

Things to Do

- The HHS COVID-19 data team will host a webinar at noon today (April 22) to provide a high-level update on its plans to reevaluate and streamline COVID-19 hospital data reporting and receive stakeholder feedback on past challenges, successes, and paths forward for data collection. [Register here](#).
- CDPHE and the immunization task force issued [additional information](#) on the state's vaccine rollout.
 - Daily clinic [tally sheet](#)
 - [Change of information form](#) for COVID-19 vaccine providers
 - [Changes in storage & handling training requirements](#)
 - [CDC storage and handling training](#); submit certificates of completion to cdphe_covidvax@state.co.us
 - [Data logger request form](#) (including do not unplug tags, breaker tags, etc.) is on the Vaccines for Children [webpage](#)
 - [Manual temperature logs](#)
 - [Vaccine-specific trainings](#) on the CDC website
 - [CIIS inventory and ordering trainings](#) for COVID-19 vaccine providers
 - [How to receive a COVID-19 vaccine order](#) in CIIS
 - [How to transfer COVID-19 vaccine](#) in CIIS (page 4 shows how to accept a transfer)
 - [Pre-drawing vaccine guidance](#)
 - COVID-19 vaccine [quick reference guide](#) for health care professionals
 - Questions can be directed to PrepMod at cdphe_prepmod@state.co.us; the Vaccine Ordering Module Helpdesk at cdphe_vom@state.co.us; or the COVID Email Box at cdphe_covidvax@state.co.us

What Has Changed Since Last Update

- HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra [renewed](#) the public health emergency (PHE) declaration another 90 days to July 20. The Biden administration sent governors a [letter](#) in January noting its intention to keep the PHE declaration in place for the entirety of 2021, and asserting that states will be given 60 days' notice before the PHE is ended. The PHE must still be extended in 90-day increments.
- President Biden [announced](#) that the nation has administered its 200 millionth COVID-19 vaccine dose, a milestone reached earlier than projected when vaccines were first authorized for emergency use by the FDA. In reiterating that all Americans over the age of 16 are now eligible to be vaccinated, Biden urged employers to take advantage of a new tax credit that would enable employees to take paid time off to be vaccinated and recover from their vaccination.

Things to Know

- A [new study](#) shows that one in 10 health care workers who had mild COVID now have lasting symptoms eight months later. Symptoms typically included loss of smell and taste, fatigue, and breathing problems.

- **As of April 20, more than 1,330 Colorado providers have administered 3,607,685 COVID-19 vaccine doses** for 2,413,173 people with first doses and 1,537,312 people who are fully immunized. The state's percent positivity remains above 5 percent, with the three-day average at 7.03 percent.

Upcoming Webinars/Calls

- 1-2 p.m., Thursday, April 22: Region VII Disaster Health Response Ecosystem – Exploring a Monoclonal Antibody Allocation Framework. [Register here.](#)
- 11 a.m., Friday, April 30: NETEC – Overcoming Challenges to Supporting Your Workforce: Let's Talk. [Register here.](#)

COVID Resources

[CDPHE COVID-19](#)

[CDC COVID-19](#)

COVID Coverage

Number of people getting vaccinated is going up, but so is number of hospitalizations

KDVR-TV (Denver)

Centura Health is now joining a nationwide campaign to tackle vaccine hesitancy. It's called "Get The Vaccine to Save Lives," and it's designed to reassure the public that vaccines are safe, effective, and necessary if the country is ever going to achieve herd immunity. "My hope is that soon we will get there, but it remains to be seen," Grenardo said.

Colorado's COVID-19 outbreaks rise again, driven by schools and nursing homes

The Denver Post - Subscription required

The number of active COVID-19 outbreaks in Colorado rose again this week, reaching a total last seen in late February, while the state's coronavirus hospitalizations remained elevated. CDPHE reported 613 people were hospitalized with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 as of Wednesday afternoon. That's one fewer than the day before, but 100 more than a week earlier. While any day when hospitalizations don't increase may be welcome, it's too early to see a pattern. They also were roughly level over the weekend, before jumping on Tuesday.

