



VACCINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 11th, 2024

Today's Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator
11:00 – 11:15	Welcome, Announcements, Introductions, Land Acknowledgement	Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett
11:15 – 11:20	Conflict of Interest Declaration	Meghan Cichy
11:20 – 11:25	Approval of Last Meeting Minutes	Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett
11:25 – 11:35	Public Comment	Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett Lisa Balleaux
11:35 – 11:45	Office of Immunization Program Director Updates	Jamilia Sherls-Jones
11:45 – 11:55	COVID-19 Vaccine Director Updates	Heather Drummond
11:55 – 12:05	Director Update Discussion	Jamilia Sherls-Jones Heather Drummond
12:05 – 12:30	VAC Member Report Out	VAC Members
12:30 -12:55	COVID-19, Flu, RSV Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease Surveillance • Vaccine Distribution Update 	Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett Janel Jorgenson
12:55 – 1:00	Future Agenda Items 2024 VAC Meeting Dates: Adjourn	Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett

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Decisions made by committee members should always be based solely on the best interest of the department and the people of Washington State. Decisions should not be influenced by personal financial interest or by other extraneous considerations. Any affiliation with an organization having fundamental goals that conflict with the department and VAC mission should be avoided. Any current, previous (within two years), or future potential conflict of interest should be disclosed at the beginning of each VAC meeting.

A potential conflict of interest exists when a committee member has a relationship or engages in any activity, or has any personal financial interest which might impair their independence or judgment or inappropriately influence their decisions or actions concerning VAC matters.

A potential conflict of interest exists and should be disclosed if the committee member:

- Has a relationship with an entity that benefits financially from the sale of vaccines, such as a consultancy, serving on a speakers bureau, receiving honoraria, research and/or travel support.
- Owns a material financial interest in any business that provides or seeks to provide goods or services to the department.
- Serves as an officer or participates on the board or committees of other related professional societies that receive direct financial benefit from the sale of vaccines.
- Has an affiliation with an organization that has a financial interest in VAC recommendations.
- Has an affiliation with an organization that has a competing activity.

Each committee member has a high duty and obligation to disclose to the entire committee any potential conflict of interest and to abstain from any decision where a significant conflict of interest exists. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the entire committee to determine what, if any, limitations on activities with regard to the committee member's conflict are required to protect the VAC.

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VACCINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Office of Immunization Update
January 11, 2024

2024 Office of Immunization Strategic Priorities

Connect

- Continue to initiate and enhance relationships and partnerships

Forward Plan

- Transition of bodies of work & engagement
- Change Management

Policy

- Vaccine definition
- Standing Orders

Vaccine Confidence

- Immigrant & refugee • BIPOC • Rural
- Providers • IQIP

Vaccine Access

- Provider Enrollment • Vaccine Locator
- Expansion of Adult Vaccine Program

IIS & Data Analytics

- Funding • Determine Analytic Needs
- Benchmarks • IZ Gateway • Data Pipelines

Childhood Immunization Data – Q4 2023 update



Childhood Immunizations

Summary

Monthly Administration

Administration by Vaccine

Data displayed on dashboards do not include COVID and influenza vaccines.

Data Reported as of 01/10/2024

1.9M

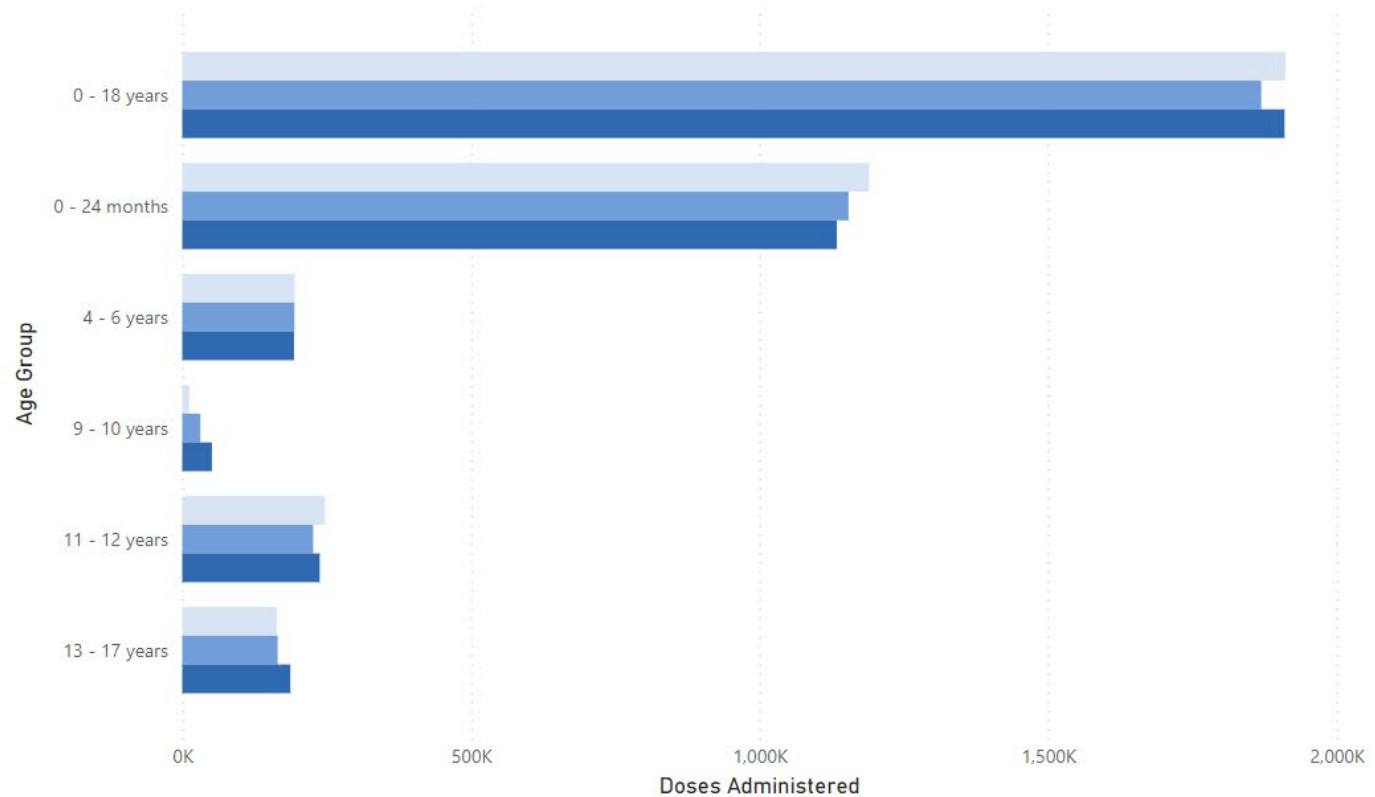
Doses Administered in 2023
Among Children 0 - 18 years

2.15%

Percent Change From 2022
Among Children 0 - 18 years

Total Doses Administered: January through December

● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023



Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard

[RESPIRATORY ILLNESS DATA DASHBOARD | WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH](#)

