



# CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## Monthly Viral Respiratory Diseases Update

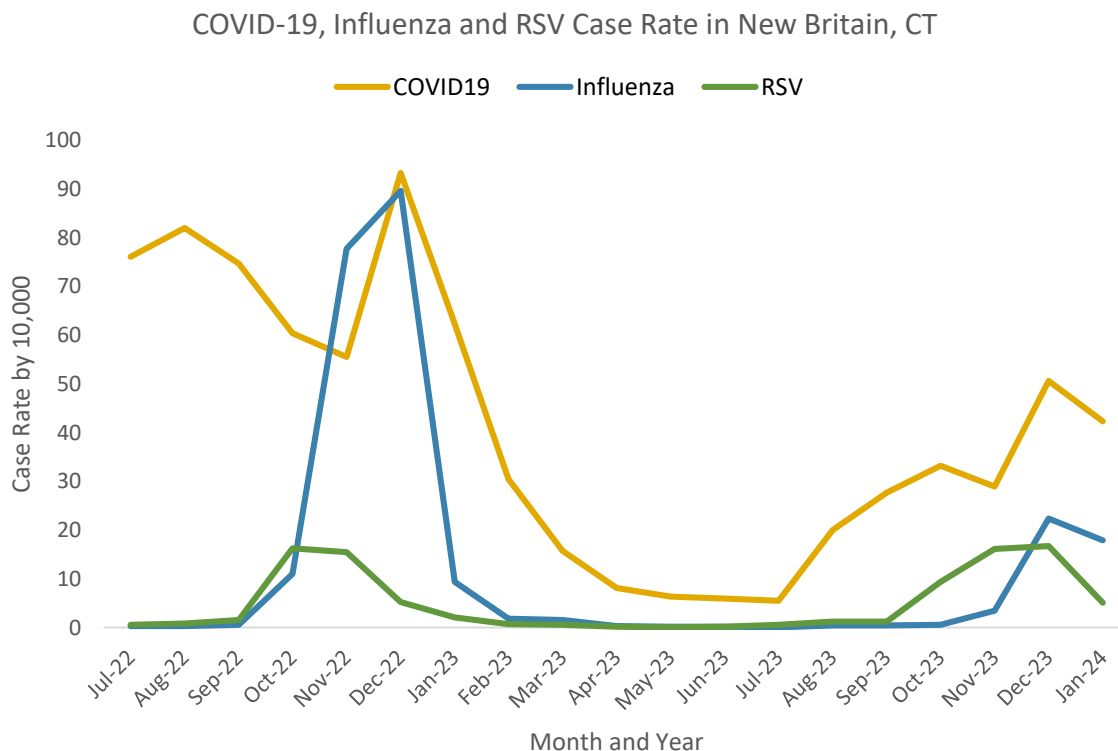
Written on 02/06/2024

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 State 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.

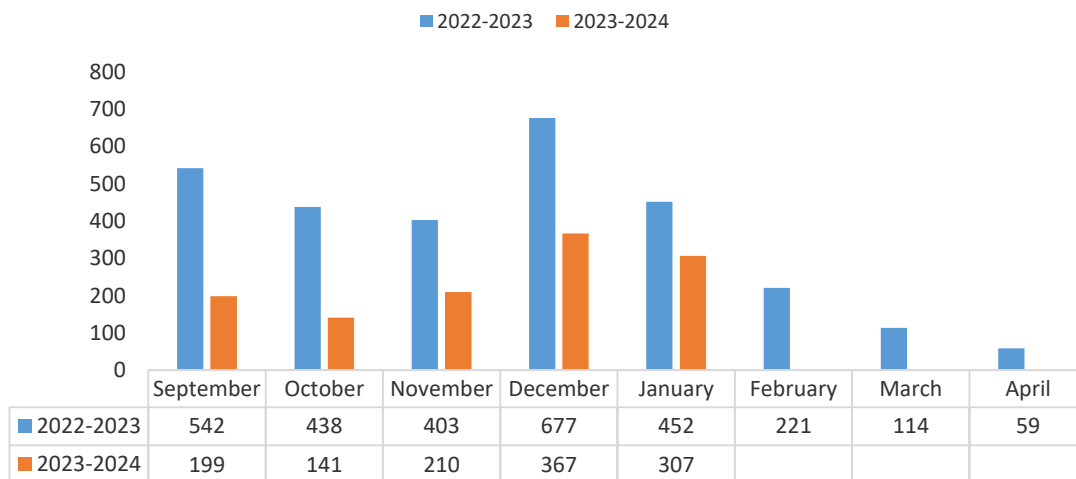
The graph below shows the case rate by 10,000 since July 2022 for COVID-19, Influenza and RSV in New Britain, CT.



