

# COVID-19 Vaccines:

Your best shot against  
COVID-19.

Last Updated January 29, 2021

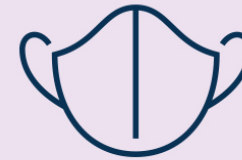


NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**



# Protecting each other from COVID-19 starts with the 3Ws – Wear. Wait. Wash.

If you leave home, know your 3 Ws!  
¡Si sales de casa, recuerda las 3 Ms!



## WEAR

a cloth mask over your nose and mouth.

## MASCARILLA

Usar una mascarilla de tela cubriendo nariz y boca.



## WAIT

6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.

## MANTENER

6 pies (2 metros) de distancia. Evitar estar cerca de los demás.



## WASH

your hands or use hand sanitizer.

## MANOS

Lavarte las manos con frecuencia o usar desinfectante para manos.





**You'll soon be able to take  
a safe vaccine to protect  
you from getting COVID-19.**

**It's free to everyone.**

**Because vaccine supplies are  
currently limited, you may  
have to wait for your spot to  
take your shot.**

*Here's what you need to know.*

# Leading with equity: We must build trust.

- Racism runs throughout our social, economic, and health care systems, causing unequal access to care, maltreatment, and neglect for historically marginalized communities. These longstanding and continuing racial and ethnic injustices in our health care system contribute to lack of trust in vaccines.
- North Carolina is drawing upon the experience and expertise of leaders from historically marginalized communities to develop and implement its vaccine plan.



**Tested, safe, and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help us get back in control of our lives and back to the people and places we love.**

- Scientists had a head start, and thousands of volunteers helped with clinical trials.
- The vaccines are tested, safe, and effective.
- You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- Supplies will be limited at first.
- You have a spot to take your shot.

# Scientists had a head start.



- COVID-19 vaccines are built on years of work to develop vaccines for similar viruses.
- The first two vaccines use a method that researchers have been studying and working with for decades.

Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett is a viral immunologist at the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health. Dr. Corbett's team began the first stage of clinical trials. They took the knowledge they gained in the last six years of research and applied it to a vaccine platform in collaboration with Moderna. The vaccine rolled out 10 months later. Dr. Corbett is from Hurdle Mills, NC.

