



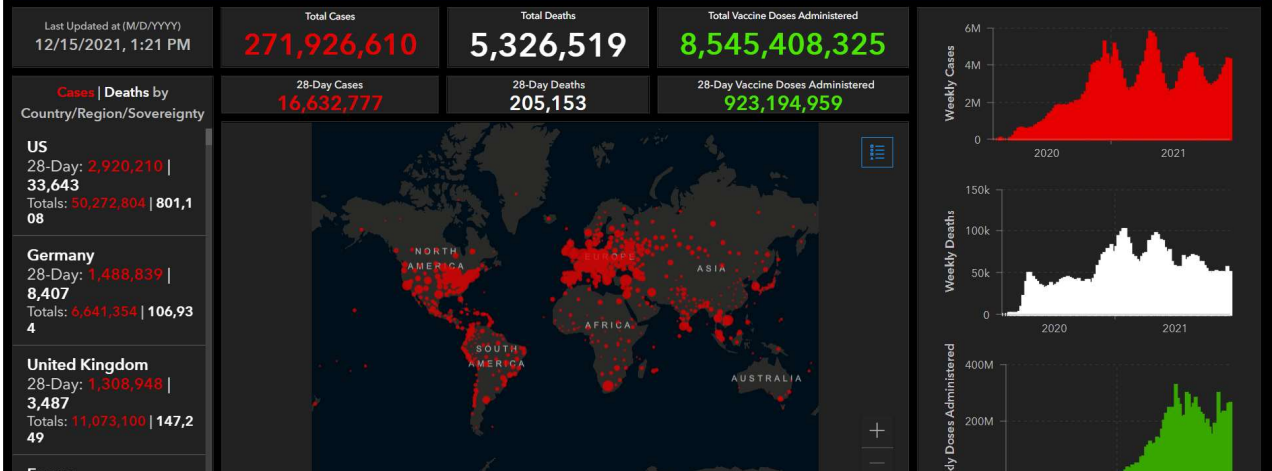
Farah S. Ahmed, MPH, PhD
State Epidemiologist and Environmental Health Officer
COVID-19 Situation Update: December 16, 2021



COVID-19: Situation Around The World



COVID-19 Dashboard by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)



As of 12-15-2021. Available at <https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

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Global Map: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/locations-confirmed-cases.html>.

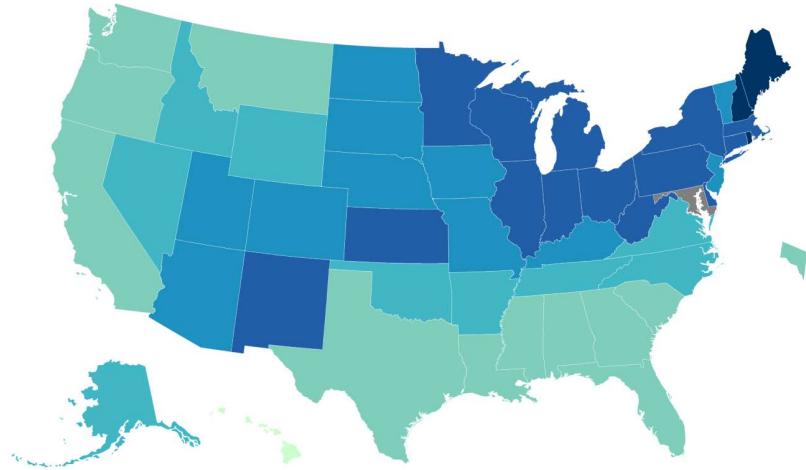
This week, there are almost 272 million cases and there are 5,326,519 deaths around the world.



COVID-19: Situation in the US

- Total cases: 50,052,008

US COVID-19 7-Day Case Rate per 100,000, by State/Territory



As of 12-15-2021. Available at https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_casesper100klast7days

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Last week:

Total cases: 49,322,567 (little over 49 million)

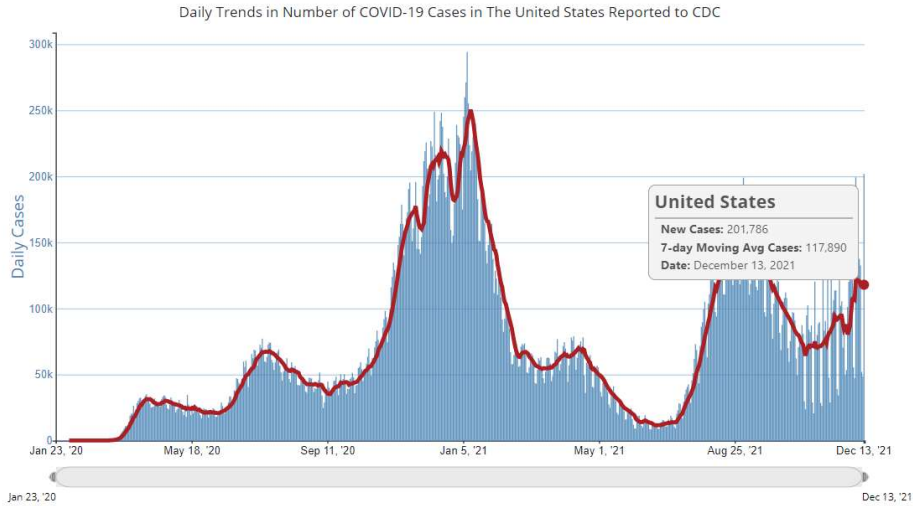
As of yesterday:

This week:

Total cases: 50,052,008



COVID-19: Situation in the US



As of 12-15-2021. Available at https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_dailytrendscases

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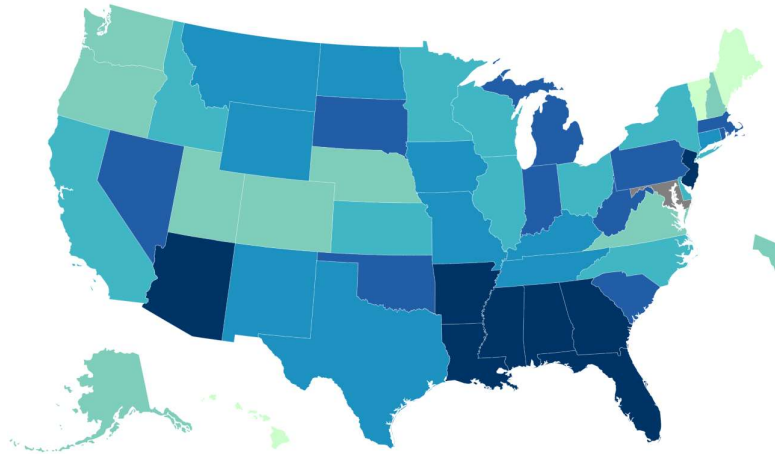
The 7 day average number of cases in the US is 117,890 cases per day. That is up slightly from about 117,488 cases per day last week (so about 400 more cases).



