



COVID-19 Masking and Proof of Vaccination Requirements

This briefing paper provides an updated summary of current requirements, mandates, and policy in jurisdictions in North America regarding masking and proof of vaccination related to COVID-19.

Mask policy is defined as governmental mandates, limits, or prohibitions on the required use of masks by individuals. Unless otherwise specified, individual businesses and other private entities may impose masking requirements in jurisdictions where masks are not mandated. The summary in this briefing paper does not necessarily reflect local decisions regarding masking requirements in K-12 schools and/or higher education.

Proof of vaccination policy is defined as governmental action that mandates, limits, or prohibits the required use of a form of proof of vaccination for individuals to access public facilities, public transportation, or other public services, commonly referred to as a “vaccine passport”. In some cases, individual business and other private entities are prohibited from imposing a similar requirement.

The **vaccination rate** for adults (age 18 and older) displayed for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in the United States is current as of September 30, 2021. The data is sourced from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For Canada, the vaccination rate for the population (age 12 and older) for each province is current as of September 30, 2021. The data is sourced from Statistics Canada.

In general, unless otherwise specified, this briefing paper does not address private-sector workforce requirements not mandated by a governmental authority having jurisdiction.

United States

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Mask Policy: As of July 27, 2021, masks are required in indoor spaces for all employees, onsite contractors, and visitors at Federal buildings in areas of substantial or high community transmission for COVID-19 without regard to vaccination status. On August 17, 2021, the Transportation Security Administration extended through January 18, 2022, existing mask requirements for travelers on airplanes, trains, and buses, and for individuals in airports and train stations.

Proof of Vaccination Policy:

- Pursuant to Executive Order 14043, *Requiring Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination for Federal Employees*, of September 9, 2021, all **Federal employees** will be required to be vaccinated under guidance to be issued at a later date.
- **Visitors** to Federal buildings and facilities are required to certify their vaccination status except for individuals seeking to obtain a public benefit or service.
- On September 9, 2021, President Biden also issued Executive Order 14042, *Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors*. The Executive Order requires **Federal contractors and subcontractors** to ensure their covered workforce is vaccinated for COVID-19, except in limited circumstances provided for by law, by December 8, 2021. The

Safer Federal Workforce Task Force issued implementing guidance to support Executive Order 14042 on September 24, 2021.

- Pursuant to presidential announcement on September 9, 2021, the Department of Labor, through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, is developing an Emergency Temporary Standard to require **all employers** with at least 100 employees to ensure employees are vaccinated or submit to weekly COVID-19 testing.

Vaccination Rate: The Biden Administration established a goal to vaccinating at least 70 percent of the adult population with at least one dose by July 4, 2021. The objective was reached in early August. On August 23, 2021, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provided final approval for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. On October 1, Merck announced that the company will apply for emergency use authorization from the FDA for an antiviral treatment for COVID-19.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 67.0%/77.0%

Alabama

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from imposing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passports prohibited by statute. Private entities also prohibited from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 52.1%/64.1%

Alaska

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination as a requirement for travel.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 62.3%/70.2%

Arizona

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from imposing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies and local governmental entities from requiring proof of vaccination.

Vaccination Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 61.5%/71.1%

Arkansas

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from issuing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Statutory prohibition on state agencies and local governmental entities requiring proof of vaccination.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 55.4%/67.4%

California

Mask Policy: California recommends masks indoors for unvaccinated individuals. Masks are required for unvaccinated individuals in indoor spaces. With limited specified exemptions, masks are required for all individuals without regard to vaccination status on public transit, in medical and healthcare settings, include long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, and homeless and emergency shelters.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required generally. California officials have indicated that the state has no current plans to implement a vaccine passport program. The Department of Public Health and Technology has developed an online program to secure voluntarily a digital copy of a state-administered vaccine record. All California state employees are required either to be vaccinated or submit to weekly COVID-19 testing.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 70.3%/85.4%

Colorado

Mask Policy: Masks required on public transportation without regard to vaccination status. Masks required for unvaccinated individuals in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, detention centers, and homeless shelters.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 70.5%/77.7%

Connecticut

Mask Policy: Masks required on public transportation and in public spaces without regard to vaccination status. Masks required for unvaccinated individuals in indoor spaces.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 80.1%/88.5%

Delaware

Mask Policy: Masks required in state-owned buildings and on public transportation without regard to vaccination status. Masks also required in specified indoor public spaces, such as hospitals and other health care facilities.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 67.3%/77.3%

District of Columbia

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor spaces without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 68.5%/78.6%

Florida

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from issuing mask requirements or imposing other emergency orders related to COVID-19.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passports prohibited by executive order. Private entities also prohibited from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 67.4%/78.5%

Georgia

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 55.9%/67.0%

Hawaii

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor spaces without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passport permitted to facilitate intra-state travel between islands without a requirement to quarantine or to present a negative COVID-19 test.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 69.1%/90.5%

Idaho

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 55.3%/62.5%

Illinois

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor spaces without regard to vaccination status. Masks required on public transportation and in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, correctional facilities, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 63.9%/81.2%

