

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, 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.

- **Second dose guidance** - Shipments containing the second dose of COVID-19 vaccines are starting to arrive this week. Second doses will be administered starting Jan. 4 for healthcare staff who received vaccines during the first week of vaccine administration beginning Dec. 14 at Ohio's 10 pre-positioned hospitals. Individuals who have already received a COVID-19 vaccine should keep track of when they are due for the second dose and schedule a follow-up appointment with their vaccine provider if they have not done so already. The second dose for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is due 21 days after the first dose, and the second dose for the Moderna vaccine is due 28 days after the first dose.

- **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.

- **Ohio National Guard** - The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that the Ohio National Guard received a waiver that will allow them to help administer the COVID-19 vaccine. The waiver gives the Ohio National Guard the flexibility to fully utilize National Guard medical personnel trained in administering the vaccine. The Ohio National Guard has approximately 600 members who are medical personnel, including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, and medics. Ohio is working to determine how it will best utilize Guard medical personnel without adversely affecting Ohio healthcare systems' critical medical resources by removing Guard members from their civilian medical positions.

RESOURCES

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESOURCES

coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)

[COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

[Ohio public health orders](#)

[Travel advisory](#)

[Quarantine guidance](#)

[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](#)

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.

- 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.

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](#)

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

- 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>