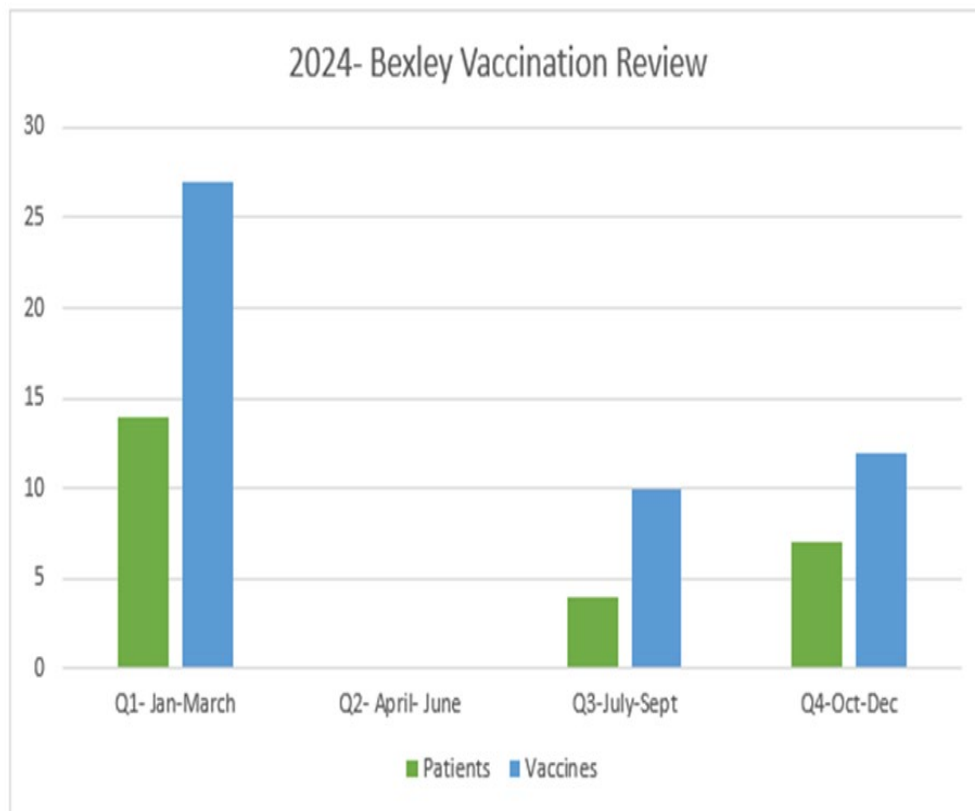




Bexley Immunization Data

From October 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024, a total of 12 vaccinations were administered at the Franklin County Public Health Clinic to 7 clients residing in Bexley. Of these, 5 were the updated COVID-19 vaccine.

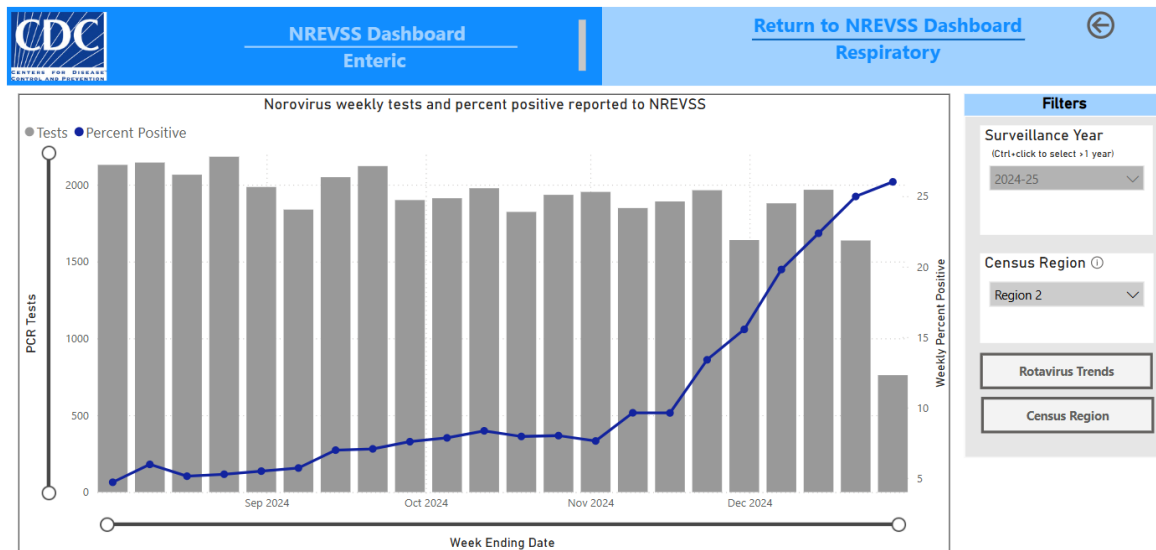


Bexley Maternal and Child Health Data

From October 1, 2024-December 31, 2024, public health nurses provided comprehensive case management services to 21 families of children with complex medical conditions residing in Bexley.

Infectious Disease Section

Increase in Norovirus Activity within US



Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/nrevss/php/dashboard/index.html>

- Surveillance data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show an increase in norovirus outbreaks across the United States.
- According to the CDC's National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System, 22% of norovirus tests returned positive results for the week ending December 21, a figure higher than typical for this time of year.
- Norovirus, a highly contagious virus, causes sudden gastrointestinal symptoms. It is the leading cause of vomiting and diarrhea in the U.S., with an estimated 19 to 21 million illnesses and 2,500 outbreaks annually. Additionally, it is the primary cause of foodborne illness. While outbreaks can occur year-round, they are most prevalent between November and April.
- The CDC's data, released earlier this week, revealed 16 reported norovirus outbreaks on cruise ships in 2024, including 5 in December, which affected 890 passengers and crew.
- Norovirus outbreaks generally spread when infected individuals transmit the virus through direct contact or by sharing contaminated food, water, or surfaces. Hospitals, restaurants, schools, childcare centers, and cruise ships are common locations for these outbreaks.
- For more information on Norovirus, visit [CDC's Norovirus page](#).
Source: [CIDRAP](#).



