

Latest Data on COVID-19 Vaccinations by Race/Ethnicity

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Close to 70% (<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>) (68.3%) of the adult population in the United States have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. While this progress represents a marked achievement in vaccinations that has led to steep declines in COVID-19 cases and deaths, vaccination coverage—and the protections provided by it—remains uneven across the country. With growing spread of the more transmissible Delta variant, cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are once again rising, largely among unvaccinated people. Persistently lower vaccination rates among Black and Hispanic people compared to their White counterparts across most states leave them at increased risk, particularly as the variant spreads.

Reaching high vaccination rates across individuals and communities will be key for achieving broad protection through a vaccine, mitigating the disproportionate impacts of the virus for people of color, and preventing widening racial health disparities going forward. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7012e1.htm?s_cid=mm7012e1_w) (CDC) has indicated that vaccine equity is an important goal and defined equity as preferential access and administration to those who have been most affected by COVID-19.

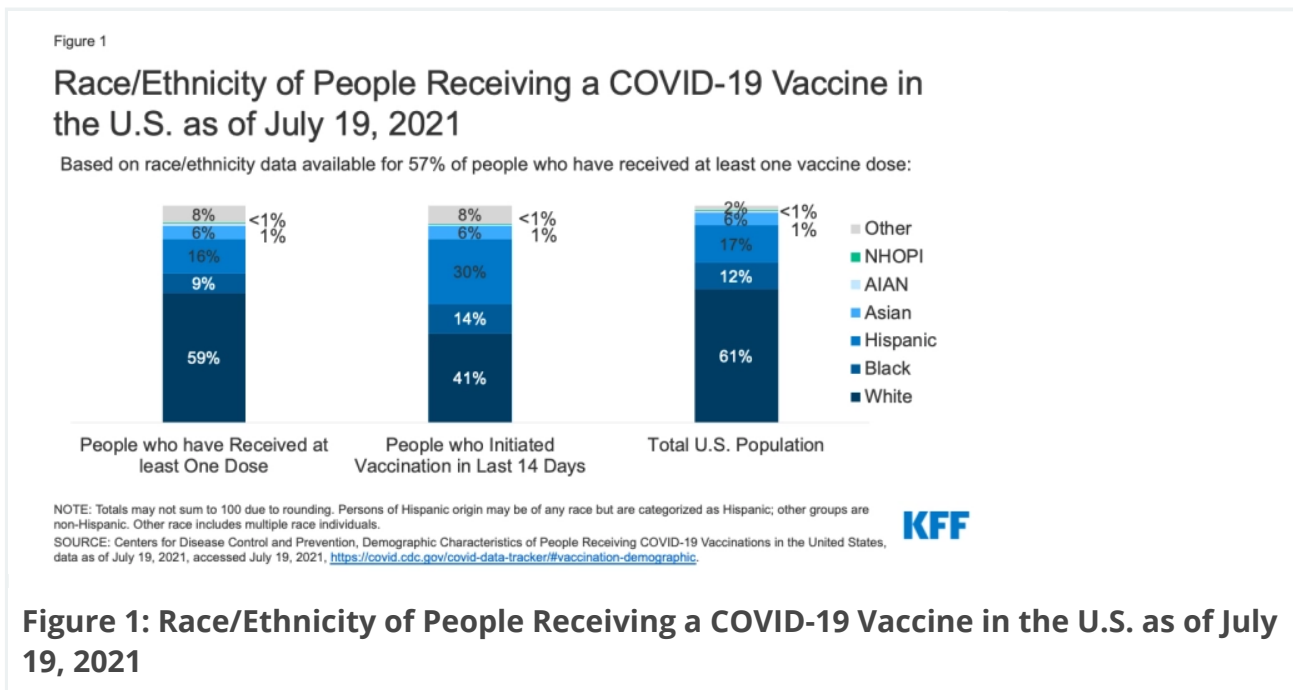
The CDC (<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker>) reports that, among people who had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, two-thirds were White (59%), 9% were Black, 16% were Hispanic or Latino, 1% were American Indian or Alaska Native, and <1% were Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, while 8% reported multiple or other race. As of July 19, 2021, COVID-19 vaccinations are reaching larger shares of the population than in previous months, but to overall vaccinations. Thirty percent of va

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gone to Hispanic people, 6% to Asian people, and 14% to Black people (Figure 1). These recent patterns suggest a narrowing of racial gaps in vaccinations at the national level, particularly for Hispanic and Black people, who account for a larger share of recent vaccinations compared to their share of the total population (30% vs. 17% and 13% vs. 12%, respectively). While these data provide helpful insights at a national level, to date, CDC is not publicly reporting state-level data on the racial/ethnic composition of people vaccinated.