## COVID-19

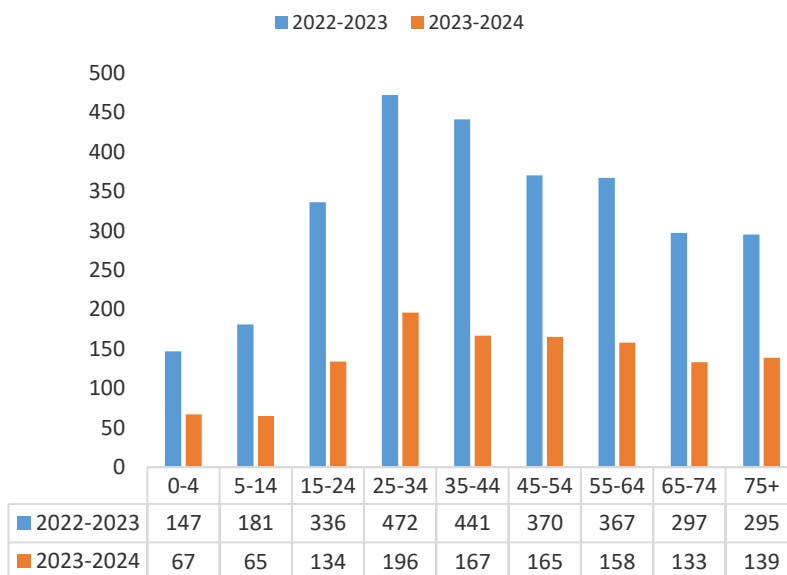
For the VRD 2023-2024 season, CT DPH reported 1,224 cases positive cases of COVID-19 in New Britain, 1,288 less cases reported than previous season at the same time frame (Sep-Jan).

Monthly COVID-19 Cases

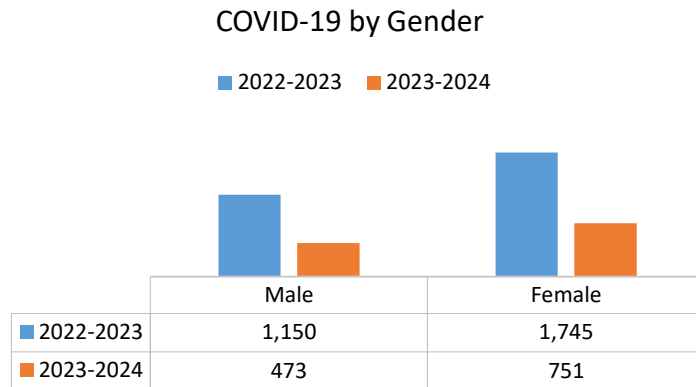


As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the age group 25-34 has the highest cases of COVID-19 reported, with 196 (16.0%).

