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# Taking On COVID-19: Our Story

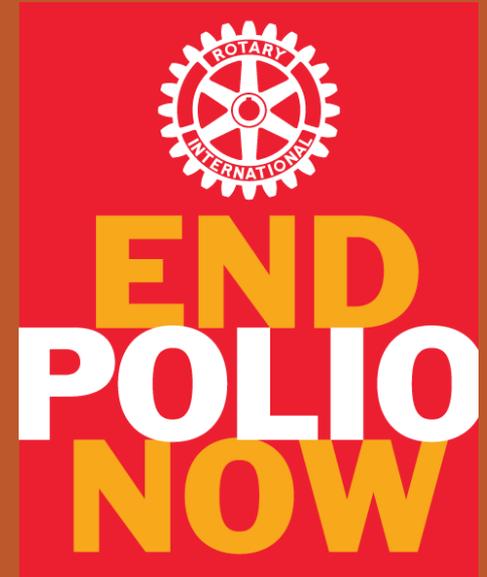
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MARCH 31, 2021



# Agenda

- I. Rotary: Who Are We
- II. Ending Polio
- III. Our New Mission
- IV. Taking On COVID-19
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  - III. Side effects
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- V. Closing Remarks





# Who we are

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## **Our mission**

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

## **Vision statement**

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

# Ending Polio

## What is polio?

Polio, or poliomyelitis, is a paralyzing and potentially deadly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of 5. The virus spreads from person to person, typically through contaminated water. It can then attack the nervous system.

\$3

average cost to fully protect a child against polio

430 million

children in total vaccinated in 39 countries in 2017

\$100 million

cost to conduct polio surveillance worldwide



# Ending Polio

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- Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for **more than 35 years**.
- We are a founding partner of the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative**.
- We have reduced polio cases by **99.9%** since our first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979.
- Working with WHO, UNICEF, public funds, and private donors (like the Gates Foundation and Rotary) over \$17 billion and thousands of Rotarian hours have been invested to protect nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries from this paralyzing disease.





# Our new mission

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Now there is another threat to world health right here in our community; COVID-19.

Rotarians are people just like you. We work to make our communities better right here and around the world. Now we are asking you to help your community.

Please get vaccinated for COVID-19. Vaccinations stopped Polio here and they can stop COVID-19. Help make your community and our world a safer place.

**Get vaccinated. This shot is for all of us!**

# Taking On COVID-19

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## What is COVID-19?