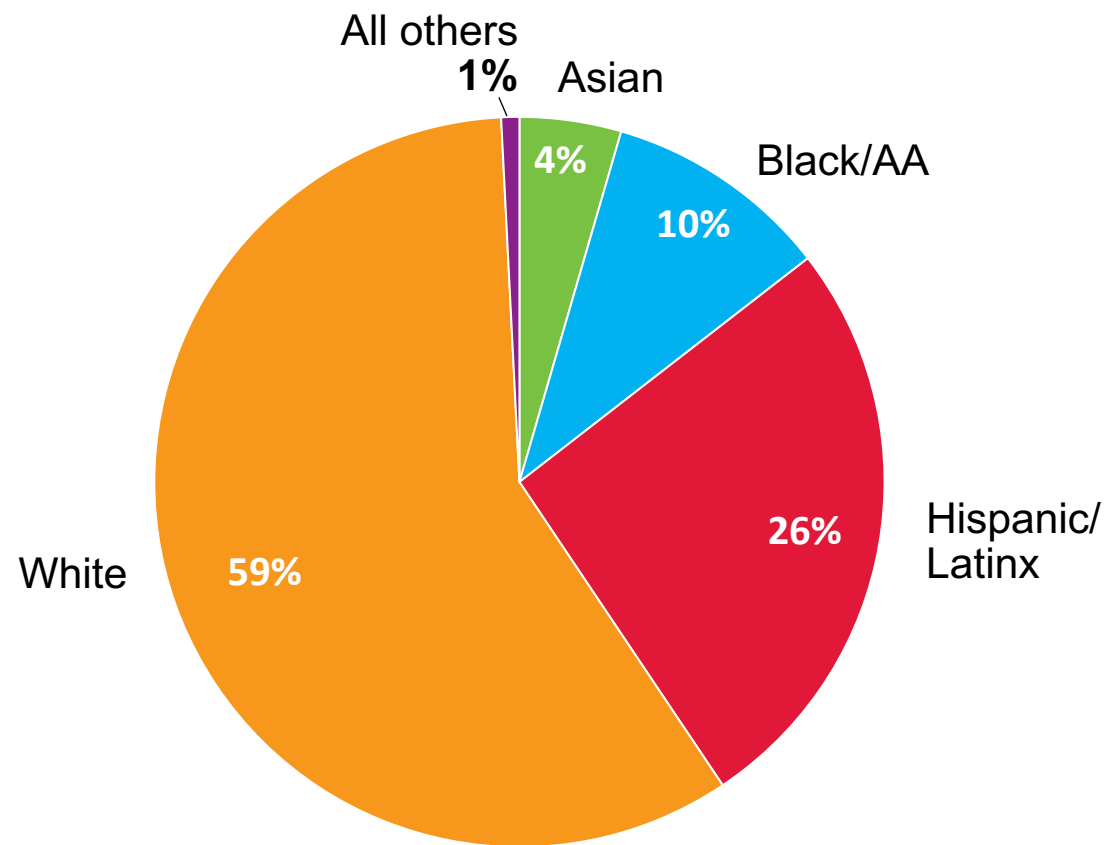


# The vaccines are tested, safe, and effective.

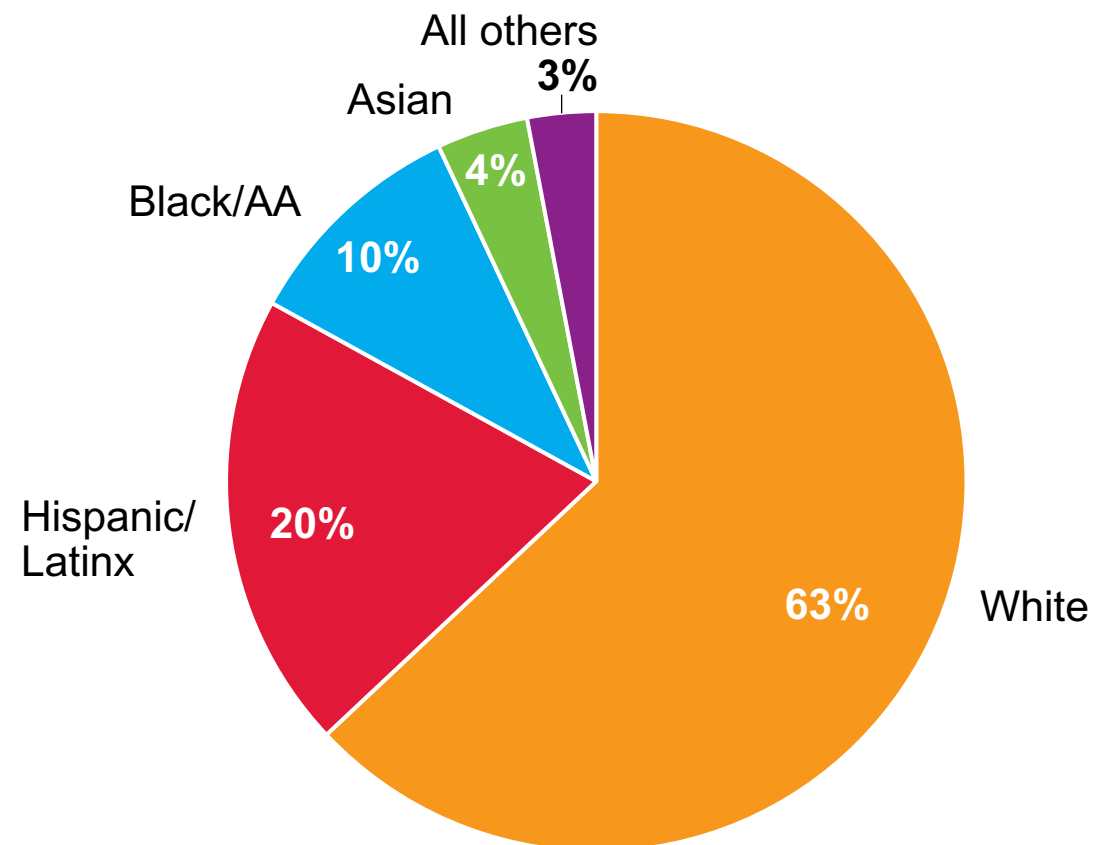


- All vaccines are rigorously tested for safety and effectiveness.
- More than 70,000 people volunteered in clinical trials for two vaccines—Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna—to make sure the vaccines were safe and worked to prevent COVID-19.
- To date, the vaccines are 95% effective in preventing COVID-19.
- There were no serious safety concerns in the clinical trials with either vaccine.
- You could have temporary reactions like a sore arm, headache, or feeling tired and achy for a day or two.

# There have been intentional efforts to recruit volunteers from historically marginalized populations.



Source: <https://www.pfizer.com/science/coronavirus/vaccine>



Source: [https://www.modernatx.com/sites/default/files/content\\_documents/2020-COVE-Study-Enrollment-Completion-10.22.20.pdf](https://www.modernatx.com/sites/default/files/content_documents/2020-COVE-Study-Enrollment-Completion-10.22.20.pdf)



# You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.

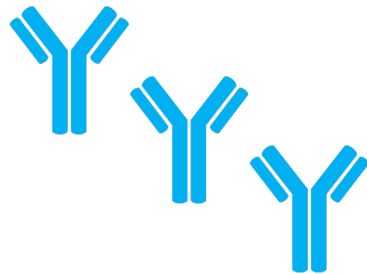
Vaccines safely increase your body's natural ability to fight the virus before the virus attacks you. That's how you win, and the virus loses. Here is how the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines work:

**Vaccines imitate COVID without giving it to you.**

**Vaccine**



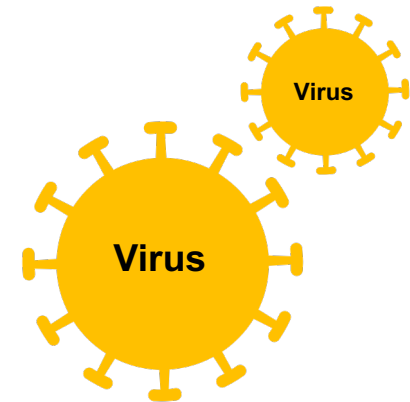
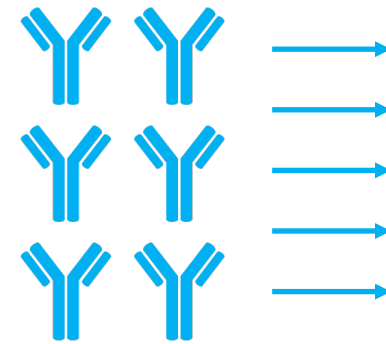
**Antibodies**



The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines give your body instructions to make a protein that safely teaches your body how to make an antibody to fight the real COVID-19.

