JULY 26, 2022

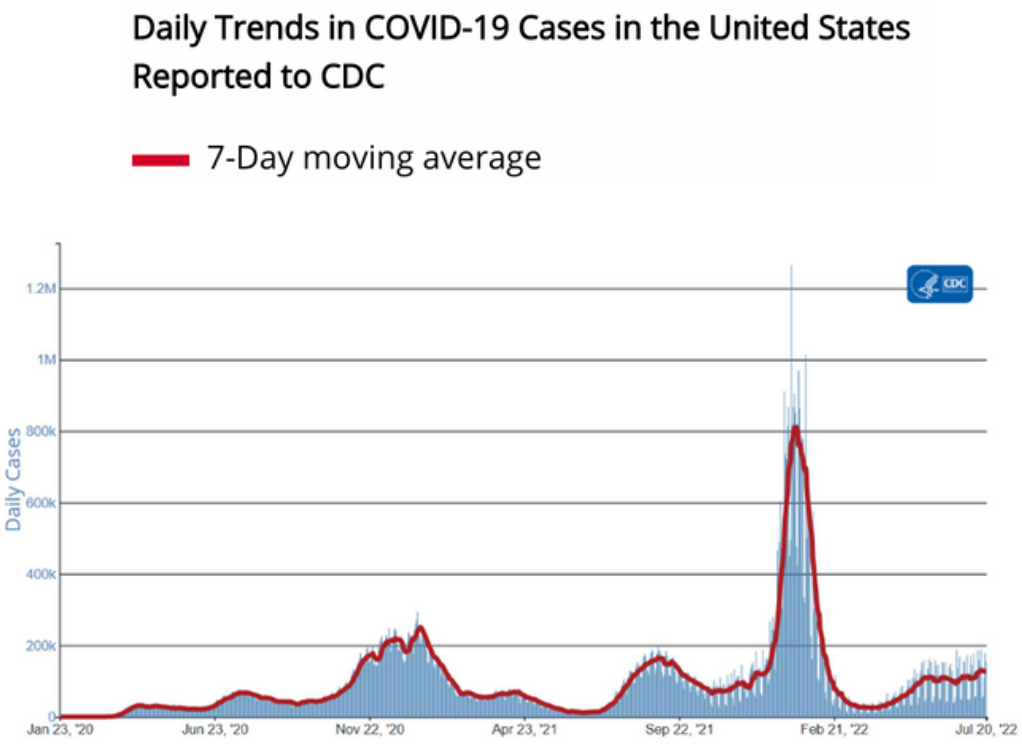
National Alliance for Hispanic Health
www.healthyamericas.org

Vacunas
Vaccines for all

ISSUE 4

Vacunas (Vaccines) Updates

National Alliance for Hispanic Health



THE LATEST ON COVID-19

As of July 22, 2022, the current 7-day moving average of daily new cases (125,827) increased 0.5% compared with the previous 7-day moving average (125,185). The current 7-day average for new hospital admissions between July 13-19, 2022, was 6,180. This is a 4.7% increase from the previous 7-day average (5,902) between July 6-12, 2022. The current 7-day moving average of new deaths (348) has decreased 9.5% compared with the previous 7-day moving average (384).

THE LATEST ON COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

As of July 20, 2022, 78.7% of the total U.S. population have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. 67.2% of the total U.S. population have been fully vaccinated and 48.2% of this fully vaccinated population have received an additional or booster dose.

Newsletter Highlights

VACCINATION RATES IN THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

As of July 20, 2022, Hispanics account for 20.8% of people with at least one dose received and 25.0% of people who received a vaccine in the last 14 days. These metrics are both greater than Hispanics' share of the total U.S. population (19.2%).