Indiana

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passports prohibited.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 59.5%/63.9%

Iowa

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passports prohibited by statute. Private entities also prohibited from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services. State agencies and local governments also prohibited from issuing COVID-19 identification cards.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 66.0%/70.7%

Kansas

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor spaces for unvaccinated individuals. Masks required on public transportation and in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, prisons, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status. Local mask requirements in **Wyandotte** county remain in effect until November 18, 2021.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 63.0%/73.4%

Kentucky

Mask Policy: Masks required in hospitals and other health care facilities for all individuals without regard to vaccination status. Masks required for individuals with a positive COVID-19 test within ten days or who are symptomatic.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 63.6%/73.4%

Louisiana

Mask Policy: Louisiana is under a temporary mask mandate for all individuals in indoor spaces without regard to vaccination status. Subject to extension, the mask mandate will expire on October 27, 2021.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 56.3%/63.7%

Maine

Mask Policy: Masks are recommended for individuals without regard to vaccination status in York and Piscataquis counties.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 79.3%/85.6%

Maryland

Mask Policy: No state requirement except for facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, correctional facilities, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status. All Maryland counties, except for **Baltimore**, **Carroll**, and **Harford**, have reimposed mask requirements for indoor spaces and/or county-owned facilities. **Baltimore County** requires masks in schools; **Carroll** and **Harford** counties requires masks on school transportation only.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required generally. Effective September 1, 2021, all state employees in 48 specified facilities in the Department of Health and the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, are required to be vaccinated or submit to weekly testing. Employees who elect to submit to weekly testing will be required to wear masks in indoor spaces.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 76.2%/83.6%

Massachusetts

Mask Policy: Masks required on public transportation and in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, prisons, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 78.5%/89.3%

Michigan

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 62.9%/68.3%

Minnesota

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 70.2%/76.6%

Mississippi

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 53.6%/61.4%

Missouri

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Statutory prohibition on county and local governments from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services or for access to public transportation.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 58.2%/66.3%

Montana

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from issuing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination. Private entities also prohibited pursuant to the order from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 58.5%/65.7%

Nebraska

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 67.6%/73.2%

Nevada

Mask Policy: Masks required in public indoor spaces in counties with substantial or high transmission of COVID-19. As of September 10, all Nevada counties qualified under the criteria. The mask requirement is effective statewide.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 61.7%/73.2%

New Hampshire

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 71.4%/80.6%

New Jersey

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 76.5%/86.0%

New Mexico

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor spaces for unvaccinated individuals. Masks required on public transportation and in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, correctional facilities, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 75.4%/86.3%

New York

Mask Policy: Masks required for unvaccinated individuals. Masks required on public transportation, child and day-care facilities, and in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, prisons, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required generally in New York State. New York State currently maintains Excelsior Pass, an app that permits individuals to retain a digital record of COVID-19 test results or proof of vaccination. Excelsior Pass is recognized for access to certain outdoor and other venues. New York State requires all state employees to be vaccinated or to submit to a weekly COVID-19 test.

New York City requires city agencies to ensure that contractors with covered employees that physically interact with City employees or the public provide proof of their full vaccination status. **New York City** also requires proof of vaccination for employees and customers to access specified indoor

spaces, such as restaurants, physical fitness facilities, and entertainment venues. The Key to NYC Pass, maintained by the City, or Excelsior Pass are recognized for this purpose.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 75.3%/84.0%

North Carolina

Mask Policy: Masks required in schools, child care facilities, and youth camps. Masks required on public transportation and in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, prisons, and homeless shelters without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 59.8%/71.5%

North Dakota

Mask Policy: State officials statutorily prohibited from issuing mask requirements or imposing other emergency orders related to COVID-19. North Dakota statute maintains discretion for county and municipal government to issue appropriate orders as required.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Government-issued vaccine passports prohibited by statute. Businesses, except for health care organizations, prohibited from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 54.8%/63.1%

Ohio

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passports not prohibited. However, Ohio statute prohibits public K-12 schools and higher education institutions from requiring vaccination of staff and students.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 60.9%/65.5%

Oklahoma

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination for access to public buildings.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 58.8%/69.7%

Oregon

Mask Policy: Masks required in public indoor settings, hospitals and other health care facilities, and most outdoor settings without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required, but current guidance issued by the Oregon Health Authority permits businesses to verify proof of vaccination as a means to dispense with mask requirements for qualified individuals. Businesses that do not verify vaccination status are required to maintain a mask requirement in indoor spaces.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 71.6%/78.1%

Pennsylvania

Mask Policy: Masks required in Pennsylvania schools without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 68.7%/85.7%

Puerto Rico

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor public spaces and hospitals and other health care facilities without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 79.1%/88.9%

Rhode Island

Mask Policy: Masks required in hospitals and other health care facilities without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 79.0%/86.9%

South Carolina

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from imposing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies and local governments from requiring proof of vaccination.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 57.0%/66.3%

South Dakota

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies and local governments from requiring proof of vaccination.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 64.6%/73.1%

Tennessee

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from imposing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Statutory prohibition on state agencies and local governmental entities requiring proof of vaccination for access to public buildings.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 55.4%/64.0%

