



# KIDSNET UPDATE

RHODE ISLAND'S INTEGRATED CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

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## JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

### New Family Visit Report

Primary care providers have a new KIDSNET Family Visiting report to assist with care coordination. This report lists patients who are currently, or were previously enrolled in, one of the RIDOH community-based Family Visiting Programs (First Connections, Nurse-Family Partnership, Healthy Families America, and Parents as Teachers). Contact information for the family visiting provider is also listed to facilitate coordination and communication between the child's primary care provider and the family visiting agency. Contact your KIDSNET Provider Relations Representative for any questions or training on this report.

### KIDSNET Survey Results Are In!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the KIDSNET evaluation survey. Nearly 500 (493 to be exact) people participated and provided valuable input on ways KIDSNET could be enhanced. The System Usability Scale (SUS) is a widely used, validated, 10-question tool created by John Brooke in 1986. Respondents are asked to score 10 items with one of five responses ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. Based on research, a SUS score higher than 68 would be considered above average and anything below 68 is below average. KIDSNET scored a 79.3 (85th-89th percentile or A-) according to the guidance for normalizing the scores. This is encouraging to the KIDSNET team who works hard to provide a good user experience and meet the needs of our users. The open-ended question requesting feedback was full of rich information that will guide future development. Some of the requests, such as school nurse COVID-19 reports, have already been implemented. System slowness was a common concern, and several ideas have been implemented to help improve speed. There were several suggestions for how to improve the patient search functionality, as well as requests for immunization data from other states, information about physicals, links to siblings, and many more. The KIDSNET/RICAIR team will be looking through all of the responses to evaluate which ones can be implemented.

### Interstate Immunization Data Exchange

KIDSNET/RICAIR is working with other state and city immunization information systems to exchange data through a national IZ Gateway project. Once implemented, this will create, or complete, many immunization records in KIDSNET for doses administered to Rhode Islanders in other states. Data exchange with Massachusetts is anticipated to begin in Spring 2022. Connecticut, New York City, and New York State have also indicated interest in data exchange with Rhode Island and will likely follow later in 2022.

### Feeling Out of The Loop?

KIDSNET and RIDOH send out important information by email, including provider advisories and other important information about vaccine ordering, reporting, coding, and policies. Changing your email settings to prevent mail from @health.ri.gov from being blocked or going to spam or junk folders may help make sure you receive these important communications.



# KIDSNET

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## Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccination Options

Despite surveys indicating parents prefer to have their young children vaccinated by their child's primary care provider (PCP), many children have to go elsewhere for their COVID-19 vaccination. Fifty percent of PCPs who see children in Rhode Island are providing COVID-19 shots for their patients. According to data reported to KIDSNET/RICAIR, as of February 7, 7.6% of shots administered to children ages 5-17 were administered by their PCP, 38.5% by a pharmacy, 17.3% at a mass vaccination site, 17.2% at a municipal clinic, and the rest at other locations. Some mass vaccination sites have closed, and municipal clinics are likely to end soon (see <https://covid.ri.gov/vaccination> for future community clinics). Pharmacies will soon be the only widely available option for children whose PCP does not administer COVID-19 vaccine, and pharmacies can only vaccinate children age three or older, removing pharmacies from the options for the youngest children should children age six-months to four years become eligible. PCPs who are interested in providing COVID-19 immunization for their patients should contact their Immunization Program representative for more information. Ordering, storage, and handling is similar to other routine childhood vaccines. It is not necessary to store the COVID-19 vaccine at extra low temperature, and you can store it at refrigerated temperatures in the same unit as other vaccines. The pediatric formulations of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine can be stored at refrigerated temperatures for up to 10 weeks and can stay open for at least six hours once you puncture the vial (if refrigerated). A punctured, multi-dose vial could last almost the entire workday. It is more important to administer vaccine at this time; waste is less of a concern. Electronic reporting of the vaccine administration to KIDSNET is required. FAQs about the COVID-19 vaccine can be found here: <https://covid.ri.gov/vaccination/covid-19-vaccine-faqs>

## Check CDC Guidance for Up-to-the-Minute Updates on COVID-19 Boosters

Guidance on COVID-19 booster due dates changes frequently. Although RICAIR strives to keep the information in the Next Due column of the KIDSNET/RICAIR Immunization page up to date, sometimes RICAIR does not reflect up-to-the-minute guidance, as programming is required to change the forecasting. Please consult CDC guidance for current booster recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

## Beat The Rush on Scheduling Back-to-School Physicals, Lead Screening, and Vaccination!

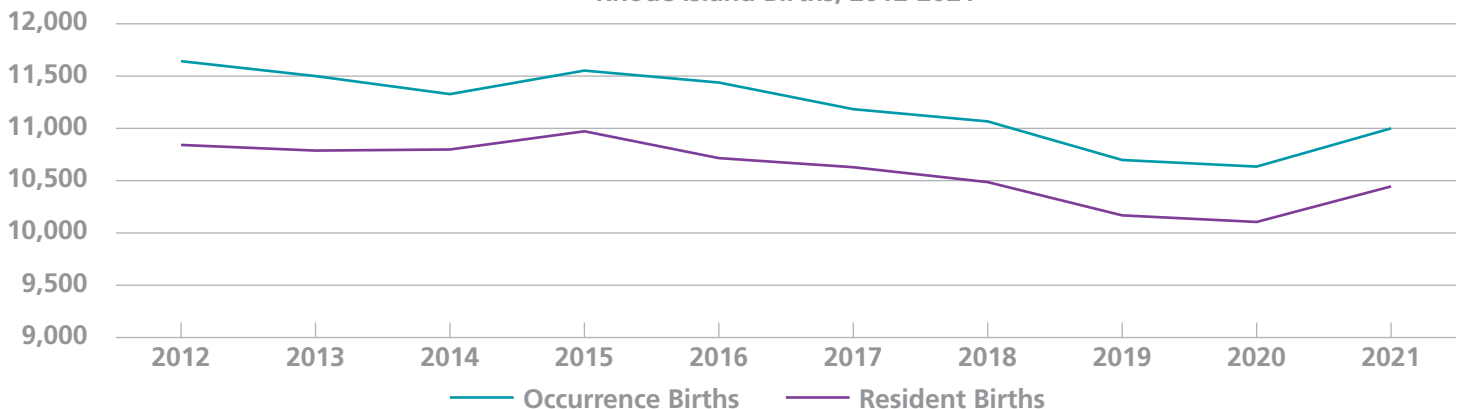
Children entering kindergarten must be lead screened and immunized according to school entry requirements, in addition to receiving a physical exam. The KIDSNET School Eligible Report (for primary care providers only) identifies children who will be eligible to enter kindergarten by a specific date. Entering 09/01/2022 will identify children eligible to enter kindergarten in the fall. Running the report in the spring can be helpful to schedule vaccination, lead screening, and school physical visits early, before the last-minute rush at the end of the summer. For more information on how to run this, or any other, reports in KIDSNET, please contact your KIDSNET Provider Relations Representative.

## Increase in Rhode Island birth rate, 2021

After years of near-steady decline, Rhode Island saw an uptick in births in 2021.

Year of Birth	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Occurrence Births	11,652	11,506	11,357	11,553	11,430	11,199	11,063	10,708	10,647	10,998
Resident Births	10,854	10,788	10,810	10,989	10,724	10,635	10,500	10,167	10,099	10,455

Rhode Island Births, 2012-2021



Data Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, KIDSNET