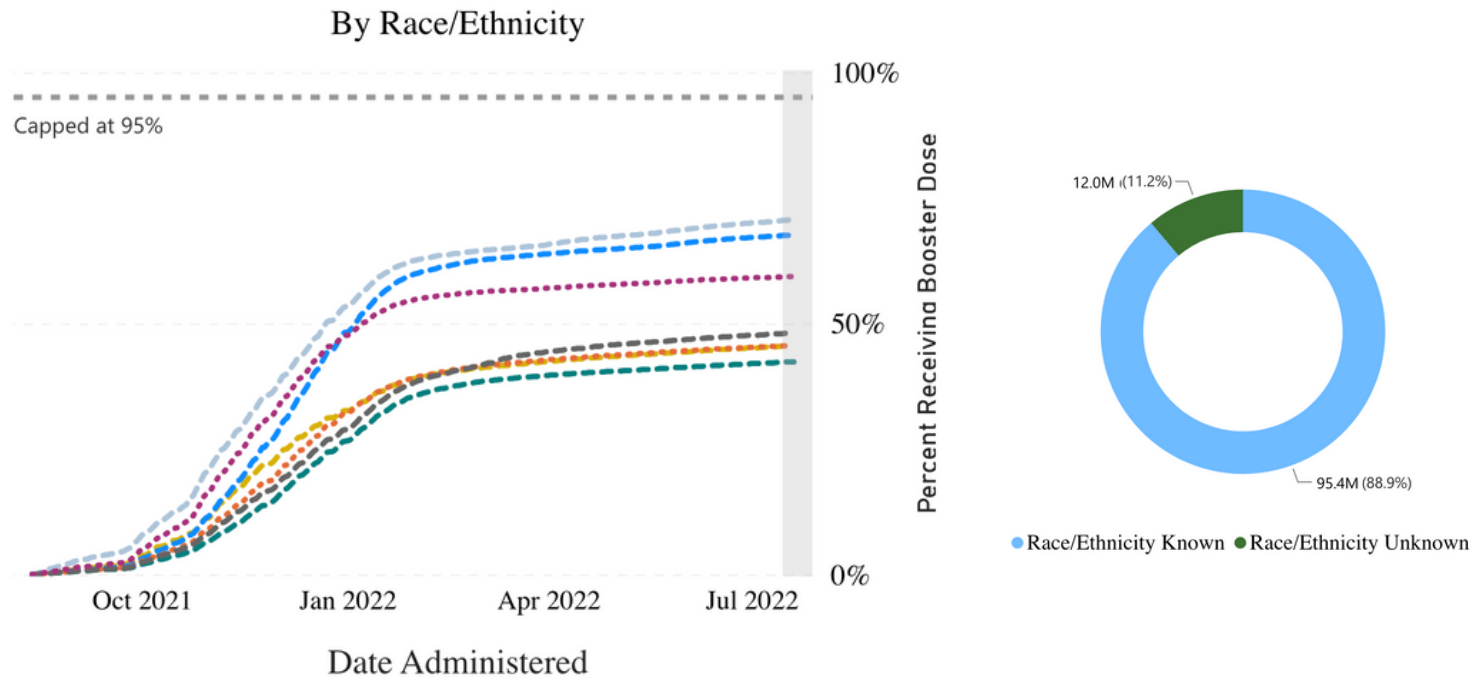
Looking at the U.S. Hispanic population as a whole, 63.6% of Hispanics have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 54.3% have been fully vaccinated. Of the fully vaccinated population, the Hispanic population continues to have the lowest proportion of additional/booster doses received once eligible (42.3%).

Note: Race/ethnicity was not available for about 25% of people who reported receiving at least one dose of the vaccine and 11% of people receiving a first COVID-19 booster dose. Additionally, as of now, CDC is not publicly reporting either state-level data on the racial/ethnic composition of people vaccinated or receiving booster doses or reporting racial and ethnic data for vaccinations among children.