FLU VACCINE UPTAKE



Influenza Vaccination Data for 2023-2024 Season

Data for the 2023-2024 Flu Season

2,249,281 Doses administered

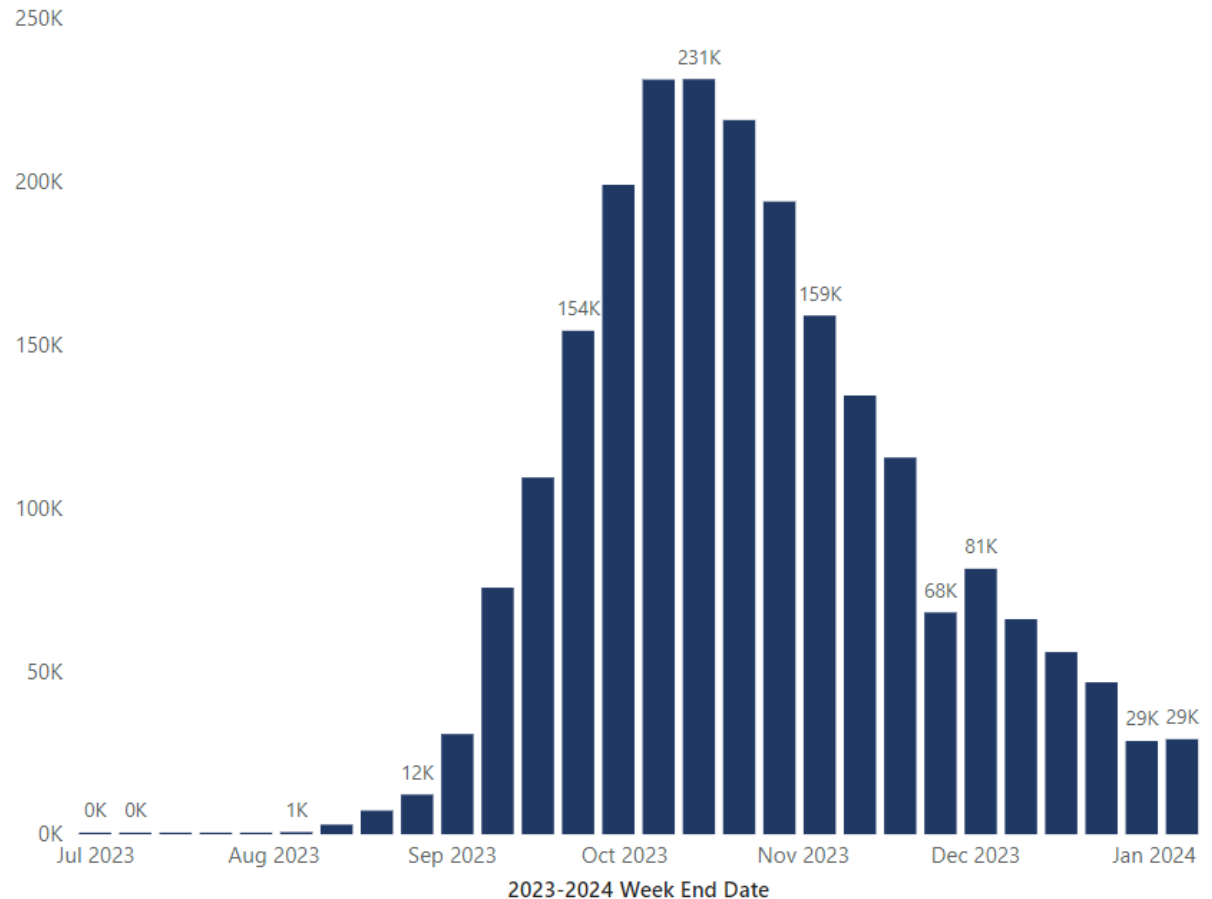
28,601 Doses administered per 100,000 people



28.2%

Vaccinated with at least one dose during the current flu season

Weekly Doses Administered in the 2023-2024 Flu Season



RSV VACCINE UPTAKE



RSV Vaccination Data for 2023-2024 Season

Data for the 2023-2024 RSV Season

327,045

Doses administered *

4,159

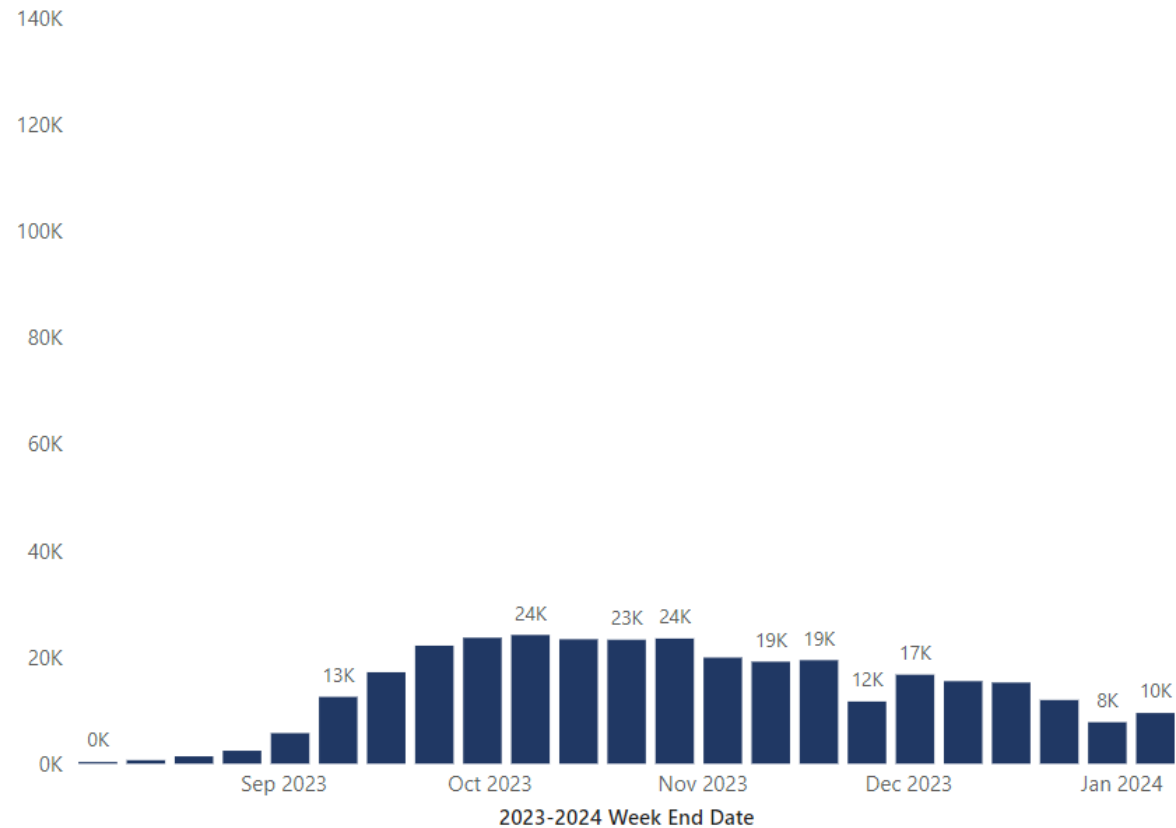
Doses administered per 100,000 people *



17.3%

Vaccinated with at least one dose among adults 60 years and older

Weekly Doses Administered in the 2023-2024 RSV Season *



* Data shown includes doses of **Abrysvo** and **Arexvy** vaccines. An additional **8,583** doses of **Nirsevimab** have also been administered.

Nirsevimab

- Supply remains limited. Additional doses expected.
- Distributed 17,525 nirsevimab doses (as of 1/4/24)
- Administered 8,583 nirsevimab doses (as of 1/8/24)
- CDC advises healthcare providers to return to recommendations put forward by CDC and the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) on use of nirsevimab in young children.
 - Infants and children recommended to receive nirsevimab should be immunized as quickly as possible. Healthcare providers should not reserve nirsevimab doses for infants born later in the season when RSV circulation and risk for exposure to RSV may be lower. RSV activity remains elevated nationwide and is continuing to increase in many parts of the country.
- Nirsevimab implementation lessons learned
 - Work with Seattle Children's REACH Residents to conduct key informant interviews to capture implementation successes, barriers, and considerations for next season.

Health Education Resources

- Respiratory Illness Prevention Co-Brandable Toolkit for LHJs is live: [Respiratory Illness Prevention Co-Brandable Toolkit for Local Health Jurisdictions | Washington State Department of Health](#)
- RSV for pregnant people flyer (will be translated soon):
 - [RSV Vaccination for Pregnant People Flyer 1 \(wa.gov\)](#)
 - [RSV Vaccination for Pregnant People Flyer 2 \(wa.gov\)](#)
 - [RSV Vaccination for Pregnant People Flyer 3 \(wa.gov\)](#)
- RSV letter to prenatal care providers sent end of December.
- COVID vaccine resource for immunocompromised: [COVID-19 Vaccine Reference Guide for all who are Immunocompromised \(wa.gov\)](#)

Association of Immunization Managers Awards



DOH honored to receive recognition via the national Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) Bull's-Eye Award for Innovation and Excellence in Immunization

- OP&E's Health Promotion and Education (HPE) team campaigns [*WeConsider & Here for Us*](#) were awarded recognition for successfully improving COVID-19 vaccination rates in Black and African American communities across Washington through a community-centered approach.
- [*The Power of Providers \(POP\) Initiative*](#) was awarded recognition for reducing vaccination rate disparities and ensuring community health and safety by establishing partnerships with trusted healthcare professionals across all state regions.
- Additionally, the Natalie J. Smith MD Award is the highest form of recognition AIM bestows among past and present immunization program managers. AIM presented this award to PCH Assistant Secretary Michele Roberts recognizing her for her accomplishments and visionary leadership that have had a significant impact on achieving vaccine-preventable disease goals.

