

- Earlier this week, CDPHE sent a [reminder](#) to COVID-19 vaccine providers to submit a signed [statement of acknowledgement](#) regarding the various requirements agreed to in their fully executed CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreements. Signed copies should be submitted to [cdphe\\_covidvax@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe_covidvax@state.co.us) as soon as possible to avoid impacts to providers' COVID-19 vaccine supply.

---

## What's Changed Since the Last update

- The **CDC has released updated guidance for health care personnel (HCP) that are fully vaccinated**. Key takeaways include:
  - HCP should continue to wear PPE at work. However, if all participants are fully vaccinated, HCP may meet, dine, or socialize together without PPE or physical distancing.
  - Fully vaccinated patients/residents in health care facilities may congregate and dine without masks or physical distancing.
  - Fully vaccinated HCP do not need to be restricted from work following an exposure as long as they are asymptomatic.

---

## Things To Know

- **A new CDC report has found that mRNA vaccines are 94% effective against hospitalization among adults aged 65+**. One dose of the vaccine, considered partial vaccination, was 64% effective against hospitalization among older adults, according to the report.
- As of April 27, **more than 1,362 Colorado providers have administered 3,921,645 COVID-19 vaccine doses** for 2,558,025 people with first doses and 1,763,808 people who are fully immunized.
- The state's percent positivity remains above 5%, with the three-day average of 7.54%.
- Statewide COVID-19 hospitalizations are at 634, up from 622 yesterday.

---

## Upcoming Webinars

- 11:30 a.m., today, April 29 - **ASPR TRACIE: Be a COVID-19 Vaccine Champion.** [Register here.](#)
- 10-11:00 a.m., Thursday, May 13 - **CMS OMH Building COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence Webinar.** [Register here.](#)

## COVID Resources

[CDPHE COVID-19](#)

[CDC COVID-19](#)

## COVID Coverage

### **New data shows less COVID-19 infections in Colorado counties with more vaccinations**

*KMGH-TV* (Denver)

Colorado health officials on Tuesday said the state's least-infectious large counties for COVID-19 also have the highest vaccination rates, according to new data. Denver, Jefferson, Larimer and Boulder

counties each have more than 50% of residents vaccinated, and all four counties have the lowest seven-day case rates per 100,000 among the state's largest counties. Dr. Rachel Herlihy, the state epidemiologist, says data for the state's 10 largest counties show a drop in 51 cases per 100,000 residents for every 10% increase in vaccinations.

### **23-year-old hospitalized with COVID talks about surge in younger patients**

*KUSA-TV (Denver)*

Stewart, 23, was recently hospitalized with COVID-19 at UCHHealth. "I was sitting in the hospital alone," Stewart said. "They had me on oxygen 24-7. They were watching my heart rate, so it was pretty tough." Stewart wasn't the first in his family to experience a hospital stay in the past year. His grandfather was the first to get sick with COVID-19. "That's kind of when it hit," Stewart said. "And then it really hit when they had told us they were putting him on the ventilator."

### **COVID-19 case rates in Colorado children skyrocketing**

*KKTV-TV (Colorado Springs)*

Pediatric infectious disease specialist Dr. Sean O'Leary of Children's Colorado said he believes that while transmission can happen at school, community spread is a bigger factor. "We have seen a little bit of a decrease in the mitigation measures that we've all been doing in terms of relaxing certain things, you know, more restaurants are open, people are doing more things, maybe less wearing of masks. Some of those things are playing a role in the overall numbers," he told KKTV. "... School in general is a pretty safe place to be relative to the surrounding community, but if you're having a lot of cases in the community as we've seen in these last several weeks, you're going to see cases and outbreaks in schools as well."

### **Colorado hospitals prepare for declining demand as more hesitant groups approach vaccination**

*KMGH-TV (Denver)*

Colorado hospitals see a shift in demographics receiving COVID-19 vaccines, many are preparing for a decline in demand. The state's six publicly run vaccination sites now allow walk ups, and hospitals like Sky Ridge Medical Center are no longer requiring invitations to register for a vaccination appointment.

### **Despite cases increasing, COVID-19 vaccine supply "far outweighs" demand in Pueblo**

*The Pueblo Chieftain*

The dial stipulates less than 44 hospitalizations at any given time at Parkview Medical Center and no more than 10 at St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center, the metrics for which were determined through conversations with the two hospitals. "We've got to remember the hospitals are also taking care of cardiac patients and stroke patients and people with diabetes and people getting other surgeries and so on, so that was a capacity number where they felt like they could manage that and still continue to provide the other health care services they need to in the community," Evetts said.

### **SCL Health Begins To See 'Tipping Point' In Vaccine Demand And Supply**

*KCNC-TV (Denver)*

Despite the initial rush to sign up for a slot to get the COVID-19 vaccine, many clinics and hospital networks have hundreds of appointments open and ready to go. SCL Health is beginning to see a tipping point of vaccinations, where vaccine supply and availability is outweighing the demand to get

the shot. At the start of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, SCL Health filled appointments within minutes, giving out nearly 5,000 new doses a week. Jennifer Davis, the Assistant Director of Pharmacy Services with SCL Health says now, that number has dropped to about 1,000 new doses a week.

