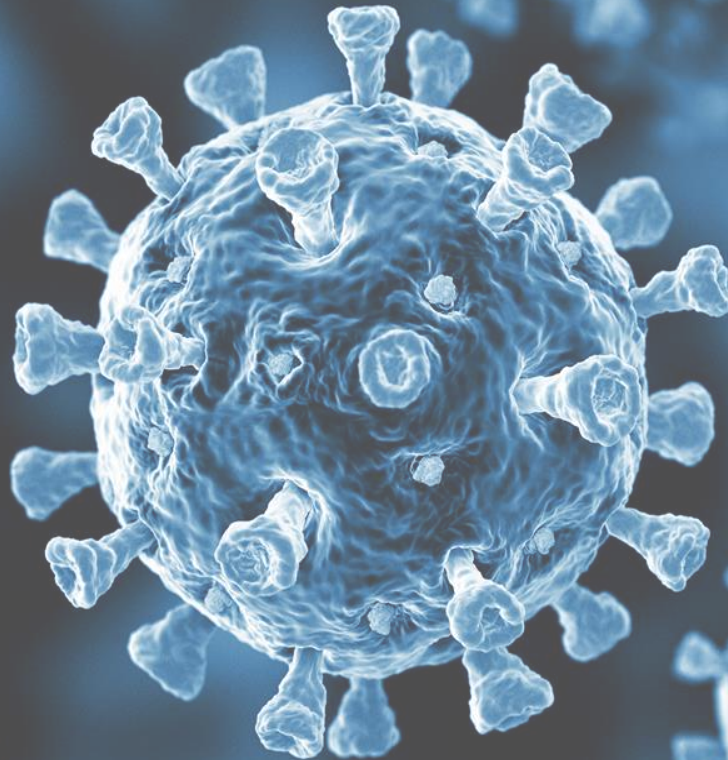


COVID-19 Vaccination Update



Vaccine redirected for age groups

Ohio's vaccine allocations for the combined weeks of Jan. 25 and Feb. 1 include approximately 77,000 doses left over from the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program.

- Ohio is second in the nation for the number of people vaccinated in nursing homes.
- Still, because not all residents and staff are choosing to receive the vaccine, Ohio will begin redirecting these doses to CVS and Walgreens to vaccinate eligible age groups.

Governor Mike DeWine receives his first dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Now eligible for vaccination, the Governor was joined by First Lady Fran DeWine in receiving the shots from their family physician Dr. Kevin Sharrett in Jamestown near their Greene County home.



Eligible age groups: Ages 70+

Beginning this week, individuals age 70 and older are eligible for vaccination.



Next week, individuals age 65 and older will be eligible for vaccination. This is the final eligible age group in Phase 1B.



Vaccinating individuals age 65 and older is a priority because this age group accounts for 87% of Ohio's COVID-19 deaths.

Vaccinations at senior housing locations

Ohio will begin delivering vaccines directly into affordable senior housing locations starting the week of Feb. 8.

Senior housing facilities are home to several thousand older Ohioans throughout the state and are often residential clusters with apartment buildings ranging in units from 30 to more than 200.

ODH will work with local vaccination provider partners to offer assistance through on-site clinics. These clinics will help ease the burden for many seniors having trouble navigating the registration process and arranging transportation.

Ohioans with eligible disabilities, disorders

People with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders that make them particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 are eligible for vaccination in Phase 1B beginning Feb. 15.

Individuals are eligible for vaccination now if they have a developmental or intellectual disability AND a qualifying medical condition.

Local boards of developmental disabilities are reaching out to individuals whom they already serve and know meet these criteria to make vaccination arrangements for them.

- If an eligible patient 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 vaccination.
- These boards are working with children's hospitals or local health departments who will conduct the vaccinations.
- Only eligible individuals who work through their local board of developmental disabilities can be vaccinated at this time.
- Patients should not go to their local pharmacy for scheduling or vaccination.

Beginning the week of Feb. 15, people who have any of the qualifying medical conditions will be eligible for vaccination even if they do not have a developmental or intellectual disability.

- Information about how these individuals can choose to get vaccinated will be announced soon.



Ohio's Vaccination Program

Phase 1B

Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders

Vaccinations for this group of Ohioans will take place in two phases. During the first phase, eligibility will begin with individuals who have a developmental or intellectual disability AND one of the conditions listed below.

