

Federal Judicial Center

COVID-19 and Hospitalization by United States Judicial District

Information and Instructions

The Federal Judicial Center created this dashboard to show COVID-19 and hospitalization data and trends for the nation and for each of the ninety-four federal judicial districts. It includes data since January 2021. The dashboard shows the percentages of occupied inpatient and ICU hospital beds, the percentages of hospitalized adults and hospitalized children with positive COVID-19 tests per 100,000 residents, and COVID-19-related Emergency Department (ED) visits as a percentage of all ED visits and per 100,000 residents. The associated weekly rate of change for all metrics is also included.

Following is a description of the metrics displayed on the dashboard and the underlying data, as well as tips on interpreting the displayed information.

The Data and Metrics

Facility-level hospitalization utilization data from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services HealthData.gov Team and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau and CIA World Factbook were aggregated to the judicial district and national levels.

The dashboard includes the following metrics for the nation and for each of the ninety-four judicial districts for each week, beginning with the week of January 1, 2021.

Note: all metrics are based on data that is aggregated weekly (Friday to Thursday).

Metric	Description
Percentage of Occupied Inpatient Beds	Percentage of total inpatient hospital beds, including ICU beds, currently occupied by patients, regardless of COVID-19 infection status.
Percentage of Occupied ICU Beds	Percentage of total ICU hospital beds currently occupied by patients, regardless of COVID-19 infection status.
Hospitalized Adults with Positive COVID-19 Tests per 100,000 Residents	Currently hospitalized adult patients who have had a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 test, shown per 100,000 residents.
Hospitalized Children with Positive COVID-19 Tests per 100,000 Residents	Currently hospitalized pediatric (<18 years old) patients who have had a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 test, shown per 100,000 residents.
COVID-19-Related ED Visits per 100,000 Residents	Reported ED visits for COVID-19-related illness per 100,000 residents.
Percentage of COVID-19-Related ED Visits	Reported ED visits for COVID-19-related illness shown as a percentage of all reported ED visits.
Weekly Rate of Change (all metrics)	Rate of change metrics are calculated by comparing data reported in the past week with the same data reported in the previous week.

Understanding the Data

All metrics are aggregated by week and include seven days of data from the Friday selected in the “Select a Week” filter (located on the right side of the map) through the following Thursday. In judicial districts that cover a large geographical area and those that cover a smaller geographical area with long borders with other districts, these metrics may require additional localized context to be meaningful.

Percentage of Occupied Inpatient Beds and Occupied ICU Beds

These metrics are measures of the availability of inpatient and ICU hospital beds within a district. Because they are calculated as a percentage of all beds within each district, the metrics generally account for the variation in population size across districts. The corresponding rates of change show how the availability of hospital beds may be increasing or decreasing from week to week.

Limitations

These metrics do not contain data from psychiatric, rehabilitation, Indian Health Service, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Defense Health Agency, and religious nonmedical facilities.

Hospitalized Adults with Positive COVID-19 Tests and Hospitalized Children with Positive COVID-19 Tests

These metrics are presented as proxy measures for the severity/prevalence of COVID-19 infections within a given district. The corresponding rate-of-change metrics are proxies for how the severity/ prevalence is changing from week to week. Because they are scaled by population, these metrics account for the variation in population size across districts.

Limitations

These metrics utilize data that do not include the primary reason for hospitalization. The patients represented may be hospitalized for any reason, but all have laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 tests. This metric may be very high during infection surges of milder COVID-19 variants, such as the 2021/2022 Omicron variant surge, as patients hospitalized for non-COVID-19-related illnesses test positive with mild or asymptomatic cases. It may also be consistently higher than expected for children, who often have milder COVID-19 infections than adults. These data exclude patients with suspected (unconfirmed) COVID-19 infections.

COVID-19-Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits per 100,000 Residents and Percentage of ED Visits that are COVID-19 Related

These metrics are proxy measures for the severity of COVID-19 infections within a given district. The corresponding rate-of-change metrics show how the severity of infections within districts changes from week to week. The metrics account for the variation in population size across districts because they are calculated as a percentage of all ED visits (Percentage of COVID-19-Related ED Visits) or scaled by population (COVID-19-Related ED Visits per 100,000 Residents).

Limitations

These metrics utilize the only available data regarding COVID-19 infection as the primary reason a patient has visited a hospital. They have several limitations. The data used to compile the metrics only include ED visits; they do not include corresponding hospitalization stays. Some patients who are suffering from a severe COVID-19 infection may be admitted to the hospital by their general practitioner, while others may convalesce at home—such patients would not be included in these data. Additionally, some patients with less severe or even asymptomatic COVID-19 infections may be seen in an ED for a variety of reasons that may or may not be related to the severity of their COVID-19 infection—such patients *would* be included in these data.

Contact Information

If you have questions or need more information, contact Jana Laks, research assistant, jlaks@fjc.gov, (202) 502-4252, or Kristin Garri, senior research associate/data resource specialist, kgarri@fjc.gov, (202) 502-4027, at the Federal Judicial Center.

Data Sources

Patient and Hospitalization Data

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Reported Patient Impact and Hospital Capacity by Facility Dataset, <https://healthdata.gov/Hospital/COVID-19-Reported-Patient-Impact-and-Hospital-Capa/anag-cw7u>

Additional information about this dataset can be found here:

<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-faqs-hospitals-hospital-laboratory-acute-care-facility-data-reporting.pdf>

Population Data

For Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and Virgin Islands: CIA World Factbook Population Estimates, <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/references/one-page-country-summaries/>

For all other districts: U.S. Census Bureau 2019 County Population Estimates, <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-counties-total.html>