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# **PHFPC Briefing**

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**Texas Department of State Health Services**  
**February 7, 2024**

# **DISCLAIMER**

The information presented today is based current preliminary data and on CDC's recent guidance. Information is subject to change.

February 7, 2024

# Emerging & Infectious Diseases Update



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- Texas Respiratory Illness Dashboard
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Surveillance Data
- RSV Immunization Update
- Updated (2023-2024) COVID-19 Vaccination update



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# Texas Respiratory Illness Dashboard

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**Chief State Epidemiologist**

**Office of the Chief State Epidemiologist**

**Texas Department of State Health Services**

## Texas Launches New Respiratory Virus Dashboard, Report

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#### NEWS RELEASE

January 22, 2024

## Tools Provide the Public with a View of Diseases Affecting the State

The Texas Department of State Health Services has launched new data tools to let people keep tabs on respiratory viruses in Texas. A [respiratory virus dashboard](#) accessible through [DSHS's Texas Health Data site](#) shows trends in illnesses from influenza, COVID-19 and RSV, the "big three" respiratory viruses most likely to cause serious disease at this time of year. Data includes emergency room visits, hospitalizations and deaths.

"Those data points demonstrate the diseases' most severe effects on people, communities and the health care system," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford, MD, MPH. "The dashboard provides a near real-time look at conditions, so people can make informed decisions on precautions for themselves and their families, and health care professionals can make recommendations to their patients."

DSHS is also publishing a new [weekly respiratory virus surveillance report](#), combining separate reports on influenza, COVID-19 and RSV. The report contains more in-depth data on the three diseases including information on the burden of influenza-like illness, counties where different types of flu have been found, and the proportions of COVID-19 variants present in Texas.

Respiratory virus season runs from October to May and usually peaks in the winter. However, the viruses are always circulating, so there is a risk of infection at any time of year.

Getting immunized against respiratory viruses is a good way for people to protect themselves against the severe disease, hospitalization and death they can cause. People can also help keep respiratory viruses from spreading by washing their hands frequently with soap and water, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home when they are sick.

# DSHS New Release (January 22, 2024)

Available at: [Texas Launches New Respiratory Virus Dashboard, Report | Texas DSHS](#), accessed January 30, 2024

# Texas Respiratory Illness Dashboard

TEXAS Health and Human Services | Texas Department of State Health Services

Texas Respiratory Illness Interactive Dashboard

Home Emergency Department Visits Hospitalizations Viral Respiratory Deaths DSHS Website

## Texas Respiratory Illness Interactive Dashboard

Respiratory illnesses like COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) can lead to serious outcomes including hospitalization, death, and a severe strain on the healthcare system. Respiratory virus season typically happens from October to May, peaking in the winter. However, respiratory viruses circulate year-round, meaning infection is possible at any time. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) created an interactive respiratory illness dashboard to be a resource for all Texans including healthcare providers, local leaders, and public health jurisdictions to monitor respiratory illness trends.

DSHS updates the dashboard's COVID-19, influenza, and RSV data every Friday. This dashboard uses data from [Texas Syndromic Surveillance](#) on hospital emergency department visits, the federal [National Healthcare Safety Network](#) on hospitalizations, and Texas death certificates on mortality. These data capture some of the most severe respiratory illness outcomes, providing a snapshot of the COVID-19, influenza, and RSV disease burden on Texas communities.

DSHS also publishes a weekly Texas Viral Respiratory Surveillance report with additional information that may be helpful to healthcare providers and others. The weekly surveillance report can be found on this [page](#).

- Data Sources for respiratory illnesses:
  - Emergency department visits
  - Hospitalizations
  - Viral Respiratory Deaths
- Updated weekly, every Friday
- 100 weeks of data can be displayed at one time

Available at: [Texas Respiratory Illnesses Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com), accessed January 30, 2024



# Texas Statewide Emergency Department Visits COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV



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Texas Respiratory Illness Interactive Dashboard

Home

Emergency Department Visits

Hospitalizations

Viral Respiratory Deaths

DSHS Website

## Texas Statewide Emergency Department Visits for COVID-19, Influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Provides an update on Emergency Department Visit trends for viral respiratory illnesses (COVID-19, influenza, and RSV).

### Update

- These data indicate that Texas emergency department visits for influenza remain elevated overall.
- The percent of emergency department visits associated with influenza increased compared to the previous week.
- The percent of emergency department visits associated with COVID-19 remains stable, while visits for RSV continue to decrease.

Page last updated: Thursday, January 25, 2024

The Texas Department of State Health Services' [Texas Syndromic Surveillance system](#) (TxS2) receives real-time emergency room visit data statewide.

The rates in this dashboard show trends in emergency department visits over time, across all ages. Different age groups are not currently reported in these TxS2 data.

Contact [syndromic.surveillance@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:syndromic.surveillance@dshs.texas.gov) with questions.

