



**SNOHOMISH
COUNTY** 
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

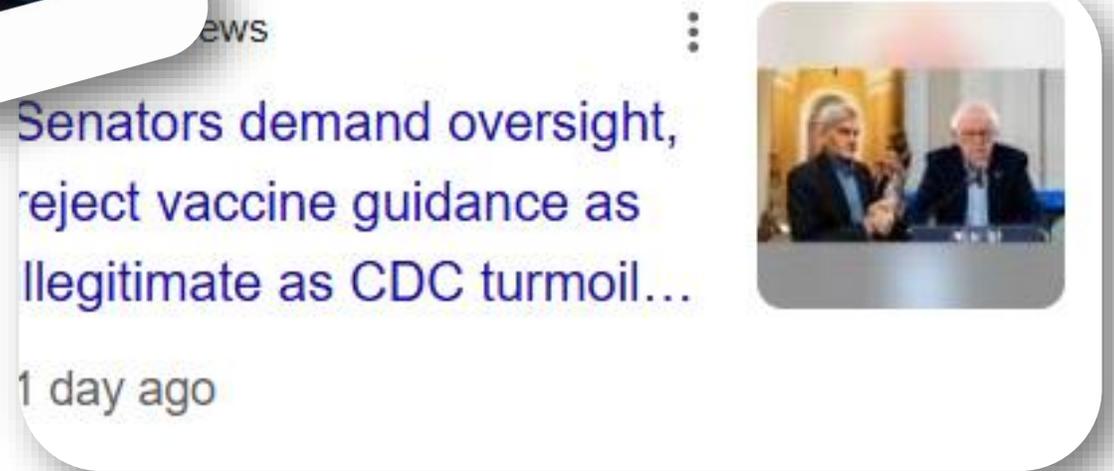
BOARD OF HEALTH HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

September 2025



CDC Turmoil

- Director Monarez being fired
- Multiple top officials resigned
- This will have huge impacts on PH:
 - Grant oversight
 - Guidance issues
 - A lot of work to maintain
 - This is very bad for Public Health



Immunizations Updates

- [FDA updates COVID vaccine indications](#)
- Increasing local and national reports of difficulty obtaining COVID shots

ig News
COVID
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ago



n > 2025/08/28 > well > cvs-ph...
Depends Covid Vaccine Access at
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hours ago



n > policy > healthcare > 5477209-cvs-...
COVID-19 vaccine in multiple state
nal vaccines typically don't require prescriptions, be
re eligible for the shots. Earlier this week, ...
w results with: unable

Immunization Updates



WA DOH providing evidence-based recommendations



Working toward a statewide standing order

Updated June 17, 2025 - The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) continues to recommend that everyone 6 months and older, including pregnant people, receive the current COVID-19 vaccine to protect against severe illness.

DOH is continuing to monitor federal updates on COVID-19 vaccine recommendations and assess how changes may impact the health and safety of Washington residents. At this time, we are not making any changes to our programs or recommendations and will continue to monitor federal guidance as it evolves.

Our priority remains ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. The COVID-19 virus continues to pose serious health risks in Washington state, including hospitalizations, long COVID, and preventable deaths. These risks are most prominent in pregnant people, young children, older adults, people with chronic conditions, and those who remain unvaccinated.

COVID-19 vaccines remain one of our most effective tools for preventing severe illness. We encourage all eligible Washingtonians to stay up to date on their vaccinations to protect themselves, their loved ones, and the broader community.

Immunizations Updates

[New AAP immunization schedule](#)

