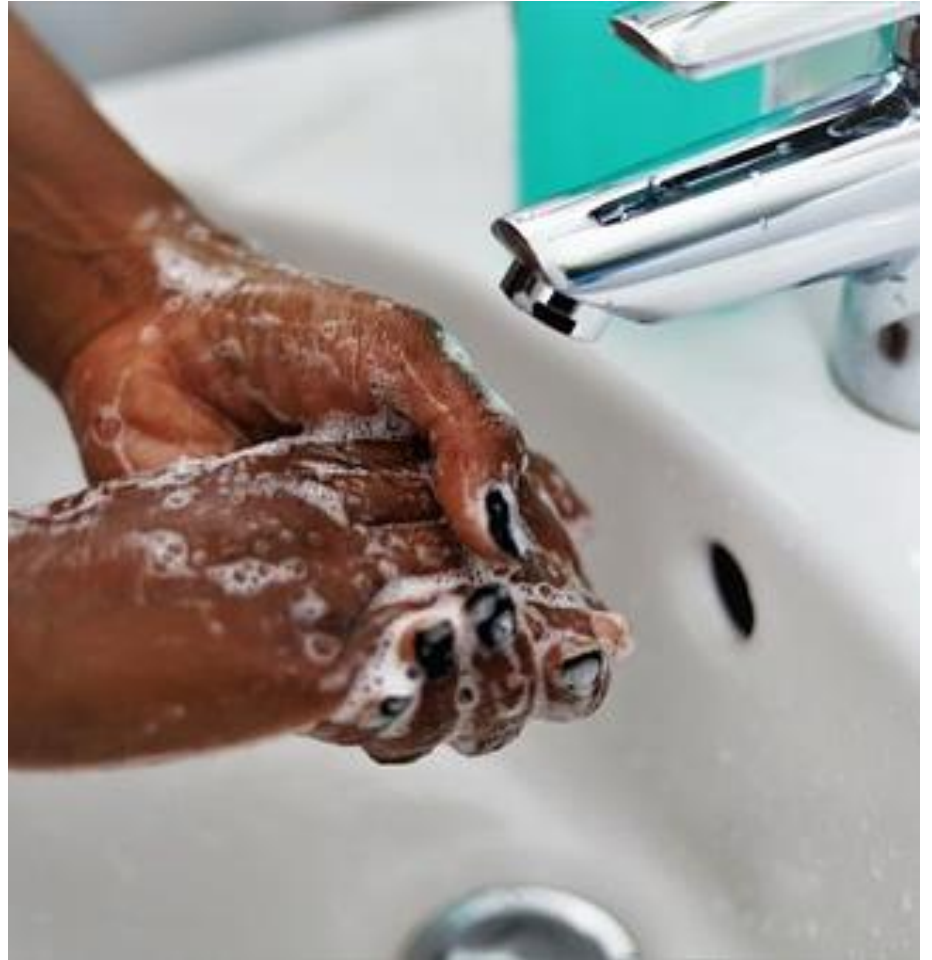


**Vermont Department
of Health
Infectious Disease
Epidemiology
Respiratory Disease
Season 2023-2024
Check-in**

January 11, 2024

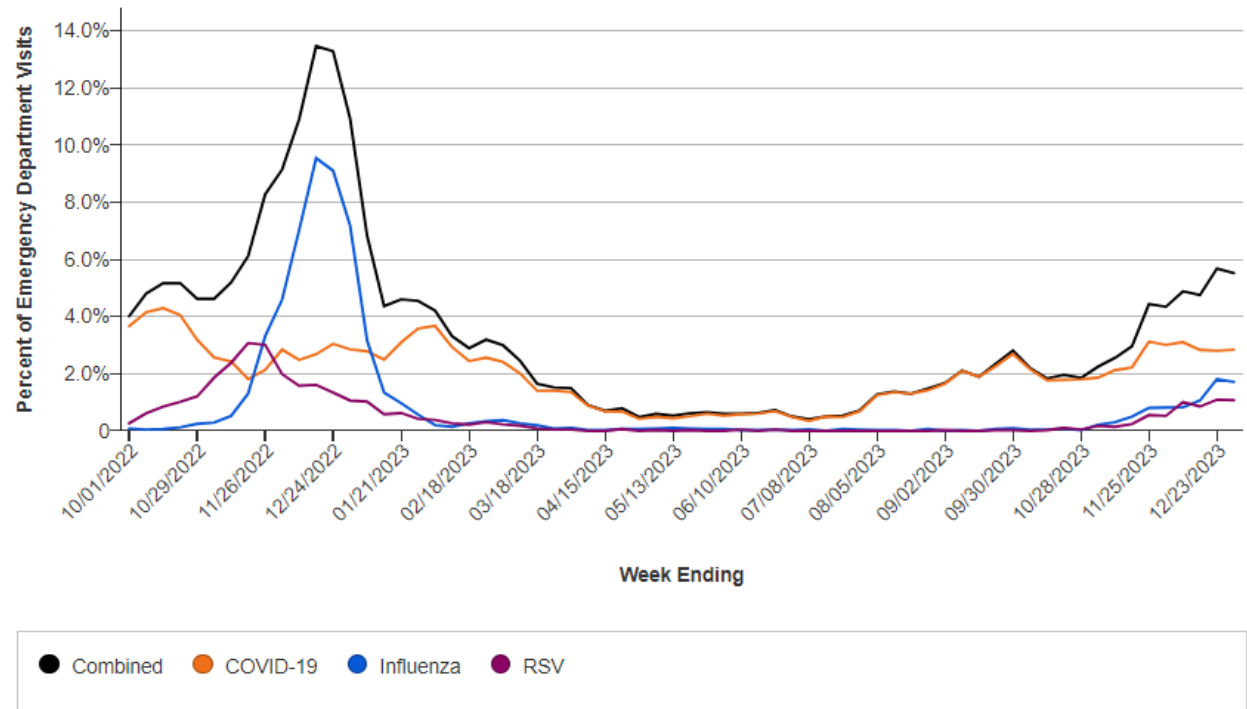


Overall Respiratory Disease Activity - Vermont

