

School-Located Vaccination Influenza Program

Rhode Island Annual Report 2022-23 school year

The 2022-23 school year has been marked by high rates of respiratory illnesses among children: influenza (flu), RSV, rhinopharyngitis (common cold), and COVID-19. **Working together, we can reduce the risk** of some of these viruses! The flu vaccine offers the best defense against potentially serious complications while helping to reduce the spread to others.

Many years of data collection has shown that the flu vaccine is safe and reduces the risk of getting sick. Even if you do get sick, the vaccine lowers your risk of winding up in the emergency room. But in Rhode Island, fewer children are getting the flu vaccine this year than last year.

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) works with local schools to offer flu vaccination clinics known as School-Located Vaccination Clinics, or SLV. Although the SLV clinics are completed for the 2022-23 school year, there are alternative ways to protect yourself and others:

- <u>Vaccinate Before You Graduate</u> (VBYG) clinics offer flu catch-up vaccines along with other overdue vaccines to adolescents in 7th-12th grades. Contact <u>Kathy.Marceau@health.ri.gov</u> for additional information.
- Encourage your staff and parents to go to their local pharmacy, or physician's office, to obtain a flu vaccination this season.
- Scheduling for Flu Season 2023 will begin in April. Designated flu coordinators will receive an email notification with details.

Summary of SLV Influenza Program Participation

- Flu vaccinations were administered at community and school-based clinics from October 3-November 18, 2022. The vaccinations were provided free to community members aged 3 and older.
- The past three years have shown a decline in flu vaccination clinics and administration in both children and adults.

	2022-23 school year	2021-22 school year	2020-21 school year	2019-20 school year
Clinics held	227	229	240	248
Children (ages 3-18) vaccinated	11,407	13,157	15,723	17,852
Adults (19 and older) vaccinated	7,864	9,372	10,689	10,905

The number of vaccines administered for a specific school are found on the <u>SLV Data Dashboard</u>.

SLV totals by school district: 2022-23 school year

School district where clinics were held	Number of children vaccinated	Number of adults vaccinated	Total
Barrington	372	626	998
Bristol-Warren	153	236	389
Burrillville	160	184	344
Central Falls	153	82	235
Chariho	202	260	462
Coventry	225	219	444
Cranston	382	620	1002
Cumberland	546	698	1244
East Greenwich	206	377	583
East Providence	305	416	721
Exeter West Greenwich	177	215	392
Foster/Glocester	138	234	372
Jamestown	95	122	217
Johnston	125	166	291
Lincoln	243	403	646
Little Compton	74	62	136
Middletown	223	445	668
Narragansett	114	187	301
Newport	185	252	437
North Kingstown	318	525	843
North Providence	148	176	324
North Smithfield	221	267	488
Pawtucket	183	211	394
Portsmouth	373	601	974
Providence	987	1561	2548
Scituate	113	139	252
Smithfield	155	344	499
South Kingstown	286	449	735
Tiverton	116	162	278
Warwick	401	654	1055
West Warwick	123	104	227
Westerly	150	223	373
Woonsocket	212	187	399
Total	7,864	11,407	19,271