Personnel



Jolene Black

Acting Deputy Director

Office of Immunization and
COVID Vaccine Program
Jolene.Black@doh.wa.gov

- Tawney Harper retirement October 2023
- Jolene Black serving in acting Deputy Director position for Office of Immunization, concurrently with Deputy Director role for COVID Vaccine Program

Contact



Jamília Sherls-Jones, DNP, MPH, RN, CPN, CDP

Director

Office of Immunization

Jamília.Sherls-Jones@doh.wa.gov



@WADeptHealth



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COVID-19 Vaccine Program
Update
January 11, 2024

COVID-19

INFLUENZA

RSV

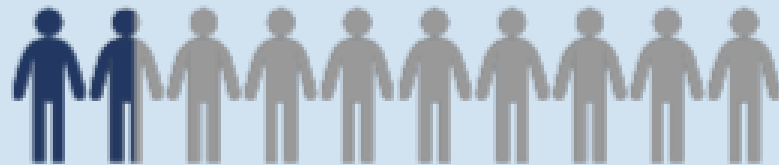
← Select a Vaccine to View

LEARN MORE

Data for the 2023-2024 COVID-19 Season

1,406,089 Doses administered

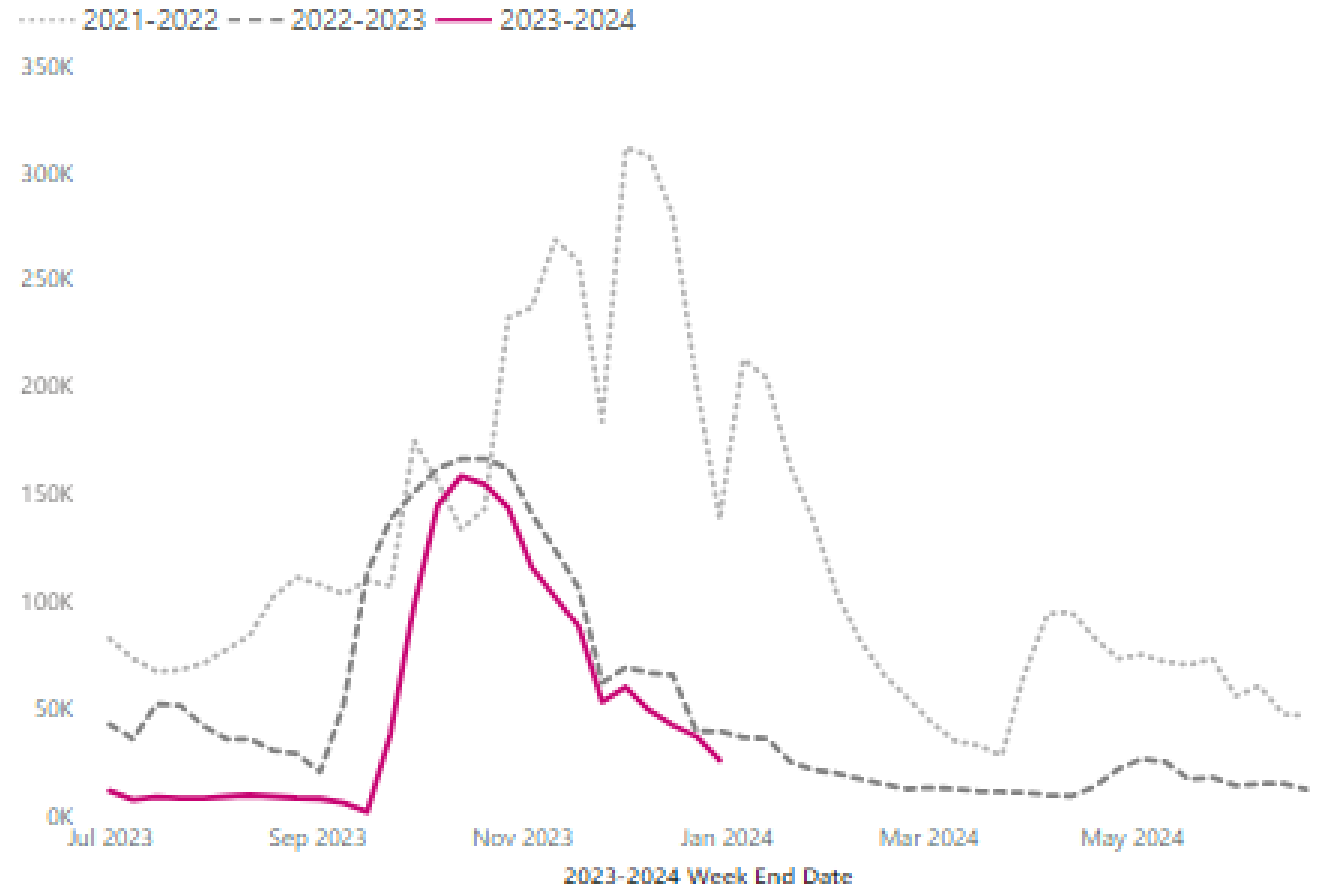
17,879 Doses administered per 100,000 people



16.1%

Vaccinated with all CDC-recommended doses (Up to Date)

Weekly Doses Administered Comparing Past and 2023-2024 COVID-19 Seasons



Visit the full [COVID-19 vaccination dashboard](#) for more data. →

County

Statewide

*This page shows vaccine coverage for age, race/ethnicity, and sex reported for vaccine recipients.*Data reported as of
01/01/2024 11:59 PM[Learn More](#)

Total Coverage Hover over the legends below for the definition of each vaccine status.