During the second phase, eligibility will expand to any individuals with one of the conditions below.

- 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
- Alpha and beta thalassemia
- Solid organ transplants



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



Department
of Health

coronavirus.ohio.gov

K-12 schools staff vaccination program

Ohio has prioritized getting K-12 students back in schools by March 1.

Many adolescents' social-emotional and mental well-being has been impacted by the pandemic.

Every public school district in the state except for one has committed to in-person or hybrid learning by March 1.

This was a requirement for staff to have early access to vaccination beginning Feb. 1.

Because the vaccine supply remains limited, school staff vaccinations must be staggered throughout February, with the goal of administering first doses by the end of the month.

About 58,000 doses a week from Ohio's total vaccine allocation will be dedicated to school staff vaccinations.

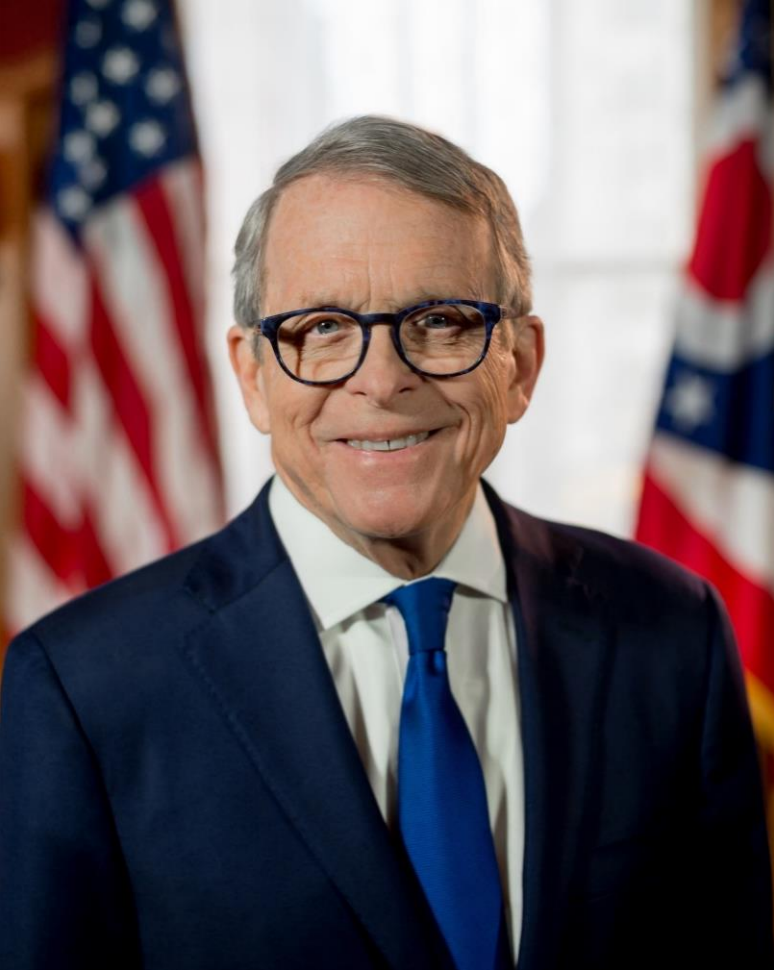
Schools were notified last week about when their staff can begin to receive vaccination.

For the limited number of counties where vaccinations will take place over multiple weeks, local leaders will make the logistical and scheduling decisions.

Vaccinations are being administered by providers selected by the school or designated in partnership with the state for schools without a preferred provider.

Vaccination timeline for K-12 school staff

Week One: Beginning Feb. 1	Week Two: Beginning Feb. 8		Week Three: Beginning Feb. 15		Week Four: Beginning Feb. 22	
Allen	Adams	Lucas	Ashland	Monroe	Auglaize	Lawrence
Athens	Brown	Mercer	Ashtabula	Morgan	Belmont	Logan
Butler	Clark	Morrow	Carroll	Ottawa	Clermont	Lorain
Columbiana	Columbiana	Muskingum	Champaign	Paulding	Clinton	Madison
Delaware	Cuyahoga	Noble	Coshocton	Pike	Crawford	Marion
Franklin	Fayette	Pickaway	Greene	Portage	Darke	Miami
Mahoning	Gallia	Putnam	Guernsey	Preble	Defiance	Perry
Medina	Hamilton	Stark	Hardin	Richland	Erie	Ross
Montgomery	Huron	Vinton	Harrison	Scioto	Fairfield	Sandusky
Summit	Licking	Williams	Henry	Union	Fulton	Seneca
			Hocking	Van Wert	Geauga	Shelby
			Holmes	Warren	Hancock	Trumbull
			Jackson	Wood	Highland	Tuscarawas
			Meigs	Wyandot	Jefferson	Washington
					Knox	Wayne
					Lake	



