

# **COVID-19 Cases Among Children and Youth in Washington**

**Washington State Department of Health**

**February 15, 2024**

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# COVID-19 Cases Among Children and Youth in Washington

February 15, 2024

**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.**

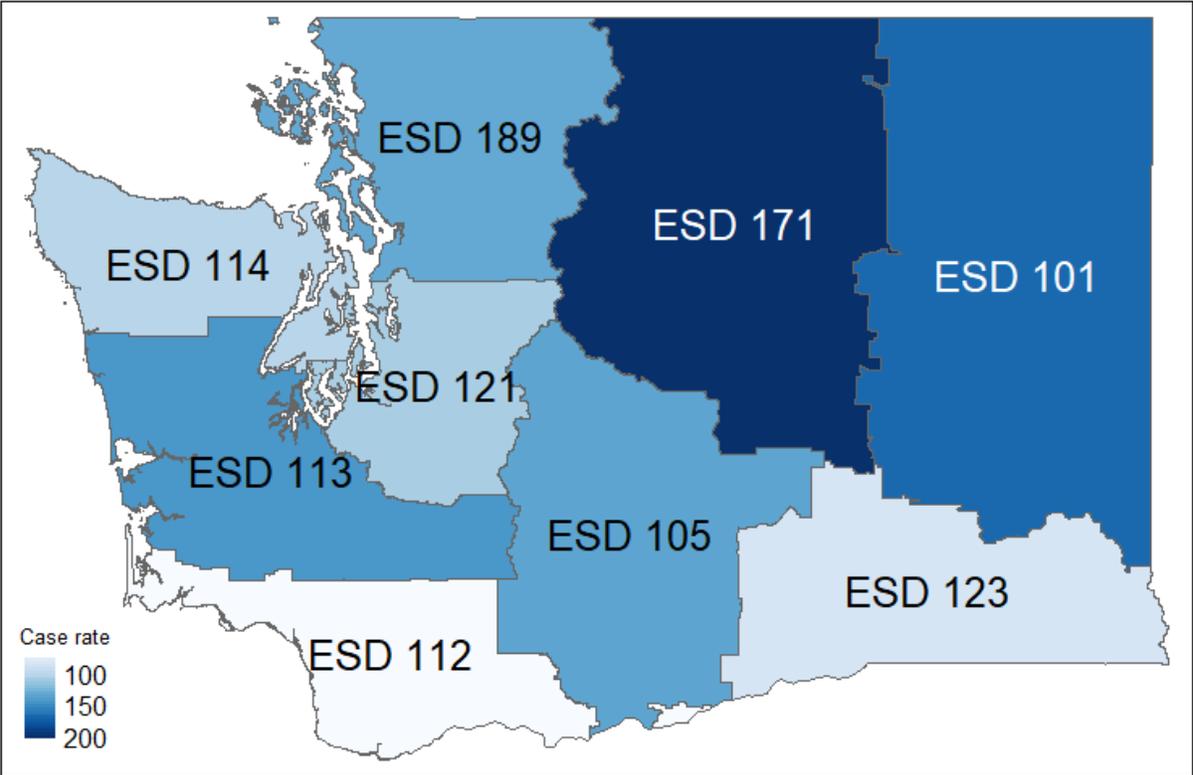
## Key findings

- 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