Current U.S. Bird Flu Situation in Humans

- Sporadic infections of highly pathogenic avian influenza A(H5N1) in mammals have been reported in the United States, Canada, and other countries. However, the overall risk to the general public remains low.
- The H5 bird flu is circulating widely in wild birds globally and is causing outbreaks in U.S. poultry and dairy cows, with several recent human cases among U.S. dairy workers.
- To date, only four human infections with low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) A(H7N2) viruses, which caused mild-to-moderate illness, have been reported in the United States.

The Current Risk to the General Public is Low

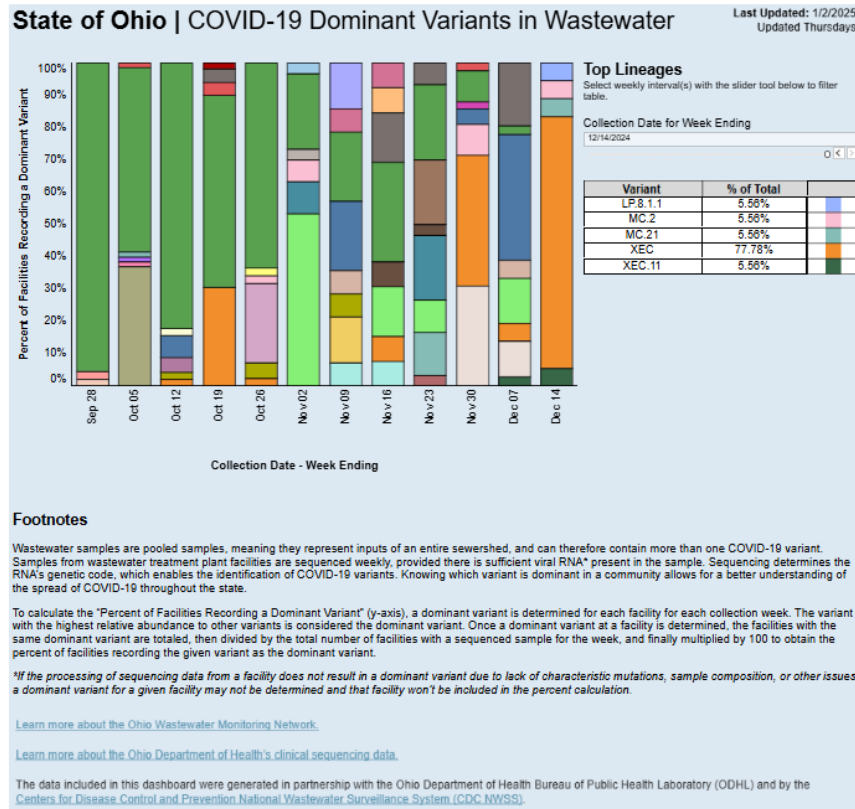
- The detections of H5 viruses in wild birds, poultry, some mammals, and in two people in the United States do not change the risk to the general public's health, which CDC considers to be low. However, due to outbreaks in domestic commercial and backyard poultry flocks, and infections in wild birds and some mammals, some groups of people with job-related or recreational exposures to birds or other H5 virus-infected animals are at greater risk of infection. People with job-related or recreational exposures to birds or infected mammals should take appropriate precautions to protect against bird flu.
- Due to widespread circulation of A(H5N1) virus in wild birds and poultry and sporadic infections in mammals, additional sporadic human cases would not be surprising.
- Right now, the H5N1 bird flu situation remains primarily an animal health issue. However, CDC is watching this situation closely and taking routine preparedness and prevention measures in case this virus changes to pose a greater human health risk.
- Signals that could raise the public health risk include multiple, simultaneous reports of human infections with A(H5N1) viruses following exposure to birds or other animals, or identification of spread from one infected person to another.
- No known human-to-human spread has occurred with the contemporary A(H5N1) viruses that are currently circulating in birds in the United States and globally. In other countries, sporadic human cases of human infections with the A(H5N1) viruses most common in birds globally have been reported since 2022, mostly following exposure to infected poultry. During past A(H5N1) bird flu virus outbreaks that have occurred in poultry globally, human infections were rare. Globally since 2003, 23 countries have reported rare, sporadic human infections with A(H5N1) bird flu viruses to the World Health Organization (WHO). Monthly case counts are available on the [WHO website](#).
- The spread of bird flu viruses from one infected person to a close contact has occurred rarely in other countries in the past, and when it has happened, it has been limited and not sustained, and did not spread beyond close contacts.

Source: [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/)

COVID-19 Update

The next FCPH COVID-19 quarterly report will be released on Friday, January 31, 2025. The previous report, dated October 31, 2024, can be found at <https://vax2normal.org/>.

Wastewater surveillance indicates that variant XEC has been the most prevalent variant in Ohio over the past two weeks.

