

## TOP 5 REASONS TO GET VACCINATED



### **It's far, far less likely you'll get sick.**

Getting COVID-19 means you could feel really sick and have to stay home to prevent spreading the virus to others. Getting vaccinated gives you control against the virus because even if you are exposed, you'll be okay.



### **You can help protect others and help support businesses.**

Getting vaccinated is one more tool you can use to protect yourself and your loved ones. No one wants to be sick or get others sick! The more people who are vaccinated, the faster we can get the economy back on track, support local businesses, and open up more jobs.



### **If someone close to you gets COVID-19 and you don't have symptoms, you won't have to quarantine.**

This means no missed paycheck, missed school, or missed outings! You won't be sidelined from your normal activities for a week or two.



### **You can do things that people who are unvaccinated can't do safely.**

People who are vaccinated can safely spend time indoors together without masks or distancing. Some businesses and organizations are hosting events or spaces that require people to be vaccinated. If you're unvaccinated, you miss out!



### **You can worry less.**

We spent the past year worried about getting sick and losing loved ones, financial stress, and personal relationships. Being vaccinated means you can breathe easier knowing you are protecting yourself, your loved ones, and your community from this virus.

#### **+ Bonus Reason to Get Vaccinated: You can get free stuff!**

Companies from Krispy Kreme to White Castle are offering perks or goodies for people who present their vaccination card and are fully vaccinated. Check to see if your favorite spots are offering any freebies!

Get your shot!  
[publichealthmdc.com/vax](https://publichealthmdc.com/vax)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/your-vaccination.html>

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Greetings from The Medical Center at Ocean Reef. In an ongoing effort to provide you with the latest information, guidance, recommendations and resources, we have cumulated a robust assortment of reference material below.

As always your Medical Center is here for you. If you have any questions, concerns or would like to discuss further any of the reference material contained herein; do not hesitate to reach out to us.

In addition, Keith and I are closely monitoring Federal (CDC/WHO/NIH) guidance related to the administration of a booster shot. The following link contains the latest position taken by the CDC and FDA:

*“...Americans who have been fully vaccinated do not need a booster shot at this time. FDA, CDC, and NIH are engaged in a science-based, rigorous process to consider whether or when a booster might be necessary. This process takes into account laboratory data, clinical trial data, and cohort data – which can include data from specific pharmaceutical companies, but does not rely on those data exclusively. We continue to review any new data as it becomes available and will keep the public informed. We are prepared for booster doses if and when the science demonstrates that they are needed. . . “*

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/joint-cdc-and-fda-statement-vaccine-boosters>

Summary of Recent Changes:      Last updated July 27, 2021

### **Key Points**

- All COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized in the United States are effective against COVID-19, including serious outcomes of severe disease, hospitalization, and death.
- Available evidence suggests the currently authorized mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) are highly effective against hospitalization and death for a variety of strains, including Alpha (B.1.1.7), Beta (B.1.351), Gamma (P.1), and Delta (B.1.617.2); data suggest lower effectiveness against confirmed infection and symptomatic disease caused by the Beta, Gamma, and Delta variants compared with the ancestral strain and Alpha variant. Ongoing monitoring of vaccine effectiveness against variants is needed.
- A growing body of evidence indicates that people fully vaccinated with an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) are less likely than unvaccinated persons to acquire SARS-CoV-2 or to transmit it to others. However, the risk for SARS-CoV-2 breakthrough infection in fully vaccinated people cannot be completely eliminated as long as there is continued community transmission of the virus.

- Studies are underway to learn more about the effectiveness of Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine.
- At this time, there are limited data on vaccine effectiveness in people who are immunocompromised. People with immunocompromising conditions, including those taking immunosuppressive medications, should discuss the need for personal protective measures after vaccination with their healthcare provider.
- This updated science brief synthesizes the scientific evidence supporting CDC's [guidance for fully vaccinated people](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html) and will continue to be updated as more information becomes available.