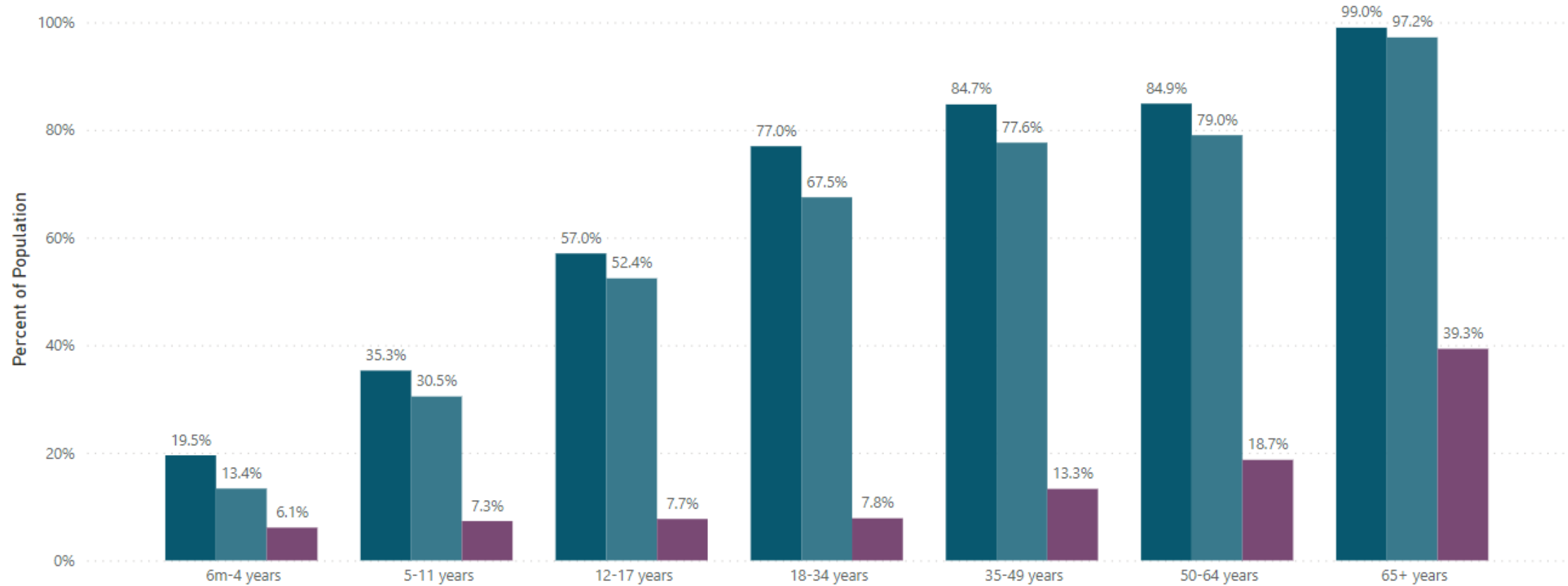
View Data For

Age

Race Ethnicity

Sex

Percent Initiated Percent Completed Percent Up to Date

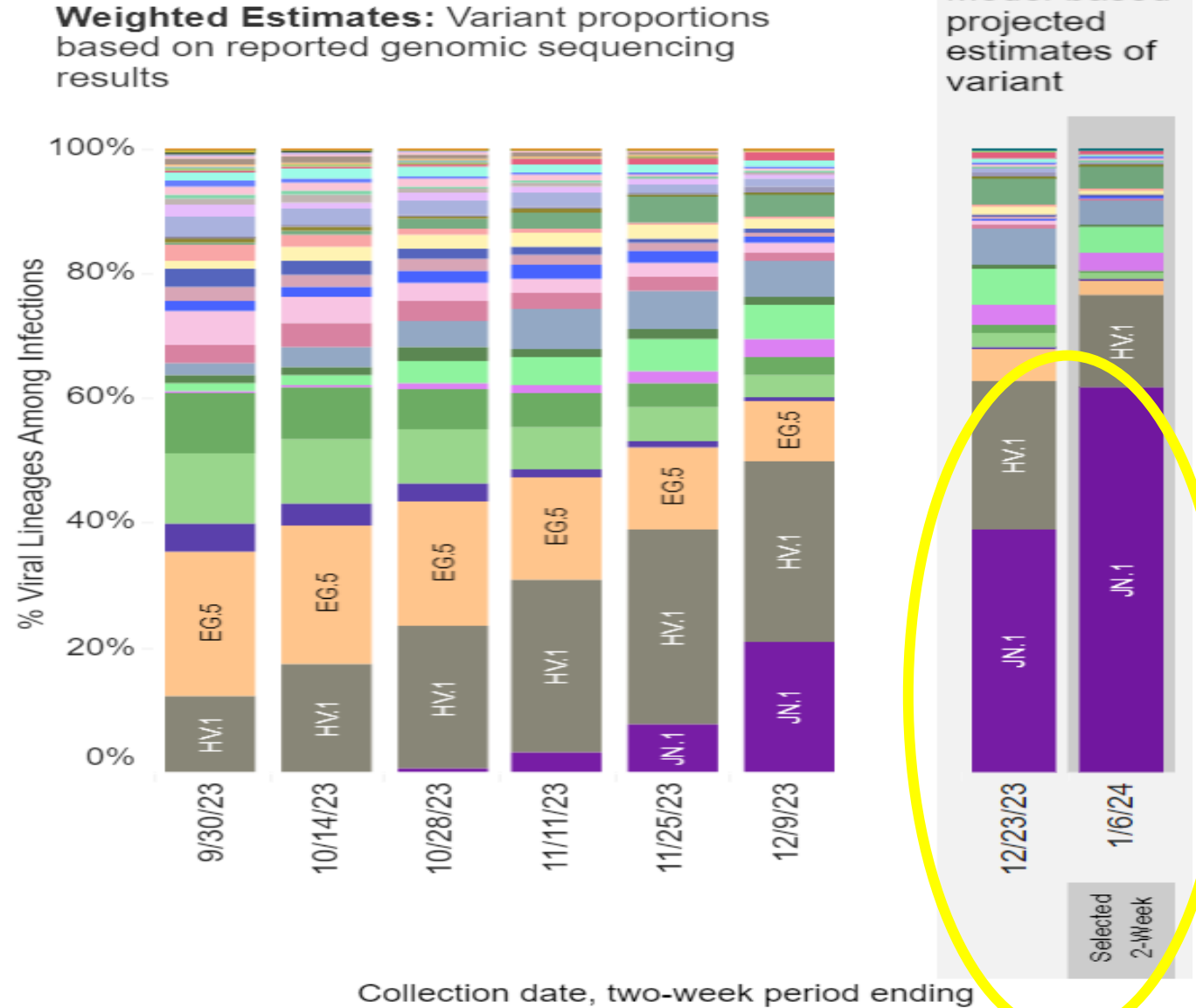


To protect privacy, counts of less than 10 are not reported. Some additional values that could allow someone to calculate those small numbers are also not reported.

New COVID-19 Variants

12/22/23 CDC Report:

- JN.1, descendent of BA.2.86
- 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine is effective against the JN.1 / BA.2.86 variants
- Read more:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/whats-new/JN.1-update-2023-12-22.html>
 - <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>



Bridge Program Overview

- HHS Bridge Access program provides free COVID-19 vaccine for adults 19 years and older who are uninsured or under-insured.
- [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov): sort available vaccines by Bridge program participation.
- COVID-19 Vaccine Insurance Coverage quick-guide: [two-page handout](#)
- Other activities have included supporting enrollment of independent pharmacies and working with LHJs and other partners to equitably allocated COVID-19 vaccine through the Adult Vaccine Program, with a particular focus on FQHCs.

you're covered. HOW ARE COVID-19 VACCINES COVERED BY INSURANCE? VACCINES REMAIN COVERED, FREE OF COST TO YOU.

For **adults** covered by...

All private and public programs cover vaccines with ACIP routine age-based, risk-based, and shared clinical decision-making recommendations.

	Are My COVID-19 Vaccines Covered Free of Cost?	Background on Coverage Requirements
MEDICAID	YES. All COVID-19 vaccines are available to Medicaid beneficiaries with no out-of-pocket costs, as currently stipulated by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. ¹	Updates in the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) require state Medicaid agencies to cover all vaccines recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)—including COVID-19 vaccines—for Medicaid beneficiaries with no out-of-pocket costs.
MEDICARE	YES. All COVID-19 vaccines are covered by Medicare Part B without cost-sharing.	The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act stipulates that Medicare is required by law to cover COVID-19 vaccines at no cost to beneficiaries. Recent changes to Medicare now ensure that all ACIP-recommended vaccines—both those covered under Part B as well as Part D—are available free of cost to Medicare beneficiaries.
TRICARE	YES. COVID-19 vaccines are covered by TRICARE for all beneficiaries with no out-of-pocket costs.	TRICARE covers all age-appropriate doses of vaccines—including COVID-19 vaccines—as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
PRIVATE INSURANCE	YES. Those with private insurance, including those with employer-provided health insurance, can access COVID-19 vaccines with no out-of-pocket costs through in-network providers. ²	Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), private insurance plans are required to cover all vaccines recommended for routine use by ACIP free of cost-sharing. This includes COVID-19 vaccines. Going forward, any COVID-19 vaccines recommended by ACIP—including updated vaccines—will be fully covered by private insurance plans within 15 days of ACIP recommendation.
ADULTS WITHOUT INSURANCE	YES. Adults (ages 19-64) without insurance can access COVID-19 vaccines free of cost through safety net providers and the CDC's Bridge Access Program, which will include retail pharmacies.	Initially, COVID-19 vaccines will be available through local safety net health care providers, like community health centers. Through the Bridge Access Program, CDC plans to expand access to COVID-19 vaccines for the uninsured at participating retail pharmacies.

¹Currently, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that all states provide Medicaid coverage without cost-sharing for COVID-19 vaccines, effective October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Prior to October 1, 2023, the federal government will match 100% of all state expenditures on COVID-19 vaccine doses and vaccine administration to encourage continuous coverage.

²Certain grandfathered (pre-ACA) plans may require cost-sharing for recommended vaccines.

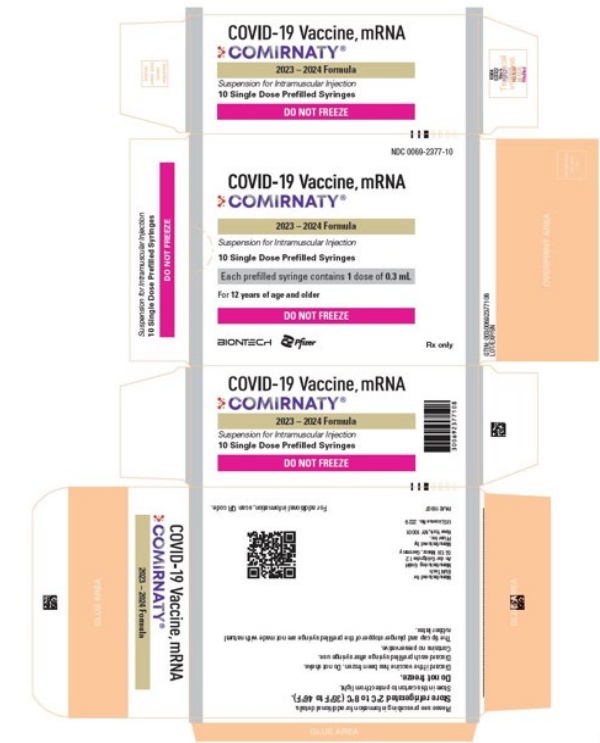
Have more questions about coverage for COVID-19 vaccines? Visit covidvaccineproject.org/covered

COVID-19 VACCINE EDUCATION and EQUITY PROJECT

Pre-Filled Syringes, Refrigerated, Pfizer 12+

- 10 prefilled syringes(NDC 00069-2377-10).
- Must be stored at 2-8C, Do NOT store at ultra-cold or standard freezer temperatures.
- Follow the expiration date printed on the carton.
- Providers can use up existing original Pfizer 12y+ vaccine supply they may have on hand.
- Our [2023-2024 State Supplied COVID-19 Vaccines-At-a-Glance Guide](#) has been updated for your reference.