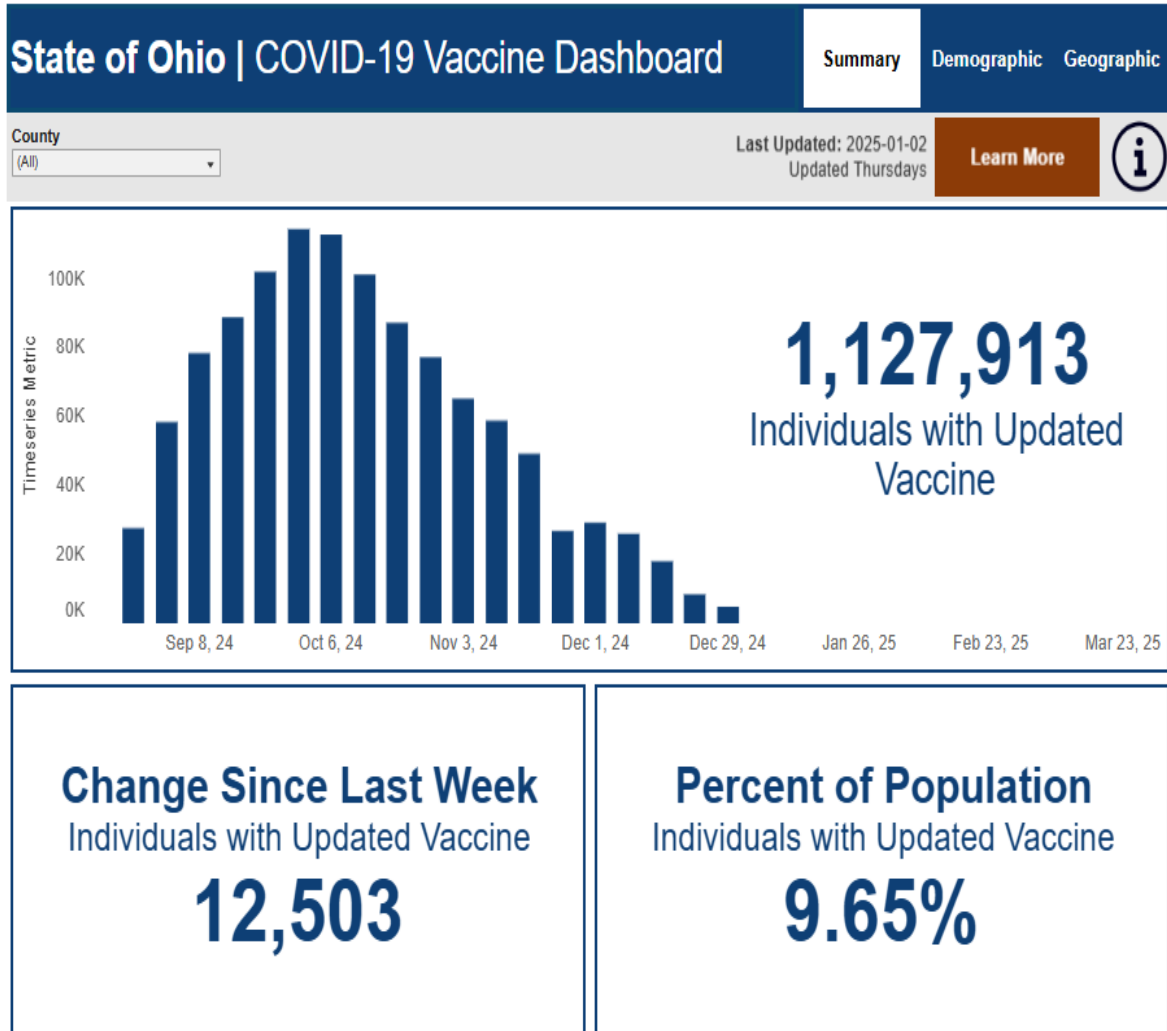


Source: <https://data.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/data/view/covid-19-reporting>



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For additional information on COVID-19 vaccine and wastewater data, please visit the [Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard](#).



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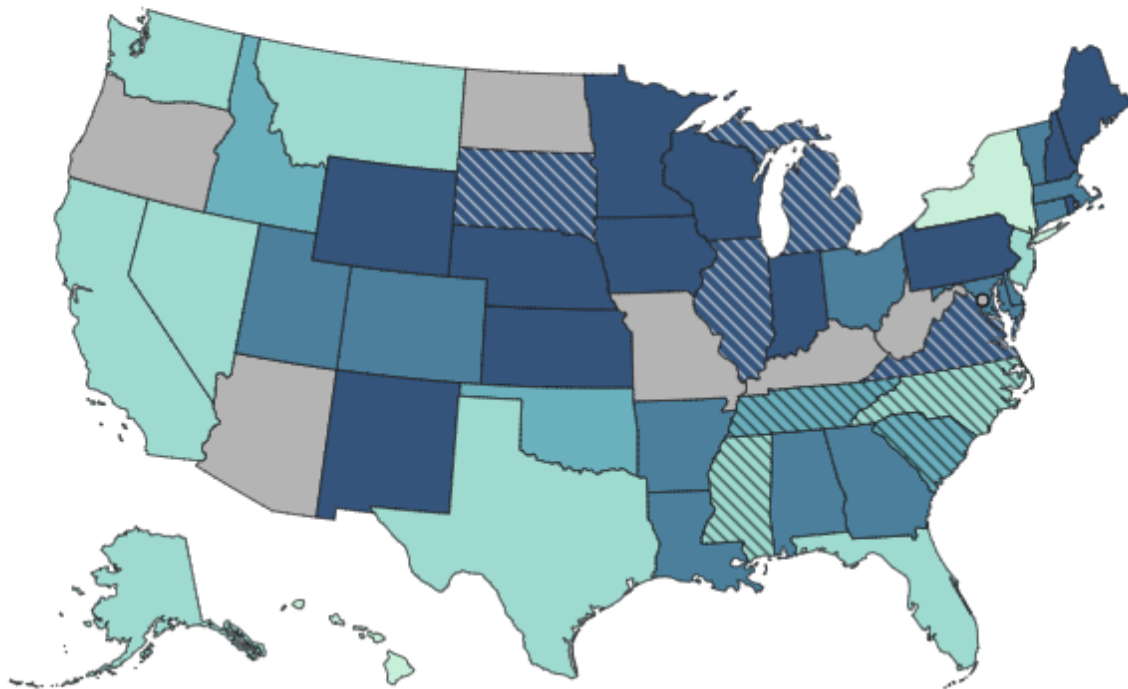
COVID-19 Current Wastewater Viral Activity Levels Map

COVID-19 Wastewater Monitoring in the U.S.

[Print](#)

This interactive map shows the current [wastewater viral activity level](#) of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) for each state or territory.

Time Period: December 22 - December 28, 2024



Territories

GU VI

SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Viral Activity Levels

Select a level to add or remove from map.

