

**COVID-19 Epidemiology Surveillance Program**  
**Monthly COVID-19 Report: February 2024**  
**MMWR Week #5 – 9, Jan. 28 – Mar. 2, 2024**

Division of Epidemiology & Public Health Preparedness (EPHP) 775-328-2447

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**Weekly Summary\***

Metrics	MMWR Week 5	MMWR Week 6	MMWR Week 7	MMWR Week 8	MMWR Week 9
<b>Number of New Cases</b>	159	154	177	171	124
<b>New Cases per 100,000 Population</b>	31	30	35	34	25
<b>Hospitalizations**</b>	8	10	14	13	14
<b>Deaths**</b>	3	2	0	0	0

\*For definition and specifics on metrics summarized, please refer to corresponding sections.

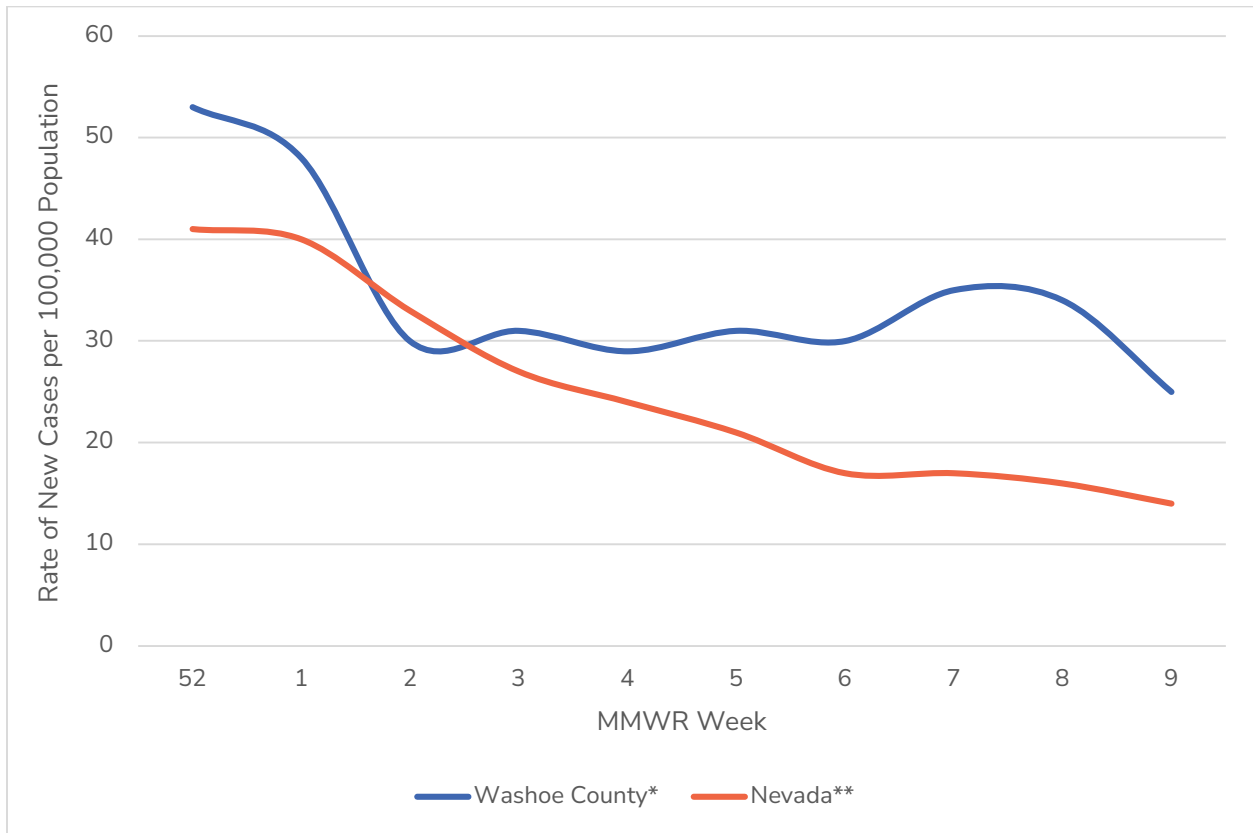
\*\*Note: hospitalization and death totals for each week are subject to change as new reports are received on a daily basis and are often delayed, causing underreporting in more recent MMWR weeks.