From CDC's [Respiratory Virus Activity Levels \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory/virus-activity-levels/) as of 1/3/2024

RSV and Influenza emergency department visits have increased slightly in Vermont.

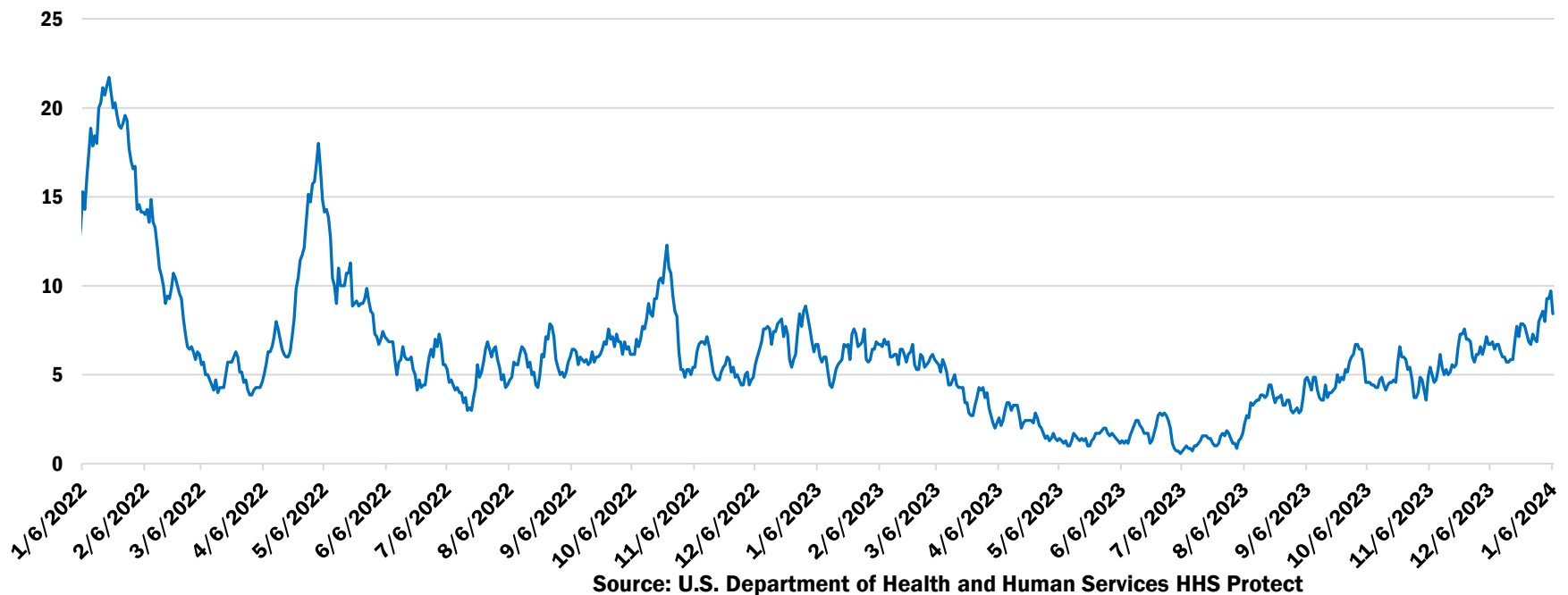
•COVID-related visits have been fairly level.