COVID-19: Situation in the US

COVID-19 Death Rate in the US Reported to the CDC, by State/Territory (deaths per 100,000)

- Total deaths: 796,010



As of 12-15-2021. Available at https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_deathsper100k

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Last week:

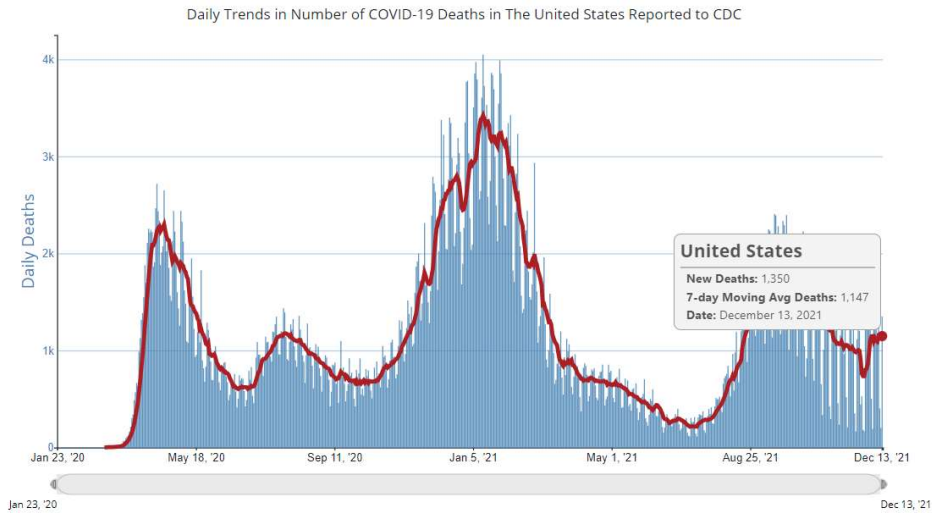
Total deaths since the beginning of the pandemic: 788,903

As of yesterday:

This week: 796,010



COVID-19: Situation in the US



As of 12-15-2021. Available at https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_dailytrendscases

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The 7 day average number of deaths in the US is 1,147 deaths per day which is up from 1,097 last week.



COVID-19: Situation in Kansas

Kansas COVID-19: Overview

COVID-19 Cases	Hospitalizations	Statewide Deaths	MIS-C*
493,492	16,414	6,895	20

Data are preliminary and subject to quality improvement and quality assurance validation.

*MIS-C: Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19.

Last updated: 12/15/2021 at 9:00am. There were 4,138 new cases, 20 new deaths, and 127 new hospitalizations reported since Monday, 12/13/2021.

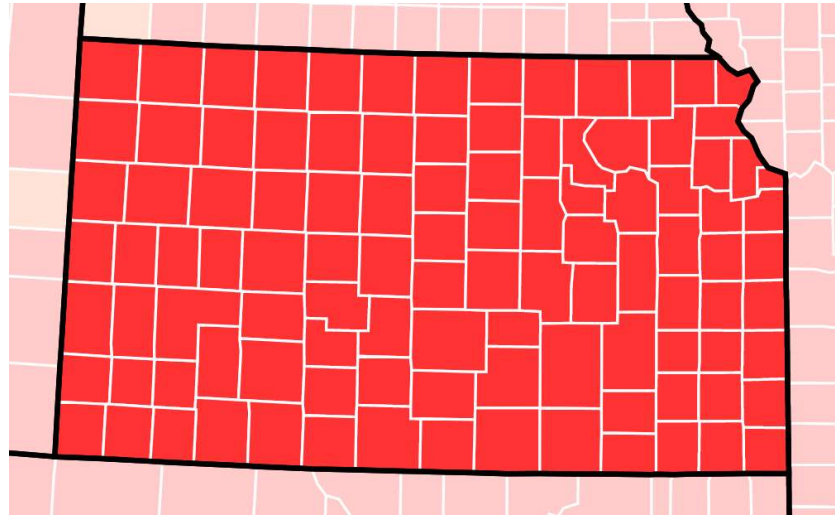
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As of yesterday, in Kansas, we had 493,492 cases and 6,895 deaths statewide. That's an increase of 11,260 cases and 127 deaths reported since last week.

There were 4,138 new cases and 20 new deaths reported between Monday 12/13/2021 and Wednesday 12/15/2021.



COVID-19: Situation in Kansas

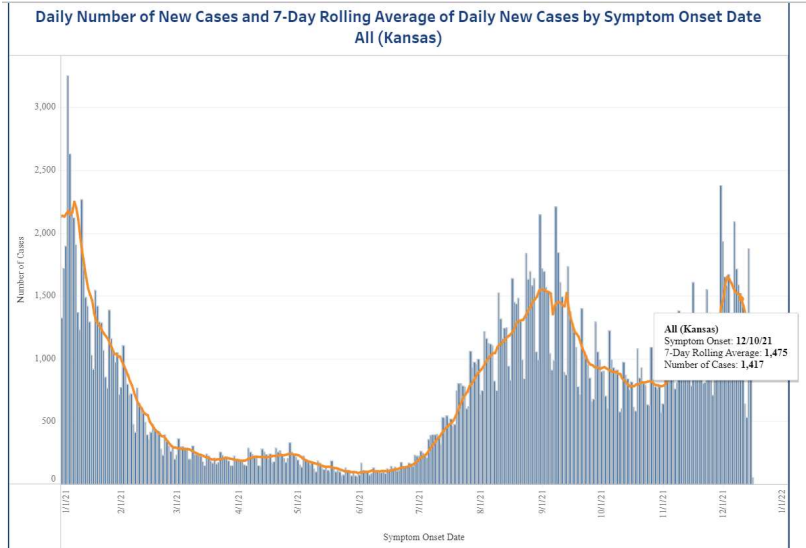


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Looking at CDC's Community Transmission Map, you can see that, for the time period between Tue Dec 07 2021 - Mon Dec 13 2021 all of the counties in KS were in the high (red) level of transmission categories.



COVID-19: Situation in Kansas

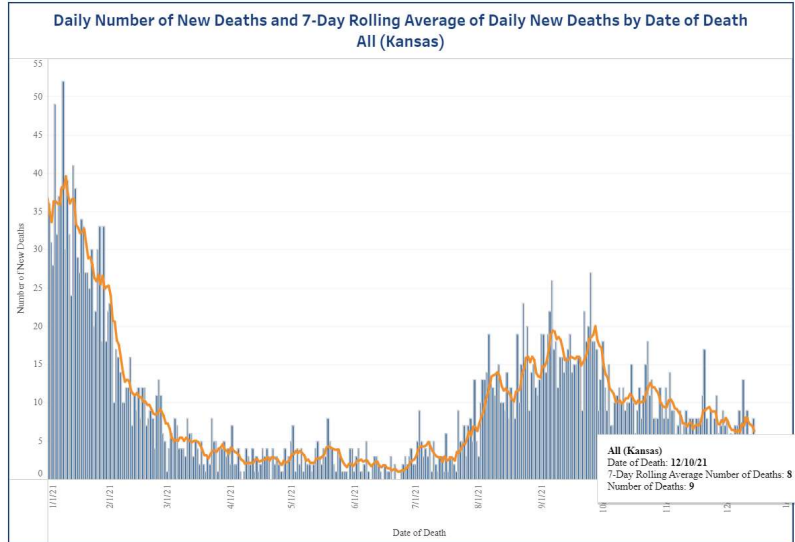


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If you look at the 7 day average number of cases based on symptom onset date, starting with December 4 to December 10, our 7 day rolling average is 1,475 cases per day. Down slightly from 1,537 cases per day last week.



