

Montana Health Alert Network

DPHHS HAN

ADVISORY

Cover Sheet

DATE

June 9, 2021

SUBJECT

NATIONAL MONTH OF ACTION TO MOBILIZE AMERICA TO REACH 70%
VACCINATION RATE

INSTRUCTIONS

DISTRIBUTE to your local HAN contacts. This HAN is intended for general sharing of information.

- Time for Forwarding: **As Soon As Possible**
- Please forward to DPHHS at hhshan@mt.gov
- Remove this cover sheet before redistributing and replace it with your own



For LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT reference only
DPHHS Subject Matter Resource for more information regarding this HAN, contact:
DPHHS CDCP

Immunization Section
1-406-444-5580

For technical issues related to the HAN message contact the Emergency Preparedness Section at 1-406-444-0919

DPHHS Health Alert Hotline:
1-800-701-5769

DPHHS HAN Website:
www.han.mt.gov

REMOVE THIS COVER SHEET BEFORE REDISTRIBUTING AND REPLACE IT WITH YOUR OWN

Please ensure that DPHHS is included on your HAN distribution list.
hhshan@mt.gov

Categories of Health Alert Messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Information Service: passes along low level priority messages that do not fit other HAN categories and are for informational purposes only.

Please update your HAN contact information on the Montana Public Health Directory

DPHHS HAN

Information Sheet



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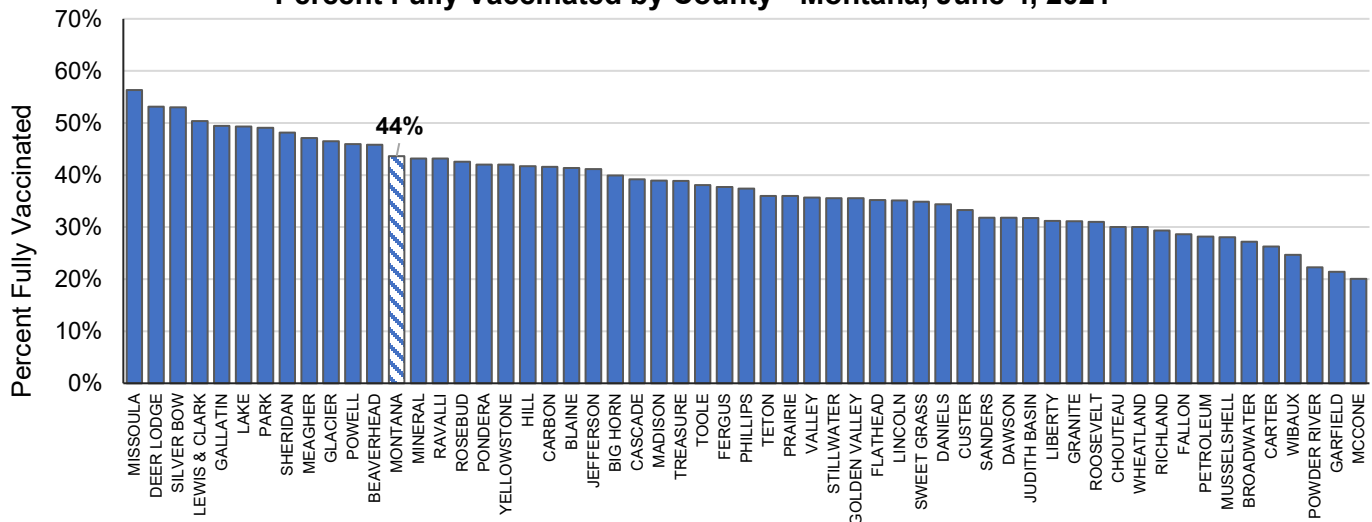
SUBJECT

National Month of Action to Mobilize America to Reach 70% Vaccination Rate

BACKGROUND

On June 2, 2021, June was announced as the National Month of Action to mobilize America to get 70% of U.S. adults at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine by July 4th. In mid-December 2020, Montana began vaccinating individuals with a phased approach starting with those most vulnerable and healthcare providers. Vaccinations were opened to all Montanans aged 16+ on April 1, 2021 and then to all Montanans 12+ on May 10th. To date, 822,900 doses have been given across the state and 49% of all eligible individuals, including 52% of adults 18 years and older, have received at least one dose of vaccine. In addition, 44% of all eligible Montanans are considered fully vaccinated.

