





Preparing for Respiratory Virus Season with CDPH and IDPH

August 27, 2025

House Keeping

- The webinar is being recorded. The slides and recording will be distributed to attendees after the webinar.
- Please submit questions through the Q&A feature.
- CME is not available.

Presenters:

- IDPH:
 - Jennifer Seo, MD, JD
 - IDPH Pediatric Medicine Medical Advisor
 - Karyn Lyons
 - IDPH Immunization Section Chief
- CDPH:
 - Stephanie Gretsch
 - CDPH Epidemiologist, Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Surveillance
 - o Alexander Sloboda, MD, MPH
 - CDPH Medical Director of Immunizations and Emergency Preparedness
 - Kevin Hansen
 - CDPH Vaccine Manager



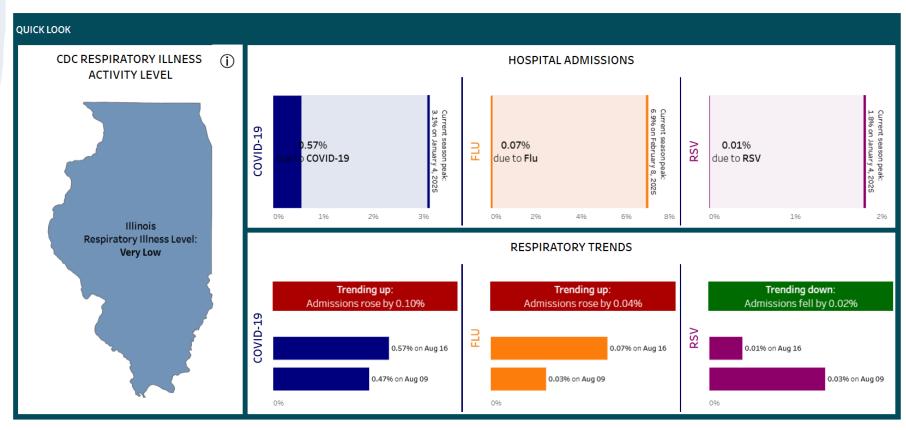
- Review of '24-'25 Respiratory Virus Season Data for Illinois and Chicago.
- '25-'26 Flu Vaccine Recommendations.
- Current Landscape of '25-'26 COVID-19 Vaccine Policies and Recommendations.
- Potential Access Implications Related to Changes in Federal Vaccine Policy.
- Respiratory Virus Vaccine Ordering for Illinois and Chicago.

IDPH Seasonal Respiratory Illness Dashboard

HOME Hospital Visits Affected Ages Seasonal Trends Lab Data Outbreaks ICU Admits Mortality

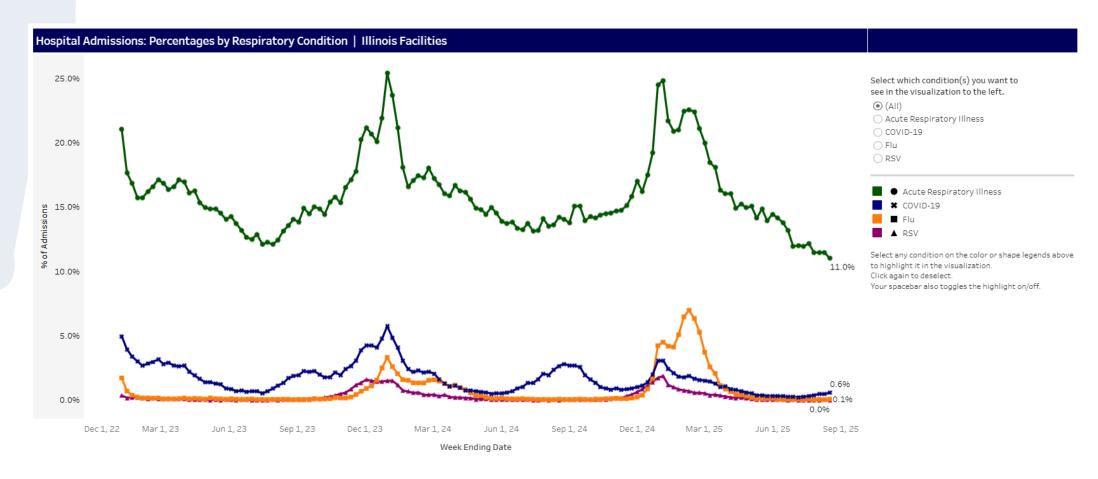
A Snapshot of Respiratory Surveillance in Illinois

from August 10, 2025 to August 16, 2025



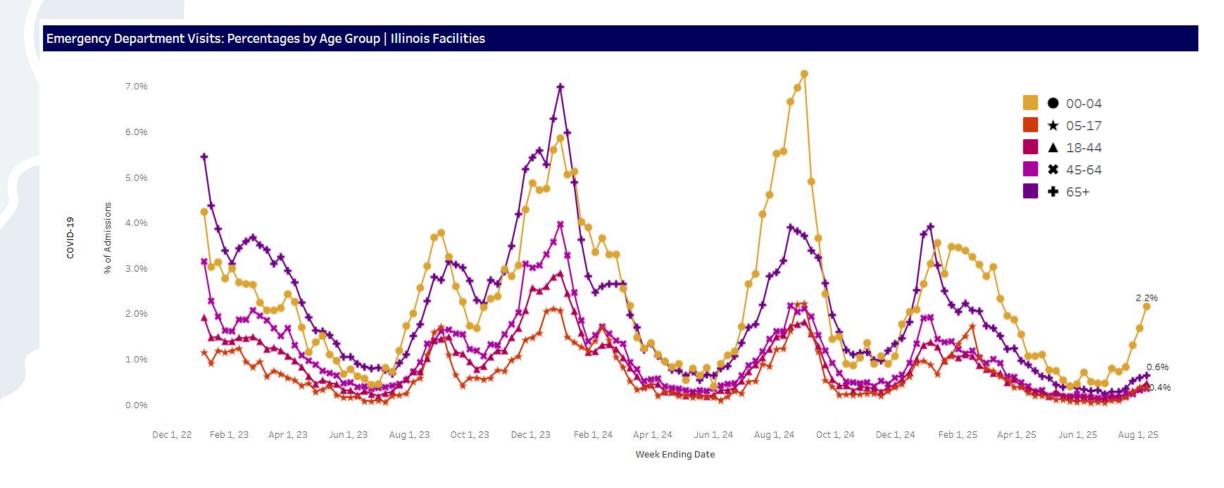


Combined *acute respiratory illness* hospital admissions in the '24-'25 season were modestly lower than '23-'24. *Influenza* admissions were significantly higher.