COVID-19: Situation in Kansas



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If you look at the 7 day average number of deaths based on the date of death, starting with December 4 to December 10, our 7 day rolling average is 8 deaths per day. That is up from 6 per day last week.



COVID-19: Situation in Kansas: Outbreaks

Last updated: 12/08/2021 at 9:00 AM. Cluster Summary data is updated every Wednesday.

Active COVID-19 Clusters			
Clusters	Cases	Hospitalizations	Deaths
162	1,655	53	37

All COVID-19 Clusters			
Clusters	Cases	Hospitalizations	Deaths
3,056	48,079	2,335	2,406

- 48,079 outbreak-related cases/493,492 cases (9.7%)
- 2,335 outbreak-related hospitalizations/16,414 total hospitalizations (14.2%)
- 2,406 outbreak-related deaths/6,895 total deaths (34.9%)

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Moving on to outbreaks:

As of late Tuesday night, we had 3,056 outbreaks across the state (since the beginning of the pandemic). This week we have 162 active clusters. That is up from 154 last week.

Our percentage of outbreak related cases is 9.7%, outbreak-related hospitalizations is about 14.2% and outbreak-related deaths is about 34.9%.



COVID-19: Situation in Kansas: Outbreaks

COVID-19 Cluster Cases by Type

Type	Clusters	Cases	Hospitalizations	Deaths
College or University	2	18	0	0
Corrections	7	138	1	0
Daycare	9	37	0	0
Government	1	5	0	0
Group Living	5	98	4	0
Healthcare	7	68	5	3
Long Term Care Facility	58	498	37	34
Private Business	22	146	3	0
Private Event	5	32	0	0
Religious Gathering	2	7	0	0
School	38	508	3	0
Sports	6	100	0	0
Total	162	1,655	53	37

Sort by Cluster Type ▼

Active ▼

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We currently have 9 active outbreaks in daycares, 7 in corrections, 5 in group living, 7 in healthcare settings, and 58 active outbreaks in LTCFs (up from 44 last week). We also have 22 in private businesses and 38 in schools.

Don't forget, if you are interested in seeing the list of named locations with 5 or more cases within the last 14 days, you can go to the dashboard.



COVID-19: Updated Travel Related Quarantine

- No states
- International List
 - Remove Austria, Belgium, Cayman Islands, Czechia, Gibraltar, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Slovakia, and Slovenia
 - Add Andorra
- List will be updated in 3 weeks (no update between Christmas and New Year)

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Later today or tomorrow there should be an update on the travel related quarantine list. Because KS rates are going up, very few places now meet the cutoff of having an incidence at least 3 times ours.



COVID-19: New Literature

Booster and Additional Primary Dose COVID-19 Vaccinations Among Adults Aged ≥65 Years — United States, August 13, 2021–November 19, 2021

Early Release / December 10, 2021 / 70

Hannah E. Fast, MPH^{1,2}; Elizabeth Zell, MStat^{2,4}; Bhavini Patel Murthy, MD^{1,2}; Neil Murthy, MD^{1,2}; Lu Meng, PhD^{2,5}; Lynn Gibbs Scharf, MPH^{1,2}; Carla L. Black, PhD^{1,2}; Lauren Shaw, MS^{1,2}; Terence Chorba, MD^{2,3}; LaTrece Q. Harris, MPH^{1,2} ([View author affiliations](#))

[View suggested citation](#)

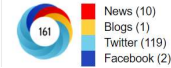
Summary

What is already known about this topic?

Although COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective, vaccine effectiveness wanes over time, and adults aged ≥65 years are at increased risk for severe COVID-19-associated illness. Booster and additional primary vaccine doses increase protection.

Article Metrics

Altmetric:



Available at:

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7050e2.htm?s_cid=mm7050e2_e&ACSTrackingID=USCDC_921-DM71649&ACSTrackingLabel=MMWR%20Early%20Release%20-%20Vol.%2070%2C%20December%2010%2C%202021&deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM71649

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During August 13–November 19, 2021, 18.7 million persons aged ≥65 years received a booster or additional primary dose of COVID-19 vaccine, constituting 44.1% of 42.5 million eligible* persons in this age group who previously completed a primary vaccination series.

Coverage was similar by sex and age group, but varied by race and ethnicity, ranging from 30.3% among non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native persons to 50.5% among non-Hispanic multiple/other race persons.



COVID-19: New Literature

SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 (Omicron) Variant — United States, December 1–8, 2021

Early Release / December 10, 2021 / 70

CDC COVID-19 Response Team ([View author affiliations](#))

[View suggested citation](#)

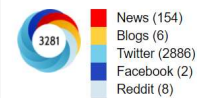
Summary

What is already known about this topic?

SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.529 (Omicron), first reported to WHO on November 24, 2021, has been designated a variant of concern. Mutations in Omicron might increase transmissibility, confer resistance to therapeutics, or partially escape infection- or vaccine-induced immunity.

Article Metrics

Altmetric:



Available at:

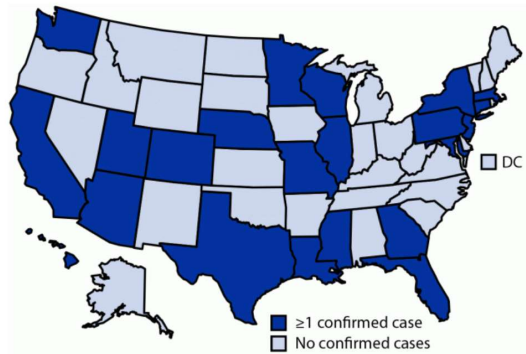
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7050e1.htm?s_cid=mm7050e1_e&ACSTrackingID=USCDC_921-DM71649&ACSTrackingLabel=MMWR%20Early%20Release%20-%20Vol.%2070%2C%20December%2010%2C%202021&deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM71649

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Omicron was first reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) by South Africa on November 24, 2021.

On December 1, the first case of COVID-19 attributed to the Omicron variant was reported in the United States. As of December 8, a total of 22 states had identified at least one Omicron variant case, including some that indicate community transmission. Among 43 cases with initial follow-up, one hospitalization and no deaths were reported.

FIGURE. States reporting at least one confirmed SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 (Omicron) variant COVID-19 case — United States, December 1–8, 2021



Abbreviation: DC = District of Columbia.

Available at:

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7050e1.htm?s_cid=mm7050e1_e&ACSTrackingID=USCDC_921-DM71649&ACSTrackingLabel=MMWR%20Early%20Release%20-%20Vol.%2070%2C%20December%2010%2C%202021&deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM71649

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Details are available for 43 cases of COVID-19 attributed to the Omicron variant; 58% were in persons aged 18–39 years.

The earliest date of symptom onset was November 15 in a person with a history of international travel.

33% persons reported international travel during the 14 days preceding symptom onset or receipt of a positive test result.

