



COVID-19 Communications

April 9, 2021

Things to Do

- The state has put up for auction some of the equipment that was procured for the alternate care sites that have now been decommissioned. **Member hospitals and health systems are encouraged to [view the auction here](#) for potential equipment purchases.**

What Has Changed Since Last Update

- CDPHE [updated](#) the COVID-19 vaccine data dashboard to include the percentage of residents at least partially vaccinated or fully vaccinated by county. The new data tabs include:
 - Vaccination rate – the percentage of people who have received at least one dose of any COVID-19 vaccine, based on the immunized person’s county of residence as listed in the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS).
 - Up-to-date vaccination rate – the percentage of people who have received at least two doses of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or one dose of the

Johnson & Johnson vaccine, based on the immunized person's county of residence as listed in the CIIS.

Things to Know

- On Wednesday, CDPHE suspended vaccinations at the Dick's Sporting Goods community mass vaccination site, after 11 patients experienced adverse symptoms, including nausea, dizziness, and fainting, after receiving the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. **CDPHE, in consultation with the CDC, [determined](#) that there was no cause for concern about the vaccine batch or the vaccination site.**
- As of April 7, **more than 1,250 Colorado providers have administered 3,005,775 [COVID-19 vaccine doses](#)** for 1,941,195 people with first doses and 1,168,890 people who are fully immunized. The state's percent positivity remains above 5 percent, with the three-day average at 5.50 percent.

Upcoming Webinars/Calls

- 1-2 p.m., Monday, April 12: CDC – Contact Tracing for COVID-19: Do We Still Need It? (You Bet We Do!). [Register here.](#)
- April 13-15: ASPR 2021 Virtual Preparedness Summit. [Register here.](#)
- 1-2 p.m., Thursday, April 22: Region VII Disaster Health Response Ecosystem – Exploring a Monoclonal Antibody Allocation Framework. [Register here.](#)

COVID Resources

[CDPHE COVID-19](#)

[CDC COVID-19](#)

COVID Coverage

[COVID-19 hospitalizations, infections rise in Colorado](#)

The Associated Press

Health officials in Colorado have reported an increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations across the state while infections also suggest wider spread of the virus. The state Department of Public

Health and Environment said 450 people were hospitalized statewide as of Wednesday with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infections, The Denver Post reported Thursday. The last time that many people were in the hospital because of COVID-19 was Feb. 19.

[State completes investigation after mass vaccination site closes early due to 11 adverse reactions](#)

KUSA-TV (Denver)

"At this point we have no reason to believe there was anything wrong with the vaccine itself, it's very important to take precautions however," Banko said. Dr. Shauna Gulley, Centura's senior vice president and chief medical officer, said the adverse reactions ranged from lightheadedness and nausea to low blood pressure and hypotension. None of the 11 people with symptoms were considered high risk. "The vast majority of adverse reactions we saw yesterday were quite mild, most people felt better just after some observation and rest," she said.

[Two vaccine sites close after adverse reactions to Johnson & Johnson shot](#)

CBS News

The race to vaccinate hit more roadblocks on Thursday, as several patients at a mass vaccination site in North Carolina suffered immediate reactions to the Johnson & Johnson shot. A day earlier, 11 people had adverse reactions in Denver, ranging from dizziness to nausea. Both sites temporarily shut down. "At this point we have no reason to believe there's anything wrong with the vaccine itself," said Dr. Shauna Gulley, a Centura Health chief clinical officer. "This is a temporary pause of one brand of vaccine so that we can investigate further."

[Denver Health mobile clinics vaccinate about 10,000 people, plans underway for walk-up vaccination sites](#)

KUSA-TV (Denver)

Since February, Denver Health's Mobile Health Unit has facilitated about 10,000 vaccinations in neighborhoods across the Denver Metro Area with plans to expand the program to walk-up vaccination sites in the coming weeks, according to Denver Health. The focus of the program has been to target neighborhoods that have been historically underserved, and so far, the hospital said 67% of patients who have been vaccinated through the mobile clinics have been people of color.

[New COVID variants concern Colorado health officials](#)

KDVR-TV (Denver)

Dr. Michelle Barron, infectious Disease Specialist at UHealth said, "We always think of a virus as one virus, but there are hundreds of cousins that want to hang out together. And sometimes they say let's go hang out and play so they may mix. This is part of their ability to survive. They want to perpetuate and continue to survive. The mistakes sometimes give them an advantage and sometimes they give them a disadvantage."

