

**Ad Hoc Committee to Review DHEC’s Receipt and Distribution of the COVID-19 Vaccine  
February 16, 2021 Meeting Packet**

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South Carolina  
House of Representatives



Legislative Oversight Committee

*Tuesday, February 16, 2021*

*Ad Hoc Committee to Study  
DHEC's Receipt and Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccines*

*Rep. Weston Newton  
Rep. Joe Jefferson  
Rep. Bill Hixon  
Rep. Jeff Johnson*

*Rep. Kimberly Johnson  
Rep. Russell Ott  
Rep. Jay West  
Rep. Chris Wooten*

*Room 427 - Blatt Building  
(3-M Full Committee Room)*

The meeting will stream online.

A link to the stream can be accessed at <https://scstatehouse.gov/>.

**9:30 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

- I. Discussion of DHEC's receipt and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines**
- II. Adjournment**

## **2.16.21 Ad Hoc Committee Meeting LIST OF SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

### **Department of Health and Environmental Control**

Dr. Edward Simmer  
Agency head

W. Marshall Taylor, Jr.  
General Counsel

Dr. Linda Bell  
State Epidemiologist

Stephen White, MPH  
Immunization Division Director

Nick Davidson  
Senior Deputy for Public Health

### **MUSC**

Dr. Patrick Cawley  
CEO of MUSC Health and Vice President for Health Affairs

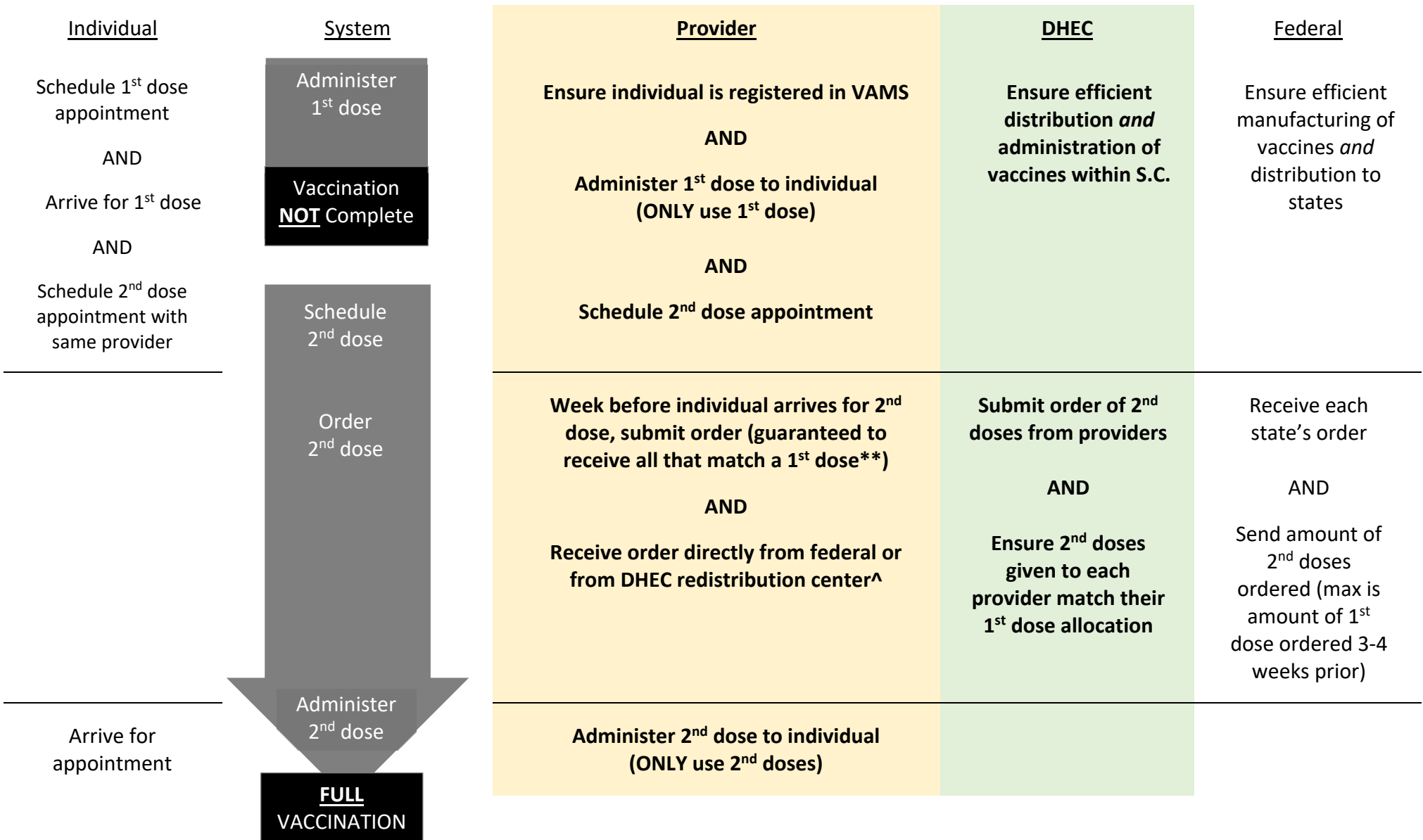
### **Prisma Health**

Dr. Saria Saccocio  
Prisma Health Ambulatory Chief Medical Officer  
Prisma Health COVID-19 Vaccination Task Force Co-Chair

## **Logistics and Accountability for 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose**

- 1) What is the system?**
- 2) Who is involved in the system and what are their individual responsibilities?**
- 3) How can the public be assured those in the system are held accountable for fulfilling their responsibilities?**
- 4) Where are any system failures?**

## **COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution System: Responsibilities\***



\*Note: Chart is a simplified summary acknowledged as accurate by DHEC staff. It does not include aspects of the distribution such as enrollment/activation of providers nor order/allocation of first doses. "Provider" means medical personnel providing vaccine directly to the individual (e.g., hospital, pharmacy, individual physician); "DHEC" means the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control; "VAMS" means Vaccine Administration Management System. \*\*DHEC can only provide second dose allocations as provided by the federal government which matches the states allocated first dose allocations. Therefore, a provider is only guaranteed to receive the second doses they order that match the amount of first doses they received three to four weeks prior, so they can complete the dosing schedule. ^Certain providers include those without ultra-cold storage facilities.



# Enhancing Second COVID-19 Vaccine Dose Logistics and Accountability

February 15, 2021

## Situational Overview

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines both require taking two shots to get maximum protection against the disease.

## Understanding Roles and Responsibilities

There are three primary parties, once vaccines arrive in South Carolina, with roles and responsibilities related to ensuring the safe, effective and equitable allocation of both doses of the COVID-19 vaccines:

1. **DHEC** is responsible for fulfilling orders from providers for second doses and ensuring that second doses given to provider match their first dose allocations.
2. The **providers** are responsible for scheduling second dose appointments and using second doses only for second dose appointments.
3. Members of the **public** share with providers the responsibility for getting second doses from the same provider as gave them first doses.

