

IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 UPDATE

ISSUE NO 3 | FEBRUARY 24, 2021



QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

When a vaccine provider receives their weekly vaccine allotment, how will they distinguish new doses from those that are to be used for second dose administration?

All providers who have been designated to receive an allotment of vaccines will receive an email from the Louisiana Immunization Program that designates the number of first and second doses that will be delivered. Here is an example of the email a provider will receive.

You are scheduled to receive COVID vaccine in the next shipment. Boost dose deliveries can be expected on Friday of this week. Prime dose deliveries can be expected early next week. If you have any questions or concerns with the types of vaccine or the vaccine quantities you are set to receive, please contact the Immunization Program at la.immunization@la.gov.

Product:	Moderna		Pfizer	
Shipment type:	Dose 1 (Prime)	Dose 2 (Boost)	Dose 1 (Prime)	Dose 2 (Boost)
Quantity:	100	100		

Reminder: Never decline a vaccine delivery with the shipping/delivery company. Instead, accept all delivered vaccine shipments, and if something is not correct, immediately contact the Immunization Program at la.immunization@la.gov. Leave the vaccine and ancillary boxes unopened, and an immunization representative will transfer the vaccine to a nearby vaccination site the same day.

VACCINE DOSES
ADMINISTERED IN
LOUISIANA

857,963

EXPANSION OF
COVID-19
VACCINE
ELIGIBILITY

Effective Monday, February 22, 2021 – The State of Louisiana has expanded the criteria for Phase 1B, Tier 1 of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

EUA FOR J&J
COVID-19
VACCINE

FDA's staff endorsed Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. FDA will meet Friday, February 26, 2021, to review J&J's request for emergency use authorization.

WEEKLY COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

Here is an overview of major updates that occurred over the week.

Expansion of COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility

The State of Louisiana has expanded the criteria for Phase 1B, Tier 1 of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign. This expansion, effective Monday, February 22, includes all persons previously available in Phases 1A and 1B, Tier 1 and expands Phase 1B, Tier 1 to include:

- Teachers and any other support staff working onsite in K-12 schools or daycares
- Individuals aged 55-64 with at least one of the conditions listed by the CDC as placing them at **an increased risk of severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19**
 - *Conditions include:* cancer, chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Down syndrome, heart conditions, immunocompromised state from solid organ transplant, obesity (BMI of 30kg/m² or higher but less than 40kg/m²), severe obesity (BMI>40kg/m²), sickle cell disease, smoking, Type 2 diabetes mellitus (The [CDC list of conditions](#) can be found at tinyurl.com/yrzrkzt2)
- All pregnant persons, regardless of age
- Providers/staff of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Services (NEMT)
- Election workers assigned to work the March and April 2021 elections

Persons with above mentioned medical conditions should be instructed to complete the [Louisiana COVID-19 Vaccine Attestation Form](#) which can be found at covidvaccine.la.gov.

McKesson COVID-19 Vaccine Shipment Notifications

Beginning with orders approved on Saturday, February 20, vaccine shipments to providers will be preceded by two emails from McKesson:

1. NEW EMAIL – An [order acknowledgement email](#) that is sent once the order has been received into the McKesson system
2. An [advance shipment email](#) that is sent once the order has shipped from the McKesson depot containing the carrier tracking details

Both of these emails will be sent to the provider (facility) level email address that is transmitted with the order in VTrckS. Both of these emails will be sent from CDCNotifications@mckesson.com.

Please note, this is a NEW email address for McKesson. Awardees should request that providers **whitelist this address so that the**

emails are not blocked. Please do not send correspondence to this mailbox, as it is not monitored for incoming emails.

FDA Staff Endorses Johnson & Johnson Single-Shot COVID-19 Vaccine for Emergency Use

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) staff endorsed Johnson & Johnson's (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use, a critical step in bringing a third shot to the U.S. marketplace.

The staff report released Wednesday, February 24, 2021, is meant to brief the FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee, which will meet Friday, February 26, 2021, to review J&J's request for emergency use authorization.

J&J submitted its COVID vaccine data to the FDA on February 4, 2021. The vaccine's level of protection varied by region, with the shot demonstrating 66% effectiveness overall (72% in the United States, 66% in Latin America, and 57% in South Africa). The company said the vaccine prevented 100% of hospitalizations and deaths.

No specific safety concerns were identified when analyzed by age, race, and comorbidities. There were no reports of anaphylaxis. FDA says the most common side effects reported were headache and fatigue, followed by muscle aches, nausea, and fever.

J&J is seeking authorization for use in people ages 18 and older.