Very High
 High
 Moderate
 Low
 Minimal
 No Data
 *Limited Coverage

* Based on a small segment (less than 5%) of the population and may not be representative of the state/territory.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/nwss/rv/COVID19-currentlevels.html>

Wastewater COVID-19 State and Territory Trends

COVID-19 Wastewater Monitoring in the U.S.

[Print](#)

This page shows the current [wastewater viral activity level](#) of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) for the overall state or territory. It also shows state/territory, regional, and national trends over time.

State

Ohio ▼


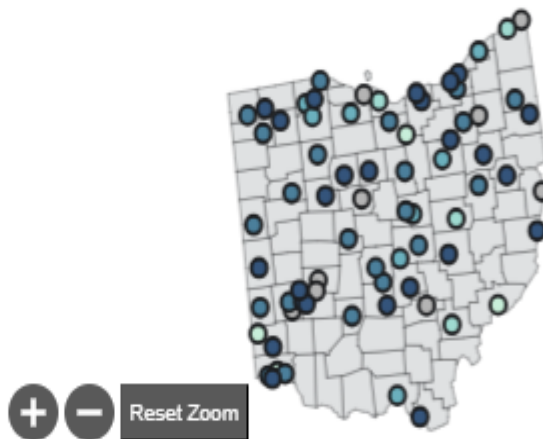
Current Site Levels

This map shows current wastewater viral activity levels of SARS-COV-2 at individual wastewater treatment plants or sampling locations reporting in the last week. A site may serve multiple counties, including those in another state.

Time Period: December 22 - December 28, 2024

In Ohio, the wastewater viral activity level for COVID-19 is currently **High**.

Sites reporting in the last week: 63
Sites reporting in the last 30 days: 72

Current Site Levels

Select a level to add or remove from map.

- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Minimal
- No Data

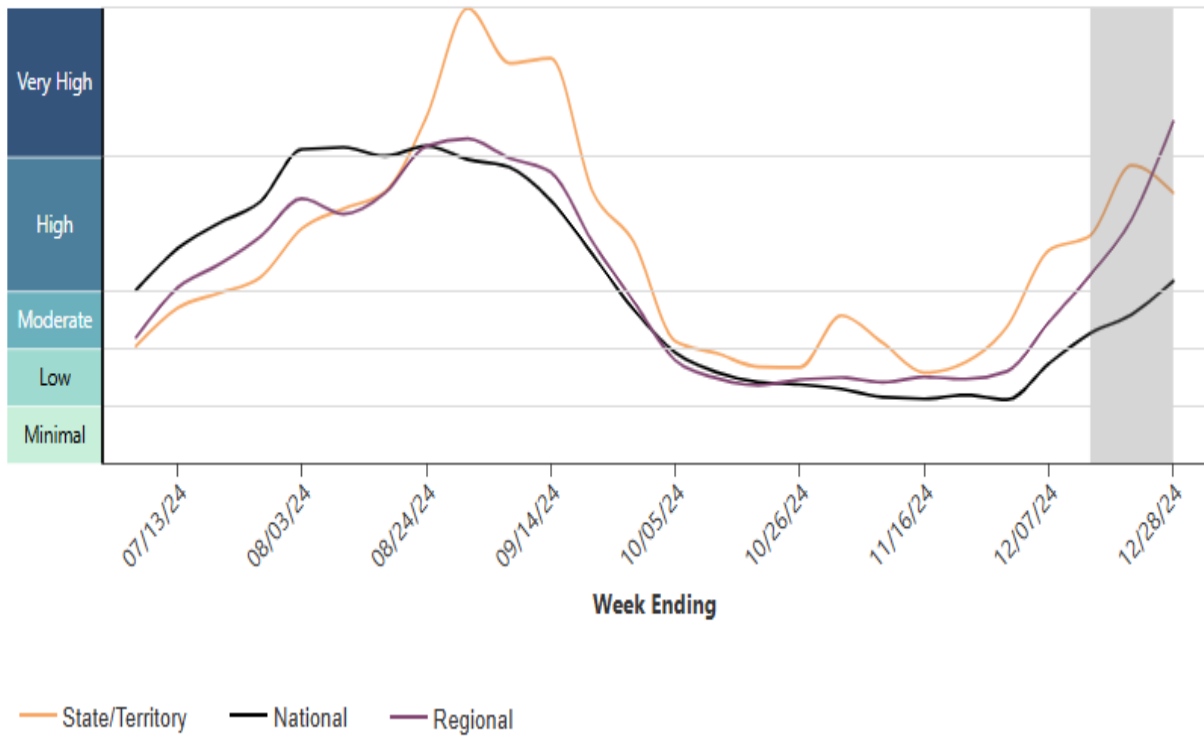


Trends over Time

This chart shows trends of SARS-COV-2 viral activity levels in wastewater. For comparison, you can also see trends for the national and regional trend.

Date Period

6 Months ▾



<5% Population

Data from the most recent two weeks may be incomplete due to delays in data reporting. These data sets are subject to change and are indicated by the gray shading.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/nwss/rv/COVID19-statetrend.html?1%20Year=45%20Days>

COVID-19 Variants in Wastewater

COVID-19 Wastewater Monitoring in the U.S.

