

# What's Going Around: A Communicable Disease Report

## **Diseases and conditions reported during February 4 - February 17, 2024:**

*This report is a bimonthly snapshot of communicable diseases reported in El Paso County, as well as a report of disease trends and local health alerts. El Paso County Public Health's (EPCPH) Communicable Disease Program partners with the medical community and the public to limit and reduce the spread of diseases in our community.*

### **Reportable diseases and conditions:**

- 7 Animal Bites – 6 pediatric, 1 adult; 0 recommended to receive rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- 5 Campylobacteriosis – 2 pediatric, 3 adults
- 34 COVID-19, hospitalized – 2 pediatric, 32 adults
- 2 Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) - adults
- 4 Giardiasis – adults
- 13 Invasive Strep Pneumoniae – adults
- 1 Mpox – adult
- 2 Pertussis – adults
- 33 RSV, hospitalized – 19 pediatric, 14 adults
- 1 Salmonellosis – adult
- 2 Shigellosis – adults
- 2 STEC (Shiga Toxin Producing E.coli) - adults
- 3 Varicella – 2 pediatric, 1 adult

### **Additional reports:**

- Animals positive for rabies 2024 Year to Date: 0
- Hospitalized Influenza since October 1, 2023: 400 Total (322 Influenza A, 65 Influenza B and 13 Unsubtyped)
- Outbreaks reported:
  - 8 Influenza outbreaks associated with schools and childcare facilities
  - 3 COVID-19 outbreaks associated with schools and childcare facilities
  - 2 norovirus outbreaks associated with schools and childcare facilities
  - 1 conjunctivitis outbreak associated with a school and childcare facility
  - 1 RSV outbreaks associated with schools and childcare facilities

\*COVID-19 outbreaks in LTCF are not included in this summary

*For a list of reportable diseases and conditions and instructions on how to report, use this [link](#).*

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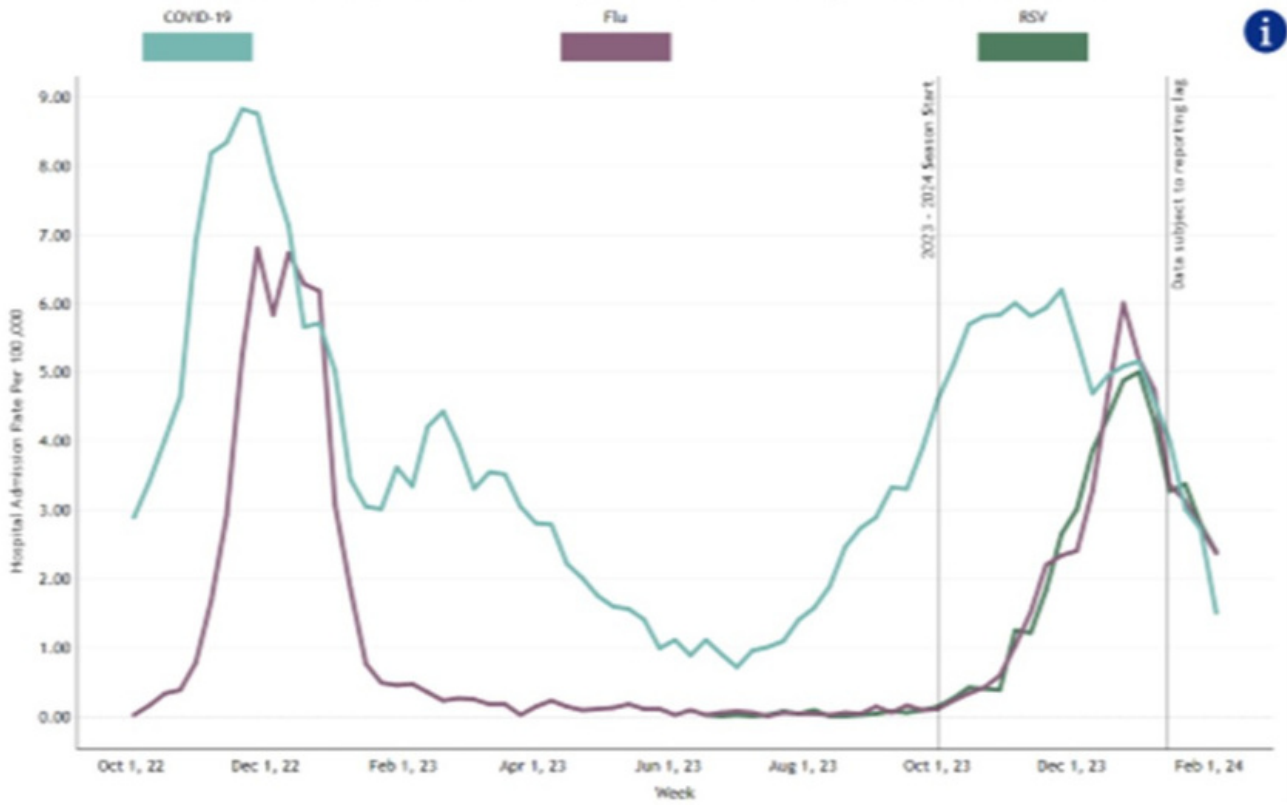
## **Health news: Mid-Season RSV Update**

- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) causes respiratory tract illness in people of all ages. The majority of children are infected with RSV by the time they are 2 years old. In older children, adolescents and adults, RSV disease generally presents as a mild, cold-like illness. People at high risk of severe RSV infection include infants and young children, elderly adults, and adults with underlying medical conditions.
- Beginning in 2023, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment implemented surveillance for RSV hospitalizations statewide and RSV hospitalizations are a notifiable condition:
  - Hospitalized patients who test positive for RSV during or within 14 days before hospitalization.
  - Death of an individual under 18 years old with a compatible illness confirmed to be RSV by a test taken either before or after death.
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has a dashboard for data and trends for hospitalized influenza, COVID-19, and RSV in the state: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/viral-respiratory-diseases-report>.
- A national RSV report is published weekly by CDC and can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/rsv/index.html>
- RSV outbreaks in any setting are required to be reported to the local health department by completion of this [form](#) or calling EPCPH at 719-587-3220.
- Since the start of respiratory season in El Paso County (October 1, 2023):
  - 345 individuals hospitalized with RSV: 226 pediatric, 119 adults
  - 109 cases (32 percent) were less than 1 year old
  - 28 total RSV outbreaks were reported (26 in schools/childcares and 2 in long term care settings). During the same timeframe last year, there were 99 total RSV outbreaks reported across these settings. A confirmed RSV outbreak is defined as two or more cases of RSV among associated people with symptom onset occurring within a 1-week period.
- In the United States, disruption of the seasonal circulation of RSV was observed during the COVID-19 pandemic as nonpharmaceutical interventions (e.g., masking, social distancing, school closures) reduced respiratory virus transmission. These interventions led to markedly less viral transmission and likely increased the pool of susceptible persons, which changed the dynamic of RSV transmission in subsequent years (namely the large RSV epidemic in the winter 2022-2023 season).
- Infants and older adults are more likely to develop severe RSV disease. Vaccines are available to protect older adults from severe RSV. Monoclonal antibody products are available to protect infants and young children from severe RSV. Specific recommendations from the CDC can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/index.html>

## Questions? Please Contact:

El Paso County Public Health CD/TB Program  
Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
(719) 578-3220; after-hours emergency: (719) 235-2278  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
(303) 692-2700; after-hours emergency: (303) 370-9395  
[www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org)  
Reportable Diseases and Conditions List

# Colorado COVID-19, RSV, Influenza Hospital Admission Rates by Week of Admission Date



Data as of February 20, 2024