

RISE Advocacy Chapter with RESULTS

August Webinar: Vaccine Access

August 18, 2021

New Mission & Vision

Together Women Rise's Mission

Together Women Rise cultivates the collective power of community to achieve global gender equality.

OUR VISION

Dining for Women envisions a world where every person has the same opportunities to thrive regardless of their gender or where they live.

RESULTS Anti-Oppression Values

The RESULTS logo consists of the word "results" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font, centered within a red speech bubble shape that points downwards.

RESULTS is a movement of passionate, committed everyday people. Together we use our voices to influence political decisions that will bring an end to poverty. Poverty cannot end as long as oppression exists.

We commit to opposing all forms of oppression, including racism, classism, colonialism, white saviorism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, xenophobia, and religious discrimination.

At RESULTS we pledge to create space for all voices, including those of us who are currently experiencing poverty. We will address oppressive behavior in our interactions, families, communities, work, and world. Our strength is rooted in our diversity of experiences, not in our assumptions.

With unearned privilege comes the responsibility to act so the burden to educate and change doesn't fall solely on those experiencing oppression. When we miss the mark on our values, we will acknowledge our mistake, seek forgiveness, learn, and work together as a community to pursue equity.

There are no saviors — only partners, advocates, and allies. We agree to help make the RESULTS movement a respectful, inclusive space.

Find all our anti-oppression resources at: <https://results.org/volunteers/anti-oppression/>

Welcome & Celebrations

- GPE: Biden Administration did not pledge \$1 billion over 5 years as we requested (they pledged \$305 over 3 years). But we did a lot to generate support in Congress. This is where we'll push for GPE funding.
- Vaccine Access. Vaccine access letter to the Administration had 115 signatures!