Comirnaty 12y+ Refrigerated Vaccine Carton (pink bar indicating "Do Not Freeze")



Vaccination Catch-Up Tools and Resources

- [Job Aids](#) help providers quickly determine catch-up schedule for children, especially with new polio, RSV, pneumococcal vaccines and recommendations.
- Immunize.org's excellent [Cheat Sheet of COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance and Clinic Support Tools](#)

Ramp Down COVID-19 Testing

- As we continue to ramp down COVID-19 efforts on a federal and state level, Washington State Department of Health will no longer supply at-home Rapid Antigen COVID-19 tests for LHJ partners.
- DOH is partnering with Test and Go to provide kiosks to communities across our state. Fill out [this form](#) and request a kiosk in your community.
- DOH continues to offer the [Test to Treat](#) program.

Groups with testing access

- WA K-12 schools through our DOH School Testing Program
- First Responder partners enrolled in our DOH Fire/EMS Testing Program
- Rural, independent pharmacies enrolled in our Pharmacy Testing Program
- Agricultural Worker and Community Testing via our Ag Worker Testing Program
- Free healthcare provider consultations for accessing prescription OAVs through our COVID-19 Telehealth Program
- Tribal partners through the ordering portal for tribes

Watch Me Grow Resources

Our Statewide Hotlines

- Help Me Grow WA Hotline: 1-800-322-2588
- Apple Health for Kids Hotline: 1-877-543-7669
- Family Food Hotline: 1-888-436-6392

Online Benefit Finder

- Self-referral portal on www.Parenthelp123.org;
we contact you within 2 business days

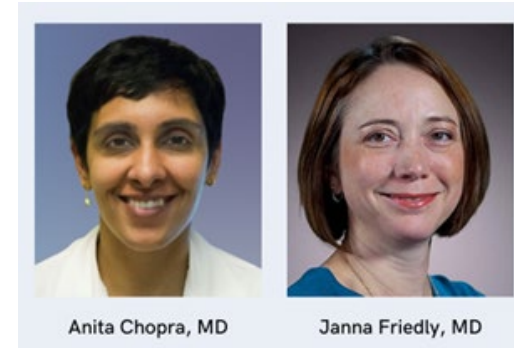
Text “WIC” to 96859

Text “FOOD” to 96859



Power of Providers Peer-to-Peer Webinars

- **January 12:** [Post COVID-19 Conditions: Diagnosis and Management Options](#) with Dr. Anita Chopra and Dr. Janna Friedly
- **February 16:** [Post COVID-19 Conditions: Expanding Our Understanding of Long-term Sequelae of COVID-19](#) with Dr. Eric Chow
- **March 29:** [Unmasking Long COVID: Insights and Updates from University of Washington Clinical Research](#) with Helen Chu, MD, MPH.



Visit the POP [webinar page](#) for CE information.

Thank you!



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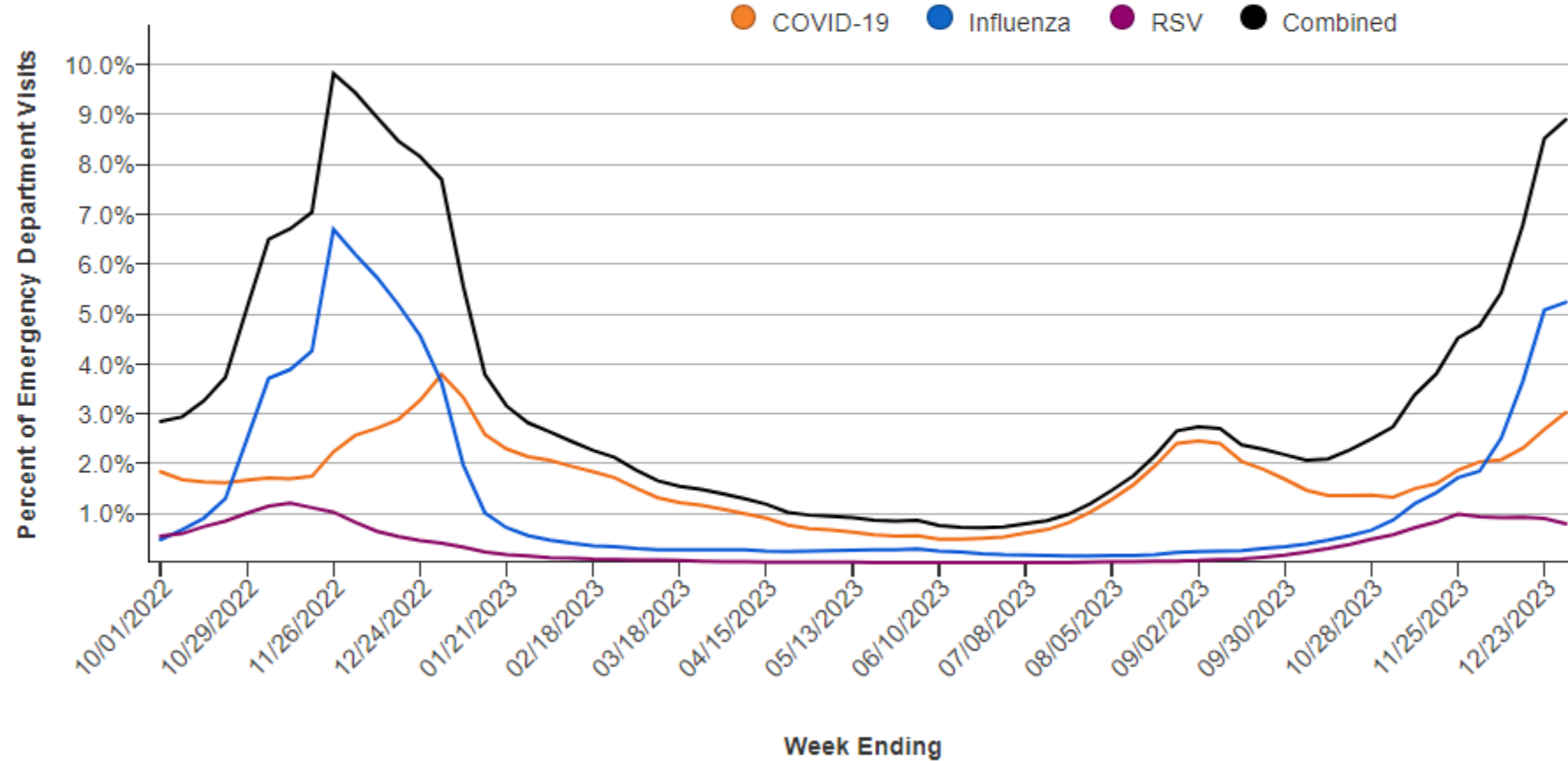


