

Majority of COVID patients in German ICUs not vaccinated

January 13 2022



A nurse examines a patient in the Covid-19 intensive care unit at the SRH Waldklinikum in Gera, Germany, Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022. Currently, 13 people suffering from Covid-19 are receiving intensive care here. Credit: Bodo Schackow/dpa via AP

Most COVID-19 patients in intensive care in German hospitals aren't

vaccinated, data published on Thursday indicates.

The data from Germany's [intensive care](#) association DIVI showed that 62% of ICU patients whose vaccine status was known had received no protective shots against the coronavirus. Unvaccinated people make up about a quarter of the German population.

Almost 10% were only partially vaccinated while 28% of ICU patients were fully inoculated, it said.

About 72.3 % of the German population has received at least two jabs, while 45.1% have also had a [booster shot](#).

Germany's independent vaccine advisory panel on Thursday endorsed booster shots for children and adolescents aged 12 to 17.

The expert committee said children in that age range should receive the mRNA shot made by Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech at least three months after their last vaccination.



People walk in the city center of Essen, Germany, where most shops allow only recovered or vaccinated customers on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2021. Germany registered a new record of more than 80,000 new infections with the coronavirus on Wednesday. Credit: AP Photo/Martin Meissner

Germany has seen a steady rise in cases in recent weeks as the Omicron variant has started spreading throughout the country.

The Robert Koch Institute, Germany's disease control agency, 81,417 newly confirmed infections in the past 24 hours, and 316 deaths.

Health Minister Karl Lauterbach told lawmakers on Thursday that he believes compulsory vaccination for everyone is "the fastest and safest way out of the pandemic."



People wait to make a corona test in the city center of Essen, Germany, Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2021. Germany registered a new record of more than 80,000 new infections with the coronavirus on Wednesday. Credit: AP Photo/Martin Meissner

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Citation: Majority of COVID patients in German ICUs not vaccinated (2022, January 13) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-01-majority-covid-patients-german-icus.html>

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