## Identifying and Addressing Challenges

DHEC will be working with providers to make dose deliveries more predictable based on initial challenges that have emerged during South Carolina's vaccine rollout. These challenges include:

- Lack of supply from the federal government
- Providers asking for more second dose vaccine than should theoretically be pushed to them three or four weeks later, and more than is available from the federal government, indicating that likely some providers have been using second doses for first dose appointments
- Patients shopping for second-dose appointments by going to where it is easiest and most convenient, which may or may not be the same provider from which they received a first dose

DHEC continues to message to providers and to the general public that they should seek second doses from the same provider as gave them their first. On Feb. 14, 2021, DHEC sent an important message (see attached) to all providers stating that second dose shipments must only be used to vaccinate second dose appointments. The message also stated that every effort should be made to avoid completely cancelling second dose appointments. If there is any evidence of misuse of doses, DHEC will take immediate steps to limit or suspend future allocations of doses.

## Next Steps

To ensure the fair, equitable and efficient vaccination of everyone in the state who wishes to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, DHEC, providers and residents must work together and abide by public health guidance. DHEC continues to work with providers as partners in a system, sending out frequent additional guidance and information and helping providers meet expectations.

DHEC is also working with our partners to take steps to make it easier for patients to receive their second vaccine dose at the same location as they received the first. For example, there are updates coming soon to VAMS that will make it possible to schedule first and second doses at the same time.

In addition, DHEC is monitoring Johnson & Johnson's one dose vaccine, which is expected to get approval in coming weeks. State officials expect to get word of how many doses of the vaccine South Carolina will receive after its approval and about a week in advance of the shipment. **Even with the pending approval of a new vaccine, DHEC does not expect vaccine supply will outweigh demand anytime soon.**



**THE COVID-19**

**VACCINE**

**S.C. House Legislative Oversight Committee**

**Feb. 16, 2021**

# Agency Attendees

- **Edward Simmer, MD, MPH, DFAPA – Agency Director**
- **Linda Bell, MD – State Epidemiologist**
- **Nick Davidson – Senior Deputy for Public Health**
- **Stephen White, MPH – Immunizations Division Director**
- **W. Marshall Taylor – General Counsel**

# Agenda

- **Vaccine Status/Progress Update**
- **A Collaborative Path Forward**
- **Reaching Communities with the Most Need**
- **Facing Challenges Head On**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Dose Allocations**



**WE'RE ONE  
STEP CLOSER  
TO BEATING  
COVID-19.**

Safe, effective vaccines are now  
available.

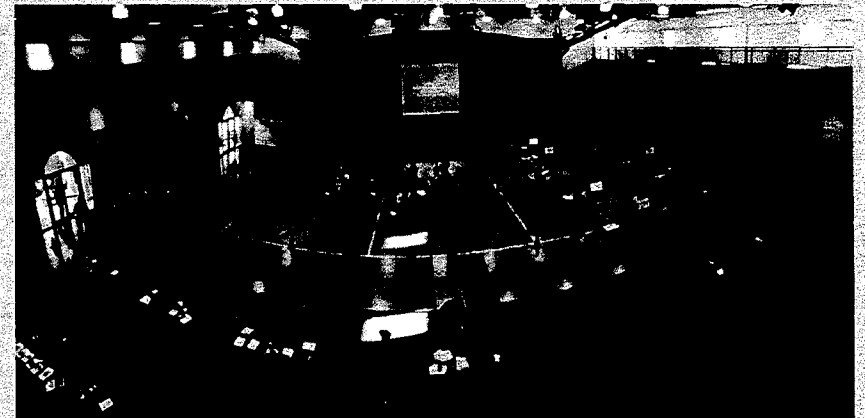
**THE COVID-19 VACCINE**

Get the facts at [scdhec.gov/vaxfacts](https://scdhec.gov/vaxfacts)

# By the Numbers

## As of Feb. 15, 2021


- **Weekly 1<sup>st</sup> dose allocations:**
  - Pfizer: 31,200
  - Moderna: 48,800
- **487 providers activated (with 411 receiving vaccine)**
- **651,113 doses administered**
- **498,092 people vaccinated**
- **~ 67% overall utilization rate**



**Estimated Phase 1a Population: 1.2M+**

# **Our Path Forward**

## **Working Together to Save Lives**

- 
- **Strengthen the flow of vaccine into all corners of the state**
  - **Identify community champions to foster trust and engagement at the local level**
  - **Educate people on the importance of getting vaccinated**
  - **Ensure easy, equitable access to vaccines by making the process as simple as possible**

# Reaching Our Rural, Underserved and Minority Communities

- **Until early January, Phase 1a was focused on healthcare providers (urban-centric)**
- **Ensuring vaccines are provided to rural health practices and FQHCs**
  - **109** FQHC and Rural Health Clinic locations
  - **79 of 134** DHEC clinic events held in predominantly rural counties
  - **9,982 or 17,052** vaccines given by DHEC are in predominantly rural counties
- **Added more rural providers as Moderna allocation has increased slightly**
  - **5 additional** rural family medicine providers
  - **5 additional** rural health departments
- **Conducting speaking engagements and targeted outreach efforts**

# **Addressing Challenges Head On Putting People First**

- **Vaccine supplies currently remain limited**
- **Complex logistics of managing multiple vaccine brands**
  - Pfizer
  - Moderna
  - Johnson & Johnson (coming soon!)
- **Sufficient providers in our rural communities**

# **Enhancing Logistics & Accountability**

## **COVID-19 Vaccine 2<sup>nd</sup> Doses**

# Action Steps

- **Yesterday, DHEC sent an important message to all providers:**
  - 2nd dose shipments must **ONLY be used to vaccinate 2nd dose appointments**
  - Every effort should be made to **avoid completely cancelling 2nd dose appointments.**
  - If there is any evidence of abuse, DHEC will **take immediate steps to limit or suspend future allocations** of doses.
- **Making it easier for patients to receive doses at the same location (e.g., VAMS updates)**

# Contact Our Legislative Affairs Team

- 
- (803) 530-5679
  - [AndrewE@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:AndrewE@dhec.sc.gov)

- 
- (803) 508-9073
  - [VaughnDR@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:VaughnDR@dhec.sc.gov)

- 
- (803) 730-3252
  - [WilsonBL@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:WilsonBL@dhec.sc.gov)

# Make Your Appointment Today

**65 OR OLDER?  
IT'S YOUR TURN.  
TIME TO GET YOUR  
COVID-19 VACCINE.**

Call 1-866-365-8110  
or visit [scdhec.gov/vaxlocator](https://scdhec.gov/vaxlocator)  
to find a vaccine location.

