be a small part of overall spread of the virus.

What do I do if I have been exposed (in close contact for more than 15 minutes) to someone who currently has COVID-19?

- If you are not fully vaccinated:
 - Get tested 5-7 days after being exposed for the most accurate test result.
 - Quarantine yourself until you get a negative test result.
- If you are fully vaccinated:
 - [The CDC updated its guidance](#) to recommend you be tested 3-5 days after exposure, wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until you get a negative test result.
 - Find a COVID-19 test here: <https://www.phila.gov/covid-testing-sites/#/>

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.

I still have questions, where can I get more information?

- It's important you make the best choice for you. If you still have questions, please visit phila.gov/COVID, call the health department at 215-685-5488 or speak with your doctor.

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 and get updates on your phone and find the latest information at 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
- This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](#) 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!



Philadelphia Covid-19 Vaccination Events August 2021



MONDAY August 9th

McIlvain Recreational Center
5200 N. Penn St, 19124
Every Monday from 1pm - 6pm until August 16th
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

Haverford Library - Free Library of Philadelphia
5543 Haverford Ave, 19139
Every Monday 1pm - 4pm until September 7th
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

Esperanza
4261 N 5th St, 19140
10am - 4pm
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

TUESDAY August 10th

Tacony Library - Free Library of Philadelphia
6742 Torresdale Ave, 19135
Every Tuesday from 10am - 4pm until August 24th
Pfizer (12+), Johnson & Johnson available

WEDNESDAY August 11th

African Cultural Alliance of North America (ACANA)
5530 Chester Ave, 19143
Every Wednesday 10am - 4pm until August 18th
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

Lawncrest Library - Free Library of Philadelphia
6098 Rising Sun Avenue
Every Wednesday 12pm - 4pm until September 1st
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

THURSDAY August 12th

Happy Hollow Recreational Center
4800 Wayne Ave, 19144
1:30pm - 4:00pm
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

FRIDAY August 13th

Martin Luther King Older Adult Center
2100 Cecil B Moore Ave, 19121
10am - 4pm
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

Logan Library - Free Library of Philadelphia
1333 Wagner Avenue, 19141
Every Friday from 1 pm - 4pm until August 20th
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available

SATURDAY August 14th

University of the Sciences
Athletic/Recreation Center ARC
730 S 43rd St, 19104
10am - 4pm
Pfizer 12+, Johnson & Johnson available