

Equity a Priority in Vaccine Rollout + Community Vaccination Center to Open in Greensboro



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COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

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[North Carolina Remains Committed to Equity in Vaccine Rollout](#)

As the COVID-19 vaccines continue to be distributed, North Carolina has made a [commitment to equity](#) to drive our actions. Bloomberg News just rated North Carolina as being best in the nation for data quality, reporting race and ethnicity data for nearly 100% of people vaccinated in the space.

North Carolina's allocation methodology prioritizes geographic, racial and ethnic equity. Vaccines go to all 100 counties. Counties with higher numbers of historically marginalized populations that are 65+ get an increased allocation and vaccines go to providers who serve these groups. Then, the state sets aside a portion of its allocation to support events that increase access in underserved communities and engage historically marginalized populations.

North Carolina's equity strategies in vaccine distribution are having an impact. For the past three weeks, more than 20% of first doses administered in the state have gone to our Black/African American population, which makes up 22% of the state's total population.

We have more work to do with our Latinx community, although we are starting to see some progress. For the week ending Feb. 21, 3.7% of vaccines administered in the state

went to our Hispanic/LatinX population, up from 1.8% for the week ending Jan. 17. The Hispanic/Latinx population is 9.8% of the state's population.

For the latest data on vaccinations, visit our [data dashboard](#).

Supplies of the vaccines available from the federal government remain low, which means many people will have to wait. North Carolina will continue to focus on equitable distribution to make sure [everyone has a spot to get their shot](#).

[Child Care, School Workers Now Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccine](#)



Vaccine eligibility in North Carolina has now been expanded to [Group 3](#) essential frontline workers, starting with child care and school workers. This includes educators, bus and van drivers, custodial and maintenance staff, and food service workers.

Some vaccine providers may not yet be vaccinating frontline essential workers if they are still experiencing high demand for vaccines in Groups 1 and 2, which includes health care workers, those who work and live in a long-term care setting, and anyone 65 and older.

Child care and school workers can talk with their employers about vaccination opportunities or find participating vaccine providers at [MySpot.nc.gov](#). You can also contact the COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center toll-free at 1-888-675-4567.

Visit [YourShotYourSpot.nc.gov](#) (English) or [Vacunate.nc.gov](#) (Spanish) for more information about the vaccines, including answers to frequently asked questions.

[Community Vaccination Center to Open in Greensboro](#)

A federally supported COVID-19 Community Vaccination Center [will open](#) in Greensboro in partnership with the federal government.

The FEMA-supported center will open at the Four Seasons Town Centre on March 10 for eight weeks. It will operate seven days a week with the capacity to provide up to 3,000 vaccinations per day, with options for drive-thru service and walk-in service.

To reach more marginalized and underserved communities, the vaccination center will support additional sites and mobile vaccination clinics in communities of need in Guilford and surrounding counties. The federal government will provide the center's vaccine supply, which will be in addition to North Carolina's weekly federal vaccine allotment.

[Essential Workers: You Have a Spot, Take Your Shot](#)



[All frontline essential workers](#) will be eligible for vaccinations on March 10 and can talk with their employers about vaccination opportunities or find participating vaccine providers at [MySpot.nc.gov](#). Make a plan to take your shot!

[Restrictions Ease as COVID-19 Metrics Improve](#)



Governor Roy Cooper [announced](#) some COVID-19 restrictions will be eased as [our metrics](#) continue to stabilize. A new [Executive Order](#) lifts the Modified Stay at Home Order requiring people to stay at home and businesses to close to the public between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., and it eases other restrictions.

The latest [County Alert System](#) report shows [27 counties in red](#), down from 61 red counties just a few weeks ago. While this is an improvement since the peak of COVID-19 cases in January, we still have more work to do.

With new variants of COVID-19 that are more contagious, we must keep doing what we know works: wearing a mask, waiting 6 feet apart and washing our hands frequently. We need to keep protecting each other while we get [everyone a spot to get their shot](#).

[COVID-19 and NC American Indians Webinar](#)



NORTH CAROLINA
American Indian Health Board

The North Carolina American Indian Health Board is sponsoring a webinar at 7:30 p.m. on March 4 called COVID-19 and NC American Indians: Protecting and Sustaining Our Communities. Sign up [here](#) to participate and see the [flyer](#) for more details.

[Download the SlowCOVIDNC App to Slow the Spread](#)



If you haven't already, download the [SlowCOVIDNC app](#), the official exposure notification app of North Carolina. SlowCOVIDNC alerts users when they may have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

More than 718,000 people have already downloaded SlowCOVIDNC, but the more people who download and use SlowCOVIDNC, the more we can slow the spread of COVID-19.

The app is completely anonymous and does not collect, store or share personal information or location data. Download for free on the [Apple App Store](#) and the [Google Play Store](#).

[COVID-19 Testing](#)

Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been around people outside of their household or thinks they have been exposed to the virus should get [tested](#). If you are sick, you can use the [Check My Symptoms](#) tool to help you determine if you need a COVID-19 test.

North Carolina has upcoming no-cost community testing events scheduled throughout the state. For an up-to-date list of events, visit the [No-Cost Testing Events](#) webpage. For more details about a specific event, call ahead before you go for a test.

COVID-19 testing is also provided at some local health departments, doctor and clinician offices, hospitals and clinics, many pharmacy sites and retail outlets, and other community locations. You can find testing sites by using the [Find My Testing Place](#) tool online.

[Office of Rural Health, Rural Coalition Host Vaccine Sessions](#)

DHHS' Office of Rural Health will present two Vaccine 101 training sessions from 9 to 10 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. March 3 to provide rural North Carolina community members accurate and timely information about the COVID-19 vaccines, address vaccine hesitancy and help slow the spread of the virus.

This training will help communicate the safety and effectiveness of approved COVID-19 vaccines and help individuals [find their spot to take their shot](#). The sessions will allow time for Q&A and will focus on addressing the unique challenges facing rural communities. [Register here](#).

[Get the Latest Information](#)

- Visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for information, a [data dashboard](#), [updates](#), [live briefings](#) and more.
- Go to [North Carolina's COVID-19 Information Hub](#) for resources, information and assistance across state government, including the latest [news releases](#).
- Check out [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](#) to learn more about [finding your spot](#) when it's time to get your COVID-19 vaccine, how to find your [vaccine group](#) and a [vaccine location](#), [videos](#) about the COVID-19 vaccine, and other resources.
- Follow NCDHHS on [social media](#) for advance notice of press briefings and a recap.



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