Current Level of COVID-19 Activity: Trending up, but still “low”

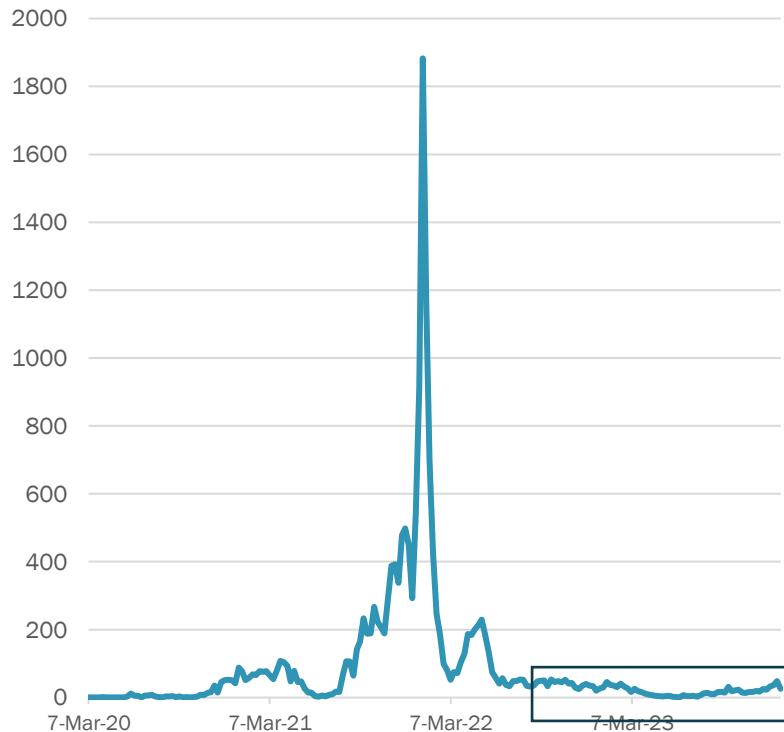
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/covid-19/covid-19-data>

