

## MONTHLY UPDATE: January 2024

Monthly Viral Respiratory Diseases Update week ending 1/13/2024.

This report brings up-to-date data on viral respiratory disease surveillance (VDS) in Wallingford, CT. VDS included in this report are COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

In Connecticut, the DPH uses multiple [surveillance systems](#) to monitor circulating viruses. Seasonal flu viruses can be detected throughout the year; however, seasonal flu activity generally begins as early as October and November and can continue through late May.

Data in this report was collected from Local Health Department surveillance system provided by Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) and the CT Electronic Disease Surveillance System (CTEDSS).

The Wallingford Health Department provided immunization for Influenza for Wallingford residents and employees during the month of October 2023. COVID, Influenza and RSV immunizations are available in local pharmacies, physician's offices, and federally funded Community Health Centers (CHC). The two CHC in the vicinity of Wallingford are in Meriden and Middletown.

### CT Statewide VDS Cases week ending 1/13/24

#### Connecticut Department of Public Health



##### Weekly Viral Respiratory Disease Update

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Data for the current week are incomplete. All data are preliminary and routinely updated.

The week of October 19th, additional data were added to the RVD surveillance report due to additional data capture and clean-up for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. This resulted in an increase in the total number of cases reported for the season over the past three weeks for each disease. These additional cases provide a more accurate reflection of the current season's case counts, but do not change the overall trends that have been previously reported for each disease.

Current Week Ending:  
1/13/2024

Previous Week Ending:  
1/6/2024

Viral Respiratory Disease

Influenza

Respiratory Syncytial Virus

COVID-19

Syndromic Surveillance

Nursing Homes

Vaccination

##### Weekly Viral Respiratory Disease Case Summary

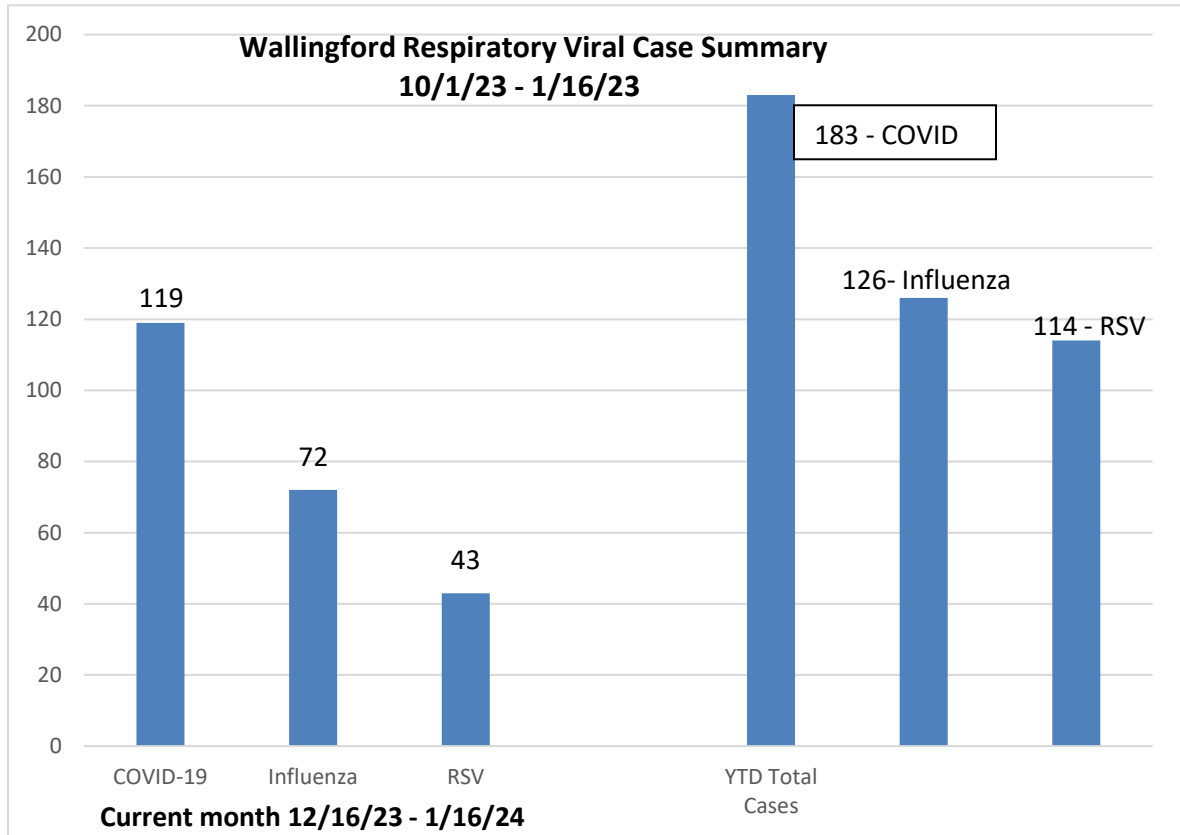
Viral Respiratory Disease Season: 10/1/2023-6/1/2024