**You can fight off the real virus if it tries to attack you.**

**Antibodies**



After getting vaccinated, you develop the ability to fight off the real virus because your body is strong enough and knows how to win.

**Two shots are necessary—and we have a plan to help everyone get both doses.**

- The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two shots to build up strong immunity against COVID-19.
- The second shot will come 3 to 4 weeks after the first.
- It is important to get two doses of the same vaccine.
- We built a system—the COVID-19 Vaccine Management System—to help make sure people are safe and get the right second dose at the right time.



# Millions of Americans have received their first dose.



Frank Jones of Wilson, NC - Community Leader



Former Governor Jim Hunt



“ I want to be around my grandkids. I enjoy being out. The sooner people get vaccinated, the sooner we can finally get ahead of this. Just as more and more people began wearing masks, I think we’ll see a growing number of people who want to get vaccinated to protect themselves and others. ”

- Representative Shelly Willingham



# Your privacy and personal information are protected at all times.

- Nothing in the vaccine can be tracked—the protein your body makes cannot be tracked and it disappears after it finishes making you stronger.
- Personal information about your vaccination and health are protected at all times.
- We do not send any personal information to the CDC.
- To follow state law, North Carolina submits year of birth (not date of birth), the first 3 digits of the vaccine's recipient's zip code (as long as that zip code includes more than 20,000 people), as well as the date of submission of the vaccination record.