79% occurred in persons who completed the primary series of an FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine ≥ 14 days before symptom onset or receipt of a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result, including 14 who had received an additional or booster dose; five of the 14 persons had received the additional dose < 14 days before symptom onset.

14% persons had a documented previous SARS-CoV-2 infection.

The most commonly reported symptoms were cough, fatigue, and congestion or runny nose. One vaccinated patient was hospitalized for 2 days, and no deaths have been

reported to date. Case investigations have identified exposures associated with international and domestic travel, large public events, and household transmission.



Comparative Effectiveness and Antibody Responses to Moderna and Pfizer–BioNTech COVID–19 Vaccines among Hospitalized Veterans — Five Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, United States, February 1–September 30, 2021

Weekly / December 10, 2021 / 70(49);1700–1705

Kristina L. Bajema, MD^{1,*}; Rebecca M. Dahl, MPH^{1,*}; Steve L. Evener, MPH^{1,2}; Mila M. Prill, MSPH¹; Maria C. Rodriguez-Barradas, MD^{3,4}; Vincent C. Marconi, MD^{5,6,7}; David O. Beenhouwer, MD^{8,9}; Mark Holodny, MD^{10,11,12}; Cynthia Lucero-Obusan, MD^{10,11}; Sheldon T. Brown, MD^{13,14}; Maraia Tremarelli, MSPH^{1,15}; Monica Epperson, PhD¹; Lisa Mills, PhD¹; So Hee Park¹; Gilberto Rivera-Dominguez, MD^{3,4}; Rosalba Gomez Morones, MD^{3,4}; Ghazal Ahmadi-Izadi⁵; Rijalda Deovic, MPH⁵; Chad Mendoza⁸; Chan Jeong⁸; Stephanie J. Schrag, DPhil¹; Elissa Meites, MD¹; Aron J. Hall, DVM¹; Miwako Kobayashi, MD¹; Meredith McMorrow, MD¹; Jennifer R. Verani, MD¹; Natalie J. Thornburg, PhD^{1,*}; Diya Surie, MD^{1,*}; SUPERNOVA COVID-19; Surveillance Group ([View author affiliations](#))

[View suggested citation](#)

Summary

Article Metrics

Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7049a2.htm?s_cid=mm7049a2_w

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CDC and collaborators assessed the comparative effectiveness of Moderna and Pfizer–BioNTech vaccines in preventing COVID–19–associated hospitalization at two periods (14–119 days and ≥ 120 days) after receipt of the second vaccine dose among 1,896 U.S. veterans at five Veterans Affairs medical centers (VAMCs) during February 1–September 30, 2021.

During February 1–September 30, 2021, a total of 2,329 hospitalized U.S. veterans with COVID–19–like illness met inclusion criteria. After excluding 433 persons with missing data or ineligible vaccination status, 755 case-patients and 1,141 controls were included in the analysis.

Among these 1,896 patients, effectiveness of the Moderna vaccine was 89.6% (95% CI = 80.1%–94.5%) 14–119 days after the second vaccine dose and 86.1% (95% CI = 77.7%–91.3%) at ≥ 120 days.

Effectiveness of the Pfizer–BioNTech vaccine was 86.0% (95% CI = 77.6%–91.3%) at 14–119 days and 75.1% (95% CI = 64.6%–82.4%) at ≥ 120 days.



COVID-19: New Literature

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

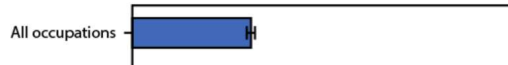
CDC



QuickStats: Percentage* of Employed Adults Who Needed to Work Closer Than 6 Feet from Other Persons All or Most of the Time at Their Main Job,† by Occupation§ — National Health Interview Survey, United States, July–December 2020¶

Weekly / December 10, 2021 / 70(49);1718

[View suggested citation](#)



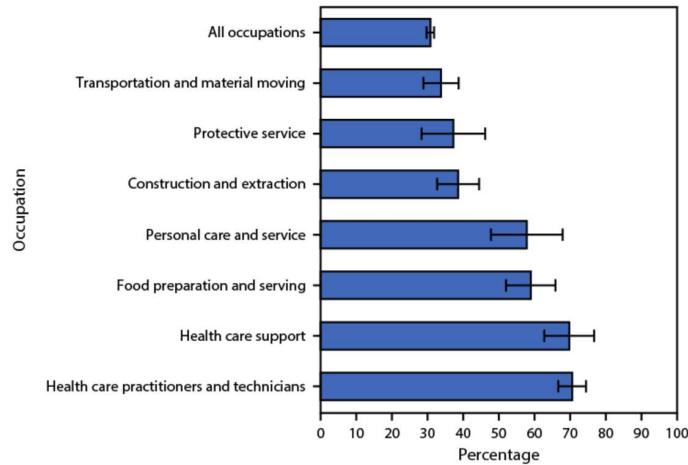
Article Metrics

Altmetric:

Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7049a7.htm?s_cid=mm7049a7_w

To protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans

Survey results from the National Health Interview Survey between July and December 2020. Based on responses to the question, “Currently, at your main job or business, how often do you need to work closer than 6 feet to other people? Would you say all of the time, most of the time, some of the time, or none of the time?”



Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7049a7.htm?s_cid=mm7049a7_w

To protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans

During July–December 2020, 30.7% of all currently employed workers needed to work closer than 6 ft (2 m) from other persons at their job all or most of the time. The four occupations with the highest percentages were health care practitioners and technicians (70.5%), health care support (69.7%), food preparation and serving (58.9%), and personal care and service (57.8%) occupations.



COVID-19: New Literature

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Breakthrough Infections with SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant Despite Booster Dose of mRNA Vaccine

8 Pages · Posted: 10 Dec 2021

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Date Written: December 9, 2021

Abstract

Based on its genetic profile and preliminary in vitro and epidemiological data, the recently emerged SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant is predicted to evade immune responses to some extent. We report a cluster of Omicron variant infections in individuals who had received full primary vaccination series and booster doses

Available at: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3981711

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Report on a group of German visitors who received three doses of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, including at least two of a mRNA vaccine, yet experienced breakthrough infections with the Omicron variant in late November / early December 2021 while in Cape Town, South Africa.

Six cases were fully vaccinated with BNT162b2 (Comirnaty; BioNTech, Mainz, Germany). Five of these received a third (booster) dose of BNT162b2 in October or early November 2021 and one received a full dose (0.5 mL, 100 mcg) of mRNA-1273 (Spikevax; Moderna, Cambridge, MA, USA) at the beginning of October. The seventh subject received an initial dose of ChAdOx1-S (Vaxzevria; AstraZeneca, Cambridge, U.K.), followed by a dose of BNT162b2 for completion of primary immunization, and a booster dose of the same vaccine. None of them had a reported history of a SARS-CoV-2 infection.

During a marked increase in incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infections in the Western Cape province, these individuals observed onset of mild respiratory symptoms from 30 November to 2 December 2021.

Initial symptoms were sore throat (85.7 %), fatigue (71.4 %), headaches (57.14 %), dry

cough (42.9%), chest pressure, sinus pressure, rhinitis and nausea (all reported by 28.6 %) (Table 2). Night sweats were seen in one patient within the first three days after symptom onset. As the infection progressed, all individuals developed a dry cough, 85.7 % had sinus pressure, and 71.4 % had rhinitis. Fever was reported by 14.3 % of patients.

