

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine gets EUA** – The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) on Saturday, Feb. 27, granted an [emergency use authorization \(EUA\) for the single-dose Johnson & Johnson \(Janssen\) COVID-19 vaccine](#). This move follows a vote by the FDA Vaccine and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee on Friday to recommend the vaccine's use during this ongoing public health emergency. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met Sunday, Feb. 28, and recommended the vaccine's use. These steps paved the way for shipments to begin immediately.
- **Increased vaccine availability** – Governor Mike DeWine announced Monday, March 1, that Ohio is expected to receive more than 448,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine this week, the highest allocation to date. Of that total, more than 96,000 doses of the new Janssen vaccine will be delivered to around 200 new independent pharmacy providers as well as chain pharmacies, hospitals, and health departments. As a result, more enrolled vaccine providers will receive supply. Shipment quantities for the Janssen vaccine may vary over the next few weeks while production ramps up. Ohio now offers more than [1,200 provider locations](#).
- **New groups eligible for vaccination** – On Monday, March 1, Governor DeWine announced, in response to the increased vaccine supply, [expanded vaccine eligibility](#) for Ohioans with Phases 1C and Phase 2, effective Thursday, March 4.
 - **Phase 1C** includes approximately 246,000 eligible Ohioans with certain occupations and with certain medical conditions not addressed in previous phases.
 - Medical groups: Type 1 diabetes, pregnant women, bone marrow transplant recipients, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).
 - Occupations: Child care services, funeral services, law enforcement and corrections officers, and firefighters.
 - **Phase 2** will open with more vaccine eligibility based on age, due to the risk of more **severe** reactions and outcomes of COVID-19 increasing with age. The first group eligible will be Ohioans age 60 and older. This group includes approximately 695,000 eligible Ohioans.
 - The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has issued guidance for providers for [Phase 1C](#) and [Phase 2](#). Those resources are available on the [COVID-19 Vaccine Providers page](#).
- **VMS 411 sessions to be held on Wednesdays and Fridays at 3 p.m.** – Learn more about [Ohio's Vaccine Management Solution \(VMS\)](#), a new resource that will soon be available for Ohioans to determine vaccine eligibility and schedule an appointment. VMS 411 sessions will go over key questions and concerns, highlight best practices in capturing data within the VMS system, and capture provider feedback. New providers will be required to use the system.

When: Every Wednesday and Friday, from 3-4 p.m. (ending Friday, April 2, 2021)
How to join:
Online using Microsoft Teams: <http://bit.ly/OhioVMA411>
By phone: 872-215-2965 (Phone conference ID: 739 278 746#)
One-click dial by phone: [+1 872-215-2965, 739278746#](tel:+18722152965739278746)
- **ICYMI: COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls** – In case you missed them live, the COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls are available online and on demand. Find information about how to watch at coronavirus.ohio.gov.
- **NEW: COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES HUB** – ODH has launched a new resource to help communicate information about the COVID-19 vaccine. The new Communications Resources Hub offers various print, digital, audio, and video resources and educational materials. The website offers materials created for specific groups, including minorities and Ohioans who speak English as a second language. Please contact minorityhealth@odh.ohio.gov to share suggestions.

RESOURCES

HOW TO ENROLL

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

PROVIDER RESOURCES

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Resource Page](#)

[FAQ for Health Providers](#)

[Phase 1B guidance](#)

[Phase 1C guidance](#)

[Phase 2 guidance](#)

RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Priority Populations Distribution Fact Sheet](#)

[Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

[Safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines](#)

[Trust the facts graphic](#)

[Understanding how the different vaccines work](#)

[Preparing for your COVID-19 vaccination](#)

[Acceptable forms of ID](#)

[Communications Resources Hub](#)

[Talking points for community leaders](#)

TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- All three COVID-19 vaccines protect you against severe illness, including hospitalization and death. Ohioans are urged to take the first vaccine available to them.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as part of a phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- Whether you hear myths on social media, at work, or from friends or family, there is a lot of dangerous misinformation out there about COVID-19 vaccines. The truth is that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and rigorously tested. [Trust the facts.](#)
- While we know that many people in our community are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we must be patient while demand for the vaccine remains higher than the available supply. As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and now Phases 1C and 2. Eventually, as vaccine becomes widely available, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or chicken pox vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines is thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures — like wearing a mask, washing your hands, and practicing social distancing — coupled with the vaccine, will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- You should continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing after being vaccinated. While the vaccine should protect you from becoming sick with COVID-19, not enough is known about whether or not you can still carry the virus and spread it to others. At this time, those who get the vaccine should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- 🤔 Curious about #COVID19 vaccines?
🔍 Find answers to your questions at Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls w/ medical experts, community leaders, & public health professionals. Watch on demand. coronavirus.ohio.gov/townhall
- Safe. Effective. Rigorously tested. Older Ohioans are now eligible to receive #COVID19 vaccines if they choose. Vaccines are limited, and rolling out in a phased approach, and will eventually be available to all Ohioans. <https://youtu.be/p0-MgPCQFhk>
- We know you have questions about the #COVID19 vaccine, like "Are they effective?" and "What are the side effects?" Learn this and more in the COVID-19 vaccine FAQ <https://bit.ly/OhioVaccineFAQ>
- Vaccines are available at approximately 1,200 locations across Ohio – including pharmacies, local health departments, federally qualified health centers, and hospitals. Find a provider near you with the statewide search tool <http://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov>.
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, implant you with a tracking chip, or cause infertility. See more debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths> [[suggested graphic: Trust the Facts 4](#)]

COVID-19 VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

This [toolkit](#) offers talking points, language tips, social media language and trusted resources to help you better communicate about the safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines.