Urgent Campaign



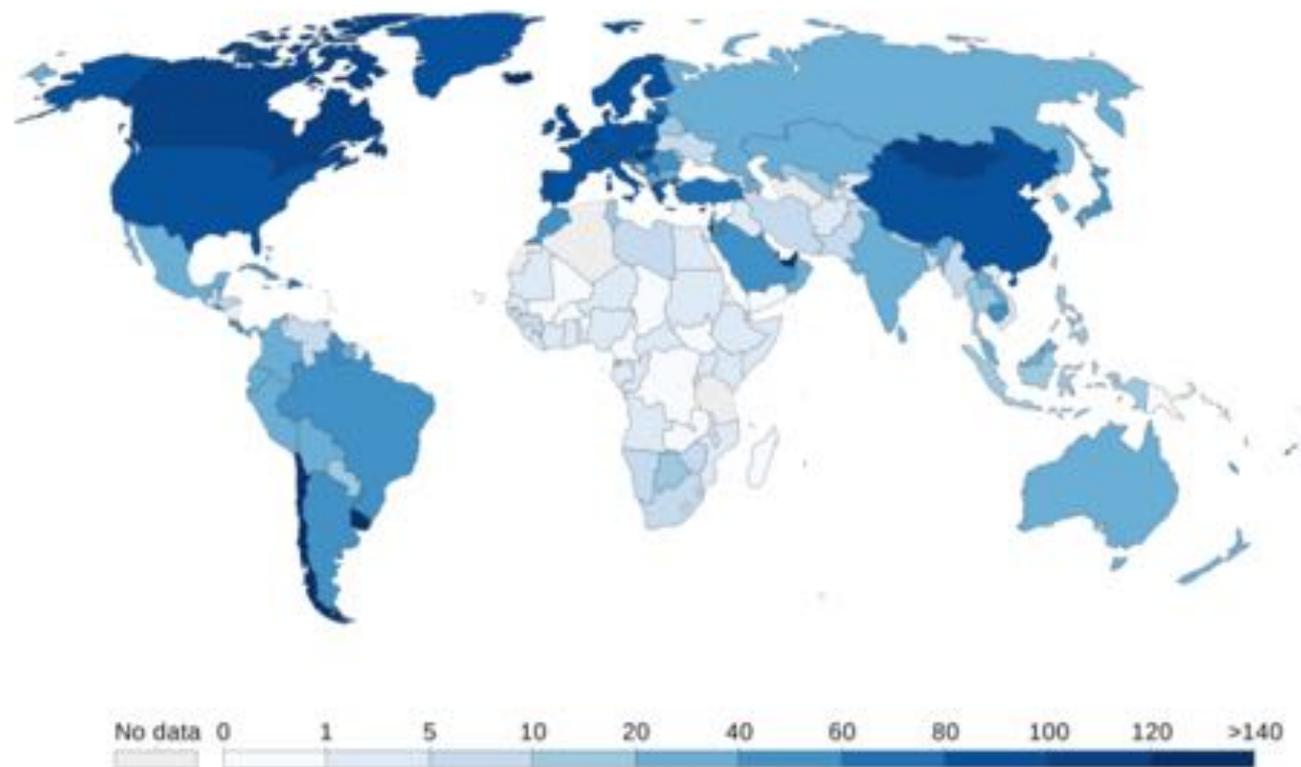
Vaccine Access and Equity

COVID-19 vaccine doses administered per 100 people

For vaccines that require multiple doses, each individual dose is counted. As the same person may receive more than one dose, the number of doses per 100 people can be higher than 100.