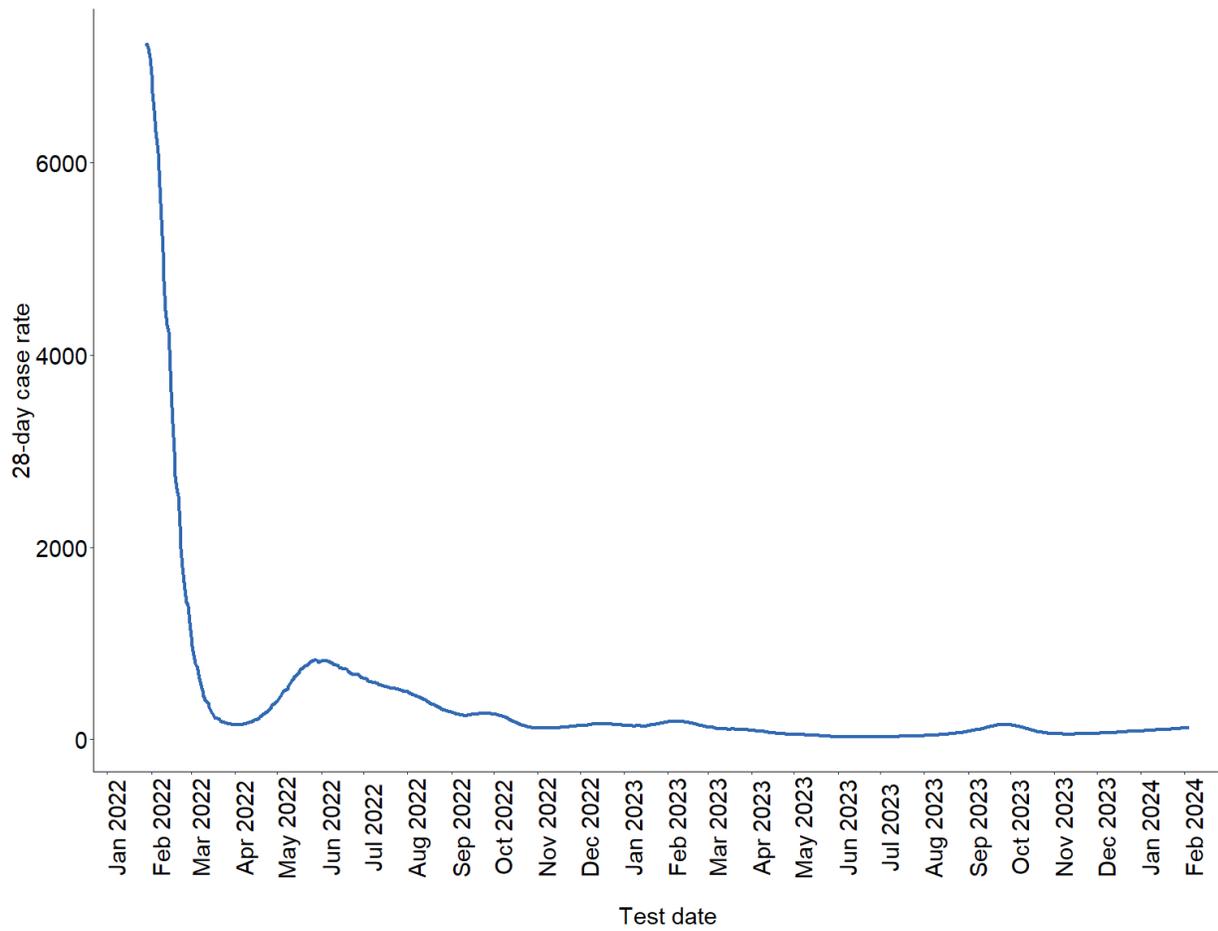
**Number of COVID-19 cases and case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region, January 8 to February 4, 2024**

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
<b>State total</b>	<b>1,889,593</b>	<b>2,211</b>	<b>117.0</b>

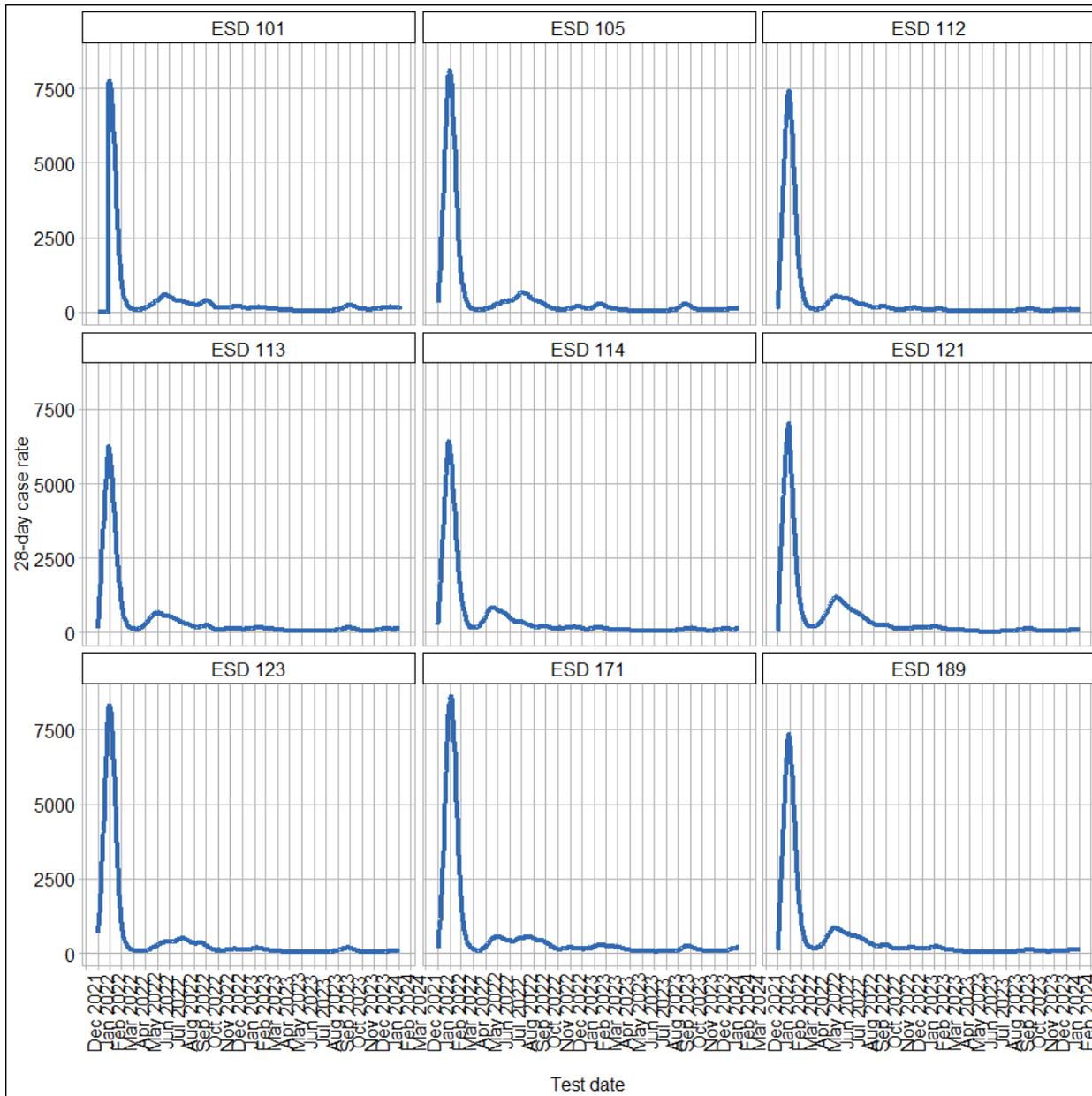
**COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region, January 8 to February 4, 2024**