**Our goal is to  
vaccinate as many  
people as quickly  
and fairly as  
possible given the  
limited supply of  
vaccines.**

- Limited supply means we are prioritizing those at the higher risk of exposure to the virus and sickness and death.
- Demand for vaccines vastly exceeds our supply.
- Limited supply may result in wait times, but everyone will have a chance when their priority group is eligible and as vaccine supplies increase

# Vaccines will be available to all—for free.

- Supplies will be limited at first.
- The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have been authorized and sent to states, but it will be some time before they are widely available to everyone.
- The best way to fight COVID-19 is to start first with vaccines aimed at helping to slow the spread and save lives.
- More people will be reached when the vaccine supply increases throughout 2021.
- The vaccines are free to everyone, even if you don't have health insurance.
- Rest assured: You have a spot to take your shot.

# Your best shot at stopping COVID-19.

YOU HAVE A  
**SPOT.** | TAKE YOUR  
**SHOT.**

1 Health Care Workers and Long-term Care Staff and Residents

ACTIVE GROUP

2 Older Adults

ACTIVE GROUP

3 Frontline Essential Workers

4 Adults at High Risk for Exposure and Increased Risk of Severe Illness

5 Everyone



# COVID-19 Vaccinations in North Carolina: January 2021

## Who is being vaccinated now?

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**Health care workers:** Such as doctors, nurses and those caring for and cleaning areas

**Long-term care staff and residents:** People living and working in places like skilled nursing facilities or group homes

**Older Adults:** Limited supplies mean those age 65 and over may have to wait, but they have one of the first spots to take their shot

## Where are they being vaccinated?

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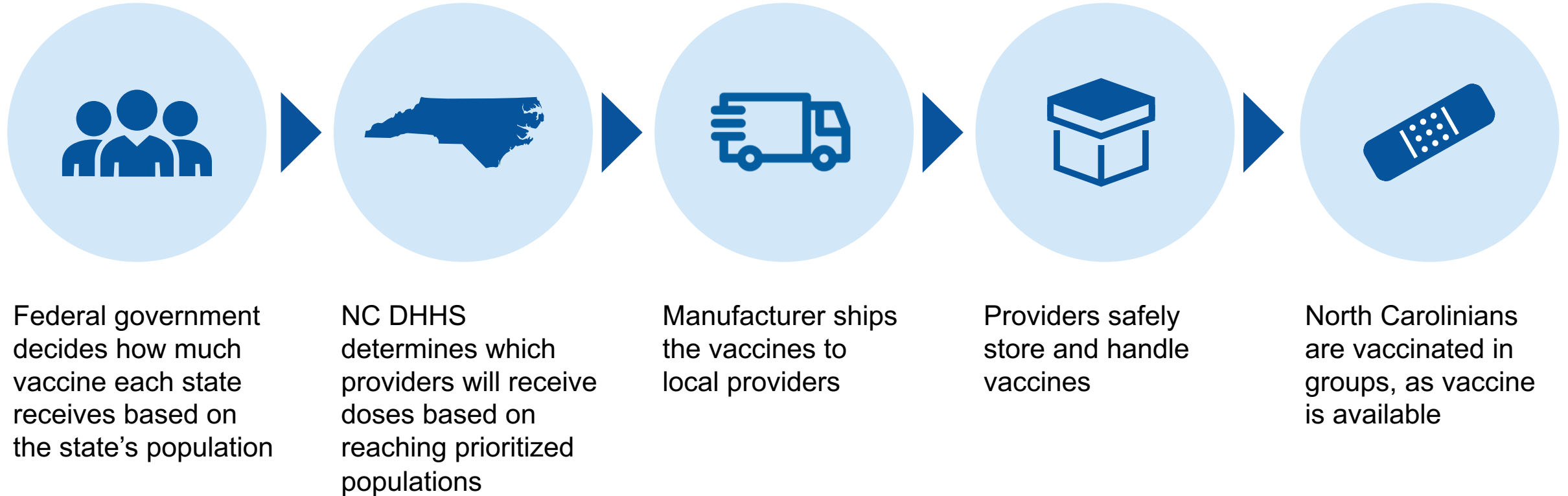
**Health care workers:** In hospitals or local health departments that have received early shipments of the vaccine