PFIZER RESOURCES

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#)

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

MODERNA RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

JANSSEN RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

CDC RESOURCES

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[About V-Safe after vaccination health checker](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[Ensuring the safety of vaccines](#)

[Free printable resources](#)

[COVID-19 One-Stop Shop Toolkits](#)

[Public service announcements](#)

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **Possible vaccine shipment delays this week due to severe weather** – Shipments directly from Moderna and Pfizer may be delayed. All providers are strongly encouraged to closely monitor vaccine shipping information in VOMS or the UPS tracking system. If there is no information yet in VOMS, that means a shipping label has not yet been created for your shipment. Providers may need to adjust vaccination and clinic schedules based on these shipment delays. If any cancellations or changes are necessary, notify your patients using as many communication methods as possible including phone calls, email messages, website updates and social media updates. ODH will continue to share new information about shipment statuses. With more severe weather expected, additional impacts are possible. We appreciate your patience as we continue to monitor weather conditions and consult with our industry partners about the best approach for ensuring successful COVID-19 vaccine shipments.
- **Pfizer vaccine quantities updated:** The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has officially updated the number of vaccine doses per vial from five to six. This changes the overall quantity per shipment.
 - Pfizer vaccine directly shipped from the manufacturer will arrive in increments of 1,170 doses (previously 975). Each Pfizer tray will still contain 195 vials of vaccine, but each vial will be counted as six doses now.
 - Pfizer vaccine shipped from the Ohio Department of Health RSS Warehouse will now be in increments of 120 doses (previously 100).
 - Pfizer has already updated its ancillary kits to include enough supplies for up to 1,170 doses. [Read additional guidance about maximizing doses of the Pfizer vaccine here.](#)
- **VMS 411 sessions to be held on Wednesdays and Fridays at 3 p.m.** – Learn more about Ohio's Vaccine Management Solution (VMS) at an upcoming VMS 411 Session. These sessions will go over key questions and concerns, highlight best practices in capturing data within the VMS system, and capture provider feedback. If time permits, there will be an opportunity for a question-and-answer period.

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- **COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls start next Monday** - A [communications toolkit](#) is available for your use to help promote the COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls in your community. Thank you for your assistance in spreading the word about these Town Halls, which will be livestreamed and available online on-demand after the events, and can be watched on the Ohio Channel after the events. The livestream dates and times are as follows:
 - Monday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m. – African American Ohioans
 - Tuesday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. – Hispanic/Latino Ohioans
 - Monday, March 1, 6:30 p.m. – Asian American and Pacific Islander Ohioans
 - Tuesday, March 2, 6:30 p.m. – Rural Ohioans
- **Reminder: medical disorders group began Feb. 15** – As a part of Ohio's Phase 1B vaccinations, the group that became eligible this week with [specific qualifying medical conditions](#) will be permitted to be vaccinated by the provider of their choice. We ask that providers do their best to proactively identify this population from existing patients while also making vaccine available to those who self-identify as having one of the conditions listed in the [Phase 1B Medical Conditions sheet](#).

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VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

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TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- Whether you hear myths on social media, at work, or from friends or family, there is a lot of dangerous misinformation out there about COVID-19 vaccines. The truth is that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and rigorously tested. Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls are designed to help you sift through the myths and learn where you can find reliable, trustworthy information about COVID-19 vaccines. Learn more at coronavirus.ohio.gov/townhall.
- While we know that many people in our community are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we must be patient while demand for the vaccine remains higher than the available supply. As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and eventually, as vaccine becomes widely available, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or chicken pox vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures — like wearing a mask, washing your hands, and practicing social distancing — coupled with the vaccine, will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- You should continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing after being vaccinated. While the vaccine should protect you from becoming sick with COVID-19, not enough is known about whether or not you can still carry the virus and spread it to others. At this time, those who get the vaccine should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.

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[About V-Safe](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[What to Expect at Your Vaccine Appointment](#)

[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- Odds are, you've heard a myth about COVID-19 vaccines, leaving you with more questions than answers. Get answers at Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls, featuring medical experts, community leaders, and public health professionals.  <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/townhall>
- Our road back is just beginning, and we need your help. Please continue to social distance and wear a mask, until we're all protected and back to the way we remember. #InThisTogetherOhio <https://youtu.be/yLlyeq7juls>
- Vaccines are available at approximately 1,000 locations across Ohio – like pharmacies, local health departments, federally qualified health centers, and hospitals. Find a provider near you with the statewide search tool  <http://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov>.
- When can I get my COVID-19 vaccine? Ohioans eligible:
 - ✓ Age 65+
 - ✓ Those with intellectual or developmental disability AND certain medical conditions
 - ✓ K-12 school employees
 - ✓ Feb. 15 - Those with specific medical conditions bit.ly/OhioVaccine
[suggested graphic: Phase 1B medical conditions]
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, implant you with a tracking chip, or cause infertility. See more debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>
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- Ohio launching new Vaccine Management Solution (VMS)** - The VMS, rolling out to providers on a staggered schedule this week, will help Ohioans determine COVID-19 vaccine eligibility and offer streamlined scheduling, eliminating the need to make numerous phone calls or visit numerous websites. Public access to the web-based program is forthcoming. More details are available on [this VMS Provider Training page](#). Advantages of the program include:
 - Ohio VMS is a state-supported solution at no cost to vaccine providers.
 - It offers vaccine providers a consistent approach for scheduling vaccinations.
 - Ohio VMS offers more visibility to the public around how to get their vaccinations.
 - The more providers who opt into this program, the more helpful it will be for the public. This solution is maximized by the number of providers participating and is designed to offer a one-stop resource for Ohioans.
- Process announced for medical disorders group beginning Feb. 15** – As a part of Ohio’s Phase 1B vaccinations, the group becoming eligible beginning the week of Feb. 15 with [specific qualifying medical conditions](#) will be permitted to be vaccinated by the provider of their choice. As we open up to this population, we ask that providers do their best to actively identify this population from existing patients while also making vaccine available to those who self-identify as having one of the conditions listed in the [Phase 1B Medical Conditions sheet](#). This list should be published on your website and be used to verbally confirm that a patient meets the eligibility requirement. The State of Ohio is not requiring any additional documentation or proof of eligibility; however, providers may develop their own screening and monitoring procedures to evaluate eligibility.
- Save the date for Ohio’s COVID-19 Vaccine Town Halls** – Ohioans can hear from medical experts, community leaders, public health professionals, frontline workers, and people who have been vaccinated. More details for how to watch livestreams for the following audiences will be shared in the near future:
 - Monday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m. – African American Ohioans
 - Tuesday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. – Hispanic/Latino Ohioans
 - Monday, March 1, 6:30 p.m. – Asian American and Pacific Islander Ohioans
 - Tuesday, March 2, 6:30 p.m. – Rural Ohioans
- Ohio administers more than 1 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine** – Although vaccines are still scarce, [Ohio’s strategic phased approach](#) has allowed vaccine to be administered to more than one million residents. Among these early groups to be vaccinated are Ohio’s most vulnerable populations, such as nursing home residents and older Ohioans, who account for the highest number of COVID-19 related deaths. A review of vaccines administered the last few weeks is below:

Week of	First Doses Administered	Second Doses Administered
Jan. 11 – 17, 2021	138,361	24,121
Jan. 18 – 24, 2021	201,872	53,865
Jan. 25 – 31, 2021	217,317	111,930

- Updated Target Population/Occupation Checklists** – Please share the updated [TP/O Checklist](#) and [TP/O Codes](#) documents with your Information Technology (IT) department if system modifications are necessary.
- Johnson & Johnson has submitted EUA application** – Johnson & Johnson’s single-dose COVID-19 vaccine will be considered by the FDA on Feb. 26, and if approved, the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) would meet shortly thereafter, and Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 vaccines could begin being used in the U.S. The federal government has contracted with J&J to deliver 100 million doses of its vaccine by the end of June, if it is approved.

RESOURCES

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TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

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- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- Vaccines are in short supply in Ohio and across the country. Each week, the federal government will inform Ohio of its statewide vaccine allocation, and providers will be notified of how many doses of vaccine they will be receiving the following week.
- It will take time to distribute all of the vaccine given the limited doses available. So, someone who is 80 or older, for example, will still be able to be vaccinated in the coming weeks as additional age groups become eligible.
- While we know that many people in our community are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we must be patient while demand for the vaccine remains higher than the available supply. As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and eventually, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or chicken pox vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures — like wearing a mask, washing your hands, and practicing social distancing — coupled with the vaccine, will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- You should continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing after being vaccinated. While the vaccine should protect you from becoming sick with COVID-19, not enough is known about whether or not you can still carry the virus and spread it to others. At this time, those who get the vaccine should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.

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SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- Our road back is just beginning, and we need your help. Please continue to social distance and wear a mask, until we're all protected and back to the way we remember. #InThisTogetherOhio <https://youtu.be/yLL1yeq7juls>
- Vaccines are available at nearly 1,000 locations across Ohio – like pharmacies, local health departments, federally qualified health centers, and hospitals. Find a provider near you with the statewide search tool <http://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov>.
- Safe. Effective. Rigorously tested. #COVID19 vaccines are rolling out to older Ohioans. While it will take time before it is available for everyone, it's the best way to protect our health and help Ohio on the road to recovery. <https://youtu.be/p0-MgPCQFhk>
- When can I get my COVID-19 vaccine? Ohioans eligible:
 - ✓ Age 65+
 - ✓ Those with intellectual or developmental disability AND certain medical conditions
 - ✓ K-12 school employees
 - 🕒 Feb. 15 - Those with specific medical conditions
 - 📍 bit.ly/OhioVaccine

[suggested graphic: Phase 1B medical conditions]
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, implant you with a tracking chip, or cause infertility. See more debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>
[suggested graphic: Trust the Facts 4]

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- **Where those with disabilities should go to schedule vaccines** – The Ohio Department of Health has received questions about scheduling vaccinations for those with developmental or intellectual disabilities and certain qualifying medical conditions. This language has been clarified for the public. **If someone believes they fall into this category:**
 - County boards of developmental disabilities will reach out to them to coordinate vaccination if they are already receiving services from the board and it knows that they qualify.
 - If someone has not been contacted, or if they do not receive services through a board of developmental disabilities, they must reach out to the [board in their county](#) to coordinate their vaccination.
 - The board will work with a children’s hospital or a local health department to schedule the vaccination appointment. Vaccinations will only be given at local health departments or participating children’s hospitals in conjunction with the local boards. **Patients should not go to their local pharmacy for scheduling or vaccination.**
- **K-12 School Staff Vaccination Program underway** – Beginning this week, school employees who are necessary to the operation of in-person instruction for K-12 students will be eligible for vaccination. This includes adults in district buildings who regularly interact with students, such as teachers and long-term subs, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, environmental and building services, office personnel, paid coaches, etc. Schedules of vaccinations are available at the following links:
 - [Week 1](#) (beginning Feb. 1)
 - [Week 2](#) (beginning Feb. 8)
 - [Week 3](#) (beginning Feb. 15)
 - [Week 4](#) (beginning Feb. 22)
- **Do not hold back second doses from first-dose shipments of vaccine** – All providers who have vaccine recipients due for a second dose will receive a second-dose shipment closer to the time that the second dose is due. The Ohio Department of Health will also send you an email notification regarding an impending second-dose vaccine shipment a couple of days before you receive that shipment.
- **Acceptable forms of identification** – In effort to confirm someone’s identity, name, and age. ID that is expired or from another state or country will still be accepted. Providers should make it known if any additional documentation (such as an employee ID or pay stub) is required to verify eligibility. Some acceptable forms of identification are:
 - Driver license or any photo ID, regardless of expiration date or place of origin.
 - Active/retired military ID.
 - Physician statement (including shot records).
 - Census records.
 - Adoption records.
 - Naturalization certificate.
 - Birth certificate: Birth record, either original or certified copy.
 - Consulate ID or matricula consular.
 - Department of State forms.
 - Military service records (DD-214)
 - Certification of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States (FS-545)
 - Certification of Report of Birth Abroad of a United States Citizen (DS-1350)
 - Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (FS-240)
 - Passport or a passport card.
 - Certificate of citizenship.
 - Permanent resident card.
 - Application for replacement naturalization/citizenship document.