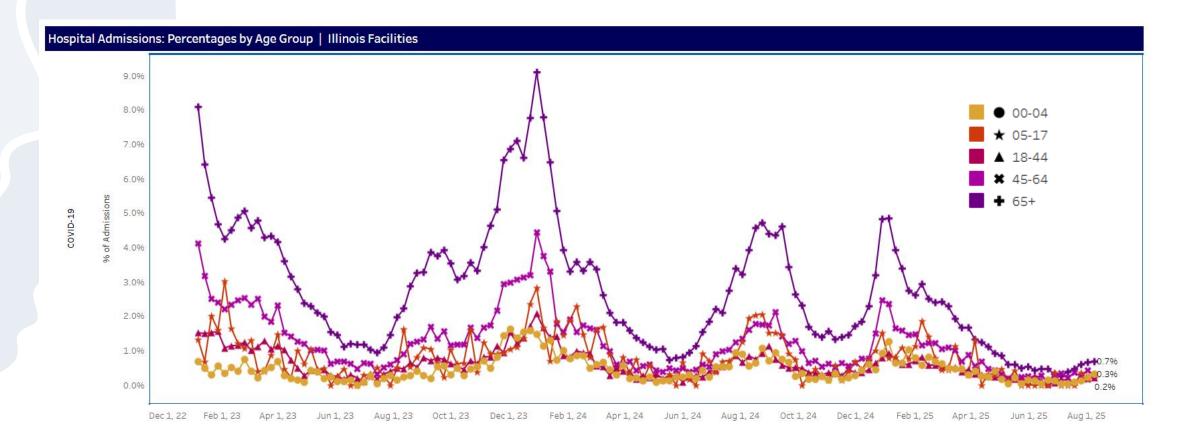


Percentage of Emergency Department Visits for COVID-19 by Age Group



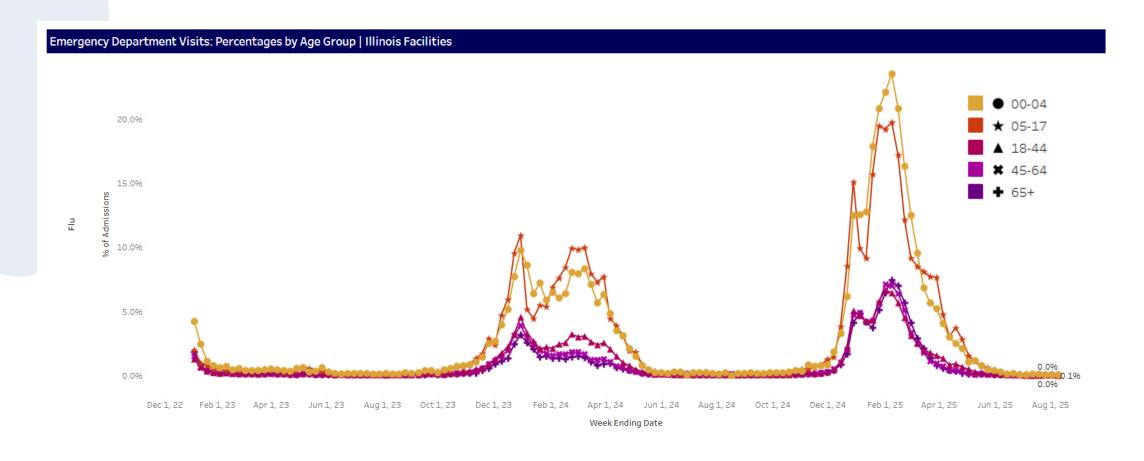


Percentage of Hospital Admissions for COVID-19 by Age Group



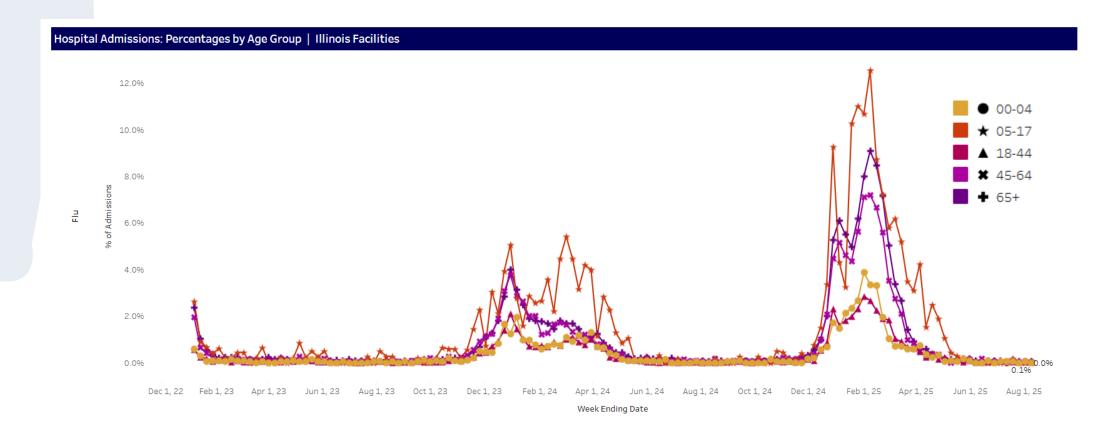


Percentage of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza by Age Group



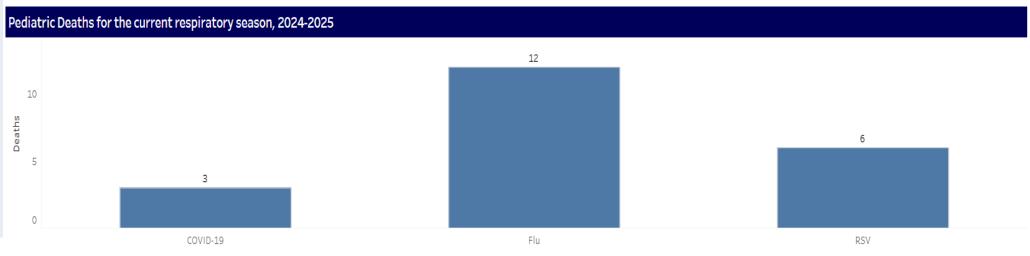


Percentage of Hospital Admissions for Influenza by Age Group





Pediatric Deaths During the 2024-2025 Respiratory Virus Season

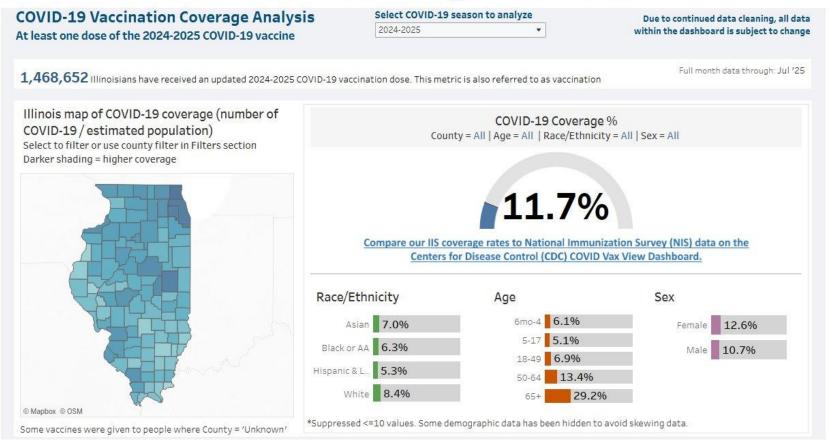


Pediatric mortality numbers for COVID-19, flu and RSV for the full respiratory year (9/29/2024 - 9/27/2025)



