



CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Monthly Viral Respiratory Diseases Update

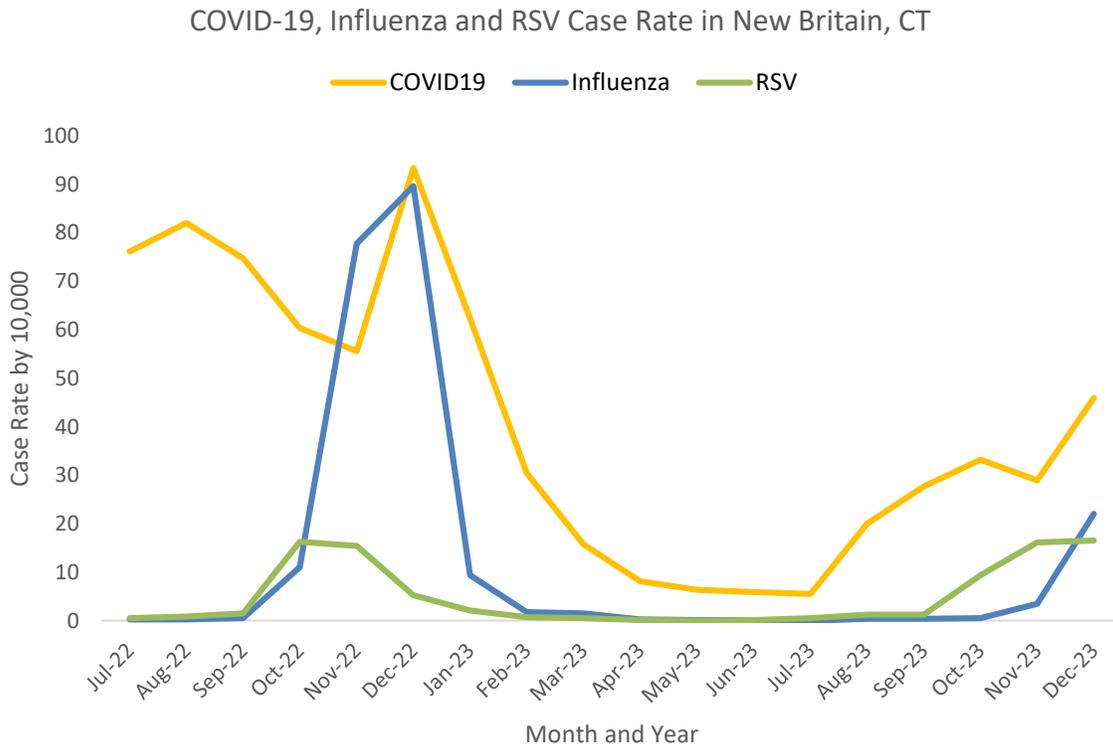
Written on 01/02/2024

This report brings up-to-date data on viral respiratory diseases (VRD) in New Britain, CT. In addition, information and resources regarding VRD at the end of this document. 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). Data is ongoing and subject to change.

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.

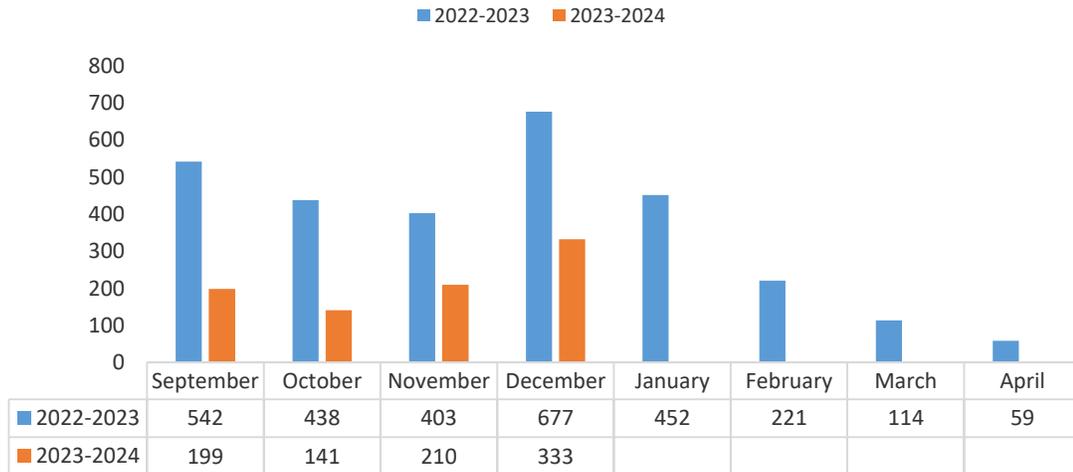
The graph below shows the case rate by 10,000 since July 2022 for COVID-19, Influenza and RSV in New Britain, CT.