'Breakthrough Cases' Reported Among Vaccinated Coloradans

KCNC-TV (Denver)

Colorado health officials say they studied what they call "breakthrough cases" of Coloradans who got the coronavirus after getting vaccinated. State epidemiologist says the state recorded 819 breakthrough cases out of 106,965 total cases from the end of January through April 19. "These cases represent a very small portion of positive COVID-19 cases and are no more than expected based on known vaccine efficacy levels. Vaccination is our ticket out of this pandemic," said Colorado State Epidemiologist Rachel Herlihy.

COVID vaccines available without appointment at 3 Colorado sites

KUSA-TV (Denver)

Gov. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) gave an update on the state's response to COVID and vaccination efforts as cases rise and restrictions are transferred to local government control. Polis announced that there are now three mass vaccination sites offering COVID vaccines without appointments: Ball Arena in Denver: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, Colorado State Fair Grounds in Pueblo: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Monday, and The Ranch Events Complex in Loveland: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

With vaccines open to 16- to 17-year-olds, high schools set up shop to give the shots

NBC News

"Childhood cases really reflect what's going on in the surrounding community," said Dr. Sean O'Leary, a professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and Children's Hospital Colorado. Indeed, the seven-day average of new Covid-19 cases overall is up slightly from the previous week, according to the CDC. While it's true that young people tend to have milder Covid-19 symptoms than older adults, children and teenagers can spread the coronavirus to older, more vulnerable groups. And they can become quite ill themselves and even die.

Community vaccination centers urging Latinos to get COVID-19 shot

KDVR-TV (Denver)

In Denver, there is an aggressive campaign to get more people of color vaccinated. At one site in a neighborhood populated mostly by minorities, all slots for shots were taken. This was the day Obed De Santiago and his family had been waiting for at the MLK Rec Center – they'd finally get their COVID-19 vaccines. "I'm happy it's my turn. I was waiting. So now it's my turn," said De Santiago.

One in four eligible El Paso County residents fully vaccinated

The Colorado Springs Business Journal

A quarter of eligible El Paso County residents have been fully vaccinated, according to the county's Public Health department. In addition, the El Paso County and Colorado Springs Vaccine Consortium

is expanding outreach and efforts to vaccinate residents and community members as quickly, efficiently and conveniently as possible.

Burned out by the pandemic, 3 in 10 health-care workers consider leaving the profession

The Washington Post - Subscription required

A year into the pandemic, many others are joining Meschler at the door — an exodus fueled by burnout, trauma and disillusionment. According to a Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation poll, roughly 3 in 10 health-care workers have weighed leaving their profession. More than half are burned out. And about 6 in 10 say stress from the pandemic has harmed their mental health.

White House offers new tax credit to help spur vaccinations

The Associated Press

The White House is trying to overcome diminishing demand for COVID-19 shots by offering businesses a tax incentive to give employees paid leave to get vaccinated. The move comes as the United States is set to meet President Joe Biden's goal of administering 200 million coronavirus doses in his first 100 days in office. With more than 50% of adults at least partially vaccinated and roughly 28 million vaccine doses being delivered each week, demand has eclipsed supply as the constraining factor to vaccinations in much of the country.

New data reassuring for COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy

The Associated Press

One of the largest reports on COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy bolsters evidence that it is safe although the authors say more comprehensive research is needed. The preliminary results are based on reports from over 35,000 U.S. women who received either the Moderna or Pfizer shots while pregnant. Their rates of miscarriage, premature births and other complications were comparable to those observed in published reports on pregnant women before the pandemic.

Federal Inspectors Fear More Vaccines Were Exposed to Contamination

The New York Times - Subscription required

Federal regulators have found serious flaws at the Baltimore plant that had to throw out up to 15 million possibly contaminated doses of Johnson & Johnson's coronavirus vaccine — casting doubt on further production in the United States of a vaccine that the government once viewed as essential in fighting the pandemic. The regulators for the FDA said that the company manufacturing the vaccine, Emergent BioSolutions, may have contaminated additional doses at the plant.

Doctors Scramble to Understand Long Covid, but Causes and Prognosis Are Elusive

Kaiser Health News

But to public health experts, medical researchers and health care providers, understanding the causes, risk factors and spectrum of symptoms is vital. "There's no single sign or lab test that can distinguish this syndrome from something else," said Dr. John Brooks, chief medical officer for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's covid response. "Having something that we can use to define a [long-covid] case is critical" for tracking how many people get it and how well they do, and to establish research criteria for clinical trials.



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