For the Week Ending: 01/13/2024

	Current Week	Previous Week	Season Total to Date
<b>Influenza</b>	688	1,453	9,210
<b>COVID-19</b>	1,265	3,836	31,697
<b>RSV</b>	284	856	11,193

<https://data.ct.gov/Health-and-Human-Services/Connecticut-Reportable-Disease-Case-List/qhtt-czu2>

**Town of Wallingford VDS week ending 1/16/24**  
**(Surveillance Season: 10/1/23 - 6/1/24)**



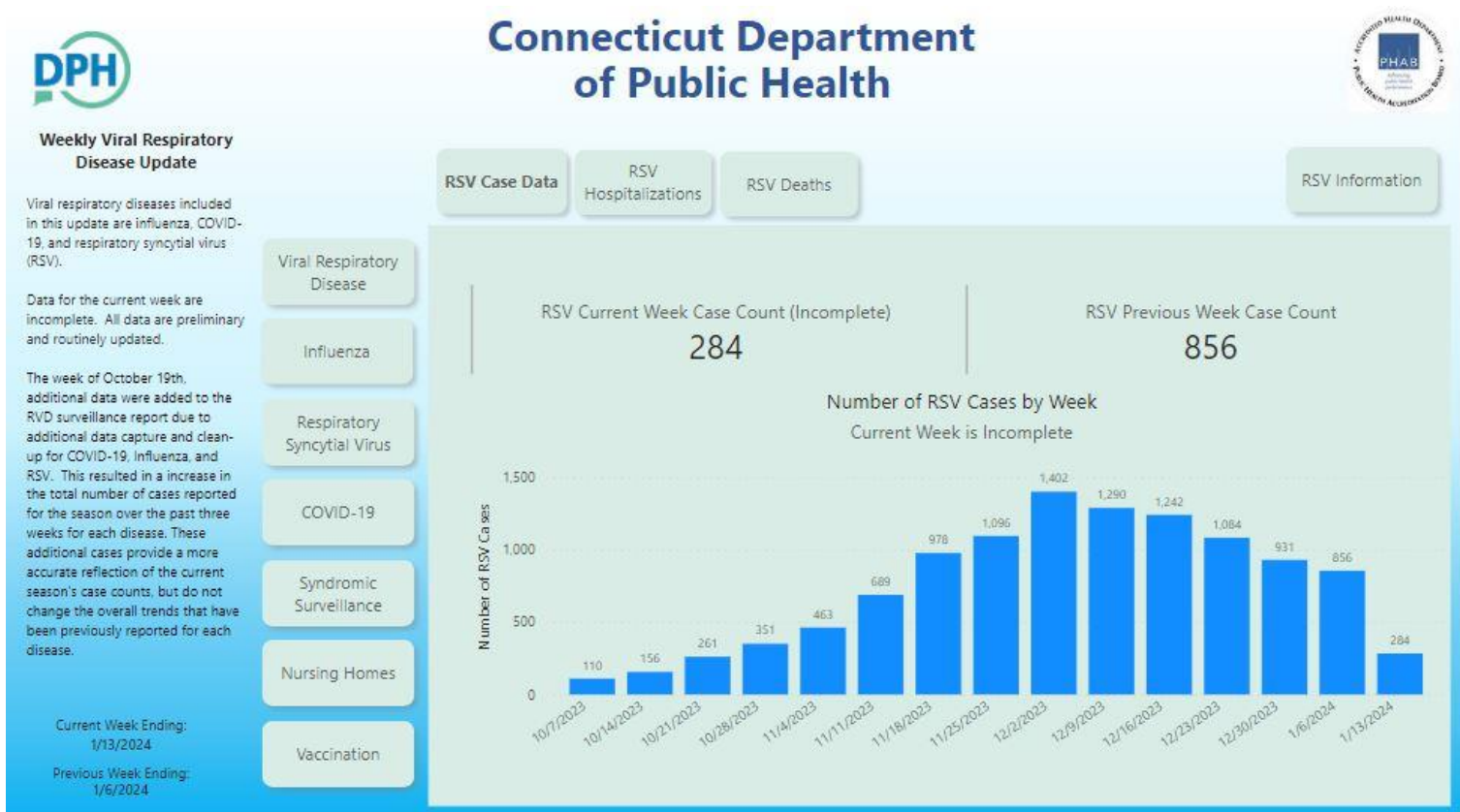
<https://edss.dph.ct.gov/maven/>

## Respiratory Syndrome Virus (RSV)

RSV continues to be a respiratory virus of concern. Infants up to 12 months of age (especially those 6 months and younger) and children who were born prematurely, or who have chronic lung or heart disease or a weakened immune system, are at increased risk of severe RSV disease.

Adults at highest risk for severe RSV disease include older adults, adults with chronic medical conditions such as heart or lung disease, weakened immune systems, or certain other underlying medical conditions, or who live in nursing homes or long-term care facilities.

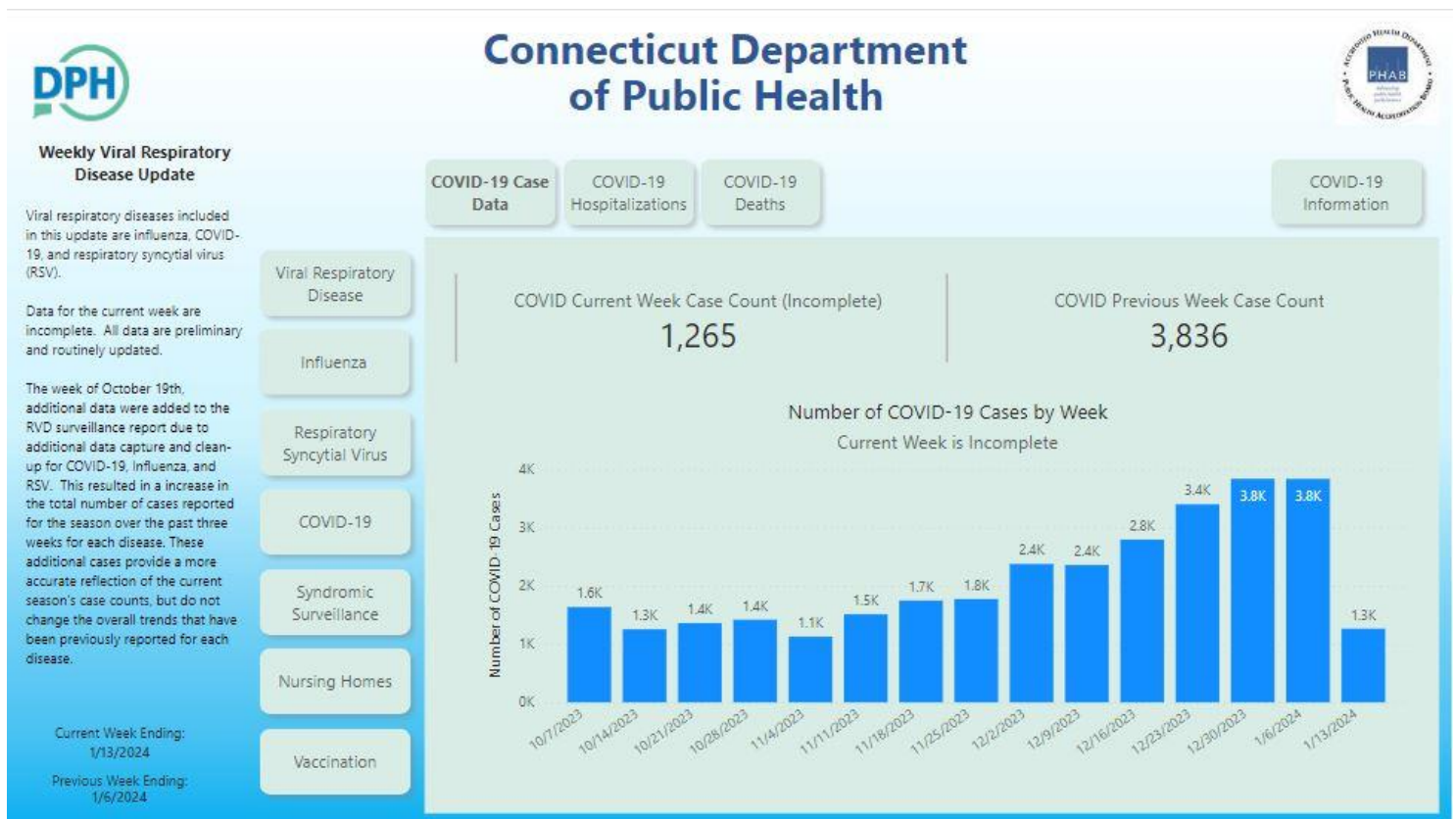
### CT Statewide RSV Cases week ending 1/13/24