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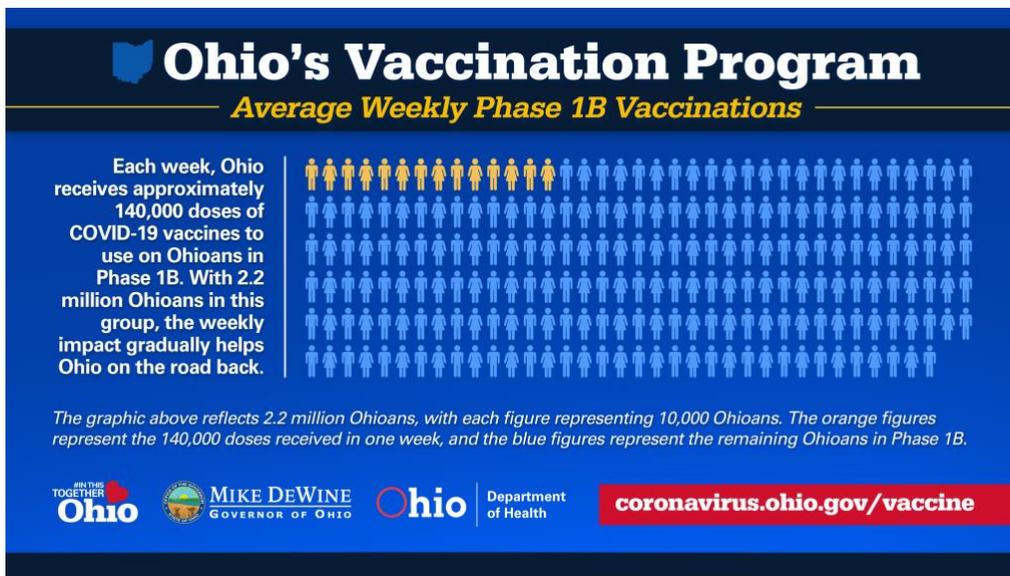
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- Each week, Ohio receives approximately 140,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to use on Ohioans in Phase 1B. With 2.2 million Ohioans in this group, the weekly impact gradually helps Ohio on the road back.



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[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

[Safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines](#)

[Trust the facts graphic](#)

NEW

CDC RESOURCES

[Communications Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics and Clinicians](#)

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

[Understanding COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

[About V-Safe](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[What to Expect at Your Vaccine Appointment](#)

[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- Vaccines are available at nearly 1,000 locations across Ohio – like pharmacies, local health departments, federally qualified health centers, and hospitals. Find a provider near you with the statewide search tool <http://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov>.
- Safe. Effective. Rigorously tested. #COVID19 vaccines are rolling out to older Ohioans. While it will take time before it is available for everyone, it's the best way to protect our health and help Ohio on the road to recovery. <https://youtu.be/p0-MgPCQFhk>

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **CDC has updated clinical guidance** – Several items have been updated in the [CDC's Clinical Considerations](#), including:
 - **Second dose maximum interval 6 weeks after first dose** – Previous guidance had not identified a maximum interval between doses; the latest says the second dose should occur as closely to the due date as possible, but not exceed 6 weeks after the first dose, regardless of manufacturer.
 - **Timing for administering COVID-19 vaccines in respect to other vaccines** – The vaccine series should routinely be administered alone, with a minimum interval of 14 days before or after administration with any other vaccine. However, mRNA COVID-19 and other vaccines may be administered within a shorter period in situations where the benefits of vaccination are deemed to outweigh the potential unknown risks of vaccine coadministration (e.g., tetanus toxoid-containing vaccination as part of wound management, measles or hepatitis A vaccination during an outbreak) or to avoid barriers or delays to mRNA COVID-19 vaccination (e.g., in long-term care facility residents or healthcare personnel who received influenza or other vaccinations prior to/upon admission or onboarding). If mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are administered within 14 days of another vaccine, doses do not need to be repeated for either vaccine.
- **Resources available for working with patients with disabilities** – the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities has developed [Vaccine Provider Best Practices](#), suggestions for administering COVID-19 vaccines to people with developmental disabilities in clinic or drive-thru environments. Supplemental materials include:
 - [Getting a Vaccine: What to Know About Me](#) - this form can be filled out by a person with a disability, or their caregiver, to help a provider best serve the patient.
 - [Getting a Vaccine: What to Expect](#)
 - [Social Story: Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
 - [Plain Language FAQ](#)
- **New VaxText resource** – The CDC's [VaxText text messaging resource](#) is a free service that providers can offer to vaccine recipients if you do not already have a text or email reminder system in place. By texting ENROLL to 1-833-VaxText (829-8398), vaccine recipients can opt in to receive a weekly text reminder for their second dose of COVID-19 vaccine or a reminder if they are overdue for their second dose. The service is available in English or Spanish.
- **Continue proper reporting** – Please continue to report all necessary information, including target population and occupation (TP/O) data, [recently updated for Phase 1B](#); temperature monitoring exclusions; and vaccine waste, following the proper reporting protocols for each.
- **Submit information for statewide Vaccine Provider Location search** – Providers must provide vaccine administration location addresses, public phone numbers, and websites; enrolled providers should [follow these instructions to submit or update information](#).
- **No vaccine should be wasted** – If vaccine remains unused, such as at the end of a vaccination clinic, the primary goal should be to provide that vaccine quickly to eligible vaccine recipients. When that is not possible, please administer vaccine to any available individuals who meet the FDA's requirements for that product. Providers should have a plan ready for what to do if extra doses that need to be administered urgently remain after a clinic.
- **Correction from last week's update** – Additional guidance is forthcoming regarding those individuals with [qualifying medical conditions](#) who will become eligible Feb. 15.

