

Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

The Latest Numbers

- In Philadelphia, as of April 19, 2022:
 - 1,556,766 people ages 18 and up (95%) got at least one dose of vaccine.
 - 1,259,899 people ages 18 and up are fully vaccinated.
 - 93.5% of people ages 12 and up and 35.9% of children 5 – 11 years old have received at least one dose of the Pfizer vaccine.
 - 430,039 people ages 18 and up (33.6%) have received booster doses.
- COVID-19 Cases
 - Over the last 2 weeks, Philadelphia is averaging 224 new cases of COVID-19 per day.
 - This is an increase from 142 cases the previous 2 weeks.
 - In the last two weeks, 7.5% of COVID-19 tests in Philadelphia have come back positive.
 - This is an increase from 4.5% the previous 2 weeks.
 - PDPH reports 82 patients with COVID-19 are currently being treated in Philadelphia hospitals, with a total of 8 on ventilators.
 - This is a rapid increase from 46 people hospitalized for COVID-19 in Philadelphia last week.
- Current Response Level
 - **LEVEL 2: Mask Precautions**
 - This means masks are required in indoor public places; there is no vaccine requirement for places that serve food or drink.
 - More information on Response Levels available at: <https://bit.ly/0411Level2>
- Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at phila.gov/COVID, PDPH [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

The Latest Events

- **Disability Health Committee Public Forum – May 2, 2022 at 11am**
 - Register at: <https://bit.ly/0502Forum>
 - Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities invites you to join us for a conversation focused on the intersection of disability and public health.
 - ASL and Closed Captioning will be provided.
 - For additional ADA accommodations please email Claudia.Tasco@phila.gov or call 215-686-2798 by April 22, 2022.
- **Archived Disability Health Forum video with ASL:** <https://bit.ly/Nov2021DisabilityHealthForum>
 - Includes current topics, FAQs and more. Current as of November 19, 2021
 - For future disability health announcements, contact liam.dougherty@phila.gov
- **Have an upcoming public health event happening in your community?**
 - Send us an email at COVIDVax@phila.gov with a file of your event flyer at least two weeks in advance and we will advertise your event on our social media!

The Latest News

- **Level 2: Mask Precautions**
 - On Monday, April 18, the mask mandate began in Philadelphia
 - Masks are now required in all indoor public spaces, like schools, City buildings, offices, stores, restaurants, museums and indoor sporting events, among others.

- If a business or institution requires all patrons and staff to be fully vaccinated and conducts vaccine card checks, they would be exempt from the mask mandate.
- For more information:
 - Visit <https://bit.ly/0411Level2>
 - Call 311 or 215-685-5488 (Press #5 for interpretation. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.)
- **The COVID Prevention and Response Fund**
 - Currently accepting donations to aid nonprofits and individuals that are supporting their community through the pandemic: <https://bit.ly/ActionFund2022>

The Latest COVID-19 Resources and Services

- **Where to find a COVID-19 vaccine:**
 - Call 3-1-1 or visit phila.gov/vaccine or vaccines.gov to find a vaccine clinic near you.
 - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
 - Sign up for the **In-Home COVID Vaccine Program**
 - COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots for anyone over 12 years old who has had trouble getting their vaccine because of disability, health issues, transportation, language or other barriers.
 - Caregivers & family members in the home are eligible
 - Vaccine is free, no insurance or ID required.
 - To register:
 - Visit: <https://bit.ly/inhomevaccinephl>
 - Call 311 or 215-685-5488 (Press 5 for interpretation services. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.)
- **Stock up on FREE N95 masks**
 - Visit <https://bit.ly/FreeN95s>
- **Stock up on home tests**
 - How to get FREE home tests if you do not have insurance:
 - Each household can place 2 orders of 4 free tests, for 8 tests total.
 - Order at <https://www.covidtests.gov>.
 - Pick up free tests at a COVID-19 Resource Hub or distribution event run by the Health Department: <https://bit.ly/COVIDhometest>.
 - No insurance or ID is required.
 - Everyone is eligible to receive 1 at-home test kit.
 - PDPH staff is available on site to provide instructions on how to use the test, isolation and quarantine guidance, and answer any questions.
 - How to get home tests paid for if you do not have insurance:
 - Health insurance companies are required to reimburse 8 at-home tests per month for each person enrolled in the plan and will reimburse up to \$12 per individual test.
 - Submit receipts for tests that you have purchased to your health plan, along with any other necessary documentation that is required.
 - Detailed information here: <https://go.cms.gov/3Lqo0Yk>.
- **Lost Vaccination Card?**
 - Ask your healthcare provider first, if they cannot help, call 215-685-5488 or email covid@phila.gov to request a copy of your vaccine record.
 - The CDC does not provide copies of COVID-19 vaccination card.

FAQS on the Move to Level 2: Mask Precautions

- **Why should I put my mask back on?**

- Wearing a mask prevents you from passing COVID-19 to others, even if you feel fine.
 - The person next you may be going through treatment for cancer, they may have a loved one in a nursing home, they may have a new baby at home or a disease that affects their immune system.
 - The person next to you may not be able to fight off the disease, they may get very sick or even die from the COVID-19 virus.
- Wearing a mask prevents you from getting COVID-19.
 - The person next to you may have been exposed to COVID-19 and doesn't know it, or they may have COVID-19 but don't have symptoms.
- **What are COVID Response Levels?**
 - The COVID Response Levels are a series of measurement intended to openly connect the City's response to the pandemic to what's actually happening with COVID-19 in Philadelphia.
 - When the number of people with COVID goes up, the City will announce guidance to protect our communities.
 - When the number of people with COVID goes down and things become safer, the City will lift those measures.
 - You can learn more here: <https://bit.ly/COVIDResponseLevels>,
- **What can we do to prevent us from moving to Level 3?**
 - Get vaccinated if you have not already and help the people in your life get vaccinated.
 - Get your booster dose if you are eligible.
 - A booster is an additional dose of vaccine that improves (boosts) your protection.
 - Currently, the following groups of people should get a booster dose:
 - First booster doses are available for anyone 12+ who got a 2nd dose of Pfizer at least 5 months ago, anyone 18+ who got a 2nd dose of Moderna at least 5 months ago, and anyone 18+ who got the J&J vaccine at least 2 months ago.
 - Second booster doses are available for anyone 50+ who got their 1st booster at least 4 months ago and anyone 12+ who is immunocompromised and got their 1st booster at least 4 months ago.
 - Booster doses are available anywhere COVID-19 vaccine is offered.
- **Where can I get more information?**
 - Visit <https://bit.ly/0411Level2>.
 - Call 311 or 215-685-5488 (Press #5 for interpretation. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.)

MORE INFORMATION

- **Questions on all 3 vaccines from PDPH:** <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH> (English) and from the CDC at <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC> (English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more)
- Get updates on transportation and access and functional needs resources, as well as an up-to-date access description of City-run clinics at <https://bit.ly/KnowB4Ugo>

How to Stay Connected

- **Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline** - 800-722-7112, press #9 for interpretation. **Open 24/7!**
 - Talk to a medical professional about COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, vaccine, tests, Etc.
- 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](https://twitter.com)
- This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](#)
 - To view an archive of past newsletters, please visit <https://hip.phila.gov/newsletters/covid-19-vaccine-newsletter/>.
 - Sign up at <https://bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse> to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.

- **Questions or suggestions?** Email us at COVIDVax@phila.gov or leave a message with the Public Health Preparedness Program Outreach Team at 215-429-3016.

Be safe!