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HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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Monthly Viral Respiratory Diseases Update

Written on 11/03/2023

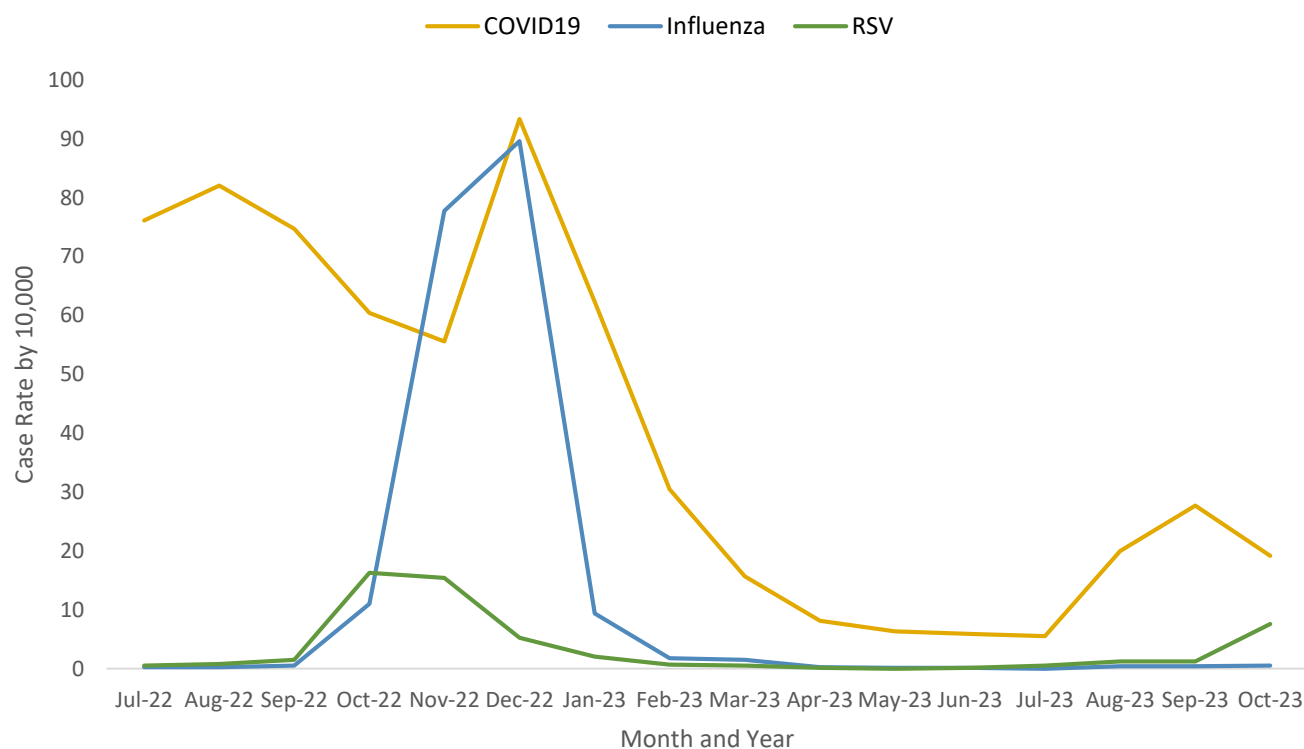
This report brings up-to-date data on viral respiratory diseases (VRD) in New Britain, CT. In addition, information and resources regarding VRD. VRDs included in this report are COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). VRD 2023-2024 season starts on September 2023 until April 2024. Data in this report was collected from Local Health Department Portal surveillance system provided by Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH).

Case Summary: New Britain

The New Britain Health Department is providing immunization for Influenza for New Britain residents and employees. COVID-19 and RSV immunizations can be found in local pharmacies, physician's offices and community health centers.

The graph below shows the case rate by 10,000 since July 2022 for COVID-19, Influenza and RSV in New Britain, CT.

