

Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH)

WEEKLY MONKEYPOX UPDATE

LATEST NUMBERS

- As of September 6, 2022:
 - 380 total Monkeypox cases (confirmed + presumed)
 - Information on criteria for presumed cases available [here](#).
 - 4,856 doses have been administered.
 - Information on the federal management of Monkeypox vaccine delivery available [here](#).
- Data on Monkeypox cases and vaccine distribution, with demographic characteristics, are updated [here](#) every Monday.
- The Health Department, as part of its goal to be as transparent as possible, is one of the first jurisdictions in the country to report demographics on both people who have monkeypox and vaccine recipients.
 - More detail on this dashboard is available at: <https://bit.ly/MPXDash>

LATEST NEWS

- Funding for Equitable Monkeypox Outreach
 - The Health Department is seeking proposals from qualified applicants in Philadelphia to expand monkeypox vaccination services and related outreach activities for people who are at high risk for monkeypox. Which includes:
 - Gay, bisexual, transgender, non-binary persons, men who have sex with men or engage in sex with anonymous partners or multiple partners and particularly populations that have been disproportionately affected by the 2022 monkeypox outbreak, such as Black and African American residents.
 - The intent of this program is to promote equitable access to vaccine, as well as to ensure that accurate and timely information is available to people who are at high risk for monkeypox, particularly those who may be difficult to reach through traditional and social media.
 - There are three overarching tracks for programmatic activities. The Health Department plans to issue up to 10 awards to qualified applicants.
 - Find more information, including how to apply, here: bit.ly/PHLMPXFundingOpp
 - Vaccine providers that can offer community-based monkeypox vaccination services are eligible for awards up to \$50,000.
 - Organizations that intend to focus on collaborations with vaccine providers or outreach activities are eligible for awards up to \$25,000.
 - Please direct any questions to healthresponse@phila.gov.
- JYNNEOS vaccine eligibility expanded
 - The supply of JYNNEOS vaccine was extremely limited so only those with the highest risk of getting the virus were eligible to receive the vaccine.
 - Now that more vaccine is available, PDPH is able to expand eligibility to help protect an expanded group of people who are at risk of getting the virus.
 - In addition to current eligibility criteria, you are now eligible to get the vaccine if you:
 - Have recently attended or plan to attend any venue where anonymous sex or sex with multiple partners will occur (e.g. saunas, bathhouses, sex clubs, sex parties) in the next 30 days.
 - Have met recent partners or plan to meet new partners in the next 30 days through social media platforms (such as Grindr, Tinder or Scruff), or at clubs, raves, sex parties, saunas.
 - Full eligibility criteria can be found about halfway down this page.



- FREE Lyft rides
 - You can schedule a free Lyft ride to and from any Monkeypox vaccine appointment in the City of Philadelphia, by calling 215-685-5488.
- Travel not advised if you have Monkeypox
 - New recommendations from the CDC advises that you do not travel until you confirm with a healthcare provider that you do not have monkeypox.
 - If you have monkeypox symptoms or had close contact with someone who has monkeypox, talk to your healthcare provider.
 - More information available [here](#).
- PDPH adopts federal dose conservation strategy
 - Due to the extremely limited supply on Monkeypox vaccine, on August 9, 2022, the FDA approved using 1/5th of the conventional dose as an intradermal injection.
 - The vaccine is administered into the layers of the skin rather than the traditional dosing into the subcutaneous area under the skin.
 - Your body produces a similar immune response to the vaccine if given at a lower dose intradermally or at a higher dose subcutaneously.
 - Using a lower dose means vaccinators can get up to five times as many doses out of the vial, which means up to five times as many people can be vaccinated.
 - More information is available at <https://bit.ly/PHLmpxD>.

LATEST VACCINATION AND CONTAINMENT RESOURCES

- There is no shame in being sick with Monkeypox.
 - Reach out to friends and contacts to get the emotional and logistical support you need to deal with this virus.
 - Visit www.healthymindsphilly.org for ideas, screenings, trainings, resources, and more to support your well-being while dealing with this virus.
- The number of vaccine appointments is EXTREMELY LIMITED at this time, and vaccine doses are prioritized for those at the highest risk.
 - As more doses become available, the vaccine can be offered to more people.
- Call the PDPH Call Center at 215-685-5488 for any possible or known exposure to Monkeypox.
 - The call center will ask questions to determine risk of exposure and vaccine eligibility.
 - The call center can make appointments for eligible residents to get a Monkeypox vaccine and provide guidance on quarantine, isolation, and safety following exposure.
- The CDC currently advises:
 - Getting vaccinated as soon as possible after exposure to someone with monkeypox (ideally within 4 days) for the best chance to prevent the disease or make it less severe.
 - The CDC is not encouraging vaccination against monkeypox for the broader public or for everyone who is sexually active.
 - While vaccine supplies are limited, getting a monkeypox vaccine when you don't need it could mean that people who do need it can't get it.

LATEST GUIDANCE MATERIALS

- Recording of the PDPH Monkeypox information available [here](#).
 - Info session was held on Wednesday, September 7 and covered the following topics:
 - Overview of Monkeypox, Signs and Symptoms, What to do if you're sick, Treatment, Harm Reduction, Vaccine and Resources.
- Find a social media toolkit [here](#).
 - Please use this toolkit to share information with priority groups, through both formal and informal social networks.
- Find the latest flyers, brochures, and other educational materials [here](#) and [here](#).





- Translated materials available.
- For free printed copies, please contact Rainy.Paulino@phila.gov.
- Find the most up-to-date information on Monkeypox in the U.S. from the CDC [here](#).
- Find the most up-to-date information on Monkeypox in Philadelphia from PDPH [here](#).
 - This blog has the most comprehensive information on the Monkeypox virus and the public health response in Philadelphia.

LATEST ADVOCACY EFFORTS FOR AN EQUITABLE RESPONSE

- Eligibility criteria was expanded to include a wider group of people who may be at risk of getting monkeypox.
 - PDPH will continue to invite individuals to get vaccinated from our databases that may be high risk, and targeted zip codes and demographics following our case trends as well as individuals who have been identified as high risk through contact tracing.
- PDPH offered a public information session on monkeypox to answer community concerns and share the latest guidance. Recording is available [here](#).
- PDPH staff have been going door to door to reach relevant businesses, share critical information, and hear community concerns.
- The Health Department is working to identify organizations that serve persons at high-risk for monkeypox that would like to collaborate with PDPH to host vaccination clinics and/or expand outreach efforts.
 - PDPH has secured funding to compensate partners for their work to help slow the spread of this outbreak. For more information see above, visit: bit.ly/PHLMPXFundingOpp or contact healthresponse@phila.gov with any questions.

STAY CONNECTED

- Please contact us with feedback and suggestions for topics you would find useful in this weekly newsletter or how we can better reach communities at risk of exposure to Monkeypox.
- This newsletter is produced by the Public Health Preparedness Program. To sign up, unsubscribe, or comment, email publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov.

Be safe,
Philadelphia Department of Public Health