To provide greater insight into who is receiving the vaccine and racial/ethnic disparities in vaccination, KFF is collecting and analyzing state-reported data on COVID-19 vaccinations by race/ethnicity. As of July 19, 2021, 46 states and Washington D.C. were reporting vaccination data by race/ethnicity. This analysis examines how the vaccinations have been distributed by race/ethnicity and the share of the total population vaccinated by race/ethnicity. It also assesses trends in these data since March 1.

Distribution of Vaccinations by Race/Ethnicity

Figure 2 shows the shares of COVID-19 vaccinations, cases, and deaths among Black, Hispanic, Asian, and White people. The data also show the distribution of the total population by these groups as of 2019. Data limitations. Together these data show:

As observed in prior weeks, Black and Hispanic people receive a smaller share of vaccinations compared to their share of the total population in most states. The gap also continues to be smaller than their share of the total population in most states it is similar to the share of deaths. T

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people is similar to or higher than their share of deaths in most reporting states, although in some states it continues to be lower. For example, in California, 30% of vaccinations have gone to Hispanic people, while they account for 63% of cases, 48% of deaths, and 40% of the total population in the state. Similarly, in the District of Columbia, Black people have received 43% of vaccinations, while they make up 56% of cases, 71% of deaths, and 46% of the total population. The size of these differences varies across states. The number of states where the shares of vaccinations received by Black and Hispanic people are more proportionate to their shares of the total population and/or their shares of cases or deaths in the state has grown over time.

In most states, the share of vaccinations among Asian people was similar to or higher than their share of cases, deaths, and total population, although, in a few states, it was lower. In Vermont, 2% of vaccinations have been received by Asian people, while they have accounted for 4% of cases. The share of vaccinations among Asian people was similar to or higher than their share of the total population in most states, except South Dakota and Pennsylvania, where it was lower. In Hawaii, 53% of vaccinations have been received by Asian people, which is higher than their share of the total population (40%), but closer to their share of deaths (48%).

White people received a higher share of vaccinations compared to their share of cases in most states reporting data. In about half of reporting states they received a higher share of vaccinations compared to their shares of deaths and total population, while in other states it was similar or lower. For example, in Colorado, 78% of vaccinations were received by White people, while they make up 68% of the population. In Tennessee, 66% of vaccinations have been received by White people, which is lower than their share of cases (71%), deaths (78%), and their share of the population (77%).

Between March 1 and July 19, the share of vaccinations going to Hispanic people increased in all states reporting data for both periods and increased for Black people in most reporting states. In a few cases, these increases were large. For example, the share of vaccinations going to Black people increased from 26% to 43% in DC and from 25% to 37% in Mississippi. Similarly, the share of vaccinations going to Hispanic people increased by at least 10 percentage points in six states, including Florida (17% to 30%), Nevada (13% to 25%), California (19% to 30%), New Jersey (6% to 17%), Texas (23% to 35%), and New York (9% to 19%). The share of vaccinations going to Asian people also increased in most states reporting data for both periods, while it fell for White people in most reporting states. The share going to White people declined by 10 percentage points or more in thirteen states (Arizona, Florida, Nevada, Alabama, Georgia, New Jersey, Tennessee, Virginia, Mississippi, Texas, and Maine, Illinois, and New York).

Figure 2

Black People as a Share of Deaths and Total Population

Based on vaccinations, cases, and deaths with by race/ethnicity

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Click on the buttons below to see data for the different race/ethnicity groups:

Black | Hispanic | Asian | White

State	Percent of Vaccinations	Percent of Cases	Percent of Deaths	Percent of Total Population
Alabama	2...	NR	3...	2...
Alaska	2%	NR	NA	2%
Arizona	3%	4%	3%	4%
Arkansas	13%	...	15%	15%
California	4%	4%	6%	5%
Colorado	3%	3%	5%	4%
Connecticut	7%	NR	13%	10%
Delaware	16%	NR
District of Columbia	43%	56%	71%	46%
Florida	8%	15%	17'	15%
Georgia	2...	NR	35%	32%
Hawaii	1%	1%	NA	1%
Idaho	0.7%	0.5%	NA	0.7%
Illinois	10%	14%	18'	14%
Indiana	7%	7%	11%	9%
Iowa	2%	4%	3%	4%
Kansas	4%	5%	6%	6%
Kentucky	7%	5%	9%	8%
Louisiana	3...	NR	39%	32%
Maine	1%	5%	1%	1%
Maryland	2...	NR	37%	30%
Massachusetts	6%	8%	8%	7%
Michigan	10%	11%	...	13%
Minnesota	5%	8%	5%	6%
Mississippi	37%	55%	41%	38%
Missouri	9%
Nevada	6%	8'
New Jersey	8%	NR
New Mexico	2%	1%
New York	12%	NR
North Carolina
Ohio	9%

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Oklahoma	6%	6%	7%	7%
Oregon	2%	3%	2%	2%
Pennsylvania	5%	NR	13%	8%
Rhode Island	5%	NR	5%	6%
South Carolina	...	2...	33%	2...
South Dakota	1%	2%	NA	2%
Tennessee	12%	16%	18%	16%
Texas	8%	15%	11%	12%
Utah	1%	1%	1%	1%
Vermont	1%	3%	NA	2%
Virginia	16%
Washington	3%	5%	4%	4%
West Virginia	3%	5%	3%	3%
Wisconsin	4%	5%	7%	6%

NOTE: Shares of cases, deaths, and/or people vaccinated may not be directly comparable due to differences in data reported, reporting periods, racial/ethnic classifications, and/or rates of unknown race/ethnicity. Where states report data for people of multiple races, we include this data in the 'Other' category. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. In some cases, states' racial/ethnic classifications for vaccinations are different than the classifications used for cases and deaths. Total population data has been adjusted to reflect states' racial/ethnic classifications for vaccination data. Vaccinations: For vaccinations, we report data for people who have received at least one vaccine dose, where possible. Some states report total doses administered or people who have received one dose and who are fully vaccinated. Some states exclude vaccinations administered through the federal long-term care partnership from their data. States vary in whether they include or exclude Hispanic individuals in racial categories and in their racial/ethnic classifications. In UT, individuals may identify as more than one race or ethnicity; totals may not sum to 100%. PA's vaccine dashboard data does not include data from Philadelphia county due to differences in reporting criteria. As of 6/21, PA total population data was updated to exclude Philadelphia; data should not be compared to earlier periods due to these data changes or corrections. ND reports vaccinations rates by race/ethnicity but does not report vaccine distribution by race/ethnicity. SC reports data for Asian, NHOPI and AIAN people as a single race category, which we report in the "Other" category. As of 6/30, Nebraska has permanently stopped updating its

Percent of the Total Population Vaccinated by Race/Ethnicity

We also calculate the percent of the total population that has received a COVID-19 vaccine for 42 states that report racial/ethnic data based on people who have received at least one dose of the vaccine. (States that report race/ethnicity based on total doses administered are excluded from this analysis.) Figure 3 shows the percent of the total population who have been vaccinated by race/ethnicity in each of these states. (North Dakota and New Mexico are excluded because of how they report their data.) It also shows the percent of the total population compared to those of Black, Hispanic, and White people. The difference between vaccination rates for White and Black people is

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Overall, across these 40 states, the percent of White people who have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose (48%) was roughly 1.3 times higher than the rate for Black people (36%) and 1.2 times higher than the rate for Hispanic people (41%) as of July 19, 2021. White people had a higher vaccination rate compared to Hispanic people in all reporting states, except Vermont, Missouri, DC, Louisiana, and Tennessee, and a higher rate than Black people in every reporting state, except Oregon, Alaska, and Idaho. However, the size of these differences varied widely across states. For example, White people were over twice as likely to have received a vaccine as Hispanic people in Colorado and South Dakota and had at least a two times higher vaccination rate than Black people in Iowa and South Dakota. The overall vaccination rate across states for Asian people was higher compared to White people (65% vs. 48%), which is consistent with the pattern in most reporting states. However, Asian people had lower vaccinations rates than White people in five states (Colorado, Utah, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and South Dakota).