COVID-19, Influenza and RSV Case Rate in New Britain, CT 2022-2023





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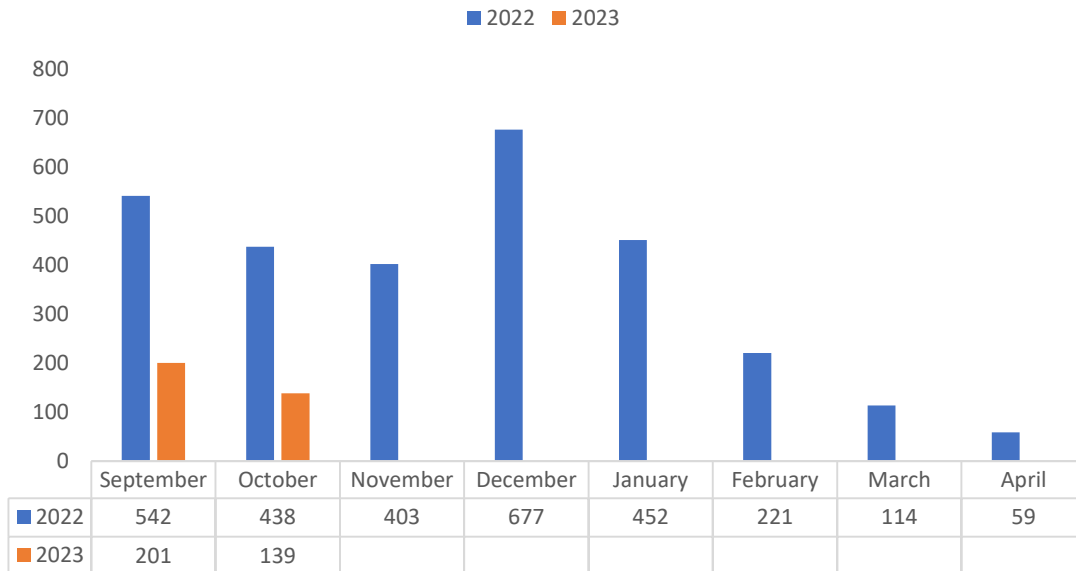
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COVID-19

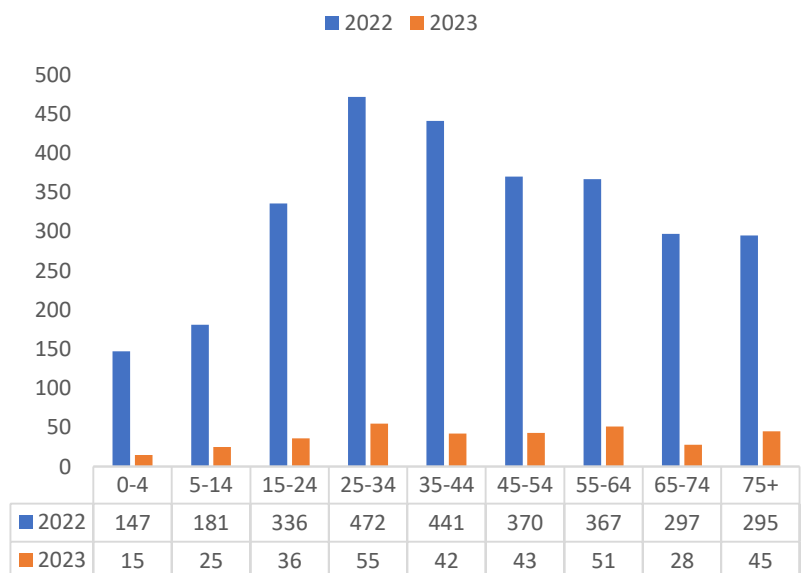
For the VRD 2023-2024 season, CT DPH reported 340 cases positive cases of COVID-19 in New Britain.

Monthly COVID-19 Cases 2022-2023



The age group 25-34 is the group with the highest cases of COVID-19 reported in 2022 and also the highest as of 2023, so far, 472 (16.24%) and 55 (16.18%), respectively.

COVID-19 by Age Group





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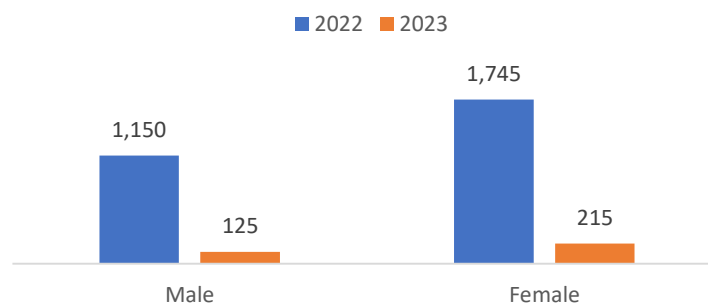