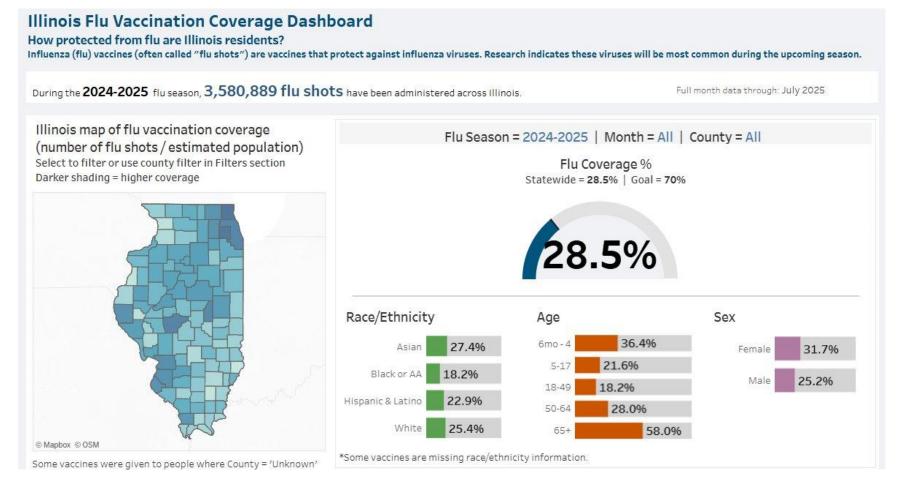
COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage 2024-2025 Season

COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Dashboard





Influenza Vaccination Coverage 2024-2025 Season

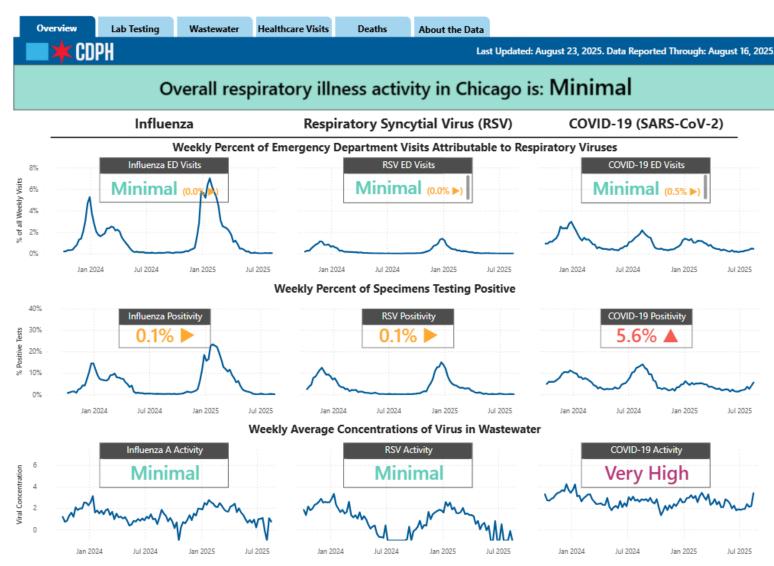




Chicago Respiratory Illness Dashboard

chicago.gov/respiratorydashboard





Chicago Respiratory Illness Dashboard

chicago.gov/respiratorydashboard

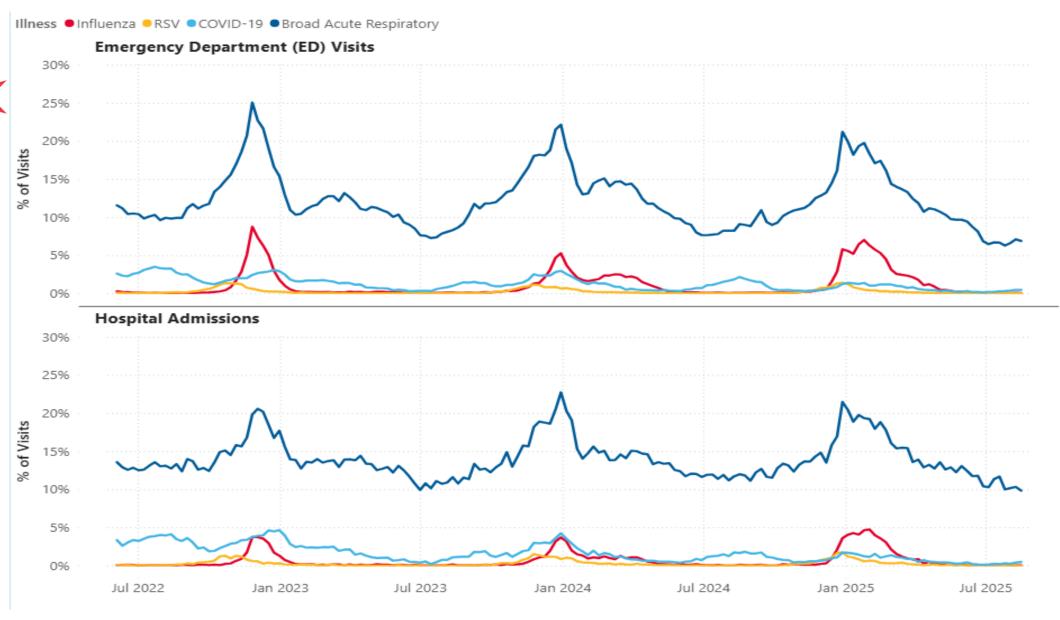


Weekly Surveillance Summary

Key Points, updated 8/22/2025

- ★ Overall acute respiratory illness activity level in Chicago remains Minimal, but COVID-19 activity continues to rise. COVID-19 lab positivity, hospital admissions, and wastewater activity have all been increasing. National data ② also suggest epidemic growth in Illinois and across the country.
- * ED visits, hospitalizations, and ICU admissions for flu, RSV, and COVID-19 remain low across all age groups. Hospital admissions for COVID-19, especially among older adults, have been increasing since the beginning of August.
- * COVID-19 test positivity continues to increase and is currently 5.5%. This is the highest level since January 2025. Test positivity rates for flu and RSV are unchanged and remain low.
- ★ Overall wastewater concentrations for COVID-19 have increased from Minimal to Very High; this increase was primarily driven by a high viral concentration detected in a sewershed serving the Loop and near South Side. RSV concentrations remain Minimal. Flu A concentrations decreased from Low to Minimal and Flu B concentrations increased from Minimal to Low.
- ★ Parvovirus B19 activity has been increasing in Chicago and across the US. For information and guidance, see the July 10 Health Alert ♂.

