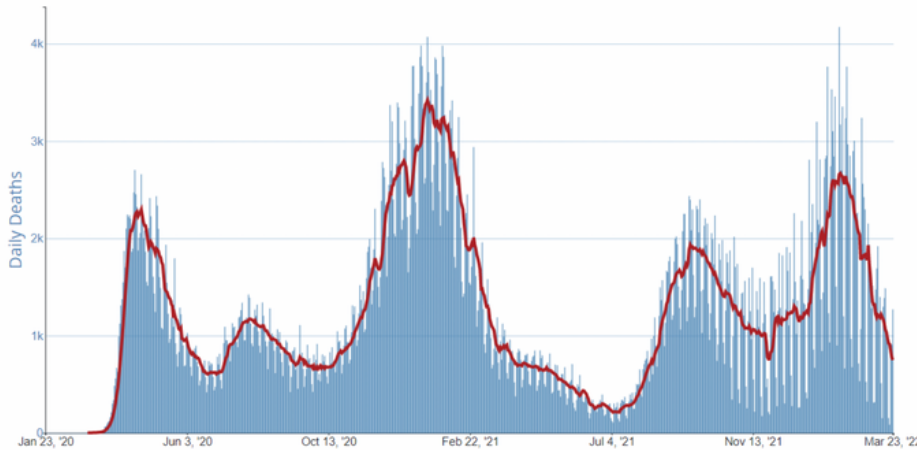


Vacunas (Vaccines) Updates

National Alliance for Hispanic Health

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Deaths in the United States Reported to CDC

7-Day moving average



THE LATEST ON COVID-19

COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths [continue to decrease](#) in the United States. As of March 23, 2022, the current 7-day moving average of daily new cases (27,134) decreased 5.4% compared with the previous 7-day moving average (28,695). The current 7-day average for new hospital admissions between March 16-21, 2022, was 1,827. This is a 21.0% decrease from the previous 7-day average (2,313) between March 9-15, 2022. The current 7-day moving average of new deaths (749) has decreased 29.5% compared with the previous 7-day moving average (1,063).

THE LATEST ON COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

[As of March 29, 2022](#), 76.9% of the total U.S. population have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. 65.5% of the total U.S. population have been fully vaccinated and 44.8% of this fully vaccinated population have received an additional or booster dose. 49.8% of the total booster-eligible population has not yet received a booster dose.

Newsletter Highlights

The latest on COVID-19

The latest on COVID-19 vaccinations

Vaccination rates in the Hispanic community

CDC's COVID-19 Community Level Indicators

CDC's COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation Calculator

The CDC recommends additional boosters for certain individuals

Omicron subvariant BA.2 is now the dominant strain in U.S.

Higher risk of developing diabetes after COVID-19 infection

National Minority Health Month theme: Give Your Community a Boost!