COVID-19

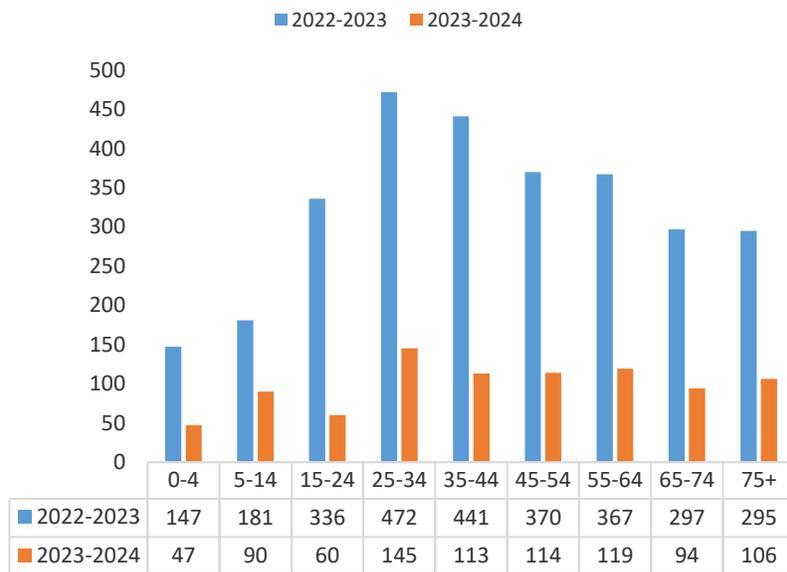
For the VRD 2023-2024 season, CT DPH reported 883 cases positive cases of COVID-19 in New Britain.

Monthly COVID-19 Cases

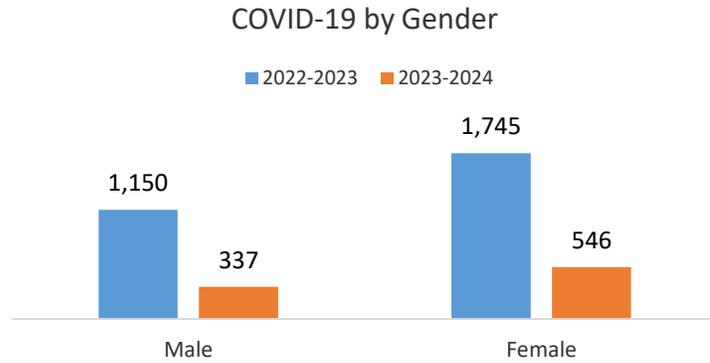


The age group 25-34 was the group with the highest cases of COVID-19 reported in 2022-2023 and also the highest in 2023-2024, as of December 31st, 2023, 472 (16.2%) and 145 (16.4%), respectively.