### **Majority of Americans getting their second shot but about 5 million people only received one dose**

*KMGH-TV (Denver)*

To help make sure everyone returns for that second shot, Centura Health is hosting a vaccine clinic at Dick's Sporting Goods on Thursday with 2,500 appointments. "That first dose primes you and your body really to have the best antibody response it can have by getting that second dose," said Ozzie Grenardo, family medicine and chief diversity inclusion doctor at Centura Health.

### **Antibody treatment can prevent hospitalization in COVID-19 patients, data show**

*KUSA-TV (Denver)*

Research shows that newly diagnosed COVID-19 patients have the best results if they have access to monoclonal antibody treatment immediately to prevent severe illness and hospitalization, according to UCHHealth. Doctors at UCHHealth are encouraging COVID patients, especially those who are high-risk, to seek out the therapy and ask their physician whether it is appropriate, even though the treatment has not yet been fully approved by the FDA.

### **In Colorado, COVID Case Rates Are The Lowest Where Vaccination Rates Are The Highest (And Vice Versa)**

*Colorado Public Radio*

Polis said families now have a new option to get the vaccine for their children older than 16. Children's Hospital Colorado will now be offering free shots of the Pfizer vaccine at its various sites. He said he was hopeful the vaccine will be approved for 12-to-15-year-olds in time for the new school year in the fall. The governor also announced all six of Colorado's large community vaccination sites will now accept walk-ins without appointments. "If you don't set one up or just don't feel like using the internet, or you're just driving by, and you're like, 'I have 15 minutes,' don't worry about not having an appointment," Polis said.

### **Colorado's main public universities requiring vaccinations**

*The Associated Press*

Colorado's biggest public universities will require students, faculty and staff to receive COVID-19 vaccinations before the beginning of the fall semester, school leaders announced Wednesday. The University of Colorado system's four campuses will require the shots along with the Colorado State University system, the University of Northern Colorado and Metropolitan State University of Denver, The Denver Post reported.

### **Vaccines Appear to Be Slowing Spread of Covid-19 Infections**

*The Wall Street Journal* - Subscription required

Vaccines appear to be starting to curb new Covid-19 infections in the U.S., a breakthrough that could help people return to more normal activities as infection worries fade, public-health officials say. By Tuesday, 37.3% of U.S. adults were fully vaccinated against Covid-19, with about 2.7 million shots each day. Data from Johns Hopkins University shows the seven-day average for new U.S. cases has fallen below the 14-day average for more than a week, which epidemiologists said is a strong signal

that cases are starting to slide again after a recent upswing. When the seven-day average is higher than the 14-day average, it suggests new cases are accelerating.

### **mRNA vaccines 94% effective in preventing hospitalization in adults 65 and older**

*Axios*

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were 94% effective in preventing hospitalization for COVID-19 among adults 65 years and older, according to a study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The research, which studied 417 hospitalized adults in 14 states between January and March, adds real-world evidence from the clinical trials that vaccination protects against severe illness and hospitalization.

### **BioNTech expects vaccine trial results for babies by September**

*Reuters*

BioNTech (22UAY.DE) expects results by September from trials testing the COVID-19 vaccine that it and Pfizer have developed in babies as young as six months old, German magazine Spiegel cited the company's CEO as saying. "In July, the first results could be available for the five to 12 year olds, in September for the younger children," BioNTech Chief Executive Ugur Sahin told Spiegel. He added it takes about four to six weeks to evaluate the data.

### **Doctors: More parents refuse COVID tests for their sick kids**

*Modern Healthcare* - Subscription required

Doctors are reporting that more parents are refusing to have their sick children tested for the coronavirus because they don't want to deal with the hassle if the result is positive. Pediatric Partners in the Kansas City suburb of Overland Park recently posted an alert on its Facebook page exhorting parents to stay vigilant because so many weren't following testing advice, The Kansas City Star reports.

### **Multi-layered cloth masks as effective as surgical mask, study suggests**

*FOX News*

While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and President Joe Biden on Tuesday announced that fully vaccinated people can go without masks while outdoors, officials noted that there are still many instances in which a mask is necessary, including in crowded settings. As such, research continues into which face coverings are most effective, with a recent finding suggesting that multi-layered cloth masks are as viable as surgical masks.

### **Tips for Opening a Field Hospital During the Coronavirus Pandemic**

*HealthLeaders Media*

When health systems need to open a field hospital during a public health emergency such as the coronavirus pandemic, they should be guided by emergency management principles, the lead author of a recent journal article on opening a field hospital says. Several states across the country have had to open field hospitals during the coronavirus pandemic to accommodate COVID-19 patient surges. A common strategy has been to use field hospitals to treat low-acuity COVID-19 patients who can be transferred from hospitals and cared for safely before being discharged home.



Colorado Hospital Association | [7335 E Orchard Rd](#)  
[Greenwood Village, CO 80111-2582](#)

[Update Email Preferences or Unsubscribe](#)