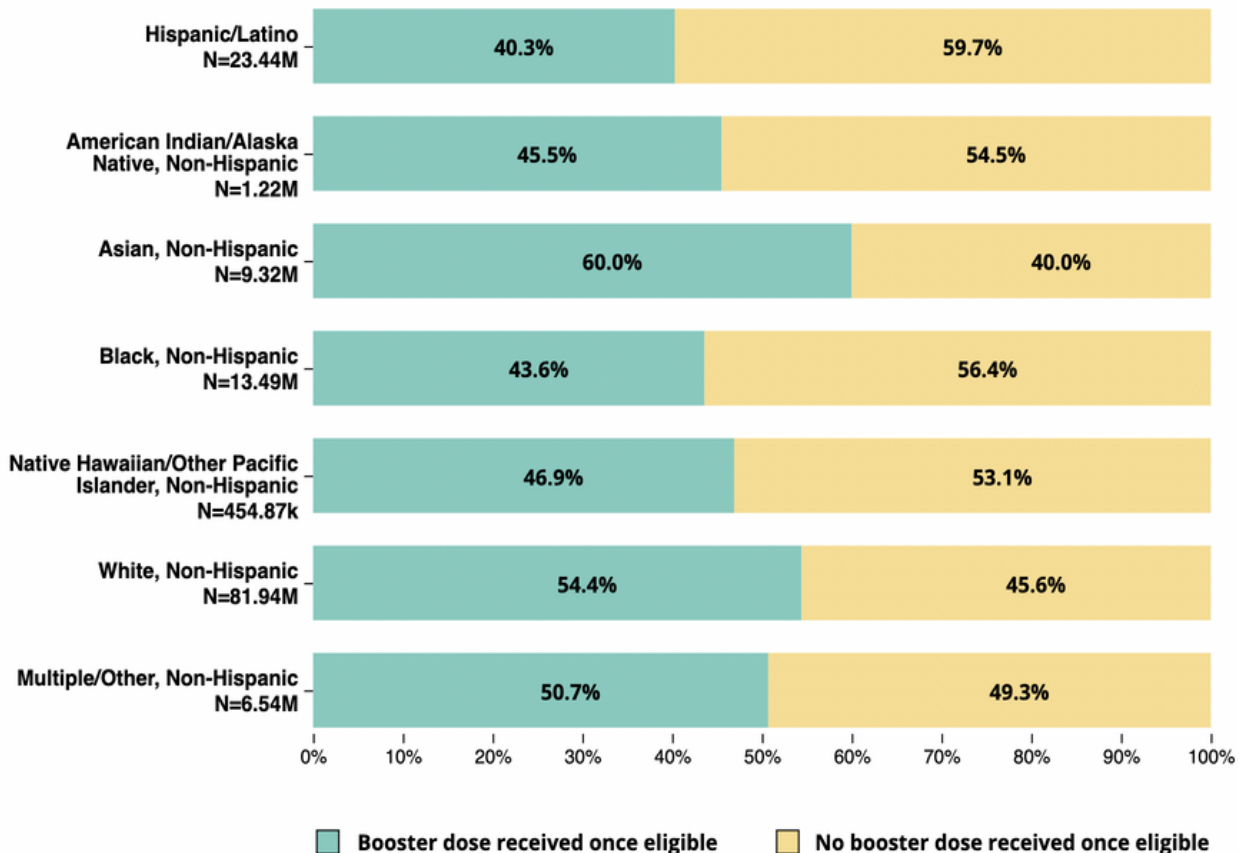
VACCINATION RATES IN THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

In the beginning of the vaccination rollout, Hispanic and Black Americans were less likely than White Americans to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, but these disparities have diminished over time and even reversed for Hispanics. [As of March 29, 2022](#), Hispanics account for 20.7% of people with at least one dose received and 38.7% of people who received a vaccine in the last 14 days. These metrics are both greater than Hispanics' share of the total U.S. population (17.2%).

[Looking at the U.S. Hispanic population](#) as a whole, 61.8% of Hispanics have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 52.6% have been fully vaccinated. Unfortunately, the same improvement in vaccine disparities is not being seen in the Hispanic community with booster doses. Of the fully vaccinated population, the Hispanic population has the lowest proportion of additional/booster doses received (40.3%).

Percentages of Booster Eligible* Population with and without** a Booster Dose, by Race/Ethnicity

Data from 179.47M people ages 12 years and older who are eligible for a booster dose*. Race/ethnicity was available for 136.40M (76%) people ages 12 years and older who are eligible for a booster dose.



CDC'S COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL INDICATORS

With current high levels of vaccination and high levels of population immunity, the CDC is adjusting how they assess COVID-19 in communities to inform public health recommendations. In this new stage of living with the pandemic, the CDC is shifting its approach from data focused on infection rates to a metric that includes data on disease severity (hospitalization) and healthcare system strain (hospital capacity), while complementing infection rates. These indicators combined result in three COVID-19 Community Levels: low, medium, and high.


It is key to remember that the term COVID-19 Community Levels refer to the impact of COVID-19 in terms of hospitalization and healthcare system strain, while considering transmission of the virus in your community. In this new phase of the pandemic, the focus is reducing severe illness and minimizing strain on the healthcare system, while protecting those at highest risk of severe outcomes. You can view a COVID-19 Community Level map broken down by county [here](#) to find out what level your community falls under.

The CDC recommends using their county COVID-19 Community Levels to help determine which prevention measures are best suited for individuals and communities in their respective county. When making decisions about what prevention strategies to use in addition to vaccination, people should consider the COVID-19 Community Level in their county. Some experts suggest thinking of this new model as you would a weather forecast. When you are planning what to wear for the day, you check the weather where you are located to see how many layers to pack or whether to bring an umbrella. Similarly with this model, you would check what level your county fell in and see what preventative measures are recommended and what you and your family feel comfortable with.

WHAT'S A COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL?