**Key Message(s)**

- The number of cases reported in Washoe County decreased from 31 new cases per 100,000 population in MMWR week 5 to 25 new cases per 100,000 population in MMWR week 9.
- The CDC updated the guidance for preventing spread of COVID-19. Current guidance now reflects other respiratory illnesses. See the updated guidance here: <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/prevention/precautions-when-sick.html>

# COVID-19 Case Information

**Figure 1. Rate of New Cases Reported by MMWR Week, Washoe County and Nevada, 2023-2024**



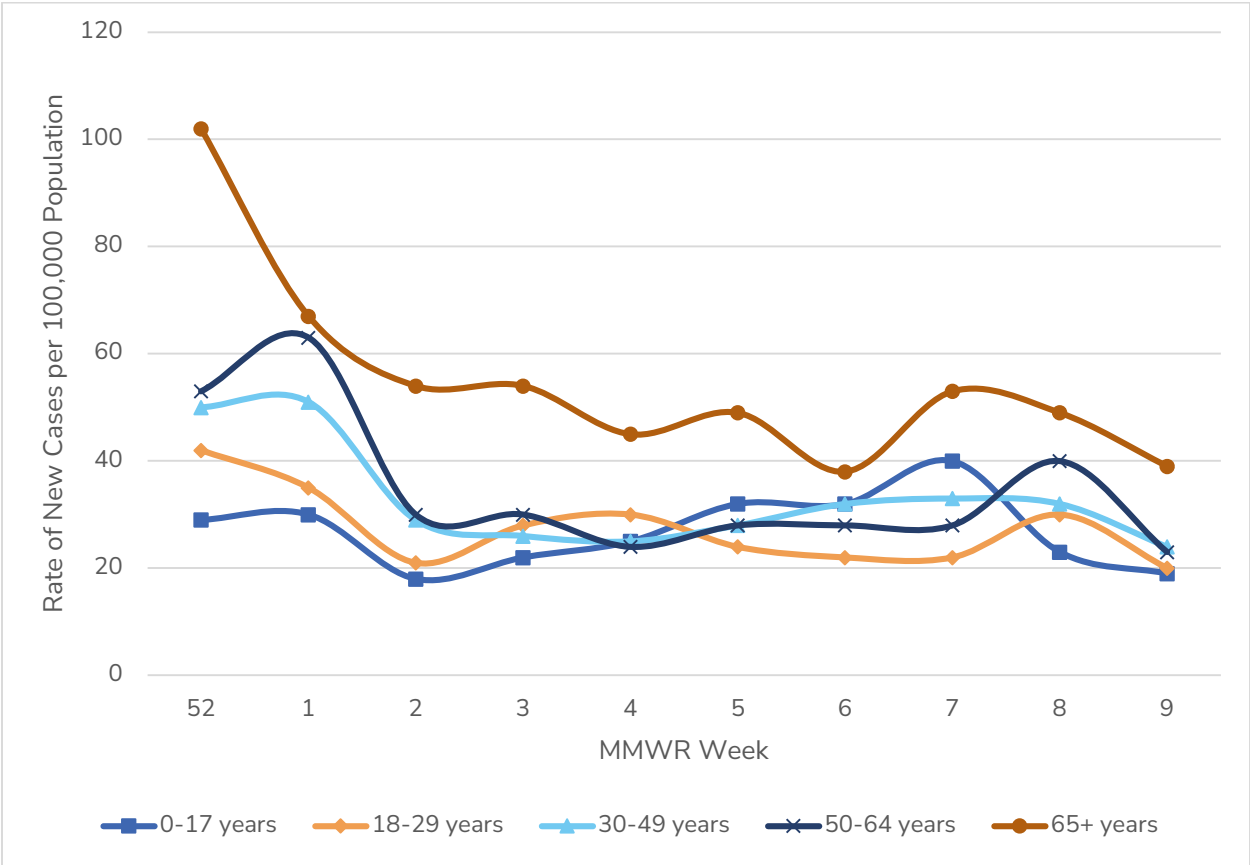
\*Data source: Internal, NNPH

\*\*Data Source:

<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoimjA2ZThiOWUtM2FiNS00MGY5LWVmYjUtNmQwNTQ3Nzg5N2I2liwidCI6ImU0YTM0MGU2LWI4OWUtNGU2OC04ZWZhLTE1NDRkMjcwMzk4MCI9>

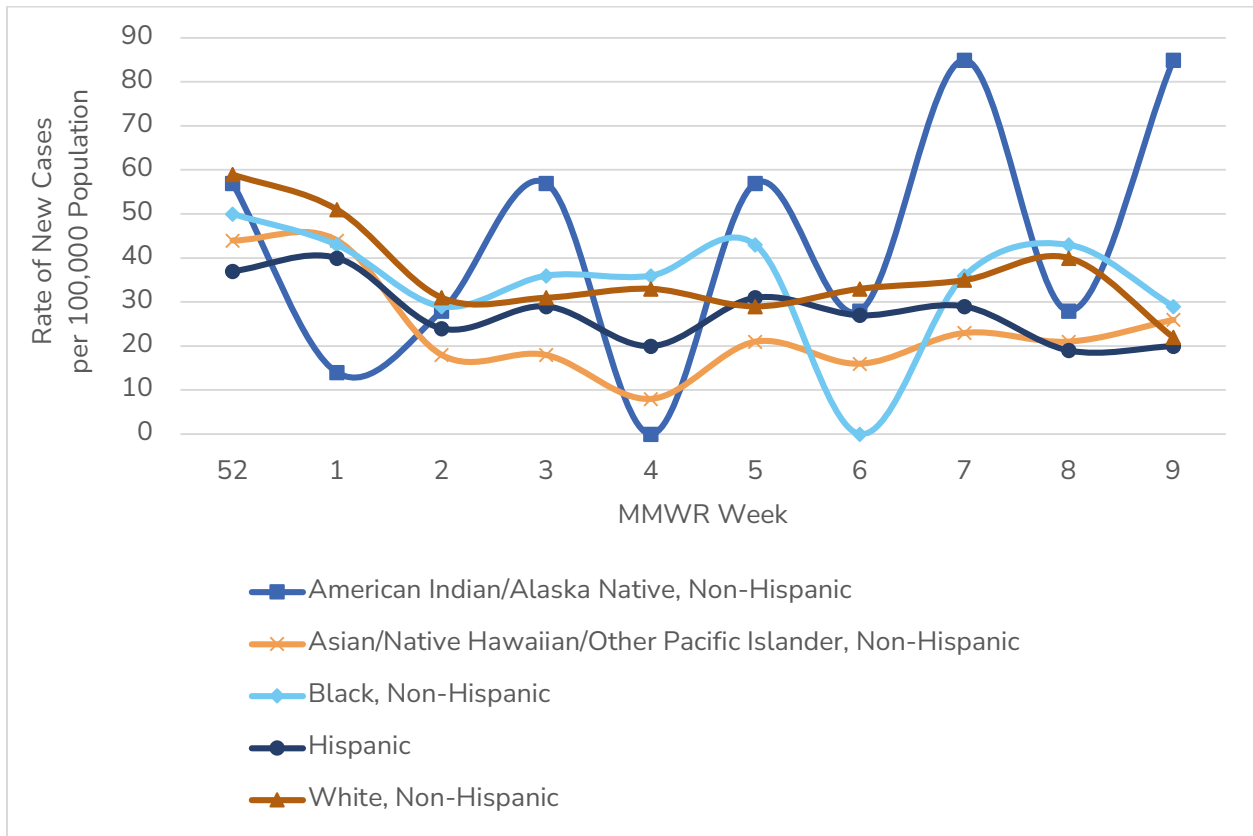
- In Washoe County, case counts decreased from a ten-week high of 53 new cases per 100,000 population in MMWR week 52 to 25 new cases per 100,000 population in MMWR week 9.
- In Nevada, case counts decreased from a ten-week high of 41 new cases per 100,000 population in MMWR week 52 to 14 new cases per 100,000 population in MMWR week 9.