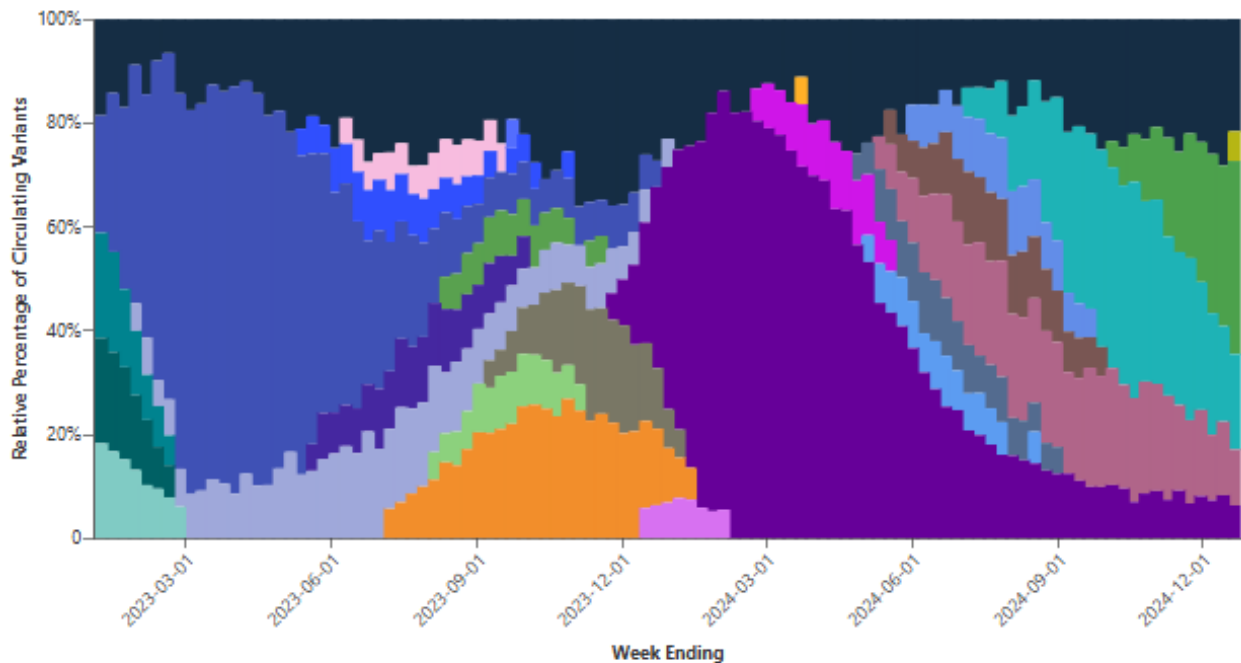
[Print](#)

This chart shows the average relative proportions of SARS-COV-2 virus variants in wastewater at the national level. Variants constituting less than 5% abundance are categorized as "Other."

Predominant Variant

XEC

All lineages not enumerated in this graphic are aggregated with their parent lineages, based on Pango statement of nomenclature rules.



Select a variant to add or remove it from the visualization.

- BA.2
- BA.2.86
- BA.5
- BQ.1
- BQ.1.1
- EG.5
- FL.1.5.1
- HK.3
- HV.1
- JN.1
- XBB
- XBB.1.16
- XBB.1.16.1
- XBB.1.16.6
- XBB.1.5
- XBB.1.5.1
- XBB.1.5.59
- XBB.1.9.1
- XBB.1.9.2
- XBB.2.3
- JN.1.11.1
- JN.1.7
- JN.1.8.1
- KP.2
- KP.1.1
- KP.3
- LB.1
- KP.2.3
- KP.3.1.1
- XEC
- MC.1
- Other

Data from the most recent weeks may be incomplete due to delays in data reporting. These data sets are subject to change.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/nwss/rv/COVID19-variants.html>

Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel

This site is updated on Fridays.

WHAT TO KNOW

- As of January 3, 2025, the amount of acute respiratory illness causing people to seek healthcare is at a high level and continues to increase nationally.
- COVID-19 activity is increasing in most areas of the country.
- Seasonal influenza activity continues to increase and is elevated across most of the country.
- RSV activity is very high in many areas of the country, particularly in young children.
- The community snapshot signifies activity levels using the following colors: Minimal, Low, Moderate, High, Very High.



Your community snapshot

Select your state / territory and your county to receive information on COVID-19, flu, and RSV in your community

Ohio



All counties



The CDC may not have data for all states, counties, or territories. [Read more »](#)

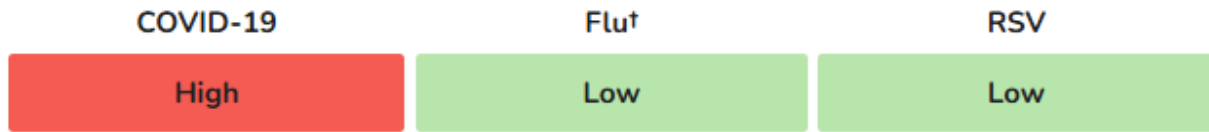
Overall respiratory illness activity in **Ohio**

High

What it is: A measure of how frequently a wide variety of respiratory symptoms and conditions are diagnosed by emergency department doctors, ranging from the common cold to COVID-19, flu, and RSV.

Why it matters: Summarizes the total impact of respiratory illnesses, regardless of which diseases are causing people to get sick.

Wastewater viral activity level in **Ohio**

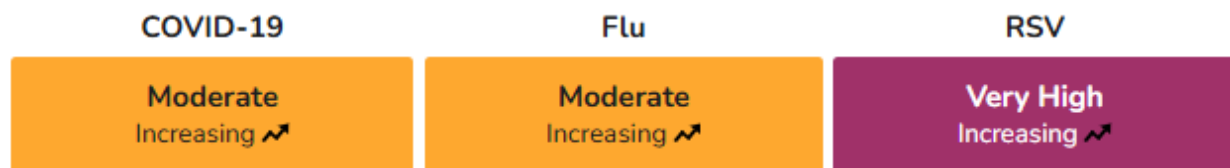


What it is: A measure of how much virus is present in sewage.

Why it matters: People who are infected often shed virus into wastewater, even if they don't have symptoms. As a result, high wastewater levels may indicate an increased level of infections even when other measures remain low.

† Flu levels are for Influenza A only, which includes [avian influenza A\(H5\)](#). Wastewater data can not determine the source of viruses (from humans, animals, or animal products).

Emergency department visits in **Ohio**



What it is: A measure of how many people are seeking medical care in emergency departments.

Why it matters: When levels are high, it may indicate that infections are making people sick enough to require treatment.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data/index.html>

Weekly national summary

Reported on Friday, January 3, 2025.