**Long-term care staff and residents:** The federal government manages vaccinations for most long-term care facilities. Most will be vaccinated at their facilities under the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program with CVS and Walgreens

**Older Adults:** Call the COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center at 1-888-675-4567 or visit [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov).



# North Carolina receives shipments of COVID-19 vaccine each week.



# Finding your spot: How will you know when and where to get your shot?

- Health care workers should talk with your employer about where your spot is, according to your health and job status.
- Long-term care staff and residents should ask your facility about when you will be able to receive your shot.
- **Approved vaccine providers can now vaccinate older adults (age 65+).** There will be a wait to receive your vaccine, but you should contact your local vaccine provider to find out when you will be able to make an appointment for your vaccine.
- Additional information on where to take your shot is available by calling the COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center at 1-888-675-4567 or visiting **[YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)**.

# Keeping everyone informed: You have a spot, take your shot.

- We are working hard to give North Carolinians the information they need to take their shot.
- Look for information at news conferences, our website, social media, and from trusted community leaders.
- Community leaders and organizations are helping to shape the campaign and are reaching out to the public.
- The goal is to provide all with a spot for honest information and updates on where they can get their shot.

**North Carolina is working to build better ways for more people to find information and a provider to get vaccinated.**

- **[YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)** is your spot for reliable and accurate information.
- North Carolina's new **COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center** is available to answer your questions at **1-888-675-4567**
- **Find My Group** helps people know when it is their turn to get a COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Find My Spot** helps people locate a COVID-19 vaccine provider when it's their turn.

# Online Resources | Find My Group and Find My Spot

Find My Vaccine Group

English

YOU HAVE A SPOT. TAKE YOUR SHOT.

Para usar este sitio web en español, seleccione español en el desplegue de la esquina derecha superior.

**Tested, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help us get back in control of our lives and back to the people and places we love.**

A free COVID-19 vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. We want to make sure people are vaccinated as quickly and fairly as possible, starting with people who are more likely to get COVID-19 and those more likely to get dangerously sick from it.

Use this tool to find your vaccine group.

This survey will not collect any private health information. There is an option at the end to enter contact information if you would like to be notified when you are eligible for vaccination.

Next

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Find A Vaccine Location

English

YOU HAVE A SPOT. TAKE YOUR SHOT.

Para usar este sitio web en español, seleccione español en el desplegue de la esquina derecha superior.

**Find Local Vaccine Providers Near You**

Use this tool to find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you in North Carolina. Enter your zip code or search by current location to find the closest vaccine providers.

Vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies are currently limited. You may have to wait.

North Carolina is currently vaccinating Groups 1 and 2. Not all vaccine providers may be ready to vaccinate your group yet. Don't know what group you're in? Visit [Find My Vaccine Group](#) to find your vaccination group.

You will likely need an appointment to get vaccinated. You may have to wait to schedule your appointment to get your vaccine. Please contact the provider to find out which groups they are currently vaccinating.

Search by zip code or current location

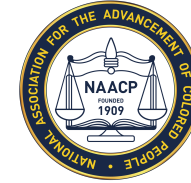
Submit

5 Miles 10 Miles 25 Miles No Limit

George Washington and Jefferson National... Richmond Williamsburg VIRGINIA



# Leading medical and professional organizations are encouraging Americans to get vaccinated



# Online Resources | Updated Regularly

YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov

## One-page flyer on COVID-19 vaccines to distribute

**YOU HAVE A SPOT. TAKE YOUR SHOT.**

**COVID-19 Vaccines: Your best shot against COVID-19.**

Tested, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help us get back in control of our lives and back to the people and places we love.