**Figure 2. Rate of New Cases Reported by Age Group and MMWR Week, Washoe County, 2023-2024**



- For MMWR week 52 through MMWR week 9, the 65+ age group consistently had the highest case rate.
- The age group with the lowest case rate fluctuated from MMWR week 52 through MMWR week 9.
- By MMWR weeks 8 and 9, the 0-17 age group had the lowest case rate at 23 new cases per 100,000 population and 19 new cases per 100,000, respectively.

**Figure 3. Rate of New Cases Reported by Race/Ethnicity\* and MMWR Week, Washoe County, 2023-2024**



\*Note: From MMWR week 52 to MMWR week 9, 4.3% of cases were recorded as “Declined to answer”, “Multiple”, “Other”, or “Unknown” and rates per 100,000 population are unable to be calculated for those categories.

- In MMWR week 9, those who identified as American Indian/Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic had the highest rate of new cases with 85 new cases per 100,000 population.
- In MMWR week 9, those who identified as Hispanic had the lowest rate of new cases with 20 new cases per 100,000 population.

## Hospitalizations, ICU Status, & Deaths

COVID-19 hospitalizations are defined as those hospitalized for greater than or equal to 24 hours and have a positive SARS-CoV-2 laboratory test.

As of July 1, 2023, COVID-19-associated deaths include cases investigated for a confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and determined that COVID-19 was the cause of death or COVID-19 contributed to the cause of death and/or is specified on the death certificate as a cause of death. See current and previous full definitions in Glossary/Key Terms at the end of the report.

**Table 1. Number and Percent of New Cases Reported by Age and Hospitalization Status, MMWR Weeks\* 5 through 9, Washoe County, 2024**

			Age Group				
			0-17	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
MMWR Week	5	Total Cases	35	22	36	25	41
		% Hospitalized	2.9%	0.0%	5.6%	4.0%	9.8%
	6	Total Cases	35	20	42	25	32
		% Hospitalized	2.9%	0.0%	4.8%	0.0%	21.9%
	7	Total Cases	44	20	43	25	45
		% Hospitalized	4.5%	0.0%	2.3%	4.0%	22.2%
	8	Total Cases	25	28	41	36	41
		% Hospitalized	4.0%	3.6%	0.0%	8.3%	19.5%
	9	Total Cases	21	18	31	21	33
		% Hospitalized	4.8%	0.0%	3.2%	14.3%	27.3%

\*Note: hospitalization totals for each week are subject to change as new reports are received on a daily basis and are often delayed, causing underreporting in more recent MMWR weeks.

- During MMWR weeks 5 through 9 the age group with the highest percentage of total cases resulting in hospitalization was the 65+ age group, with a high of 27.3% of cases hospitalized in MMWR week 9.

**Table 2. Number and Percentage of Cases Reported by Hospitalization and ICU Status by MMWR Week\*, Washoe County, 2023-2024**

MMWR Week	New Cases	Hospitalized		ICU	
		#	%	#	%
52	270	33	12.2	5	1.9
1	245	22	9.0	2	0.8
2	150	25	16.7	1	0.7
3	157	9	5.7	1	0.6
4	147	17	11.6	0	0.0
5	159	8	5.0	1	0.6
6	154	10	6.5	0	0.0
7	177	14	7.9	1	0.6
8	171	13	7.6	1	0.6
9	124	14	11.3	0	0.0

\*Note: hospitalization and ICU totals for each week are subject to change as new reports are received on a daily basis and are often delayed, causing underreporting in more recent MMWR weeks.