As of July 19, less than half of Black and Hispanic people have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose in the vast majority of states reporting data. The vaccination rate for Black people is less than 50% in 38 of 42 reporting states, including 14 states where less than a third of Black people have received one or more doses. Similarly, less than half of Hispanic people have received a COVID-19 vaccine dose in 34 of 40 reporting states, including 10 states where less than a third have received at least one dose. At least half of White people have received a COVID-19 vaccine dose in 17 of 42 states. The rate remains below 50% in the remaining 25 states but falls below a third in only one state, Idaho. At least half of Asian people have received one or more doses in more than half of reporting states (32 of 39).

Figure 3

Percent of Total Population that has Received a COVID-19 Vaccine Dose by Race/Ethnicity, Selected States, July 19, 2021

	White	Black	White to Black Ratio	Percentage Points from White	Hispanic	Wh His R
	Percent Vaccinated	Percent Vaccinated			Percent Vaccinated	
Total (40 States)	48%	36%			41%	
Alabama	33%	32%			32%	
Alaska	39%	45%			45%	
Arizona	45%	31%			31%	
California	60%	45%			45%	
Colorado	59%	47%			47%	
Connecticut	64%	44%			44%	

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Delaware	52%	38%	1.4	-14	43%	
District of Columbia	44%	33%	1.3	-11	46%	
Florida	51%	26%	2.0	-25	42%	
Georgia	40%	34%	1.2	-6	33%	
Idaho	29%	33%	0.9	4	22%	
Indiana	45%	34%	1.3	-11	37%	
Iowa	47%	23%	2.1	-24	29%	
Kansas	39%	31%	1.2	-7	35%	
Kentucky	41%	35%	1.2	-6	NR	
Louisiana	38%	37%	1.0	-0	40%	
Maryland	61%	51%	1.2	-10	54%	
Massachusetts	68%	56%	1.2	-12	52%	
Michigan	40%	29%	1.4	-11	34%	
Minnesota	55%	42%	1.3	-13	42%	
Mississippi	36%	36%	1.0	-0	31%	
Missouri	39%	32%	1.2	-7	49%	
Nevada	38%	27%	1.4	-11	37%	
New Mexico	65%	47%	1.4	-18	51%	
New York	52%	37%	1.4	-15	48%	
North Carolina	46%	39%	1.2	-7	39%	
North Dakota	57%	36%	1.6	-21	42%	
Ohio	48%	35%	1.4	-12	41%	
Oklahoma	35%	28%	1.3	-7	29%	
Oregon	54%	71%	0.8	17	37%	
Pennsylvania	44%	29%	1.5	-15	27%	
Rhode Island	61%	45%	1.3	-16	47%	
South Carolina	36%	31%	1.2	-5	33%	
South Dakota	45%	21%	2.2	-24	3%	1
Tennessee	36%	31%	1.2	-5	39%	
Texas	44%	33%				
Utah	46%	31%				
Vermont	71%	53%				
Virginia	53%	46%				
Washington	51%	48%				
West Virginia	45%	42%				
Wisconsin	50%	33%				

