



Health and Welfare Alert

Arm Yourself Against COVID #70-11-21

Over 275 Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities have died of COVID-19. Less than five percent of them were fully vaccinated. That is why it is so important that the people we support and their caregivers (paid or unpaid) be armed with accurate information about vaccines and boosters from reputable sources like the [Ohio Department of Health](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) since the beginning of the pandemic.

The following easy-to-understand resources along with consulting their physician can help facilitate discussions so the person or their guardian can make an informed decision about what is best for them.

- [Plain Language: Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#)
- [Getting a Vaccine: What to Know About Me](#)
- [Getting a Vaccine: What to Expect](#)
- [Social Story: Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

It is also highly recommended that health care workers get vaccinated against COVID-19 when possible. Together we can protect the people we support and our communities.



Fast Facts

- People served who passed away ranged from age four to 95 years of age.
- The average age was 61.
- Over 1,200 people getting services have been hospitalized due to COVID-19.
- Nearly 75 percent of the people we serve who have completed their COVID vaccine series (two for Moderna or Pfizer, one for J&J) did it long enough ago that they are due for a booster shot.
- 22 percent of people eligible for a booster have already received it.
- More than 67 percent of people aged 12 or older that DODD serves are fully vaccinated.
- More than 79 percent of people who live in a DC, private ICF, or licensed waiver home are fully vaccinated.

According to the Ohio Department of Health, while children are less likely than adults to get severely ill from COVID-19, they are not invincible. Children most certainly can, and do, become ill. Just like adults, when children become sick from COVID-19, they can spread it to others and suffer severe health outcomes, including hospitalizations or even death.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, as of October 28, 2021, nearly 6.4 million Americans younger than 18 years had been infected with COVID-19, and 791 had died.



Other Resources

- [Get Out the Vaccine Organization](#)
- [CDC-Medical Conditions that require extra precautions against COVID-19](#)
- [DODD Updated COVID Guidance](#)
- [Well-Informed Down Syndrome and COVID-19](#)
- [Dr. Laura Medical Moment: Germ-Free is the Way to Be](#)

COVID-19 can cause otherwise healthy children to suffer multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), a potentially life-threatening condition causing inflammation of multiple vital organs. Pediatric hospitals have reported an increase in cases of MIS-C in Ohio. To learn more:

[Fact Sheet COVID Vaccine Children 5-11](#)

The Ohio Department of Health provided this very helpful infographic located at [Coronavirus Vaccine Booster Chart 2021](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots

If you have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and you are 18 or older, you are eligible for a booster dose. Check below to find out when to get your booster shot.



Initial Vaccination	Johnson & Johnson	Moderna or Pfizer/Comirnaty
Who	▶ 18 or older.	▶ 18 or older.
When	Two months after single dose.	Six months after second dose.
Booster Options	If you're eligible, you can choose which vaccine you receive as a booster dose. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received and others may prefer to get a different booster.	

A note on terminology:

An **additional (third) dose** can be given after the second dose of Moderna or Pfizer to people who likely did not have a protective immune response to the initial vaccination. This additional dose is recommended for moderately and severely immunocompromised people.

A **booster dose** is given to people who have received a primary series. The intent is to boost immunity because protection is likely to have waned over time.

Nov. 19, 2021

| Help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Schedule an appointment: gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov
More info: coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine

Ohio | Department of Health

CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION

