

COVID-19 Cases Among Children and Youth in Washington

Washington State Department of Health

February 15, 2024



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Note: The Department of Health is moving from COVID-19 response to recovery and is phasing out publishing various data reports. Much of the data can now be found on the [Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard](#). This will mark the final publication of the COVID-19 cases among children and youth in Washington report. If you need additional assistance, please reach out to DOH-CDS-Surveillance@doh.wa.gov.

Data Note: DOH updated the population estimates used in rate calculations for COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. We are now using more recent estimates for 2022-2023. This resulted in a slight decrease in case, hospitalization, and death rates in this report. Please be cautious when comparing this report to versions released prior to June 14, 2023.

The purpose of this report is to provide information on COVID-19 in all children and youth, ages 0 to 19 years, in Washington state. Children and youth across Washington continue to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. While schools are taking precautions to prevent the spread of the virus, understanding the burden of the disease among all children and youth can help communities, educational service districts (ESD), school districts, and schools better prepare and respond to shifting needs. This report describes cases among all children and youth in Washington and are broken down by ESD regions, and age. An ESD is a regional education unit that is made up of multiple school districts. State level hospitalization and death data are also provided.

Cases are assigned to an ESD region based on the individual's home address. Children and youth with COVID-19 include all individuals living within an ESD's jurisdiction who are 0-19 years old, regardless of where they actually learn.