Percent Fully Vaccinated by County - Montana, June 4, 2021



At this time, 40% of all counties have fully vaccinated 40% or more of their population. Four counties have reached 50% or more of fully vaccinated county residents and only 10 counties have fewer than 30% of their residents fully vaccinated. As vaccination efforts continue, there are currently more than 50,000 (6%) Montanans that are on their way to becoming fully vaccinated and every week on average 10,000 more Montanans are getting their first COVID-19 vaccine.

To help us achieve this goal, DPHHS is asking for your assistance to continue, or expand, COVID-19 vaccination efforts to patients at point of care. COVID-19 vaccination should be easy and accessible to everyone.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Healthcare & Vaccine Providers

All healthcare providers should continue to recommend COVID-19 vaccination all individuals 12+ who are eligible for vaccine to reduce the risk of infection, serious illness, death, and reduce transmission to others; many of whom may be at increased risk.

Vaccine providers should take every opportunity to vaccinate. Providers should not miss any opportunities to vaccinate even if it means puncturing a multidose vial to administer vaccine without having enough people available to receive each dose. Additionally, providers should:

- Consider establishing and promoting standing vaccination days or half-days to increase likelihood of larger numbers of people presenting for vaccination on the same day.
- Vaccinate family members or friends who accompany patients to medical visits even if they are not established patients at the vaccinating practice.
- Continue outreach to employers or other community partners that have a large membership or network to arrange vaccination events.
- As contingency plan, vaccine providers should attempt to contact additional persons (i.e., from a waitlist or through personal contacts of persons being vaccinated) to use as many vaccine doses as possible.

Hospitals

To increase and ease access to COVID-19 vaccination in hospital systems, we are asking all facilities to:

- Provide emergency departments with vaccine to administer at discharge,
- Provide urgent care clinics with vaccine for administration when appropriate, and
- Offer vaccine to all inpatients at time of discharge when appropriate.

If recommending vaccine to individuals age 12-17 and Pfizer vaccine is not readily available in the provider clinic, we recommend consulting with your local public health partners to determine what health care providers are currently able to provide the vaccine or visit covidvaccine.mt.gov for an updated list of providers in your area.

Local Health Jurisdictions

Continue to work with vaccine providers in the community to monitor vaccine supplies and local efforts to continue to vaccinate anyone who is eligible. To increase COVID-19 vaccination rates in your community, continue the following activities:

- Outreach to large employers, churches, schools and daycare staff, and other congregate settings to offer or facilitate onsite vaccination. DPHHS is requesting, and supporting, on-site vaccination efforts to be fully implemented to reduce barriers to access.
- Offering special hours of COVID-19 vaccination for walk-ins at your clinic. This may help reduce wastage from the larger multi-dose vials.
- Providing educational materials and/or trainings to other local partners on the importance of COVID-19 vaccination in the community.
- Encouraging other vaccine providers, including primary care clinics, to enroll as COVID-19 vaccination providers.

- Work with other community partners to reduce barriers by simplifying processes or assisting with scheduling, transportation, etc. as possible.
- Consider working with the community to support incentives to help bring in additional people who have not yet vaccinated. A gas card, county fair pass, business coupons or other small incentive may help off-set some of the cost of traveling to clinics or demonstrate community support. For more information on some of the incentives being offered nationwide, visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/incentives.html>

COVID-19 Vaccine patients who are minors will most likely need a parent or legal guardian's consent to get a vaccine. Providers may refer to Section 41-1-402 of the Montana Code Annotated for more information on the ability of emancipated minors and others who may be able to consent to their own healthcare services.

Additional Resources

Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>

Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/resource-center.html>