

Aging in America May Never be the Same: Part 1

How has COVID-19 changed our view on long-term care facilities?

What led to increased mortality of seniors in long-term care facilities?

What are the lessons learned?

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Less than 1% of America's population lives in long-term care facilities, but as of February 25, 2021, this tiny fraction of the country accounts for 35% of US COVID-19 deaths.

Cases	Deaths	Facilities
1,315,963	172,905	32,806

<https://covidtracking.com/nursing-homes-long-term-care-facilities>

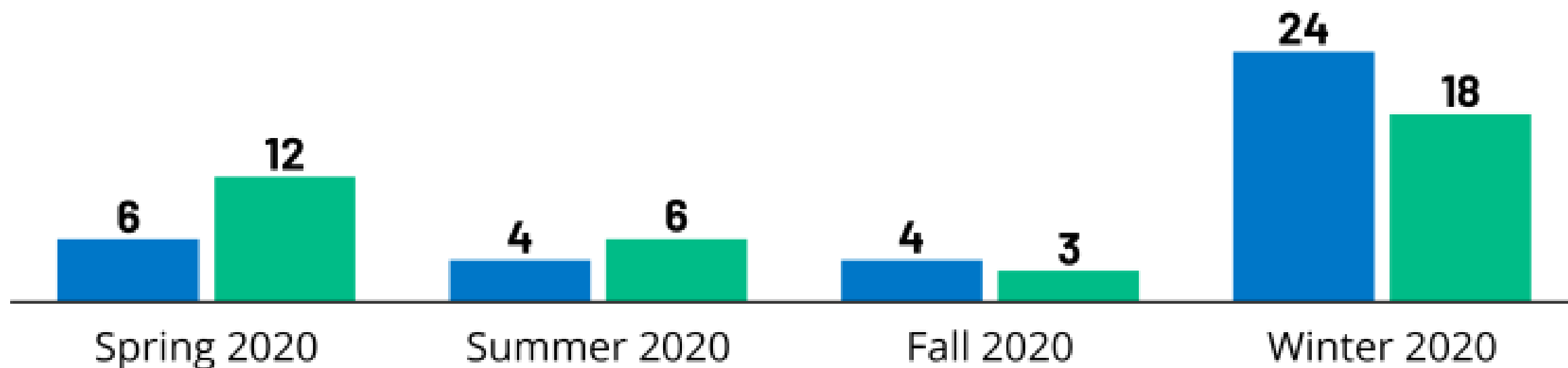
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Many States Reported Their Highest New Long-Term Care COVID-19 Cases and Deaths as Vaccine Rollout Began

of States that Reported Highest New Cases/Deaths

● Long-Term Care Cases (n=38 states)

● Long-Term Care Deaths (n=39 states)



NOTES: Highest New Cases/Deaths is defined as highest average weekly new cases/deaths. This classification is limited by when states are reporting data. Spring 2020 = April or May 2020 (32 states with available data). Summer 2020 = June, July, or August 2020 (36 states with available data). Fall 2020 = September, October, or November 2020 (38 states with available data). Winter 2020 = December 2020 (38 states with available data). Washington DC is included in the count of states that reported highest cases and deaths in Spring 2020.

SOURCE: Priya Chidambaram and Rachel Garfield, Patterns in COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in Long-Term Care Facilities in 2020



KNOW YOUR *Rights!*

If you live in a nursing home or assisted living, you have:

The right to information, in a language you understand.



The right to participate in all aspects of your care.



The right to privacy and confidentiality.

The right to make **INDEPENDENT CHOICES** based on your needs and preferences.



The right to participate in social, religious, and **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.**

THE RIGHT TO...

- safe and appropriate transfer and discharge, including the right to appeal decisions.
- complain without fear of repercussions.
- be free from discrimination, abuse, neglect, and restraints.

The right to organize and participate in resident groups or councils.



The right to information about living in the community.



The right to adequate medical care and treatment.



The right to **VISITS** from friends, family, providers and other people of your choosing.



- ***treated with dignity and respect***
- ***free from abuse, neglect and discrimination***
- ***have friends and family visit and participate in your care***
 - ***take part in activities***
- ***make complaints without fear of punishment***
 - ***receive proper medical care***

For more information on this issue, go to:

<https://theconsumervoice.org/issues/other-issues-and-resources/covid-19>

The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

202.332.2275; info@theconsumervoice.org

www.theconsumervoice.org



<https://theconsumervoice.org/uploads/files/general/covid-19-consumer-fact-sheet.pdf>



Ombudsman Locator

https://www.longtermcarelink.net/eldercare/ref_ombudsman.htm

***What have your experiences with
long term care been like during
this pandemic?***

- *What type and level of care does your loved one need, and are you able to provide it?*
- *How will you safeguard yourself and your mother from paid caregivers or health professionals that you may need to come into the home to help with activities of daily living?*
- *Can your home accommodate a loved one with mobility issues or dementia?*
- *Is in-home care available?*
- *Will your loved one be able to return to the nursing home?*