“

We know some of our students have not been in the classroom in months – it’s taking its toll. For some, remote learning works, for others, it doesn’t. We are in danger of too many kids struggling for too long if they don’t get back to school in person.

”

- Governor Mike DeWine

Nursing home/assisted living facilities vaccination update

Of Ohio's 920 skilled nursing facilities, first doses of vaccine have been administered in 100% of these facilities, and second doses have been given in 89% of them.



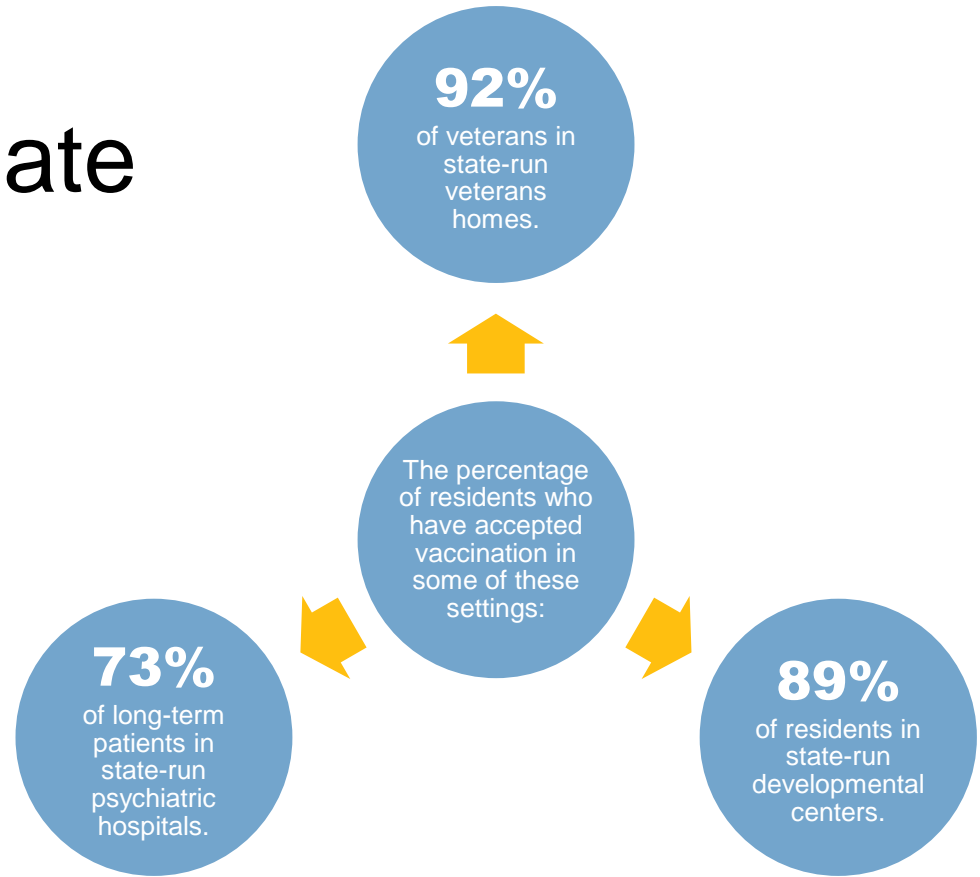
Of Ohio's 645 assisted living facilities, first doses of vaccine have been administered in 86% of these facilities, and second doses have been given in 48% of them.



Plans are in place to continue vaccination in these facilities as new residents move in.

Vaccine uptake in state-run congregate care settings

People living in certain congregate settings were prioritized for vaccination in Phase 1A because these individuals are especially vulnerable to contracting COVID-19.