## COVID-19 INFORMATION

In alignment with the May 11, 2023, expiration of Connecticut's COVID-19 public health emergency declaration, the state transitioned its COVID-19 data reporting to the same period it uses under its seasonal respiratory surveillance reporting program, which begins each year in early October and ends in late May or early June. The 2023-2024 reporting period began October 2023.

### CT Statewide COVID-19 Cases week ending 1/13/24



<https://data.ct.gov/Health-and-Human-Services/Connecticut-Reportable-Disease-Case-List/qhht-czu2>

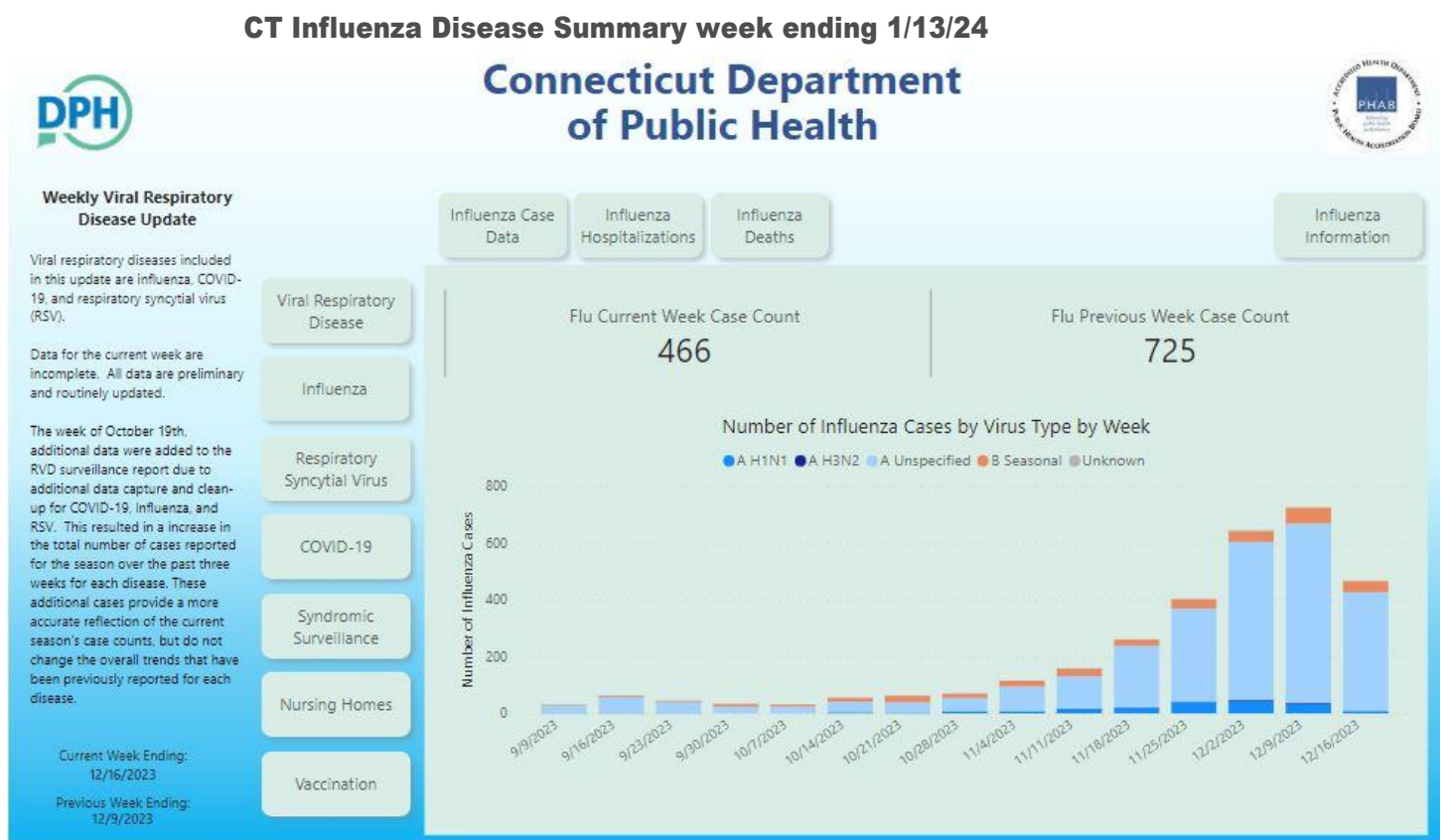
## Influenza

The weekly surveillance reports show how this year's Viral Respiratory Disease season is developing. Each report is progressive and includes data starting from the beginning of this flu season. The CT DPH data shows that the last week in December had the highest number of influenza cases reported to date.

While seasonal influenza (flu) viruses are detected year-round in the United States, flu viruses typically circulate during the fall and winter during what's known as the flu season. The exact timing and duration of flu seasons varies, but flu activity often begins to increase in October. Most of the time flu activity peaks between December and February, although significant activity can last as late as May. Since the start of the COVID pandemic, the timing and duration of flu activity has been less predictable.

The "peak month of flu activity" is the month with the highest percentage of [respiratory specimens](#) testing positive for influenza virus infection during that flu season. Flu activity most often peaked in February, followed by December, then January and March.