COVID-19 activity is rising in most regions of the country. Seasonal influenza activity is also on the rise and remains elevated across most of the nation. RSV activity is extremely high in many areas, especially among young children.

COVID-19

COVID-19 activity is increasing in most areas of the country, with high COVID-19 wastewater levels and increasing emergency department visits and laboratory percent



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positivity. Based on [CDC modeled estimates of epidemic growth](#), we predict COVID-19 illness will continue to increase in the coming weeks as it usually does in the winter.

There is still time to benefit from getting your recommended immunizations to [reduce your risk of illness](#) this season, especially severe illness and hospitalization.

CDC expects the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine to work well for currently [circulating variants](#). There are many [effective tools](#) to prevent spreading COVID-19 or becoming seriously ill.

Influenza

Seasonal influenza activity continues to increase and is elevated across most of the country. Additional information about current influenza activity can be found at: [Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report | CDC](#)

RSV

RSV activity remains very high in many parts of the country, particularly among young children. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations are highest in children, with some areas also seeing elevated hospitalizations among older adults

Vaccination


Vaccination rates for influenza and COVID-19 remain low among both U.S. adults and children. However, COVID-19 vaccine coverage has increased among older adults compared to the 2023-2024 season. RSV vaccine coverage among U.S. adults remains low, and many children and adults still lack protection from respiratory virus infections that vaccines provide.

Source: [CDC](#)


Respiratory Virus Guidance Snapshot

Core prevention strategies

Immunizations




Hygiene




Steps for Cleaner Air



Treatment



Stay Home and Prevent Spread*



Masks





Distancing




Tests



***Stay home and away from others until, for 24 hours BOTH:**


+


Your symptoms are getting better You are fever-free (without meds)



Then take added precaution for the next 5 days

Layering prevention strategies can be especially helpful when:

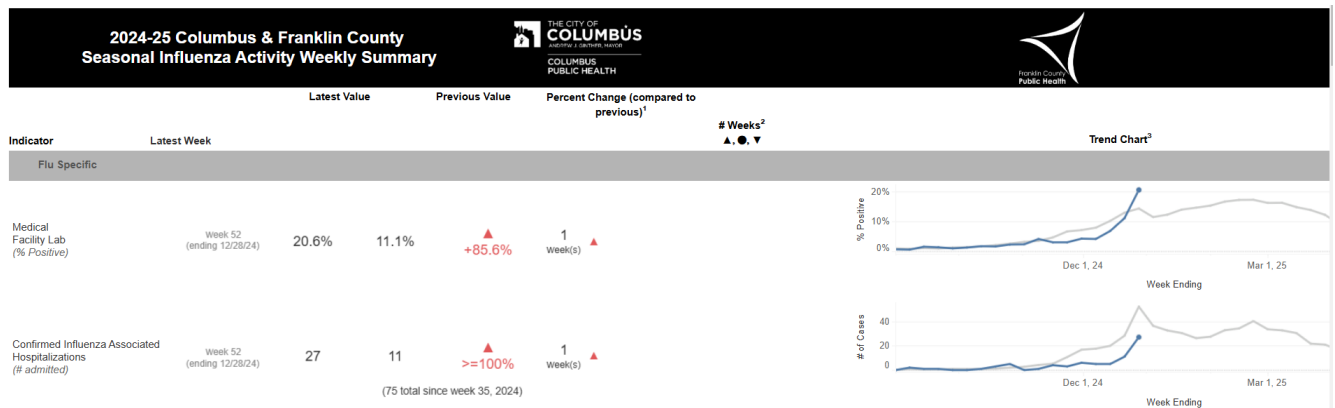
- ✓ Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community
- ✓ You or those around you have risk factors for severe illness
- ✓ You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering

CDC's respiratory virus guidance consists of 5 core and 3 additional prevention strategies.

2024-2025 Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity

Local influenza activity is currently high.

FRANKLIN COUNTY- LOCAL ACTIVITY

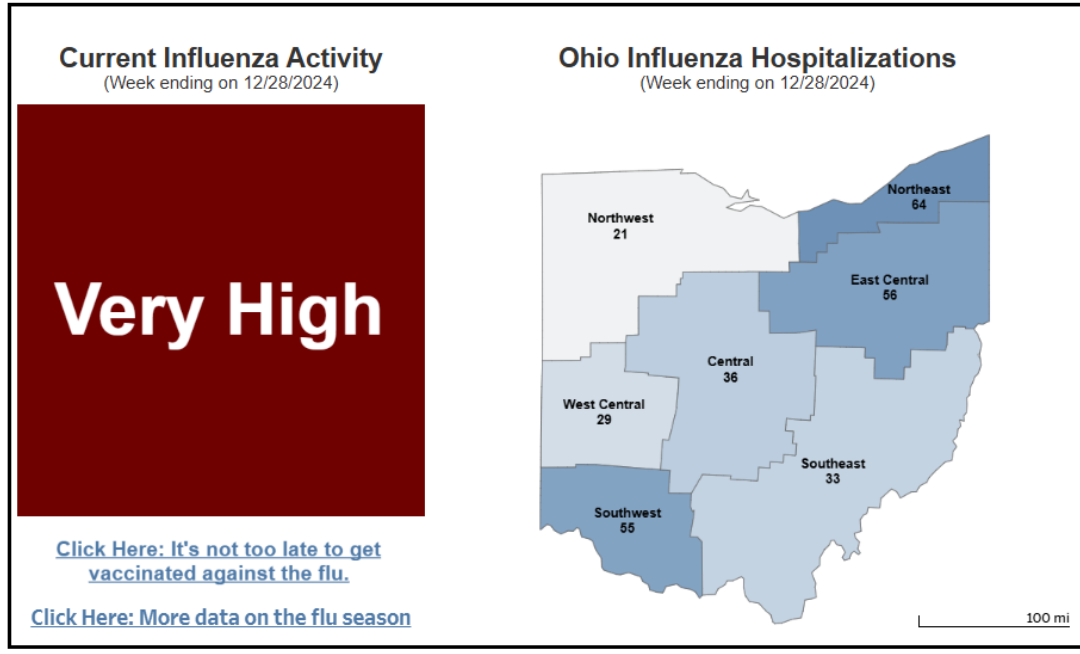


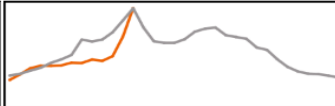
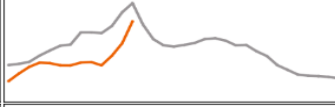
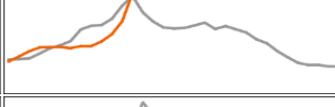

