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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019
(COVID-19)

CDC.gov/COVID-19

December 14, 2020

This message includes updates on the COVID-19 response from CDC. The COVID-19 Outbreak is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Vaccines

The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are as safe as possible. On December 11, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization for use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in people aged 16 years and older for the prevention of COVID-19. Because the supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States will be limited at first, CDC recommends that initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine be allocated to healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents. The recommendations were made with the following goals in mind: Decrease death and serious disease as much as possible; Preserve functioning of society; and Reduce the extra burden COVID-19 is having on people already facing disparities.

What You Need to Know about the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program

You need 2 doses of the currently available COVID-19 vaccine. A second shot 3 weeks after your first shot is needed to get the most protection the vaccine has to offer. Because the current supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States is limited, CDC recommends that initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine be offered to healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents. The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as large enough quantities are available. Once vaccine is widely available, the plan is to have several thousand vaccination providers offering COVID-19 vaccines in doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, hospitals, and federally qualified health centers. Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost.
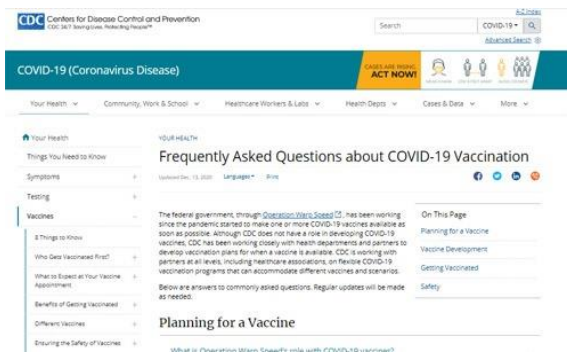
Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination

The federal government, through Operation Warp Speed, has been working since the pandemic started to make one or more COVID-19 vaccines available as soon as possible. Although CDC does not have a role in developing COVID-19 vaccines, CDC is working with partners at all levels, including healthcare associations, on flexible COVID-19 vaccination programs that can accommodate different vaccines and scenarios.

Holidays and Stress

Being away from family and friends during the holidays can be hard. When you talk with your friends and family about plans, it's okay if you decide to stay home and remain apart from others. Doing what's best for you includes eating healthy foods and getting enough sleep. Take care of your body and stay active to lessen fatigue, anxiety, and sadness.

Winter Holidays

The safest way to celebrate winter holidays is to celebrate at home with the people who live with you. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. If you are considering traveling for the winter holidays, ask yourself some important questions beforehand, including

- Are you, someone in your household, or someone you will be visiting at increased risk for getting very sick from COVID-19?

- Are cases high or increasing in your community or at your destination?
- Are hospitals in your community or at your destination overwhelmed with patients who have COVID-19?
- Does your home or destination have requirements or restrictions for travelers?
- During the 14 days before your travel, have you or those you are visiting had close contact with people they don't live with?
- Do your plans include traveling by bus, train, or airplane, which might make staying 6 feet apart difficult?
- Are you traveling with people who don't live with you?

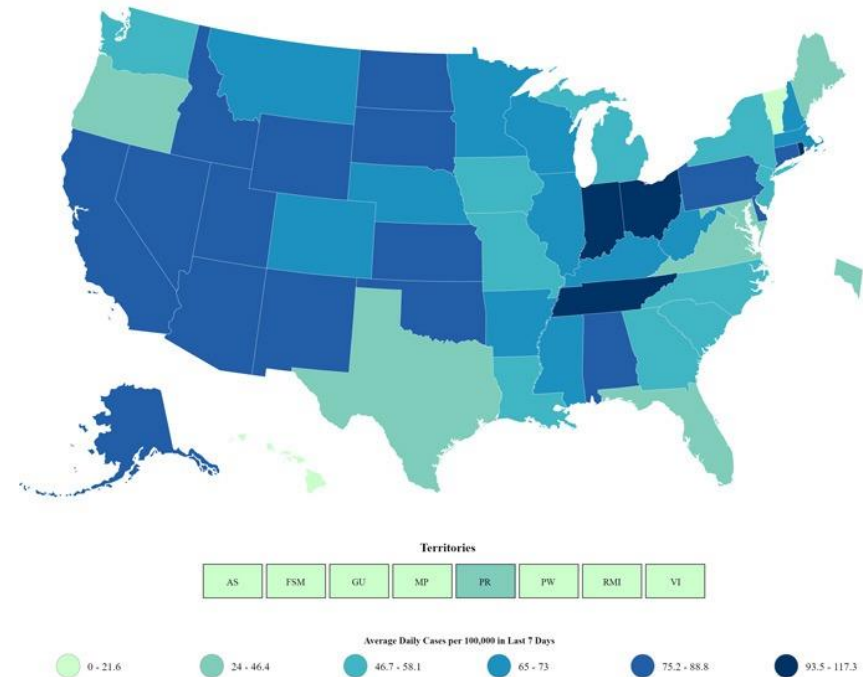# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the U.S.

As of December 14, 2020

In the United States, there have been 16,113,148 confirmed cases of COVID-19 detected through U.S. public health surveillance systems in 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Marianas Islands, and U.S. Virgin Islands.

CDC provides updated U.S. case information online daily.

In addition to cases, deaths, and laboratory testing, CDC's COVID Data Tracker now has a County View to help make decisions about everyday activities.

Territories

| AS | FSM | GU | MP | PR | PW | RMI | VI |

Average Daily Cases per 100,000 in Last 7 Days

0 - 21.6   24 - 46.4   46.7 - 58.1   65 - 73   75.2 - 88.8   93.5 - 117.3