

# Philadelphia COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

## Philadelphia Department of Public Health

### The Latest Numbers

- **Vaccine**
  - In Philadelphia, as of May 2, 2022:
    - 1,561,847 people ages 18 and up (95%) got at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
    - 1,265,463 people ages 18 and up (77.1%) are fully vaccinated.
      - 93.8% of people ages 12 and up and 36% of children 5 – 11 years old have received at least one dose of the Pfizer vaccine.
    - 435,538 people ages 18+ and up (33.9%) have received boosters since August 13, 2021.
- **COVID-19 Cases**
  - In the last 2 weeks, Philadelphia is averaging 177 new cases of COVID-19 per day, which is a less than 50% increase in the previous 10 days.
  - PDPH reports 70 patients with COVID-19 are currently being treated in Philadelphia hospitals.
- Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at [phila.gov/COVID](https://phila.gov/COVID), PDPH [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

### The Latest News

- **Current COVID-19 Overall Risk Level**
  - Masks strongly recommended in indoor public settings.
  - Download a PDPH poster strongly recommending masks: <https://bit.ly/COVIDguidanceDocs>
- **PDPH COVID-19 Call Center has interpretation!**
  - Call 215-685-5488 for information on COVID-19 testing, guidance, vaccine and more
    - Press 2 for Spanish.
    - Press 3 for interpretation in your language.
- **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 Events

- **PDPH Information Session: Sexual Wellness and Pleasure during the Pandemic**
  - Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am.
  - You'll be joined by folks from STI Control, AIDS Activities Coordinating Office, and Nhakia Outland (Prevention Meets Fashion) to talk about sexual wellness and pleasure during the pandemic.
  - Register at: <https://bit.ly/0505PDPHInfoSession>
- **June is Immigrant Heritage Month**
  - An annual national celebration. Join the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA), as they share stories of the crucial ways that diverse communities enrich our society, and join a growing coalition across the country proclaiming that it's time to #CelebrateImmigrants.
  - Register to include your event on OIAs calendar and promotional materials: <https://bit.ly/IHM2022>
- **Have an upcoming public health event happening in your community?**
  - Send us an email at [COVIDVax@phila.gov](mailto: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!

**COVID-19 Resources and Services**

- **Where to find a COVID-19 vaccine:**
  - Call 3-1-1 or visit [phila.gov/vaccine](https://phila.gov/vaccine) or [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov) to find a vaccine clinic near you.
    - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
    - Visit <https://bit.ly/KnowB4Ugo> for updates on transportation, access and functional needs resources, and up-to-date access descriptions of City-run clinics.
  - Sign Up for the In-Home COVID-19 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> for free masks from the Strategic National Stockpile
- **Stock up on home tests**
  - How to get FREE home tests even 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/quarantine guidance, and answer any questions
  - How to get home tests paid for if you do 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've purchased to your health plan, along with any other necessary documentation required by the health plan.
    - 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](mailto:covid@phila.gov) to request a copy of your vaccine record.
  - The CDC does not provide copies of COVID-19 vaccination card.

**FAQ on What to do if You Test Positive for COVID-19 While at Work**

- **What should I do if I start to feel sick with COVID-like symptoms while I am at work?**
  - Isolate immediately, get tested, and go home.
    - Find a testing site at: <https://bit.ly/PHLTestingSites>
    - Find a resource hub to get free at-home tests at: <https://bit.ly/ResourceHubs>
  - Stay home until test results are known.

- Wear a well-fitted mask around others. Any employee with symptoms of COVID-like illness should not come to work.
- Anyone seriously ill should seek medical care immediately.
- **What should I do if I felt sick with COVID-19 while at work, but my COVID-19 test is negative?**
  - **If the test result is negative**, you may return to work after:
    - You don't have a fever for at least 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicines **AND**
    - Your symptoms are improving (some mild symptoms may linger).
  - COVID-19 shares many symptoms with other potentially contagious conditions.
    - Even if you are not diagnosed with COVID-19, you should still follow your establishment's normal illness policy.
- **What should I do if I felt sick with COVID-19 while at work and my COVID-19 test is positive?**
  - **If the test result is positive** or if you do not test or are unable to test, you may return to work after:
    - At least 5 days have passed since the symptoms started **AND**
    - At least 1 day fever free (off fever reducing medications like acetaminophen/Tylenol or ibuprofen) **AND**
    - Symptoms have improved.
  - You must wear a mask around others for **10 full days after symptoms began**.
    - Day 0 is the first day symptoms developed. Day 1 is the first full day of symptoms.
  - Employers must provide a place for these returning employees to eat lunch alone, so they are not removing their masks around others until their additional 5 days of strict masking has ended.
- **Are employees required to wear masks?**
  - Masks are strongly encouraged by the Health Department but are not required. However, you may choose to require masks in your establishment.
- For more information please visit: <https://bit.ly/COVIDPosAtWork>

#### More Information

- Call 215-685-5488 (Press 3 for interpretation. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.)
- **Frequently asked questions on all 3 vaccines:**
  - From PDPH: <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH> (English)
  - From the CDC: <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC> (English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more)

#### How to Stay Connected

- **Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline**
  - Call 800-722-7112, press #9 for interpretation. **Open 24/7!**
  - Talk to a medical professional about COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, vaccine, tests, Etc.
- **Updates from PDPH**
  - Text COVIDPHL to 888-777 and get updates on your phone
  - Find the latest information at [phila.gov/COVID](http://phila.gov/COVID), [facebook.com/phillyhealth](https://facebook.com/phillyhealth) and [twitter@PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth)
- **Join the Community Response Partner Network**
  - This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](#), part of the PDPH Public Health Preparedness Program.
  - 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](mailto:COVIDVax@phila.gov)
- Leave a message with the Public Health Preparedness Program Outreach Team at 215-429-3016.

**Be safe!**