

# UNMASK THE FACTS

September 6 - 12

September 7, 2021

## Delta is still the 'most concerning' COVID-19 variant despite the emergence of Mu

As of September 7, the COVID-19 variant "Mu" had been detected in 49 states (all U.S. states except for Nebraska). This variant has mutations that some worry could overcome the protections offered by vaccines or prior infection. However, more research is needed to make this connection. WHO said that the Delta variant remains the most concerning variant for public health due to its increased transmissibility, and federal health officials in the U.S. don't see Mu as an immediate threat.

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September 8, 2021

## President Biden announces new vaccine mandates that will cover 100 million people

The President has announced a sweeping plan to mandate vaccines in various work sectors. These proposed rules mandate that all employers with more than 100 workers require their workforce to be vaccinated or test for the virus weekly. Under this plan, health workers in facilities that receive federal Medicare or Medicaid will also have to be fully vaccinated. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) within the Department of Labor has been tasked with writing the official mandate. No timeline has been announced yet.

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September 9, 2021

## More than a quarter of last week's new COVID-19 cases in the U.S. were children

Children now represent more than a quarter (26.8%) of weekly COVID-19 cases across the U.S., according to data from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). As of September 9, nearly 5.3 million children in the U.S. have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic. Over 243,000 cases were added in just one week, the second-highest number of child cases in a week since the pandemic began.

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September 10, 2021

## FDA outlines the process for authorizing pediatric COVID-19 vaccines

COVID-19's spread in schools has many anxious parents clamoring for a pediatric vaccine. In a statement on Friday, the FDA set expectations for the authorization process. Like in previous EUAs, the FDA needs to see a follow-up period of about two months for at least half of the clinical trial participants to ensure the safety of the vaccine doses. In the meantime, FDA urges parents not to ask clinicians to vaccinate their kids who are under the age of 12.

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September 10, 2021

## Unvaccinated people are 11 times more likely than vaccinated people to die from COVID-19

New research from the CDC has found that unvaccinated people are 11 times more likely to die from COVID-19 than those who are fully vaccinated. It also found that vaccinated people were nearly five times less likely to get infected with COVID-19 and 10 times less likely to get so sick from COVID-19 that they ended up in the hospital. This study strengthens evidence that vaccines continue to provide powerful protection, even against the Delta variant.

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Disclaimer: This project was funded in part by a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant number 1 NU50CK000588-01-00. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this resource center do not necessarily represent the policy of CDC or HHS and should not be considered an endorsement by the Federal Government.