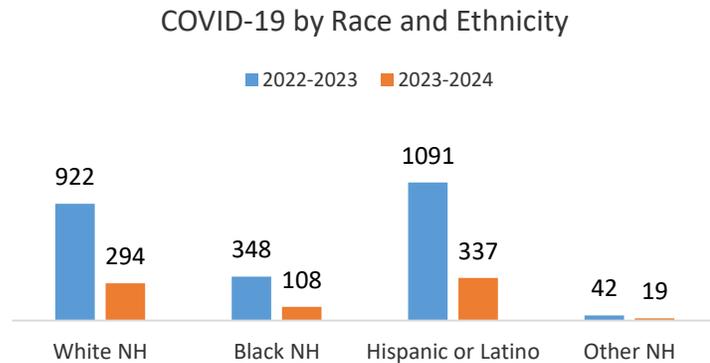
COVID-19 by Age Group



In 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, most COVID-19 cases were female, 1,745 (63.24%) and 546 (61.8%) respectively.



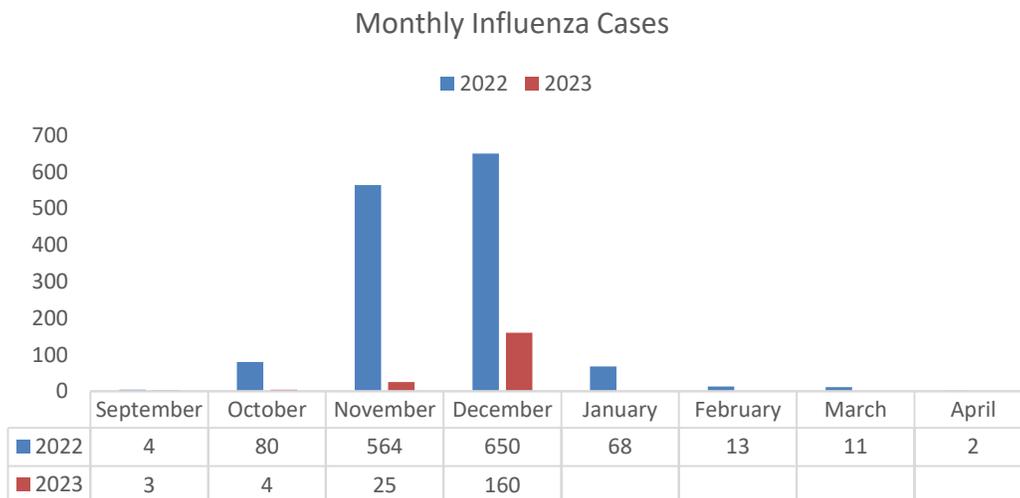
In 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, most COVID-19 cases reported were among Hispanic or Latino (1,091, 337) and White NH* (922, 295), respectively.



