

Vaccination Urged as COVID Metrics Increase + Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Up 18-Fold Since Late June



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COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) NC UPDATE

Aug. 20, 2021

[Governor Cooper Provides Update on State's Pandemic Trends, Encourages Vaccination](#)

**DON'T WAIT TO
VACCINATE.**

Find a vaccine location near you at
MySpot.nc.gov or call 888-675-4567.

YOU HAVE A
SPOT. | TAKE YOUR
SHOT.



This week, Gov. Roy Cooper and NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen [provided an update](#) on the state's [COVID-19 key metrics and trends](#).

While North Carolina has [made progress](#) with vaccinations in recent weeks, there is still more work to be done. As the state's [metrics continue to show increases in viral spread](#), state health officials strongly urge all eligible [North Carolinians to get vaccinated](#) and adhere to health protocols including wearing face coverings.

New data shared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reaffirms that vaccines continue to be remarkably effective in reducing risk of severe disease, hospitalization and death, even against the widely circulating Delta variant. Nearly all of the cases of severe disease, hospitalization and death continue to occur among those not yet vaccinated.

The governor applauded businesses requiring vaccine verification for customers and employees and highlighted Live Nation Entertainment's decision to require proof of vaccination at performances beginning this fall. Live Nation puts on concerts and events across the country, including several major venues here in North Carolina. It is requiring its employees, performers, crew members and attendees to show proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID test to attend events at any of their venues.

Gov. Cooper also announced the final winners of the [summer cash drawing and scholarship](#). Lilly Fowler, an East Bend resident and senior at N.C. State University, received a \$1 million prize as the state's final Your Shot at a Million Summer Cash Drawing winner. Fifteen-year-old Breelyn Dean, a rising sophomore from Garner, won a \$125,000 scholarship toward a college education.

To get a vaccine near you, visit [MySpot.nc.gov](#) (English) or [Vacunate.nc.gov](#) (Spanish) or call 888-675-4567. You can also text your zip code to 438829 to find vaccine locations near you.

[Monoclonal Antibody Therapy for COVID-19 Up 18-Fold in NC Since Late June](#)

As [COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations surge across North Carolina](#), the use of [monoclonal antibodies for treatment of COVID-19](#) increased by [18-fold since late June](#) from 100 administrations for the week of June 23 to 1,874 for the week of Aug. 11. Statewide, there are more than 130 sites offering monoclonal antibodies to treat COVID-19 as this treatment can decrease the likelihood of hospitalization related to

COVID-19.

Monoclonal antibody therapy is not a substitute for [vaccination](#) against COVID-19. However, it can reduce the severity of COVID-19 symptoms and decrease the likelihood of hospitalization, especially in high-risk patients. If you test positive for COVID-19, monoclonal antibody therapy must be administered within 10 days of your first COVID-19 symptoms, so it is crucial to get tested early. To find a testing site in your community, go to [ncdhhs.gov/GetTested](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/GetTested).

Talk to your health care provider to see if [monoclonal antibody therapy](#) is an option, find a [treatment center near you](#) or call the Federal Monoclonal Antibody Call Center for assistance at 1-877-332-6585 (English) or 1-877-366-0310 (Spanish). Some people may qualify for [preventative treatment](#) before showing symptoms. More information, including answers to frequently asked questions, are available on [NCDHHS' COVID-19 website](#).

[NC College Students: Let's get back to class with a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)



Every college student in North Carolina should get their COVID-19 vaccine before the fall semester begins. We want a safe and healthy environment for everyone to learn, socialize and attend athletic events. Find your spot to get vaccinated at

myspot.nc.gov.

Immunocompromised People Can Now Receive Additional Dose of Moderna and Pfizer

North Carolinians who are moderately to severely immunocompromised and received the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines can now begin receiving an additional dose to better protect themselves from COVID-19.

Last week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [amended](#) the Emergency Use Authorizations for both vaccines to allow for the use of an additional dose in some immunocompromised individuals, which was then recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) on Friday. A full list of conditions can be found on the [CDC's website](#).

[According to the CDC](#), emerging data suggest some people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems do not always build the same level of immunity after vaccination compared to people who are not immunocompromised. In addition, in small studies, fully vaccinated immunocompromised people have accounted for a large proportion of hospitalized post-vaccination cases.

Website Launched to Inform North Carolina Teens About COVID Vaccines

NCDHHS has launched TeenVaxFacts.com – a website dedicated to providing teens with the information, tools and resources they need to educate themselves, their friends and family members about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccines.

The [website](#) launches at a time when getting vaccinated is critical, especially for younger people. Places with low vaccination rates are seeing increased COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths. The majority of new COVID-19 cases are in people who are not fully vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccines protect against severe illness, hospitalization and death from the Delta variant.

Young people are getting the virus, just like everyone else—and school is just around the corner. Getting teens vaccinated is the best way to protect them, prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect family members.

COVID-19 vaccines have been thoroughly tested and found to be safe and effective for anyone 12 and older. [TeenVaxFacts.com](https://teenvaxfacts.com) sends a clear, fact-based message to teens and parents: Don't wait to vaccinate.

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, visit [YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov](https://yourshot.nc.gov) or call the state's COVID-19 Vaccine Help Center at 888-675-4567.

[\\$100 Cards Available for First-time COVID-19 Vaccinations, \\$25 Cards for Drivers](#)



North Carolina continues to [offer \\$100 Summer Cards*](#) at some vaccine sites across the state to offset the time and transportation costs of getting vaccinated.

The \$100 Summer Cards* are available through Aug. 31 to anyone 18 and older who gets their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine at a participating site—while supplies last.

In addition to providing a \$100 Summer Card* to those who get their first dose of vaccine, North Carolina continues to offer \$25 Summer Cards to those who drive others to their vaccination appointment.

Those interested in the \$100 Summer Card* for first-time vaccinations and \$25 Summer Card* for drivers should call 888-675-4567 or find a participating location [here](#). Locations are only offering cards on the dates shown.

Summer Card providers have a limited number of \$100 cards. Cards are available while supplies last and are only available on the dates [listed here](#).

**Summer Card is in the form of a Prepaid Mastercard®. Prepaid card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC.*

[COVID-19 Testing](#)

With COVID-19 cases on the rise it's important that anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been around people outside of their household or thinks they have been exposed to the virus get [tested](#). You can find testing sites by using the [Find My Testing Place](#) tool online.

For an up-to-date list of no-cost community testing events, visit the [No-Cost Testing Events](#) webpage. Additionally, all North Carolinians can request a free at-home COVID-19 testing kit. [Learn more](#).

[Get the Latest Information](#)

- Visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 website](#) for information, a [data dashboard](#), [updates](#), [live briefings](#), the [latest guidance](#) 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](#) to get your shot, [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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