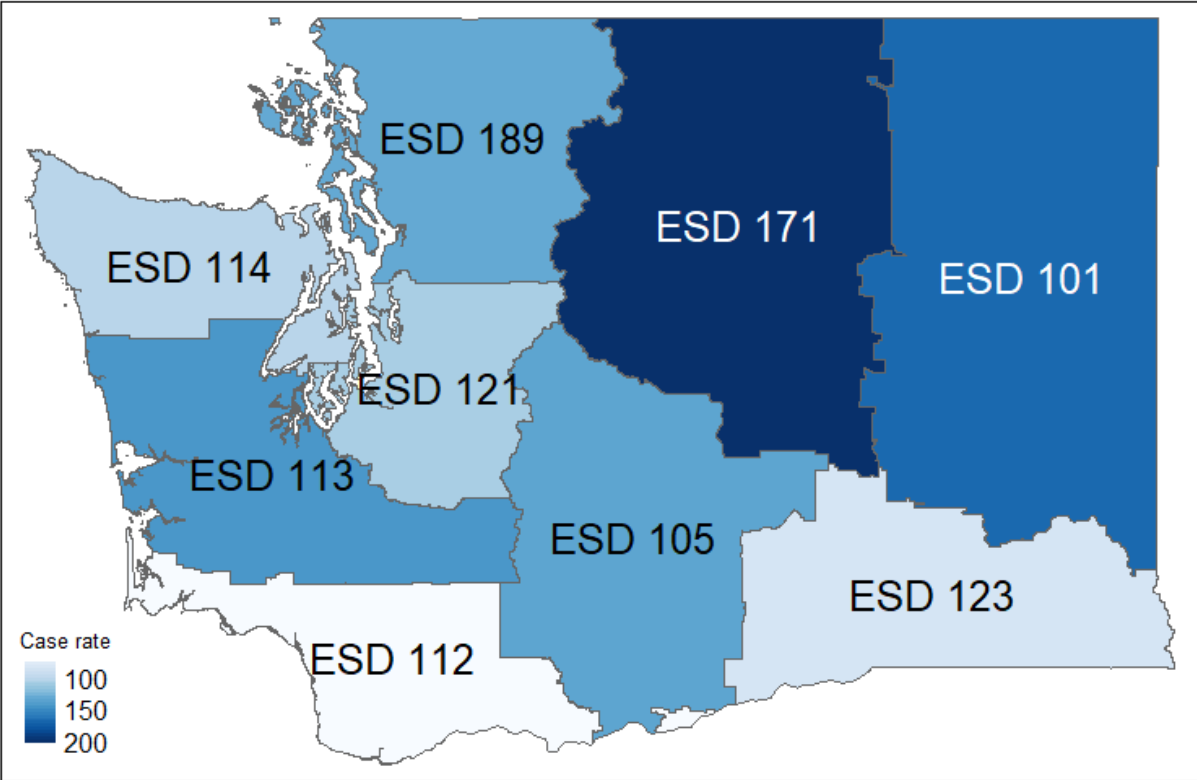
Key findings

- Among children and youth in Washington state from January 8 to February 4, 2024:
 - there were 2,211 cases (117 cases per 100,000 population);
 - case rates are continuing to increase;
 - the highest case rates were in ESD 171 Washington;
 - 0-3 year-olds had the highest case rates (259 cases per 100,000 population);
 - there were 62 hospitalizations (3.3 hospitalizations per 100,000 population);
 - hospitalization rates are increasing.
- There have been a total of 13 deaths in all children and youth in Washington state reported January 1, 2022 to February 4, 2024

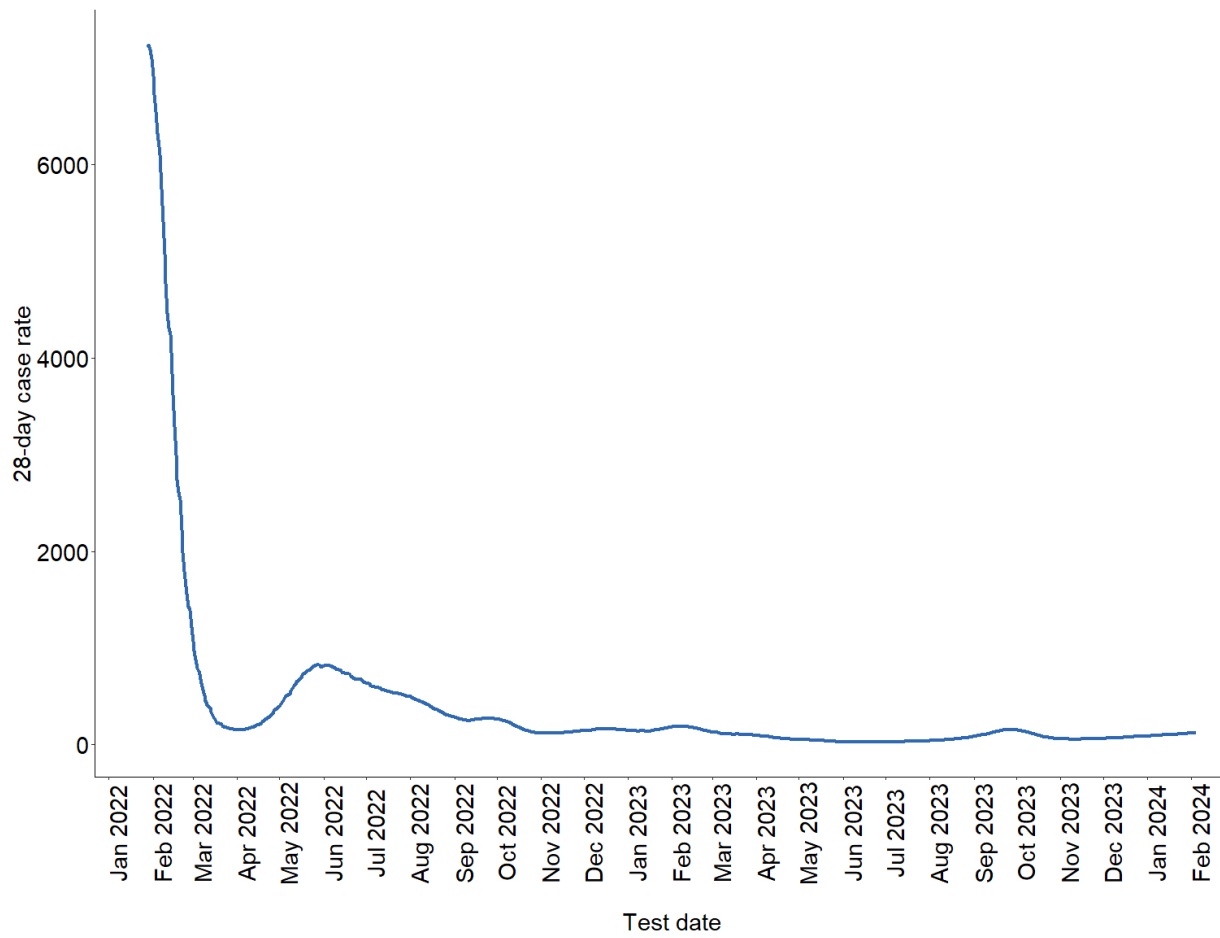
Number of COVID-19 cases and case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region, January 8 to February 4, 2024

| ESD | Population | Case count | Case rate |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| ESD 101 | 167,915 | 284 | 169.1 |
| ESD 105 | 98,916 | 133 | 134.5 |
| ESD 112 | 167,891 | 96 | 57.2 |
| ESD 113 | 120,490 | 172 | 142.8 |
| ESD 114 | 77,927 | 78 | 100.1 |
| ESD 121 | 774,662 | 829 | 107.0 |
| ESD 123 | 122,746 | 101 | 82.3 |
| ESD 171 | 68,176 | 137 | 201.0 |
| ESD 189 | 290,870 | 381 | 131.0 |
| State total | 1,889,593 | 2,211 | 117.0 |

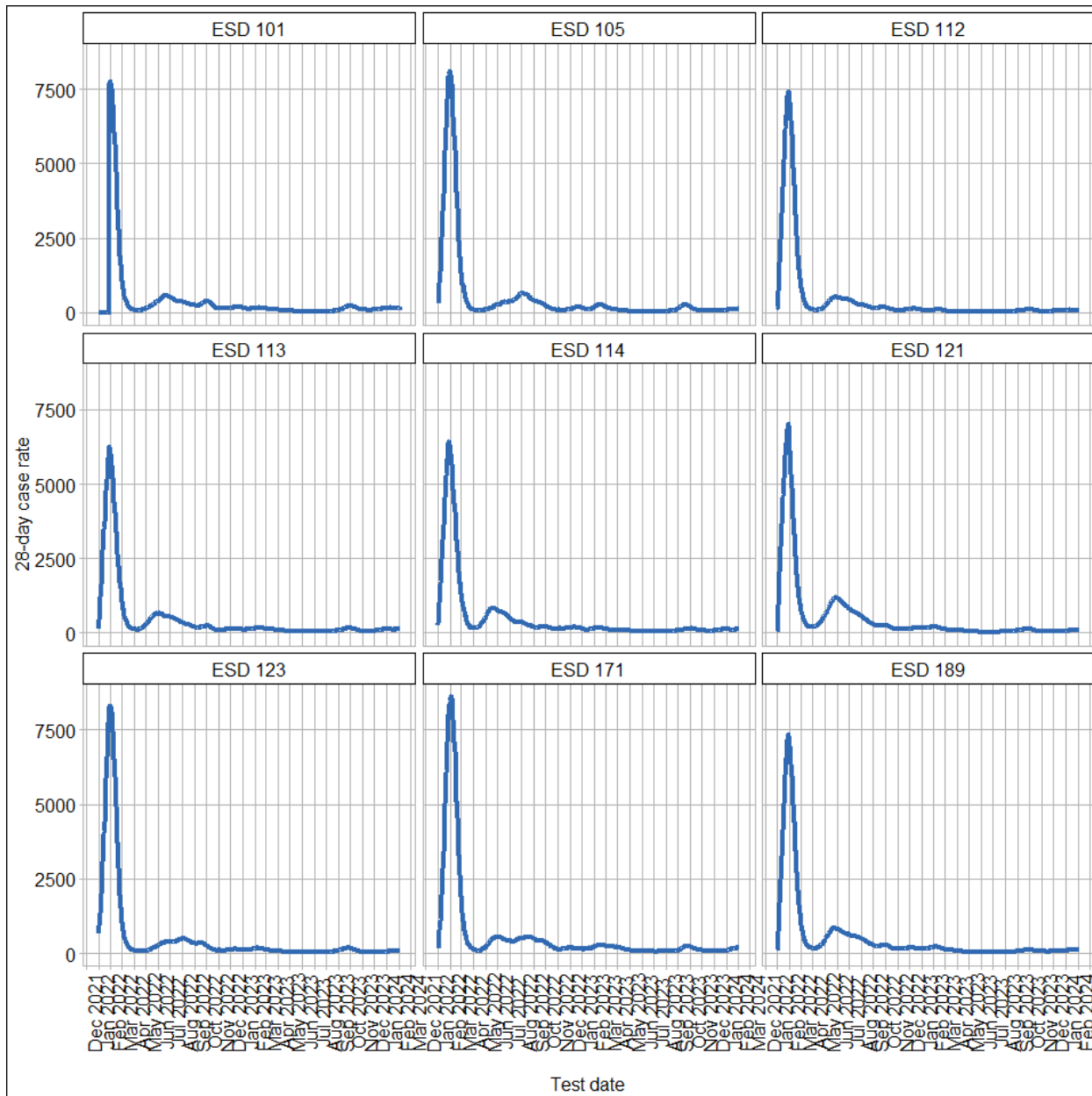
COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region, January 8 to February 4, 2024



