



VACCINE ACCESS TEST 2.0

Global Summary: May 2021

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic doesn't end with a vaccine. It ends when everyone can get it.

The evidence couldn't be more clear: as long the virus remains unchecked anywhere on the planet, it will continue to mutate, breach borders, and wreak havoc on the global economy.

The Vaccine Access Test: 2.0 assesses how well G20 governments and pharmaceutical companies are improving global access to COVID-19 vaccines. The methodology was updated in 2021 to better capture the urgent actions needed now based on the following metrics:

Global Cooperation

- Financially supports the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A)
- Joins COVAX
- Uses political capital to advance global access
- Leads by example by enforcing clear national allocation guidelines that prioritize the most vulnerable

Increasing Supply for All

- Shares doses, preferably with COVAX
- Supports temporarily loosening trade related restrictions to timely vaccine manufacturing
- Incentivizes participation in the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP)
- Prohibits export bans

What We're Seeing

What happens during a handful of key moments over the next 6 weeks will determine the trajectory of this pandemic for the next six months and beyond. Well over a year into this crisis, we are still seeing record numbers of deaths despite having a growing arsenal of countermeasures at our disposal to fight the virus. This is an inexcusable and unnecessary tragedy.

And yet, **progress on vaccine access is stagnant** - so much so, that there were just a handful of score changes in the Vaccine Access Test over the last month.

While wealthy countries continue ramping up vaccinations, less than 1 percent of COVID-19 vaccine doses globally have been administered to people in low-income countries. To some, it may seem like the COVID-19 blaze is getting under control, but globally the fire is still very much raging. We are in a race against time. The longer this crisis continues the more we will see the virus spread and mutate.

In the next 6 weeks, world leaders can either turn the tide or allow the world to continue into a world of Pandemic Purgatory. To do so, leaders must grapple with a host of challenges around producing, procuring, and delivering doses around the world. One of the biggest challenges facing efforts to scale up COVID-19 vaccination globally has been supply; there simply have not been enough vaccines to meet the overwhelming global demand.

However, that dynamic is changing quickly with supply set to outstrip demand for vaccines in six of the G7 countries by the end of the summer. Supply will outstrip demand when all adults that want one have at least one dose. These same countries have purchased enough doses to vaccinate their entire population and still have more than 1 billion doses left over. The surplus doses could be better used to reduce the spread of variants, reopen the global economy and end the global pandemic faster. This tipping point is an early warning sign for when and where we may start to see growing stockpiles of unused surplus doses.

Slowing demand for COVID-19 vaccines in some parts of the world is nothing to celebrate and does not mean the job is done; vaccine hesitancy anywhere risks impeding the path to herd immunity globally. Vaccination programs in these countries must continue in earnest to reach a sufficient level of vaccination for herd immunity.

To reach herd immunity everywhere, G7 countries must do their part to ensure global access to a vaccine in 2021. We cannot go another day, let alone another month, with no progress on vaccine access in the face of an ongoing pandemic.

Why Vaccine Access Matters

Ensuring that people everywhere have access to the vaccine in 2021 is the fastest way to end the pandemic, starting with the most vulnerable people and the healthcare professionals and key workers who risk their own lives to protect ours.

The epidemiology tells us that unless we protect people everywhere, the virus will continue to find places to thrive - and evolve into new strains - extending the lifetime of the pandemic and continuing to threaten the lives and livelihoods of people around the whole planet:

- The longer viruses circulate unchecked, the more they mutate. Already there are over 4,000 variants of COVID-19 and some - like the South African and UK variants -- are proving more transmissible than other strains. The only way to prevent new and possibly more dangerous variants is to dramatically slow transmission of the virus through [widespread vaccination](#).
- There could be [twice as many deaths](#) from COVID-19 if rich countries monopolize the first 2 billion doses of vaccines instead of making sure they are distributed globally. This is because even with an oversupply of vaccines in wealthy countries, not everybody will choose to be vaccinated and no vaccine will be 100 percent effective leaving large pockets of the population vulnerable.
- Vaccine hoarding could cost the global economy up to [\\$9.2 trillion](#). Rich countries will bear half those costs because of supply chain disruptions and demand shocks.