Create a profile at chicagohan.org to receive weekly email updates during the respiratory season



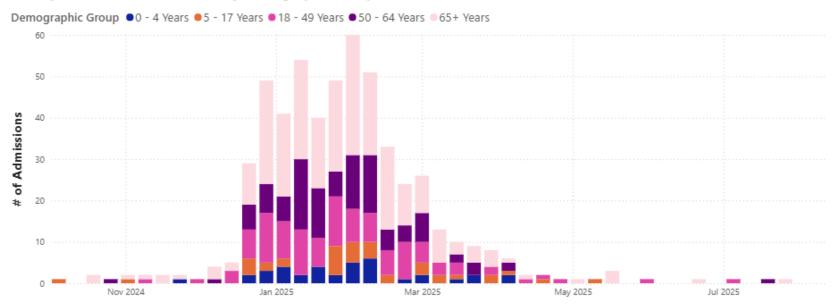




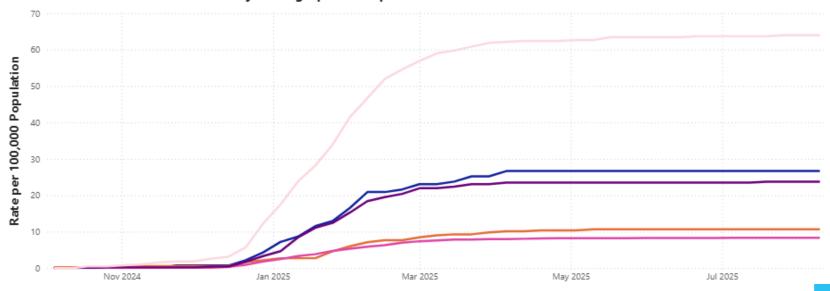
Influenza ICU Admissions by Age Group during 2425

Highest rate of ICU admissions was among seniors 65 years and older followed by young children <5 years.

Weekly Count of ICU Admissions by Demographic Group



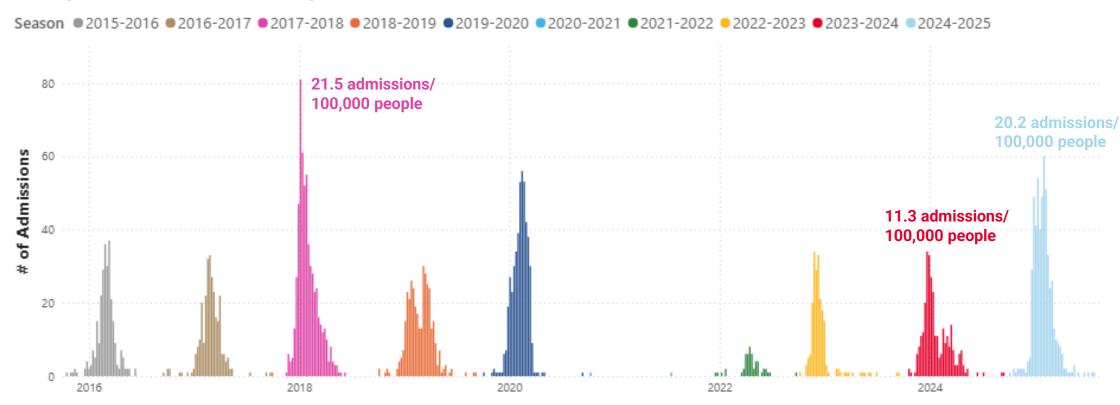
Cumulative Rate of ICU Admissions by Demographic Group





2nd highest rate of influenza-related ICU admissions in Chicago in the last 10 years

Weekly Count of ICU Admissions by Disease

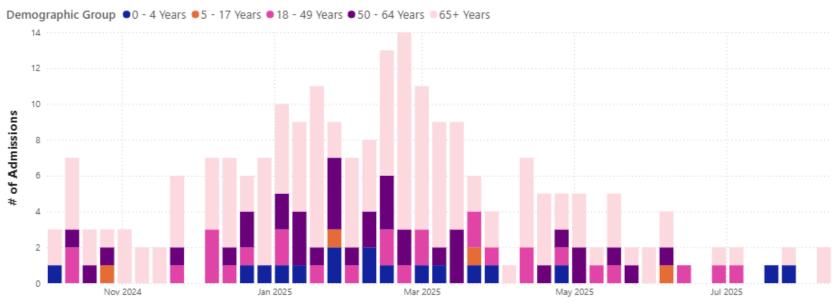




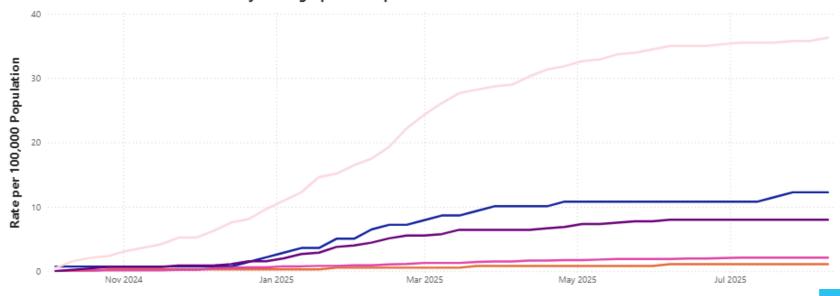
COVID-19 ICU Admissions by Age Group during 24-25

Highest rate of ICU admissions was among seniors 65 years and older followed by young children <5 years.