Daily Hospitalizations With COVID-19 Diagnosis Seven-Day Rolling Average

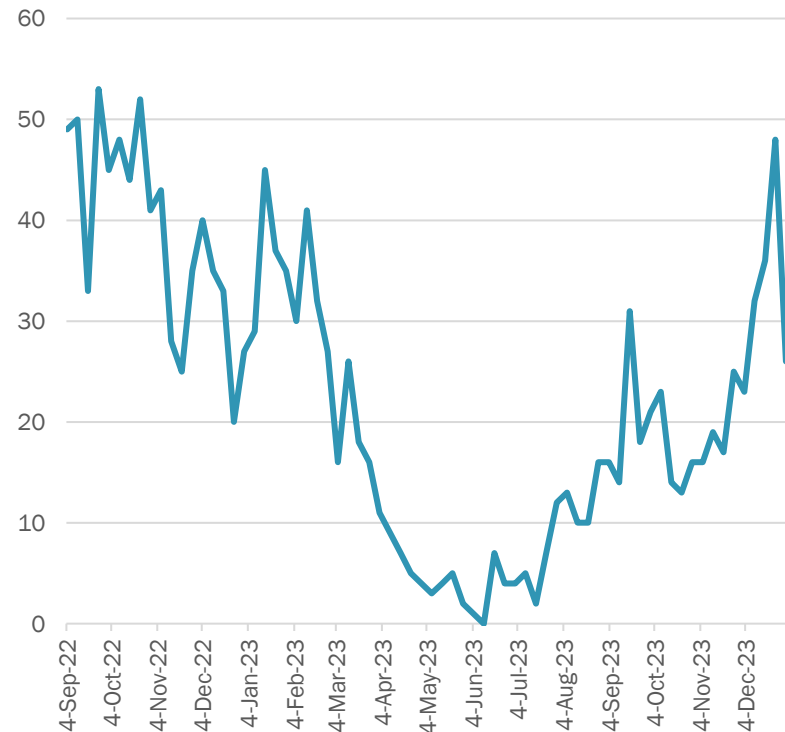


Low COVID-19 Case Numbers in Youngest Vermonters: Less testing... which also suggests fewer visits!

COVID-19 Cases (positive tests performed by a healthcare provider), Vermonters age 0-9: all pandemic



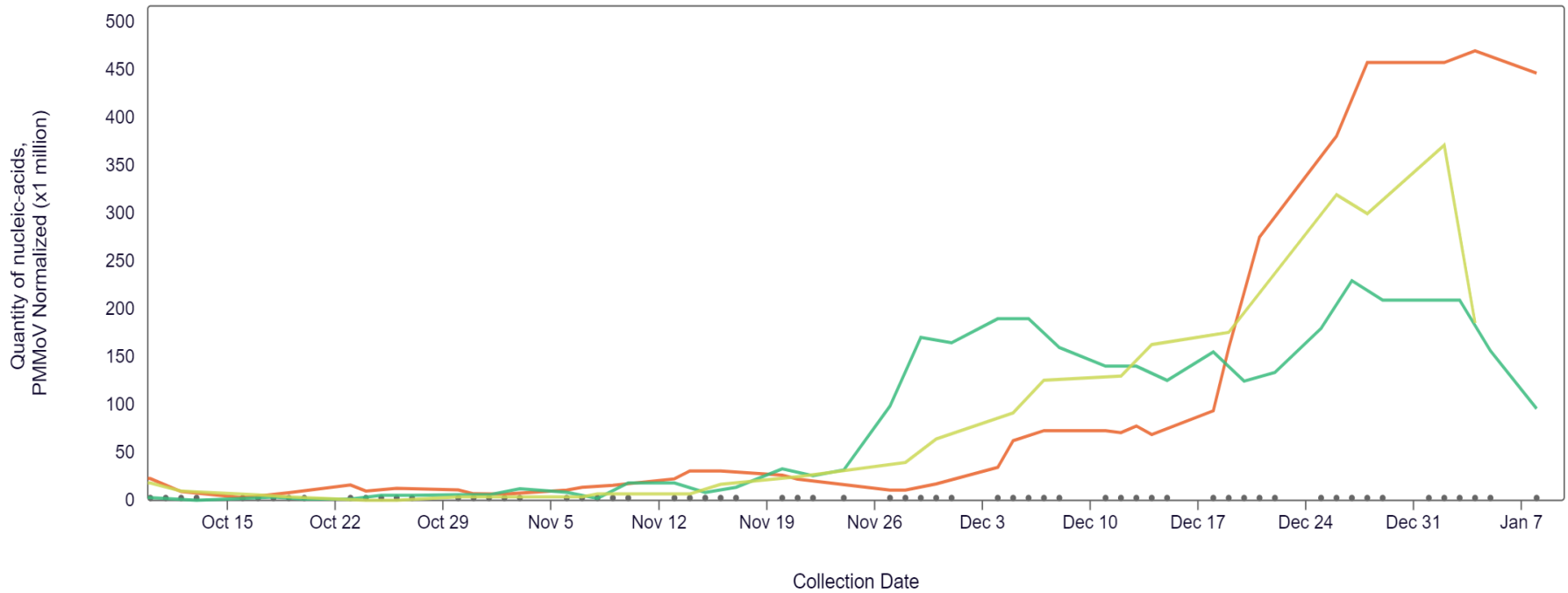
COVID-19 Cases (positive tests performed by a healthcare provider), Vermonters age 0-9