**Table 3. COVID-19 Deaths by Age Group and Time Period\* of Death, Washoe County, 2020-2024**

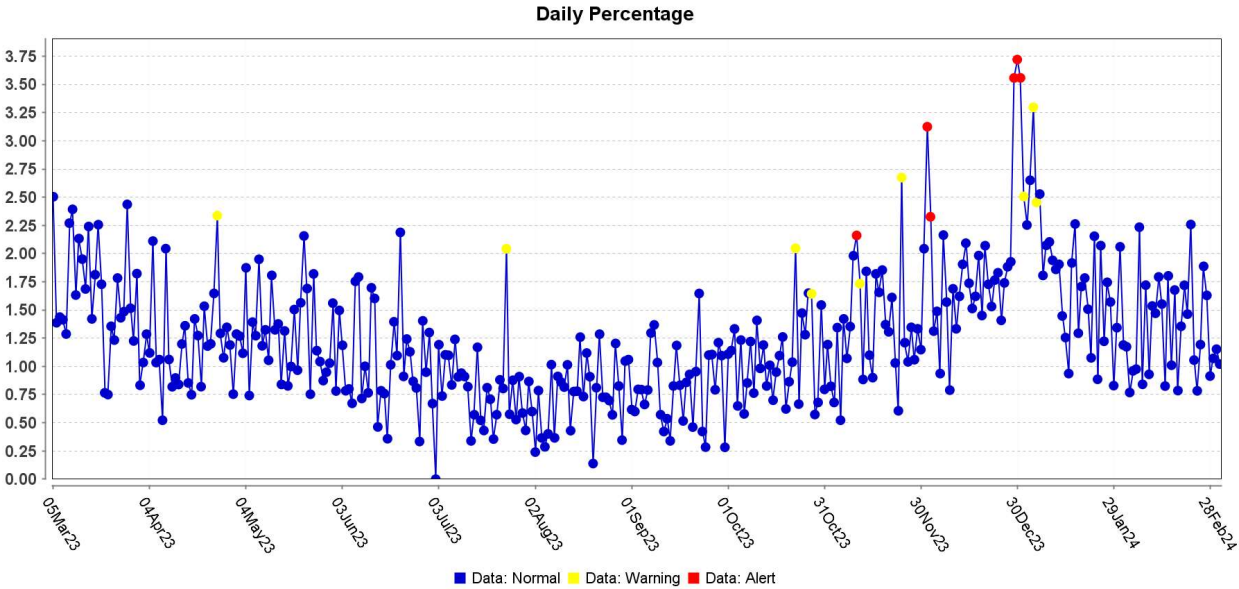
Time Period	Total Deaths	0-17 years	18-29 years	30-49 years	50-64 years	65+ years
2020 March - December	510	1	2	31	86	390
2021 Total	566	2	6	61	128	369
2022 Total	274	0	2	14	37	221
2023 Total	73	0	0	5	6	62
2024 January	7	0	0	0	1	6
2024 February	3	0	0	0	0	3

\*Note: death totals are subject to change as new reports are received on a daily basis and are often delayed, causing underreporting in more recent months.

## Surveillance Data

The percentage of persons indicating COVID-19 as the reason for visit to the Emergency Room (ER) is presented in Figure 4. The overlay below depicts COVID-19 in blue. Alerts appear as yellow and/or red dots. They indicate an unusually high percentage of COVID-19 visits according to ESSENCE algorithms.

**Figure 4. Percentage of ER Visits Due to COVID in the Last Year, Washoe County**



Data source: ESSENCE

## Glossary/Key Terms

### Data

Unless otherwise noted, data in this report are based on symptom onset date (when available or applicable), otherwise sample collection date is used. The Nevada State Demographer's data were used for population and demographics for Washoe County throughout this report.