**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**



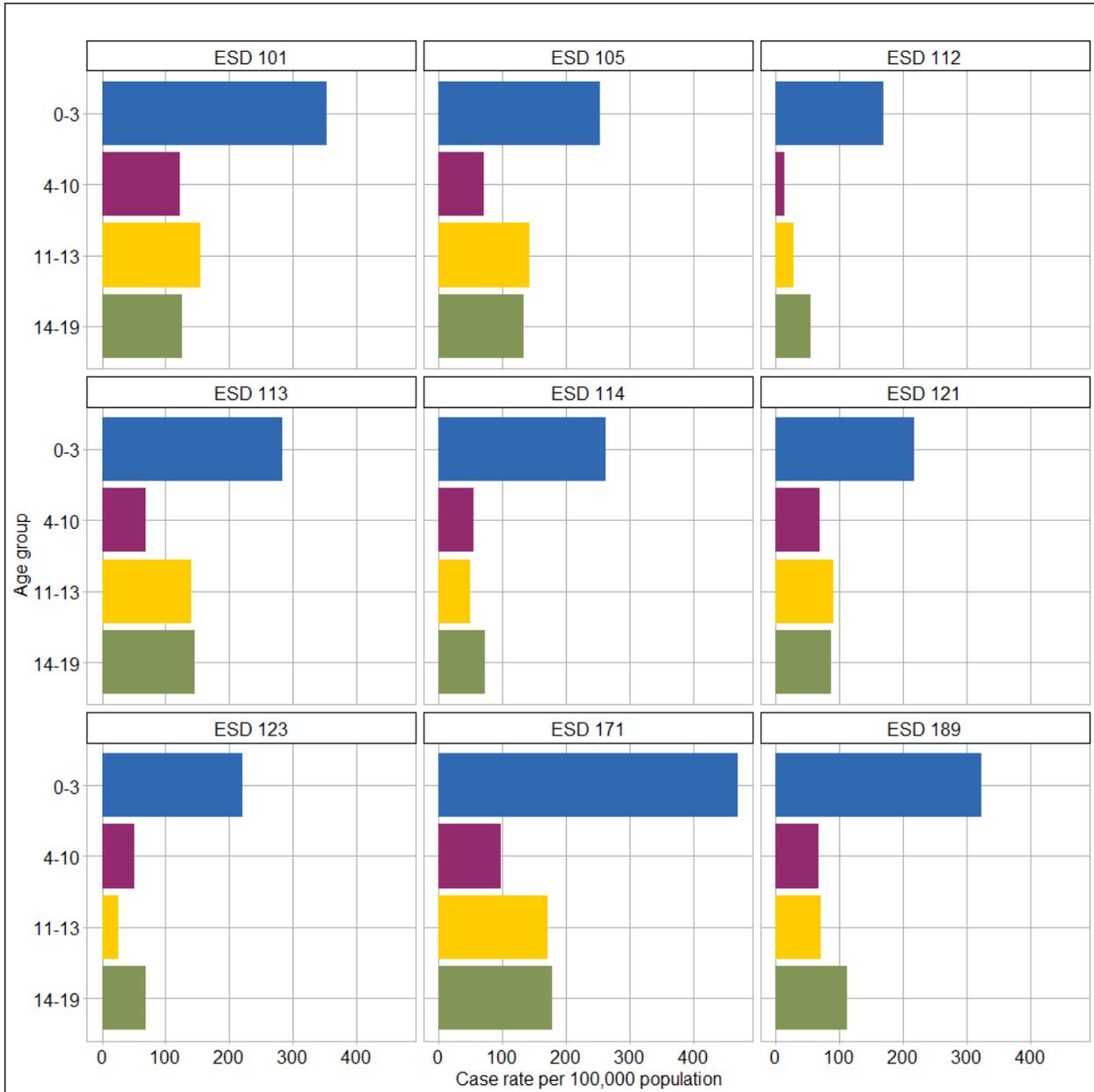
**28-day COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state by ESD region, January 1, 2022 to February 4, 2024**