Addressing equity in vaccine availability

Geography

- Instead of "mega vaccination sites," Ohio's vaccination plan focuses on ensuring that there are multiple vaccine providers in every county.
- This week, more than 700 providers across Ohio are receiving the vaccine to help ensure that Ohioans have access to vaccine close to home.

Federally Qualified Health Centers

- These health centers serve highly vulnerable neighborhoods.
- Ohio's vaccination plan offers vaccines at these facilities for equitable distribution.

Pop-up Vaccine Sites

- Ohio is working with FQHCs, faith-based communities, and local health departments to pilot pop-up vaccination sites in at-risk communities.

Local Health Departments

- Many local health departments are prioritizing underserved populations by partnering with organizations that work to serve African American, Hispanic and Latino, and other underserved populations to provide education and offer opportunities for vaccination when vaccine becomes available.

Affordable Housing Vaccination Clinics

- Next week, the Ohio Department of Aging, in partnership with key state and local organizations, will offer on-site vaccination clinics at affordable senior housing communities as part of its Regional Rapid Response Program.
- On-site clinics will be coordinated with support from the Ohio National Guard.

Strategies to help eliminate barriers

Transportation Support

- ODH is working with the Ohio Department of Medicaid to provide transportation options for those who want to receive the vaccine but face transportation barriers.

Education and Communication Strategies

- Newspaper, television, and radio advertisements focused on reaching underserved populations.
- Virtual town hall meetings to help understand barriers to vaccination and develop solutions. The townhalls will be live-streamed during the week of February 22.
- The events will be coordinated in partnership with Ohio's Minority Health Vaccine Advisory Group, whose mission is to help advise the Ohio Department of Health on how to best deliver the vaccine to underserved populations and better ensure equity.



There are Ohioans who simply do not have equal access to healthcare. We have worked hard to address these gaps, especially in our efforts to roll out the vaccine, but there is still more to do.



- Governor Mike DeWine



Maximizing Pfizer vaccine doses

- When the FDA granted emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer vaccine it assumed 5 doses per vial.
- The FDA has updated the Pfizer vaccine's EUA to assume 6 doses per vial.
 - The key to getting the 6th dose is to use syringes with low or zero dead volume and, when clinically appropriate, using a one-inch vaccine needle. However, these supplies have had limited availability nationally.
 - ODH surveyed best practices across the state and concluded that it is possible to reliably extract a 6th dose using a hybrid model of traditional syringes for four doses and the less-available low dead volume syringes for doses 5 and 6. This approach conserves limited special syringe supply.
 - ODH has issued guidance to vaccination providers on how to maximize Pfizer vaccine doses using this approach.



Six doses per vial

Some vaccine providers have been able to extract a 6th dose as much as 90% of the time based on technique and supplies used.

Investment in COVID-19 rapid testing

- Governor DeWine recently announced that the state is purchasing 2 million at-home, rapid COVID-19 tests using telehealth services where the results are delivered to the individual in minutes without the need to send the test to a lab for processing.
- Developed by Abbott, BinaxNOW is an easy-to-use antigen test that detects the virus when people are most infectious.
- To facilitate delivery of the BinaxNOW test to the home and the guided collection and testing process, Abbott has partnered with digital health solutions provider [eMed](#), which will deliver people their results through Abbott's free NAVICA app in minutes. eMed will report the rapid test results in the electronic lab reporting system.



New at-home tests

“Abbott has been a valued partner throughout this pandemic and this new partnership will help us continue aggressive testing at colleges and universities, and pursue access to rapid testing in every county in Ohio. These tests combined with the telehealth solutions provided by eMed will provide equitable access to testing for those who may not be able to access traditional testing because of their working hours, have mobility or transportation issues, or have caregiving responsibilities.”

- Governor Mike DeWine

Q&A: Your questions about Ohio's vaccine plan

Questions	Resources	Contact us
<p>Please click unmute, then introduce yourself before asking your question.</p> <p>You can also drop your questions in the chat.</p>	<p>Visit our COVID-19 information hub for vaccine information and resources for providers and consumers.</p> <p>coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine</p>	<p>Do you have COVID-19 questions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact our Call Center at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).• Contact our Provider Call Center at 1-844-ODHVAX (1-844-963-4829). <p>Russ Kennedy, deputy director for external affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Russ.Kennedy@odh.ohio.gov• (614) 406-0419