

Reports of Injuries, Deaths After COVID Vaccines Climb Steadily, as FDA, CDC Sign Off on Third Shot for Immunocompromised



By [Megan Redshaw](#) | [The Defender](#)

Data released Aug. 13 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed that between Dec. 14, 2020, and Aug. 6, 2021, a total of [571,831 total adverse events](#) were reported to VAERS, including [12,791 deaths](#) – an increase of 425 over the previous week. There were [77,490 reports of serious injuries](#), including deaths, during the same time period – up 7,385 compared with the previous week.

Excluding “[foreign reports](#)” filed in VAERS, [451,049 adverse events](#), including [5,859 deaths](#) and [36,871 serious injuries](#), were reported in the U.S. Of the 5,859 U.S. deaths reported as of Aug. 6, [13% occurred](#) within 24 hours of vaccination, [19%](#)

[occurred](#) within 48 hours of vaccination and [33% occurred](#) in people who experienced an onset of symptoms within 48 hours of being vaccinated.

In the U.S., [349.8 million](#) COVID vaccine doses had been administered as of Aug. 6. This [includes](#) 140 million doses of [Moderna's](#) vaccine, 196 million doses of [Pfizer](#), and 13 million doses of the [Johnson & Johnson](#) (J&J) COVID vaccine.



From the 8/6/2021 release of VAERS data:

Found 571,831 cases where Vaccine is COVID19

Table

Event Outcome	Count	Percent
Death	12,781	2.24%
Permanent Disability	16,044	2.81%
Office Visit	95,886	16.77%
Emergency Room	57	0.01%
Emergency Doctor/Room	70,670	12.36%
Hospitalized	51,087	8.93%
Hospitalized, Prolonged	195	0.03%
Recovered	191,823	33.55%
Birth Defect	331	0.06%
Life Threatening	13,139	2.3%
Not Serious	230,690	40.38%
TOTAL	1,807,673	119.42%

† Because some cases have multiple vaccinations and symptoms, a single case can account for multiple entries in this table. This is the reason why the Total Count is greater than 571831 (the number of cases found), and the Total Percentage is greater than 100.

The data comes directly from reports submitted to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System](#) (VAERS), the primary government-funded system for reporting adverse vaccine reactions in the U.S.

Every Friday, [VAERS](#) makes public all vaccine injury reports received as of a specified date, usually about a week prior to the release date. Reports submitted to VAERS require further investigation before a causal relationship can be confirmed.

This week's U.S. data for 12- to 17-year-olds show:

- [16,408](#) total adverse events, including [983 rated as serious](#) and [18 reported deaths](#). Two of the nine deaths were suicides.

The most recent reported deaths include a 15-year-old boy (VAERS I.D. [1498080](#)) who previously had COVID, was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy in May 2021, and died four days after receiving his second dose of Pfizer's vaccine on June 18, when he collapsed on the soccer field and went into ventricular tachycardia; and a 13-year-old girl (VAERS I.D. [1505250](#)) who died after suffering a heart condition after receiving her first dose of Pfizer.

- Other deaths include two [13-year-old boys](#) (VAERS I.D. [1406840](#) and [1431289](#)) who died two days after receiving a Pfizer vaccine, a 13-year-old boy who died after receiving Moderna (VAERS I.D. [1463061](#)), three 15-year-olds (VAERS I.D. [1187918](#), [1382906](#), and [1242573](#)), five 16-year-olds (VAERS I.D. [1420630](#), [1466009](#), [1225942](#), [1475434](#), and [1386841](#)) and three 17-year-olds (VAERS I.D. [1199455](#), [1388042](#) and [1420762](#)).
- [2,424 reports](#) of anaphylaxis among 12- to 17-year-olds with 99% of cases attributed to [Pfizer's vaccine](#).
- [419 reports](#) of myocarditis and pericarditis (heart inflammation) with [414 cases](#) attributed to Pfizer's vaccine.
- [81 reports](#) of blood clotting disorders, with all cases attributed to Pfizer.

This week's total U.S. VAERS data, from Dec. 14, 2020, to Aug. 6, 2021, for all age groups combined, show:

- 21% of deaths were related to cardiac disorders.
- 54% of those who died were male, 43% were female and the remaining death reports did not include the gender of

the deceased.

- The [average age](#) of death was 73.1.
- As of Aug 6., [2,695 pregnant women](#) reported adverse events related to COVID vaccines, including 931 reports of [miscarriage or premature birth](#).
- Of the [2,585 cases of Bell's Palsy](#) reported, 50% were attributed to [Pfizer](#) vaccinations, 43% to [Moderna](#), and 6% to [J&J](#).
- 510 reports of [Guillain-Barré Syndrome](#), with 40% of cases [attributed to Pfizer](#), 34% to [Moderna](#), and 25% to [J&J](#).
- [123,496 reports of anaphylaxis](#) with 45% of cases attributed to [Pfizer's vaccine](#), 47% to [Moderna](#), and 8% to [J&J](#).
- [8,218 reports](#) of blood clotting disorders. Of those, [3,428 reports](#) were attributed to Pfizer, [3,510 reports](#) to Moderna, and [1,695 reports](#) to J&J.
- [2,076 cases](#) of myocarditis and pericarditis with [1,309 cases](#) attributed to Pfizer, [690 cases](#) to Moderna, and [71 cases](#) to J&J's COVID vaccine.