578



***what are the challenges of
providing care during the
pandemic?***

HEALTH

Only 38% of nursing home workers accepted COVID-19 vaccines, new data shows

Karen Weintraub USA TODAY

Published 2:59 p.m. ET Feb. 1, 2021 | Updated 3:14 p.m. ET Feb. 2, 2021

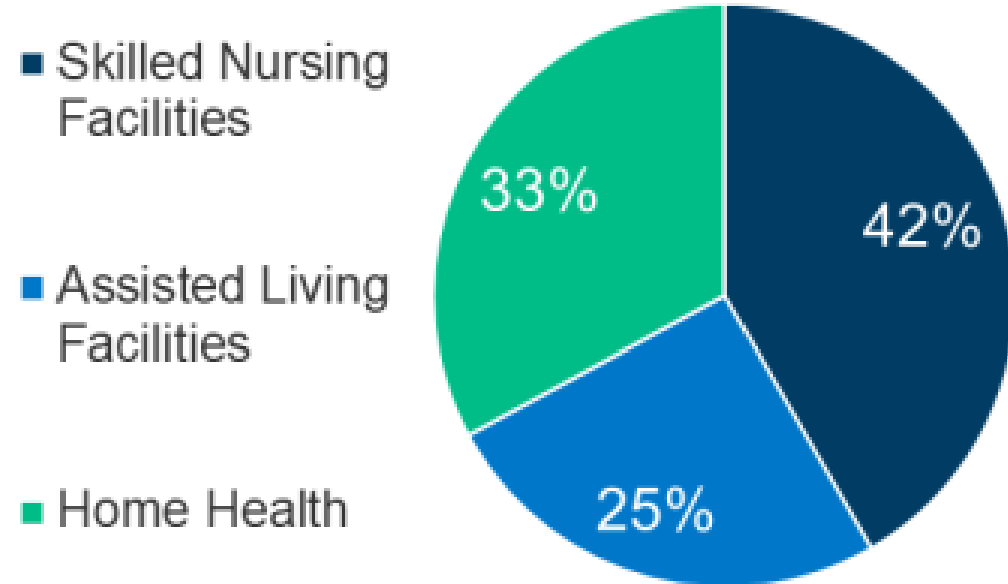
While residents of nursing homes and their caregivers have been considered a top priority for COVID-19 vaccination, only 38% of nursing home staff accepted shots when they were offered, new data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed Monday.

Anecdotal reports have been circulating for weeks that nursing home staff members were turning down vaccination offers, but these are the first national-level figures.

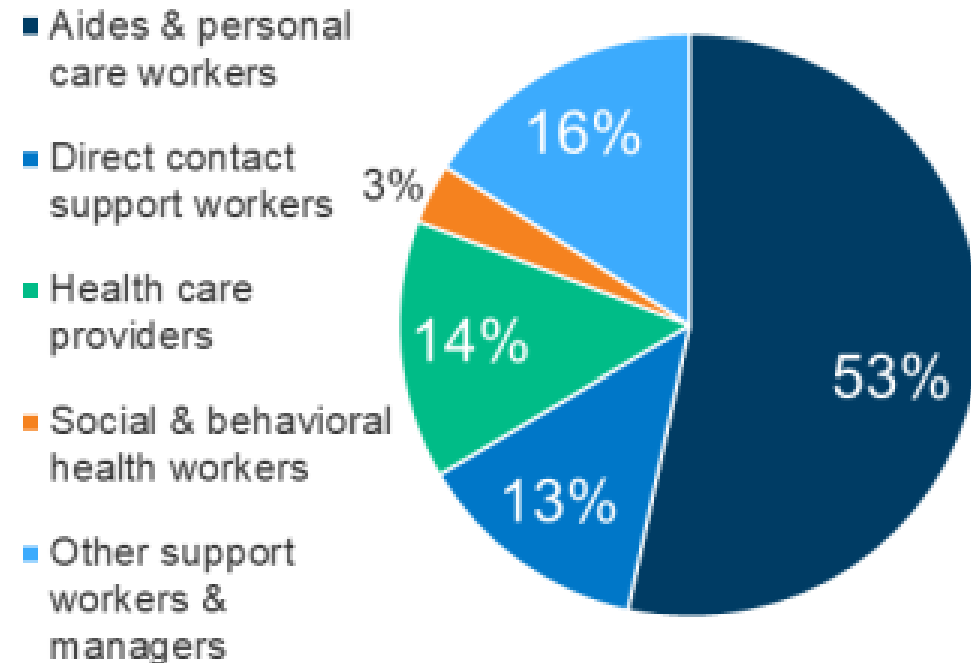
"These findings show we have a lot of work to do to increase confidence and also really understand the barriers to vaccination amongst this population," said Dr. Radhika Gharpure, lead author of the study and a member of the CDC's Vaccine Task Force.