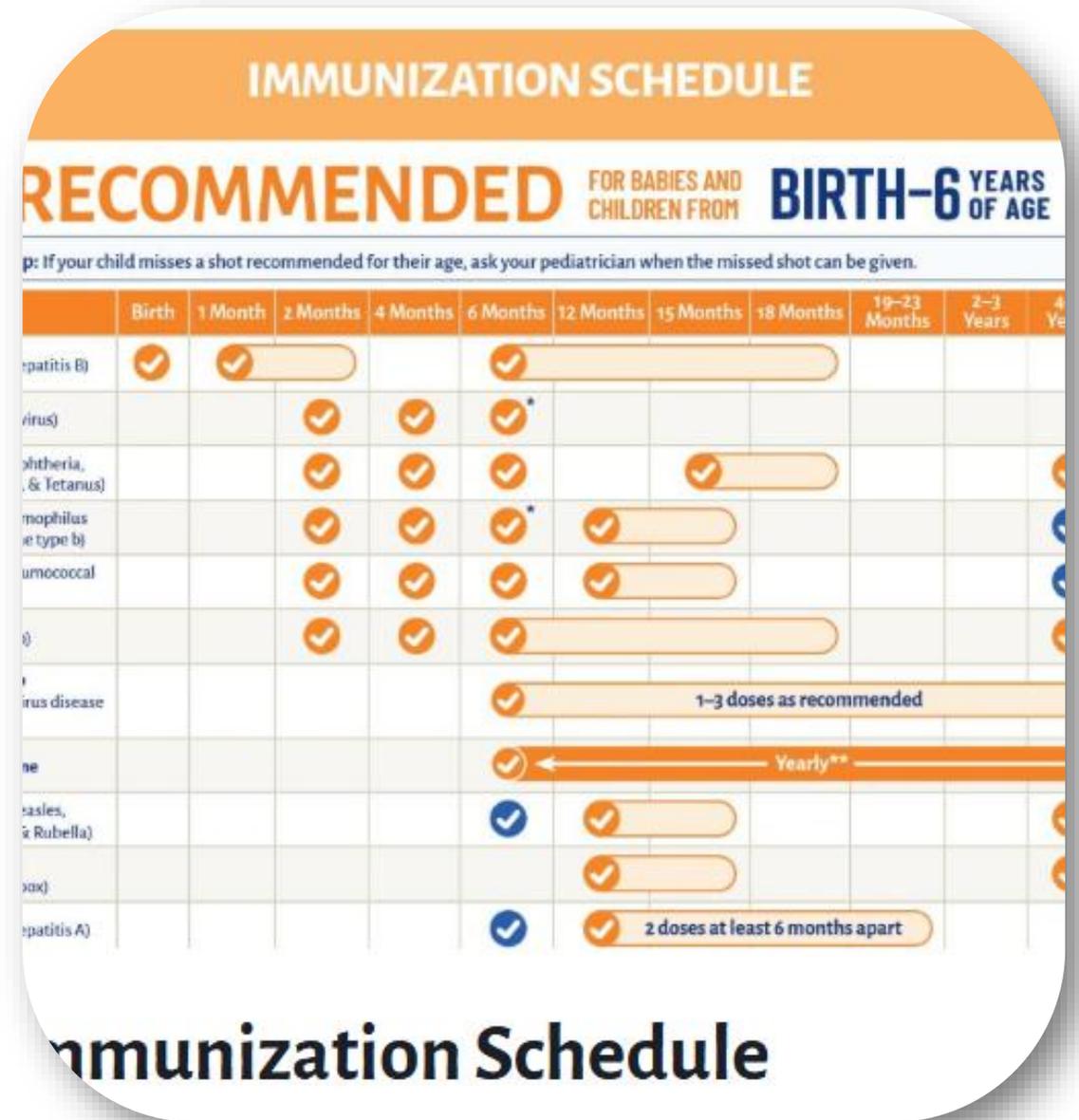
Differs from recent FDA/ACIP recommendations

[VIP meeting](#) in August

[ACOG recommendations](#)

