

*what to know about the*

**DELTA**

**VARIANT**

Yale SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# IT SPREADS EASILY

The Delta, or B.1.617 variant, is highly transmissible. That means it's even better at finding unvaccinated individuals than previous strains.

Scientists have found that Delta is spreading 50% faster than Alpha (B.1.1.7), which was 50% more contagious than the original strain of the virus.



# IT MOVES QUICKLY



First discovered in India in late 2020.



In April 2021, it exploded in India and caused a devastating second wave there.



By mid-June 2021, the variant became responsible for 90% of cases in the U.K. and was linked with a COVID spike there.



The CDC announced this week that the delta variant now makes up 83% of all COVID-19 cases in the U.S. This is a large increase from the week of July 3, when it accounted for 50% of cases. Cases and hospitalizations (mostly among unvaccinated individuals) are rising across the country.

# DELTA SYMPTOMS

A U.K. study suggests that people infected with the Delta variant may have different symptoms than those identified previously for COVID-19. Patients have reported:



HEADACHES



SORE  
THROAT



RUNNY  
NOSE



FEVER

If you have symptoms, you should get tested and stay home and away from others.

# WHAT NEXT?



Viruses will continue to mutate if they continue to spread. The best way to protect yourself and your family and community (including kids who aren't eligible yet) from Delta and future variants is to:

# get vaccinated.

\*And encourage your friends and family to as well.\*