

## NC Begins Move to Group 4 for COVID Vaccine Next Week + More Data Now on Vaccines Dashboard



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# COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

*March 12, 2021*

### Higher Risk People in Group 4 Eligible for COVID Vaccine Starting March 17



North Carolina has [announced](#) changes to when people in Group 4 will become eligible to receive a vaccination for COVID-19.

Beginning **March 17**, people in [Group 4](#) who have a medical condition that puts them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 illness and those who live in certain congregate settings will be eligible for vaccination. The rest of Group 4, which includes other essential workers, will become eligible **April 7**.

North Carolina follows the recommendations of the [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) as to who is at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. That includes adults of any age with conditions, such as asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, sickle cell disease, obesity, or smoking.

In addition, those who are eligible starting March 17 includes anyone who is living in higher risk congregate or close group living settings who is not already vaccinated. [Learn more about who is eligible in Group 4.](#)

Previously eligible groups – health care workers, long-term care staff and residents, people 65 and older, and frontline essential workers – will continue to be prioritized. Some vaccine providers may not be ready to open to people with a medical condition on March 17 if they are still experiencing high demand for vaccines in Groups 1, 2 and 3.

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Visit [YourShotYourSpot.nc.gov](https://www.nc.gov/your-shot-your-spot) (English) or [Vacunate.nc.gov](https://www.nc.gov/vacunare) (Spanish) for more information about the vaccines, including answers to [frequently asked questions](#), and to see when and where to get your shot. You can find participating vaccine providers at [MySpot.nc.gov](https://www.nc.gov/my-spot). Not sure what vaccine group you're in? Visit [FindMyGroup.nc.gov](https://www.nc.gov/find-my-group). You can also contact the COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center toll-free at **1-888-675-4567**.

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### **[NCDHHS Expands Demographic Data on Vaccine Dashboard](#)**

NCDHHS has expanded its [vaccine data dashboard](#) to provide more demographic data on people who are partially or fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Users will be able to see vaccinations by race, ethnicity, gender and age group by county, by week and since vaccinations began.

The information will be displayed on a new tab named "Demographics" on the Vaccines dashboard. The new Demographics tab will allow people to see week-to-week progress statewide and by county.

North Carolina has been recognized for the quality and transparency of its vaccine data dashboard. For the second week in a row, [Bloomberg News](#) scored North Carolina as best in the nation on data quality, reporting race and ethnicity data for nearly 100 percent of people vaccinated in the state.

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### **[COVID-19 Vaccines Fireside Chat](#)**



NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen hosted a [fireside chat](#) on COVID-19 vaccines on March 11. The guests were Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II and North Carolina NAACP State Conference President Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman. Dr. Cardra Burns, Senior Deputy Director of NCDHHS' Division of Public Health, moderated the event.

The fireside chats and other live series events are a part of the state's ongoing public engagement to slow the spread of COVID-19 and ensure equitable access to timely information, resources and COVID-19 vaccine. The online events feature health experts, community leaders and others who serve historically marginalized populations and rural communities.

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### **[Governor Cooper Visits Federally-Supported Community Vaccination Center](#)**



Photo credit: Walt Unks, Winston-Salem Journal

Governor Roy Cooper [visited](#) the Federally-Supported Vaccination Center in Greensboro when it opened Wednesday. This COVID-19 community vaccination site is operating out of the Four Seasons Town Centre for the next eight weeks with options for drive-thru service in the parking lot and walk-in service.

"I am grateful for the collaboration among federal, state and local officials that have worked so hard to make this happen," Governor Cooper said. "We want to continue our vaccine distribution in a way that's fast and fair, and this center is helping us reach that goal."

The community vaccination center is operating seven days per week and providing up to 3,000 vaccinations per day. The federal government is providing the center's vaccine supply, which will be in addition to North Carolina's weekly allotment from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The vaccination center is strategically located to support the state's goal of getting vaccines to historically marginalized and underserved communities and will have additional sites and mobile vaccination clinics in surrounding counties.

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### [Secretary Cohen Gets the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine](#)



Watch NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen [talk about](#) getting her one-shot Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at the PNC Arena in Raleigh on March 5. Secretary

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Cohen was accompanied by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II, who also got his COVID-19 vaccine on March 5. [Read more.](#)

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### 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](#).

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.



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 785,000 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](#).

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### 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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