Overall, all cases described their symptoms as mild or moderate and none required hospitalisation during the observation period (Figure 1). Blood oxygenation levels remained in the normal range without exception.

Cornell University reports more than 900 Covid-19 cases this week. Many are Omicron variant cases in fully vaccinated students

By Elizabeth Stuart and Sarah Boxer, CNN
Updated 8:33 PM ET, Tue December 14, 2021



(CNN) — Cornell University reported 903 cases of Covid-19 among students between December 7-13, and a "very high percentage" of them are Omicron variant cases in fully vaccinated individuals, according to university officials.

The school's Covid-19 dashboard was updated late Tuesday afternoon, accounting for the jump in case numbers reported.

More from CNN

Kim Kardashian passes California's 'baby bar' law exam at fourth...

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem's daughter was given an extra...



News & Buzz

Oxford school shooting victim's brother: 'Never in my life will I feel this pain again'

Available at: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/12/14/us/cornell-university-covid-cases/index.html>

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Cornell University reported 903 cases of [Covid-19](#) among students between December 7-13, and a "very high percentage" of them are Omicron variant cases in fully vaccinated individuals, according to university officials.

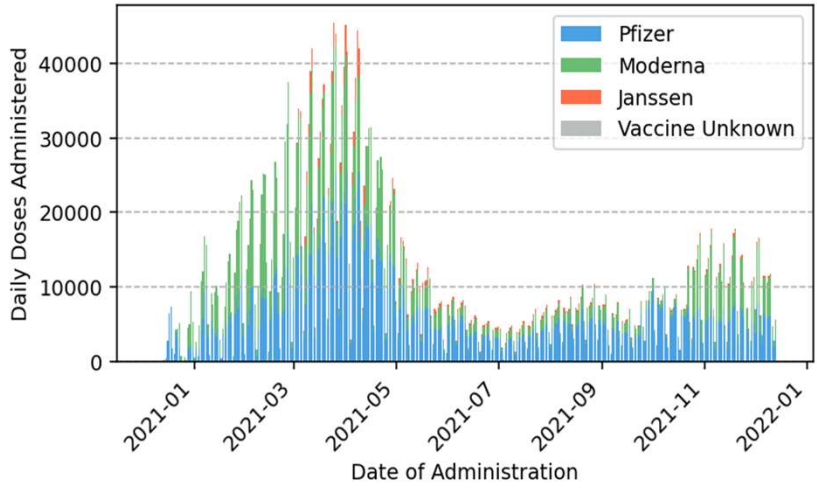
A microscopic image showing several spherical virus particles. The particles are covered in a dense layer of red and yellow spikes, characteristic of coronaviruses. They are set against a blurred background of other similar particles.

Phil Griffin, Director, Disease Control & Prevention
Immunization Update
December 16, 2021



Vaccination Trends

Total Number of Doses Administered, by Date of Administration and Vaccine Manufacturer



Generated by Tiberius on 12/15/2021

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Order Vaccine As Needed

Avoid missed opportunities!

Minimum order is 1 vial of any vaccine through direct shipment form KDHE

How to receive vaccine: To place an order for vaccine for delivery next week, please complete the following [order form](#) as soon as possible and no later than **Wednesday 5pm CT**.

Ordering ahead of the deadline will make for happier holidays for everyone. Because of the two four day weeks upcoming, staff will be working as to pack and prepare for shipping as orders come into the survey.

Please keep Vaccine Finder current. This impacts vaccine.gov and visibility of the vaccine you have available to administer in addition to ordering caps for the state.

To protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans



Boosters Recommended for ages 16 – 17

KS-HAN



December 9, 2021

To: Vaccine Providers

RE: Booster Dose of COVID-19 Vaccines Now Authorized and Recommended ages 16 and older

Today, the Federal Drug Administration and the CDC Director have authorized booster doses of COVID – 19 vaccine for persons 16 and 17 years of age. Kansas Department of Health and Environment supports this recommendation and all Kansas COVID providers are encouraged to follow the recommendation.

CDC Director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky stated, "Today, CDC is strengthening its booster recommendations and encouraging everyone 16 and older to receive a booster shot. Although we don't have all the answers on the Omicron variant, initial data suggests that COVID-19 boosters help broaden and strengthen the protection against Omicron and other variants. We know that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective, and I strongly encourage adolescents ages 16 and 17 to get their booster if they are at least 6 months post their initial Pfizer vaccination series."

Booster doses are recommended for all persons 16 and older who have completed a 2-dose primary series of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at least six months prior or Johnson and Johnson Vaccine at least two months prior. At this time, only the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and recommended for adolescents aged 16 and 17.

Providers who have questions may contact the Kansas Immunization Program at kdhe.vaccine@ks.gov.

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Updated ACIP/CDC Guidance

















ACIP/CDC Guidance:

- People 16 through 17 years old may receive a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 booster dose based on individual risks and benefits at least 6 months after completing their primary series of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
- People 16 through 17 years old with moderate or severe immunocompromise may receive a booster dose at least 6 months after their additional (3rd) dose.
- [Pfizer Communication](#)

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COVID-19 Vaccine eligibility information for Primary, Additional and Booster vaccines

The chart below contains information on who is eligible for which COVID-19 vaccine:

Eligible group				
Primary series <i>Refers to vaccinations needed to be considered fully vaccinated</i>	Ages 5-11 <i>(Note: Children ages 5 to 11 require a pediatric dose of the Pfizer vaccine)</i>	 21 days apart	Not yet authorized	Not yet authorized
	Ages 12-17	 21 days apart	Not yet authorized	Not yet authorized
	Ages 18 and older	 21 days apart	 28 days apart	
Additional dose <i>Some groups require three doses to be fully vaccinated</i>	<i>Additional doses should be the same vaccine type as primary series if available</i>			
<i>Note: Booster doses may be given 6 months after additional dose</i>	Those moderately and severely immunocompromised who are 12 & older and received mRNA primary series (Pfizer or Moderna)	 28 days after primary	 28 days after primary	Not authorized
Booster dose <i>Refers to dose given to increase immunity against mild and moderate COVID-19 infections</i>	<i>Booster doses can be mix and match - you may receive any of the approved vaccines as your booster</i>			
	Ages 16 and older who received mRNA primary series or additional dose (Pfizer or Moderna) <i>(Note: Pfizer is the only authorized booster for adolescents aged 16 and 17)</i>	 6 months after primary or additional	 6 months after primary or additional	 6 months after primary or additional
	Ages 18 and older who received J&J primary series	 2 months after primary	 2 months after primary	 2 months after primary

Note: You may receive flu or any other vaccines at the same time as a COVID-19 vaccine