28-day COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state, January 1, 2022 to February 4, 2024



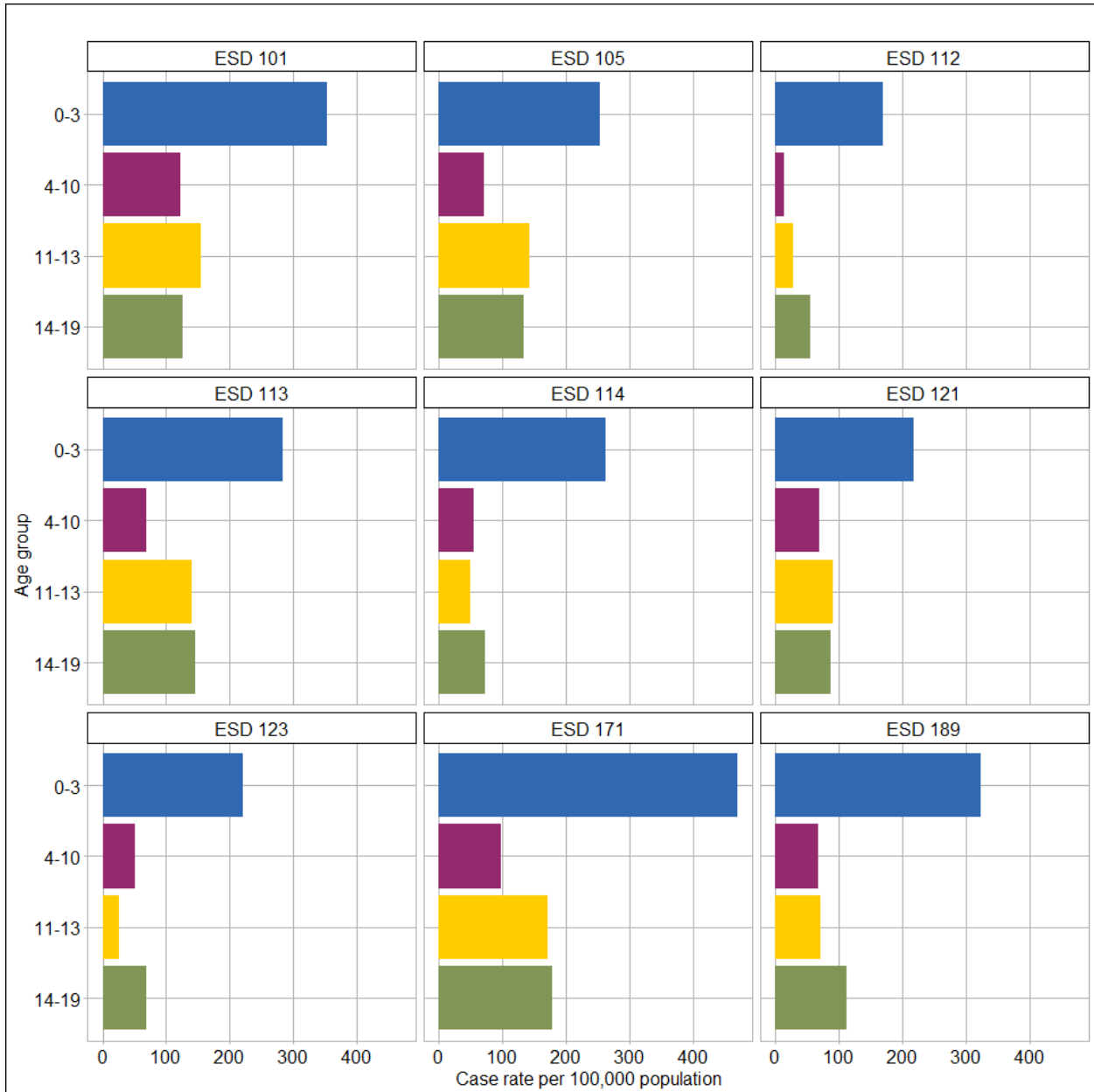
28-day COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state by ESD region, January 1, 2022 to February 4, 2024