COVID-19 by Age Group

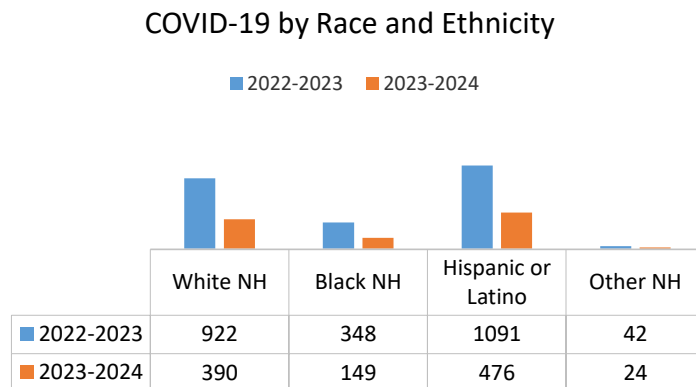


As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, most COVID-19 cases are female, with 751 (61.4%).



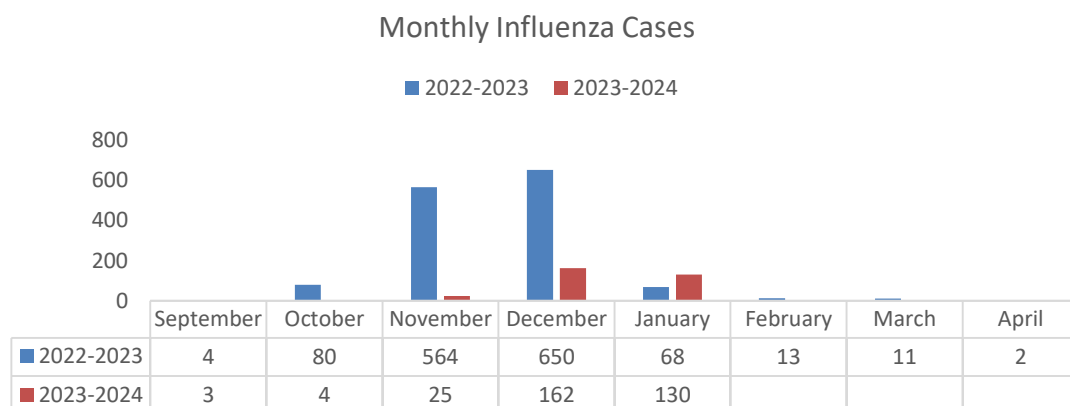
As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, most COVID-19 cases reported are Hispanic or Latino (476), followed by White NH\* (390).