FDA authorizes extra vaccine doses for immunocompromised patients

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Aug. 12 [authorized the third dose](#) of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID vaccines for people with [compromised immune systems](#).

The CDC also [gave final approval](#) to the third dose, following the Aug. 13 [unanimous recommendation](#) of the agency's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

As [The Defender reported](#) Aug. 13, neither vaccine has yet received full FDA approval, and [neither has completed](#) late-stage clinical trials proving a third dose will boost immunity or work against COVID variants.

The FDA's [amended](#) Emergency Use Authorization allows people

who have had an organ transplant, or those with a similar level of the weakened immune system, to get an extra [COVID vaccine](#) dose. The J&J vaccine was not included because there was not sufficient data on boosters, [according to the agency](#).

The FDA's decision "allows doctors to boost immunity in certain immunocompromised individuals who need extra protection from COVID19," Dr. Janet Woodcock, FDA acting commissioner, [tweeted Aug. 12](#).

"Others who are fully vaccinated are adequately protected & do not need an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at this time," Woodcock tweeted.

The vulnerable group of patients makes up less than 3% of U.S. adults, [according to](#) CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky.

Heart inflammation after COVID vaccines more common than CDC claims new research shows U.S. public health officials claim cases of myocarditis and pericarditis following [COVID](#) vaccination are rare – but new research [published online](#) in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) shows they may happen [more often than reported](#).

Post-vaccine myocarditis and pericarditis also appear to represent two "distinct syndromes," Dr. George Diaz, with the Providence Regional Medical Center Everett, [told Medscape Cardiology](#).

Diaz and colleagues [reviewed](#) 2,000,287 electronic medical records (EMR) of people who received at least one COVID vaccination. The records, obtained from 40 hospitals in Washington, Oregon, Montana, and California, showed 20 people had vaccine-related myocarditis (1.0 per 100,000) and 37 had pericarditis (1.8 per 100,000).

A [recent CDC report](#), based on VAERS data, [suggested an incidence of myocarditis](#) of about 4.8 cases per 1 million following receipt of an mRNA COVID vaccine.

The new JAMA [study](#) showed a “similar pattern [to the CDC study], although a higher incidence [of myocarditis and pericarditis] after vaccination, suggesting vaccine adverse event under-reporting.”

The JAMA report also stated: “Additionally, pericarditis may be more common than myocarditis among older patients.”

“Our study resulted in higher numbers of cases probably because we searched the EMR, and [also because] VAERS requires doctors to report suspected cases voluntarily,” Diaz [told Medscape](#).

The [researchers calculated](#) the average monthly number of cases of myocarditis or pericarditis during the pre-vaccine period of January 2019 through January 2021 was 16.9 compared with 27.3 during the vaccine period of February through May 2021. The mean numbers of pericarditis cases during the same periods were 49.1 and 78.8.

The [authors said](#) limitations of their analysis include potentially missed cases outside care settings and missed diagnoses of myocarditis or pericarditis, which would underestimate the incidence, as well as inaccurate EMR vaccination information.

Mom of 14-year-old who developed myocarditis after Pfizer vaccine no longer trusts public health officials

In an [exclusive interview](#) last week with The Defender, Emily Jo said before her son, Aiden, got his first dose of Pfizer’s vaccine, she was led to believe his chance of suffering an adverse reaction was “one in a million.”

Aiden, a 14-year-old from Georgia, had no history of [COVID](#) or pre-existing conditions, except for asthma. On June 10, several days after his second Pfizer shot, Aiden woke his mother up at 4:30 a.m. because his chest hurt and he couldn’t breathe.

Jo said she was aware of the potential side effect of [heart inflammation](#), but she believed the CDC, which said the reaction was very rare and mild. “What they didn’t explain is that mild means hospital care and follow-up care indefinitely,” Jo said.

“The biggest problem is they [CDC] are not explaining what mild myocarditis means,” Jo said. “Aiden’s cardiologist told us no case of myocarditis is ‘mild.’ That’s like saying a heart attack is mild,” she said the cardiologist told her.

Jo said her son tires easily and his recovery will be a long process. She said all her kids are fully vaccinated and she was one of the most trusting advocates of the CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics – until her son experienced his vaccine injury.

Another sad story! Mom so proud that her 14-year-old son could get the COVID vaccine... but now doctors confirm her son meets the criteria for having post-vaccine myocarditis.

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– Robert F. Kennedy Jr (@RobertKennedyJr) [August 11, 2021](#)

25-year-old develops myocarditis after Moderna vaccine

In another [exclusive interview](#) last week with The Defender, Deborah Brenner said her son, a healthy 25-year-old from Ohio, experienced myocarditis five days after his first dose of Moderna’s COVID vaccine, administered on July 22.

