



# Yakima Health District

## Media Release

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### **Update #5: COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Efforts Continue in Yakima County**

**YAKIMA, WA-** Yakima County continues to receive additional doses of COVID-19 vaccines. As of January 26, 2021, local partners have administered COVID-19 vaccine to 11,082 individuals. 1,988 of those have received their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. See Table 1 for more detail. These numbers do not include doses that have been administered to staff and residents of long-term care facilities through the Federal Pharmacy Partnership.

### **Washington State Data Dashboard**

The Washington State Department of Health updated the [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) to include a tab for COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution. The dashboard has information on total vaccines given (first and second doses combined), which is not the same as individuals who have been vaccinated. Please use caution when reporting the data between WA State DOH and local county data as they will not always be interchangeable.

### **Local Vaccine Roll-Out**

Across Yakima County we have seen an increase in vaccine accessibility as the community works to vaccinate those that are eligible. There are a variety of hospitals, pharmacies and clinics that have received the vaccine. Community members should keep in mind that in Yakima County alone there are at least 40,000 individuals who are eligible as part of Phase A and Phase B Tier 1. For this reason, it is anticipated that Washington State will remain in Phase B Tier 1 until sometime in the spring.

Currently, getting an appointment for the COVID-19 Vaccine is a four-step process:

**Step 1:** Determine Eligibility using Phase Finder [www.FindYourPhaseWA.Org](http://www.FindYourPhaseWA.Org)

**Step 2:** Identify a location that is currently distributing vaccines using the Yakima Health District Website

**Step 3:** Contact the location to schedule an appointment. Each location will have a preferred method of contact listed on the Yakima Health District website

**Step 4:** Go to your first appointment and mark your calendar for your second dose. If you do not get scheduled for your second dose when you get your first vaccine, visit the Yakima Health District website to call a facility to get your second dose scheduled.

### **Regional and Local Mass Vaccination Site**

Five regional mass vaccination sites have opened all over Washington State. These sites are a resource to anyone who resides in Washington State. It is highly recommended to make an appointment in advance. More information on dates, times, locations and registration methods vary by site. For more information visit the Washington State Department of Health [website](#).

Locally, the Yakima Health District has partnered with the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management to set up a permanent mass vaccine site at the Central Washington State Fairgrounds. Currently, there are no vaccination events scheduled at this point in time, but it is a resource that is



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available to any of our local partners who would like to utilize the space to distribute their vaccine. The vaccine site was set up in recognition that in Yakima, there must be various options for people to equitable receive the vaccine. The Yakima Health District and its partners are committed to ensuring all community members are able to quickly access the COVID-19 sites if they wish to receive it. In the future, the Yakima Health District will work to have the site permanently open throughout the week as soon as there is enough vaccine available to do so. In the short-term, YHD will work with partners to set up temporary vaccine sites as resources allow. When these temporary events are scheduled, they will be announced immediately to the public.

**Table 1: Yakima County COVID-19 Vaccine Received and Administered**

<b>Total Amount of 1<sup>st</sup> Dose Received</b>	<b>Total Amount of First Dose Administered</b>	<b>Total Amount of Booster Received</b>	<b>Total Amount of Booster Administered</b>
11,125	11,082	4,050	1,988

## **QUOTES:**

“We ask that community members remain patient and do not become disheartened if they are unable to get an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine right away. There is simply not enough vaccine currently in our county for everyone who is eligible at this time. Rest assured, that in time, everyone who wants the vaccine, will receive it. We ask for everyone’s patience as they continue to seek appointments. In the meantime, know that we will continue to advocate at the state level on behalf of our community for more vaccine.” Andre Fresco, Executive Director, Yakima Health District

“Our partners are working hard to scale up to the demand. Over the weekend we saw almost 2,000 individuals vaccinated. Unfortunately, with varying distributions of vaccine, it is difficult to keep that momentum going. This week, we only had 900 vaccine doses disseminated to Yakima County. We have set up the mass vaccine site in preparation for more vaccine distributions in the future.” Said Nathan Johnson, Local Emergency Response Coordinator

## **Additional Information:**

[Yakima County COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Web Site](#)  
[Washington State COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

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