Source: https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/columbus/viz/Flu_Surveillance/Dashboard-FluActivity

OHIO-STATE ACTIVITY

State of Ohio | Current Influenza Activity

Last Updated: 2025-01-03
Updated Fridays During Flu Season



Activity Indicators				
(Week ending on 12/28/2024)				
Data Source	Current Week	Percent Change From Last Week	Trend Direction	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> Above 5 yr Average 5 yr Average </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px; margin-top: 2px;"> Below 5 yr Average Current Season Percent </div>
% of Outpatient Visits <small>Influenza-like illness (ILI) Outpatient Data (ILINet Sentinel Provider Visits)</small>	6.54%	40.65%	↑	
% of Emergency Department (ED) Visits <small>Fever and ILI Specified ED Visits (EpiCenter)</small>	2.84%	24.56%	↑	
% of ED Visits <small>Constitutional ED Visits (EpiCenter)</small>	14.38%	18.16%	↑	
Hospitalizations <small>Confirmed Influenza-associated Hospitalizations (Ohio Disease Reporting System)</small>	294	81.48%	↑	

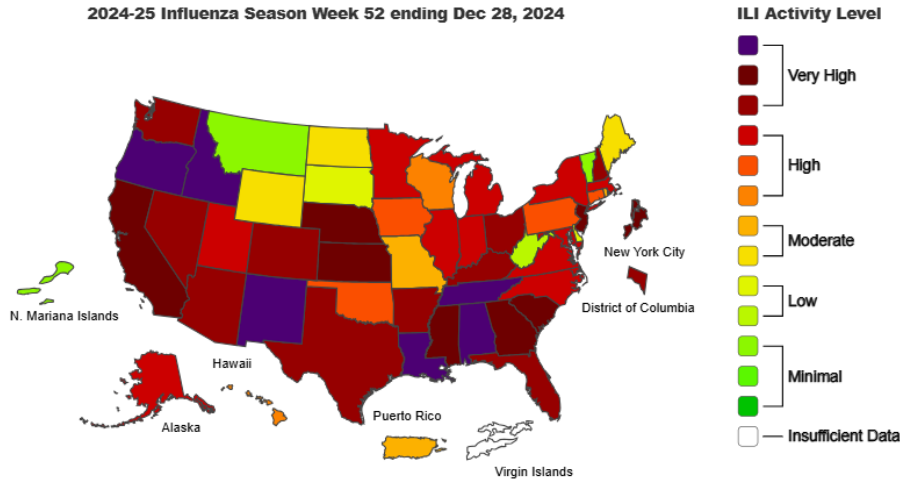
Footnotes:

- **Emergency Department Visits (EpiCenter):** A five-year average, which includes data from the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 seasons in addition to data from the 2021-2022 through 2023-2024 seasons is displayed in the figure above. EpiCenter data from the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 influenza seasons have been omitted from the five-year baseline average due to data instability and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Sentinel Providers (ILINet):** A five-year average, which includes data from the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 seasons in addition to data from the 2021-2022 through 2023-2024 seasons is displayed in the figure above. ILINet data from the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 influenza seasons have been omitted from the five-year baseline average due to data instability and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Influenza-associated Hospitalizations (ODRS):** A five-year average, which includes data from the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 seasons in addition to data from the 2021-2022 through 2023-2024 seasons is displayed in the figure above. Influenza-associated hospitalization data from the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 influenza seasons have been omitted from the five-year baseline average due to data instability and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Source: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/seasonal-influenza/influenza-dashboard>

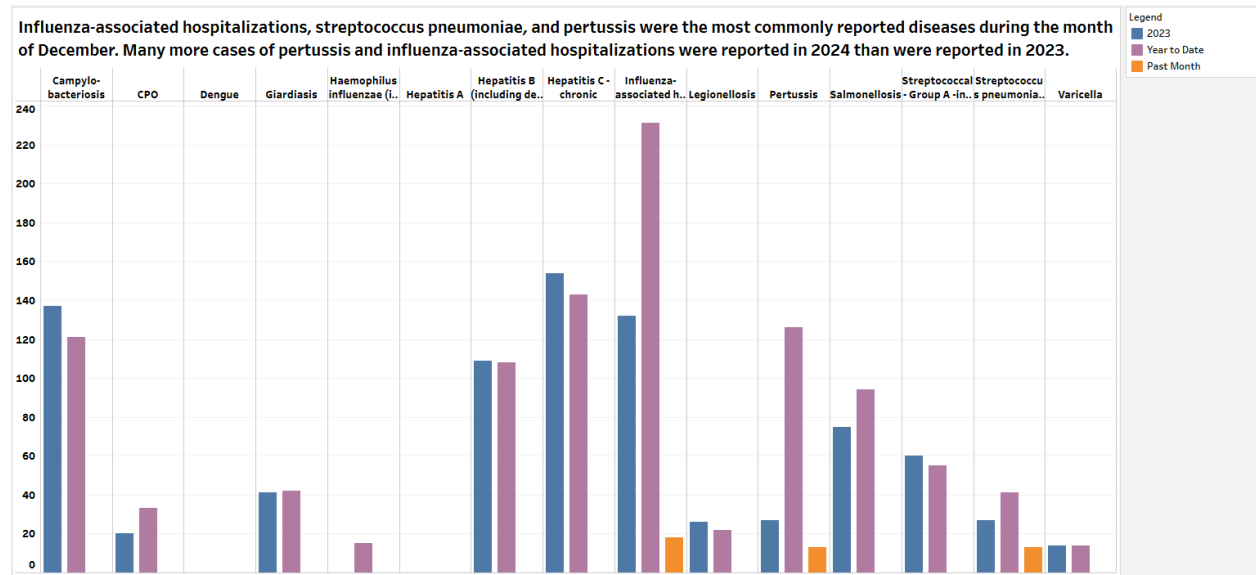


NATIONAL ACTIVITY



Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/fluview/surveillance/usmap.html>