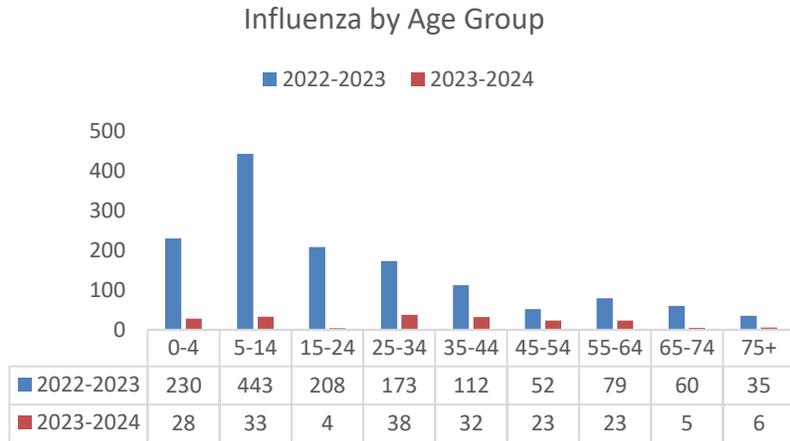
*NH: Non-Hispanic or Latino

Influenza

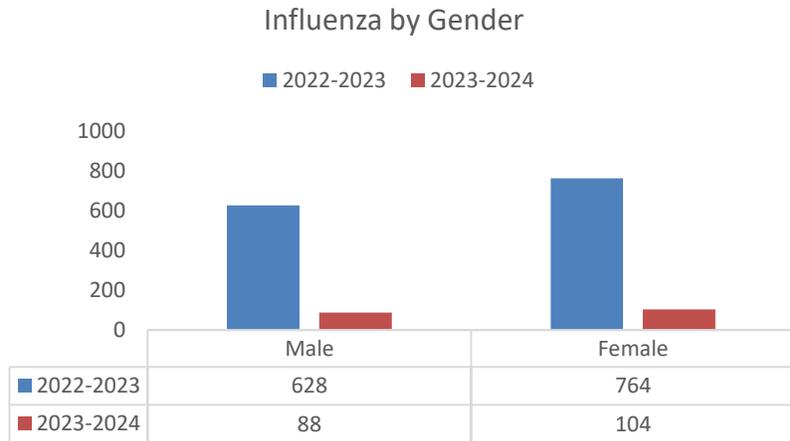
In 2022-2023, there was an upsurge in influenza cases in November (564) and December (650). In November and December of 2023, influenza cases increased from 25 to 160 known cases.



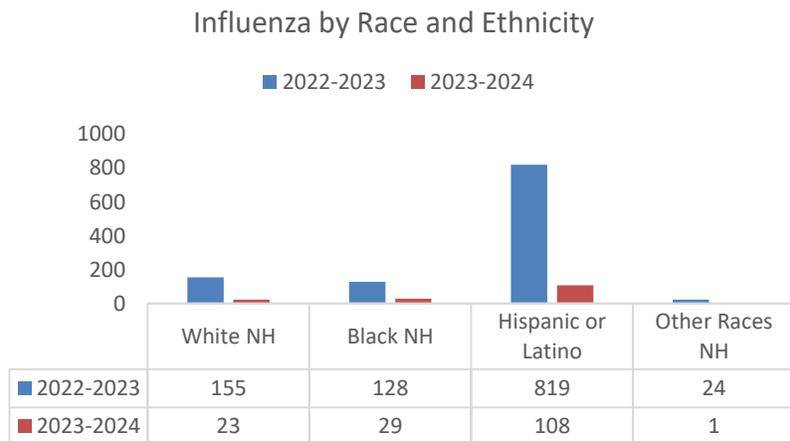
In 2022-2023, the age group with the highest influenza cases were 5-14 (443, 31.82%). As of December 31st, 2023, the majority of influenza cases are between 25-34 (38, 19.8%).



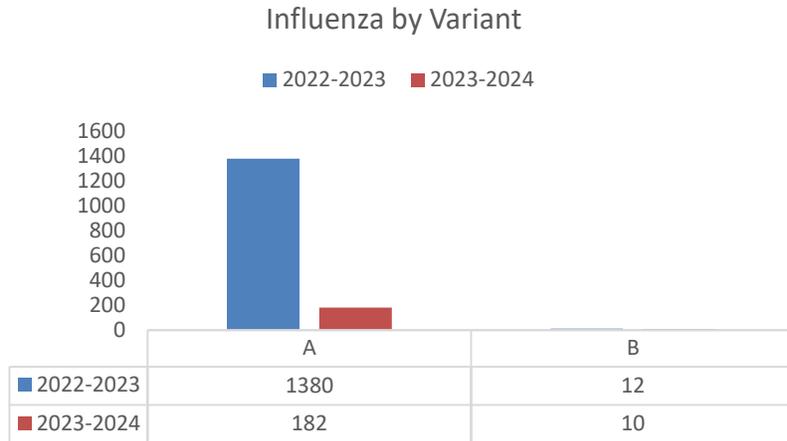
In 2022-2023, most influenza cases were female (764, 54.9%). As of December 31st, 2023, the majority of influenza cases are female (104, 54.2%).



In 2022-2023, most influenza cases were Hispanic or Latino (819, 72.7%). As of December 31st, 2023, the majority of influenza cases are Hispanic or Latino (108 67.1%).