Our World
in Data

results

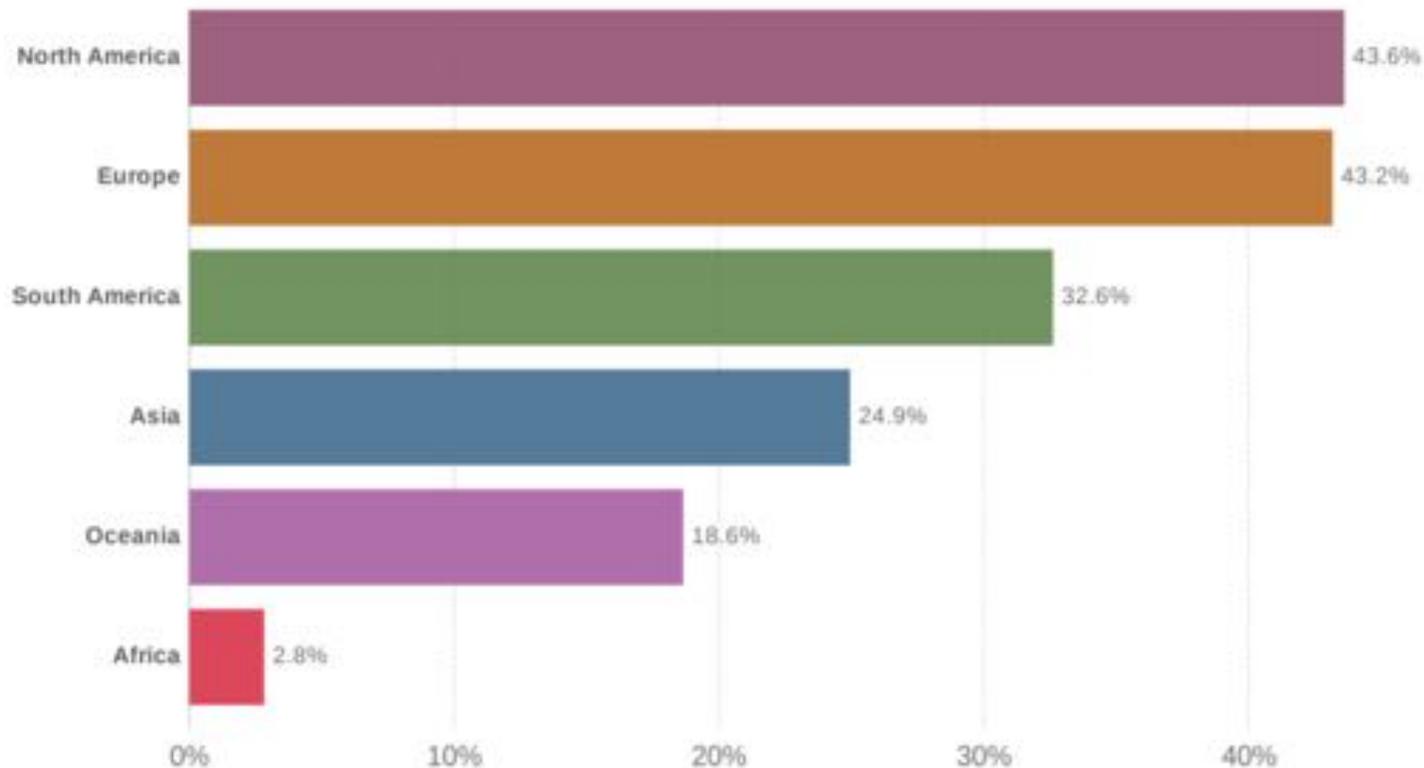


Share of people who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Our World
in Data

results

Share of the total population that received at least one vaccine dose. This may not equal the share that are fully vaccinated if the vaccine requires two doses. This data is only available for countries which report the breakdown of doses administered by first and second doses.



Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data – Last updated 8 July 2021, 11:00 (London time) OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY

“It is definitely worse in places that have very few vaccines, but the pandemic is not over anywhere.

The current collective strategy reminds me of a fire fighting team taking on a forest blaze. Hosing down part of it might reduce the flames in one area but while it’s smoldering anywhere, sparks will eventually travel and grow again into a roaring furnace.

The world should battle together to put out this pandemic inferno everywhere. The global gap in vaccine supply is hugely uneven and inequitable.”



results

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director General
World Health Organization
July 2021

“Yet despite the fact that HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria still kill millions of people each year across multiple countries and regions, these diseases are no longer talked about as pandemics, but are generally called epidemics, or endemic diseases.

These distinctions have disturbing implications: By epidemic we actually mean a pandemic that no longer kills people in rich countries. By endemic we actually mean a disease the world could get rid of but hasn't.”

The logo for 'results' is displayed in white lowercase letters on a red speech bubble background.

Peter Sands
Executive Director
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB,
and Malaria
July 2021

Consequences of inaction:

- Sickness and death
- Long-term healthcare problems
- Depressed economies
- Resources diverted from other help matters
- Millions of girls never returning to school
- Huge risk of additional variants emerging that could render vaccines impotent

Consequences

- Brookings Article: “As a result of long-term scarring, we estimate that by 2030, 588 million people could still live in extreme poverty, an additional 50 million people compared with pre-COVID-19 estimates.”
- WB Articles: “Yet, the pandemic continues to take a toll on African lives and has pushed up to 40 million people into extreme poverty. Women, youth, low skill labor and those in the informal sector remain most affected by lack of access to social safety nets and income opportunities.
- The World Bank estimates that every month of delay costs the African continent \$13.8 billion in lost gross domestic product.
- Education: "But across the world, 770 million children still weren't going to school full time by the end of June 2021. And more than 150 million kids in 19 countries had no access to in-person schooling. They were either learning virtually or had no schooling at all. Even when schools open back up, many kids won't return. The United Nations cultural organization UNESCO estimated last year that around 24 million schoolchildren will drop out as a result of the pandemic.”

Vaccine Access

- Congress is taking action (at our urging)
- Health leaders are taking action
- We need to keep the pressure up



Rise Story: GAIA Vaccine Foundation

Let's Take Action

Let's get published

LTE: Letter to the Editor

- Members of Congress pay attention to letters to the editor, read by thousands of constituents, get published in local papers.
- The EPIC format is a good way to think about and write LTEs.
- Some examples:

LTE Tips using EPIC



- Engage:
- Problem:
- Inform:
- Call to Action

Increase global vaccine access

Engage: In the U.S., over 50% of vaccine-eligible Americans are fully vaccinated, bringing hope of achieving herd immunity. Approximately 30% of the world population has received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, which appears promising in the fight against COVID-19.