COVID-19, FLU, AND RSV
WA State Department of Health



DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

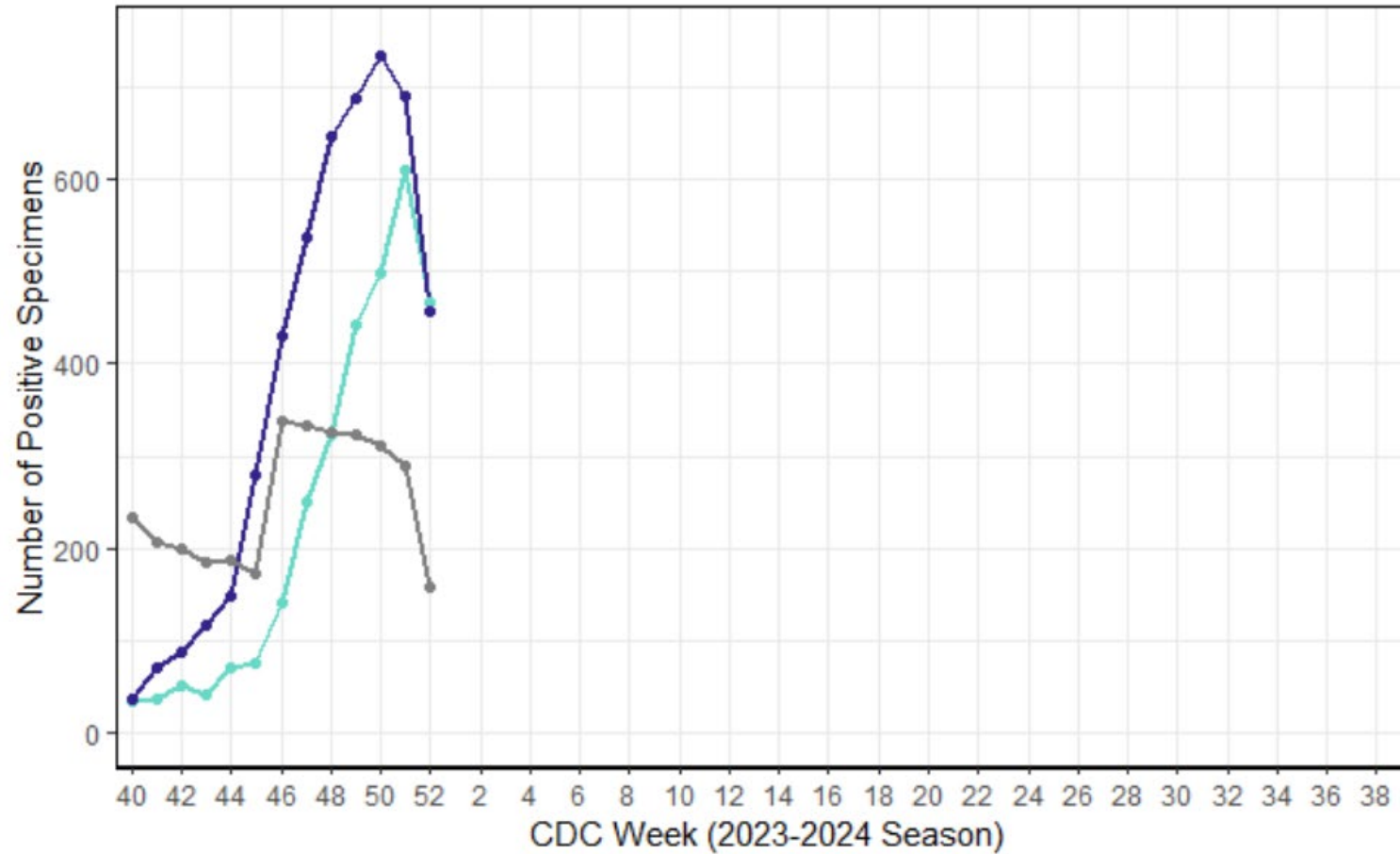
Emergency Department Visits for Viral Respiratory Illness – US



[Respiratory Virus Activity Levels \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory/virus-activity-levels/)

Data as of 1/9/2024

Common Respiratory Viruses Reported by National Enteric and Respiratory Virus Surveillance System Labs in WA

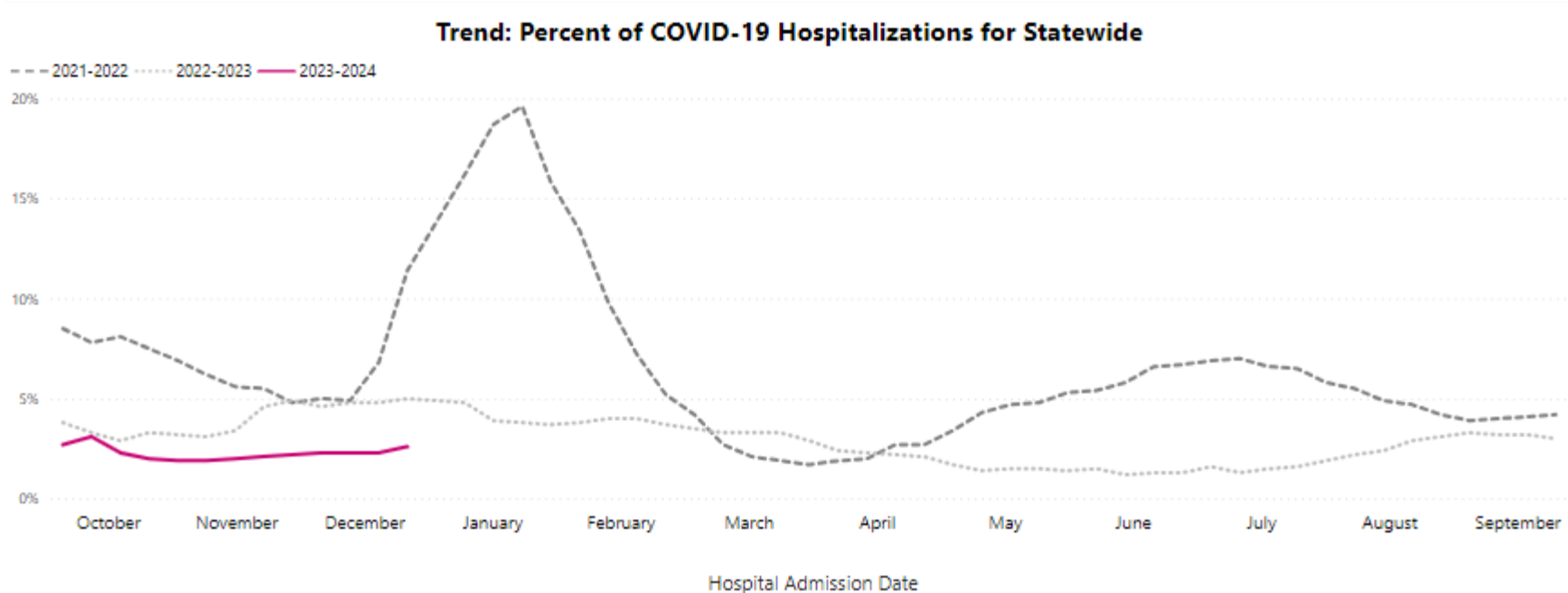


— Influenza — Respiratory Syncytial Virus — Other

[DOH Weekly Influenza Report](#)

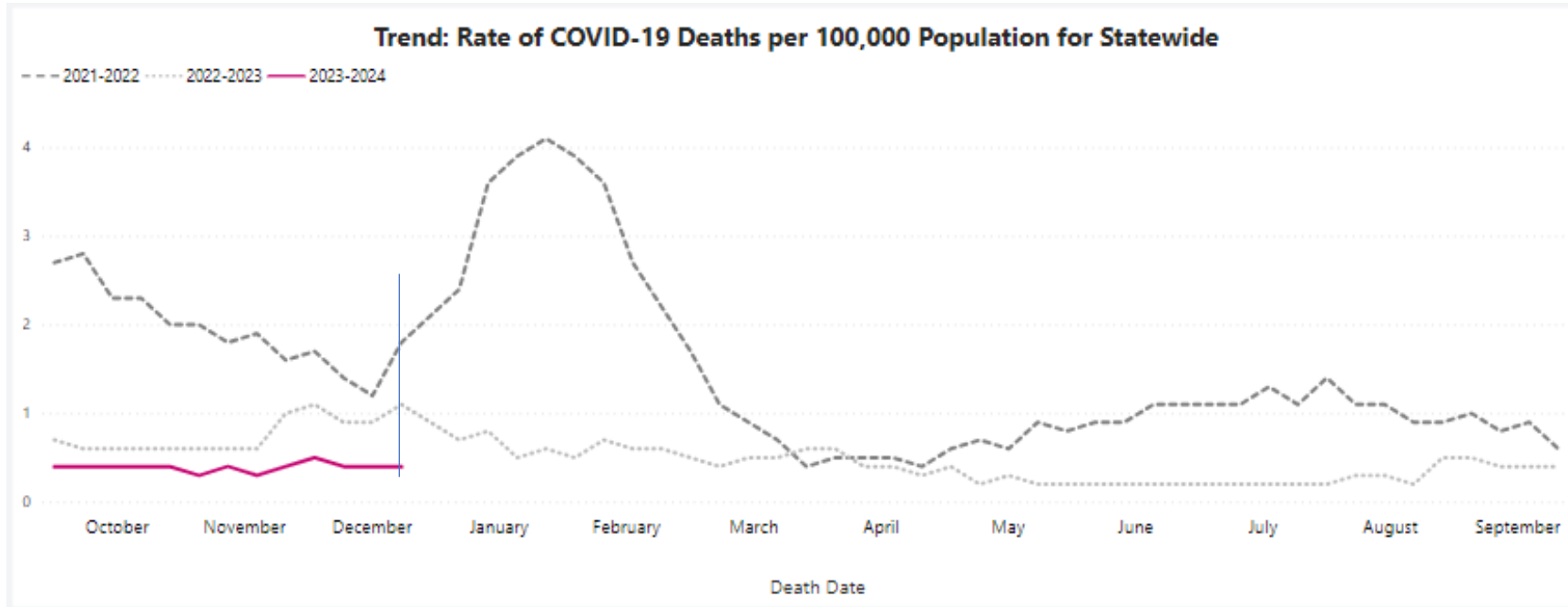
Week 52: December 24 – December 30, 2023

COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS - WASHINGTON



[Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard](#) | [Washington State Department of Health](#)
Data as of 1/9/2024

COVID-19 DEATHS - WASHINGTON

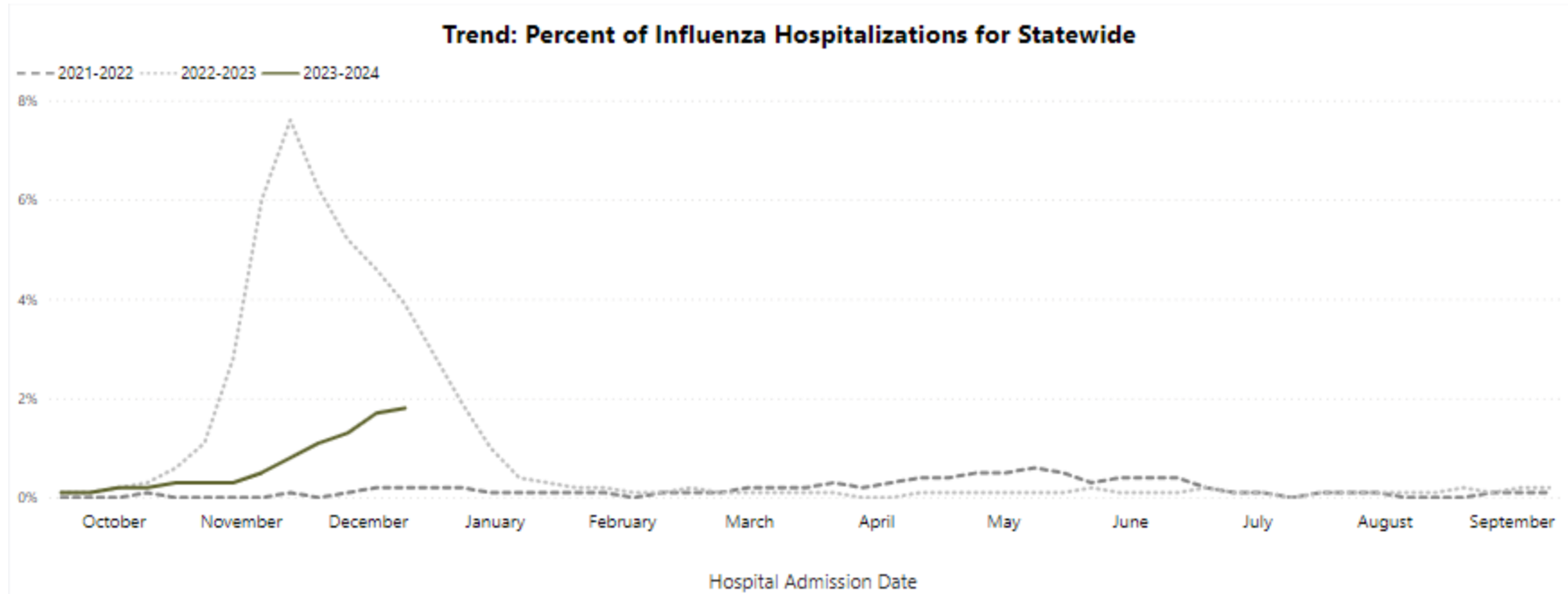


Season	Date Range	Weekly Count	Weekly Rate
2023-2024	12/24/2023 - 12/30/2023	30	0.4
2022-2023	12/25/2022 - 12/31/2022	84	1.1
2021-2022	12/26/2021 - 1/1/2022	130	1.6

Counts below 10 are suppressed for privacy and shown as blank

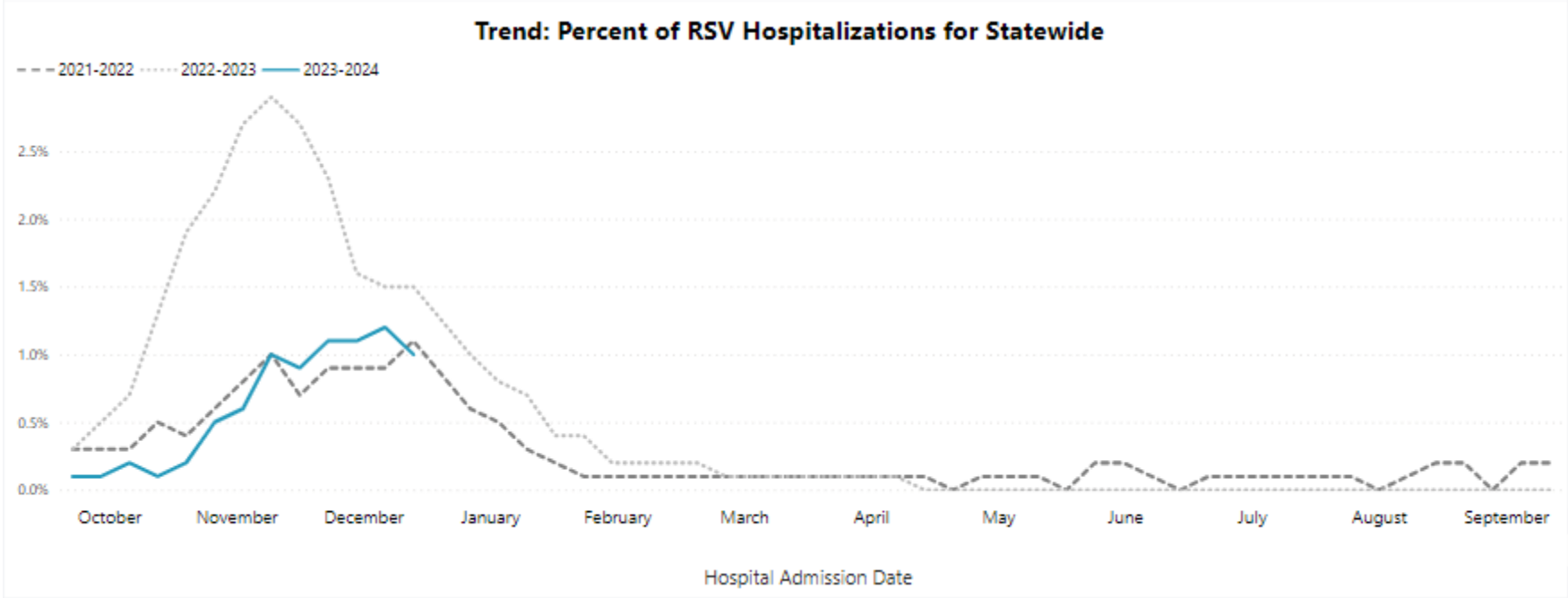
[Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard](#) | [Washington State Department of Health](#)
Data as of 1/9/2024

INFLUENZA HOSPITALIZATIONS - WASHINGTON



[Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard](#) | [Washington State Department of Health](#)
Data as of 1/9/2024

