COVID-19the Numbers

- Worldwide, there have been more than200 million cases of COVID-19
- More than 4.3 Million people have died

- In the United States, there have been almost 37 Million Cases of COVID-19
- More than 10 percent of the population has had COVID-19

Vaccination is effective but less effective in older and immunocomprised patients. • In large studies in the overall population, the Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson Vaccines have all shown strong levels of immunity for at least 6 months.

• However, the Ministry of Health in Israel announced: "We see a drop in the vaccine effectiveness for those vaccinated early on, and we see it for those elderly people over the age of 60."

- A small study has raised concerns that vaccination is less effective in nursing home patients.
- Small studies show lower levels of immunity in immunocompromised patients.
- Earlier this month, it was revealed around 125,000 fully-vaccinated Americans had suffered breakthrough cases.

The Delta Variant COVID-19

- The Delta Variant is more contagious than the Alpha Variant of COVID-19.
- The Delta Variant is now responsible for more than 82% of new Covid infections in the United States.
- All three major vaccines are still effective, but less effective, in preventing the Delta Variant.
- Despite vaccination, there has been a small but noticeable increase in COVID-19 due to the Delta Variant in nursing home patients.

The Bottom Line

Vaccination is still effective in decreasing the incidence and severity of COVID-19.

The CDC states that masking is still recommended for people who have been vaccinated: "To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission. "

Dr. Anthony Fauci issued his support for giving COVID-19 booster shots to individuals with weakened immune systems, including the elderly. Boosters may be recommended in the months ahead for these groups.

Covid-19 is not going away. A large number of infections are likely in the coming months. Social distancing remains important. The **1918** H1N1 **flu** pandemic, sometimes referred to as the "**Spanish flu**," killed an estimated 50 million people worldwide, including an estimated 675,000 people in the United States. The virus infected roughly 500 million people—one-third of the world's population.