- It's a new tool to help communities decide what prevention measures to take based on the latest data
- Every community in the United States is classified as:

Low Limited impact on healthcare system, low levels of severe illness	Medium Some impact on healthcare system, more people with severe illness	High High potential for healthcare system strain; high level of severe illness
---	--	--

 cdc.gov/coronavirus

CS120801-8 02/25/2022

4 When do I need to wear a mask?

LOW COVID-19 Level	MEDIUM COVID-19 Level	HIGH COVID-19 Level
You don't need a mask, but you may choose to wear one at any time.	You don't need a mask, but you may choose to wear one at any time. If you're at high risk for getting very sick with COVID-19, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you should wear a mask indoors in public.	You should wear a mask indoors in public.

You should wear a mask indoors in public if you have symptoms, test positive, or are exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Here is a simplified table of the preventative steps each COVID-19 Community Level entail. A complete list of individual, household, and community-level prevention strategies that correspond to the COVID-19 Community Level in your county can be found on the [CDC's website](#).

Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear a mask indoors in public Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness
<p>People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.</p>		

CDC'S COVID-19 QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION CALCULATOR

Have you tested positive for COVID-19 or had close contact with someone infected with COVID-19? CDC has created a [tool](#) to help determine how long you need to isolate, quarantine, or take other steps to prevent spreading COVID-19. The Quarantine and Isolation Calculator walks you through a set of options to choose from that best describes your COVID-19 situation and gives you a breakdown of the precautionary measures to follow.

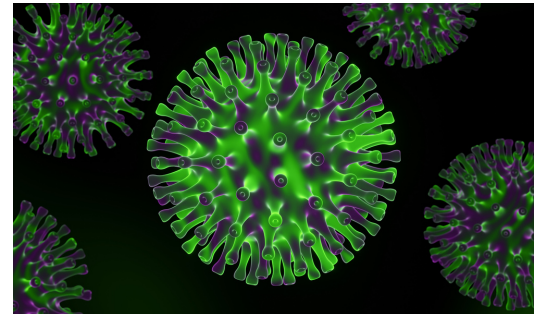
THE CDC AUTHORIZES ADDITIONAL BOOSTERS FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently [authorized](#) a second booster dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for individuals 50 years of age and older and certain immunocompromised individuals. Following the FDA's action, the CDC [updated its recommendations](#) to allow certain immunocompromised individuals and people over the age of 50 who received an initial booster dose at least 4 months ago to be eligible for another Pfizer or Moderna booster dose. This decision is in response to current evidence that suggests some waning of protection over time against severe outcomes from COVID-19 in older and immunocompromised individuals. These specific populations are the most likely to benefit from receiving an additional booster dose at this time.



OMICRON SUBVARIANT BA.2 IS NOW THE DOMINANT STRAIN IN U.S.

The CDC [estimates](#) that the Omicron subvariant BA.2 now makes up a majority of new infections in the U.S. 54.9% of cases were caused by the strain nationwide during the week of 3/20/22 – 3/26/22. [U.S. health officials state](#) that BA.2 has not yet led to the steep rise in cases seen in other countries abroad or resulted in more severe cases compared to other Omicron strains. Although, its rising prevalence in the Northeast has health officials keeping a watchful eye on the subvariant for any indication of an increase in severe disease from COVID-19 or strain on the healthcare system. Federal health officials have speculated that BA.2's spread would likely lead to small regional increases in COVID-19 cases, rather than another widespread surge, due to the large spike in Omicron cases the U.S. experienced this past winter.



HIGHER RISK OF DEVELOPING DIABETES AFTER COVID-19 INFECTION

A newly [published study](#) in The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology found that people who recovered from COVID-19 within the past year are 40% more likely to be newly diagnosed with diabetes compared to those who were not infected. This research adds to evidence showing an increased risk after COVID-19 of cardiometabolic conditions, such as diabetes, heart, and kidney complications. These findings represent an [increased risk for 1%](#) of people previously infected with COVID-19 being diagnosed with diabetes who otherwise wouldn't have, resulting in millions of new cases around the globe.



NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH THEME: GIVE YOUR COMMUNITY A BOOST!

Every April, the HHS Office of Minority Health observes National Minority Health Month to highlight the importance of improving the health of racial and ethnic minorities and reducing health disparities in the U.S. This year's theme, Give Your Community a Boost, focuses on the continued importance of COVID-19 vaccination, including boosters. Please help to spread the word by accessing their [sample social media messages, shareable graphics, and information](#) about Give Your Community a Boost!