Scientists had a head start. The vaccines were built upon decades of work to develop vaccines for similar viruses.

Tested, safe and effective. More than 70,000 people volunteered in clinical trials for two vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) to see if they are safe and can prevent COVID-19 illness. Volunteers included Black/African Americans, Hispanic/Latino, Asians and others. To date, the vaccines are 95% effective in preventing COVID-19 with no serious safety concerns noted in the clinical trials. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) makes sure the vaccines are safe and can prevent people from getting COVID-19. Like all drugs, vaccine safety continues to be monitored after they are in use.

You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. You may have temporary reactions like a sore arm, headache or feeling tired and achy for a day or two after receiving the vaccine.

**You Have a Spot to Take Your Shot.**

A vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. Independent state and federal public health advisory groups have determined that the best way to fight COVID-19 is to start first with vaccinations for those most at risk, then reach more people as the vaccine supply increases throughout 2021. Feel assured: you have a spot to take your shot.

**Finding Your Spot.**

Vaccines will be available first in hospitals, local health departments and long-term care facilities, and then in a variety of settings like clinics, pharmacies and vaccination events in prioritized settings and in the community. You can find out where you can take your shot at [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov).

**Take your shot at no cost.**

The COVID-19 vaccine will be available to everyone for free, whether or not you have health insurance.



**You'll need two shots to build up your immunity.**

After a person gets a first dose, they will need to come back 3 to 4 weeks later for a second dose. You will get a printed card and email reminder of when to get your second dose.

**Continue to practice the 3 Ws until everyone has their shot at fighting COVID-19.**

Wear a mask. Walk 6 feet apart. Wash your hands. That's the best way to protect each other until everyone gets their shot.

For more information: [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)



## Frequently Asked Questions (updating weekly)

**COVID-19 Vaccine Update**  
January 7, 2021

**Tested, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help us get back in control of our lives and back to the people and places we love.**

Scientists had a head start. The vaccines were built upon decades of work to develop vaccines for similar viruses.

**Tested, safe and effective.** More than 70,000 people volunteered in clinical trials for two vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) to see if they are safe and can prevent COVID-19 illness. Volunteers included Black/African Americans, Hispanic/Latino, Asians and others. To date, the vaccines are 95% effective in preventing COVID-19 with no serious safety concerns noted in the clinical trials. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) makes sure the vaccines are safe and can prevent people from getting COVID-19. Like all drugs, vaccine safety continues to be monitored after they are in use.

**You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.** You may have temporary reactions like a sore arm, headache or feeling tired and achy for a day or two after receiving the vaccine.

**Supplies are very limited.** Right now, very few vaccine doses are available.

**Take your shot at no cost.** The COVID-19 vaccine will be available for free, whether or not you have insurance.

**VACCINE SAFETY**

Are there vaccines that are safe and work in preventing COVID-19?

Yes. Two vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna have proven to prevent COVID-19 illness with no safety concerns in the clinical trials. They are 95% effective.

**Who makes sure the vaccines are safe and can prevent COVID-19?**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) makes sure all food and drugs are safe. The COVID-19 vaccines must pass clinical trials for other drugs and vaccines. The FDA checks the work and authorizes vaccines only if they are safe and effective. The FDA can get them to people faster through an Emergency Use Authorization. Like all vaccines, the FDA keeps checking safety through the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Health care providers are required to report serious side effects. If someone gets seriously ill with COVID-19, there is also a nationwide health care data system (CDC) that does not keep track of who has COVID-19. People can report any problems they may have with a vaccine through VAERS.

**VACCINE DEVELOPMENT AND AUTHORIZATION**

**What is an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)?**

An Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) allows the FDA to get a safe COVID-19 vaccine to you quickly during a public health emergency. An independent advisory committee makes sure the vaccine is safe and not used before testing on EUAs.

