

WAX BAX

Everything you need to make an educated decision

/ Graphic by Natalie Walsh \

viral vector vs. mRNA

viral vector

They contain a harmless virus that triggers antibody production

AstraZeneca and J&J, viral vector vaccines, have "been linked to an extremely rare and potentially life-threatening blood-clotting syndrome called vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia" (CVT)

mRNA

They do not contain live COVID-19 virus

They never enter the nucleus, therefore, never alter our DNA

Compared to viral vector vaccines, these are relatively new

both mRNA and viral vector vaccines are seen as equally effective to the CDC

Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

on the market...

Pfizer-BioNTech

Age: 16+
Shots: 2, given three weeks apart
Type: mRNA

"Based on evidence from clinical trials, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was 95% effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in people without evidence of previous infection;"

Pfizer Vaccine overview from CDC

Moderna

Age: 18+
Shots: 2, given four weeks apart
Type: mRNA

"Based on evidence from clinical trials, the Moderna vaccine was 94.1% effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in people who received two doses who had no evidence of being previously infected;"

Moderna overview from CDC

Johnson & Johnson

Age: 18+
Shots: 1
Type: Viral vector

"The J&J/Janssen vaccine was 66.3% effective in clinical trials (efficacy) at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in people who had no evidence of prior infection 2 weeks after receiving the vaccine. People had the most protection 2 weeks after getting vaccinated;"

J&J overview from CDC

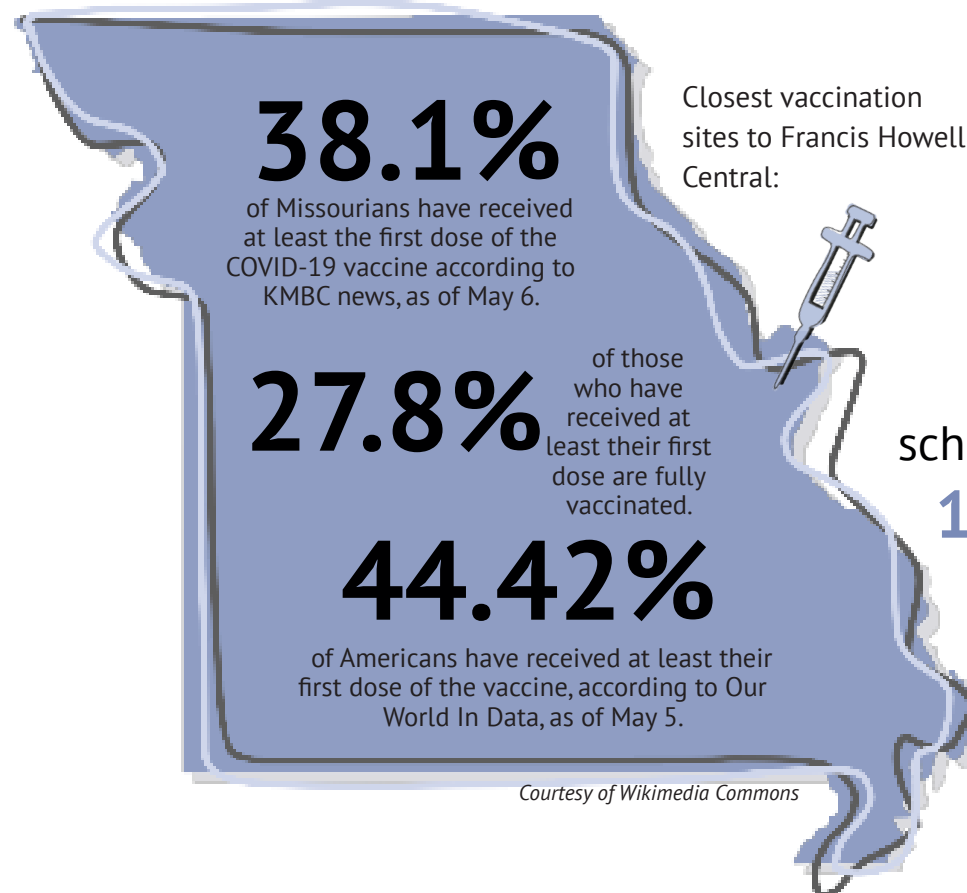
Following the pause on the J&J vaccine came a resume with a caution for women under the age of 50

In the United States, the only authorized vaccines are Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J. The following are in phase three of their clinical trials and if successful will be open to US citizens:

Novavax and AstraZeneca

...and coming soon

vaccination sites near me

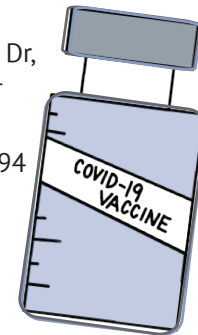


Closest vaccination sites to Francis Howell Central:

CVS Pharmacy
6083 Mid Rivers Mall Dr,
Cottleville, MO 63304

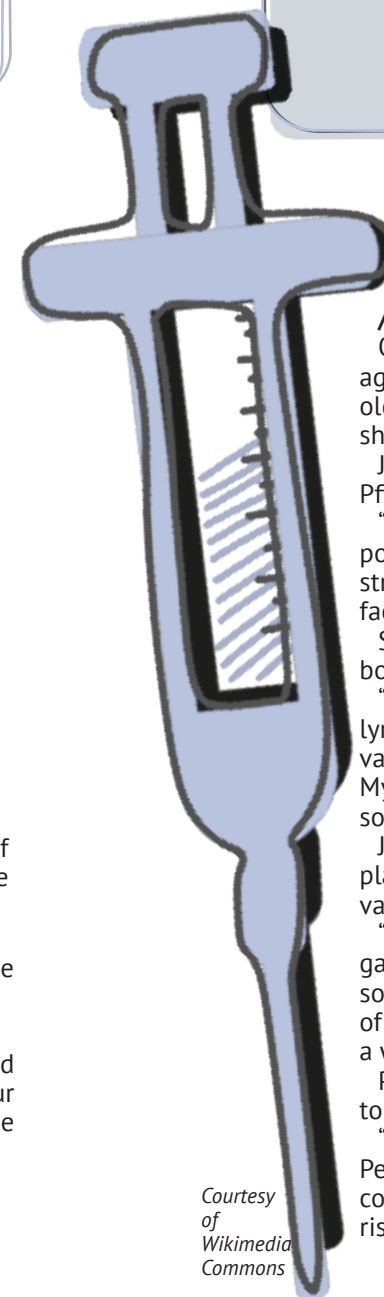
Walgreens
3801 S Old Highway 94
St Peters, MO 63304

Walmart
1661 Jungermann Rd,



scheduling your appointment

- 1 find the website for the vaccination clinic of choice after researching whether or not the vaccine is right for you.
- 2 confirm that you are eligible for the vaccine they are administering.
- 3 file the appropriate paperwork and bring a parent or guardian to your appointment if you are under the age of 18.



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

/ Story by Anna Baranowski \

On April 9, the state of Missouri opened up vaccinations against COVID-19 to anyone over the age of 16, meaning older students at FHC are now able to receive their shots. Many have already taken the opportunity to do so.

Junior **Emma Sieveking** has received both doses of the Pfizer vaccine on April 2 and April 23.

"My experience with getting vaccinated was mostly positive," Sieveking said. "The process was easy and stress-free, and anyone I came in contact with at the facility was extremely friendly and encouraging."

Sieveking stated she experienced side effects with both doses, but the second was particularly rough.

"The only side effect with [the] first dose was swollen lymph nodes," Sieveking said, two days after her second vaccine. "The second dose... has really knocked me down. My body generally doesn't do well with fighting illness, so I've felt pretty run-down and achy all weekend."

Junior **Sarah Percy** has yet to receive either dose, but plans to. Percy works at Walgreens, a place where the vaccine is administered.

"We gave [the] Johnson & Johnson [vaccine], and we gave it for a couple of weeks," Percy said. "[However], some people were starting to get blood clots because of the vaccine, and so we recalled it, and it took us about a week before we could get Pfizer in."

Percy says a key reason she wants to get vaccinated is to keep others safe at her job, but also at school.

"In both situations, I just want to keep everyone safe," Percy said. "At Walgreens, we have lots of sick people come in, because it's a pharmacy, and they're at higher risk, so I want to get the vaccine so I don't get them all

sick."

According to Sieveking, many students are willing to get the vaccine to help keep the community safe.

"I feel like the student body is split down the middle about their decision to get vaccinated," Sieveking said. "On one side, you have students who have taken the time to educate themselves on COVID and the vaccine. This group of students are [the] same ones who continue to wear their masks correctly."

But, she admits, plenty of students are in the opposite camp, favoring ignorance and disregarding safety.

"On the other side, students are oblivious to anything COVID-related and probably are unaware that the vaccination process has reached a point to which they are eligible to get their dose," Sieveking said.

Percy agrees that many students are apathetic toward COVID-19 safety.

"I do think that a lot of the kids at our school don't really see it as a big issue, just based on the amount of cases that we've had, overall," Percy said. "I see a trend of people not really caring as much about COVID, not really thinking it affects them, until it does."

Sieveking claims that there is a third group of students, who she terms "middle grounders."

"There are some middle grounders, who question the vaccine, or still feel that it 'isn't their turn,' or 'don't want to take it away from someone in need,'" Sieveking said.

Percy would likely fall into this group, as she delayed getting the vaccine to prioritize high-risk groups.

"I wanted to give the older people a chance to get the vaccine before I got it," Percy said. "Now that they opened it up to people my age, I'll probably get it soon."