[Fully vaccinated Broomfield man told he likely contracted COVID-19 variant](#)

KMGH-TV (Denver)

A fully vaccinated Broomfield man suspects he contracted a variant of COVID-19. Now, he hopes his experience will encourage others to use precautions as public health orders are eased. "I had been fully vaccinated over a month ago, so I felt that I was safe from COVID," Kraig Vandiver said. Late last week, he began to experience an itchy throat and small cough. He decided to get tested for COVID-19, and he expected the results to confirm he was battling a minor cold.

[COVID 19 Q&A: Long COVID and New Long COVID Clinic at the Hospital](#)

Ark Valley Voice (Salida)

Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center (HRRMC) created a Long COVID Rehab Clinic. Patients enter into a multi-session program designed specifically for the symptoms they are experiencing. The program will include physical therapy, exercise physiology, speech therapy, nutrition, occupational therapy, and neurological interventions. The aim of the program is to improve overall function and symptom improvement.

[Centennial doctor accused of spreading vaccine misinformation](#)

KDVR-TV (Denver)

Dr. Katia Meier, a Colorado doctor who operates the Clear Sky Medical practice in Centennial, is accused of discouraging patients from getting a COVID-19 vaccine and encouraging them to buy her supplements instead. Former patient Lydia Fettin has filed a complaint against Dr. Meier with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies better known as DORA. "Their office does not recommend anyone getting the vaccine. 'It changes people's DNA,'" is what Fettin remembers being told by Dr. Meier.

[America may be close to hitting a vaccine wall](#)

Axios

There are growing signs that parts of the country may be close to meeting demand for the coronavirus vaccine — well before the U.S. has reached herd immunity. For the last few months, the primary focus of the U.S. has been getting shots to everyone who wants them, as quickly as possible. Soon, that focus will abruptly shift to convincing holdouts to get vaccinated. Red states in the South are administering the lowest portion of the vaccine doses that they receive from the federal government — a sign of low demand, slow public health systems, or both.

[U.S. to ship 85% fewer J&J vaccine doses to states next week](#)

Reuters

The U.S. government will allocate nearly 85% fewer Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine doses to states next week, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), due to uneven production related in part to problems at a Baltimore manufacturing plant. Allocations will fall to 785,500 doses from 4.95 million doses this week. The data does not include a federal retail pharmacy program.

[Fauci Thanks US Health Workers for Sacrifices but Admits PPE Shortages Drove Up Death Toll](#)

Kaiser Health News

Dr. Anthony Fauci thanked America's health care workers, who "every single day put themselves at risk" during the pandemic, even as he acknowledged that PPE shortages had contributed to the deaths of more than 3,600 of them. "We rightfully refer to these people without hyperbole — that they are true heroes and heroines," he said in an exclusive interview with The Guardian. The deaths of so many health workers from covid-19 are "a reflection of what health care workers have done historically, but putting themselves in harm's way by living up to the oath they take when they become physicians and nurses," said Fauci.

[Black women 3 times more likely to die from COVID-19 than White men](#)

CBS News

Since the earliest days of the coronavirus pandemic, it's been widely believed that men are more likely to die of COVID-19 than women. Now, research is challenging the notion that the likelihood of dying of the disease largely comes down to biology, finding that coronavirus mortality rates for Black women in the U.S. are more than three times that of White and Asian men. Black women in the U.S. are dying from the virus at a higher rate than any other group, male or female, except Black men, according to an analysis of COVID-19 mortality patterns by race and gender in Georgia and Michigan published this week in the Journal of Internal Medicine.

[They Tested Negative for Covid. Still, They Have Long Covid Symptoms.](#)

Kaiser Health News

Experts don't yet know what causes long covid or why some people have persistent symptoms while others recover in weeks or even days. They also don't know just how long the condition — referred to formally by scientists as Post-Acute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 infection, or PASC — lasts. But the people who didn't test positive for covid — due either to a lack of access to testing or a false-negative result — face difficulty getting treatment and disability benefits. Their cases are not always included in studies of long covid despite their lingering symptoms. And, sometimes as aggravating, many find that family, friends or even doctors have doubts they contracted covid at all.



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