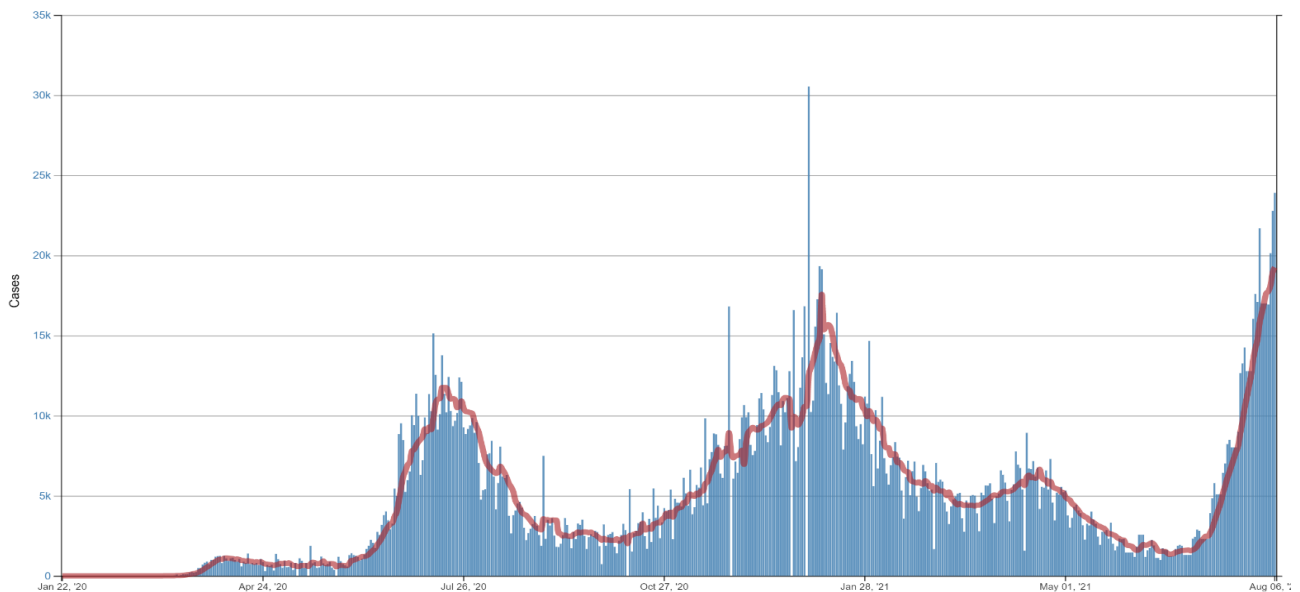
For the full article please route to this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html>

## Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in the US Reported to CDC, by State/Territory

Blue bars show daily cases. The red line is the sum of cases over the last 7 days, divided by 7. Averages are used to reduce reporting differences.

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in Florida Reported to CDC



## Delta Variant: What We Know About the Science

Updated Aug. 6, 2021

On July 27, 2021, CDC released [updated guidance](#) on the need for urgently increasing COVID-19 vaccination coverage and a recommendation for everyone in areas of [substantial or high transmission](#) to wear a mask in public indoor places, even if they are fully vaccinated. CDC issued this new guidance due to several concerning developments and newly emerging data signals. First is a reversal in the downward trajectory of cases. In the days leading up to our guidance update, CDC saw a rapid and alarming rise in the COVID case and hospitalization rates around the country.

- In late June, our 7-day moving average of reported cases was around 12,000. On July 27, the 7-day moving average of cases reached over 60,000. This case rate looked more like the rate of cases we had seen before the vaccine was widely available.

Second, new data began to emerge that the Delta variant was more infectious and was leading to increased transmissibility when compared to other variants, even in vaccinated individuals. This includes recently published data from CDC and our public health partners, unpublished surveillance data that will be publicly available in the coming weeks, information included in CDC's updated [Science Brief on COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination](#), and ongoing outbreak investigations linked to the Delta variant.

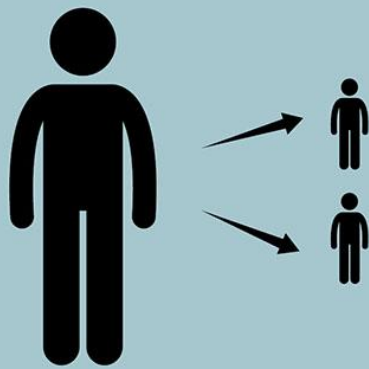
Delta is currently the predominant strain of the virus in the United States. Below is a high-level summary of what CDC scientists have recently learned about the Delta variant. More information will be made available when more data are published or released in other formats.

### Infections and Spread

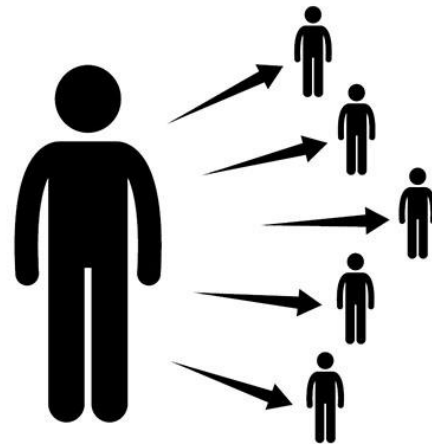
The Delta variant causes more infections and spreads faster than early forms SARS-CoV-2