**THE COVID-19 VACCINE**



# Vaccine Maps

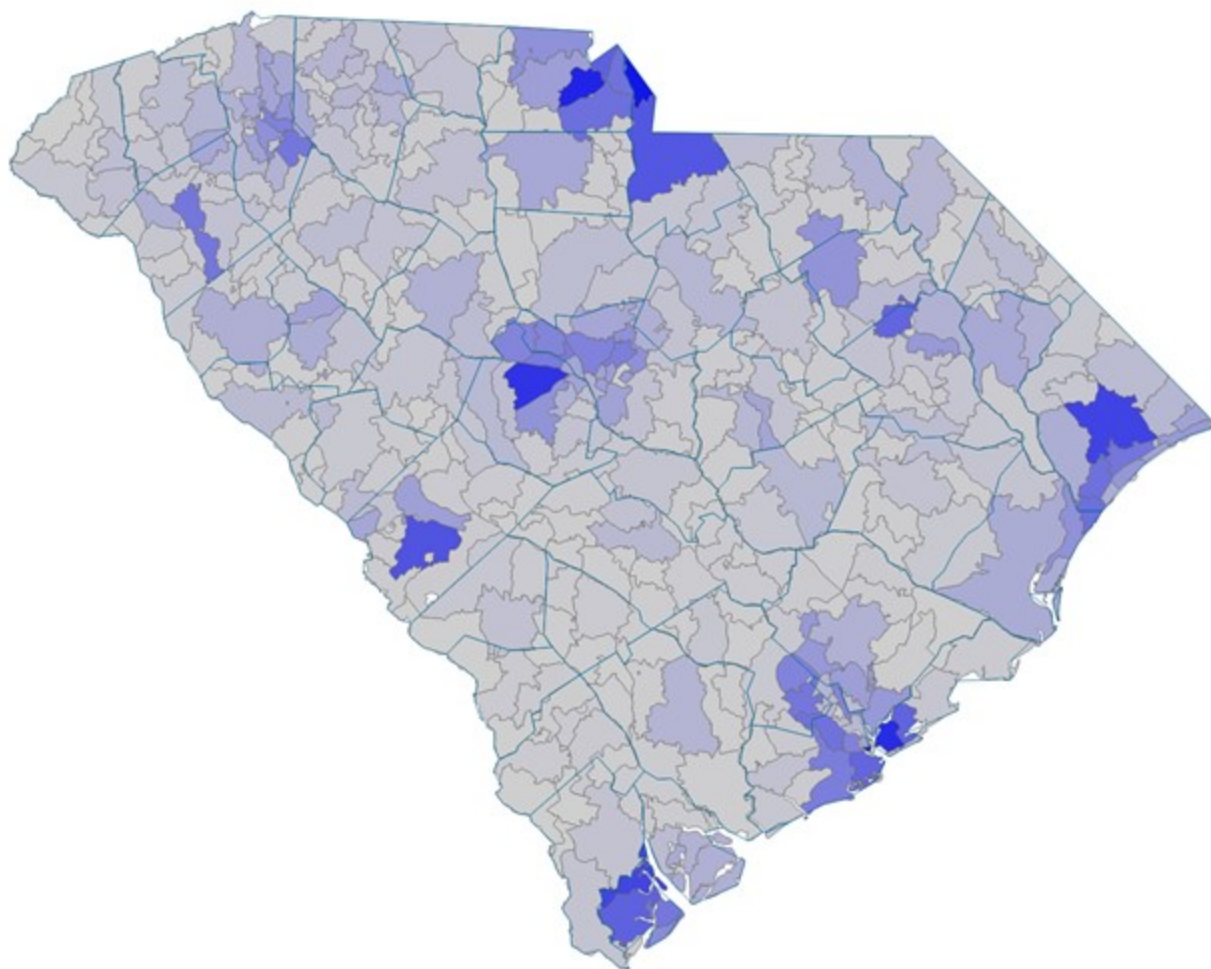
These maps show the number of individuals who have received one dose and the number of individuals who have received two doses by zip code and by county as of 11:59 p.m. on February 14, 2021. The final two maps are the same maps with a vaccine provider overlay that is color-coded by whether the provider is accepting vaccine appointments. Availability of appointments changes daily.

In addition to the maps, tables have been provided to display the total number of vaccines recipients by zip code and county.