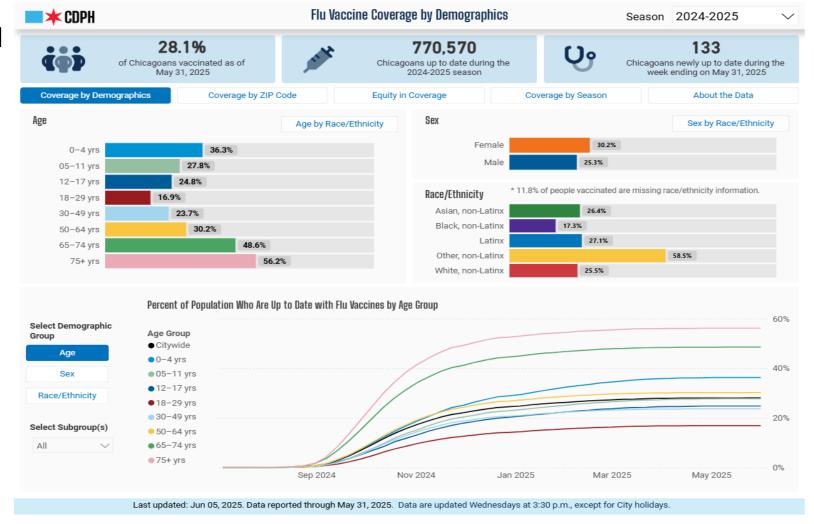
Weekly Count of ICU Admissions by Demographic Group



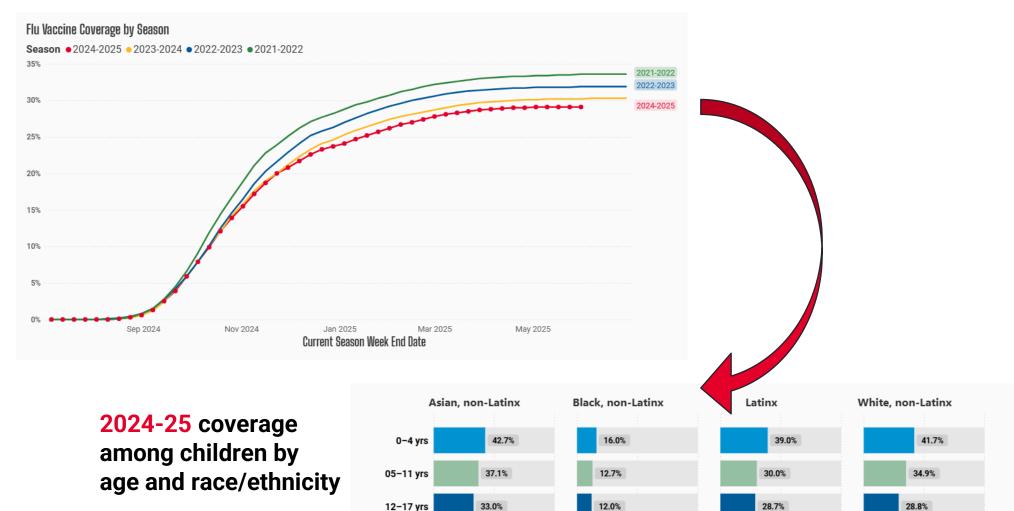
Cumulative Rate of ICU Admissions by Demographic Group



Flu Vaccination Dashboard chicago.gov/flu



Declines in pediatric (<18 yrs) flu vaccination coverage in Chicago over the past 4 seasons



COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard

chicago.gov/covid





25-26 Influenza Vaccine Recommendations



25-26 Flu Vaccine Recommendations

- ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) met June 25-26 and reaffirmed routine annual influenza vaccination for all persons 6 months and older.
- In March of 2025, the FDA recommended, trivalent seasonal flu vaccines include:
 - 2 flu A subtype viruses (H1N1 and H3N2).
 - 1 flu type B virus (B/Victoria lineage).

Seasonal Influenza Vaccines

ACIP reaffirms the recommendations for routine annual influenza vaccination of all persons aged ≥ 6 months who do not have contraindications for the 2025-2026 season.

ACIP recommends only single-dose formulations of annual influenza vaccines that are free of thimerosal as a preservative for three populations:

- Children 18 years or younger
- Pregnant women
- All adults



X Pediatric Recommendations

- Children 6 months-8 years who have not received at least 2 doses of flu vaccine prior to 7/1/2025, will need:
 - o 2 doses this season.
 - Separated by at least 4 weeks.

Influenza vaccination

(minimum age: 6 months [IIV3], 2 years [LAIV3], 9 years (recombinant influenza vaccine, RIV3))

Routine vaccination

- · Use any influenza vaccine appropriate for age and health status annually:
- · Age 6 months-8 years who have received fewer than 2 influenza vaccine doses before July 1, 2025, or whose influenza vaccination history is unknown: 2 doses, separated by at least 4 weeks. Administer dose 2 even if the child turns 9 years between receipt of dose 1 and dose 2.
- Age 6 months—8 years who have received at least 2. influenza vaccine doses before July 1, 2025: 1 dose.
- Age 9 years or older: 1 dose.
- Age 18 years solid organ transplant recipients receiving immunosuppressive medications: high-dose inactivated (HD-IIV3) and adjuvanted inactivated (aIIV3) influenza vaccines are acceptable options. No preference over other age-appropriate IIV3 or RIV3.
- For the 2025–2026 season, see the AAP recommendations at https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2025-073620.



X Special Situations/Reminders

- Live-Attenuated (LAIV3) Flumist
 - 2 years and older.
 - Several medical contraindications, including pregnancy and immunocompromised conditions.
 - Also, contraindicated for close contacts of severely immunosuppressed persons.
- Egg Allergy: not a contraindication for any flu vaccine formulation (egg-based or non-egg based).

Special situations

· Close contacts (eg, household contacts) of severely immunosuppressed persons who require a protected environment: should not receive LAIV3. If LAIV3 is given, they should avoid contact with, or caring for such immunosuppressed persons for 7 days after vaccination.

Note: Persons with an egg allergy can receive any influenza vaccine (egg-based or non-egg based) appropriate for age and health status.



25-26 COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendation landscape



FDA COVID-19 Vaccine Approvals

- 5/20/25: FDA leaders published a Sounding Board article in NEJM.
 - Mentioned a list of underlying medical **conditions** for increased risk of severe COVID-19 disease.
- 5/22/25: FDA's VRBPAC recommended monovalent JN.1lineage-based COVID-19 vaccines (2025-2026 Formula), preferentially using the LP.8.1 strain.
- 7/9/25: FDA gave full license approval to Moderna 24-25 formulation of **Spikevax** with underlying condition stipulations.