Christopher Brenner developed a fever after the vaccine, and within five days, he was experiencing chest pain so intense he was unable to sleep, so he went to the [Defiance Mercy Clinic](#).

When Christopher was in the ER, tests showed his [troponin](#)

[levels](#) were high. “I was alarmed at that point,” Brenner said.

“One of the ER nurses mentioned it could be myocarditis from the vaccine, but everyone else played it down like it was serious – but wasn’t a big deal,” Brenner said. “When his numbers jumped higher, that’s when it became more serious.”

When nurses took Christopher’s troponin level a second time it was higher, so they kept him overnight.

“When he was still in Defiance, we saw the internist who diagnosed my son with myocarditis and said it was a reaction to the vaccine,” Brenner said. “The internist explained that one type of inflammation is around the heart and one is inside the heart – and Christopher’s was the type that caused inflammation inside the heart.”

Christopher’s troponin level continued to rise, so he was transferred by ambulance to [St. Vincent Hospital in Toledo](#). Brenner said the cardiologists in Toledo were totally against connecting the reaction to the vaccine. “They didn’t want to go there, didn’t want to talk about it, and just said his numbers would come back down,” she said. “I was getting really frustrated because I was wondering what was going on in his heart that we couldn’t see.”

After four days of being hospitalized and treated with blood thinners and beta-blockers, Christopher was discharged. The discharging doctor told Brenner he didn’t know why the other physicians didn’t want to admit her son’s reaction was caused by the vaccine.

“Everybody has allergic reactions and your son just had an allergic reaction to the vaccine,” he said. “I can’t sit here and tell you 100% that the vaccine is the cause but the fact that he got the vaccine and days later started having issues – something was going on.”

EU looking into new possible side-effects of mRNA COVID

Vaccines

European drug regulators on Aug. 11 said [they are studying](#) three new conditions [reported](#) by a small number of people after they took the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

The European Medicines Agency's (EMA) safety committee is studying erythema multiforme, a form of allergic skin reaction; glomerulonephritis, or kidney inflammation; and nephrotic syndrome, a renal disorder characterized by heavy urinary protein losses, [Reuters reported](#).

The EMA did not give details on how many cases of the new conditions were recorded but said it had requested more data from the vaccine makers.

The regulator, which disclosed the new assessments as part of routine updates to the safety section of the authorized vaccines' database, did not recommend changes to the labels of mRNA vaccines at this time.

Pfizer's efficacy plummets to 42% as Delta variant takes hold

As [The Defender reported](#) Aug. 11, a [new preprint study](#) showed mRNA vaccines' effectiveness plummeted in July when Delta variant was dominant – with Moderna only 76% effective and Pfizer only 42% effective against infection.

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– Robert F. Kennedy Jr (@RobertKennedyJr) [August 12, 2021](#)

The study, which raised concerns about the effectiveness of

mRNA COVID vaccines – particularly Pfizer’s – against the Delta variant, caught the attention of top Biden administration officials, Axios reported.

“If that’s not a wake-up call, I don’t know what is,” a senior Biden official [told Axios](#).

The [study](#), which has yet to be peer-reviewed, compared the effectiveness of [Moderna](#) and Pfizer COVID vaccines in the Mayo Clinic Health System from January to July 2021, during which time either the Alpha or Delta variant was highly prevalent.

Overall, researchers found Moderna’s vaccine was 86% effective against infection over the study period, and Pfizer’s was 76% effective. Moderna’s vaccine was 92% effective against hospitalization and Pfizer’s was 85% effective. There were no deaths in either cohort.

But vaccine efficacy dropped sharply in July when the Delta variant was more prevalent. Moderna was only 76% effective against infection and Pfizer was only 42% effective.

“We observed a pronounced reduction in the effectiveness of BNT162b2 [Pfizer] coinciding with the surging prevalence of the Delta variant in the United States, but this temporal association does not imply causality,” Venky Soundararajan and his co-authors wrote.

The authors concluded “further evaluation of mechanisms underlying differences in their effectiveness such as dosing regimens and vaccine composition are warranted.”

158 days and counting, CDC ignores The Defender’s inquiries

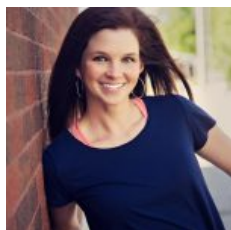
According to the [CDC website](#), “the CDC follows up on any report of death to request additional information and learn more about what occurred and to determine whether the death was a result of the vaccine or unrelated.”

On March 8, [The Defender](#) contacted the CDC with a [written list](#)

[of questions](#) about reported deaths and injuries related to COVID vaccines. We have made repeated attempts, by phone and email, to obtain a response to our questions.

Despite multiple phone and email communications with many people at the CDC, and despite being told that our request was in the system and that someone would respond, we have not yet received answers to any of the questions we submitted. It has been 144 days since we sent our first email to the CDC requesting information.

[Children's Health Defense](#) asks anyone who has experienced an adverse reaction, to any vaccine, to file a report following [these three steps](#).



[Megan Redshaw](#)

Megan Redshaw is a freelance reporter for The Defender. She has a background in political science, a law degree, and extensive training in natural health.