- Pfizer applied for an EUA on November 20, 2020; the advisory committee recommended authorization on December 10, 2020, and the EUA was approved on December 11, 2020.

NC Department of Health and Human Services

## COVID-19 vaccines 101 deck

**COVID-19 Vaccines:**  
Your best shot against COVID-19.

Last Updated January 11, 2021



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## Infographic on prioritization

**COVID-19 Vaccinations:**  
Your best shot at stopping COVID-19.

**YOU HAVE A SPOT. TAKE YOUR SHOT.**


You have a spot, take your shot. A tested, safe and effective vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. To save lives and slow the spread of COVID-19, independent state and federal public health advisory committees recommend first prioritizing health care workers, people who are at the highest risk of being hospitalized or dying, and those at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. Keep practicing the 3 Ws—wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands—until everyone has a chance to get vaccinated.

- 1 Health Care Workers and Long-term Care Staff and Residents **ACTIVE GROUP**
- 2 Older Adults **ACTIVE GROUP**
- 3 Frontline Essential Workers
- 4 Adults at High Risk for Exposure and Increased Risk of Severe Illness
- 5 Everyone

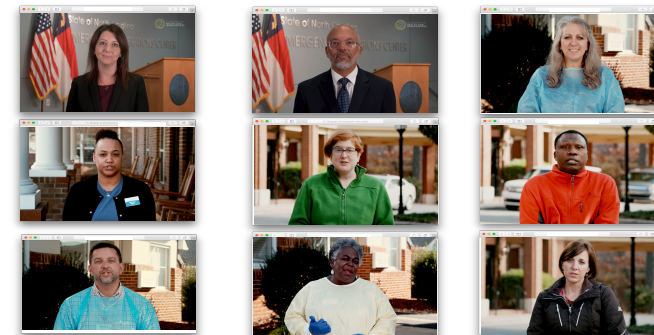
Our goal is to vaccinate as many people as quickly as possible given the limited supply of vaccines. North Carolina moves through vaccination groups by aligning to federal priorities while empowering local health departments and hospitals with flexibility to move to the next priority group as they complete groups and have vaccine available.

For more information: [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)

NC Department of Health and Human Services • [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov) • HCHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider • 01/07/2021



## PSA videos from trusted messengers



# Keep practicing the 3 Ws: Wear, Wait, and Wash.

**If you leave home, know your 3 Ws!**  
**¡Si sales de casa, recuerda las 3 Ms!**

 <b>WEAR</b> a cloth mask over your nose and mouth. <b>MASCARILLA</b> Usar una mascarilla de tela cubriendo nariz y boca.	 <b>WAIT</b> 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact. <b>MANTENER</b> 6 pies (2 metros) de distancia. Evitar estar cerca de los demás.	 <b>WASH</b> your hands or use hand sanitizer. <b>MANOS</b> Lavarte las manos con frecuencia o usar desinfectante para manos.
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**@NCDHHS** **#StayStrongNC**

- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine and following the 3 Ws is everyone's best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19.
- Continue using the 3 Ws and limiting social gatherings until most people are vaccinated.
- Getting back in control, getting back to family and friends, and getting kids back to school will take some time—but the COVID-19 vaccine and the 3 Ws will get us there quicker and safer.

**Let's work together to share information.  
Help distribute information and materials:  
[YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)**

- **Help direct people to “their spot” for reliable information about the vaccine:** Maybe it's you, now that you have new vaccine knowledge
- **Show people that you trust the safety and effectiveness of the vaccines:** Share your positive experience when you have your shot against COVID-19—use our tip sheet to create and share your own video to promote vaccination:  
[files.nc.gov/covid/documents/vaccines/NC-Vaccine-Selfie-Video-Tip-Sheet.pdf](https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/vaccines/NC-Vaccine-Selfie-Video-Tip-Sheet.pdf)
- **Use and share the COVID-19 vaccine communications materials to make sure more North Carolinians have accurate and up-to-date information on the vaccines:** Find them at [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov)





Let's talk.