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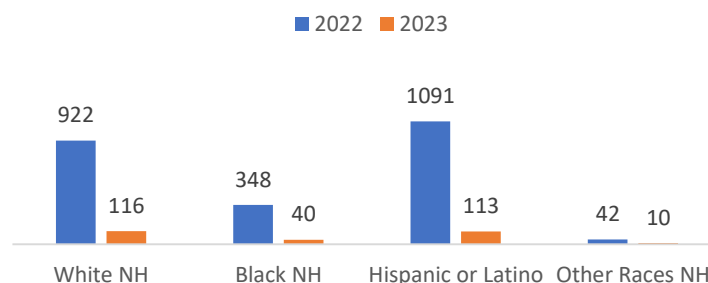
In 2022 and 2023, most COVID-19 cases were female, 1,745 (63.24%) and 215 (60.28%) respectively.

COVID-19 by Gender



In 2022 and 2023, most COVID-19 cases reported were among Hispanic or Latino (1,091, 113) and White NH (922, 116), respectively.

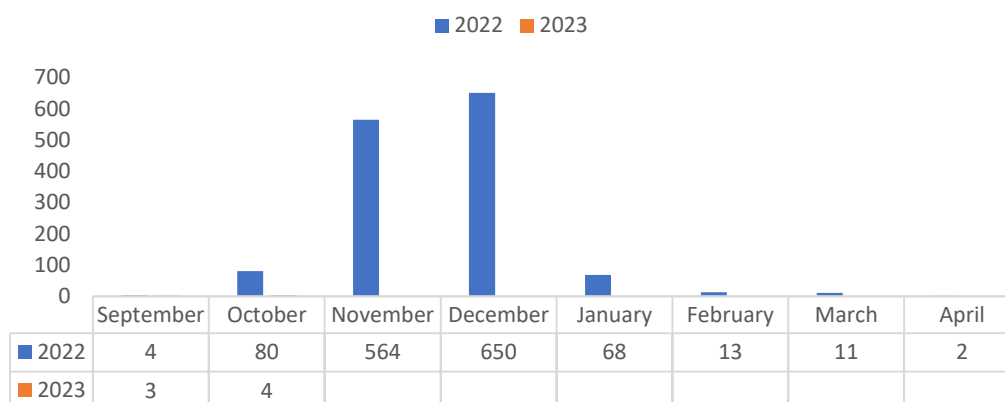
COVID-19 by Race and Ethnicity



Influenza

In 2022, there was an upsurge in influenza cases in November (564) and December (650). As of October 31st, 2023, influenza cases seem stable.

Monthly Influenza Cases 2022-2023





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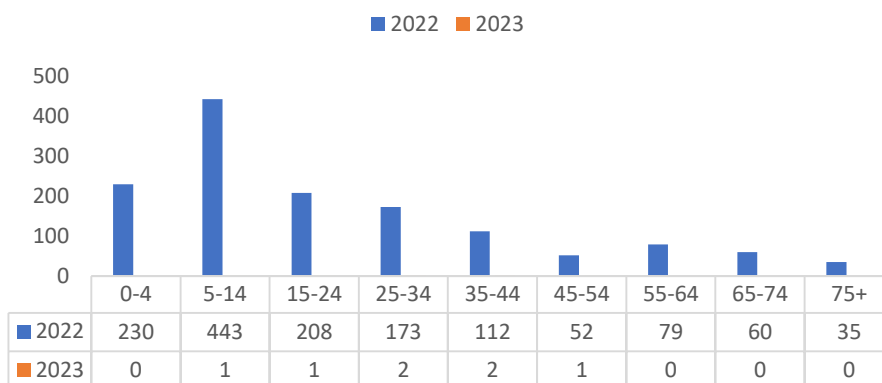


