



## **COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Phase 1C Definition**

### **Background**

According to death certificate data collected over the course of the pandemic, 93% of Texas fatalities directly caused by COVID-19 are in people 50 years old and older. All people at least age 65, which account for 73% of COVID-19 deaths, are currently eligible for vaccination in Texas. Expanding vaccination to those who are at least 50 years old will protect the next most vulnerable group and advance the state's dual priorities of reducing the burden of disease on people at the greatest risk of hospitalization and death and protecting the health care system.

Phase 1C of vaccination will include those 50 and older, an age group for which there is strong and consistent evidence of COVID-19's life-threatening effects. Preventing the disease among people in this age group will dramatically reduce the number of Texans who die from the disease across all races, ethnicities and occupations.

As Texas progresses into Phase 1C in the coming weeks, the state will continue to work with vaccine providers and other local partners to ensure that people who are in Phase 1A, 1B and 1C have access to the vaccine. Individual providers will have the flexibility to further prioritize vaccination within these groups.

Texas will continue to strive to ensure that vaccine reaches communities with health disparities and people whose work puts them at a greater risk of exposure, in accordance with the Texas Vaccine Allocation Guiding Principles. Communication and outreach will encourage vaccine uptake among eligible members of these populations during Phase 1C.

### **Texas Phase 1C Vaccine Priority**

People 50 to 64 years of age