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

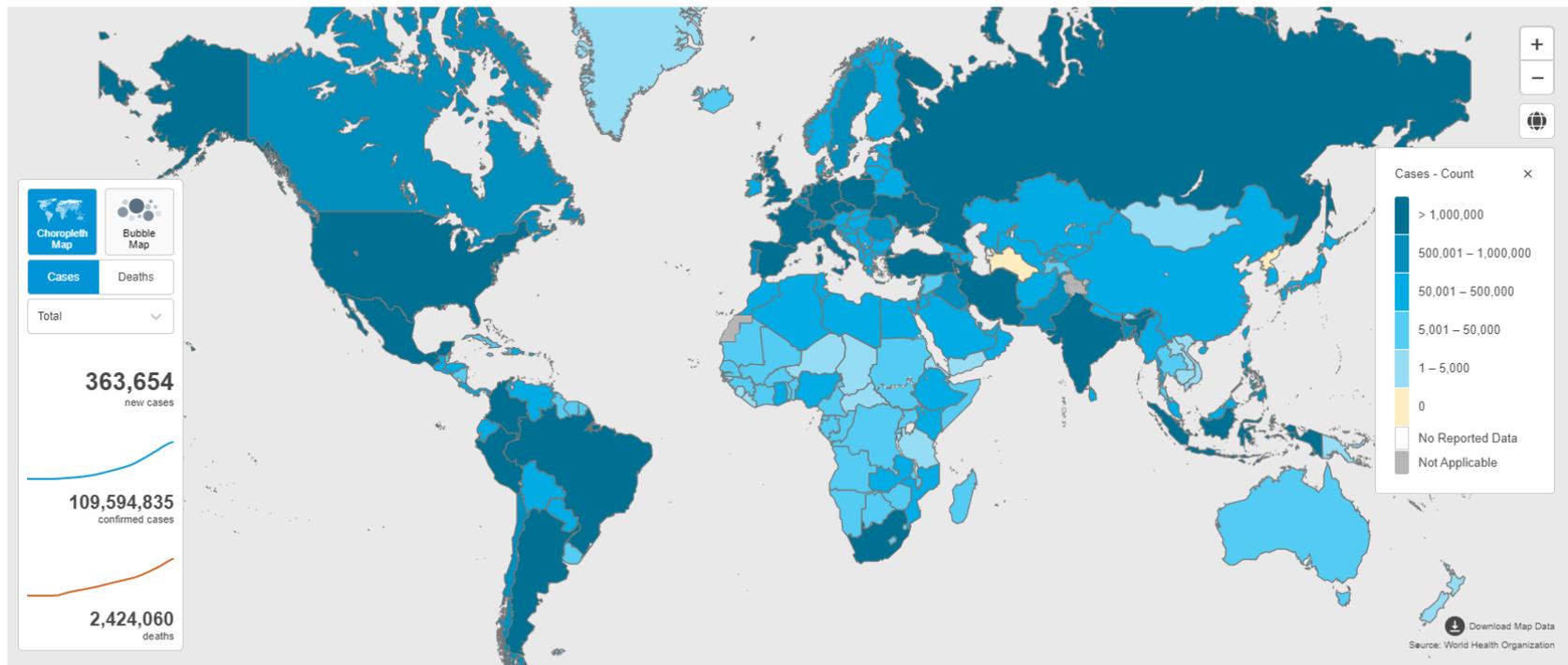


# Taking On COVID-19



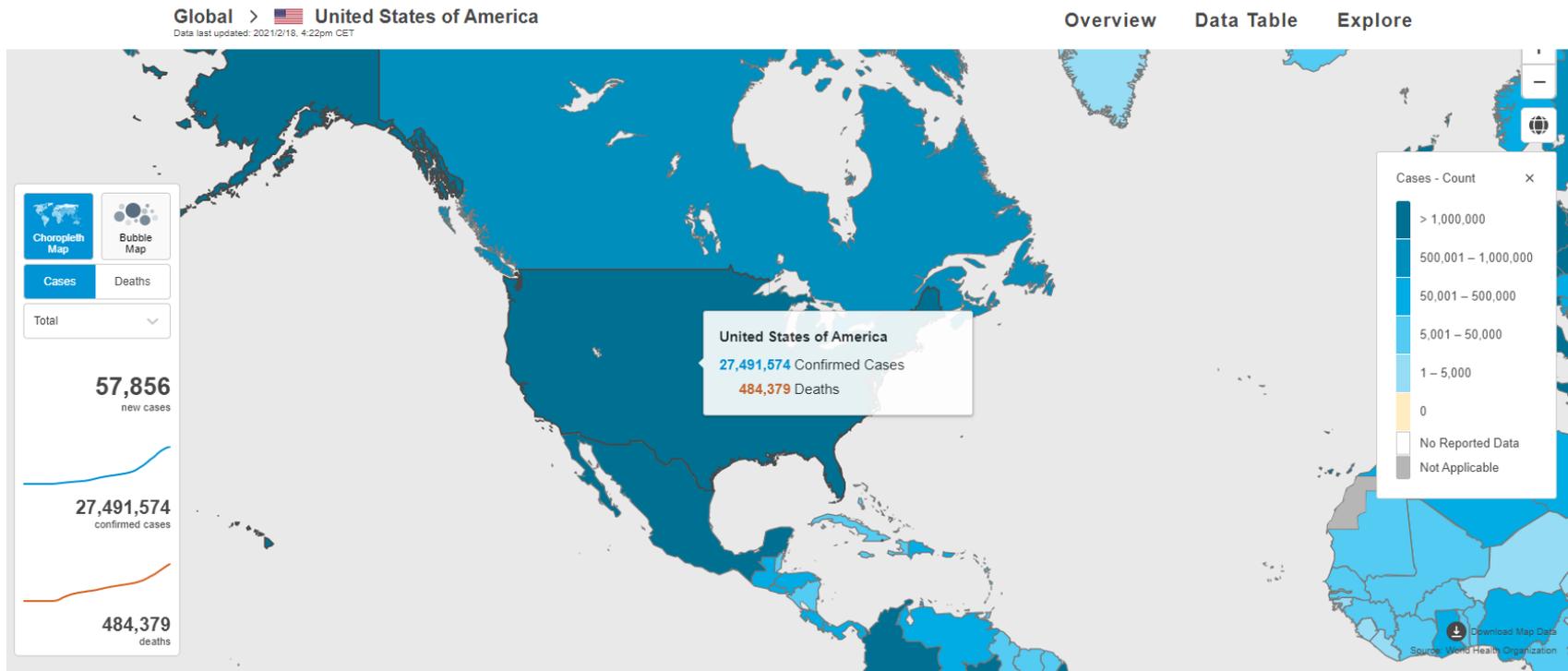
WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard  
Data last updated: 2021/2/18, 4:22pm CET

