



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mono County Health Department

www.monohealth.com/Coronavirus

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MONO COUNTY COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

February 8, 2021 - Mono County has administered just under 5,000 COVID-19 vaccinations to date, most of which are first doses of the two dose regimen required for maximum protection against the indiscriminate COVID-19 (Coronavirus) continuing to impact the country. Visit the [Mono County Vaccination Dashboard](#) updated every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for updated numbers.

To stay up to date, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) publishes a [Vaccination Progress Dashboard](#) - an interactive map with vaccines administered by the county of residence, and the LA Times publishes [Vaccinations by county](#). **Mono County currently has the highest vaccination rate per capita in California.**

“We are proud to be doing relatively well in protecting some of the priority groups, as determined by the State, in our community,” stated Dr. Tom Boo, Public Health Officer. *“The Mono County vaccination efforts, led by the Public Health Department, represent a successful collaboration with Mammoth Hospital, medical and special event professionals, and our county-wide passionate volunteers, all intensely committed to crushing this pandemic.”*

The challenge ahead for Mono County is that vaccine supply from the State is expected to decrease substantially, such that our recent pace of first dose vaccinations will not be able to continue. However, we do expect to sustain our second dose vaccination efforts into early March. A few weeks ago, Mono County was one of a handful of counties able to take advantage of a one-time opportunity to get extra vaccines, and we have worked diligently to use that in vaccinating eligible persons. But from here we expect to face the same frustratingly limited supply issues as most other counties in the state are experiencing. The supply issues cannot be attributed to the State of California, but simply to the vaccine

manufacturing process, as Pfizer and Moderna strive to produce sufficient quantities of vaccine that is in unprecedented demand throughout the United States.

Mono County is required to follow the guidance of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in vaccinating priority groups, but the state guidance has been updated and revised several times. We have offered vaccination to people in a number of employment categories in the top Phases and Tiers of the state's [Vaccination plan](#). Going forward, given supply constraints, we expect to continue to prioritize older people (state age or note as defined by State guidelines), pregnant women of any age, and individuals with [certain underlying medical conditions](#) at increased risk for severe illnesses from COVID-19, more so than employment categories.

Vaccination is critically important in decreasing the toll of the pandemic. We are pleased that many of our residents seek vaccination, and we regret that some must wait. We have been forced in recent weeks to tighten up our screening for eligibility, as increasing numbers of people were found to be signing up for shots before they were eligible. **Vaccines are allocated by the state according to permanent resident population, so vaccination appointments are only for people who work or live in Mono County, regardless of immigration status.** Second homeowners are not eligible to receive the vaccine in Mono County.

Proof of eligibility is now required at the vaccination clinic and includes, but is not limited to:

- Driver's license/Real ID
- Employment paystub
- Note from employer
- Employee ID
- Any document that verifies you as a Mono County, full-time resident
- A note from your healthcare provider describing an individual's certain underlying medical condition is preferred, but not required.

"This is yet another challenge posed by the pandemic for all of us, with critical determining factors beyond our control," said Dr. Boo. "We ask our community to be as patient as possible waiting for vaccination, and to please continue to wear a mask, maintain distance, wash your hands and avoid gathering with people outside of your immediate household unit."

Get vaccinated when it's your turn! Pre-register yourself to be vaccinated by completing the online confidential **Vaccine Questionnaire** - available in English and Spanish: <https://webapps.mono.ca.gov/covid19/vaccinate-mono-form/>.

VACCINATE MONO WEBSITE

For updated Mono County COVID-19 vaccination information, community resources, a vaccine dashboard, immunization schedule, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), informative videos and more, please visit <https://coronavirus.monocounty.ca.gov/pages/vaccinations>, or click on the syringe graphic on the homepage of the Mono County COVID-19 Portal.

Together we can end the pandemic.

Cover. Distance. Wash and **#StaySafeToStayOpen #VaccinateMono**

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