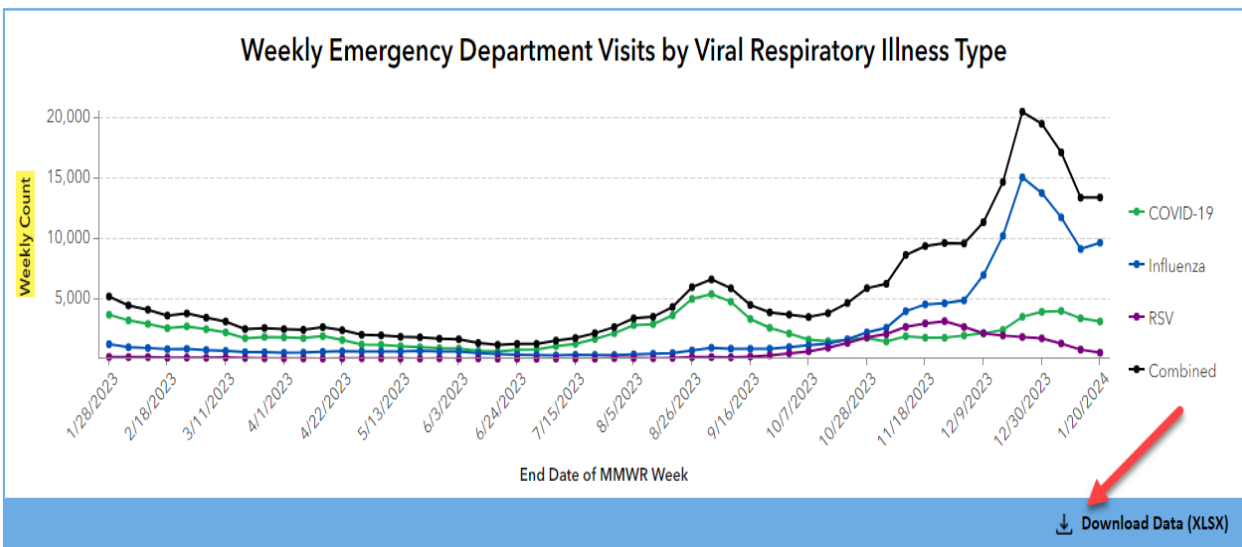
# Texas Statewide Emergency Department Visits COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV

## Weekly Emergency Department Visits by Viral Respiratory Illness Type

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information. Only 100 weeks of data can be displayed at one time. Control the display of each respiratory illness by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.

Select a Geography: Statewide

Select a Date Range: 01/28/2023  and 01/20/2024



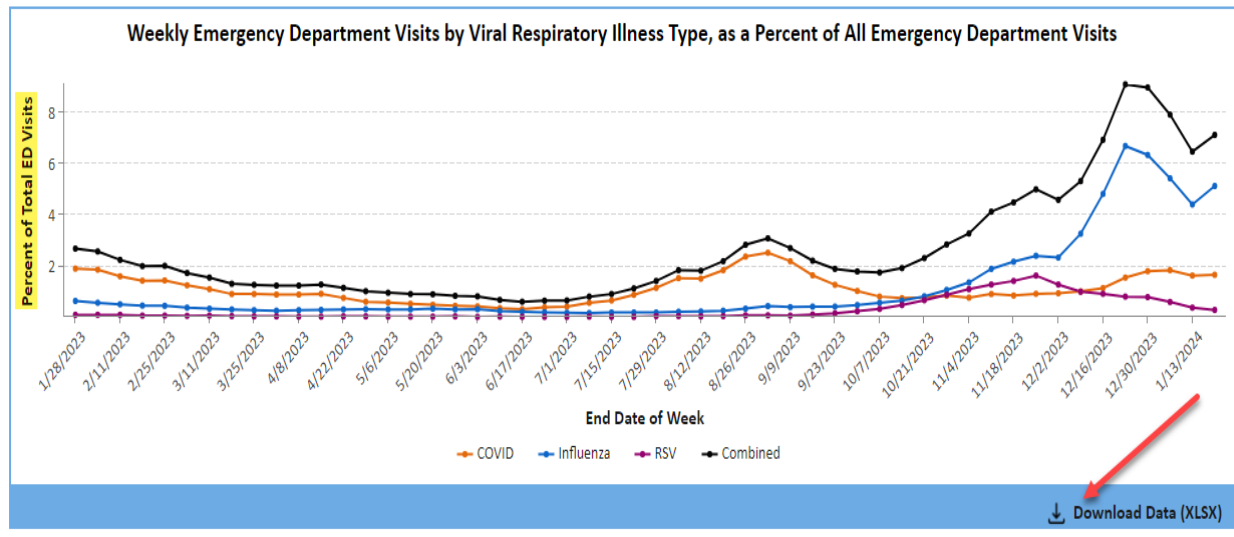
Emergency department visits associated with COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, presented as the number of emergency department visits.

## Weekly Emergency Department Visits by Viral Respiratory Illness Type, as a Percent of All Emergency Department Visits

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information. Only 100 weeks of data can be displayed at one time. Control the display of each respiratory illness by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.