# COVID Vaccine House LOC Request

File created on: 2/14/2021 6:17:43 PM

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1 Dose**

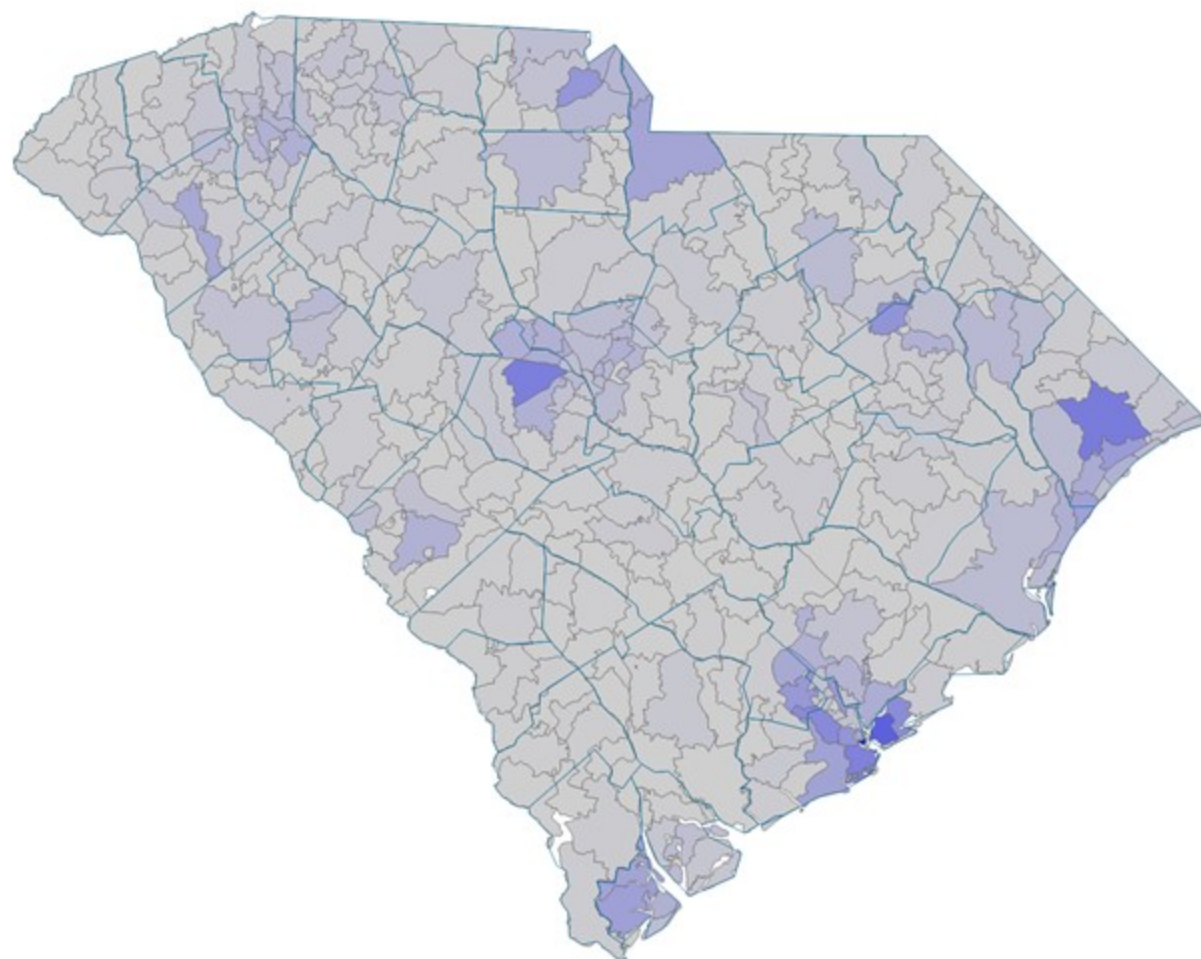


**Residents with 1 Vaccine Dose**

4,656

© 2021 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 2 Doses**



**Residents with 2 Vaccine Doses**

3,515

© 2021 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

## Total Vaccine Recipients Living in South Carolina

510,331

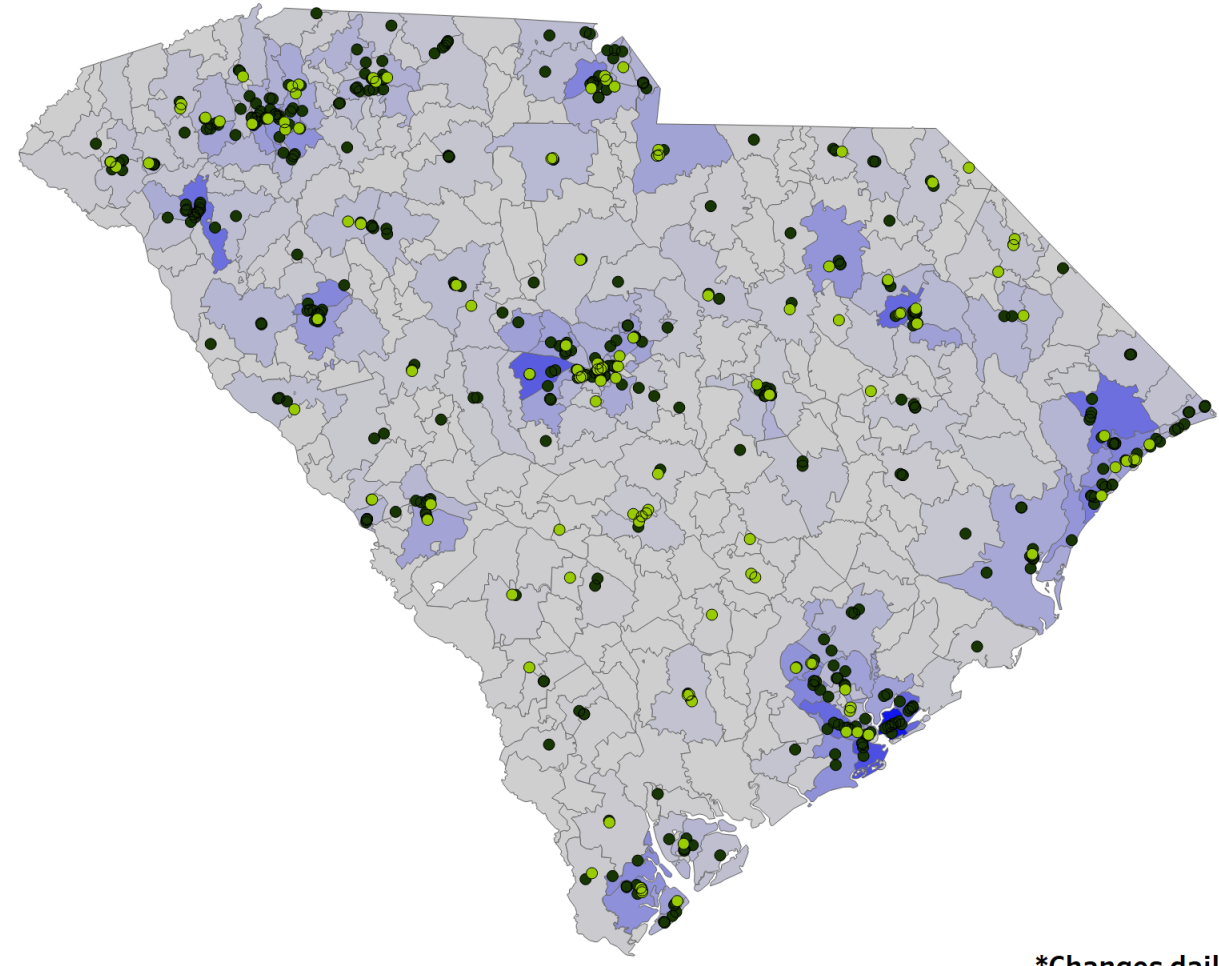
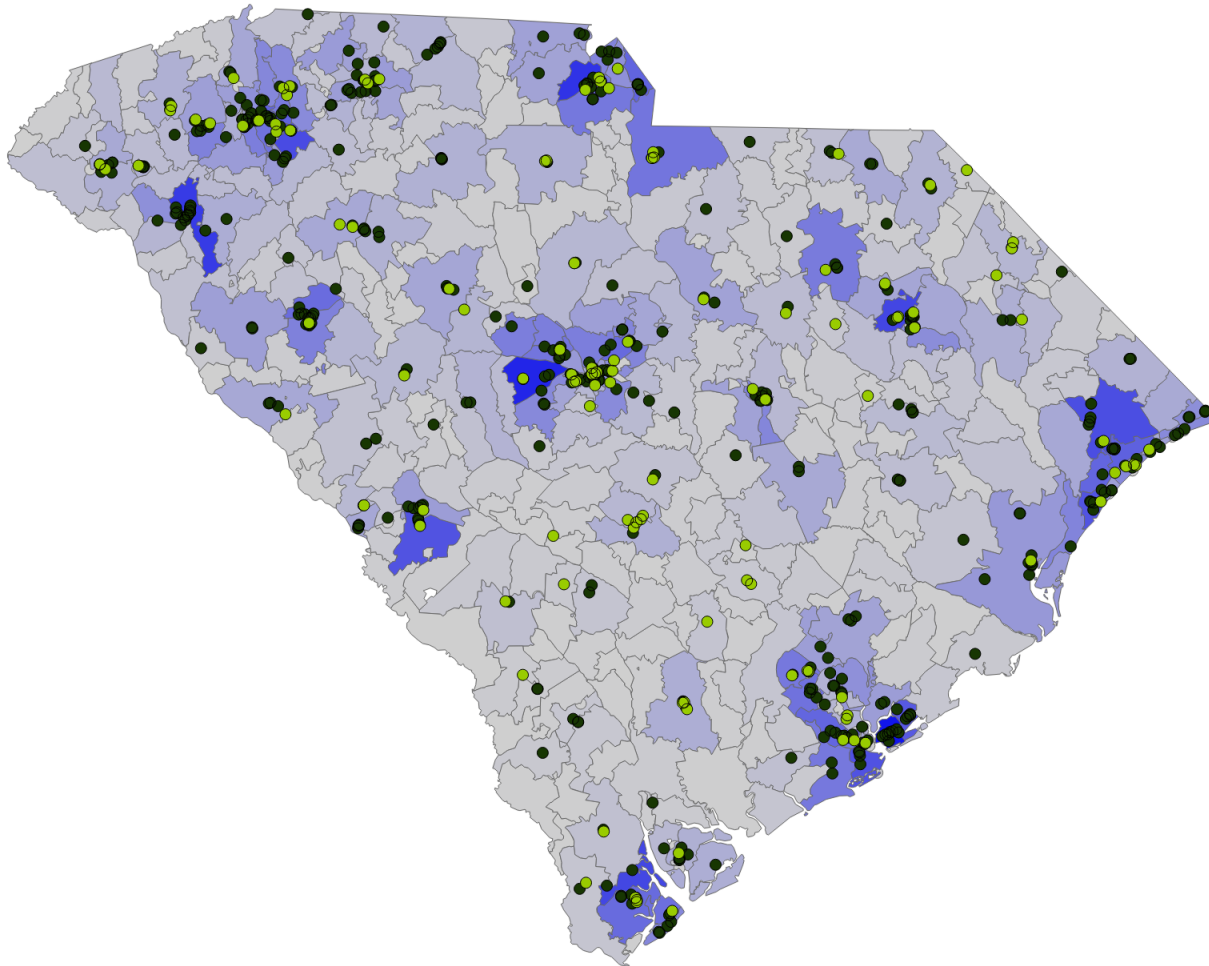
Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1 Dose  
with Mapped Vaccine Provider Locations

Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 2 Doses  
with Mapped Vaccine Provider Locations

Is Provider Taking Vaccine Appointments?\*

Yes

No



**Vaccine Recipients by County- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
Greenville	50,537	15,091
Charleston	49,764	26,944
Horry	42,128	14,274
Richland	38,259	11,703
Lexington	29,843	10,064
Beaufort	25,966	8,186
Spartanburg	24,202	7,974
York	23,730	5,878
Anderson	19,979	6,337
Florence	16,784	6,130
Aiken	13,655	3,427
Pickens	12,482	3,742
Berkeley	12,060	5,045
Dorchester	11,111	4,252
Greenwood	11,100	4,176
Lancaster	10,879	2,333
Sumter	8,748	1,860
Unknown County	8,175	2,891
Georgetown	7,590	3,227
Darlington	7,521	2,585
Oconee	7,210	1,644
Orangeburg	6,125	1,036
Kershaw	6,040	1,383
Laurens	6,007	1,680
Newberry	4,713	1,210
Chesterfield	4,518	963
Abbeville	3,373	1,025
Cherokee	3,249	840
Clarendon	3,145	583
Marion	3,106	1,381
Dillon	2,668	633
Edgefield	2,586	613
Chester	2,559	900
Colleton	2,538	540
Williamsburg	2,396	502
McCormick	2,330	537
Fairfield	2,208	455
Marlboro	2,192	434
Union	2,154	392
Hampton	1,938	383
Barnwell	1,519	309
Jasper	1,415	332
Lee	1,359	306
Saluda	1,331	264
Bamberg	1,158	226

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by County- 1&2 Doses**

**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
Calhoun	940	152
Allendale	601	207

**Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21**

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29464	8,122	4,602
29072	7,839	2,994
29732	7,247	2,025
29621	6,925	2,552
29501	6,443	2,708
29909	6,434	1,839
29681	6,227	1,723
29526	6,121	2,534
29412	5,721	3,299
29803	5,918	1,198
29576	5,836	2,217
29466	5,416	2,751
29401	5,469	4,013
29579	5,308	2,037
29615	5,173	1,407
29414	4,779	2,681
29707	5,171	826
29588	5,102	1,657
29223	4,915	1,451
29910	4,852	1,720
29649	4,794	1,955
29926	4,640	1,345
29485	4,325	1,968
29407	4,259	2,214
29607	4,492	1,698
29720	4,392	1,224
29212	4,373	1,372
29455	3,996	1,701
29483	4,083	1,649
29730	4,272	914
29650	4,127	1,238
29550	4,106	1,587
29605	3,989	1,398
29063	3,995	1,278
29036	3,983	1,282
29203	3,973	966
29642	3,855	1,201
29646	3,850	1,388
29708	3,708	912
29585	3,679	1,550
29229	3,649	1,210
29150	3,634	824
29928	3,588	786
29577	3,532	1,348
29687	3,555	887

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29073	3,505	1,277
29582	3,458	755
29209	3,406	1,054
29651	3,383	1,053
29505	3,301	1,287
29206	3,288	1,009
29205	3,264	990
29566	3,219	664
29625	3,174	987
29445	3,017	1,278
29609	3,126	952
29715	3,142	705
29169	2,915	1,059
29406	2,720	1,366
29440	2,739	1,082
29210	2,707	772
29680	2,620	743
29349	2,623	862
29673	2,542	782
29307	2,539	906
29492	2,396	1,258
29204	2,479	937
29486	2,356	1,040
29801	2,518	677
29301	2,508	832
29617	2,486	725
29640	2,430	702
29016	2,435	765
29620	2,334	715
29572	2,376	886
29575	2,373	815
29316	2,333	824
29710	2,327	549
29154	2,271	476
29020	2,259	439
29745	2,248	583
29461	2,112	717
29302	2,204	821
29170	2,126	683
29108	2,109	542
29045	2,083	593
29532	2,083	662
29403	1,919	1,202
29690	2,051	500
29506	2,024	653

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29841	2,024	735
29360	2,021	551
29601	1,968	860
29835	1,975	478
29527	1,974	742
29672	1,955	450
29102	1,934	347
29520	1,893	445
29568	1,891	397
29902	1,803	753
29627	1,755	493
29488	1,705	369
29611	1,703	447
29920	1,709	439
29201	1,683	678
29571	1,675	719
29907	1,614	704
29115	1,608	311
29706	1,610	627
29631	1,600	561
29671	1,595	420
29678	1,594	397
29379	1,564	296
29405	1,406	641
29325	1,524	501
29456	1,448	643
29369	1,498	516
29569	1,486	416
29341	1,473	375
29512	1,448	316
29070	1,436	366
29127	1,371	374
29420	1,300	525
29303	1,358	420
29626	1,338	416
29536	1,321	329
29410	1,220	552
29666	1,300	496
29418	1,193	498
29180	1,261	240
29033	1,249	395
29662	1,240	288
29340	1,247	342
29118	1,221	225
29574	1,219	586