CDC 2025 List of Underlying Medical Conditions That Increase a Person's Risk of Severe Covid-19

Cancer

Hematologic malignancies

Cerebrovascular disease

Chronic kidney disease*

People receiving dialysis

Chronic lung diseases limited to the following:

Bronchiectasis

COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)

Interstitial lung disease

Pulmonary embolism

Pulmonary hypertension

Chronic liver diseases limited to the following:

Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease

Alcoholic liver disease

Autoimmune hepatitis

Cystic fibrosis

Diabetes mellitus, type 1

Diabetes mellitus, type 2*

Gestational diabetes

Disabilities ±, including Down's syndrome

Heart conditions (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies)

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus)

Mental health conditions limited to the following: Mood disorders, including depression Schizophrenia spectrum disorders

Neurologic conditions limited to dementia's and Parkinson's disease

Obesity (BMI ≥30 or ≥95th percentile in children)

Physical inactivity

Pregnancy and recent pregnancy

Primary immunodeficiencies

Smoking, current and former

Solid-organ or blood stem-cell transplantation

Use of corticosteroids or other immunosuppressive

^{*} Indicates presence of evidence for pregnant and nonpregnant women.

[‡] Underlying conditions for which there is evidence in pediatric



FDA 24-25 COVID-19 Vaccine License Approvals

STN: 125752

Proper Name: COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA

Tradename: SPIKEVAX

Manufacturer: Moderna Tx. Inc.

Indication:

• SPIKEVAX is a vaccine indicated for active immunization to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

· SPIKEVAX is approved for use in individuals who are:

o 65 years of age and older, or

o 6 months through 64 years of age with at least one underlying condition that puts them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19.

STN: 125817

Proper Name: COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted

Tradename: NUVAXOVID Manufacturer: Novavax, Inc.

Indication:

- · NUVAXOVID is a vaccine indicated for active immunization to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in adults 65 years and older.
- · NUVAXOVID is indicated for individuals 12 through 64 years who have at least one underlying condition that puts them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19.



CDC Change in COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

- 5/29/25: CDC updated their 2025 immunization schedules, including changes to COVID-19 vaccine recommendations:
 - NO guidance for pregnancy
 - "Shared Clinical Decision Making" for children 6 months to 17 years not moderately to severely immunocompromised.
 - No significant changes to adult recommendations, other than pregnancy.

Shared clinical decision-making

Ages 6 month -17 years who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised.

Shared clinical decision-making vaccinations are individually based and informed by a decision process between the health care provider and the patient or parent/guardian. Where the parent presents with a desire for their child to be vaccinated, children 6 months and older may receive COVID-19 vaccination, informed by the clinical judgment of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances. www.cdc. gov/acip/vaccine-recommendations/shared-clinical-decision-making.html



Table 1

Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for Ages 18 Years or Younger, United States, 2025

These recommendations must be read with the notes that follow. For those who fall behind or start late, provide catch-up vaccination at the earliest opportunity as indicated by the green bars. To determine minimum intervals between doses, see the catch-up schedule (Table 2).

Vaccine and other immunizing agents	Birth	1 mo	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	9 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	19-23 mos	2-3 yrs	4-6 yrs	7-10 yrs	11-12 yrs	13-15 yrs	16 yrs	17-18 yrs	
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV-mAb [Nirsevimab])	1 dose depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes)				1 dose (8 through 19 months), See Notes													
Hepatitis B (HepB)	1st dose ◄ 2nd d		dose▶		◄		3rd dose -											
Rotavirus (RV): RV1 (2-dose series), RV5 (3-dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose	See Notes													
Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP <7 yrs)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose			◄ 4th dose▶				5th dose						
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)			1st dose	2nd dose	See Notes		<a>3rd or 4 (See	th dose Notes)										
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV15, PCV20)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose		∢ 4th	dose▶										
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)			1st dose	2nd dose	◄		3rd dose -					4th dose					See Notes	
COVID-19 (1vCOV-mRNA, 1vCOV-aPS)						See Notes												

Moving from a recommendation that all children ages six months to 17 years of age and NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised receive 1 or more doses of the 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine to recommended vaccination based on shared clinical decision-making.



X Pending at Federal Level

- Still awaiting FDA license approvals for 25-26 COVID-19 vaccine formulations...
- Still awaiting ACIP/CDC 25-26 COVID-19 vaccine recommendations.
 - ACIP next schedule meeting is October 22-23, 2025.
 - There's a TBD ACIP meeting for August-September that is not yet scheduled...
 - Specify the list of underlying medical conditions for high risk of severe outcomes that would indicate COVID-19 vaccination.



AAP COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations for 2025

- All children ages 6-23 months should get vaccinated.
- For children ages 2-18 years, the AAP recommends a single dose of ageappropriate 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine regardless of vaccination status for those who
 - are at <u>high risk</u> of severe COVID-19,
 - o are residents of long-term care facilities or other congregate settings,
 - have never been vaccinated or
 - o have household contacts at high risk for severe COVID-19.
- Children not in one of these groups whose parent or guardian desires their protection from COVID-19 also should be offered a single dose of the updated vaccine.



Among vaccine-eligible children and adolescents ages 6 months—17 years, 41% of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations occurred among children ages 6—23 months.

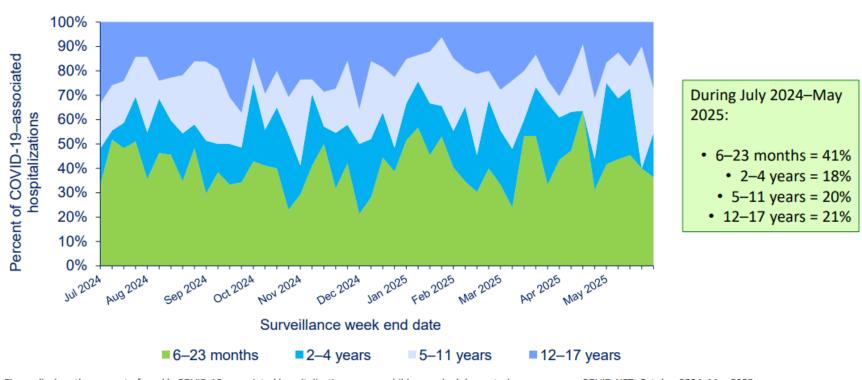


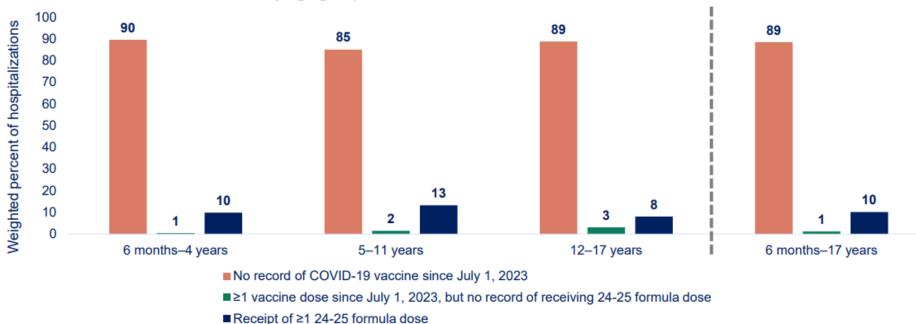
Figure displays the percent of weekly COVID-19—associated hospitalizations among children and adolescents, by age group — COVID-NET, October 2024—May 2025.