J&J has a deal with the federal government to supply 100 million doses of its vaccine by the end of June. The company has said they plan to ship the vaccine, which contains five doses per vial, at 36° to 46°F.

Improve How Your Mask Protects You

Correct and consistent mask use is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. Masks work best when everyone wears them, but not all masks provide the same protection. When choosing a mask, look at how well it fits, how well it filters the air, and how many layers it has.

DO



Choose a mask with a nose wire

- A nose wire is a metal strip along the top of the mask.
- Nose wires prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask.
- Bend the nose wire over your nose to fit close to your face.



Use a mask fitter or brace

- Use a mask fitter or brace over a disposable mask or a cloth mask to prevent air from leaking around the edges of the mask.



Check that it **fits snugly** over your nose, mouth, and chin

- Check for gaps by cupping your hands around the edges of the mask.
- Make sure no air is flowing from the area near your eyes or from the sides of the mask.
- If the mask has a good fit, you will feel warm air come through the front of the mask and may be able to see the mask material move in and out with each breath.



Add **layers** of material

- Use a cloth mask that has multiple layers of fabric, or
- Wear one disposable mask underneath a cloth mask. Make sure you can see and breathe easily.



Knot and tuck ear loops of a 3-ply mask

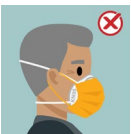
- Knot the ear loops of a 3-ply face mask where they join the edge of the mask.
- Fold and tuck the unneeded material under the edges.

DO NOT



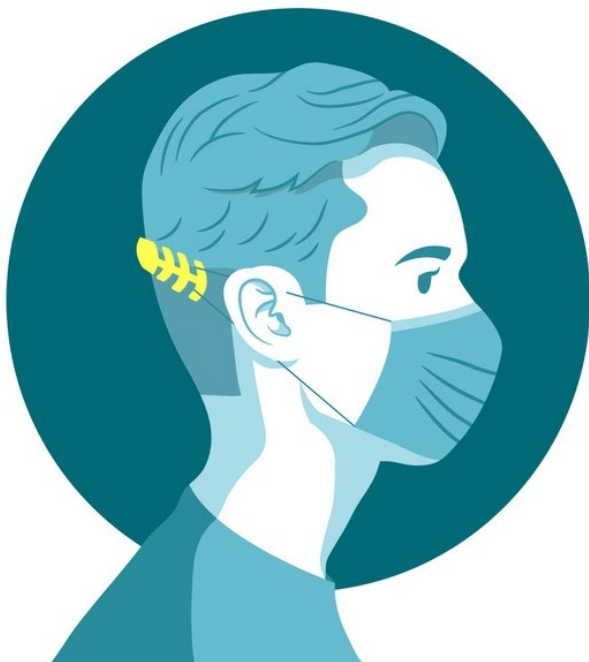
Combine two disposable masks

- Disposable masks are not designed to fit tightly, and wearing more than one mask will not improve fit.



Combine a KN95 mask with any other mask

- Only use one KN95 mask at a time.



COVID-19 Vaccine Demographics

SERIES INITIATED BY RACE:

- **White:** 64.71%
- **Black:** 22.41%
- **American Indian:** 0.2%
- **Asian:** 1.8%
- **Native Hawaiian:** 0.26%
- **Unknown:** 1.61%
- **Other:** 9%

SERIES INITIATED BY AGE:

- **5-17:** 0.03%
- **18-29:** 4.5%
- **30-39:** 6.79%
- **40-49:** 7.57%
- **50-59:** 9.71%
- **60-69:** 21.26%
- **70+:** 50.14%

SERIES INITIATED BY GENDER:

- **Female:** 59.94%
- **Male:** 39.73%
- **Unknown:** 0.34%

All breakdowns shown here are for Louisiana residents only.

Race data completeness is expected to improve as we continue our outreach with vaccine providers.

GOOD READS

KFF: In Their Own Words – The KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor conducted interviews with a nationally representative sample of 1,009 adults, using open-ended questions to better understand public concerns around receiving a COVID-19 vaccine as well as to hear from the public in their own words about the messages and messengers that could increase the likelihood of people getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Read more about the concerns behind vaccine hesitancy at [kff.org \(tinyurl.com/4ya6sh3t\)](https://www.kff.org/tinyurl.com/4ya6sh3t).

Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine – J&J announces the single-shot Janssen COVID-19 vaccine candidate met primary endpoints in interim analysis of its Phase 3 ENSEMBLE Trial.

Read more about the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at [nj.com \(tinyurl.com/2hevxfap\)](https://www.jnj.com/tinyurl.com/2hevxfap).