Texas

Mask Policy: State and local governments prohibited from imposing mask requirements.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Statutory prohibition on state agencies and local governmental entities requiring proof of vaccination for access to public buildings. Businesses prohibited by statute from requiring proof of vaccination for access to facilities or services.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 63.2%/73.1%

Utah

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Statutory prohibition on state agencies and public universities requiring proof of vaccination or requiring vaccination for access to public buildings.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 65.0%/75.3%

Vermont

Mask Policy: Mask required for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 79.4%/88.6%

Virginia

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required generally. Effective September 1, 2021, all Commonwealth employees, including contractors and employees at public higher education institutions, are required to be vaccinated or submit to weekly COVID-19 testing.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 71.7%/80.8%

Washington

Mask Policy: Masks required in facilities with vulnerable populations, including hospitals and other health care facilities, correctional facilities, homeless shelters, K-12 schools, child care settings, and youth camps without regard to vaccination status. Masks required for unvaccinated individuals over the age of five in public indoor spaces and outdoors where social distancing is not possible.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccine passports not required. All state employees and individuals working in private-sector health care facilities are required to be vaccinated. Non-compliant employees are subject to termination after that date. In addition, a separate order requires all public and private K-12 and higher education employees, volunteers, and others working in school facilities to be vaccinated as a condition of employment.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 72.7%/80.1%

West Virginia

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 48.4%/57.2%

Wisconsin

Mask Policy: The Wisconsin Supreme Court struck down previous statewide mask requirements and prohibited the Governor or any agency of the executive branch from issuing COVID-19 emergency orders without the ascent of the Wisconsin Legislature.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 67.9%/72.9%

Wyoming

Mask Policy: No statewide requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Executive order prohibits state agencies and local governments from requiring proof of vaccination to receive services.

Vaccinated Rate (18+) - Full/One-Dose: 51.4%/59.5%

Canada

Canada

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Vaccination required for federal public sector employees and for employees and travelers in regulated air, rail, and marine transportation. On August 11, the Canadian Immigration Minister announced that Canada will implement a proof of vaccination document for **international travel** for Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and temporary residents. The document, in paper and digital form, is expected to be implemented in fall 2021. A specific timeline was not announced.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 81.2%/88.0%

Alberta

Mask Policy: Masks required in hospitals and health care facilities and on public transportation without regard to vaccination status, except for individuals with a medical exception letter.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Alberta requires proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test to access nonessential services and facilities.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 74.1%/86.7%

British Columbia

Mask Policy: Masks required in indoor public spaces in the central **Okanagan** region. Nonessential travel to or from the region for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals is discouraged.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: British Columbia requires proof of vaccination to permit fully vaccinated individuals to access nonessential services and public and private indoor social events. At least one vaccine dose required by September 13; full vaccination by October 24.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 81.8%/89.3%

Manitoba

Mask Policy: Masks strongly recommended in indoor public settings for individuals not fully vaccinated.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Manitoba requires proof of vaccination to access specified services.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 82.3%/86.9%

New Brunswick

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 80.1%/89.1%

Newfoundland and Labrador

Mask Policy: Masks recommended, but not required, in indoor public settings for individuals aged 5 and older.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Unvaccinated individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador from outside Atlantic Canada must self-quarantine.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 83.1%/90.8%

Northwest Territories

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 88.6%/94.0%

Nova Scotia

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Unvaccinated individuals arriving in Nova Scotia from outside Atlantic Canada not engaged in essential travel must self-quarantine. Effective October 4, 2021, individuals aged 12+ required to provide proof of vaccination to participate in group events and activities (i.e., “most events and activities that bring people together”).

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 83.2%/89.7%

Nunavut

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 74.3%/84.8%

Ontario

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Effective September 22, 2021, individuals aged 12+ are required to provide proof of vaccination to access specified business, services, and events. An enhanced vaccination certification, delivered via a digital app, will be available October 22, 2021.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 81.3%/86.8%

Prince Edward Island

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Prince Edward Island maintains PEI Pass for individuals traveling to the province and for partially or fully vaccinated citizens of Prince Edward Island traveling to another province. Individuals with PEI Pass are exempt from isolating when entering the province.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 86.2%/93.7%

Quebec

Mask Policy: Masks are required on public transportation and in enclosed or partially enclosed public space for individuals aged 10 or older without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Individuals aged 13+ are required to provide proof of vaccination to access non-essential services. Individuals traveling to Quebec must provide proof of vaccination.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 84.4%/90.3%

Saskatchewan

Mask Policy: All individuals are required to mask in indoor public settings without regard to vaccination status.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: As of October 1, 2021, all provincial employees are required to be fully vaccinated. All other individuals are required to show proof of vaccination to access nonessential services and facilities.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 71.1%/79.7%

Yukon

Mask Policy: No requirement or limitation.

Proof of Vaccination Policy: Not required.

Vaccinated Rate (12+) - Full/One-Dose: 89.7%/93.2%

Information contained in this briefing paper is current as of October 2, 2021, unless otherwise noted.

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