Provider quick reference guide for administration of **all** COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccine Type	Age	Storage Requirements	Preparation	Doses / Vial	Dosage	Beyond use date	Frequency	Additional dose	Booster
Pfizer-BioNTech (orange cap)	5-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ultra-cold freezer: -90°C to -60°C, 6 months <u>Do not</u> store in reg freezer Refrigerator: 2°C to 8°C, up to 10 wks 	Dilution with 0.9% sterile Sodium Chloride Injection, USP: 1.3mL per vial	10 doses per vial (10 µg per dose)	0.2mL (after dilution)	<i>*Once diluted or punctured for all Vx types</i> 12 hrs (refrigerated or room temp)	2 doses 21 days apart	28 days after primary series <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals should receive an additional (3rd) dose of mRNA vaccine 	Excludes 5-15-YOs 6 months after primary series <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 16+ recommended to receive booster Moderately to severely immunocompromised (6 months after 3rd dose) may receive booster
Pfizer-BioNTech (purple cap)	12+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ultra-cold freezer: -90°C to -60°C, 9 months Freezer: -20°C to -15°C, up to 2 wks Refrigerator: 2°C to 8°C, up to 31 days 	Dilution with 0.9% sterile Sodium Chloride Injection, USP: 1.8mL per vial	6 doses per vial (30 µg per dose)	0.3mL (after dilution)	6 hrs (refrigerated or room temp)			
Moderna	18+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freezer: -50°C to -15°C Refrigerator: 2°C to 8°C, up to 30 days 	No dilution needed	2 sizes: Max 10 doses per vial Max 14 doses per vial Max 20 punctures for either vial presentation	Primary: 0.5mL Booster: 0.25mL	12 hrs (refrigerated or room temp)			
J&J / Janssen	18+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refrigerator: 2°C to 8°C 	No dilution needed	5 doses/vial	0.5mL	6 hrs (refrigerated) 2 hrs (room temp)	1 dose	N/A	2 months after primary series <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recipients

Wastage: Discard any vaccine amount that remains in the vial after drawing max doses per vial

Booster Mix-and-match: Individuals 18+ fall into one of the groups listed in the "Booster" column may receive a booster dose of **ANY** of the three COVID-19



Pfizer Training and Updates

Goal: Educate providers and immunization staff personnel on the proper use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

Session topics include:

- Introduction of the **DO NOT DILUTE / Gray Cap** formulation for individuals 12 years of age and older.
- Use of the vaccine for:
 - Children 5 through 11 Years of Age
 - Individuals 12 Years of Age and Older
- Storage, Handling, Preparation & Administration for the multiple presentations of the vaccine
- Recent medical updates regarding the vaccine
- An overview of healthcare provider resources

These sessions will be **updated** to reflect new information and changes that evolve. Recent updates will be identified at the start of each session.

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Pfizer Training and Updates

Date and Time with link	Password
Attendee link – Thurs December 16 – 12 PM ET	cVST3X9Rff2
Attendee link – Fri December 17 – 12 PM ET	ybW7Pnf6nN2
Attendee link – Mon December 20 – 3 PM ET	TupjKrQv427
Attendee link – Tues December 21 – 12 PM ET	BTt8MrXwR58
Attendee link – Tues December 28 – 12 PM ET	47DiG6JXsgA
Attendee link – Wed December 29 – 3 PM ET	dwQkMZmJ258

<https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates>

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”The EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine (Vaccination Providers) (Full Prescribing Information) is revised to include the following new information:

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

4.2 Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia

Do not administer the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine to individuals with a history of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia following the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine or any other adenovirus-vectored COVID-19 vaccines (e.g. AstraZeneca’s COVID-19 vaccine which is not authorized or approved in the United States) [see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)].



5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.2 Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS)

This section was revised to state the following: Reports to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS), a passive surveillance system, provide evidence for an increased risk of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) with onset of symptoms approximately one to two weeks after administration of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. An analysis of VAERS reports of TTS following the receipt of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine used the following case definition:

- a thrombosis in an unusual location for a thrombus (i.e., cerebral vein, visceral artery or vein, extremity artery, central artery or vein) and new-onset thrombocytopenia (i.e., platelet count $<150,000/\mu\text{L}$) occurring any time after vaccination;
- or;
- new-onset thrombocytopenia (i.e., platelet count $<150,000/\mu\text{L}$), thrombosis in an extremity vein or pulmonary artery in the absence of thrombosis at an unusual location, and a positive anti-PF4 antibody ELISA test or functional HIT (heparin induced thrombocytopenia) platelet test occurring any time after vaccination.



Johnson and Johnson EUA Changes

Cases of TTS following administration of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine have been reported in males and females, in a wide age range of individuals 18 years and older, with the highest reporting rate (approximately 1 case per 100,000 doses administered) in females ages 30-49 years; overall, approximately 15% of TTS cases have been fatal.

Currently available evidence supports a causal relationship between TTS and the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine.

<https://www.fda.gov/media/154870/download>

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ACIP Meeting Today

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will meet virtually today from 11:00CT to 3:00 PM to consider the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine recommendations. Web Link <https://video.ibm.com/channel/VWBXKBR8af4>

Thursday, December 16, 2021

12:00	Welcome & Introductions	Dr. Grace Lee (ACIP Chair) Dr. Melinda Wharton (ACIP Executive Secretary, CDC)
12:15	Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccines	
	Introduction	Dr. Matthew Daley (ACIP, WG Chair)
	Updates on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS)	Dr. Isaac See (CDC/NCEZID)
	VaST summary	Dr. Keipp Talbot (VaST Chair)
	Updates to the benefit/risk assessment for Janssen COVID-19 vaccines:	Dr. Sara Oliver (CDC/NCIRD)
	Applying the Evidence to Recommendation Framework	
	Discussion	
	<i>Break</i>	
2:00		
2:10	Public Comment	
2:30	<u>VOTE</u>	
	Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine: Updated recommendations for use	Dr. Sara Oliver (CDC/NCIRD)
	<i>Break</i>	
	COVID-19 vaccine safety surveillance in children 5-11 years of age	Dr. John Su (CDC/NCEZID)
4:00	Adjourn	

Note agenda times are ET

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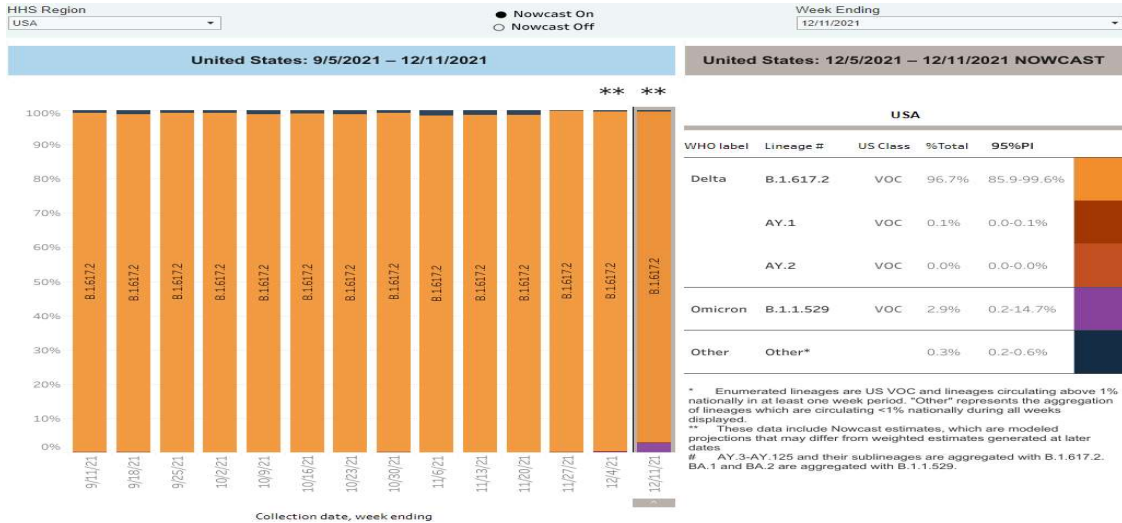