RSV HOSPITALIZATIONS- WASHINGTON

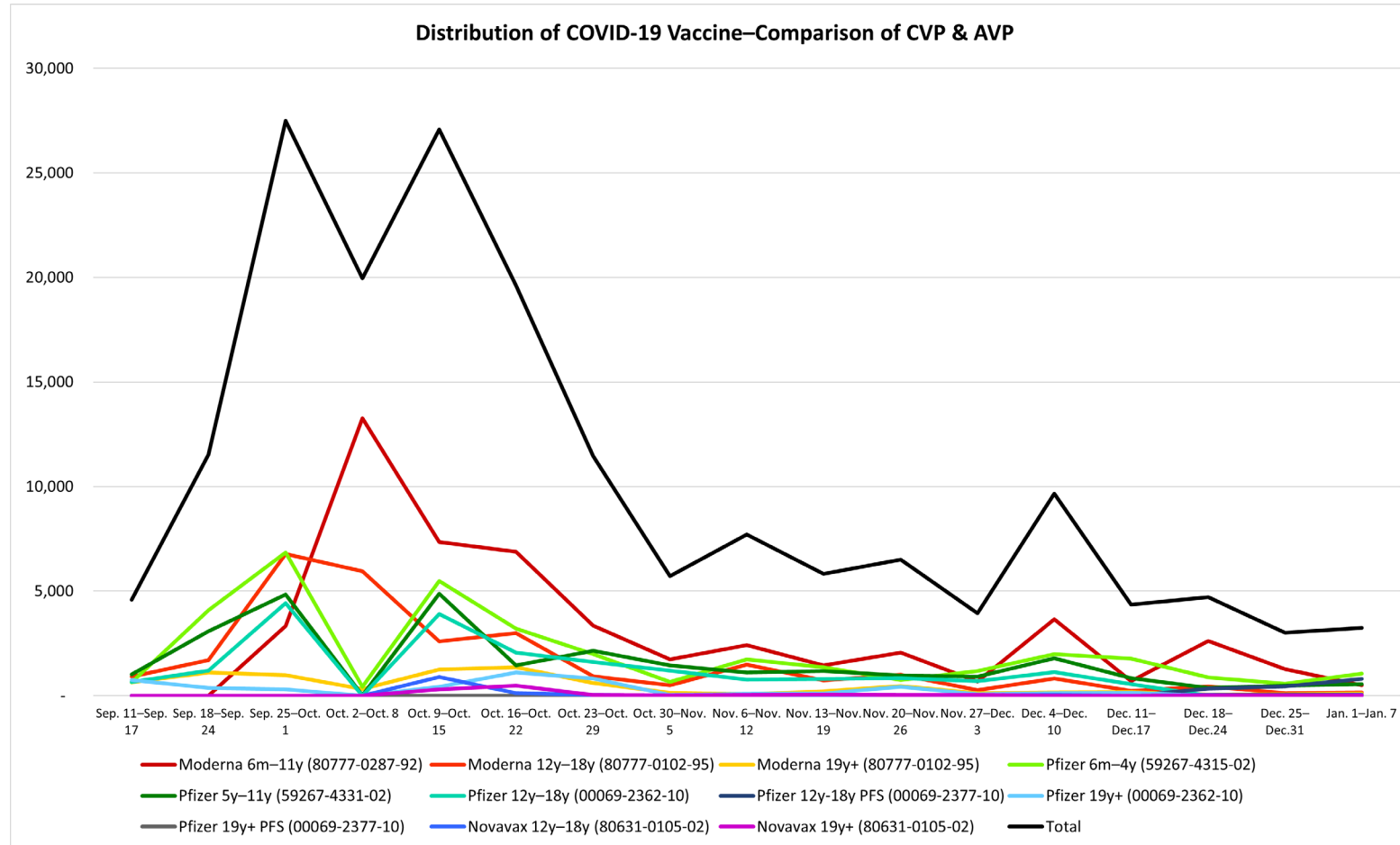


[Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard | Washington State Department of Health](#)
Data as of 1/9/2024



VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

COVID-19 VACCINE DISTRIBUTION



COVID-19 DISTRIBUTION: BRIDGE PROGRAM

Doses & Funding from the Bridge Program by Vaccine Type:

Moderna 19y+	Pfizer 19y+	Novavax 19y+	Total
7,750 doses	4,850 doses	930 doses	13,530 doses
\$632,500	\$404,250	\$54,000	\$1,100,000

- Based current trajectories, funding is anticipated to sustain through the end of the Bridge project. As of January 8th, a total of 17% of Bridge Program funding for purchasing vaccines has been spent.
- 4,170 doses (31%) of Bridge Program doses have been distributed to FQHCs

Nirsevimab Supply Update

Original Orders Placed Oct 5 – Oct 13:

Product Description	Quantity Ordered	Quantity Shipped	# of Facilities
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	6,445	6,440	126
RSV; 100mg; SYR; 5-pack	7,795	7,780	135
Totals:	14,240	14,220	136* Most facilities requesting both formulations

<< Ordering Pause and Allocations >>

Orders Placed Nov 16:

Product Description	Quantity Ordered	Quantity Shipped	# of Facilities
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	1,030	1,030	20

Orders Placed Dec 12:

Product Description	Quantity Ordered	Quantity Shipped	# of Facilities
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	2,275	2,275	65

Orders Placed Jan 9:

Product Description	Quantity Ordered	Quantity Shipped	# of Facilities
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	2,015	2,015	84
RSV; 100mg; SYR; 5-pack	2,365	2,365	103
Totals:	4,270	4,380	115* Most facilities requesting both formulations

Nirsevimab Supply Update (cont.)

Total Shipped to date:

Product Description	Quantity Shipped (doses)
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	11,760
RSV; 100mg; SYR; 5-pack	10,145

Remaining Allocation Available Now:

Product Description	Doses
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	2,385
RSV; 100mg; SYR; 5-pack	0



Additional Allocation Expected:

Product Description	Doses
RSV; 50mg; SYR; 5-pack	3,655
RSV; 100mg; SYR; 5-pack	1,840

- Limited amount in early 2024.
 - [Readout of Latest White House Meeting with RSV Immunization Manufacturers | The White House](#)
 - [Sanofi Beyfortus™ \(nirsevimab-alip\) Injection Update](#)

Recent Nirsevimab Messaging

- Important to fully use existing nirsevimab supply now to maximize protection against RSV among infants while RSV illness circulates
 - Use doses when possible, do not stockpile.
 - Use nirsevimab for any eligible baby.
 - Use the vaccine advertisement tool in the WAIS to advertise doses you aren't using, or to search for available doses to transfer. [Find directions on using the tool here.](#)

- Limited Nirsevimab available for ordering now
 - Prioritization for 50 mg product continues to be for birthing hospitals, tribal health clinics, and provider clinics in counties that have yet to receive much product.
 - Prioritization for the 100 mg product will be for provider clinics in counties with no or low supply, and tribal health clinics.
 - Ordering to stay open and processed weekly until allocation is depleted.

Abrysvo through Childhood and Adult Vaccine Programs

- Limited Abrysvo available to order
- Specific for maternal use. Pregnant persons between 32-36 weeks of pregnancy during RSV season.
- Offered through Childhood Vaccine Program for pregnant persons under 19 years of age. Single dose presentation available.
- All CVP providers have Abrysvo order set available in WAIS. Providers can order and indicate in comments their planned use for eligible patient(s); or will receive outreach to ensure intention of use before order approval.
- Offered through Adult Vaccine Program for un-insured pregnant persons 19+ years of age. 5-dose package size only. AVP providers can email WAAdultVaccines@doh.wa.gov to request doses.

VAERS: Vaccine Administration Errors

- CDC has received several reports of vaccine providers who have inadvertently administered RSV vaccines (Arexvy or Abrysvo) to infants, instead of giving nirsevimab (RSV monoclonal antibody product recommended for infants.)
- **CDC sent reminder, RSV vaccines (Arexvy or Abrysvo) are not approved or recommended for use in infants and young children.** These RSV vaccines have not been studied in infants and young children; therefore, vaccine safety and effectiveness for this population are unknown.
- Vaccine providers who carry both nirsevimab for use in infants and young children and RSV vaccines for use in adults and pregnant people should be especially diligent in following vaccine administration safety procedures to prevent errors.
- Providers encouraged to promptly report vaccine administration errors to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#) and reach out to CDC at NIPINFO@cdc.gov for further guidance.

HOW CAN THE PUBLIC FIND THE IMMUNIZATIONS?

1. **Health care providers:** Most Primary Care Providers and pharmacists can administer all respiratory disease vaccines.
2. **Pharmacies:** Many pharmacies offer flu, RSV and COVID-19 vaccination.
3. **CDC website:** Find flu and COVID-19 vaccines on <https://www.vaccines.gov/> or text ZIP code to GETVAX (438829).
4. **Federally Qualified Health Centers**
5. Newly updated **Provider Map** to find a clinic enrolled in the Childhood Vaccine Program and/or the Adult Vaccine program.
6. **Care-A-Van Mobile Vaccine Clinic Locations**

Find Flu & COVID-19
Vaccines Near You



<https://www.vaccines.gov/>



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Today's Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator
12:55 – 1:00	I. Future Agenda Items II. 2024 VAC Meeting Dates: III. Adjourn	Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett



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