CDC. Current Epidemiology of COVID-19. June 25, 2025.

89% of COVID-19 vaccine-eligible children and adolescents who were hospitalized with COVID-19 had no record of receiving the most recently recommended COVID-19 vaccines.



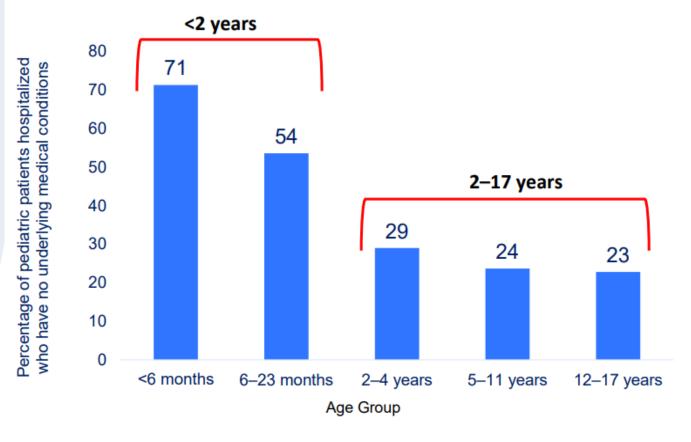


No record of COVID-19 vaccine since July 1, 2023: No recorded doses of any COVID-19 vaccine dose since July 1, 2023. ≥1 vaccine dose since July 1, 2023, but no 2024–2025 dose: Received at least one COVID-19 vaccination since July 1, 2023, but no record of receiving 2024-2025 vaccine dose. Receipt of ≥1 24-25 formula dose: Received at least 1 dose of the 2024-2025 vaccine dose. Persons with unknown vaccination status (6.4%) are excluded. Hospitalizations are limited to those with COVID-19 as the presenting complaint upon admission.



CDC. Current Epidemiology of COVID-19. June 25, 2025.

Proportion of children hospitalized for COVID-19 who had no underlying medical conditions

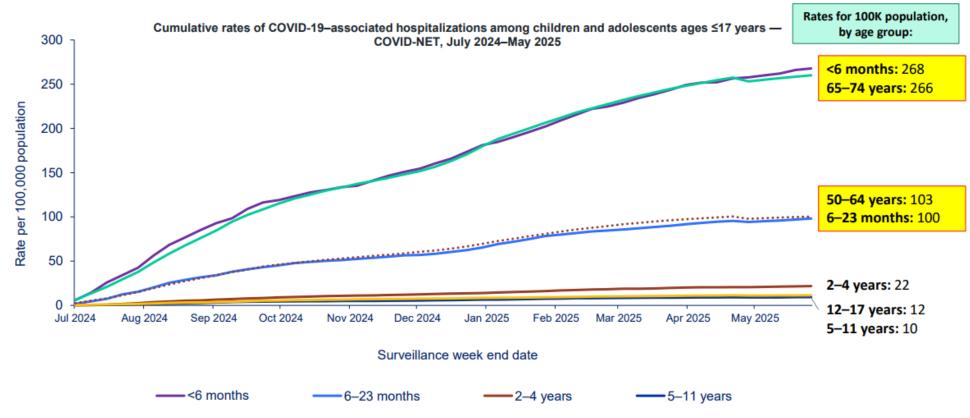


Most hospitalized children ages <2 years did not have any underlying medical condition.

Figure displays the weighted percent of children and adolescents hospitalized for COVID-19 with no underlying medical conditions, by age group — COVID-NET, April 2024—March 2025. Hospitalizations are limited to those with COVID-19 as the presenting complaint upon admission. Pregnant adolescents ages 15–17 years are excluded from proportions presented.



The youngest age groups have comparable rates of cumulative COVID-19-associated hospitalization to some adult age groups, but direct comparisons are challenging.

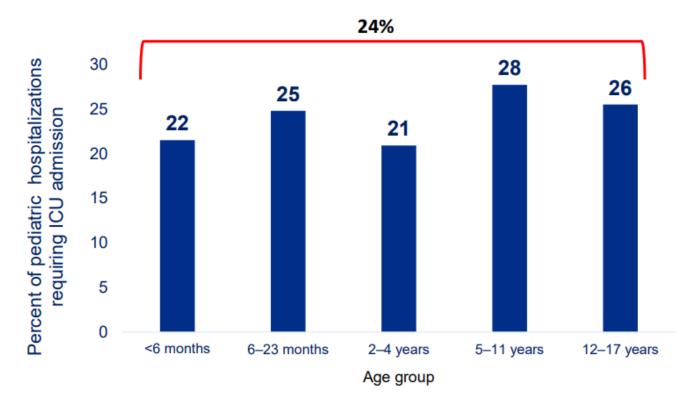


Note that rates are not adjusted for testing. Rates are not limited to admissions where the respiratory infection is the likely primary reason for admission.



CDC. Current Epidemiology of COVID-19. June 25, 2025.

~1 in 4 children ages <18 years in all age groups hospitalized for COVID-19 required ICU admission.



Percent of children and adolescents for COVID-19 who were admitted to the ICU, by age group — COVID-NET, April 2024–March 2025

Hospitalizations are limited to those with COVID-19 as the likely reason for admission. Pregnant adolescents ages 15–17 years are excluded from proportions presented.



CDC. Current Epidemiology of COVID-19. June 25, 2025.

ACOG Releases Updated Maternal Immunization Guidance for COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV

New guidance documents emphasize
vaccines as the best tool available
for pregnant patients to protect
themselves and their infants against severe
outcomes associated with these viruses.



ACOG Releases Updated

Maternal Immunization

Guidance for COVID-19,

Influenza, and RSV | ACOG.

August 22, 2025.



Current IDPH/CDPH Recommendations

- IDPH and CDPH will release updated COVID-19 vaccination guidance after review of recommendations from ACIP/CDC and professional organizations, as well as FDA approvals.
 - IDPH will seek recommendations from its Immunization Advisory Committee.
- Current Guidance
 - Children
 - Discuss COVID vaccination with all patients.
 - Continue to provide and ensure access to COVID vaccination for any parent/guardian who wants their child to receive the vaccine.
 - Pregnancy
 - Recommend that all pregnant people continue to receive COVID-19 vaccines.