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29078	1,213	273
29644	1,213	289
29138	1,198	240
29153	1,181	224
29323	1,173	372
29657	1,170	352
29860	1,150	377
29906	1,140	429
29306	1,126	369
29676	1,129	210
29697	1,113	321
29061	1,104	272
29560	1,098	319
29451	1,030	471
29010	1,041	261
29654	1,037	317
29630	1,025	294
29670	1,013	319
29054	1,014	297
29334	995	345
29161	975	273
29669	965	214
29541	919	293
29556	905	180
29388	903	265
29709	878	166
29693	862	186
29053	862	262
29449	781	301
29067	820	154
29624	810	201
29554	810	217
29812	802	169
29130	800	197
29936	790	185
29365	782	266
29135	770	131
29006	761	199
29655	757	187
29824	728	199
29653	719	228
29356	721	191
29172	718	192
29691	705	181
29148	701	128

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29565	694	166
29376	682	213
29510	639	257
29829	632	190
29322	621	170
29728	610	99
29692	605	184
29477	587	108
29645	600	125
29003	591	112
29583	577	174
29540	558	138
29438	498	135
29040	538	107
29689	536	170
29927	536	139
29384	529	139
29330	523	157
29472	480	155
29555	513	136
29160	497	137
29429	459	221
29832	490	74
29044	490	76
29511	489	203
29069	484	132
29924	463	115
29702	461	105
29058	448	110
29544	442	158
29059	439	55
29482	412	222
29142	430	58
29944	428	79
29696	427	96
29075	425	110
29684	418	117
29853	417	70
29332	416	94
29661	392	84
29048	389	59
29591	388	108
29682	388	100
29918	388	57
29470	335	144

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29458	360	115
29935	376	182
29638	364	121
29385	374	114
29628	357	82
29439	349	162
29042	364	80
29374	362	113
29372	359	78
29805	358	81
29436	349	59
29581	354	136
29479	338	107
29847	347	82
29487	310	119
29718	340	53
29353	326	56
29123	325	86
29128	325	69
29851	318	70
29817	315	67
29842	303	65
29178	301	68
29945	299	56
29080	299	42
29570	296	31
29126	294	69
29639	286	106
29009	289	53
29112	287	54
29810	288	93
29685	286	83
29164	281	64
29101	281	92
29055	276	81
29431	255	89
29940	268	78
29335	264	47
29704	261	57
29047	255	34
29125	255	45
29643	254	61
29563	253	51
29450	227	90
29530	241	76

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29827	240	90
29712	238	73
29162	227	56
29018	228	46
29432	224	34
29819	210	63
29435	195	53
29741	210	42
29845	210	30
29596	208	34
29584	203	51
29129	200	42
29052	198	25
29001	193	39
29593	192	44
29107	191	25
29856	189	24
29831	184	39
29546	183	65
29714	180	43
29030	178	23
29039	177	35
29038	177	25
29448	177	35
29590	177	28
29525	176	41
29168	174	25
29056	168	18
29032	166	32
29321	165	29
29941	163	33
29547	163	43
29114	157	47
29848	155	33
29475	146	39
29729	150	45
29163	148	12
29104	147	31
29742	146	44
29151	143	39
29580	143	28
29481	141	21
29502	143	45
29664	140	30
29543	138	22

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29037	137	35
29911	135	40
29726	135	30
29437	127	36
29113	133	24
29635	132	18
29809	131	29
29137	127	22
29442	122	50
29474	123	27
29518	123	20
29468	116	36
29622	124	33
29597	120	33
29727	119	17
29351	119	41
29081	117	23
29014	113	31
29717	113	25
29471	107	21
29545	109	28
29015	109	15
29031	108	13
29916	107	15
29111	106	20
29355	106	28
29370	105	18
29551	104	38
29721	104	33
29426	94	35
29446	89	24
29146	98	10
29821	96	25
29843	94	12
29166	93	16
29469	85	31
29145	92	19
29802	86	15
29686	84	11
29592	84	22
29641	82	20
29453	78	26
29116	81	19
29465	73	37
29587	78	34

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29743	78	24
29202	77	17
29564	77	10
29648	77	18
29929	76	13
29333	73	40
29457	68	30
29528	74	29
29578	75	17
29051	74	17
29342	74	19
29484	70	24
29105	71	17
29934	71	6
29516	67	12
29731	64	18
29915	65	14
29504	62	25
29065	60	9
29413	57	24
29604	54	14
29922	58	6
29422	55	20
29838	55	13
29368	54	15
29402	51	23
29716	54	8
29224	51	22
29417	51	22
29177	51	24
29133	49	7
29828	49	8
29567	47	10
29834	47	6
29021	47	7
29082	46	5
29171	45	6
29616	46	14
29679	46	14
29840	45	3
29606	45	9
29074	44	7
29938	44	10
29503	41	8
29602	41	5

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29943	41	1
29175	41	1
29633	41	5
29804	38	13
29903	39	9
29659	37	3
29221	37	10
29677	37	12
29652	35	7
29260	33	11
29452	30	4
29208	31	3
29320	31	11
29415	27	5
29434	29	10
29861	31	6
29373	29	9
29589	30	11
29598	30	10
29667	30	3
29836	30	10
29225	28	9
29849	28	9
29419	23	14
29079	26	5
29348	25	6
29404	24	18
29425	26	11
29839	26	6
29423	24	6
29816	25	3
29046	24	4
29230	24	8
29658	24	8
29921	24	5
29336	23	5
29683	23	5
29923	23	3
29346	21	5
29416	19	6
29632	20	9
29744	22	1
29846	22	8
29932	22	7
29375	20	5

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29377	20	5
29152	19	6
29329	19	6
29636	16	3
29240	16	4
29378	16	2
29493	16	5
29290	15	0
29211	14	5
29250	13	1
29305	14	5
29117	12	6
29594	12	2
29733	12	4
29122	11	3
29424	10	5
29675	11	0
29734	10	5
29813	11	4
29207	10	2
29603	9	4
29324	9	3
29614	9	2
29844	9	0
29147	8	2
29613	6	4
22928	5	1
29220	5	3
29409	4	3
29083	4	3
29216	4	2
29386	4	0
29441	4	1
29495	4	0
29542	4	0
29562	4	1
29746	4	0
29893	4	1
20801	3	0
29106	3	0
29179	3	2
29217	3	0
29228	3	3
29233	3	1
29269	3	1

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29408	3	1
29473	3	3
29558	3	0
29559	3	0
29586	2	2
29612	3	0
29756	3	1
29899	3	0
29908	3	2
20455	2	0
26461	2	0
26907	2	2
26963	2	0
29026	2	1
29100	2	1
29103	2	0
29120	2	1
29143	2	1
29213	2	1
29218	2	2
29226	2	0
29239	2	1
29270	2	0
29292	2	0
29319	2	0
29363	2	1
29411	2	2
29467	2	0
29494	2	1
29513	2	1
29514	1	2
29537	2	0
29548	2	0
29573	2	0
29595	2	1
29599	2	2
29618	2	1
29660	2	1
29695	2	1
29698	2	0
29750	2	1
29751	2	1
29752	1	1
29755	2	2
29772	2	1