Problem: However, efforts to provide global vaccine access are lacking. Only 1% of people living in low-income countries have received a single vaccine dose. We are witnessing frightening disparities in vaccine accessibility according to income and region whereby low-income countries specifically on the African continent are far behind global vaccination targets set out by the World Health Organization. The projections modeled by the United Nations indicate very poor prospects with only 5% vaccination rates in low-income countries by 2022.

Inform: The U.S. must be at the forefront of global change to end COVID-19.

Call to Action: I am urging our Texas members of Congress and President Joe Biden to lead a global effort supporting vaccine equity to end this global pandemic.

Amelie Jacobs, Far North Dallas

Engage: Thanks to Dave Phelps for his announcement that [Berkshire Health Systems will mandate COVID vaccination](#) for employees by Oct. 1. This is a very welcomed announcement as we make our community safer for all. But what about the rest of the world?

Problem: Many low-income countries are imposing new lockdowns to stop a third and fourth wave of COVID-19 infections given lack of access to COVID-19 vaccines. Across Africa, just 1 percent of the population has been vaccinated and the delta variant is spreading like wildfire. Everyone deserves access to the COVID-19 vaccine, no matter where they live. Vaccinating the world is the only way to make all of us safe.

Inform: According to [Right to Health Action](#): “Experts agree that it will cost \$20 billion annually to pandemic-proof the planet. COVID-19 cost the U.S. economy \$16 trillion.” We cannot afford — economically, morally, ethically or for our mutual health — to allow the high-income countries to hoard vaccines while the rest of the world waits.

Call to Action: I call on Sens. Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey and Rep. Richard Neal to include \$25 billion for global vaccine access in budget reconciliation as well as supporting new legislation to prevent future pandemics.

Leslye Heilig, M.D., Great Barrington

LTEs

U.S. cannot isolate from a virus that knows no borders

As we try so hard to vaccinate nearly all Americans, we must remember that the COVID-19 crisis is a global nightmare in an interconnected world.

All respectable scientists and epidemiologists agree that a more virulent or vaccine-resistant variant will inevitably emerge, likely somewhere else in the world — and soon — if we don't act now.

We cannot isolate from a virus that knows no borders. In much of Africa, vaccinations have been given to less than 2% of the population.

America must lead the way with an emergency executive order or legislation, and then help the rest of the world to be vaccinated without delay.

Steven Sorscher, Winston-Salem, N.C.

LTE Tips Using EPIC

- For many LTEs, we can write the Problem, Solution, and Call to action in advance.
- We can then tailor the “Engage” statement in order to appeal to the publication and readers.

LTE Tips using EPIC

Problem:

- We can't end the pandemic unless everyone has access to vaccines, and we don't currently have the capacity to manufacture enough vaccines and distribute them to everyone.
- Allowing the pandemic to go unaddressed is inhumane and self-defeating as people suffer and die and the risk of variants grows.

Inform about the solution:

- We need leadership and money. Estimates by Public Citizen are that it would cost \$34 billion to ramp up manufacturing in the U.S. and regional hubs adequately and to distribute enough vaccines for everyone by the end of next year. But there are no champion for this bold effort.

Call to Action:

- The President and Congress should step into the leadership void. The President should announce a global plan to address the pandemic and Congress should include money in the reconciliation bill.

So, Engage is whatever you think will be interesting to your editor and local readers:

- Covid and going back to school?
- State of vaccinations locally?
- Surge in local hospitalizations?
- The freedom vaccines have given us—don't we want this for everyone?
- Talking of boosters while those in low-income countries have nothing?

Submitting your letter



- Get someone to read it (we can help)
- RESULTS website
- Send to “letters” editor at your local paper

Questions?

Next Together Women Rise Advocacy with RESULTS webinars:

- Sept. 21 at 7 pm ET and Sept. 22 at 9 pm ET