Vermont Influenza Activity – Influenza-Like Illness

Vermont RSV Activity - Wastewater

RSV, Vermont



• Sample collected

- Montpelier, VT (Montpelier Water Resource Recovery Facility)
- Essex Junction, VT (City of Essex Junction Wastewater Treatment Facility)
- South Burlington, VT (South Burlington-Airport Parkway WWTF)

Respiratory Disease Activity and Response

- COVID-19, flu, RSV and other respiratory illness are circulating.
- While COVID-19 has demanded much of our attention in the past few years, other conditions such as influenza and RSV appear to be of greater risk for youngest age groups
- Child-care facilities that do not provide healthcare staffing are not **required** to report cases or outbreaks of COVID-19, flu or RSV to the Health Department.
 - All facilities are **encouraged** to contact the Department to report disease outbreaks and are always welcome to contact us for information and support in managing infectious disease:

[Non-COVID-19 Viral Respiratory Disease Outbreak Report Form \(alchemer.com\)](https://www.alchemer.com)

Respiratory Disease Activity and Response

- COVID-19 testing should not be required in decision-making; there are no required isolation periods for childcare.
- Use the same principles with COVID-19 as with other infectious respiratory diseases: If a child or staff member is too sick to participate in group care, they should be sent home.
- Because mask use is not recommended for children ages younger than two years and may be difficult for very young children or for some children with disabilities, consider layering other prevention strategies.

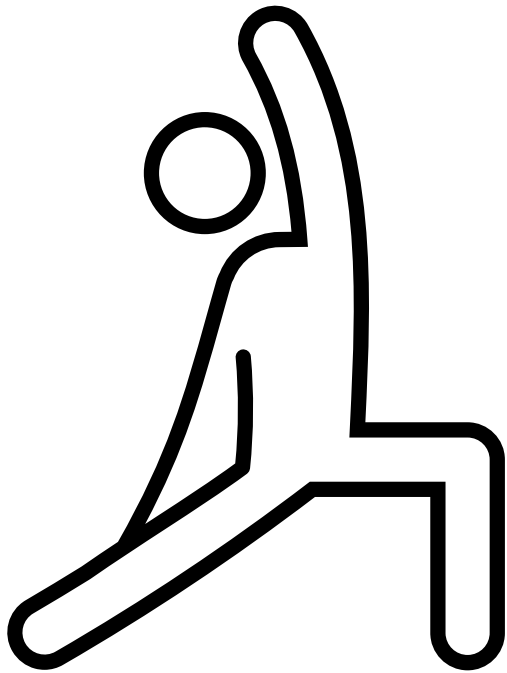
Reducing Respiratory Illness Transmission



Over the past four years we have learned how layering efforts can help reduce transmission of COVID-19 and similar diseases.

- **Get Vaccinated:** Encourage everyone to stay up to date with vaccinations.
- **Masks:** Make masks available to those who can wear them
- **Ventilation:** Improve ventilation of indoor common areas by opening windows and/or using fans
- **Hand Hygiene:** Encourage handwashing and make hand sanitizer available
- **Sanitation:** Clean high touch areas and make cleaning supplies available in shared bathrooms
- **Stay home when sick**

Questions?



Infectious Disease epidemiology COVID-19 program:
AHS.VDHEPICOVID19Program@vermont.gov

Infectious Disease influenza coordinator:
Hilary.Fannin@vermont.gov

To find your local Health Department office:
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/local>

Thank you!

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