\*NH: Non-Hispanic or Latino

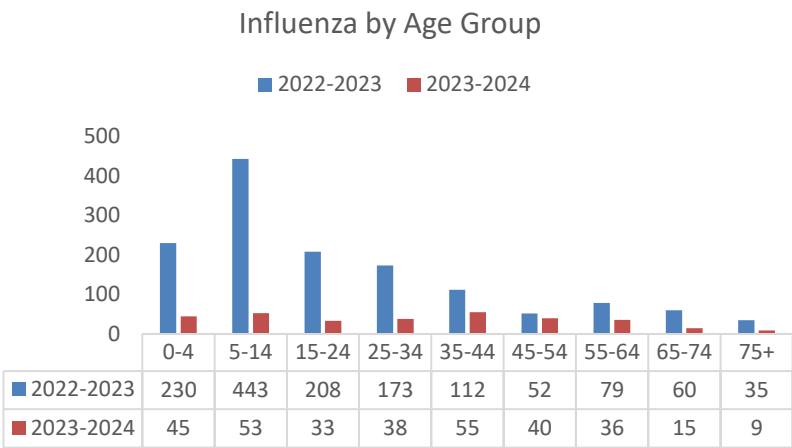


## Influenza

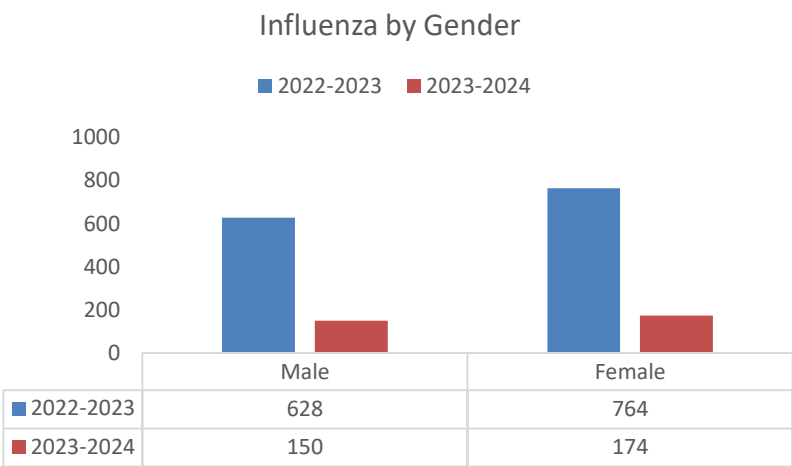
December of 2022 was the month with most reported cases of Influenza with 650. Same on December of 2023 with 162, however, a 75% decrease in known cases when compared to previous year. Furthermore, on January 2024, there was an increase in almost 48% of cases, 130 in 2023-2024 in comparison to 68 in 2022-2023.



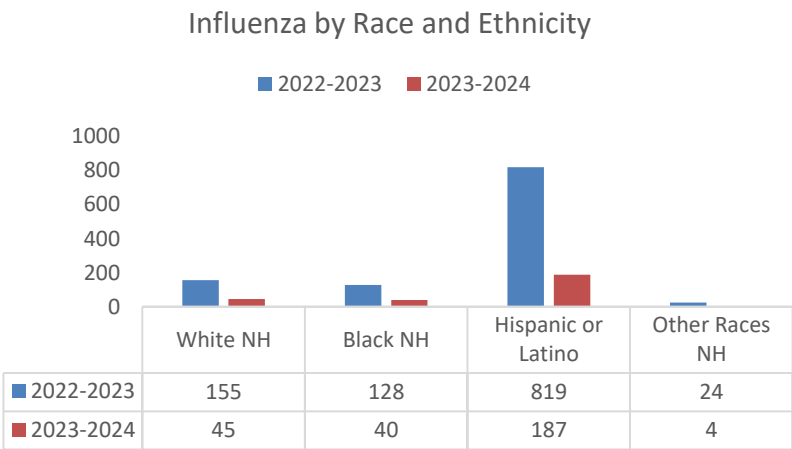
As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the majority of influenza cases are between 35-44 (55, 17.0%).



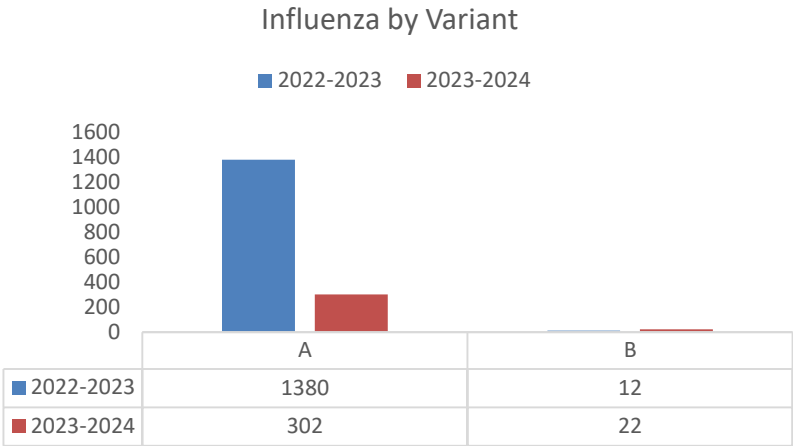
As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the majority of influenza cases are female (174, 53.7%).



As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the majority of influenza cases are Hispanic or Latino (187, 67.8%).