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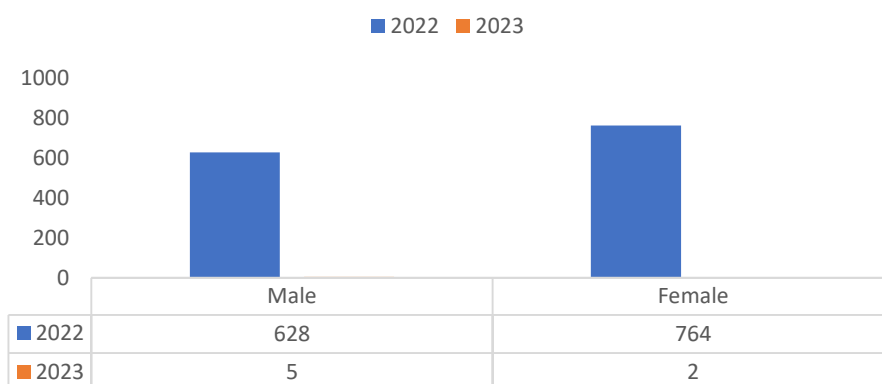
In 2022, the age group with the highest influenza cases were 5-14 (443, 31.82%).

Influenza by Age Group



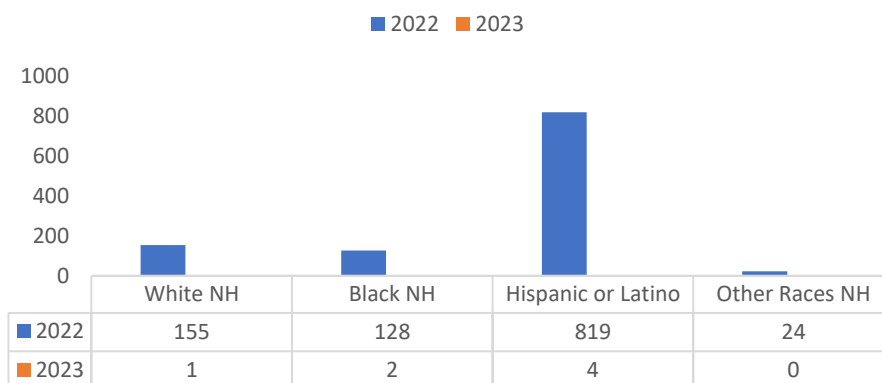
In 2022, most influenza cases were female (764, 54.89%).

Influenza by Gender



In 2022, most influenza cases were Hispanic or Latino (819, 72.74%).

Influenza by Race and Ethnicity





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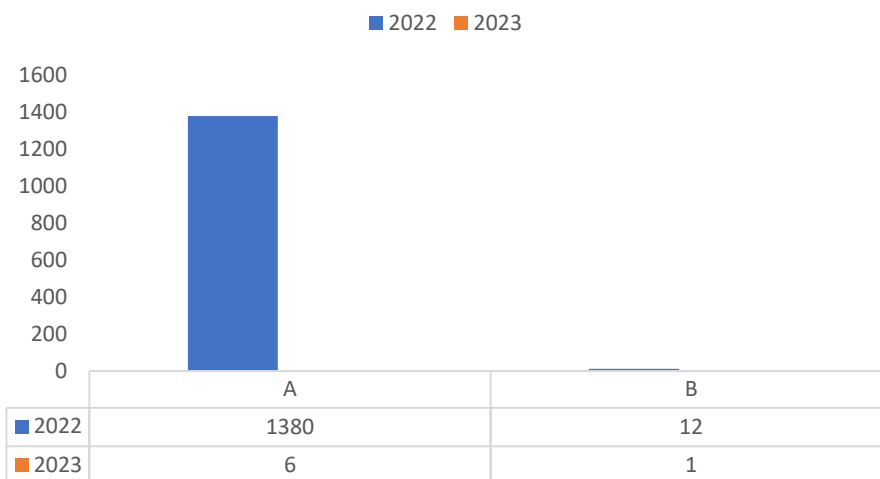
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Influenza A and B viruses cause seasonal epidemics of disease in people (known as flu season) almost every winter in the United States.

In 2022, 99.14% (1,380) of influenza cases were identified as Variant A.