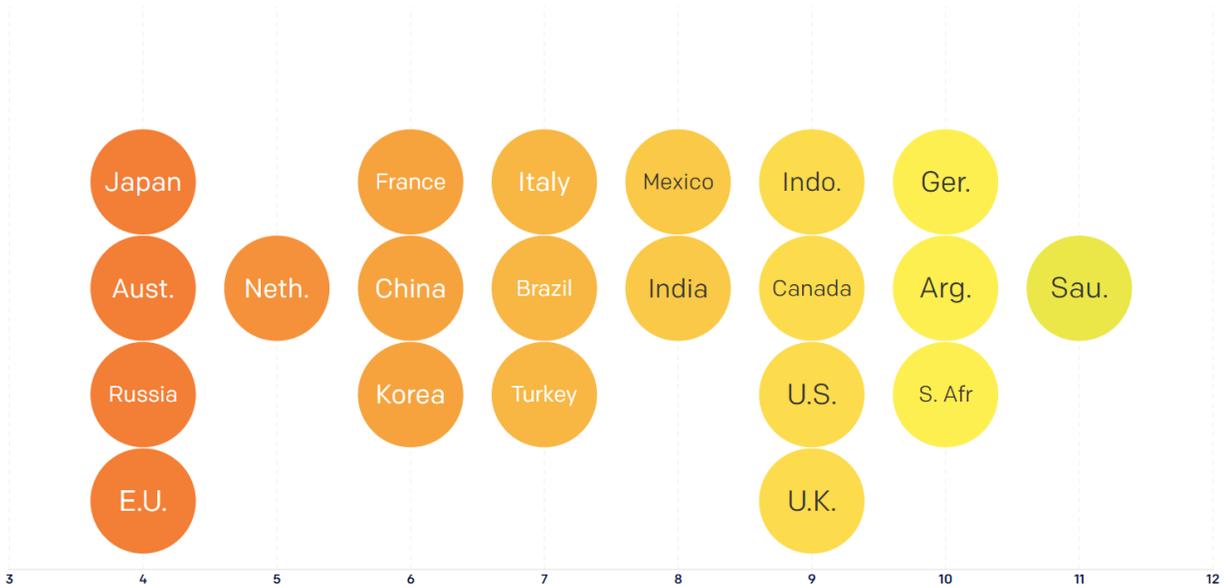
What's more, billions in public funding has been spent to speed the discovery and delivery of a COVID-19 vaccine. Now that these investments are yielding results, the payoff must go back to the public and not just the companies that stand to make a profit.

In short: hoarding vaccines in wealthy countries will slow the recovery for everyone, everywhere.

Vaccine Access Test Scores, May 2021

Countries:

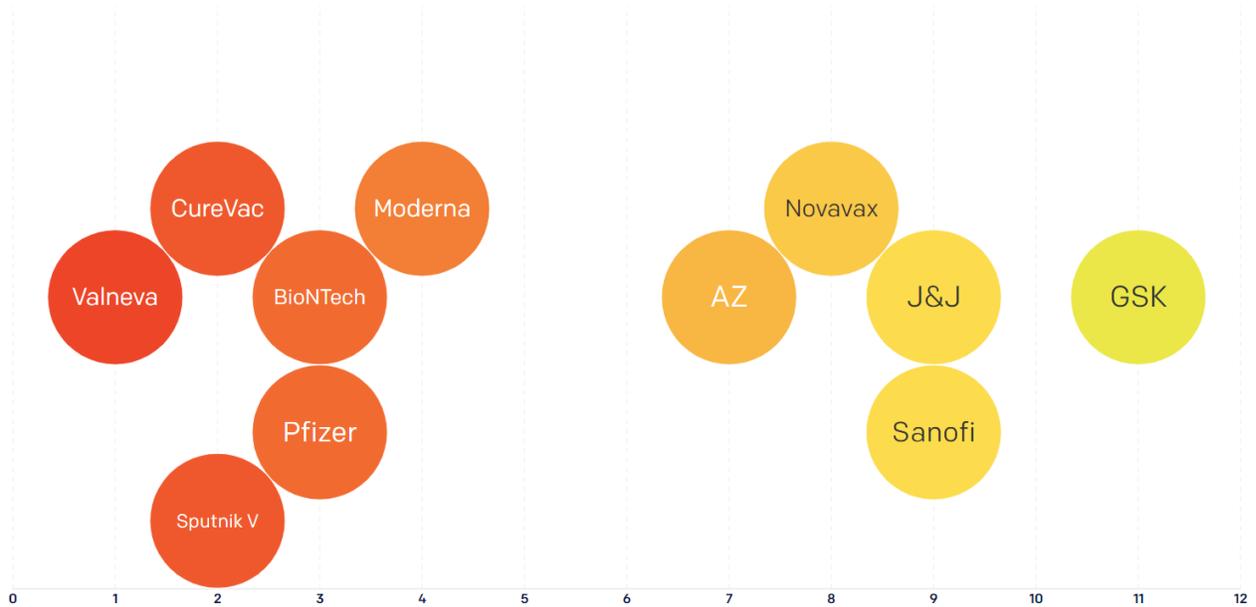
Total Score 0  20



Note: total scale out of 20. The highest scoring nations reach only 11 out of 20 points.

Companies:

Total Score 0  20



Note: total scale out of 20. The highest scoring companies reach only 11 out of 20 points.

How Scores have Changed this Month

- **The United States** gained a point for committing to share doses. The country will release 60 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from AstraZeneca to other countries over the next several months.
- **Netherlands** increased its pledge to ACT-A during the Gavi COVAX investment case launch to EUR 140 million, fulfilling just over 20% of its fair share.
- **Mexico** lost a point for an inequitable vaccine rollout, prioritizing the rich rather than those at the highest risk.
- **Sanofi and GSK** each gained a point for supporting the manufacture of other companies' vaccines. Sanofi will manufacture up to 200 million doses of Moderna's vaccine. GSK will support the manufacture of up to 60 million doses of Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Moderna** gained two points after it announced an agreement to supply 500 million doses of its COVID-19 vaccine to COVAX, however, over 90% of the doses won't arrive until 2022. Just 34 million doses will be delivered in the fourth quarter of 2021, 4% of the company's total projected doses to be manufactured in 2021.

What's Next

G7 leaders should take the following steps to prevent hoarding and increase global access to COVID-19 vaccines:

- **Share doses to maximize global coverage.** G7 countries must commit and plan to share all surplus doses with COVAX by the end of the year. COVAX already has distribution channels set up in low-income countries, and is well positioned to facilitate donations and redistribution of doses ensuring vaccines get where they are needed most. Surplus doses donated from countries where supply and outstripped demand is particularly needed in the near term to fill gaps in global coverage due to export bans and other delays in the supply chain.
- **Fully fund the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) and COVAX.** The ACT-A and COVAX remain the best mechanisms to help deliver vaccines and therapeutics to low-income countries in 2021 at scale and at speed. These global partnerships were designed explicitly to expedite the delivery of these tools to the world's poorest countries. COVAX, the advanced market mechanism that is procuring vaccines for low income countries, has already delivered over 38 million vaccines to over 100 economies in less than two months. It is the only global mechanism with the expertise and mission to deliver vaccines equitably. COVAX needs \$2 billion by the end of June to vaccinate the most vulnerable people in low-income countries by the end of the year. Achieving this target is mission critical if we are going to scale up vaccination globally this year.
- **Raise global ambition to reach global herd immunity next year.** COVAX was designed to vaccinate 20-30 percent of the population in low-income countries -- an ambitious target when it

was set in mid-2020. Today, with four safe and effective vaccines on the market, we can and must do better. In June, G7 leaders will gather in person for the first time since this pandemic began and they can and must take this issue head on by agreeing to a comprehensive global strategy for herd immunity and a burden sharing model to deliver in the near term.