

Developing COVID-19 Vaccines



All vaccines must go through many tests and approval processes to make sure they are safe and effective before they are distributed to the public.

The COVID-19 vaccines were developed and approved more quickly than other vaccines due to the urgent need to stop the spread of the pandemic. No steps were rushed or skipped in the process. The COVID vaccines went through all the necessary trials, developmental phases and approvals before distribution. What makes this situation unique is that since this was such a priority for everyone, regulatory delays, down time and lack of funding that typically slows down the vaccine development and approval processes were not factors.

Research Timeline

Preclinical Research	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
This initial phase involves heavy research to identify and create the best vaccines before they are tested on volunteers.	In Phase 1, researchers test the vaccine in small groups of volunteers, usually less than 100 people, to gauge safety, reactions and effectiveness.	The second phase studies the most effective dose size and is usually split into Phase 2A and Phase 2B. In developing the COVID vaccines, Phase 2 occurred at the same time as Phase 1.	Phase 3 is the largest phase before going for approvals and involves tens of thousands of volunteers and epidemiologists.

To speed up the process for COVID-19 vaccines, some of these stages happened at the same time. Most of the COVID vaccines went through Phases 1 and 2 from April 2020 until June 2020, and Phase 3 from June 2020 until October 2020.

Fun Fact | *It took more time to develop the COVID-19 vaccine than it took to develop the H1N1 vaccine.*

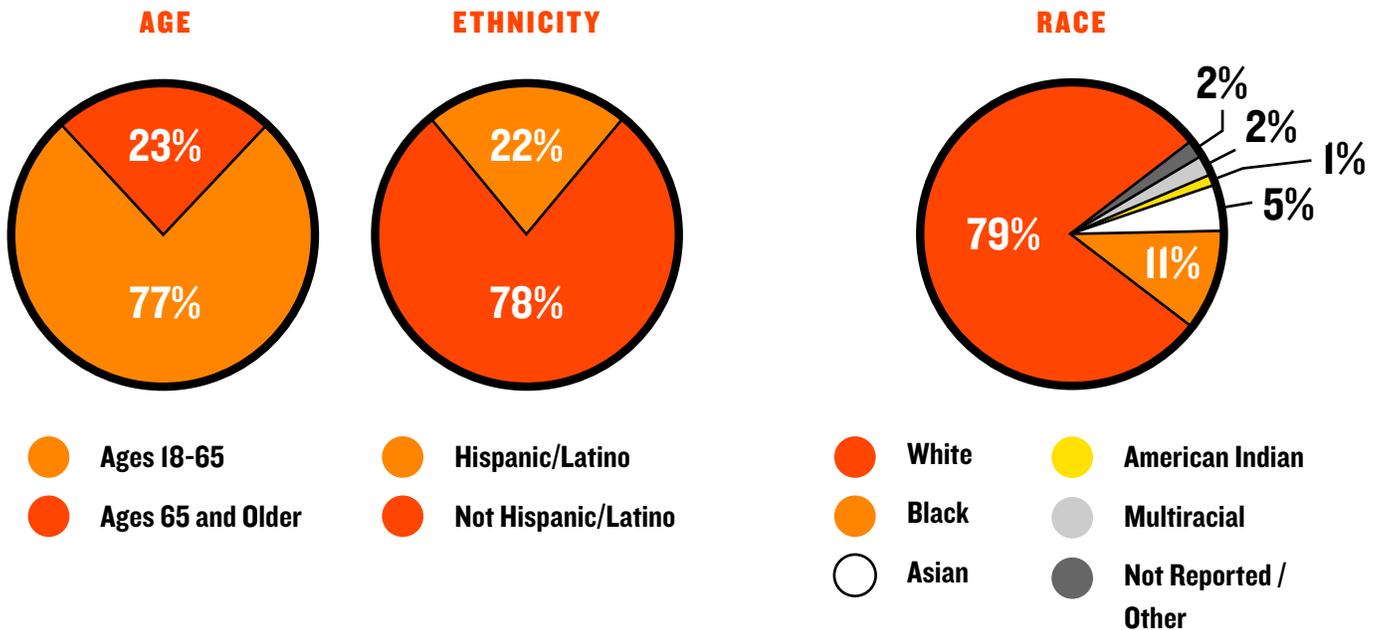


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➔ Demographics of Study Participants

Between the Phase 3 trials of the **Pfizer**, **Moderna** and **Johnson & Johnson** vaccines, more than 89,000 people participated and received either a vaccine or a placebo. A placebo is a shot that contains no medicine.



➔ Outcomes of Trials

- The trials were very successful. All the approved vaccines offer strong protection against severe disease and death. The results were consistent across age, gender, race and ethnicity.
- After the trials, the vaccines went through rigorous evaluations at the federal level and were authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) before distribution.
- Studies and trials are currently in progress to study the vaccines with children, pregnant people and other groups.

If you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, ask your doctor, or visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) or the websites of the vaccine producers for more information.

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, visit [oneforallmo.com](https://www.oneforallmo.com).