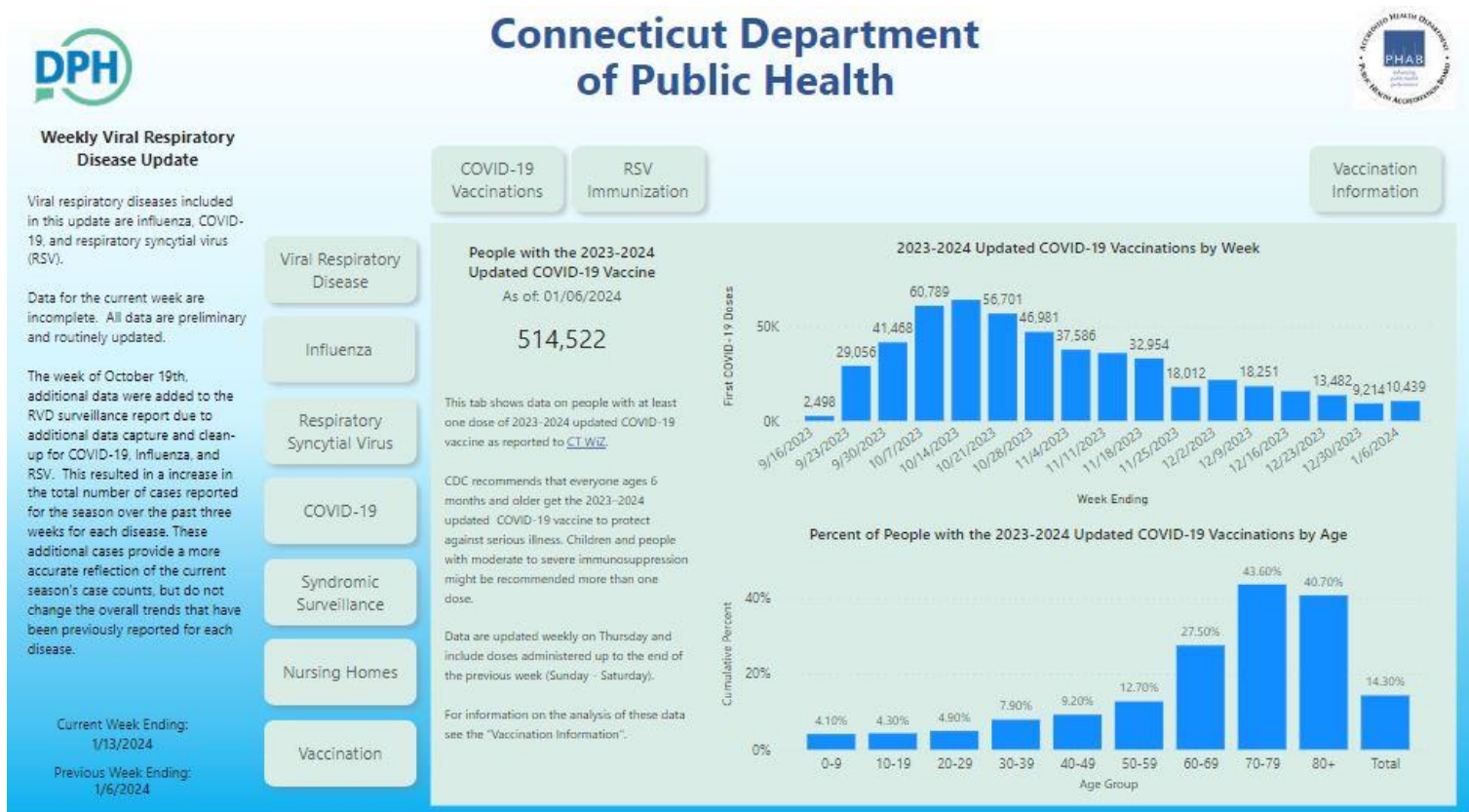
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season>



<https://data.ct.gov/Health-and-Human-Services/Connecticut-Reportable-Disease-Case-List/qhtt-czu2>

## Vaccination

Residents are encouraged to receive vaccination for preventable diseases, including COVID-19, RSV and Influenza. Vaccination will reduce the severity of illness and reduce your chances of becoming infected. Current vaccination data for both COVID-19 and RSV are provided by the CT DPH, statewide data:





# Connecticut Department of Public Health



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Nursing Homes

Vaccination

COVID-19 Vaccinations

RSV Immunization

Vaccination Information

## 2023-2024 Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Immunization

This table shows data on people who have received a new Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) immunization since July 2023.

New RSV immunizations are now available to protect against severe RSV. People 60 and over can protect themselves by getting a vaccine. To protect infants, CDC recommends either RSV vaccine for pregnant women or a long-acting monoclonal antibody (nirsevimab) for infants. Full recommendations on RSV immunizations can be seen [here](#).

Data are updated on Thursday and include doses administered to the day before. The number of RSV doses by patient type may not add up to the total number of RSV doses because some adults cannot be classified.

\* May include children who are at high risk of severe RSV between ages 8 and 19 months entering their second RSV season.

<b>RSV (All People)</b>	<b>130,183</b>
People 60 years and over	120,128
Women of childbearing age	2,120
Infants (<8 months)*	7,512

Submitted by E. Hazelwood, MPH  
January 18, 2024

### **Additional Information**

To find vaccine near you: <https://www.211ct.org/>  
In the “search box” type “Flu Vaccine” and your zip code

Additional Vaccines: <https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines/>

COVID-19: To find vaccine near you: <https://www.vaccines.gov/search/>  
Or Call 1-800-232-0233

Free COVID-19 Home Tests: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

For RSV vaccines: talk to your healthcare provider

The staff of the Wallingford Health Department is always available for additional questions or concerns: at 203-294- 2065

General information: [Healthclerk@wallingfordct.gov](mailto:Healthclerk@wallingfordct.gov)

Public Health Nurse: [anne.bernick@wallingfordct.gov](mailto:anne.bernick@wallingfordct.gov)