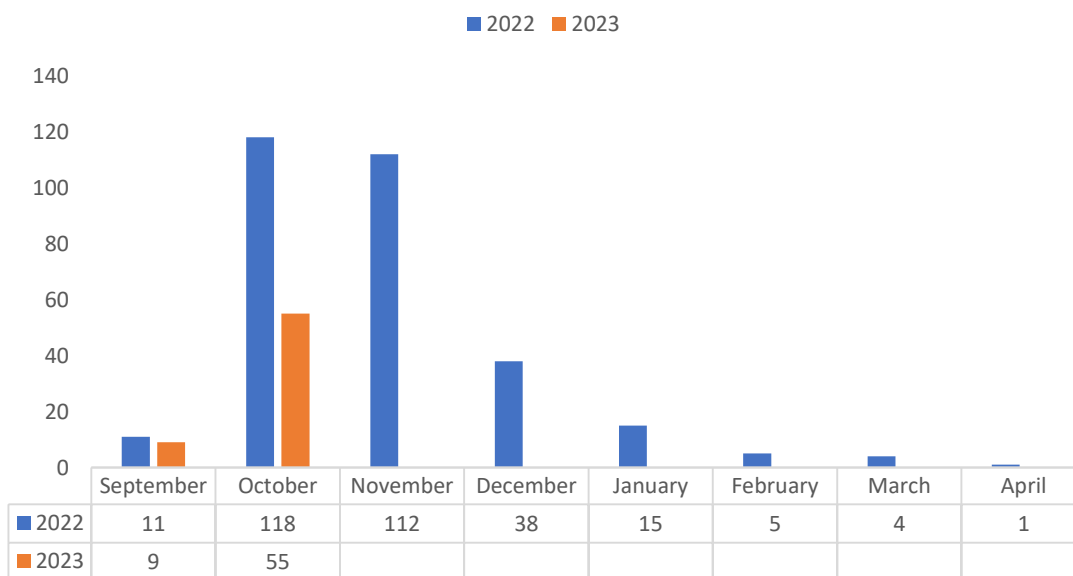
Influenza by Variant



RSV

In 2022, there was an increase in RSV cases in October (118, 38.82%) and November (112, 36.84%). As of October 31st, 2023, RSV cases seem to be increasing, 55 cases in October as compared to 9 in September.

Monthly RSV Cases 2022-2023





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CDC recommends adults 60 years of age and older have the option to receive a single dose of RSV vaccine, based on discussions between the patient and their health care provider. There are two options for protection of infants against RSV: maternal vaccine for the pregnant person and preventive antibodies given to the baby. Only one of these options is needed for most babies to be protected. CDC recommends a single dose of RSV vaccine for pregnant people from week 32 through week 36 of pregnancy for the prevention of RSV disease in infants under 6 months of age. This vaccine is recommended to be given from September through January for most of the United States.¹

Effective October 1st, 2023, the Commissioner of the CT DPH amended the List of Reportable Diseases, Emergency Illnesses and Health Conditions to include RSV hospitalizations and deaths. COVID-19 and influenza hospitalizations and deaths are already reportable.²

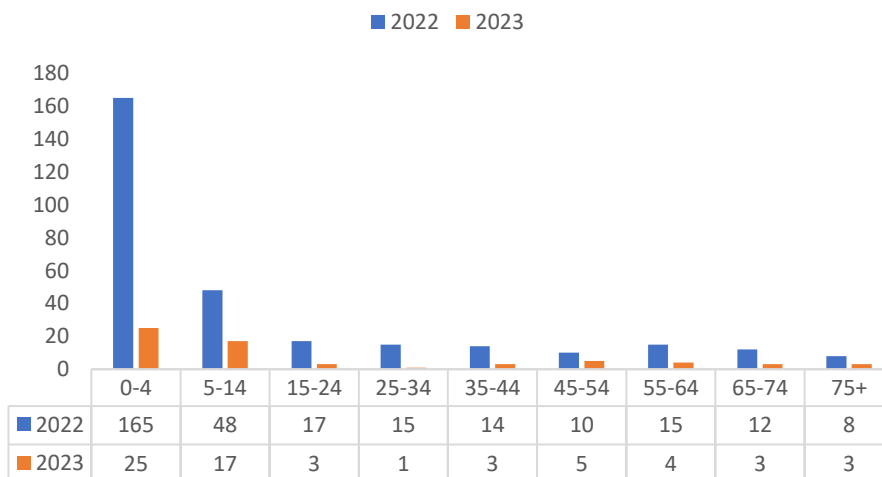
RSV can cause illness in people of all ages but may be especially serious for infants and older adults. Infants up to 12 months of age (especially those 6 months and younger) and children who were born prematurely, or who have chronic lung or heart disease or a weakened immune system, are at increased risk of severe RSV disease. Adults at highest risk for severe RSV disease include older adults, adults with chronic medical conditions such as heart or lung disease, weakened immune systems, or certain other underlying medical conditions, or who live in nursing homes or long-term care facilities.¹

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rsv.html>

² <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Epidemiology-and-Emerging-Infections/CTEPI/Volumes/43/Vol-43-No-7/October-2023-Supplemental-Issue-Page-1>

In 2022, in New Britain, CT DPH reported 165 RSV cases in infants between 0-4 years old. As of 2023, there are 25 cases in the same age group.