Select a Geography: Statewide

Select a Date Range: 01/28/2023  and 01/20/2024



Emergency department visits associated with COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, presented as a percent of all emergency department visits.

## Weekly Emergency Department Visits by viral Respiratory Illness Type Filter

- Public Health Region



# Texas Hospitalizations COVID-19 and Influenza



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Texas Respiratory Illness Interactive Dashboard

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[Emergency Department Visits](#)

[Hospitalizations](#)

[Viral Respiratory Deaths](#)

[DSHS Website](#)

## Texas Hospitalizations for COVID-19 and Influenza

Provides an update on trends for hospitalization rates associated with COVID-19 and influenza.

### Update

- The data indicate that Texas laboratory-confirmed respiratory illness hospitalizations are decreasing for both COVID-19 and influenza. COVID-19 new hospitalization rates are higher in people 60 years and older.
- The COVID-19 and influenza hospital bed occupancy remain relatively stable for inpatient units and intensive care units, and are relatively low when compared to hospital bed occupancy for all conditions.
- Texas COVID-19 and influenza hospitalization trends are similar to the national trends reported by the [CDC: Groups Most Impacted—Hospitalizations \(cdc.gov\)](#); [Severe Viral Respiratory Illness \(cdc.gov\)](#); [Hospital Occupancy \(cdc.gov\)](#).

Page last updated: Friday, January 26, 2024

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [National Healthcare Safety Network \(NHSN\)](#) is the the United States' most used tracking system for preventable accidents and infections in healthcare facilities, including COVID-19 and influenza.

The rates on this dashboard show trends in hospitalizations among different age groups over time. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) hospitalization data are not currently reported to NHSN so are not included in this dashboard.

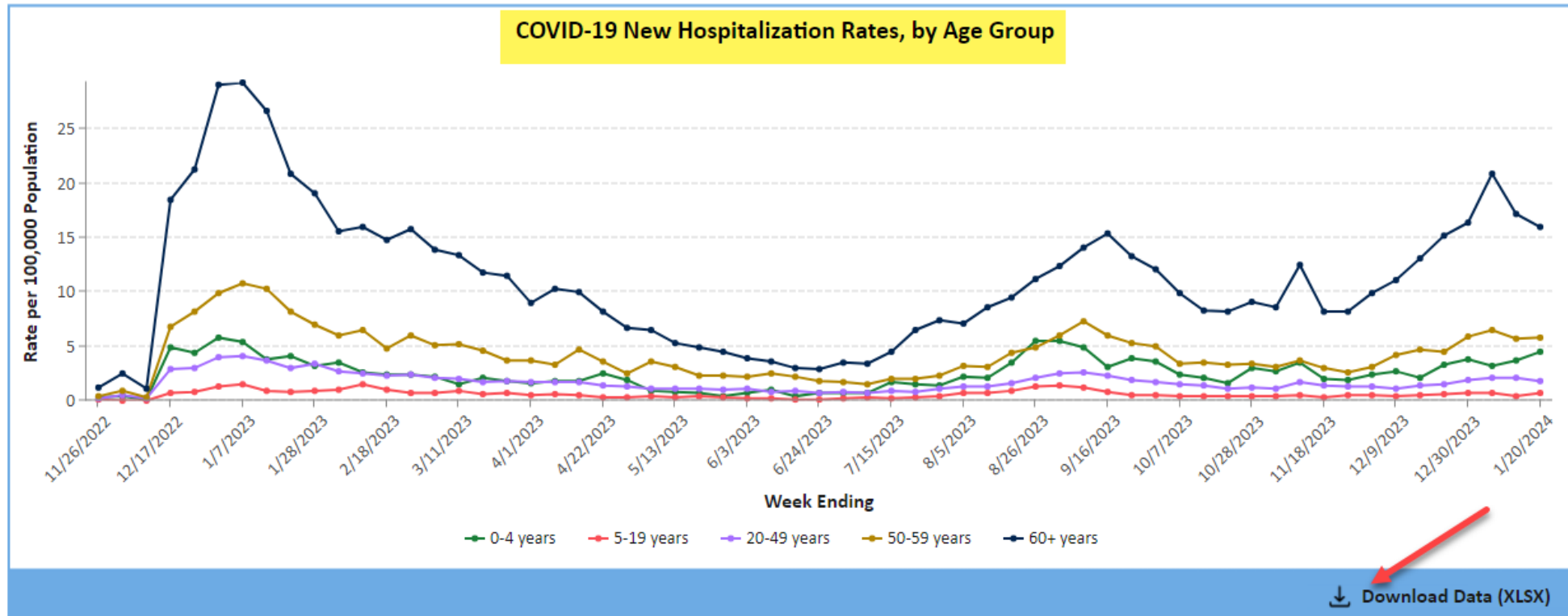
Contact [haitexas@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:haitexas@dshs.texas.gov) with questions.

Available at: [Hospitalizations | Texas Respiratory Illnesses Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](#), accessed January 30, 2024

# Texas Hospitalizations - COVID-19 and Influenza

## COVID-19 New Hospitalization Rates, by Age Group

Control the display of each age group by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.



New hospitalization rates among people with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 per 100,000 people are presented per age group.

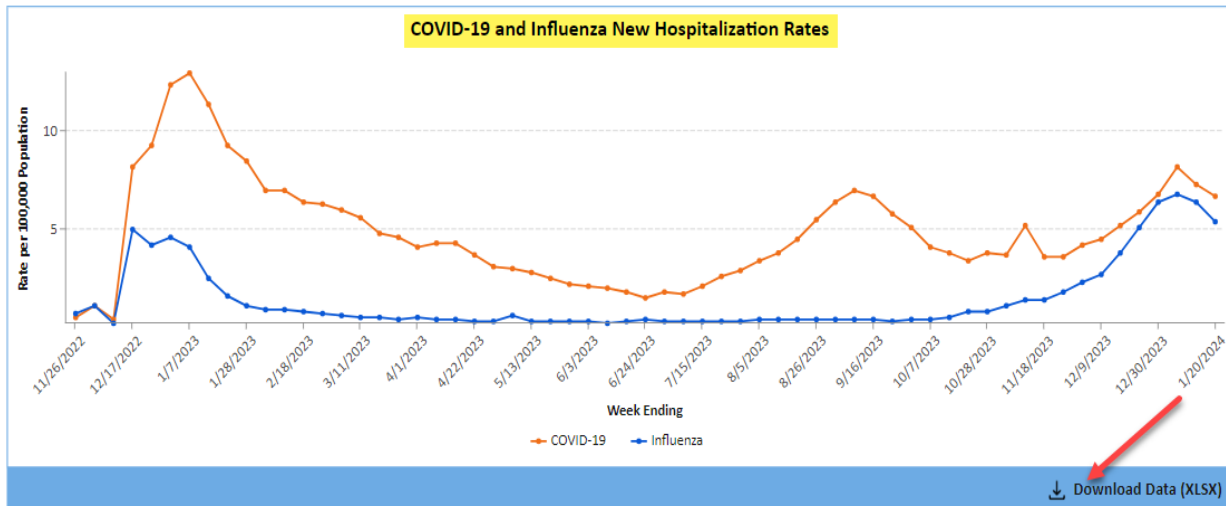
Available at: [Hospitalizations | Texas Respiratory Illnesses Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com/dashboard/Hospitalizations_Texas_Respiratory_Illnesses), accessed January 30, 2024

# Texas Hospitalizations - COVID-19 and Influenza

## COVID-19 and Influenza New Hospitalization Rates

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information. Control the display of each respiratory illness by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.

Select a Geography:



New hospitalization rates among people with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or influenza per 100,000 people are presented for COVID-19 and influenza for all ages. See CDC COVID-19 and Influenza Hospitalization Rates Data Notes for methods.

## COVID-19 and Influenza Hospitalization Rates Filter

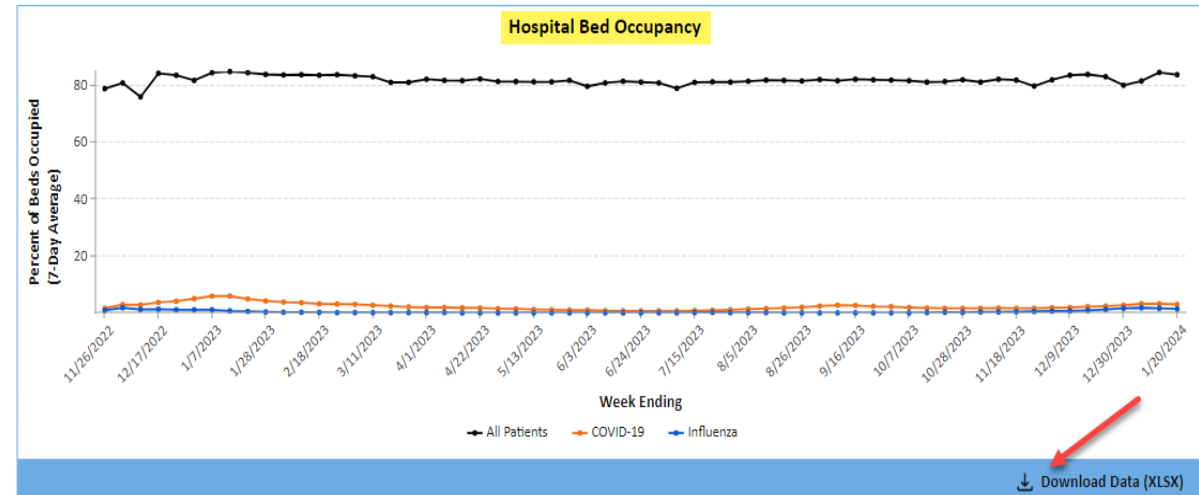
- Public Health Region

## Hospital Bed Occupancy

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information. Control the display of each patient category by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.

Select a Geography:

Select a Bed Type:



Hospital bed occupancy rates among people with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or influenza per 100,000 people are presented for inpatient care units and intensive care units. See CDC COVID-19 and Influenza Hospitalization Rates Data Notes for methods.