[Overview](#) [Data Table](#) [Explore](#)



Globally, as of 4:22pm CET, 18 February 2021, there have been **109,594,835 confirmed cases** of COVID-19, including **2,424,060 deaths**, reported to WHO.

# Taking On COVID-19



In **United States of America**, from **Jan 3** to **4:22pm CET, 18 February 2021**, there have been **27,491,574 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 with **484,379 deaths**.

# Why should you get the COVID-19 vaccine?





# Benefit of vaccines

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- Vaccines are our best hope to control a pandemic that has killed more than 2 million people worldwide
  - Tens of thousands of trial participants showed 95% effectiveness and minimal side effects
- True return to normal can't happen until herd immunity (at least 70% inoculated)
- The vaccine is not only important from a public health standpoint, but for reopening the country and restarting the economy



# Timeline for vaccine development



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- No skipped steps, but phases occurred at the same time
- Top medical and scientific experts worked around the clock on vaccines, backed by huge resources
- Thorough review of the data by independent experts, including the FDA





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# Extremely effective

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It's important to know that these vaccines have a high efficacy rate against severe outcomes like hospitalization and death.

We are in the middle of a pandemic and we need every vaccine at our disposal. **The best vaccine is the first one you are offered.**



**Essentia Health**

# Potential side effects

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Includes mild fever, headaches, fatigue and injection-site pain, similar to other vaccines

Preferable to a serious bout of COVID-19

Contact primary care provider:

- With questions and concerns about your health status
- If you have a history of severe allergic reaction to vaccines or medications



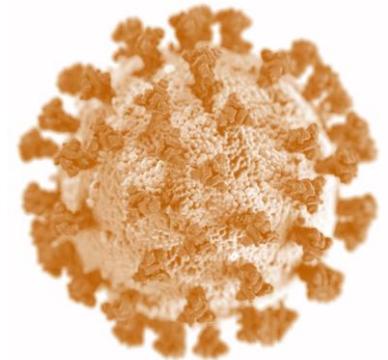
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# COVID-19 variants

## What the COVID-19 variants could mean for our communities?

A more efficient virus leads to the potential for:

- Another surge due to increased rates of transmission
- Higher rates of hospitalization
- Increased use of scarce resources



According to the CDC, so far, studies suggest that antibodies generated through vaccination with currently authorized vaccines recognize these variants. This is being closely investigated and more studies are underway.

# Vaccine safety

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**Doctors, nurses and other health care professionals entrusted to look out for your well-being would not advise you to receive a vaccine if we questioned its safety.**

According to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC):

- COVID-19 vaccines are **safe and effective**.
- Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history.
- CDC recommends you get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you are eligible.



**Essentia Health**

# Closing Remarks

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- Vaccines are the surest way to protect yourself and loved ones
- Vaccines are rolling out to our communities as quickly as supplies allow
- Stay the course:
  - Please continue to mask, socially distance, wash your hands, and follow current Department of Health guidelines for group gatherings

Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine at [EssentiaHealth.org/covid19vaccineneeds](https://EssentiaHealth.org/covid19vaccineneeds)



**Why I got vaccinated**