N Myron Gunsalus, Jr, KHEL Director
COVID-19 Laboratory Update
December 16, 2021



COVID-19: Laboratory Update

COVID Variants and Testing 12/11/21 Nowcast



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https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcases-updates%2Fvariant-surveillance%2Fgenomic-surveillance-dashboard.html#variant-proportions

96.8% Delta

2.9% Omicron in purple



Omicron Screening

- State lab screening all positive samples for gene deletion.
- Also randomly sequencing a subset of these positives regardless
- There is an Omicron variant that does not have the S gene dropout
- Genetic sequencing is still standard to confirm Omicron
- If you see unusual patterns or detect any S gene dropouts, please contact us to do sequencing on those samples.
- Most test kits still will detect positive COVID even if Omicron

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Supply Chain Notes

- There are more and more options for rapid waived tests and for self collected tests.
- BD Veritor has extended the expiration date for their COVID test kits
- Abbott still a bit challenged but some movement
- Cepheid, heard this week there may be challenges with this.
- CDC COVID only test EUA expiring and not indicated to be renewed

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COVID-19: Laboratory Update

Keeping Laboratories Connected

- We want to be able to notify laboratories directly with time critical updates or information.
- Kansas Health Alert Network (KS-HAN)
- Be sure to register to be included in laboratory alerts.
- Tell other labs (Commercial, Hospital, Waived, etc)
 - https://www.kdheks.gov/it_systems/ks-han.htm

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https://www.kdheks.gov/it_systems/ks-han.htm



Helpful Contacts

- **General Laboratory Information and LABXCHANGE**
 - KDHE.KHELINFO@ks.gov
- **CLIA Certification Questions:**
 - KDHE.CLIA2@ks.gov
- **School Testing Program Contact**
 - Sarah Allin, K-12 Funding Project Manager
 - Sarah.allin@ks.gov
- **Courier Service**
 - Chad Yamashita (Chad.Yamashita@ks.gov)

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KHEL – laboratory updates and notes

- **Holiday testing schedule**
 - State-wide courier will not be running on 12/24 or 12/31
 - KHEL will be closed on 12/25 and 1/1
 - KHEL will have minimal staff running on 12/24, 12/26, 12/31, and 1/2
 - Get samples in early if possible!
- **BD Veritor kits have received an extension to their expiration date of 4 months**

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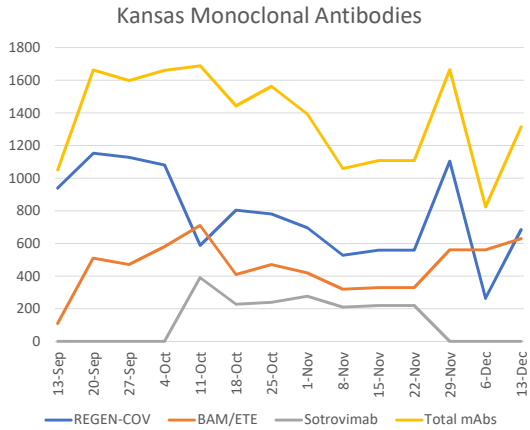


Michael McNulty, Emergency Management Director
Monoclonal Antibody Update
December 9, 2021



Kansas Allocations

WEEK	REGEN-COV	BAM/ETE	ETE SOLO	Sotrovimab
25-Oct	780 (97.01%)	230 (114.63%)	240 (114.63%)	312 (136.84%)
1-Nov	696 (89.23%)	420 (89.36%)	0	276 (88.46%)
8-Nov	528 (75.86%)	320 (76.19%)	0	210 (76.08%)
15-Nov	558 (105.68%)	330 (103.13%)	0	220 (104.76%)
22-Nov	558 (100%)	330 (100%)	0	220 (100%)
29-Nov	1104 (197.85%)	560 (169.69%)	0	0
6-Dec	264 (23.91%)	560 (100%)	0	0
13-Dec	684 (259.09%)	630 (112.5%)	0	0



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REGEN-COV is down 27.24% from the state's initial allocation numbers. (940 = 9/13/2021)
 Kansas is getting 1.4% of allocated mAbs



Federal Updates

- Current distribution is for two-week cycles through the end of the calendar year
 - Distributing 200,000 total doses (two-week allocation)
- Moving forward, HHS expects a 50:50 ratio of REGEN-COV to BAM/ETE and/or Sotrovimab

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Current COVID-19 Medical Countermeasures

- **Bamlanivimab/etesevimab**
 - <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/Bamlanivimab-etesevimab/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Shelf-Life Extension of Bamlanivimab
 - <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/Bamlanivimab/Pages/20Aug21-announcement.aspx>
- **Sotrovimab**
 - <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/Sotrovimab/Pages/default.aspx>
- **REGEN-COV**
 - https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/cas_imd/Pages/default.aspx

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FDA Expands Authorization of BAM/ETE

- BAM/ETE now authorized for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in all younger pediatric patients, including newborns, who have a positive COVID-19 test and are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death
- Previous authorization was limited to pediatric patients 12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kilograms, or about 88 pounds
- Revision also authorizes BAM/ETE for post-exposure prophylaxis for prevention of COVID-19 in all pediatric patients, including newborns, at high risk of progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death
- EUA details: <https://www.fda.gov/media/145802/download>

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Evusheld (AZD7442)

- For moderate to severely immunocompromised individuals OR people with a severe adverse reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine or any of the components of the vaccine who can't be vaccinated
- NOT intended for people with COVID or exposed to someone with COVID
- Two IM injections administered every 6 months to prevent COVID-19 infection
- KDHE is working with targeted facilities based on EUA requirements
- This is NOT available for request.