## Hospital Bed Occupancy Filters

- Public Health Region
- Bed type
  - Inpatient
  - ICU

# Texas Viral Respiratory Deaths COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV



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Texas Respiratory Illness Interactive Dashboard

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[Viral Respiratory Deaths](#)

[DSHS Website](#)

## Texas Viral Respiratory Deaths for COVID-19, Influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Provides an update on trends for deaths related to viral respiratory illnesses (COVID-19, influenza, and RSV).

### Update

- The percent of viral respiratory deaths among all deaths for the week ending January 6 was 3.9%. The percent of deaths associated with COVID-19 and influenza increased compared to the previous week, while RSV deaths remained stable.
- In Texas, the percent of total deaths due to COVID-19, influenza, and RSV are highest among those 65+ years.

Page last updated: Friday, January 19, 2024

[Vital Statistics Services](#) (VSS) manages the registration of all vital events in Texas and the [Center for Health Statistics](#) (CHS) manages and disseminates the data. Death data are based on a subset of variables collected on the Texas Certificate of Death.

Contact [chiefstateepidemiologist@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:chiefstateepidemiologist@dshs.texas.gov) with questions.

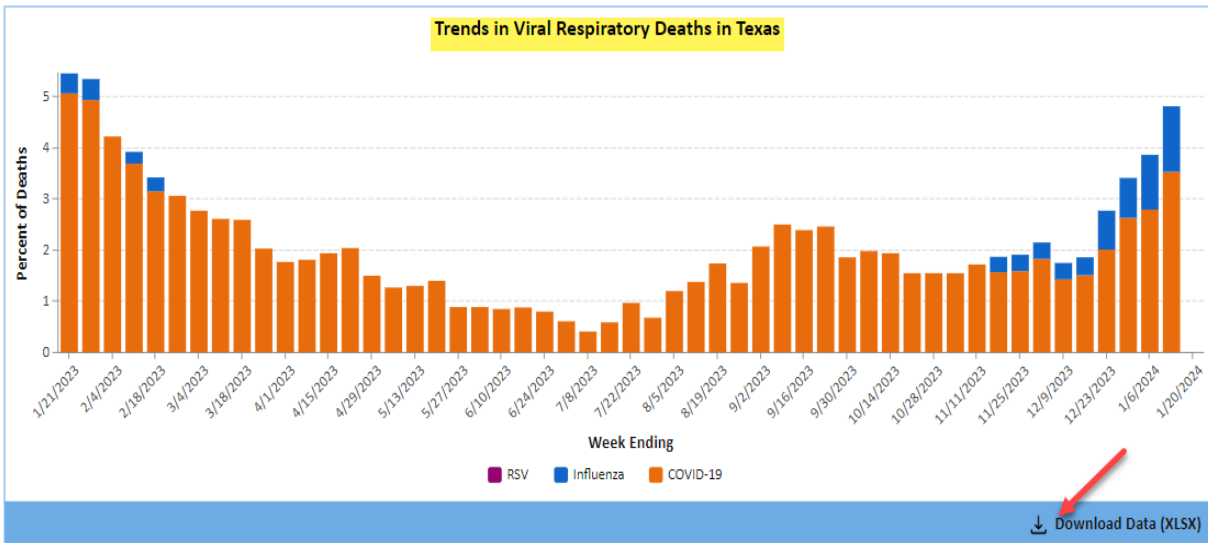
Available at: [Viral Respiratory Deaths | Texas Respiratory Illnesses Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](#), accessed January 30, 2024

# Texas Viral Respiratory Deaths COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV

## Trends in Viral Respiratory Deaths in Texas

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information. Only 100 weeks of data can be displayed at one time. Control the display of each respiratory illness by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.