RESOURCES

HOW TO ENROLL

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

PROVIDER RESOURCES

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Resource Page](#)

[FAQ for Health Providers](#)

[Phase 1B guidance](#)

UPDATED

PFIZER RESOURCES

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#)

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

MODERNA RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

This [toolkit](#) will be expanded with additional resources but is being provided now to support your immediate needs.

TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- Vaccines are in short supply in Ohio and across the country. Each week, the federal government will inform Ohio of its statewide vaccine allocation, and providers will be notified of how many doses of vaccine they will be receiving the following week.
- It will take time to distribute all of the vaccine given the limited doses available. So, someone who is 80 or older, for example, will still be able to be vaccinated in the coming weeks as additional age groups become eligible.
- While we know that many people in our community are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we must be patient while demand for the vaccine remains higher than the available supply. As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and eventually, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or chicken pox vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures — like wearing a mask, washing your hands, and practicing social distancing — coupled with the vaccine, will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- You should continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing after being vaccinated. While the vaccine should protect you from becoming sick with COVID-19, not enough is known about whether or not you can still carry the virus and spread it to others. At this time, those who get the vaccine should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.

RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

[Phase 1B Distribution Graphic and medical conditions](#)

[Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

[Safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines](#) 

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[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- Vaccines are available at more than 750 locations across Ohio – like pharmacies, local health departments, and hospitals. Find a provider near you with the statewide search tool  <http://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov>.
- Safe. Effective. Rigorously tested. #COVID19 vaccines are rolling out to older Ohioans. While it will take time before it is available for everyone, it's the best way to protect our health and help Ohio on the road to recovery. <https://youtu.be/p0-MgPCQFhk>
- We know you've got questions about the #COVID19 vaccine, like when and where you can get it in our community. Learn this and more on our local #COVID19 vaccine page  [\[Link to provider or local landing page with more information\]](#)
- Vaccine supply is limited across the country, and here in Ohio. As the number of available doses increases, #COVID19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. Stay informed with [\[Link to provider or local landing page with more information\]](#)
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, or implant you with a tracking chip. Find reliable information and debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- FACT: #COVID19 vaccines weren't rushed and have been thoroughly vetted through a rigorous safety assessment involving independent medical professionals. See more myths vs. facts at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **Submit information for statewide Vaccine Provider Location search** – Providers must provide vaccine administration location addresses, public phone numbers, and websites; enrolled providers should [follow these instructions to submit or update information](#).
- **Phase 1B begins** – Vaccinations in Phase 1B began on Tuesday, Jan. 19. Governor DeWine announced a tiered system for offering vaccinations to the estimated 2.2 million people who are eligible for the vaccine under this phase, beginning with those who are 80 or older, outlined below. When a new age group begins, vaccinations may not be complete for the previous age group. It will take a number of weeks to distribute all of the vaccine given the limited doses available.
 - Jan. 19, 2021 – Ohioans 80 years of age and older.
 - Jan. 25, 2021 – Ohioans 75 years of age and older; those with a developmental or intellectual disability **AND** one of the following conditions: cerebral palsy; spina bifida; severe congenital heart disease requiring hospitalization within the past year; severe type 1 diabetes requiring hospitalization within the past year; inherited metabolic disorders including phenylketonuria; severe neurological disorders including epilepsy, hydrocephaly, and microcephaly; severe genetic disorders including Down syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, Turner syndrome, and muscular dystrophy; severe lung disease, including asthma requiring hospitalization within the past year, and cystic fibrosis; sickle cell anemia; and alpha and beta thalassemia; and solid organ transplant patients. If people believe they fit in this category, they should contact their local board of developmental disabilities, which will help coordinate vaccinations.
 - Feb. 1, 2021 – Ohioans 70 years of age and older; employees of K-12 schools that wish to remain or return to in-person or hybrid models.
 - Feb. 8, 2021 – Ohioans 65 years of age and older.
 - Feb. 15, 2021 – Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset, and inherited conditions listed above. If people believe they fit in this category, they should contact their local board of developmental disabilities, which will help coordinate vaccinations.
- **Vaccinations for those with qualifying medical conditions** - Local boards of developmental disabilities will reach out to individuals who meet eligibility requirements to coordinate vaccinations. These boards will work with children’s hospitals and some local health departments on scheduling. Only those individuals identified and scheduled by the local developmental disabilities board will be eligible for vaccination at the local health department or children’s hospital.
- **Vaccine allocation** – Vaccines are in short supply in Ohio and across the country. Each week, the federal government will inform Ohio of its statewide vaccine allocation for the following week, and thereafter, providers will be notified of how many doses of vaccine they will receive. Flexibility continues to be key in vaccine planning.
- **Expectation to immediately vaccinate** – ODH expects providers to administer all of the vaccine they receive within seven days of receipt. Providers who are unable to administer all of their vaccine within the same week the shipment arrives should not hold the unused vaccine in reserve, but must work with other enrolled providers in their area to ensure unused vaccine is administered, following ODH’s [COVID-19 Vaccine Redistribution Guidance for Enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Providers](#). If ODH observes a pattern in which vaccines are not administered, a provider’s next vaccination allocation may be reduced.
- **Vaccinating the vaccinators** – Vaccinating the vaccinators is important and appropriate. Please limit use of allocated vaccine to no more than 5% for the purpose of vaccinating your staff (ex. 5 out of 100 doses may be used for vaccinators).

