

CURRENT PHASE ELIGIBLE FOR VACCINATION:

1A

Plus those who are 65 and over or those who are 16-64 with certain medical conditions

**TOTAL VACCINES
ADMINISTERED:**
1,164,600

**TOTAL PERSONS
COVERED:**
918,210

**TOTAL PERSONS
PARTIALLY COVERED:**
671,820

**TOTAL PERSONS FULLY
COVERED:**
246,390

ENROLLED PROVIDERS:
1,607

**PROVIDERS WHO HAVE
RECEIVED VACCINE:**
773

UPCOMING COMMUNITY VACCINATION SITES:

Pike County Site
1/23 – First Dose Event
2/20 – Second Dose Event

Sullivan County Site
1/29 & 1/30 –
First Dose Event
2/27 – Second Dose Event

Additional planning is ongoing.

NEW THIS WEEK: FEDERAL PHARMACY PARTNERSHIP

On 2/2 the federal government announced that starting on February 11, the first phase of the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](#) will launch with vaccine allocated directly from the federal government. This program will be an extension of the 1/14 [announcement](#) by the Department of Health (DOH) which details a partnership with Rite Aid and TopCo. Launching the Retail Pharmacy Partnership at the federal level will allow more pharmacies to immunize individuals currently eligible for vaccination.

KEY MESSAGES FOR CONSTITUENTS:

It is evident there is significant interest among all Pennsylvanians about when they will get vaccinated. The Pennsylvania Department of Health is working to ensure that everyone who wants a COVID-19 vaccine can get it. We **must have patience** as the amount of vaccine available to Pennsylvanians is extremely limited.

Pennsylvania has secured second doses. We are **ensuring** that there is vaccine available for those who receive their first dose to receive their second dose at the appropriate time, 21 days for Pfizer BioNTech and 28 days for Moderna. **We encourage providers to use their allocation as efficiently as possible and not “hold” allocation for second doses.**

Among other considerations, doses are allocated to hospitals, pharmacies, and approved vaccinators throughout the Commonwealth according to a formula. That formula is based on county population, population 65 and older, COVID-19 cases, and COVID-19 deaths, along with other factors such as throughput and inventory on hand to determine how to allocate the Commonwealth’s **limited doses** of vaccine among its counties and providers.

LONG TERM CARE UPDATES and FAQs:

All skilled nursing facilities, totaling about 650 sites, enrolled in the Federal Pharmacy Partnership (FPP) have **completed their first clinics**. The remaining clinics are on course to finish by early March.

The FPP mission is still ongoing to vaccinate over 2,200 long-term care facilities. Many of these sites have had clinics scheduled thus far and that work will likely be completed by mid-April.

CVS: 174,841 total doses administered - **Walgreens:** 27,086 total doses administered

Where can I find what facilities are being served by CVS and Walgreens? Pharmacy partnership data and vaccine distribution data can be found on the Department’s website. Facilities matched with CVS and Walgreen can be found here: [Federal Pharmacy Partnership Facilities](#).

Can I get vaccinated at my family member’s long term care facility? The general public should not attempt to get vaccinated at a long term care facility. Providers that may have public opportunities can be found on the DOH [provider map](#).

PHASED APPROACH:

Who Can Get Vaccinated in PA?

RIGHT NOW



People age 65 and older



People with high-risk health conditions



Health care personnel



Long-term care residents & workers

UP NEXT



First responders



Grocery workers



Education workers



Workers who care for kids/ adults



Congregate care residents & workers



Food & Ag workers



Postal Service



Clergy/ support staff



Public transit workers



People who receive services at home & in the community

FOR INDUSTRIES WHO ARE NOT LISTED SPECIFICALLY IN PENNSYLVANIA'S PLAN:

Version 5.0 of the Pennsylvania Interim Vaccination Plan includes further alignment with the CDC's Interim List of Essential Workers Mapped to Standardized Industry Codes and Titles. Industries that are not delineated in Pennsylvania's plan will follow the CDC's assigned vaccination phase.