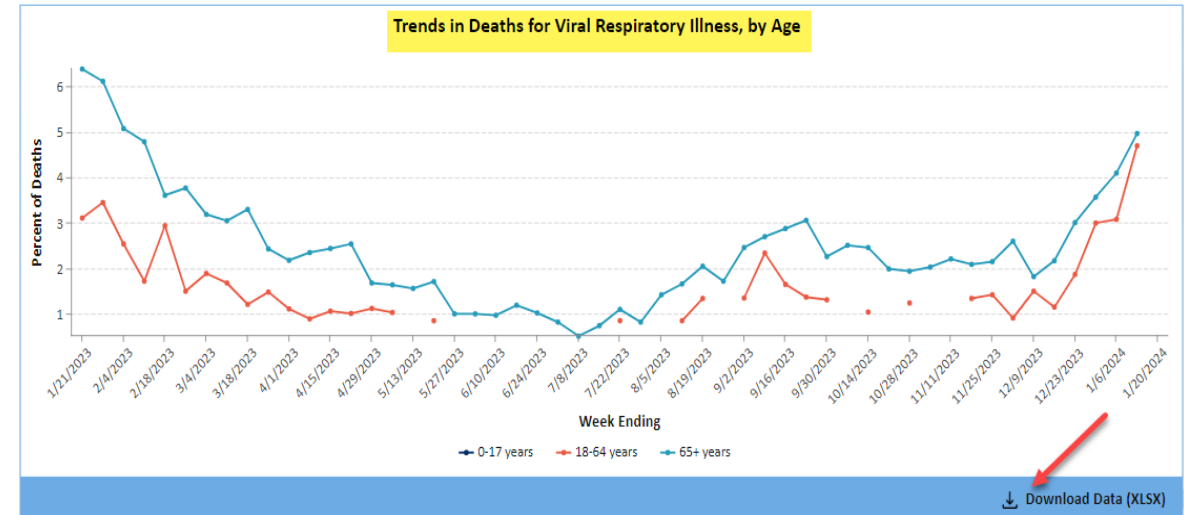
Select a Date Range:  
 and



## Trends in Deaths for Viral Respiratory Illness, by Age

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information. Only 100 weeks of data can be displayed at one time. Control the display of each age group by clicking on the legend items to add or remove them from the graph.

Select a Date Range:  
 and



Available at: [Viral Respiratory Deaths | Texas Respiratory Illnesses Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com), accessed January 30, 2024



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# **Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report**

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# Texas Viral Respiratory Weekly Surveillance Report

- Effective January 19, 2024, DSHS is combining the weekly Influenza (Flu), Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and COVID-19 surveillance reports into one report.
- The combined report is titled, **Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report** and can be found [here](#)
- The report includes three sections: Flu, RSV, and COVID-19.
- Each section contains the **same information** that was previously in the individual disease surveillance reports.
- The report will be updated weekly every Friday.
- A frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the report is available on the website and [here](#)
- If not already subscribed, please sign up to receive the updates [here](#).

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Services Health & Wellness Diseases & Conditions Business & Compliance Data & Case Reporting

Home / Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report

## Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology Section

**Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report**

Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology Data and Statistics >

Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology Data Requests

Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology Health Practitioner Guidance and Training

Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology Mission and Overview of Related Branches

Emerging and Acute Infectious Disease (EAID) Unit >

Healthcare Safety Unit >

International Travel

School Communicable Disease Chart

Task Force on Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response

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## Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report

Respiratory viruses commonly cause illness such as [COVID-19](#), [Influenza \(Flu\)](#) and [Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\)](#), especially in the fall and winter. There are actions you can take to protect yourself and others. Learn about how to reduce your risk of getting sick from these viruses, and if they are spreading in your community.

- [Texas Respiratory Illness Interactive Dashboard](#)

The Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report as well as Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available in PDF format:

- [Current Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report](#) (PDF) January 14, 2024 - January 20, 2024 Report produced on 01/26/2024.
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) (PDF)

## Prevention & Control

There are actions you can take to protect yourself and others. Learn about how to reduce your risk of getting sick from these viruses, and if they are spreading in your community.

If you have symptoms:

- Stay **home**
- Get **tested**
- Seek **treatment**

Find additional information on prevention and control on the DSHS website about [COVID-19](#), [Flu](#) and [RSV](#).

## Respiratory Viruses Data Source

Respiratory pathogens data are based on providers submitting voluntary laboratory and syndromic information into various systems (ie. U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINET), National Respiratory

# New DSHS Respiratory Virus Report



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## Texas Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report 2023-2024 Season/ 2024 MMWR Week 04 (January 21, 2024 – January 27, 2024) Report produced on February 2, 2024

