

COVID-19 Vaccine: Children & Teens

Get the facts you need to decide.



SLOPublicHealth.org/covid19

How effective is Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for children and teens?

In clinical trials, the vaccine was over 90% effective at preventing COVID-19.

Is a child's dose smaller?

Children ages 5-11 receive pediatric doses that are ½ the amount of vaccine that teens and adults receive.

Does the vaccine cause side effects?

Children and teens may experience the same mild side effects adults do (sore arm, aches, fever) and resolve in a day or two. These side effects are normal and mean the immune system is building strong protection against the virus.

Why should children and teens get vaccinated?

COVID-19 poses a serious threat to everyone's health, including children and teens. While children are unlikely to die from COVID-19, they may have prolonged symptoms (long COVID) and in rare cases, delayed and severe inflammation that may require hospitalization.

Children regularly receive vaccines to protect them from serious preventable illnesses. The COVID-19 vaccine is another important way to protect your child from harm.



Where can my child or teen get vaccinated?

Make an appointment with your child's pediatrician. Or, you can visit your local pharmacy or public health department.

How will my child benefit from being vaccinated?

Children and teens now make up an increasing proportion of new COVID-19 cases. Getting them vaccinated against COVID-19 not only protects them from infection and severe illness, but protects those around them, such as elderly family members or at-risk classmates.

Fully vaccinated children and teens can:

- Safely see their friends, play team sports, and attend school in-person.
- Skip quarantine after exposure to COVID-19, as long as they don't have symptoms.
- Go without masks in low-risk settings (such gatherings with other vaccinated individuals), and high-risk settings only when community transmission is low.