## The Delta variant is more contagious than previous strains—it may cause more than **2x** as many infections

ORIGINAL COVID-19 STRAIN



DELTA VARIANT



Vaccines protect you from hospitalization, severe infections, and death



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

CS 322041-AA 08/02/2021

- **The Delta variant is more contagious:** The Delta variant is highly contagious, nearly twice as contagious as previous variants.
- **Some data suggest the Delta variant might cause more severe illness than previous strains in unvaccinated persons.** In two different studies from Canada and Scotland, patients infected with the Delta variant were more likely to be hospitalized than patients infected with Alpha or the original virus strains.
- **Unvaccinated people remain the greatest concern:** Although breakthrough infections happen much less often than infections in unvaccinated people, individuals infected with the Delta variant, including fully vaccinated people with symptomatic breakthrough infections, can transmit it to others. CDC is continuing to assess data on whether fully

vaccinated people with asymptomatic breakthrough infections can transmit. However, the greatest risk of transmission is among unvaccinated people who are much more likely to contract, and therefore transmit the virus.

- **Fully vaccinated people with Delta variant breakthrough infections can spread the virus to others. However, vaccinated people appear to be infectious for a shorter period:** Previous variants typically produced less virus in the body of infected fully vaccinated people (breakthrough infections) than in unvaccinated people. In contrast, the Delta variant seems to produce the same high amount of virus in both unvaccinated and fully vaccinated people. However, like other variants, the amount of virus produced by Delta breakthrough infections in fully vaccinated people also goes down faster than infections in unvaccinated people. This means fully vaccinated people are likely infectious for less time than unvaccinated people.

## Vaccines

Vaccines in the US are highly effective, including against the Delta variant

- The COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States are highly effective at preventing severe disease and death, including against the Delta variant. But they are not 100% effective and some fully vaccinated people will become infected (called a breakthrough infection) and experience illness. For such people, the vaccine still provides them strong protection against serious illness and death.

## Masks

Given what we know about the Delta variant, vaccine effectiveness, and current vaccine coverage, layered prevention strategies, such as wearing masks, are needed to reduce the transmission of this variant

- At this time, as we build the level of vaccination nationwide, we must also use all the prevention strategies available, including masking indoors in public places, to stop transmission and stop the epidemic.
- Vaccines are playing a crucial role in limiting spread of the virus and minimizing severe disease. Although vaccines are highly effective, they are not perfect and there will be vaccine breakthrough infections. Millions of Americans are vaccinated, and that number is growing. This means that even though the risk of breakthrough infections is low, there will be thousands of fully vaccinated people who become infected and able to infect others, especially with the surging spread of the Delta variant. Low vaccination coverage in many communities is driving the current rapid and large surge in cases associated with the Delta variant, which also increases the chances that even more concerning variants could emerge

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Dose of Vaccine Update:

- A third dose of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine could aid protection against more contagious variants like Delta, according to recent data released by the company.
- The unpublished study data follows news that its two-dose mRNA vaccine may be less effective at preventing the spread of COVID-19 over time, particularly at 6 months after vaccination.
- Federal health officials have publicly shared that a third shot is unnecessary at this time and that experts are still reviewing data, despite vaccine manufacturers launching approval processes with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials.
- World Health Organization (WHO) officers have asked countries to cease further discussion on booster shots until the end of September, allowing more nations to focus on first-dose vaccinations for their citizens.
- MCOR continues to monitor the situation closely. We will continue providing updates to the community as information becomes available.

### Summary:

Rather than consider additional boosters at this time, it's reported that FDA officials are aiming to give full approval to the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine within the next 3 to 4 weeks, according to the New York Times. Full approval to the vaccine may encourage unvaccinated Americans to seek out a shot, as currently shots are being distributed under temporary approval known as "emergency use authorization" (EUA) due to the pandemic. Officials at Pfizer have previously signaled that it's undergoing the process to get its booster vaccine approved currently, and had sought approval as early as this month. It's expected that the pharmaceutical manufacturer will publish more data and findings on its booster dose before officials determine if Americans need additional shots (and when).

Does that mean you'll be able to sign up for another Pfizer shot in August? Likely not. The World Health Organization has formally requested that federal health agencies in nations around the world table the idea of booster shots until more vaccines are made available to countries where total vaccination rates are low. "WHO is calling for a moratorium on boosters until at least the end of September to enable at least 10% of the population of every country to be vaccinated," said WHO Director Tedros Ghebreyesus during a Swiss briefing earlier this

month, per CNN. "To make that happen, we need everyone's cooperation, especially the handful of countries and companies that control the global supply of vaccines."

Health experts have previously said that distribution for additional doses may be based on priority for risk groups. Meaning, those who are above a certain age or dealing with pre-existing conditions that mark them at high risk for severe COVID-19 illnesses may potentially be first in line for these booster shots whenever they become available.