



## **COVID-19 Update**

### **Alabama Department of Public Health**

### **January 28, 2021**

**Getting COVID-19 vaccine into the arms of Alabamians as quickly as possible is our goal.**

ADPH is conducting clinics daily, including drive-through clinics in some counties. Limited vaccine remains the greatest challenge in Alabama and other states.

COVID-19 Cases—452,734

COVID-19 Deaths—7,340

COVID-19 Hospitalizations (as of January 27) —41,483

Currently eligible for vaccine—326,000 healthcare providers, nursing home residents, law enforcement officers, firefighters and 350,000 persons age 75+

Average 1<sup>st</sup> Doses of Vaccine Shipped to Alabama Per Week—50,000 to 60,000

Vaccine Doses Administered—302,269

#### **Vaccine Distribution Plans Adjusted**

We have had an extensive plan in place to administer COVID-19 vaccine statewide since October. The plan must pivot based on priorities from the federal government. Adjustments needed to be made to offer vaccine first to those at highest risk because of the small quantity of vaccine.

#### **Accelerating Pace of Vaccine Rollout**

Healthcare provider surveys will help ensure vaccine administration is expedited. ADPH is surveying every healthcare provider in the state to ensure that all administered doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been properly reported in our electronic data system and to determine if there is any available vaccine that needs to be redistributed to other providers. To expedite vaccine administration, ADPH is removing unused doses and redistributing the vaccine to providers who will give shots faster. No vaccine doses have been discarded. 4,000 doses have currently been identified and are in the process of being relocated.

Vaccine Doses Delivered to Alabama—764,125

Alabama Healthcare Providers Enrolled—883

Toll-free Telephone Lines for Appointments—165

#### **Plans to Expand Vaccination Sites in Place**

ADPH is working with Wal-Mart and other large companies which will provide vaccinations as more vaccine becomes available. New locations will expand access to care for more people and resolve some transportation issues in rural areas.

#### **Expansion of age groups for vaccination to persons 65 and above**

At the final Operation Warp Speed briefing on January 12, 2021, spokespersons for HHS recommended that states expand age groups for vaccination to persons 65 and above. However, these changes have not been made in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for when vaccine supply is limited. Vaccine supply is limited and does not meet demand at this time for the current numbers of persons identified as healthcare workers, first responders, fire, police, and persons 75 and above. Current recommendations from CDC are based on those from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). ACIP is an independent panel of medical and public health experts who provide vaccine guidance to CDC.

**Volunteers Supporting ADPH for Vaccine Distribution**

As of today, ADPH has 276 medical volunteers, including physicians, physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, dentists, and LPNs, verified to support COVID-19 clinical activities. About 369 total volunteers have registered, and information is being verified. Please email requests to volunteer to [Theresa.Dix@adph.state.al.us](mailto:Theresa.Dix@adph.state.al.us), and include your discipline, license number and county in which you would like to volunteer.