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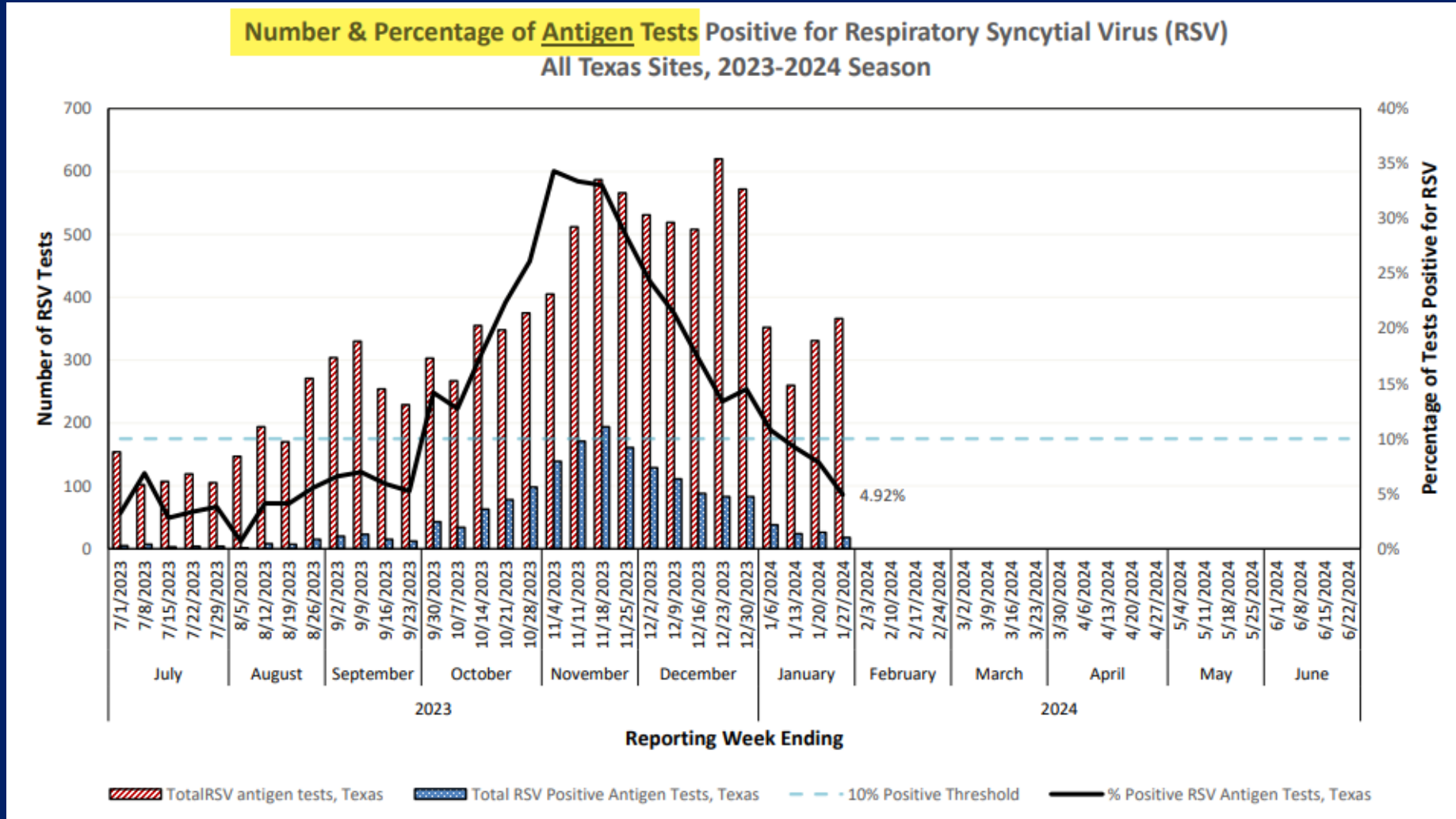
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# **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Surveillance Data**

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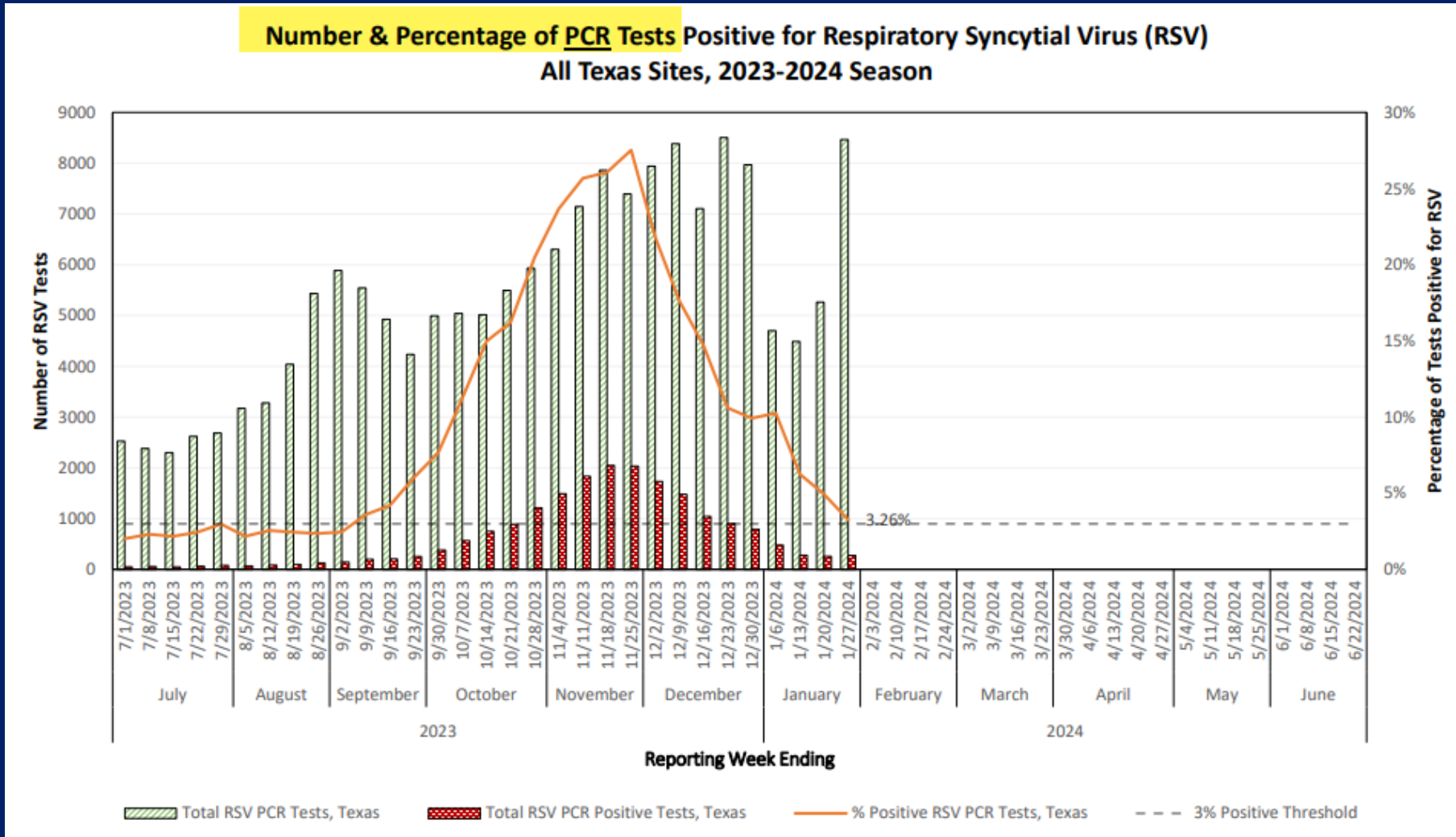
# RSV Surveillance