FCPH Reportable Diseases/Conditions Data

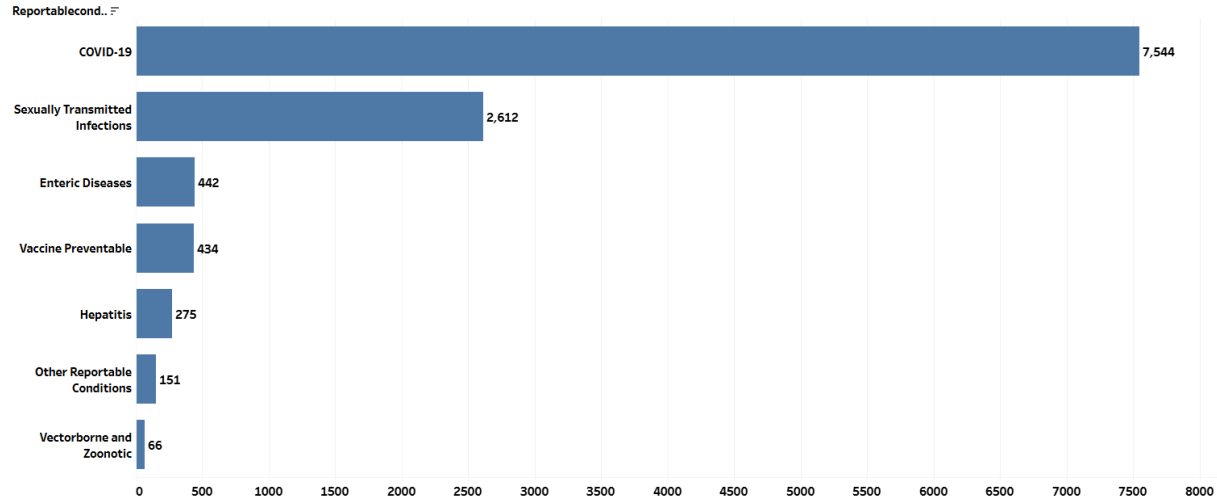


Contains suspected, probable, and confirmed cases. Does not include STI (including HIV and syphilis) or COVID-19 data. Values below 10 have been hidden for confidentiality purposes.



Reportable Condition by Category

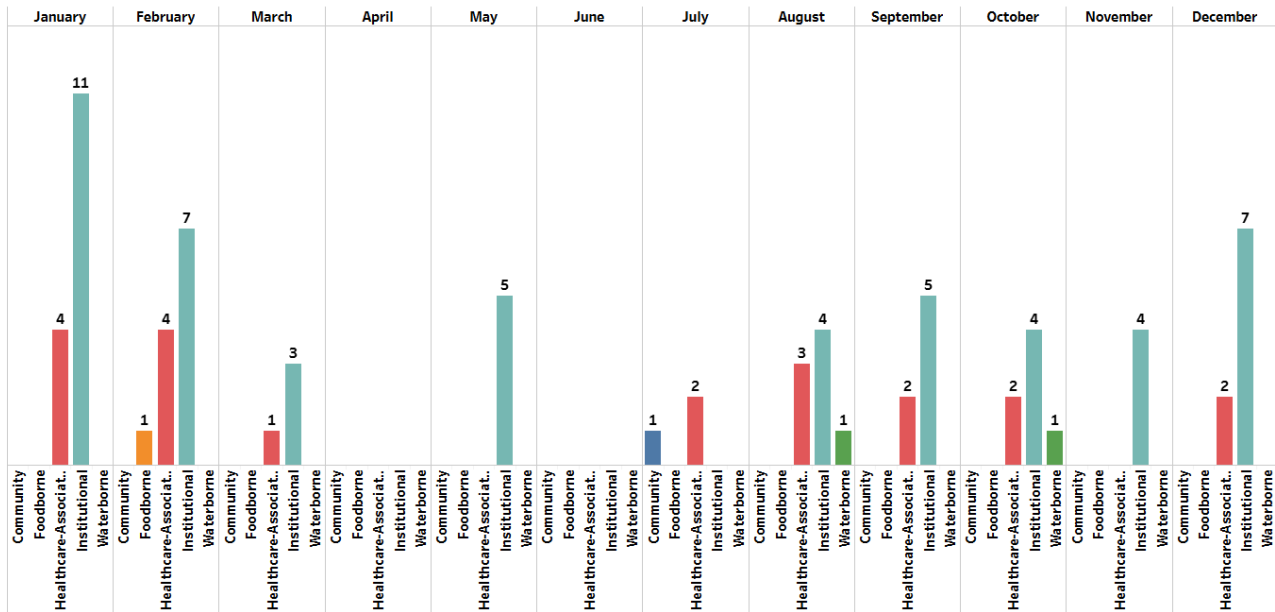
In 2024, excluding COVID-19 and sexually transmitted infections, enteric diseases, followed closely by vaccine preventable diseases, were the most common group of diseases reported.



HIV data was excluded from STI category.

Outbreaks

The most common type of outbreak reported in 2024 was **Institutional**.



Data are current as of 1/2/2025.

Contains Suspected, Probable, and Confirmed cases.

Cases counts labeled as <10 due to confidentiality purposes.

Counts do not include cases in cities of Columbus and Worthington; only FCPH jurisdictions are included.

HIV data is excluded.

Respectfully submitted by Alex Jones, Assistant Health Commissioner/Director of Prevention & Wellness, January 9, 2025