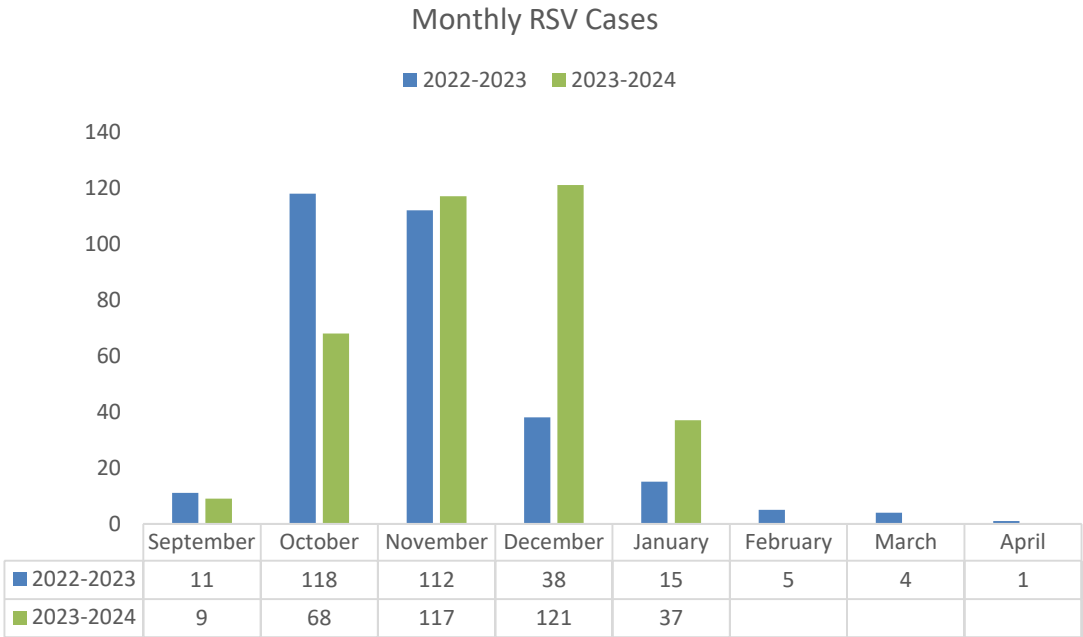
Influenza A and B viruses cause seasonal epidemics of disease in people (known as flu season) almost every winter in the United States. Flu A is much more common than Flu B. Flu symptoms are often more severe in type A than in type B.



In 2022-2023, 99.14% (1,380) of influenza cases were identified as Variant A. As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the majority of influenza cases are from Variant A (302, 93.21%).

RSV

From September 2022 to January 2023, New Britain reported 294 cases of RSV. From September 2023 to January 2024, 352 cases were reported, with the highest number of cases in December 2023.



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.<sup>1</sup>

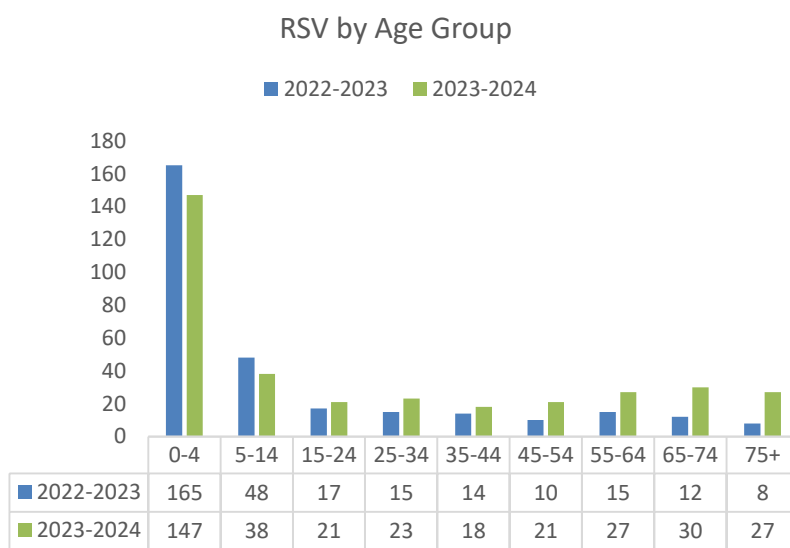
Effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, the Commissioner of the CT DPH amended the List of Reportable Diseases, Emergency Illnesses and Health Conditions to include RSV hospitalizations and deaths. COVID-19 and influenza hospitalizations and deaths are already reportable.<sup>2</sup>