**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
<b>State total</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>259.0</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>99.8</b>

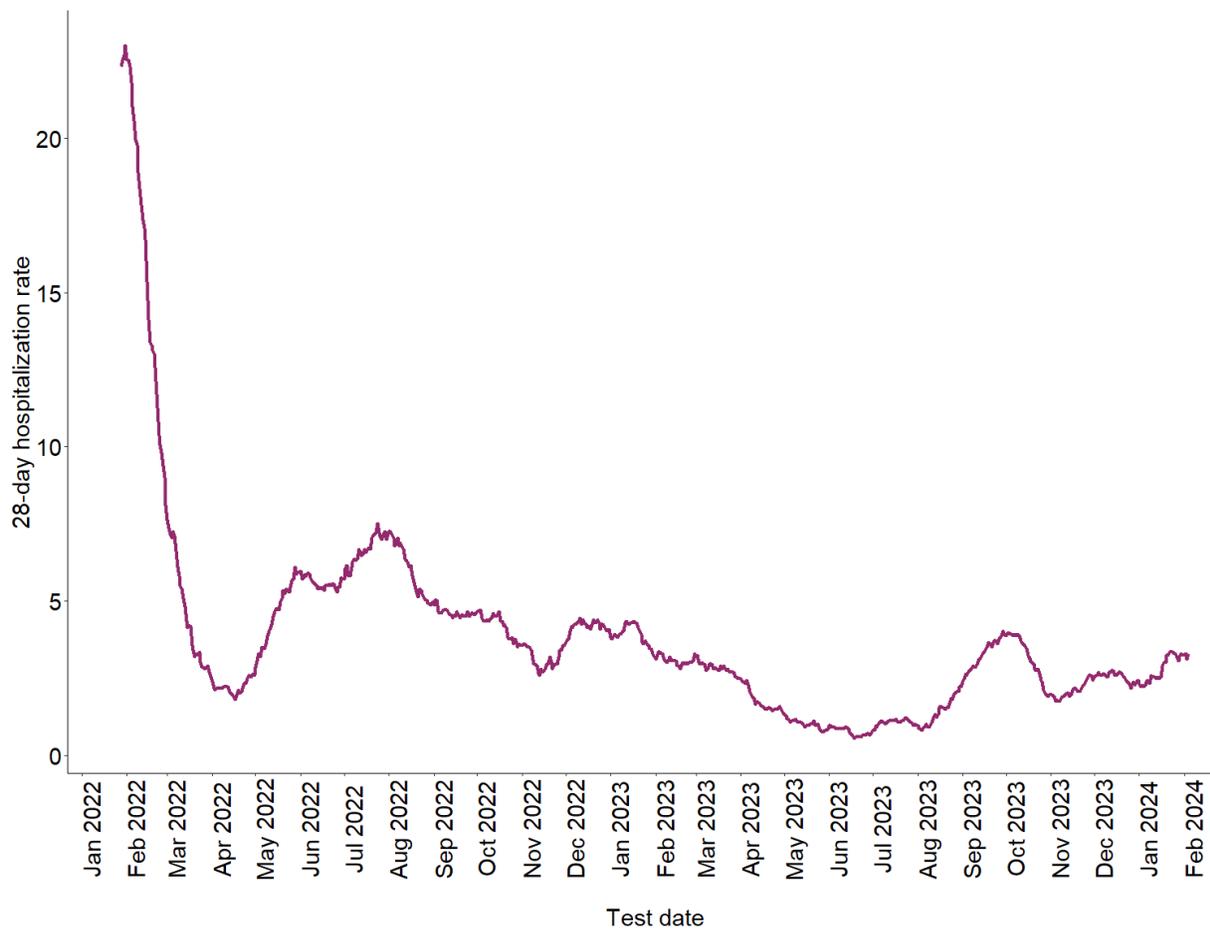
**COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region and age group, January 8 to February 4, 2024**



**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).