

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Protect Michigan Commission, the bipartisan effort to ensure that everyone in the state of Michigan who wants the COVID-19 vaccine gets one.

The Protect Michigan Commission (PMC), established under [Executive Order 2020-193](#) has life-saving work ahead of it. This [diverse group of leaders from across the state](#) is tasked with educating and empowering Michigan residents about the approved COVID-19 vaccine. PMC will work with communities across the state to heighten public awareness about the vaccine and to overcome hesitancy about receiving the vaccination.



Yesterday, [Governor Whitmer announced](#) that over one million approved COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in Michigan. This means Michigan now ranks 7th nationwide for vaccines distributed.

This is good news as we all do our part to eradicate COVID-19, but there is still much work to be done to get millions more vaccinated in Michigan. *Save the graphic you see here and share with your own networks.*

Last week the commission met and unveiled the state's strategy to vaccinate 70% of Michigan residents over the age of 16. The [strategy](#) is guided by the following principles:

- All Michiganders have equitable access to vaccines.

- Vaccine planning and distribution is inclusive and actively engages state and local government, public and private partners; and draws upon the experience and expertise of leaders from historically marginalized populations.
- Communications are transparent, accurate, and frequent public communications to build public trust.
- Data is used to promote equity, track progress and guide decision making.
- Resource stewardship, efficiency, and continuous quality improvement drive strategic implementation.

The full meeting which includes remarks from Governor Whitmer and Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist II is available for you to watch in addition to the speakers' presentation slides at Michigan.gov/ProtectMICommission

Workgroups

PMC has formed [workgroups](#) that will be responsible for identifying and addressing barriers that may impede the acceptance of an approved COVID-19 vaccine by Michigan residents. They are also charged with identifying resources to assist with the statewide vaccine plan and disseminating critical information to stakeholders and community members about the vaccine.

It's not too late to join a workgroup! If you are interested, please send your name, organization, and the workgroup you want to join to ProtectMICommission@michigan.gov

Wondering how you can help?

Visit the [resources](#) section for communications materials you can share with your networks to support the COVID-19 response.

Identify volunteers (digital ambassadors) in your organization or personal networks willing to promote positive vaccine information, and help us identify and report misinformation to Facebook, Twitter, etc. To sign up as a digital ambassador please send an email to ProtectMICommission@michigan.gov

Additional Resources

[COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#)

Vaccination data will be updated Monday - Saturday from the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR).

[COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization Guidance](#)

This guidance outlines the strategy for vaccine prioritization for the State of Michigan and will be used by MDHHS, as well as public health and health care, as they allocate and administer vaccines.

[COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs](#)

Frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccines. The information in this document will change frequently as we learn more about COVID-19 vaccines.

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