RSV by Age Group





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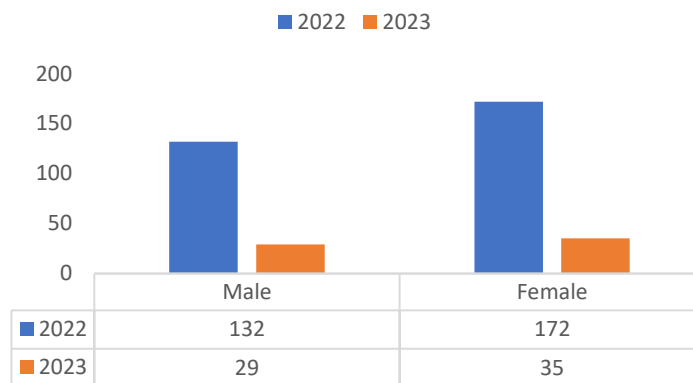
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In 2022, 56.58% of RSV cases were female (172), and 43.42% were male (132).

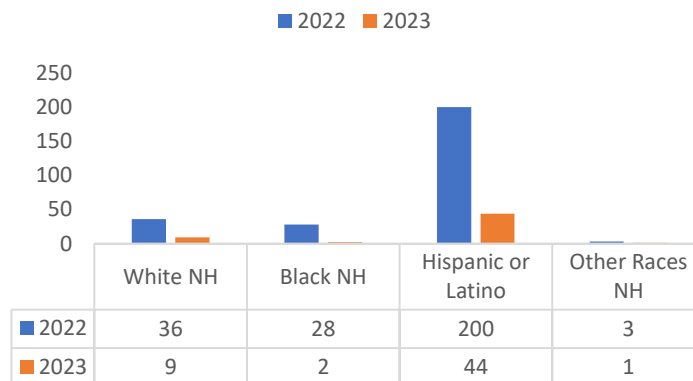
In 2023, 54.69% of RSV cases were female (35), and 45.31% were male (29).

RSV by Gender



In 2022, 74.91% of RSV cases were Hispanic or Latino (200), and as of 2023, 78.57% of RSV cases are also Hispanic or Latino (44).

RSV by Race and Ethnicity





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Information and Resources for New Britain residents

- **Get four free at-home COVID-19 tests this fall on COVIDTests.gov**

Every U.S. household may place an order to receive four free COVID-19 rapid tests delivered directly to your home. **Order Free At-Home Tests:** <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

The U.S. government will continue to make COVID-19 tests available to uninsured individuals and underserved communities through existing outreach programs. Please contact a [HRSA health center](#), [Test to Treat site](#), or [ICATT location](#) near you to learn how to access low- or no-cost COVID-19 tests provided by the federal government.

- **COVID-19 PCR Test**

Hartford HealthCare's COVID-19 testing capabilities

We offer PCR testing at our New Britain location. Appointments recommended.

We offer same-day, on-site evaluation and testing at our urgent care centers throughout Connecticut.

We offer tests for adults and children of all ages, when accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

PCR Testing Location - NEW BRITAIN

Hospital of Central Connecticut, 61 Hart Street

Testing Hours: Mon, Wed, Thu, Sat: 8am-4pm

Asymptomatic patients: Enter the building for testing

Symptomatic patients: Stay in your car upon arrival and call 860.224.5587 for further instructions

Appointment recommended: [Schedule an appointment](#)

** **Testing from 8-9am is reserved for first responders.** Law enforcement officers, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, firefighters and public works personnel simply need to show their ID to receive a COVID-19 PCR test.*

- **Vaccines**

Use [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find a location near you, then call or visit their website to make an appointment.

- **Find a COVID-19 vaccine near you:** <https://www.vaccines.gov/search/>
- **Find a Flu vaccine near you:** <https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines/>
- **For RSV vaccines:** talk to your healthcare provider