Percent of Fully Vaccinated People Receiving a First COVID-19 Booster Dose by Race/Ethnicity and Date Administered, United States for 5 Years and Older

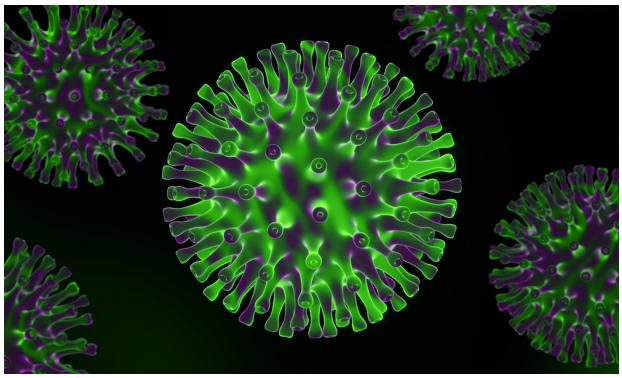
August 13, 2021 – July 20, 2022

	AI/AN, NH	Asian, NH	Black, NH	Hispanic/Latino	Multiracial, NH	NHOPI, NH	White, NH
Booster Dose	45.5%	67.5%	45.5%	42.3%	70.6%	48.0%	59.3%



FDA ADVISERS RECOMMEND UPDATED COVID-19 BOOSTERS

FDA advisers recommended that the federal agency move forward with updating COVID-19 booster shots that target the Omicron variant BA.4/5. This decision encourages vaccine manufacturers to make reformulated boosters before an expected surge in COVID-19 cases this upcoming winter. Although it is difficult to predict how the virus may change, the panel of experts were in favor of redesigning booster shots, rather than continuing to target the original version of the virus, due to the steady decline of immune protection. Pfizer reported that they were prepared to deliver new booster doses by early October while Moderna projected a delivery date in late October or early November. Federal officials have encouraged manufacturers to advance the timetable for availability of the reformulated boosters to mid-September 2022. Today (July 26, 2022) manufacturers are meeting at the White House to discuss next generation COVID-19 vaccinations. While the effort for a reformulated booster is underway, an FDA epidemiologist encouraged health officials to continue to push for second booster doses in older adults to protect against serious illness.



FDA FULLY APPROVED PFIZER'S COVID-19 VACCINE FOR ADOLESCENTS

The FDA fully approved the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in children 12 to 15 years old. The vaccine had been available to this age group since May 2021 on an emergency basis. Federal health officials have stated that they gave COVID-19 vaccines emergency authorization using similarly strong standards required for standard approval. This action expands the full approval of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, after the FDA gave full approval in August 2021 for people 16 years old and above. According to the latest data from Pfizer, more than 9 million children 12 to 15 years old have received the two-dose primary series. For parents hesitant to vaccinate their children against COVID-19, this full approval should be welcomed news and further evidence the safety and efficacy of the vaccine.

CDC RECOMMENDS NOVAVAX'S COVID-19 VACCINE

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently authorized and CDC updated its guidance to recommend that Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine be used as another primary series option for adults ages 18 years and older. The Novavax vaccine is a protein subunit vaccine, developed with the same kind of approach that has been used for many vaccines over the past 30 years, beginning with the first licensed hepatitis B vaccine. Other examples of protein subunit vaccines used in the U.S. today include influenza and whooping cough vaccines. The CDC Director urged individuals who have been waiting for a COVID-19 vaccine built on a different technology than those previously available to roll up their sleeve and get vaccinated.

The Novavax vaccine has already been authorized by several other countries and is the 4th COVID-19 vaccine to be authorized in the United States. It is a two-dose regimen ideally given three weeks apart, but the 2nd dose can be delayed up to 8 weeks after the first dose if the health care provider is concerned about the possibility of myocarditis in the recipient of the vaccine. The authorization is only for use of the vaccine as a primary series and cannot be given as a booster dose for other brands of COVID-19 vaccines.

FDA AUTHORIZES PHARMACISTS TO PRESCRIBE PAXLOVID

The FDA authorized state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid to eligible patients, with certain limitations for patient safety. Since Paxlovid must be taken within five days after COVID-19 symptoms begin, the agency believes that this authorization could expand access to Paxlovid for patients who are eligible to receive the treatment. Currently, Paxlovid is authorized for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and children (12 years of age and older weighing at least 88 pounds) with a positive COVID-19 test, who are at high risk for severe health outcomes from COVID-19. This move by the FDA recognizes the important role pharmacists have played and continue to play in combatting this pandemic.