RESOURCES

HOW TO ENROLL

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[FAQ for Health Providers](#)

PFIZER RESOURCES

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#)

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

MODERNA RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

[Additional Moderna Resources](#)

VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

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TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- Ohio is prepared to distribute **safe** and **effective** COVID-19 vaccines statewide. We have two clear goals: To save lives and slow the spread of the virus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or measles vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making the vaccine widely available, for those who want to receive it, as quickly as possible as shipments arrive.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death and will allow Ohioans to get closer to a sense of normalcy.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- Vaccines are in short supply in Ohio and across the country. Each week, the federal government will inform Ohio of its statewide vaccine allocation, and providers will be notified of how many doses of vaccine they will be receiving the following week.
- While we know that many people in our community are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we must be patient while demand for the vaccine remains higher than the available supply. As vaccine supply increases, we will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and eventually, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- Side effects are mild. The most common side effects include fatigue, headache, soreness or redness at the injection site, and muscle or joint pain, and should not prevent you from getting a vaccine that can prevent you from catching or spreading this deadly virus.

RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

[Phase 1B Distribution Graphic](#)

[COVID-19 Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

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[What to Expect at Your Vaccine Appointment](#)

[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. See more about Ohio's phased approach [\[↓\]](#)
Learn more [\[↔\] https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine) [\[Suggested graphic: Ohio's Phased Approach\]](#)
- We know you've got questions about the #COVID19 vaccine, like when and where you can get it in our community. Learn this and more on our local #COVID19 vaccine page [\[↔\] \[Link to provider or local landing page with more information\]](#)
- Vaccine supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, #COVID19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. Stay informed with [\[Link to provider or local landing page with more information\]](#)
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, or implant you with a tracking chip. See more debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- The Internet is filled with dangerous misinformation about #COVID19 vaccines, and it can be difficult to know what to trust. The best thing you can do is educate yourself about the vaccines with trustworthy information. Learn more [\[↔\] https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths](https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths)
- FACT: #COVID19 vaccines weren't rushed and have been thoroughly vetted through a rigorous safety assessment involving independent medical professionals. See more myths vs. facts at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **Phase 1B announced** - On Dec. 23, Governor Mike DeWine announced the next broad category of people eligible to be vaccinated during Phase 1B. The goals of Phase 1B are to save lives and to have K-12 students back in school full time by March 1. This phase, which is estimated to begin in mid-January, specifically includes:
 - Ohioans age 65 and older.
 - People with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders that make them particularly vulnerable. This includes cerebral palsy; spina bifida; congenital heart disease; type 1 diabetes; inherited metabolic disorders; severe neurological disorders including epilepsy; severe genetic disorders including Down Syndrome, Fragile X, Prader Willi Syndrome, and Turner Syndrome; severe lung disease including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma; sickle cell anemia; and alpha and beta thalassemia.
 - Employees in all schools that want to go back, or to remain, educating in person.The vaccine distribution plan for future priority populations is still under development and will be shared publicly as soon as it is finalized.
- **Don't let unused COVID-19 vaccine go to waste** - When faced with the possibility that a vial of vaccine will be wasted because no one from the priority group is present for vaccination, such as at the end of a vaccination clinic or session when the remaining vial must be either used or discarded, the CDC has clarified that **no vaccine should ever be wasted**. If you administer vaccinations under these circumstances:
 - The vaccine administration must be reported in ImpactSIIS, including race and ethnicity data, within 24 hours.
 - Target population/occupation data does NOT need to be reported for vaccinated individuals who are not in a Phase 1A priority population.
 - The provider must include these vaccinated individuals in follow-up plans for administering second doses.
- **Moderna vaccine storage and handling guidance** - Caution should be used to handle and transport the vaccine with care. Please review this [Moderna vaccine storage and handling guide](#) to ensure storage and temperature requirements are met.
- **Second dose guidance** - Should you hold back vaccine for the second dose? What should be included on vaccination record cards? [Detailed guidance on second dose administration is available now](#).
- **New COVID-19 maps** - Governor DeWine shared [two new maps](#) for tracking how severe the spread of COVID-19 is in Ohio. The first map measures cases per capita over time. The first map is based on the list of high-incidence counties and indicates the levels of spread in a county. The second map shows each Hospital Preparedness Region and what percent of the overall ICU patient population are COVID-19 patients. Both maps will be updated weekly on Thursdays at coronavirus.ohio.gov.
- **Training available for collection of target population/occupation** - [Training](#) for properly collecting target population/occupation data and reporting for ImpactSIIS is [available now](#). As a reminder, providers will need to collect that data using a [paper checklist](#) and then add the information in [ImpactSIIS](#) within 24 hours [using one of three processes](#).

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PFIZER RESOURCES

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[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

MODERNA RESOURCES

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[Additional Moderna Resources](#)

VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

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TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- Ohio is prepared to distribute **safe** and **effective** COVID-19 vaccines statewide. We have two clear goals: To save lives and slow the spread of the virus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or measles vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making the vaccine widely available, for those who want to receive it, as quickly as possible as shipments arrive.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death and will allow Ohioans to get closer to a sense of normalcy.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- An Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) authorizes use of an unapproved medical product, or unapproved use of an approved medical product, for use during a public health emergency if the benefits of its use outweigh any known or potential risks. Both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccines have been granted EUA following rigorous review. In the past, EUAs have been issued for products, devices, and drugs related to Ebola, H1N1, Zika, and others. The EUAs are valid until the pandemic is over, the FDA revokes the EUAs, or the products are approved for traditional licensure by the FDA. The FDA closely monitors each vaccine for safety after the EUA is issued. Drug manufacturers are encouraged to obtain traditional FDA licensed vaccine approval as soon as possible.
- Side effects are minimal. The most common side effects include fatigue, headache, soreness or redness at the injection site, and muscle or joint pain, and should not prevent you from getting a vaccine that can prevent you from catching or spreading this deadly virus.

RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

[Phase 1B Distribution Graphic](#)

NEW

[COVID-19 Myths vs. Facts](#)

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[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. See more about Ohio's phased approach [↓](#)
Learn more [↔ https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine) *[Suggested graphic: Ohio's Phased Approach]*
- FACT: Side effects of #COVID19 vaccines are minimal, and show your body is creating an immune response. Common side effects like fatigue, headache, soreness/redness at the injection site, and muscle/joint pain, should not prevent you from getting a life-saving vaccine.
- FACT: #COVID19 vaccines weren't rushed and have been thoroughly vetted through a rigorous safety assessment involving independent medical professionals. See more myths vs. facts at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- FACT: No serious safety concerns have been observed for the #COVID19 vaccines being administered in the U.S. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- Right now, vaccine supply is still limited. Until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated, proper prevention, like wearing masks & social distancing, will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus during the pandemic. Don't let up. <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine>

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **FDA update about Pfizer-BioNTech doses** - The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is packaged with five doses per vial. However, vaccine administrators have reported extra doses in those vials, and have questioned if they are useable. The FDA is advising that it is acceptable to use every full dose obtainable (the sixth, or possibly even a seventh) from each vial, pending further study. The amount remaining in the vials after removal of five doses can vary depending on the type of needles and syringes used, according to Pfizer. Any further remaining liquid that does not constitute a full dose should not be pooled from multiple vials to create one dose.
- **Moderna vaccines arriving Dec. 21 - 23** - The FDA has issued [emergency use authorization](#) of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) has [recommended](#) that the vaccine be used in people 18 years of age and older. Shipments are slated to arrive Dec. 21 - 23; ancillary kits began shipping Friday. The shipping address is the address an organization provided in Section B of the provider enrollment agreement at registration. If you would like to verify your shipping address, please call the ODH Provider Call at 1-844-9ODHVAX (1-844-963-4829) or email COVIDVACCINE@odh.ohio.gov. Fact sheets and supplemental information from Moderna are [available here](#).
- **Pfizer-BioNTech vaccinations underway** - Last week, vaccinations began for healthcare staff at Ohio's 10 prepositioned hospitals, as well as for residents and staff of 10 nursing homes and veterans homes across the state as a part of an early scaling-up of the federal pharmacy program. Additional vaccination clinics for Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines will continue on Monday, Dec. 21 and beyond.
- **V-Safe After Vaccination Health Checker** - The CDC has launched a new smartphone-based tool called **v-safe** to check-in on people's health after they receive a COVID-19 vaccine. [Read more here](#).
- **Second dose reminders** - Supplemental information for second-dose reminders has been emailed to providers. It is important to ensure that patients know that the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are not interchangeable, and they should schedule their follow-up appointments immediately. There should be 21 days between the first and second doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, and 28 days between the first and second doses of the Moderna vaccine.
- **Local Health Department Guidance Issued** - ODH has provided guidance for Phase 1A prioritization to local health departments administering vaccines [here](#).
- **Method to collect target population/occupation** - As Ohio distributes COVID-19 vaccines, collecting data around the number of vaccine recipients from each target population or occupation is critical. Providers will need to collect that data using a [paper checklist](#) and then add the information in [ImpactSIIS](#) within 24 hours [using one of three processes](#). [More details and training are available here](#).
- **Collecting race and ethnicity data** - Having race and ethnicity data is at the heart of ensuring optimal health and fairness for all Ohioans. Consistently collecting and reporting race and ethnicity data is also critical to understanding the impact of COVID-19 and to ensure that vaccine is reaching groups who are experiencing disparities related to cases, hospitalization, and death. For more information and resources on this topic, please see the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) [Inventory of Resources for Standardized Demographic and Language Data Collection](#).

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The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials. As a vaccine provider, you can be one of those trusted sources of information for your patients and constituents.

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- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death and will allow Ohioans to get closer to a sense of normalcy.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- An Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) authorizes use of an unapproved medical product, or unapproved use of an approved medical product, for use during a public health emergency if the benefits of its use outweigh any known or potential risks. Both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccines have been granted EUA following rigorous review. In the past, EUAs have been issued for products, devices, and drugs related to Ebola, H1N1, Zika, and others. The EUAs are valid until the pandemic is over, the FDA revokes the EUAs, or the products are approved for traditional licensure by the FDA. The FDA closely monitors each vaccine for safety after the EUA is issued. Drug manufacturers are encouraged to obtain traditional FDA licensed vaccine approval as soon as possible.
- COVID-19 vaccines can save lives. COVID-19 is deadly and has killed more than 8,000 Ohioans and more than 316,000 people across the U.S. *(Updated Dec. 20, 2020)*

RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

[COVID-19 Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

CDC RESOURCES

[Communications Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics and Clinicians](#)

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

[Understanding COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

[About V-Safe](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[Who Gets Vaccinated First?](#)

[What to Expect at Your Vaccine Appointment](#)

[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- Right now, vaccine supply is still limited. Until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated, proper prevention, like wearing masks & social distancing, will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus during the pandemic. Don't let up. <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine>
- In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. See more about Ohio's phased approach [↓](#)
Learn more [↔](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine) <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine>
Suggested graphic: [Ohio's Phased Approach](#)
- Fact: #COVID19 vaccines weren't rushed and have been thoroughly vetted through a rigorous safety assessment involving independent medical professionals. See more myths vs. facts at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- FACT: #COVID19 vaccine development and clinical trials were thorough, and thanks to a strategic scientific effort to streamline processes, could be developed more efficiently. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- FACT: No serious safety concerns have been observed for the #COVID19 vaccines being administered in the U.S. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.

OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

FIRST VACCINES TO ARRIVE THIS WEEK

- Beginning Monday, Dec. 14, the first COVID-19 vaccines will arrive in Ohio, following the FDA granting the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine emergency use authorization (EUA) on Friday, December 11. The first shipments will go to the 10 prepositioned hospitals and CVS/Walgreens, who will administer vaccine at nursing homes and veterans homes.
- The U.S. FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) will meet to discuss granting an EUA for the Moderna vaccine on Dec. 17. If approved by the FDA, the first shipments of Moderna could arrive as soon as Dec. 22.