Potential Insurance Coverage and Access Concerns

Potential Implications if ACIP Narrows or Withdraws Vaccine Recommendations

- Insurance could stop covering vaccines or add a cost-sharing component for groups no longer recommended.
- ➤ Federally-funded vaccines (e.g., VFC) may not be available for those outside updated ACIP guidance.
 - Federally-funded vaccine programs must follow ACIP recommendations.
- ★ Illinois Medicaid may be unable to get a federal match to cover vaccines given outside of ACIP recommendations.

Positive Outlook

- AHIP (national health insurance industry trade organization) has stated commitment to ongoing coverage of vaccines for this respiratory virus season.
- Federally-funded options could remain accessible under shared clinical decision-making recommendations.



Pharmacy Access for COVID-19 Vaccines

- Federal Prep Act authorizes pharmacists to order and administer FDA-authorized or licensed COVID-19 vaccines to individuals ages 3 and older.
 - Must follow ACIP recommendations.
- Under state law, Illinois pharmacists are authorized to vaccinate patients 7 years of age and older pursuant to a valid prescription or physician's standing order.
 - Eligible vaccines are those listed on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Recommended Immunization Schedule, the CDC's Health Information for International Travel, or the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Vaccines Licensed and Authorized for Use in the United States.
- Under state law, Illinois pharmacists are authorized to independently order and administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccines to patients 7 years of age and older.
 - Vaccinations must be done "as authorized, approved or licensed" by the FDA and following ACIP recommendations.



Illinois Pharmacy Practice Act PREP Act 12th Amendment

IDPH Vaccine Ordering Influenza Vaccines 2025-2026

- Ordering and Availability:
 - Influenza vaccines are now available for order through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) and *Adult Immunization Program (AIP).
 - o IDPH | 2025-2026 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Ordering
 - No shortages are anticipated at this time. Additional inventory will continue to arrive throughout the season.
- Expected Availability This Season (most are available now):
 - Afluria, Fluarix, Flucelvax, Flulaval, Fluzone, and FluMist.
- New for 2025:
 - Fluzone High-Dose and Fluad will now be available through VFC and AIP for eligible individuals aged 18–64 who are solid organ transplant recipients receiving immunosuppressive therapy.



IDPH Vaccine Ordering RSV for Older Adults and Pregnancy

- Ordering and Availability:
 - Adult RSV vaccines are now available for order through the *Adult Immunization Program (AIP).
 - o Order as a limited quantity order.
 - Due to budget constraints within Section 317, RSV vaccine availability may be limited. All orders are being carefully reviewed to make the best use of available funds.
- Available Brands:
 - Abrysvo for older adults and pregnancy
 - SDV + PFS kit available through August 31st
 - New NDC (Act-o-Vial) will be available Sept 1st
 - Arexvy for older adults
 - o mRESVIA for older adults anticipated availability beginning October 1st



IDPH Vaccine Ordering RSV mAb for Young Children

- Ordering and Availability:
 - Beyfortus (nirsevimab) is available now for order through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.
 - Limited Quantity Orders can currently be placed through I-CARE.
 - No shortages are anticipated. Additional inventory will continue to arrive every two weeks throughout the season.
- Available Brands:
 - Beyfortus (nirsevimab) available now
 - o Enflonsia (clesrovimab) anticipated availability in the coming months
 - CDC Director adopted ACIP's recommendation in August 2025



IDPH Vaccine Ordering COVID-19 Vaccines 2025-2026

- Ordering and Availability:
 - 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccines doses are not yet available.
 - COVID-19 vaccines are anticipated to be available for ordering after the ACIP meeting.
 - The ACIP website indicates a meeting is planned for "August/September" (dates TBD), likely to include a COVID-19 vaccine vote.
 - Vaccines are expected to be available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) and *Adult Immunization Program (AIP).
- Anticipated brand availability:
 - Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, and Novavax, pending ACIP recommendations.
 - New: The CDC has notified VFC Programs that the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for young children may not receive FDA EUA approval. Moderna expects to be able to supply enough product for this age group.



*AIP program participation is available to all LHDs, FQHCs, and RHCs.

X Chicago VFC Ordering for flu is open

- VFC Chicago providers can place orders for seasonal influenza through the I-CARE system as they would with any VFC order. Currently the following formulations are available for order:
 - Fluarix 0.50 mL syringes
 - Flucelvax 0.50 mL syringes
 - Flulaval .50 mL syringes
 - Fluzone .50 mL syringes
- FluMist should be added to the VFC Chicago formulary options in the next few weeks.
- Providers should order enough flu stock to cover the next 30-45 days. You can place next orders as needed.



Chicago VFC Ordering for Maternal, Pediatric RSV is open

- Abrysvo SDV is currently available through the VFC formulary in I-CARE. Order increments are 1 dose or more. Please order doses only when you have a patient in care who is approaching the vaccination window of 32-26 weeks of gestation.
 - Maternal RSV season opens 9/1/25 and closes 1/31/26
- Beyfortus (nirsevimab) 50 and 100 mg formulations are also currently available for order through the VFC formulary in I-CARE. Please prioritize getting babies born since the last RSV season vaccinated as soon as the new pediatric RSV season opens.
 - Pediatric RSV season opens 10/1/25 and closes 3/31/25
 - Please examine any doses of Beyfortus currently in stock Reach out to chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org if you are not confident of being able to use all doses.
- Enflonsia (clesrovimab) anticipated availability in the coming months. Will be added to the Chicago VFC formulary when it is available



X Chicago VFC Ordering for COVID is pending

- 2025–26 COVID-19 vaccines doses are not yet available for order.
- Doses for the 2024-25 are not available any longer for order through VFC Chicago. Valid doses in your stock may continue to be used if clinically warranted.
- COVID-19 vaccines are anticipated to be available for ordering after the ACIP meeting planned for August or September.
- Formulations will be added to the Chicago VFC formulary when they become available.
- Anticipated brand availability:
 - Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, and Novavax, pending ACIP recommendations.
 - Pfizer likely will not be producing their 6mo-4yr formulation this season.



Chicago Adult Vaccine Ordering Survey for Flu/COVID

- Chicago FQHCs and other Adult vaccination partners may begin requesting 317 and CDPH Adult Vaccine doses of both flu and COVID vaccines.
- These doses can be used for adults 19 years and older who are uninsured, underinsured, publicly insured, or other significant barriers to vaccination.
- Flu requests will be allocated and orders placed in mid to late September when doses are available to us.
- COVID doses will follow suit when they are available to us.
- 2025-2026 Flu and COVID-19 Prebook Survey



Questions?



CONTACT US:



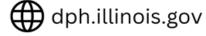














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