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Future COVID-19 Therapeutics

- Merck and Pfizer submitted applications to FDA for EUA for molnupiravir and Paxlovid, respectively, investigational oral antiviral drugs, for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults who are at risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization
- KDHE is currently planning allocation strategies for these medications

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Health Partner Ordering Portal (HPOP)

- The new COVID-19 therapies will be managed through HPOP
- If you receive an email regarding HPOP there is a time limit
 - Complete account activation process
 - Verify address
 - Verify business hours
 - Enter pharmacy license number and expiration date
- Eventually all COVID-19 therapies will be managed through HPOP
 - This transition will take a few months

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HHS Protect/TeleTracking Reporting

- Sites administering USG-purchased monoclonal antibodies MUST provide information regarding product utilization and stock on hand through HHS Protect/TeleTracking
- Therapeutic Course Inventory and Usage – Report Once Weekly for Wednesday’s Date
 - Therapeutic A Courses on Hand Casirivimab/Imdevimab
 - Therapeutic A Courses Administered in Last Week Casirivimab/Imdevimab
 - Therapeutic C Courses on Hand Bamlanivimab/ Etesevimab
 - Therapeutic C Courses Administered in Last Week Bamlanivimab/ Etesevimab
- <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/Pages/COVID19-therapeutics-teletracking.aspx>

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Requesting

- KDHE now has a small quantity of mAbs for requesting from appropriate facilities. Place a request by emailing mike.mcnulty@ks.gov
- If you have any questions related to monoclonal antibody distribution in Kansas, please contact Michael McNulty (mike.mcnulty@ks.gov)

To protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans



Matt Lara, Communications Director
Comms Update
December 9, 2021



Booster One Pager



COVID-19 VACCINE BOOSTER SHOT FAQs



Last updated: 12/10/2021



Why do I need a COVID-19 booster vaccine?

COVID-19 vaccines continue to decrease the risk of getting sick, ending up in the hospital, or dying because of COVID-19, including from the Delta variant. Public health experts however are starting to see less protection against getting sick from COVID-19 because of the Delta and Omicron variants. The purpose of booster vaccines is to keep a high level of protection against COVID-19 infection. Booster doses are common for vaccines targeting many other different types of diseases too.

Right now, almost all the worst cases COVID-19, including when people end up in the hospital or die from COVID-19 happen to people who are not fully vaccinated. People not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 should get their first series of vaccines to decrease the risk of these bad outcomes. The best way to protect yourself and your loved ones is to get vaccinated. Being vaccinated will reduce your own risk of getting sick and will help protect your community against spreading the virus and possibly causing the virus to mutate into more dangerous forms.

<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/328/COVID-19-Vaccine-Booster-One-Pager-PDF?bidId=>



Which vaccine has been approved for a COVID-19 vaccine booster?

As of October 21, **all three COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen) have been authorized for booster doses by the FDA and CDC.**

Eligible people can choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. The FDA and CDC have authorized "mix and match" booster doses, meaning that you can get a booster dose of any of the three available COVID-19 vaccines (no matter which vaccine you previously got).

As of December 9, 2021, the only booster authorized for adolescents ages 16 and 17 is the Pfizer booster



Where do I get the COVID-19 vaccine booster?

The CDC's Vaccine Finder Tool helps people find and make vaccine appointments: [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).



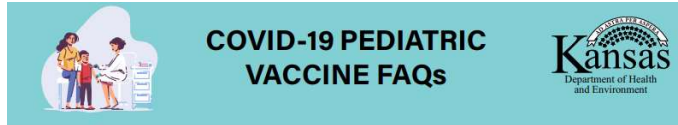
When can I get my COVID-19 vaccine booster?

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<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/328/COVID-19-Vaccine-Booster-One-Pager-PDF?bidId=>



Pediatric One Pager



Why is it important for my child to get vaccinated for COVID-19?

COVID-19 vaccines **help stop people from getting very sick, ending up in the hospital, or dying** because of COVID-19. Although children with COVID-19 often have milder symptoms than adults, studies have shown they are infected at similar rates, can get sick from COVID-19, and spread it to others. With the Delta variant of COVID-19, more children have been hospitalized than at any other time during the pandemic. **Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is the best way to keep children healthy** so they can safely get back to their normal activities.



Which type of vaccines are authorized for children?

On November 2, 2021, the FDA and CDC authorized and recommended through emergency use authorization the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11. This vaccine is the only one authorized for children ages 5 and older right now.



Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe and effective for children?



My child has already had COVID-19, should they still receive a vaccine?

Yes, your child **should be vaccinated whether or not they already had COVID-19**. Research has not yet shown how long you are protected from getting COVID-19 again after you recover. **Vaccination will help protect your child even if they already had COVID-19.**



Where can I take my child to get their COVID-19 vaccine?

Your children who are age 5 or older can now receive the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine from a large network of vaccine providers across Kansas including **doctor's offices, pharmacies, local health departments and clinics**. For more information, please contact your local provider. You can also use the CDC's Vaccine Finder Tool to find and make vaccine appointments: [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).



When can my child get a COVID-19 vaccine?

For your children age 5 or older, the **vaccine is available now**. Children under the age of 5 are not yet eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. The CDC

<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/359/COVID-19-Pediatric-Vaccine-One-Pager?bidId=>

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<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/359/COVID-19-Pediatric-Vaccine-One-Pager?bidId=>



Omicron Variant Social Graphics

COVID-19 and the Omicron variant

What We Know:

The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19 is to get fully vaccinated and boosted, combined with prevention strategies like wearing a mask in crowds or indoors.

Dated: 12/1/2021

What We're Learning:

Scientific studies are currently underway to learn if Omicron is more contagious or causes more severe disease than other variants, and how effective vaccines are against Omicron.

COVID-19 and the Omicron variant

The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19, including the variant, is to get vaccinated and boosted

Dated: 12/1/2021



Sample Posts

- The emergence of the Omicron variant underscores the importance of vaccination, boosters, and preventive efforts to protect against COVID-19. Learn more: [\[link to local/state landing page\]](#)
- Scientists and public health officials are learning more about the #COVID19 Omicron variant every day. We'll keep you updated here, and what we know is that the best way to prevent the spread of this new variant or any other variant is to get vaccinated, get a booster if you are eligible, and take precautions like wearing a mask indoors and in crowds. Learn more: [\[link to local/state landing page\]](#)

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<https://publichealthcollaborative.org/resources/shareable-graphics-omicron-variant/>



Mental Health and the Holidays

Mental Health and the Holidays

The holiday season can bring joy to many, but it can also be a stressful time of year. Stress, anxiety, and loneliness may be compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are feeling stressed, start by acknowledging and accepting your feelings, and take steps that make you feel safe.



If you are feeling isolated this holiday season, reach out or ask for help if you need it.



Setting boundaries can help you feel more in control of the season's celebrations, in a way that is best for you.



Use positive coping strategies that can support your mental health—like practicing mindfulness, exercising, eating well, spending time in nature, and getting enough sleep.



Do what you can to stay healthy by getting vaccinated or a booster if you are eligible, and by wearing a mask or practicing social distancing where advisable—indoors and in crowds.

Additional Resources

CDC Mental Health Resources
[HowRightNow.org](https://www.cdc.gov/mentalhealth/)

National Alliance on Mental Illness
[NAMI.org](https://www.nami.org/)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
800-273-8255

Public Health Communications Collaborative

Sample Posts

- The holiday season can be joyful, but it can also be stressful—and that might be compounded by COVID-19. You are not alone. Here are some tips for positive coping strategies and ways to stay healthy this season. Learn more: *[insert local/state landing page on mental health]*
- The *[insert department/organization name]* wishes you a happy, healthy holiday season—and that means taking care of your mental health, along with practicing COVID-19 safety. What are you doing to take care of yourself this holiday season?

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<https://publichealthcollaborative.org/featured-resources/shareable-graphic-mental-health-and-the-holidays/>



Questions?