

## 1: West Virginia's vaccine distribution model

West Virginia has led the United States in numbers of Americans vaccinated for COVID-19. It is the only state that chose not to participate in the federal government's long-term care facilities (LTCF) partnership with the national pharmacies CVS and Walgreens to distribute vaccines to people in assisted living, nursing homes. The first article from NPR.org and gives an overview of West Virginia's vaccine distribution efforts and why they have been successful. The second article is a local West Virginia news outlet announcing that as of January 19, 2021, West Virginia has begun to vaccinate individuals 65 and older and lists an important federal consideration that motivated this decision. The article also contains information about an online vaccine appointment system that the state is going to roll out and other interesting information.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2021/01/07/954409347/why-west-virginias-winning-the-race-to-get-covid-19-vaccine-into-arms>

<https://www.wboy.com/news/health/coronavirus/west-virginia-officially-lowers-vaccination-age-to-65-gov-justice-discusses-vaccine-shortage-during-tuesday-press-briefing-on-coronavirus/>

## 2: The "Federal program": How COVID-19 vaccines are being distributed to elderly in long term care facilities in 49 states and territories.

COVID-19 vaccines for the those living in LTCF in most states are being distributed by CVS and Walgreens. While they have vaccinated over 1.7 million people, many states and residents are upset that the pace is slow or irregular. Multiple other issues have been reported by states. The first link is for the CDC website that details what the partnership between CVS, Walgreens and states is and how it should work. The second link is an article from a health news organization that covers the program's actual effectiveness.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/long-term-care/pharmacy-partnerships.html>

<https://khn.org/news/article/cvs-and-walgreens-under-fire-for-slow-pace-of-vaccination-in-nursing-homes/>

## 3: Differences between Pennsylvania and Texas of individuals included in phases Phase 1A-Phase 2 of vaccine distribution.

Because of Federalism, the concept of shared and separate powers wielded by the national and state governments. States can choose what types of individuals are included in Phases 1A, 1B, 1C, and Phase 2 of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution. These differences are excellently displayed in Pennsylvania and Texas. The first link below takes readers to the Pennsylvania Department of Health's COVID-19 vaccine webpage which contains a wealth of information about the vaccine. It also lists a detailed list of every group being vaccinated in each phase. The second link takes readers to the Texas Department of State Health Services' COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) webpage which lists the groups eligible to get a vaccine in Phases 1A and 1B. Note: Clicking on "COVID-19 Vaccine Home" on this webpage will take readers to the homepage of this website section where they can get more detailed information on Texas' vaccination process as well as Vaccine Phase eligibility PDFs.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/Vaccine.aspx>

<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine-faqs.aspx>

4: Why some states have vaccinated more people against COVID-19 than others.

One of the most pressing stories of the COVID-19 vaccination process has been the slow pace of immunizations across many states. While some states, mostly rural ones, have managed vaccination well, other states have only administered several hundred thousand of the over 1 million or more doses they have received. The first article explains some strategies the most successful states have employed to steadily vaccinate the populations in each phase. The second article covers some factors that are slowing administration of vaccines most states, and the third article examines some of the bureaucratic elements of state governments that are limiting vaccination numbers. Note: the first link directs readers to Becker's Hospital Review website where you can read the entire article. Becker's Hospital Review is the original producer and publisher of this content.

<https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/linking-and-reprinting-policy.html>

<https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2021/slow-covid-vaccine-rollout.html>

<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/01/11/governors-red-tape-vaccine-rollout-457909>

5: Last but not least: Differences between Hawaii and Alaska in individuals included in phases 1A-Phase 2 of vaccine distribution.

Continuing the documentation of phase differences in states, below are the differences in phases 1A-Phase 2 of the COVID-19 vaccine program in Hawaii and Alaska. Note: Notice both with these links and the ones for Pennsylvania and Texas above, the differences in states' websites and what and how the information is presented to the public/readers.

<https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/what-you-should-know/current-situation-in-hawaii/#vaccine>

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/VaccineAvailability.aspx#now>

6: Differences between Kansas and Mississippi in individuals included in phases 1A-Phase 2 of vaccine distribution.

The following document/webpage explain the differences in who is included in each vaccine phase in Kansas (first link) and Mississippi (second link). Note: in addition to comparing with above states/phases, notice that Mississippi does not utilize distinct phases and is offering the vaccine to more populations than most states as of January 2021.

<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/120/Vaccine-Phase-Chart-PDF->

[https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/14,22816,420,976.html#eligible](https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,22816,420,976.html#eligible)