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.<sup>1</sup>

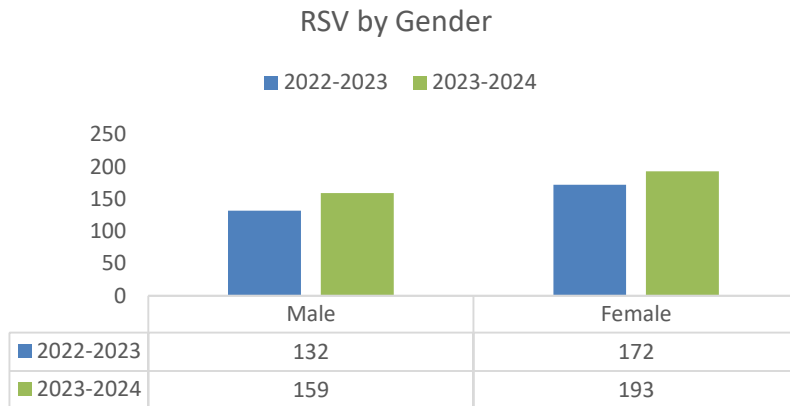
<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rsv.html>

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

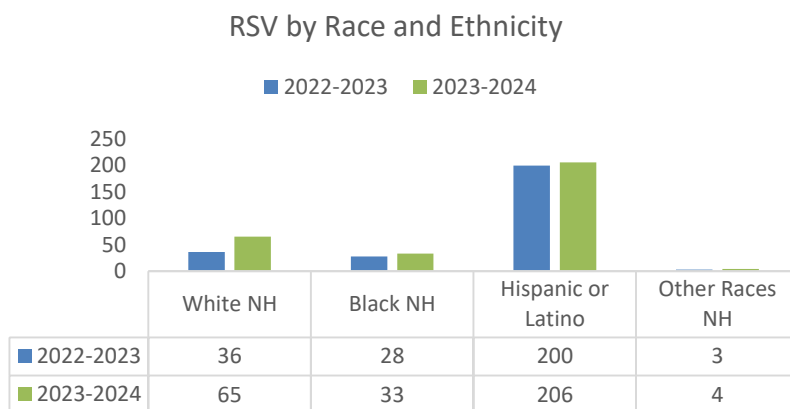
As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, the age group with the highest cases is 0-4, with 147 cases (41.8%).



As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 54.8% of RSV cases are female (193), and 45.2% are male (159).



As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 66.9% of RSV cases are Hispanic or Latino (206).



## Hospitalizations and Deaths

From September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, to January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, CT DPH reported in New Britain:

Disease	COVID-19	Influenza	RSV
Deaths	5	0	2
Gender	female: 4		female: 1
Age Range	male: 1		male: 1
Age Average	75-92		42-101
Age Median	86		71.5
Hospitalizations	8	26	36
Gender	female: 6	female: 13	female: 25
Age Range	male: 2	male: 13	male: 11
Age Average	30-97	29-89	0-91
Age Median	74.38	52.42	60.75

## Connecticut - Weekly Viral Respiratory Disease Case Summary by CT DPH

For the week ending: 02/03/2024

Disease	COVID-19	Influenza	RSV
Current Week	791	579	124
Previous Week	2,108	1,291	296
Season Total to Date	41,381	15,264	12,498

Source:

<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiazmZiN2RIOTMtNGJjNS00Nzk5LWE3ZmEtNGUxMTM4YTUzNGFjIiwidCI6IjExOGI3Y2ZhLWEzZGQtdNDhiOS1iMDI2LTmxZmY2OWJiNzM4YiJ9>

### 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 February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024*)**

Hospital of Central Connecticut, 61 Hart Street

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

Appointment recommended, access: <https://hartfordhealthcare.org/health-wellness/coronavirus/covid-testing>



***\*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