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29781	1	2
29793	2	1
29797	2	0
29815	2	0
29830	2	0
29852	2	1
29854	2	0
29939	2	1
29972	2	1
29992	2	1
00030	1	0
02369	1	0
02957	1	0
02967	1	1
09420	1	0
09816	1	1
10418	1	0
19169	1	1
19206	1	1
19213	1	0
19527	1	1
19571	1	0
19577	1	1
19579	1	0
19617	1	0
19650	1	0
20154	1	1
20209	1	1
20302	1	1
20464	1	0
20485	1	0
20486	1	0
20582	1	1
20642	1	0
20681	1	0
20730	1	0
20803	1	0
20936	1	0
20944	1	0
20972	1	0
20983	1	0
21333	1	0
23638	1	0
23928	1	0
24911	1	0

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
24942	1	0
24955	1	1
25483	1	0
25968	0	1
26577	1	0
26901	1	1
26921	1	1
26925	1	1
26962	1	0
26973	1	0
27172	1	1
27727	1	1
29000	1	0
29049	1	0
29050	1	0
29064	1	1
29068	1	0
29124	1	0
29136	1	0
29149	1	0
29157	1	0
29159	1	0
29165	1	0
29182	1	0
29186	1	0
29188	1	0
29192	1	0
29196	1	0
29197	1	0
29215	1	0
29222	1	0
29232	1	0
29253	1	0
29261	1	1
29264	1	1
29287	1	0
29289	1	0
29291	1	0
29294	1	0
29296	1	0
29298	1	0
29299	1	1
29309	1	1
29315	1	0
29326	1	0

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

**Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses**  
**Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients**

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29381	1	0
29383	1	0
29427	1	0
29428	1	1
29444	1	0
29462	1	0
29478	1	1
29480	1	1
29491	1	1
29496	1	0
29507	1	1
29515	1	0
29517	1	0
29522	1	0
29529	1	1
29535	1	0
29552	1	1
29557	1	0
29561	1	0
29629	1	0
29694	1	1
29705	1	1
29723	1	0
29724	1	0
29737	1	0
29739	0	1
29740	1	0
29759	1	1
29760	1	1
29766	1	1
29769	1	0
29779	1	0
29782	1	0
29788	1	0
29811	1	1
29855	1	0
29857	1	0
29873	1	0
29891	1	0
29895	1	1
29905	1	1
29913	1	0
29930	1	0
29937	1	0
29949	1	0

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

## Vaccine Recipients by Zip Code- 1&2 Doses

### Descending by Count of Dose 1 Recipients

	Received Dose 1	Received Dose 2
29973	1	0
29986	1	0
29998	0	0

Data as of 11:59 PM on 2/14/21

## Links to Information of Interest

### I. Centers for Disease Control Materials

COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Operational Guidance for Jurisdictions Playbook, which provides information on “how to plan and operationalize a vaccination response”

- [https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-Vaccination-Program-Interim\\_Playbook.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-Vaccination-Program-Interim_Playbook.pdf)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/COVID-19-vaccination-program-playbook-annex.pdf>

Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit (February 2021)

- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf>

### II. South Carolina COVID-19 Public Health Orders

- <https://scdhec.gov/covid19/covid-19-public-health-orders>

*VAMS Reporting Public Health Order (January 5, 2021)*

*DHEC, LLR Joint Order: Expands who can Administer COVID-19 Vaccine (January 15, 2021)*

*Second amended DHEC, LLR Joint Order: Expands who can Administer COVID-19 Vaccine (January 28, 2021)*

*Rescission of Public Health Order No. COVID-19-7A (February, 11 2021)*

*Public Health Order No. COVID-19-8 (February, 11 2021)*

### III. 2.9.21 Response from DHEC to Ad Hoc Committee Follow Up Questions

- <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee/AgencyWebpages/Covid19VaccineStudy/2.9.21%20DHEC%20Response%20to%20House%20Legislative%20Oversight%20Ad%20Hoc%20Committee.PDF>



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*Chairman of the Board*

February 14, 2021

The Honorable Weston Newton  
228 Blatt Building  
Columbia, SC 29201

*RE: House Legislative Oversight Ad Hoc Committee*

Chairman Newton:

Thank you for the opportunity on January 21, 2021 to provide testimony regarding the receipt and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines by the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). Since that time, the South Carolina Medical Association (SCMA) has continued to hear from physicians who would like to provide the vaccine at their independent practices.

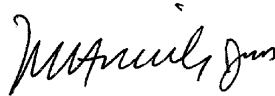
Physicians understand the limited supply of the vaccine, the difficulty of separating Pfizer doses, and the constraints of cold storage. However, they feel strongly that they can encourage patients who may not otherwise get vaccinated to do so and to provide that vaccination. Older patients have questions on whether they should take the vaccines and physicians are counseling patients without the ability to treat them or sign them up for vaccination. Likewise, even pediatricians want to assist in vaccinating family members of children, especially when they have at-risk children who need to have protected adults in their circle. Understandably allocation is a difficult issue, and mass vaccination sites are important to move the vaccine quickly. But we encourage the General Assembly to consider the value of small practices to get those vaccinated who might otherwise choose not to be vaccinated or who do not have the means to travel to a vaccination site as supply becomes available. Physician-patient relationships and regular office visits have always been part of combatting a public health crisis.

In addition, many physician offices have registered so that when vaccine is more readily available, they can provide the vaccine, even if limited to Moderna or newly available vaccines. DHEC has accepted these physician offices to receive and administer the vaccine but have not activated the sites due to the supply constraints. When activated, these physician offices will need to be trained on ordering the vaccine and how to utilize DHEC's systems, and they may need additional staff to host vaccination clinics. These pieces of information should be made available now so when the vaccine does become available these practices can be activated at a moment's notice. More communication from DHEC to registered and accepted physician offices would alleviate questions and fears that physician offices will not receive any vaccine or will not be ready at the appropriate time. For example, if DHEC knows that it is unlikely there will be additional

supplies before March, an email communication that there is limited supply and DHEC will reevaluate the availability again in March would provide practices with information. Without some follow up information, practices and their patients sit in limbo with many questions as to the timing when they might receive vaccine.

The SCMA knows that ultimately vaccinating a state is not a sprint, but a marathon. Accordingly, making sure that the right pieces are in place to continue vaccinations through 2021 and longer is important. Richele Taylor our General Counsel is working with DHEC, the South Carolina Hospital Association, pharmacists, and others to try and increase the flow of information between all of the groups. On behalf of the SCMA, we appreciate the House looking at these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Finch, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Michael T. Finch, Jr., MD  
President

## Jennifer Dobson

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**From:** Rebecca G. Leach <rebeccal@scetail.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Dobson  
**Subject:** RE: Invitation to Provide Additional Written Comments to Ad Hoc Committee About Progress of COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

Good afternoon, Jennifer –

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comment for the Ad Hoc committee members.