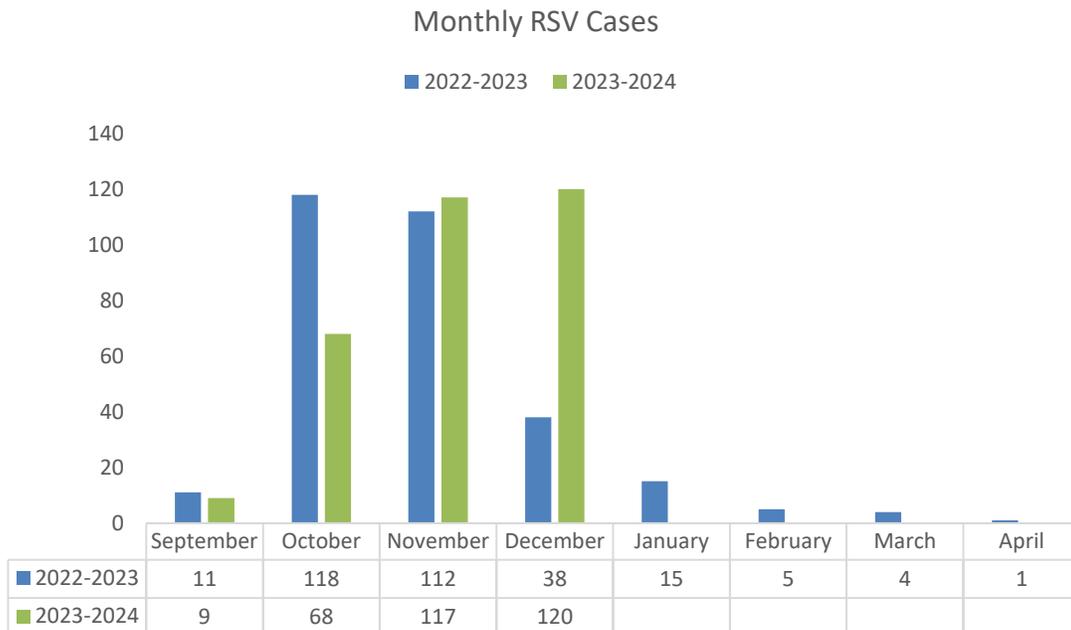
Influenza A and B viruses cause seasonal epidemics of disease in people (known as flu season) almost every winter in the United States. Flu A is much more common than Flu B. Flu symptoms are often more severe in type A than in type B.



In 2022-2023, 99.14% (1,380) of influenza cases were identified as Variant A. As of December 31st, 2023, the majority of influenza cases are from Variant A (182, 94.8%).

RSV

In 2022-2023, there was an increase in RSV cases in October (118, 38.82%) and November (112, 36.84%). As of December 31st, 2023, RSV cases also increased, 68 cases in October, 117 cases in November and 120 cases in December.



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

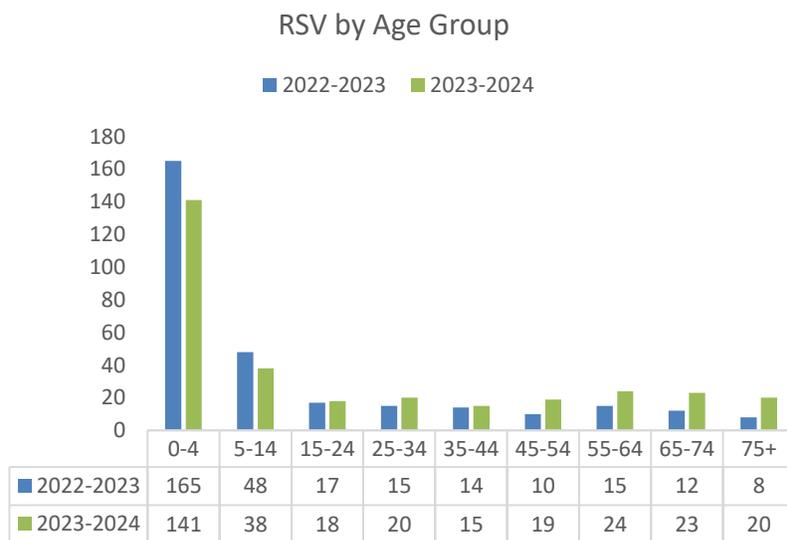
Effective October 1st, 2023, the Commissioner of the CT DPH amended the List of Reportable Diseases, Emergency Illnesses and Health Conditions to include RSV hospitalizations and deaths. COVID-19 and influenza hospitalizations and deaths are already reportable.²

