

# MYTHS VS. FACTS

As many myths and commentary on the COVID-19 vaccine circulate, it is critical to understand and get information from reliable sources that you can trust. Vaccines have been required to attend school for more than a century. While all medications may have some side effects on some people, we know that 184 million Americans have been safely vaccinated as of September 2021. We also know that embracing science and medicine is how we will end the pandemic.



## ✘ MYTH

The COVID-19 vaccine can give me COVID-19.



## ✔ FACT

No. None of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19 but instead teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19.

Fact sourced from the [John Hopkins Medicine Myths and Facts](#) and [CDC COVID-19 Myths and Facts](#)



## ✘ MYTH

If I already got COVID-19 then I do not need the COVID-19 vaccine.



## ✔ FACT

Getting COVID-19 might offer some natural protection or immunity from reinfection with the virus that causes COVID-19. But it's not clear how long this protection lasts. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, people are advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have been sick with COVID-19 before.

Fact sourced from the [John Hopkins Medicine Myths and Facts](#) and [Mayo Clinic Health System COVID-19 Vaccine Myths](#)



## ✘ MYTH

COVID-19 has affected mostly adults, so children do not need to be vaccinated.



## ✔ FACT

While not as likely as adults, children can become severely ill with COVID-19. They might need to be hospitalized, treated in the intensive care unit or placed on a ventilator to help them breathe, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A COVID-19 vaccine can prevent your child from getting and spreading the COVID-19 virus. If your child gets COVID-19, a COVID-19 vaccine could prevent him or her from becoming severely ill.

Fact sourced from the [John Hopkins Medicine Myths and Facts](#) and [Mayo Clinic Health System COVID-19 Vaccine Myths](#)



## ✘ MYTH

The COVID-19 will affect my reproductive system.



## ✔ FACT

There is no evidence that shows that the COVID-19 vaccine causes problems in trying to get pregnant in women or men. The COVID-19 vaccine continues to be recommended for everyone 12 years of age and older.

Fact sourced from the [CDC COVID-19 Myths and Facts](#)



✘ MYTH

My immune system is naturally strong, so I do not need the COVID-19 vaccine.



✔ FACT

While our immune systems can naturally help us fight against many common viruses, it is a fact that the COVID-19 virus can still cause many severe side effects for people who are naturally healthy. COVID-19 can cause severe illness or death, and we can't reliably predict who will have mild or severe illness. You can also spread COVID-19 to others, including family. Some people have long-term health issues after COVID-19 infection. In order to get the best protection against COVID-19, it is important to get vaccinated. Currently available vaccines have been tested in large clinical trials, and FDA has determined that they are safe and effective.



Fact sourced from the [CDC Natural immunity versus vaccine immunity](#)

✘ MYTH

The COVID-19 vaccine causes heart inflammation or myocarditis.



✔ FACT

There have been cases of myocarditis reported to the CDC, and patients have responded well to medicine to quickly feel better. Myocarditis is extremely rare among vaccinated people, and the CDC reported that there were 12.6 cases per million. Moreover, myocarditis is more common after a COVID-19 infection than after vaccination. The COVID-19 vaccine is continued to be recommended to everyone aged 12 and older as the known risks of COVID-19 illness and possibility for severe complications outweigh the risks of having a very rare vaccine reaction.



Fact sourced from the [CDC Myocarditis and Pericarditis After mRNA COVID-19 Vaccination, CDC Update on COVID-19 vaccine safety, including myocarditis after mRNA vaccines, New England Journal of Medicine](#)

✘ MYTH

The vaccine is experimenting on children since not all of the vaccines are fully approved by the FDA.



✔ FACT

The Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines have all been approved by the FDA for Emergency Use Authorization. Each vaccine has been rigorously tested through clinical trials with tens of thousands of study participants and in accordance to the standards set forth by the FDA. While the Pfizer vaccine has submitted and been accepted for full use, the other vaccines are expected to be approved for full use soon.



Fact sourced from the [FDA Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines Explained](#)

✘ MYTH

Los Angeles Unified wants financial gain as they get paid for every person they vaccinate.



✔ FACT

Los Angeles Unified does not get paid for each vaccinated person. Los Angeles Unified wants to make our school sites as safe as can be for everyone to learn in a collaborative environment. To reduce transmission and ensure students can remain on campus in the safest possible space, LA Unified is helping to make vaccines accessible for all students and staff.