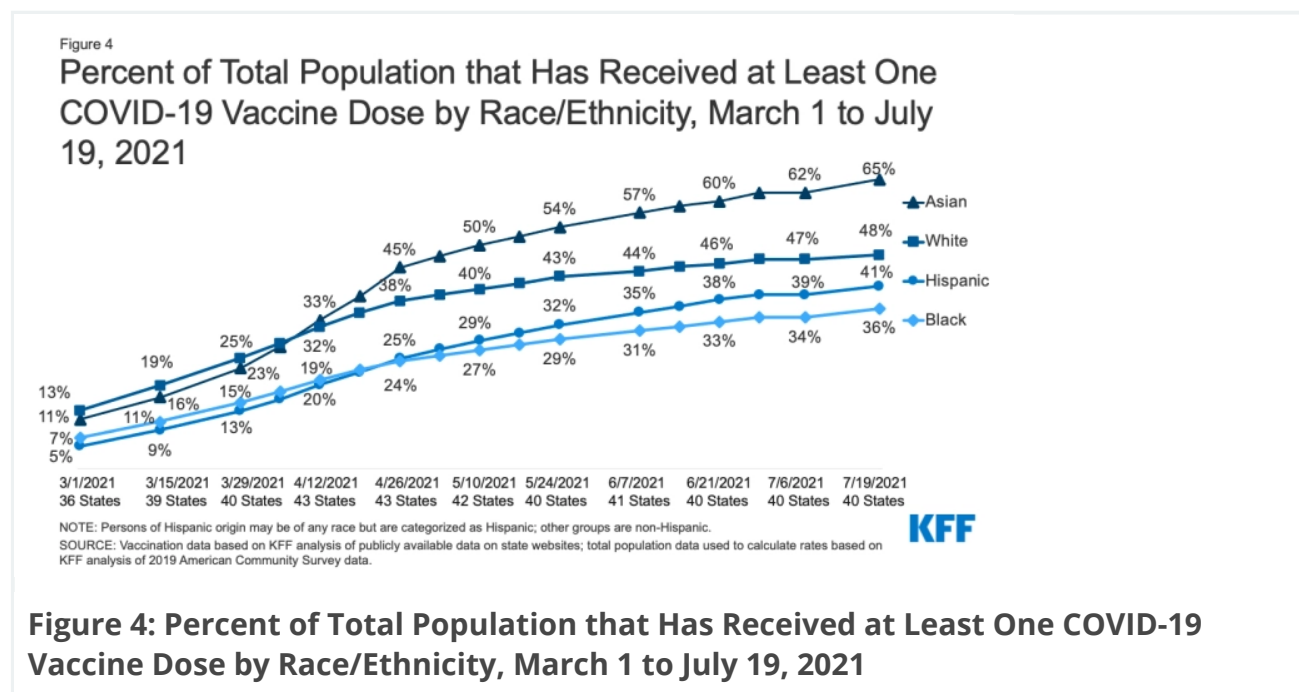
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NOTE: NR indicates data are not reported. *NM is excluded from the total across states due to non-comparable bridged race categories. **ND is excluded from the total across states because data on number of people vaccinated by R/E are

There was a small increase in vaccination rates across racial/ethnic groups over the past two weeks (July 6 to July 19), following the slowdown over the July 4th holiday week (Figure 4). Vaccination rates increased by 2.7 percentage points for Asian people, from 61.9% to 64.6%, by 1.5 percentage points for Hispanic people, from 39.2% to 40.7%, by 1.8 percentage points for Black people, from 34.2% to 36.0%, and by 0.9 percentage points for White people, from 46.8% to 47.7%. However, even with these increases, gaps in vaccination rates are persisting for Black and Hispanic people.



The completeness of race/ethnicity data has improved in most states since March 1. Most states have had declines in their shares of vaccinations with unknown or missing race, with some states, like Arizona, experiencing particularly large declines, falling from (36% of vaccinations with unknown race to 11%).

Discussion

Together, these data show that, despite re COVID-19 vaccination patterns and a recer for White and Hispanic people, disparities Hispanic people have received at least one reporting data, including a number of state vaccine. These lower vaccination rates am increased risk for coronavirus, particularly to widening disparities going forward and

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The federal government, states, and local communities have implemented a range of strategies to address these disparities by making the vaccines more accessible and providing outreach and education to address questions and concerns about the vaccines. However, these data highlight the continued importance of efforts to prioritize equity and address gaps in vaccination both geographically and across racial/ethnic groups.

While the data provide useful insights, they also remain subject to gaps, limitations, and inconsistencies that limit the ability to get a complete picture of who is and who is not getting vaccinated. For example, data gaps and separate reporting of data for vaccinations administered through the Indian Health Service limit the ability to analyze vaccinations among American Indian and Alaska Native (<https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/covid-19-vaccination-american-indian-alaska-native-people/>) and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander people. Moreover, some states have high shares of vaccinations that are missing race/ethnicity, limiting the ability to interpret the data. For example, in Washington D.C., 28% of vaccinations were among people classified as “unknown.” Three states were not reporting vaccination data by race/ethnicity. Comprehensive standardized data across states are vital to monitor and ensure equitable access to and take up of the vaccine.

All reported data on vaccinations by race/ethnicity are available through our COVID-19 State Data and Policy Actions tracker (<https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/state-covid-19-data-and-policy-actions/#raceethnicity>) and downloadable through our State Health Facts Online tables (<https://www.kff.org/state-category/covid-19/covid-19-disparities/>). KFF will be continuing to update these data on a regular basis going forward as vaccination distribution continues.

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