

Why should I stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines?



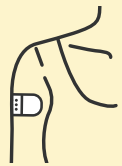
COVID-19 vaccines are effective at protecting you from getting very sick, being hospitalized, and dying. Just like for other diseases, you are best protected from COVID-19 when you are up to date with your vaccines. Being up to date means you got all recommended doses, including your updated booster dose.

COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are free for all people in Rhode Island.

There is no out-of-pocket cost for COVID-19 vaccines, if COVID-19 vaccination is the only service provided.

You do **not** need insurance to get vaccinated.
You do **not** need to give information about immigration status.

You can find COVID-19 vaccines near you at [Vaccines.Gov](https://www.vaccines.gov). Learn more about COVID-19 vaccines at [C19VaccineRI.org](https://c19vaccine.ri.org).



People who are up to date with vaccines are highly protected against COVID-19, including against variants.

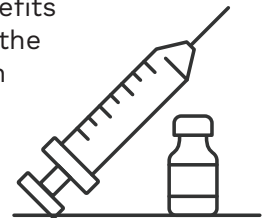


Lots of different people have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine with the same **great results**, including **Black, Hispanic/Latinx, Indigenous**, and other **people of color**; people with **health conditions**; and **pregnant** people.



COVID-19 vaccines ARE SAFE.

Safety is a top priority. Hundreds of millions of people in the United States have safely received these vaccines. The known benefits of getting vaccinated outweigh the known potential risks. Like with all vaccines, CDC and FDA have systems in place to make sure these vaccines stay safe and effective.



The odds of getting very sick from COVID-19 are much higher than the odds of having serious side effects from the vaccine.

“This is important for **our community, and this is important for **our present** and **our future**. We’ll be calling, we’ll be talking, we’ll be asking, we’ll be pleading —but most importantly, we want to see everyone **get vaccinated**.”**

Pastor Howard Jenkins, Bethel AME Church, Providence



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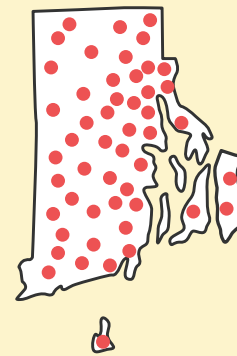
What is the recommended vaccine schedule?

CDC COVID-19 recommendations depend on your age and health status.

Vaccine recommendations are made using the science and data that we know now. As the COVID-19 virus changes, experts may change recommendations to better match the virus.

- All people age 6 months or older should get a primary series of COVID-19 vaccine. Moderna and Pfizer have COVID-19 vaccines for children age 6 months or older. Novavax has vaccines for children age 12 or older. Johnson & Johnson has vaccines for people age 18 or older.
- Children age 6 months through 4 years who got a Moderna primary series should get an updated booster from Moderna at least two months after their second dose.
- All people age 5 or older should get an updated booster dose at least two months after their primary series.

Vaccines and boosters are available all over Rhode Island.



It's ok to have questions.
For more information:

- Talk to your healthcare provider
- Visit [C19VaccineRI.org](https://c19vaccine.ri.org)
- Visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>



“I think you also have a responsibility to yourself and to your community and to your family to do your research and to get the vaccine.”

Virginia L. Thimas, Member of Bethel AME Church, Providence

1/9/2023