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

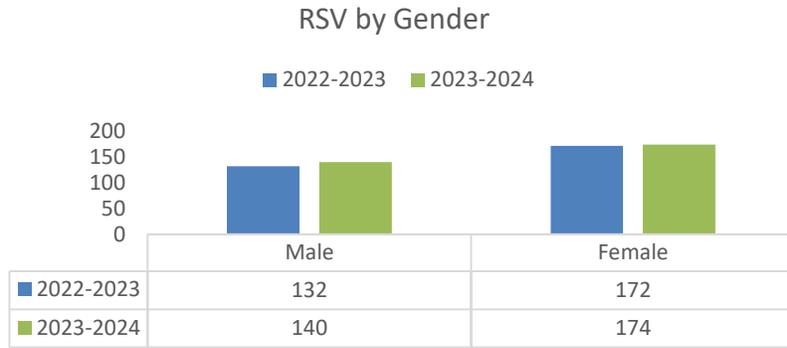
¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rsv.html>

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

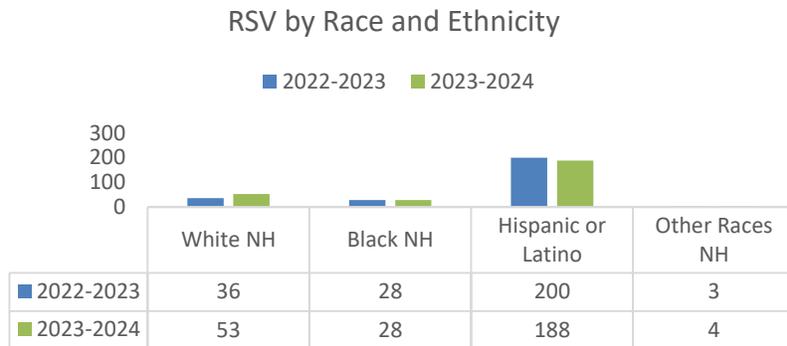
In 2022-2023, in New Britain, CT DPH reported 165 RSV cases in infants between 0-4 years old (54.3%). As of 2023-2024, there are 140 cases in the same age group (44.6%).



In 2022-2023, 56.6% of RSV cases were female (172), and 43.4% were male (132). In 2023-2024, 55.4% of RSV cases were female (174), and 44.6% were male (140).



In 2022-2023, 74.91% of RSV cases were Hispanic or Latino (200), and as of December 31st, 2023, 59.9% of RSV cases are also Hispanic or Latino (188).



Hospitalizations and Deaths

From September 1st, 2023, to December 31st, 2023, CT DPH reported in New Britain:

Disease	COVID-19	Influenza	RSV
Deaths	4	0	1
Gender	female: 3 male: 1		female: 1 male: 0
Age Range	75-97		42
Age Average	88.75		
Age Median	91.5		
Hospitalizations	4	7	29
Gender	female: 3 male: 1	female: 2 male: 5	female: 22 male: 7
Age Range	30-76	38-89	0-94
Age Average	58.25	58.29	62.55
Age Median	63.5	59	69

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:

They offer PCR testing at the New Britain location. Appointments recommended.

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

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

PCR Testing Location - NEW BRITAIN (This location will end testing on March 2nd, 2024)

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](#) 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