

Discover & Deliver: Vaccines Helping Americans Declare Independence from Coronavirus



With three authorized COVID-19 vaccines available in the U.S., the country is ramping up the largest vaccination campaign in history.

On Thursday, [President Biden announced](#) that every American should be eligible to receive a vaccine by May 1, with a goal of achieving our new normal by July 4th. With America's birthday mere months away, let's recap where things stand with the COVID-19 vaccine.

What's New?

- Last week, [Novavax announced](#) their COVID-19 vaccine candidate was 96.4% effective against mild, moderate, and severe disease caused by the original COVID-19 strain. While the vaccine was 55.4% against the South African variant, the company stated the vaccine is 100% effective against hospitalization and death.
- Additionally, [data from Israel](#) – who leads the world in COVID-19 vaccinations – illustrated that the Pfizer vaccine was 97% effective against symptomatic disease and 94% effective against asymptomatic COVID-19. Because asymptomatic disease drives the spread of the virus, the new data illustrates that the vaccines are incredibly effective at stopping COVID-19 in its tracks.
- Meanwhile, as schools across the country race to re-open, earlier today, [Moderna reported](#) the start of a Phase 2/3 pediatric study to test the vaccine in children between the ages of 6 months to 12 years.

If we've learned anything over the last year of the pandemic, it's that this virus is relentless. But the science is, too.

If we continue to follow that science and invest in clinical research in the coming months, hopefully we will all be able to celebrate Independence Day together in four months' time.

—**Kelly Anderson, Senior Director, Health and Drug Policy, Global Innovation Policy Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

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