Standardized codes and titles may not perfectly align with the populations of workers described by CISA and ACIP.

Full list can be found [here](#).

PHASE 1A FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

How many people are in Phase 1A? While it is hard to reach an exact number due to a lack of data on which Pennsylvanians have high risk conditions, the Pennsylvania Department of Health estimates that at least 3.5 million people are included in Phase 1A.

How long will we be in phase 1A? This depends on both the vaccine allocated to the state, and the speed at which additional vaccines are approved by the FDA. Pennsylvania is currently receiving roughly 175,000 total first doses per week. DOH's ability to vaccinate more people is wholly dependent on the allocation of vaccines from the federal government.

Can my group be moved up into a different phase? Pennsylvania is following the CDC's recommendations on who fits into which phase. Pennsylvania currently is only editing phases to match the CDC's recommendations.

PHASE 1B FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Why aren't teachers and firefighters eligible for vaccine but smokers are?

Teachers, firefighters, police and all of those in Phase 1B play a vital role in our community. However, our vaccine plans are designed to ensure that vaccinations happen in an ethical, equitable and efficient way. A study published on 1/25 in the [peer-reviewed journal](#) JAMA Internal Medicine found that people who smoke or those who have smoked in the past are more likely to be hospitalized or die from COVID-19. Pennsylvania remains committed to addressing health disparities in our response to this deadly pandemic. Getting vaccine to all Pennsylvanians is primary in our mission, but we must take care of the most vulnerable now to prevent future hospitalizations and save lives.

OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Has Pennsylvania wasted vaccine or had doses go unused? Pennsylvania requires all providers of the COVID-19 vaccine to report any doses that are received, but not able to be used. The majority of discarded vaccine is related to vials broken in handling and syringe issues, such as bent or broken needles or clients refusing after the vaccine dose was drawn. The Department of Health actively follows up with providers reporting discarded doses to ensure that as many Pennsylvanians as possible receive the vaccine.

When will the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine be available? We currently have two vaccines, Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and Pfizer BioNTech, that have been approved as safe and effective to protect people from COVID-19, we would welcome additional vaccines. Johnson & Johnson has submitted an application to the FDA requesting an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for its single dose vaccine. As we are navigating this global pandemic and vaccine manufacturers are working to provide as many doses as possible, there simply is not enough vaccine being produced to meet the demand in Pennsylvania.

The map on the DOH website is hard to use. Will it get better? DOH is working on enhancements to the map to make it both more user friendly and better integrated with real-time information. We want to ensure the vaccine is provided in a way that is ethical, equitable and efficient. We know that internet access currently is a barrier to registering to get vaccinated, and the Department is working through options to address this.

RELEVANT GUIDANCE/PRESS RELEASES/NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION:

Relevant Federal Guidance in the last 30 days:

[Interim List of Categories of Essential Workers Mapped to Standardized Industry Codes and Titles](#) – Released 1/13

[President Biden Announces Increased Vaccine Supply, Initial Launch of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program, and Expansion of FEMA Reimbursement to States](#) – Released 2/2

[Understanding the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) – Updated 2/2

Relevant DOH Guidance in the last 30 days:

[Version 5 of the COVID-19 Interim Vaccination Plan](#) – Updated 1/19

QUICK ACCESS WEBLINKS:

- [Pennsylvania Department of Health](#)
- [Pennsylvania COVID Vaccine Guide](#)
- [DOH Vaccine Website](#)
- [DOH Vaccine Dashboard](#)
- [DOH Interim Vaccination Plan, V.5](#)
- [DOH Vaccine Provider Map](#)
- [DOH Plan Feedback Form](#)
- [DOH COVID Vaccine Resources](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

For information or public health support call 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258).

****Philadelphia receives their vaccine allocation directly from the federal government and is responsible for their own distribution to the citizens of Philadelphia County. More information can be found [here](#).**