Number of COVID-19 cases and case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region and age group, January 8 to February 4, 2024

| | 0-3 year-olds (preschool) | | 4-10 year-olds (elementary school) | | 11-13 year-olds (middle school) | | 14-19 year-olds (high school) | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| ESD | Case count | Case rate | Case count | Case rate | Case count | Case rate | Case count | Case rate |
| ESD 101 | 104 | 354.4 | 68 | 122.4 | 40 | 155.3 | 72 | 125.7 |
| ESD 105 | 45 | 254.1 | 25 | 71.5 | 22 | 142.7 | 41 | 133.1 |
| ESD 112 | 50 | 169.9 | 9 | 15.3 | 8 | 29.3 | 29 | 55.2 |
| ESD 113 | 62 | 283.7 | 29 | 68.8 | 27 | 140.2 | 54 | 145.1 |
| ESD 114 | 40 | 262.1 | 15 | 54.9 | 6 | 49.1 | 17 | 73.4 |
| ESD 121 | 330 | 219.3 | 188 | 68.7 | 110 | 92.3 | 201 | 87.0 |
| ESD 123 | 48 | 219.8 | 22 | 50.5 | 5 | 25.3 | 26 | 69.2 |
| ESD 171 | 57 | 469.6 | 23 | 97.7 | 19 | 170.7 | 38 | 177.8 |
| ESD 189 | 179 | 324.0 | 69 | 68.2 | 33 | 71.1 | 100 | 113.5 |
| State total | 915 | 259.0 | 448 | 67.8 | 270 | 91.1 | 578 | 99.8 |

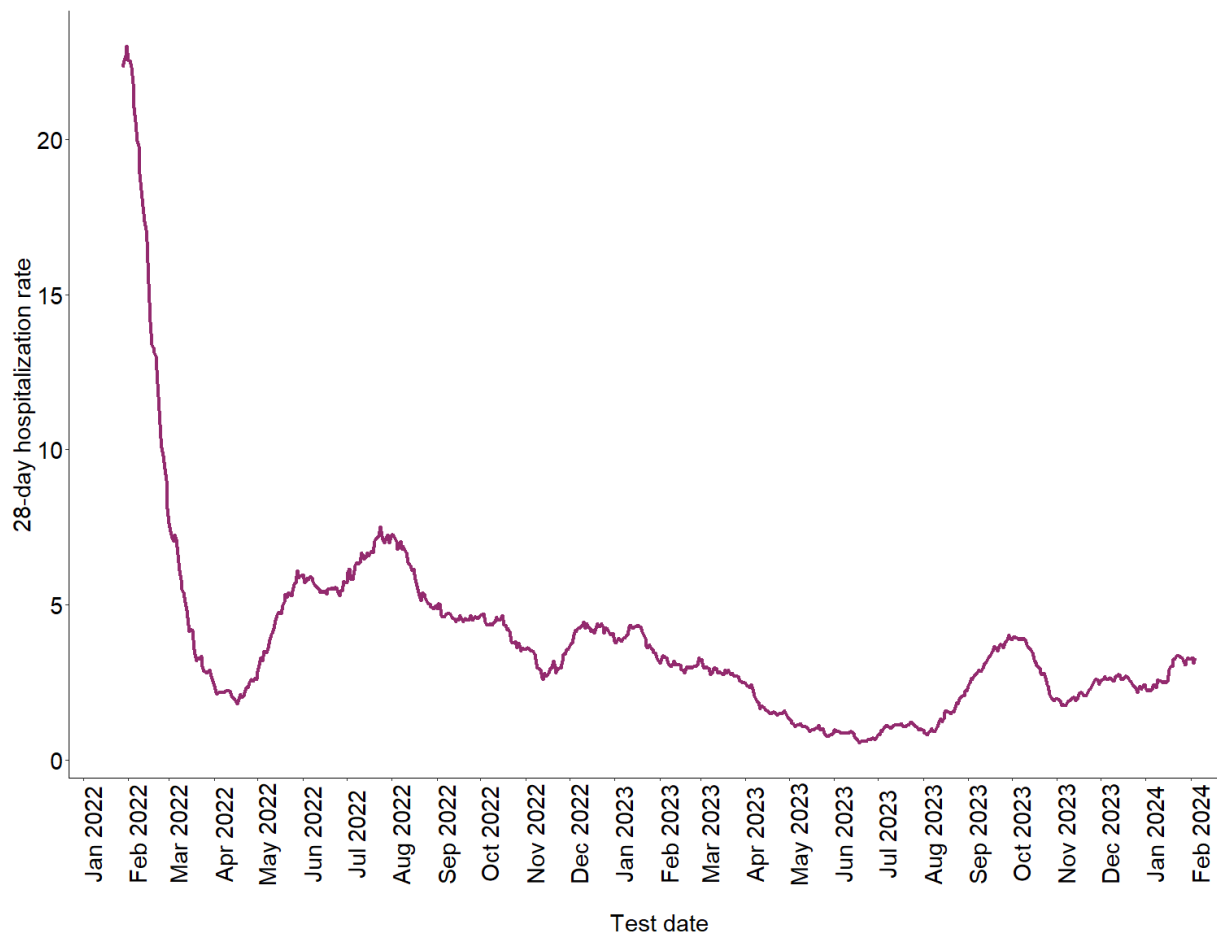
COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region and age group, January 8 to February 4, 2024