In my testimony provided at the first Ad Hoc Committee meeting, I indicated that predictable accessibility to vaccine doses was the number one challenge of our retail pharmacies. Our pharmacies never knew from week to week the amount of doses (if any) that would be provided by the state. This created logistical changes for determining how many of our 609 locations would have access to the vaccine and what staff was needed to administer the vaccine. It also created confusion for the public as they were unsure from week to week if the vaccine would be available in their local store. Since then, I worked with DHEC staff and we have now established a guaranteed weekly allotment for each of our retail pharmacy members. Though this number is far below our capabilities, we appreciate the ability to better plan each week. This consistency will also position us to better serve the public and helps set expectations for our citizens.

Additionally, because the required number of days have now passed since we administered the first round of doses, our retail pharmacies just began receiving second doses. Thus far we have received the number of doses required to administer these second doses and understand from DHEC this consistency should continue.

Also, now that we have access to regularly recurring doses, we would like to assist in underserved areas as our doses allow. Once DHEC identifies the areas in our state in need of access to the vaccine, we will position locations in those areas as we are able to ensure access for those citizens.

Lastly, the federal government recently activated several federal partners in states across the country. CVS is currently serving as the federal partner in South Carolina. This means CVS has begun receiving vaccine doses directly from the federal government so they no longer need to access the state's doses. Currently, CVS is receiving 15,300 first doses each week through this federal partnership. As additional doses are made available through this federal program, CVS will further ramp up their participation and additional federal partners will be activated.

Please let me know if you or committee members have any questions.

Thanks!  
Rebecca



**Rebecca G. Leach | Executive Director**  
**South Carolina Retail Association**  
**Post Office Box 5813 | Columbia, SC 29250**  
**Cellphone: 803.603.2748 | [RebeccaL@scetail.org](mailto:RebeccaL@scetail.org)**

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F

*First Vice-Chair:  
Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.*

## **Legislative Oversight Committee**



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Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson  
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**South Carolina House of Representatives**

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*Charles L. Appleby, IV  
Legal Counsel*

*Lewis Carter  
Research Analyst/Auditor*

**Ad Hoc Committee to Study DHEC's Receipt and Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccines Meeting**  
Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 10:00 am  
Blatt Building Room 110

### **Archived Video Available**

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.8, South Carolina ETV is allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access an archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on *Committee Postings and Reports*, then under *House Standing Committees* click on *Legislative Oversight*. Then, click on *Video Archives* for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

### **Attendance**

- I. Chair Weston Newton calls the Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Receipt and Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccines to order on Thursday, January 21, 2021, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building. All members of the Ad Hoc Committee are present for all or a portion of the meeting; two members appeared virtually. Chair Newton explains this is the Ad Hoc Committee's first meeting with DHEC.

### **Discussion of the DHEC's Receipt and Distribution of the COVID-19 Vaccines**

- I. DHEC Acting Director W. Marshall Taylor is sworn in. He gives opening remarks and introduces Brannon Traxler, MD, Interim Public Health Director; Linda Bell, MD, State Epidemiologist;

Stephen White, MPH, Immunizations Division Director; and Darbi McPhail, Chief Financial Officer.

- II. Dr. Bell is sworn in and speaks about the South Carolina Vaccine Advisory Committee and the vaccine task force. She and Director Taylor answer questions from Committee members.
- III. Dr. Traxler is sworn in and speaks about the phases of distribution. She responds to questions from Committee members.
- IV. Director Taylor discusses the distribution strategy, including provider networks, receipt of vaccines, rollout of phases, and the federal Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS). He discusses an upcoming statewide appointment system as an alternative to VAMS. He responds to questions from Committee members
- V. Dr. Traxler responds to questions regarding the new call system for setting appointments.
- VI. Director Taylor responds to questions about scheduling problems.
- VII. DHEC's Chief Financial Officer, Darbi McPhail, is sworn in and speaks about financial needs of the agency related to the vaccine distribution. She responds to questions from Committee members.
- VIII. Thornton Kirby, CEO of the SC Hospital Association, is sworn in and speaks on the role of the hospitals in the vaccine distribution.
- IX. Bruce Holstein, CEO of Spartanburg Hospital System, is sworn in and speaks on the challenges hospitals are facing as a result of COVID-19.
- X. Mr. Kirby speaks as to what the hospitals need going forward. He states that what is needed is more vaccines; enactment of the resolution currently in front of the General Assembly relating to who can assist with the vaccination effort (providing injections); and funding. He responds to questions from Committee members.
- XI. Dr. Traxler and Director Taylor respond to questions from Committee members regarding first and second vaccination dose ordering and scheduling.
- XII. Dr. Traxler and Director Taylor responds to questions from Committee members regarding the role of the pharmacies in vaccine distribution.
- XIII. Director Taylor responds to questions from the Committee regarding the call center.
- XIV. Director Taylor responds to questions from the Committee regarding safeguards on second doses and making sure they are available. Steven White, DHEC Immunization Director, is sworn in and answers questions from the Committee regarding second doses.

- XV. Dr. Traxler responds to questions from the Committee members regarding the federal partnership with chain pharmacies.
- XVI. Mr. Kirby responds to questions from Committee members regarding vaccination storage capabilities of the hospitals. Mr. Holstein provides additional testimony on hospital vaccination storage and the costs, as well as the financial burden of vaccine distribution on the hospital.
- XVII. Dr. Christopher Yaekel of the South Carolina Medical Association speaks on the issues facing physicians, in particular non-hospital employed ones, and the vaccine. He answers questions from the Committee members.
- XVIII. Rebecca Leach, Executive Director of the South Carolina Retail Association is sworn in and speaks on behalf of grocery store pharmacies and chain pharmacies, Certain stores have already started administering vaccinations. She answers questions from Committee members.
- XIX. Deborah Bowers, a pharmacist and independent pharmacy owner in York, South Carolina is sworn in and speaks on behalf of the South Carolina Pharmacy Association. She testifies that independent pharmacies are willing to assist with the vaccine distribution to customers. Many pharmacies deliver and are willing to give vaccines to homebound customers. She spoke on how independent pharmacies in other states are participating in the vaccination effort. She answers question from Committee members.

#### Administrative Matters

- I. Chair Newton advises members to let staff know if there are any additional questions for DHEC by the end of the day on January 22, 2021, as a follow-up letter will be sent to the agency.

#### Adjournment

- I. The meeting is adjourned.



## Committee Mission

Determine if agency laws and programs are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of the General Assembly and whether they should be continued, curtailed or eliminated. Inform the public about state agencies.

Website: [http://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/  
HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee.php](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee.php)

Phone Number: 803-212-6810

Email Address: [HCommLegOv@schouse.gov](mailto:HCommLegOv@schouse.gov)

Location: Blatt Building, Room 228