NEW AND UPDATED RESOURCES

- Trainings** - Ohio has expanded the trainings available to vaccine providers, with many resources available for storage and handling, vaccine administration, manufacturer information, and more. These trainings can be accessed from the [Provider Training section of the COVID-19 Vaccine Provider website](#). New and updated resources added this week include:
 - [Ohio Pandemic Vaccine Management Plan](#) **NEW (12/8/2020)**
 - [CDC's Product Information Guide for COVID-19 Vaccines and Associated Products](#) **Updated (12/08/2020)**
 - [COVID-19 Vaccine - Billing FAQ](#) **NEW (12/9/2020)**
 - [Ohio Covid-19 Provider Training Attestation](#) **Updated (12/08/2020)**
 - [ImpactSIIS Trainings](#) **NEW (12/13/2020)**
- Method to collect target population/occupation** - As Ohio prepares to distribute COVID-19 vaccines, it is critical we have a process to collect data around the number of vaccine recipients from each target population or occupation. Providers will need to collect that target population/occupation data using a [paper checklist](#) and then manually add the information in [ImpactSIIS](#) within 24 hours through web entry or a new secure data file upload process. [More details are available here.](#)

HOW TO ENROLL

If you haven't already enrolled in Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Program, enrollment information and resources are [available here](#).

RESOURCES

ODH RESOURCES

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Resource Page](#)

[COVID-19 Myths vs. Facts](#) 

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)

[FAQ for Health Providers](#)

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#) 

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

FDA RESOURCES

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#) 

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#) 

CDC RESOURCES

[Communications Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics and Clinicians](#) 

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

[Understanding COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

[About V-Safe](#) 

TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials. As a vaccine provider, you can be one of those trusted sources of information for your patients and constituents.

- Ohio is prepared to distribute **safe** and **effective** COVID-19 vaccines statewide. We have two clear goals: To save lives and slow the spread of the virus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or measles vaccine. The FDA, as well as independent medical experts, have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making the vaccine widely available, for those who want to receive it, as quickly as possible as shipments arrive.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death, and will allow a return to normal.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines can save lives. COVID-19 is deadly and has killed more than 7,400 Ohioans and more than 298,000 people across the U.S. (*data updated Dec. 13, 2020*)

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Regularly speak about the **safety** and **efficacy** of COVID-19 vaccines.
- Record audio or video PSAs from industry leaders using the messaging outlined in this document. Send those messages to members and post them on websites/social media.
- Use local speaking opportunities and virtual meetings to reiterate that COVID-19 vaccines are **safe** and **effective**.
- Submit letters to the editor to local news outlets or participate in radio or television interviews about the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines and what the success of COVID-19 vaccination will mean for your business and the community.

LANGUAGE TIPS

[Recent research from the de Beaumont Foundation](#) finds that certain vocabulary is more persuasive when it comes to the pandemic.

More persuasive	Less persuasive
Pandemic	Coronavirus, COVID-19
Face masks	Facial coverings
Essential workers	Frontline workers
Protocols	Mandates, directives, controls, orders
Stay-at-home orders	Lockdowns, aggressive restrictions
Personal responsibility	National duty
Public health agencies	Government health agencies
Fact-based	Based on science, data, or medicine
Social distancing	Physical distancing
An effective and safe vaccine	A vaccine developed quickly
Getting rid of the virus	Defeating, crushing, knocking out the virus



PANDEMIC VACCINE PROVIDER DECEMBER 4, 2020 UPDATE

PANDEMIC VACCINE UPDATES

- Governor DeWine addressed the state on Friday, Dec. 4, in a press conference, sharing information about vaccine distribution in Ohio. [Click here to view the press conference](#) or to [read a recap](#).
- Moderna applied for its EUA on Nov. 30, and depending upon the approval timeline, their vaccine could be shipped directly to providers as soon as Dec. 22. It will not be shipped or repackaged through the ODH RSS.
- Ultracold storage is not a prerequisite to [register to become a vaccine provider](#) for the Pfizer vaccine. Redistributed Pfizer vaccine from the RSS warehouse will be packaged with dry ice and will arrive at its destination within six hours of being packed. It will remain stable if sealed in the original shipping container with dry ice for up to five days.
- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making it widely available for those who want to receive it as quickly as possible as shipments arrive. In conjunction with the recommendations of medical experts from ACIP and NAESM, Ohio has identified who will be among the first to receive those very early shipments in Phase 1A, should they choose to be vaccinated:
 - Healthcare providers and personnel who are routinely involved with the care of COVID-19 patients.
 - Residents and staff at nursing facilities.
 - Residents and staff at assisted living facilities.
 - Patients and staff at psychiatric hospitals.
 - People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness who in group homes or centers and staff at those locations
 - Residents and staff of Ohio's veterans homes.
 - EMS responders.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Regularly speak about the **safety** and **efficacy** of COVID-19 vaccines.
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RESOURCES

ODH RESOURCES

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[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Information](#)

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ](#)

CDC RESOURCES

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[Different COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

[Understanding COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

OPERATION WARP SPEED RESOURCES

[Vaccine Distribution Process Timeline](#)

[News release: this week in Operation Warp Speed \(11/27/2020\)](#)



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- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making the vaccine widely available, for those who want to receive it, as quickly as possible as shipments arrive. In conjunction with the recommendations of medical experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), Ohio has identified the critical audiences that will be among the first to receive those very early shipments in Phase 1A, should they choose to be vaccinated:
 - Healthcare providers and personnel who are routinely involved with the care of COVID-19 patients.
 - Residents and staff in nursing facilities.
 - Residents and staff in assisted living facilities.
 - Patients and staff at psychiatric hospitals.
 - People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness who in group homes or centers and staff at those locations
 - Residents and staff of Ohio's veterans homes.
 - EMS responders.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death, and will allow a return to normal.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines can save lives. COVID-19 is deadly and has killed more than 6,800 Ohioans and more than 276,000 people across the U.S. (*data updated Dec. 4, 2020*)
- Side effects are minimal. The most common side effects include fatigue, headache, soreness or redness at the injection site, and muscle or joint pain, and should not prevent you from getting a vaccine that can prevent you from catching or spreading this deadly virus.

LANGUAGE TIPS

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