Of the Nation's 4.5 Million Long-Term Care Workers, Two-Thirds Work in Facility Settings and Half are Aides and Personal Care Workers

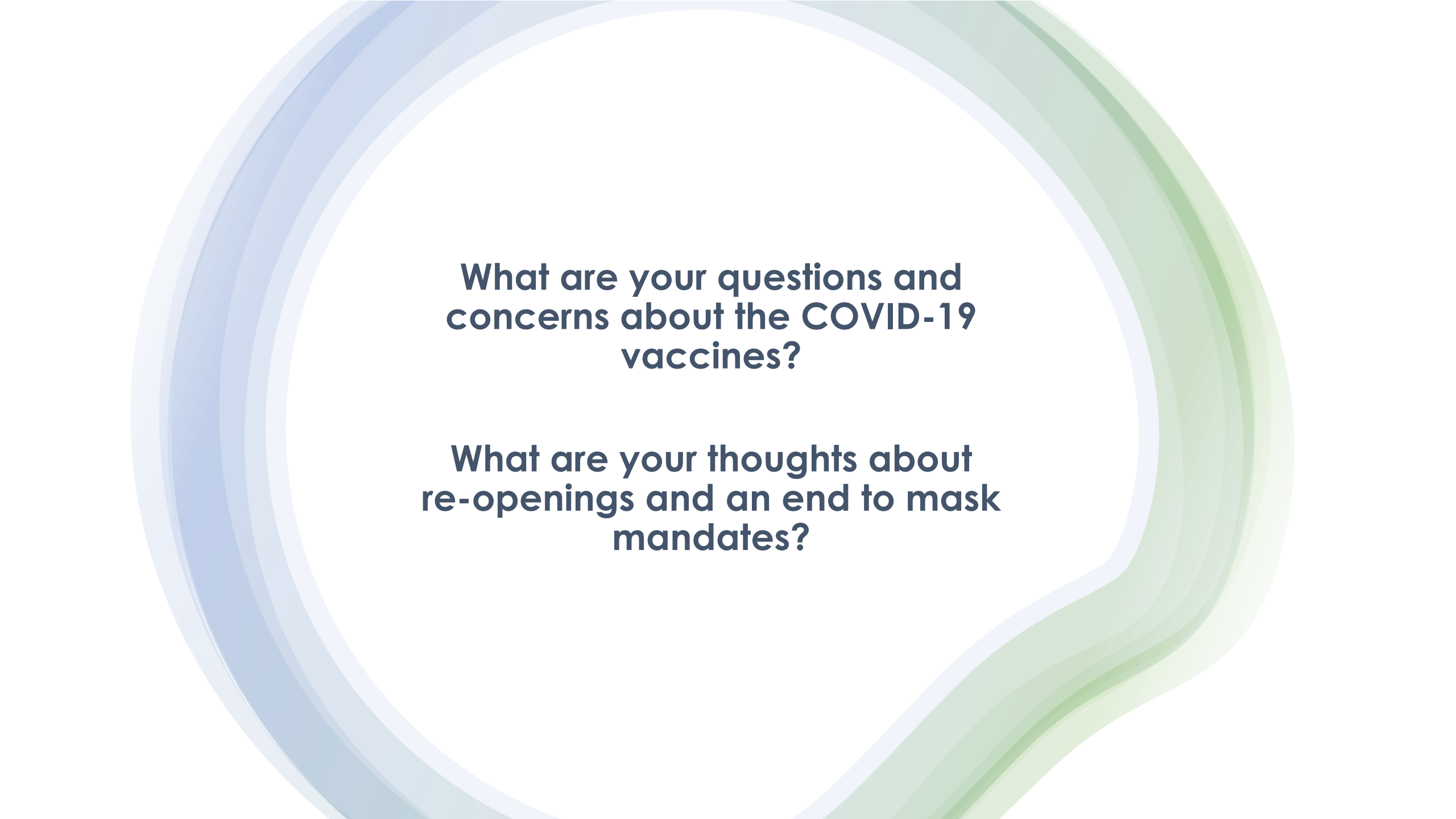
Type of Long-Term Care Setting



Type of Long-Term Care Worker



Long-Term Care Workforce in 2018 = 4.5 million



What are your questions and concerns about the COVID-19 vaccines?

What are your thoughts about re-openings and an end to mask mandates?



In the meantime,

- **Stay connected**
- **Be patient**
- **When visiting, wear an N95 or KN95 mask**
- **Send care packages**
- **Handwritten notes**
- **Video-visits (i.e. FaceTime)**
- **Build relationships with staff**

Resources

Status of Nursing Home Visits:

<https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/health/info-2020/nursing-homes-coronavirus-faqs.html>

National Care Planning Council: Ombudsman locator

https://www.longtermcarelink.net/eldercare/ref_ombudsman.htm

Long term care fact sheet and National Care Planning Council contact information

<https://theconsumervoice.org/uploads/files/general/covid-19-consumer-fact-sheet.pdf>

Area Agencies on Aging

https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/About/Aging_Network/AAA.aspx