

Delta Variant

What is the Delta variant?

Delta is the name for the B.1.617.2. variant, a slightly different form of the coronavirus. The first Delta case was identified in December 2020 and was first detected in the U.S. in March 2021. Delta now makes up over 80% of new U.S. COVID-19 cases.

Is the Delta variant more contagious than other variants and the original virus?

Yes, the Delta variant is the most contagious strain yet and the majority of cases in the U.S. are Delta variant cases. Delta is more dangerous for people who have not received their vaccine.

Does the vaccine protect against Delta?

So far, studies suggest that the vaccines do protect against Delta

Vaccine Safety

The vaccines were developed quickly. Are they safe?

Even though COVID-19 is new, scientists have been studying these types of viruses and vaccines for many years. Millions of people in the U.S. have already received COVID-19 vaccines. The COVID-19 vaccines are being monitored more than any other vaccines in U.S. history. [Click here for more information on the CDC's safety monitoring systems.](#)

Will the COVID-19 vaccine give me COVID-19?

No, the COVID-19 vaccines cannot give you COVID-19. If you feel side effects like chills or fever, it means your body is learning how to fight the disease.

I'm young and healthy- do I need to get the vaccine?

Anyone can get sick from COVID-19 and pass it on to others. According to recent research, those under 50 are 2.5 times more likely to get sick from Delta than previous variants. For this reason, everyone ages 12+ should get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect their friends and older family members such as parents and grandparents from getting sick.

Will the COVID-19 vaccine stop me from getting pregnant?

There is currently no evidence that the vaccine will affect your ability to get pregnant. In fact, you may want the extra protection before you're pregnant. Research shows that pregnant women may be more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19. Talk to your doctor about your options.

Guidelines for Vaccinated People

What guidelines are there for fully vaccinated people?

According to the CDC, you may resume many activities that you did before the pandemic. To maximize protection from Delta and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission.

Additionally, fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they are immunocompromised or at [increased risk for severe disease](#) from COVID-19, or if they have someone in their household who is immunocompromised, at increased risk of severe disease, or not fully vaccinated.

[Click here for more CDC guidelines for those who have been fully vaccinated.](#)