COVID-19 hospitalization rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington, January 8 to February 4, 2024

| Population | Hospitalization count | Hospitalization rate |
|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1,889,593 | 62 | 3.3 |

28-day COVID-19 hospitalization rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state, January 1, 2022 to February 4, 2024



Methods

Definitions

Case data in this report come from the Washington State Disease Reporting System (WDRS). A 'case' is defined as an individual between the ages of 0 and 19 years who tested positive for COVID-19 during a 28-day period by either molecular test (such as PCR) or antigen tests. Most antigen tests are rapid tests and provide results in approximately 15 minutes to 1 hour.

The report includes the most recent complete 28 days of data, January 8 to February 4, 2024.

Cases are assigned to an ESD region based on the individual's home address. Children and youth with COVID-19 include all individuals living within an ESD's jurisdiction who are 0-19 years old, regardless of where they actually learn. This includes:

- students who attend a public or private school in the ESD region
- homeschooled youth
- youth who reside in a juvenile correctional facility
- all other children and youth

Please note that case rates and counts do not represent cases that occurred among students enrolled in a particular ESD or district. They represent all children and youth within the region served by an ESD or district.

An accurate home address was missing for approximately 0% of cases in children and youth with a test date between January 8 to February 4, 2024. These cases are not included in this report.

A COVID-19 hospitalization is a Washington resident who has been identified using case investigation data in WDRS or links with Rapid Health Information Network (RHINO) records as hospitalized with confirmed or probable COVID-19. Due to small numbers, to protect privacy hospitalization data are only reported at the state level.

Deaths are reported to the state by health care providers, medical examiners or coroners, local health departments, or others to the official vital records database, WHALES. COVID-19 deaths included in this report are identified in WHALES where the cause of death was confirmed or suspected to have been COVID-19. Due to small numbers, to protect privacy death data are only reported at the state level aggregated across time.

28-day rate calculation

Case rates are calculated as the total number of cases within the specified demographic (e.g. age group) and ESD region with a test date during the 28-day period divided by the Washington state population for the same region and demographic.

Hospitalization rates are calculated as the total number of hospitalizations in Washington state with a test date during the 28-day period divided by the Washington state population 0-19 years old.

All rates presented in this report use the Washington state population distribution based on population interim estimates (PIE) by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin developed by Public Health – Seattle and King county (PHSKC).