Number and Percent of **Antigen** Tests Positive for RSV in Texas, 2023-2024 Season, MMWR Week 04 (January 21, 2024 – January 27, 2024)



# RSV Surveillance

Number and Percent of **PCR** Tests Positive for RSV in Texas, 2023-2024 Season, MMWR Week 04 (January 21, 2024 – January 27, 2024)







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# **RSV Immunization Update**

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# 2023 - 2024 Nirsevimab Roll Out

Ordering Dates	Date Shipments Began
Oct. 30 to Nov. 1	Nov. 6
Nov. 13 to Nov. 15	Nov. 28
Dec. 4 to Dec. 6	Dec. 13
Dec. 18 to Dec. 20	Jan. 2 (100mg only)
Jan. 2 to Jan. 4	Jan. 16 (100mg only)
Jan. 16 to Jan. 18	Jan. 23
Jan. 29 to Jan. 31	Feb. 6

- Open ordering starts Monday 12 February 2024
- Remaining amounts
  - Beyfortus RSV 50 mg (5 Pack) - 7345
  - Beyfortus RSV 100 mg (5 Pack) - 1765
  - Total - 9110 for both presentations



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# RSV Doses Distributed to Texas (As of January 29, 2024)

Nirsevimab Presentation	Pre-Allocation Doses Distributed* (Prior October 13th, 2023)	1 <sup>st</sup> CDC Doses Allocated	2 <sup>nd</sup> CDC Doses Allocated	3 <sup>rd</sup> CDC Doses Allocated	4 <sup>th</sup> CDC Doses Allocated	5 <sup>th</sup> CDC Doses Allocated	6 <sup>th</sup> CDC Doses Allocated
50mg	16,865	7,000	12,300	9,865	0	0	11,695
100mg	20,270	0	490	0	9,950	2,785	5,555
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,135</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>12,790</b>	<b>9,865</b>	<b>9,950</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>17,250</b>



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# RSV Vaccine for Pregnant Women (Abrysvo)

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- January 17, 2024 – DSHS halted Abrysvo ordering for current RSV season.
- January 31, 2024 – The last day CDC recommends Abrysvo be administered for the 2023-2024 season.
- February 1, 2024 – Remaining Abrysvo doses may be kept at refrigerator temperature for the following RSV season unless doses are expired.
- TBD 2024 – Abrysvo ordering will resume in late 2024 in Vaccine Allocation and Ordering System (VAOS) for next RSV season.
- Additional information on the seasonality of this vaccine is available from the [CDC's RSV vaccination page](#). Prescribing information is available at [Abrysvo™ prescribing information](#).



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# **Updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 Vaccines**

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# Updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 Vaccines

- DSHS offers the following COVID-19 vaccines through the Texas Vaccines for Children Program (TVFC) and the Adult Safety Net Program (ASN).

## TVFC COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 Moderna 6 months-11 years  
COVID-19 Pfizer 6 months-4 years  
COVID-19 Pfizer 5 years-11 years  
COVID-19 Spikevax 12+ years  
COVID-19 Novavax 12+ years  
\*COVID-19 COMIRNATY 12+ years (PFS)

## ASN COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 Spikevax 12+ years  
COVID-19 Novavax 12+ years  
\*COVID-19 COMIRNATY 12+ years (PFS)

\* COVID-19 COMIRNATY (PFS) CDC transition from single dose vial to Pre-Filled Syringe on Dec 18, 2023



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# Updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 Vaccination Data Texas

Age Group	Number of Updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Administered* (September 12, 2023 – January 28, 2024)
6 months – 4 years	20,784
5-11 years	37,775
12-17 years	58,168
18-49 years	238,312
50-64 years	279,170
65+ years	540,492
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,174,701</b>

\*Data as of January 29, 2024, from Texas Immunization Registry



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**Thank you**

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