



THE COVID-19

VACCINE

COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout

Update & Next Steps

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
- 2nd 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

By the Numbers

As of Feb. 15, 2021

- **Weekly 1st dose allocations:**
 - Pfizer: 31,200
 - Moderna: 48,800
- **487 providers activated**
 - 411 receiving vaccine
- **786,250 doses received**
 - 567,097 doses administered
 - Result: ~ 73% utilization rate (excluding LTCFs)
- **498,092 people vaccinated**



Estimated Phase 1a Population: 1.2M+

Our Path Forward

Working Together to Save Lives

*Shared goal: To **SAVE LIVES** by ensuring everyone who wish to be immunized against COVID-19 is vaccinated as quickly, equitably and ethically as possible. To do this we must:*

- 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 2nd 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., VAMSupdates)**

Contact Our Legislative Affairs Team

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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
to find a vaccine location.

THE COVID-19 VACCINE