### COVID-19 Case

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases counted in this document are confirmed or probable cases as determined by meeting confirmatory laboratory evidence, clinical criteria, and/or epidemiologic linkage as defined on the CDC website here:

<https://ndc.services.cdc.gov/case-definitions/coronavirus-disease-2019-2021/>

### COVID-19 Hospitalization

COVID-19 hospitalizations are counted as those hospitalized for greater than or equal to 24 hours and have a positive SARS-CoV-2 laboratory test.

As of October 2022, this includes any patient with a positive result on a SARS-CoV-2 laboratory test collected from 14 days before through three days after hospital admission.

- (<https://preparedness.cste.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Interim-CSTE-Guidance-for-COVID-Hospitalization.pdf>)

### COVID-19 Death

As of January 1, 2022, both Confirmed and Probable COVID-19-associated deaths are included in the count.

- ([https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/pdfs/pdfs2/20211222\\_interim-guidance.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.cste.org/resource/resmgr/pdfs/pdfs2/20211222_interim-guidance.pdf))

Criteria for confirmed case death:

- The case meets the confirmed COVID-19 surveillance case definition, AND at least ONE of the following criteria is met:
- A case investigation determined that COVID-19 was the cause of death or contributed to the death.
- The death certificate indicates COVID-19 or an equivalent term as one of the causes of death, regardless of the time elapsed since specimen collection of the confirmatory laboratory test used to define the case.
- The death occurred within (and including) 30 days of specimen collection for the confirmatory laboratory test used to define the case and was due to natural causes (e.g., the Manner of Death is coded as "natural" on the death certificate.)



Criteria for probable case death:

- The case meets the probable COVID-19 case definition AND a case investigation determined that COVID-19 was the cause of death or contributed to the death; **OR**
- The case meets the probable COVID-19 surveillance case definition based on presumptive laboratory evidence AND death occurred within (and including) 30 days of specimen collection and was due to natural causes (e.g., the Manner of Death is coded as “natural” on the death certificate.); **OR**
- The case meets the probable COVID-19 surveillance case definition based on epidemiologic linkage and meeting clinical criteria, AND death occurred within (and including) 30 days of symptom onset and was due to natural causes (e.g., the Manner of Death is coded as “natural” on the death certificate.); **OR**
- The case meets the probable COVID-19 surveillance case definition based only on vital records criteria (i.e., a death certificate that lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 or an equivalent term as an underlying cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death and there is no confirmatory or presumptive laboratory evidence.)

As of July 1, 2023, in alignment with the CSTE laboratory criteria used to classify cases, COVID-19-associated deaths include:

- A case investigation for a confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection determined that COVID-19 was the cause of death or contributed to the cause of death; **AND/OR**
- The death certificate lists a specific COVID-19 ICD code.

The previously used confirmed, probable, and suspected death classifications are discontinued.

## Links

**NNPH website for COVID-19 information and how to find vaccines**

<https://www.nnph.org/programs-and-services/ephp/communicable-diseases-and-epidemiology/educational-materials/COVID-19.php>

**Monitoring COVID-19 in Nevada**

<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiMjA2ZThiOWUtM2FlNS00MGY5LWFmYjUtNmQwNTQ3Nzg5N2I2liwidCI6ImU0YTM0MGU2LWI4OWUtNGU2OC04ZWZhLTE1NDRkMjcwMzk4MCI9>

**CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker** <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/>

**Department of Health and Human Services Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) Technical Bulletins** [https://dpbh.nv.gov/Resources/Technical\\_Bulletins-New/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Resources/Technical_Bulletins-New/)

**NNPH COVID-19 Surveillance Report 2020-2022** <https://www.nnph.org/programs-and-services/ephp/statistics-surveillance-reports/index.php>

**NNPH COVID-19 reports** <https://covid19washoe.com/daily-updates/washoe-county-covid-19-data-report/>