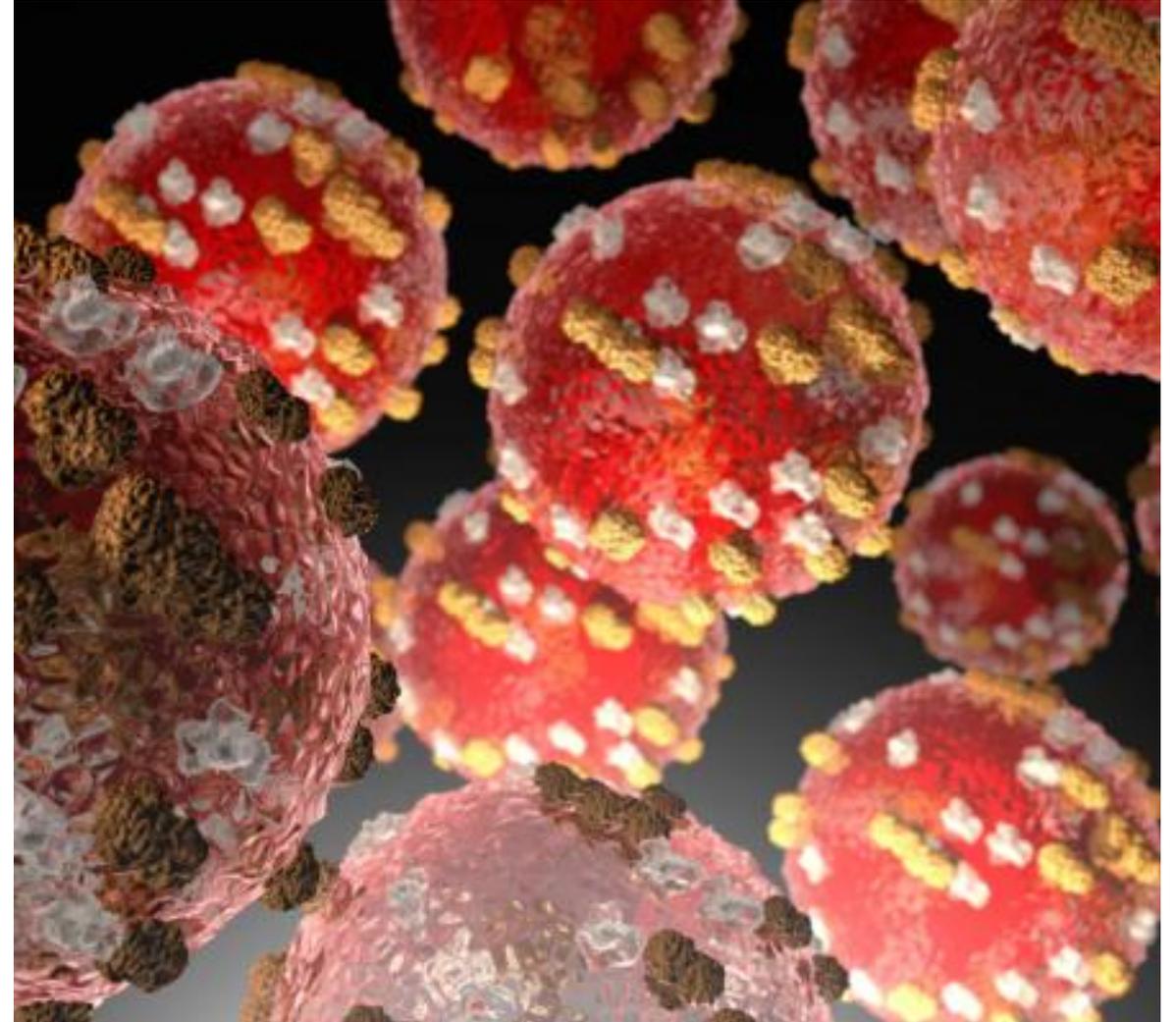
Pending recommendations from IDSA

[BOH panel – blog article and recording](#)



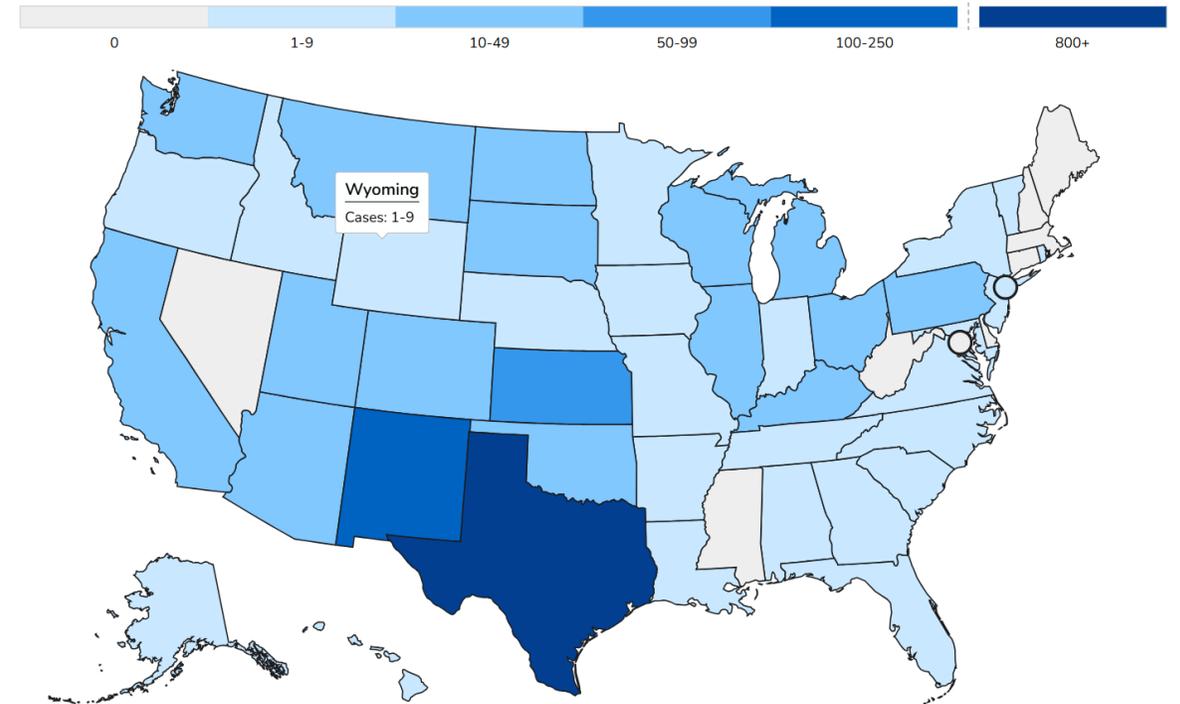
Measles Update:

- 11 cases in WA to date
 - King, Snohomish, Whatcom, Spokane
 - Spokane case related to ID outbreak
- Continue to have suspect cases occasionally



Measles Update

- 1408 cases so far in 2025 (285 total in 2024)
 - 43 jurisdictions (last meeting was 37)
 - Ongoing outbreaks across the globe
 - 13% hospitalization in US, 3 deaths
- TX Outbreak declared over 8/18
- Take Away: Measles is still all over the place, but might be slowing down in US



Respiratory Virus Transmission Update: Below the thresholds and plans for 25-26 season

Percent of Emergency Department (ED) Visits *(Data as of 8/16/2025)*

COVID-19 (%)

1.4

Below 2.9%
Threshold

Influenza (%)

0.3

Below 1.1%
Threshold

RSV (%)

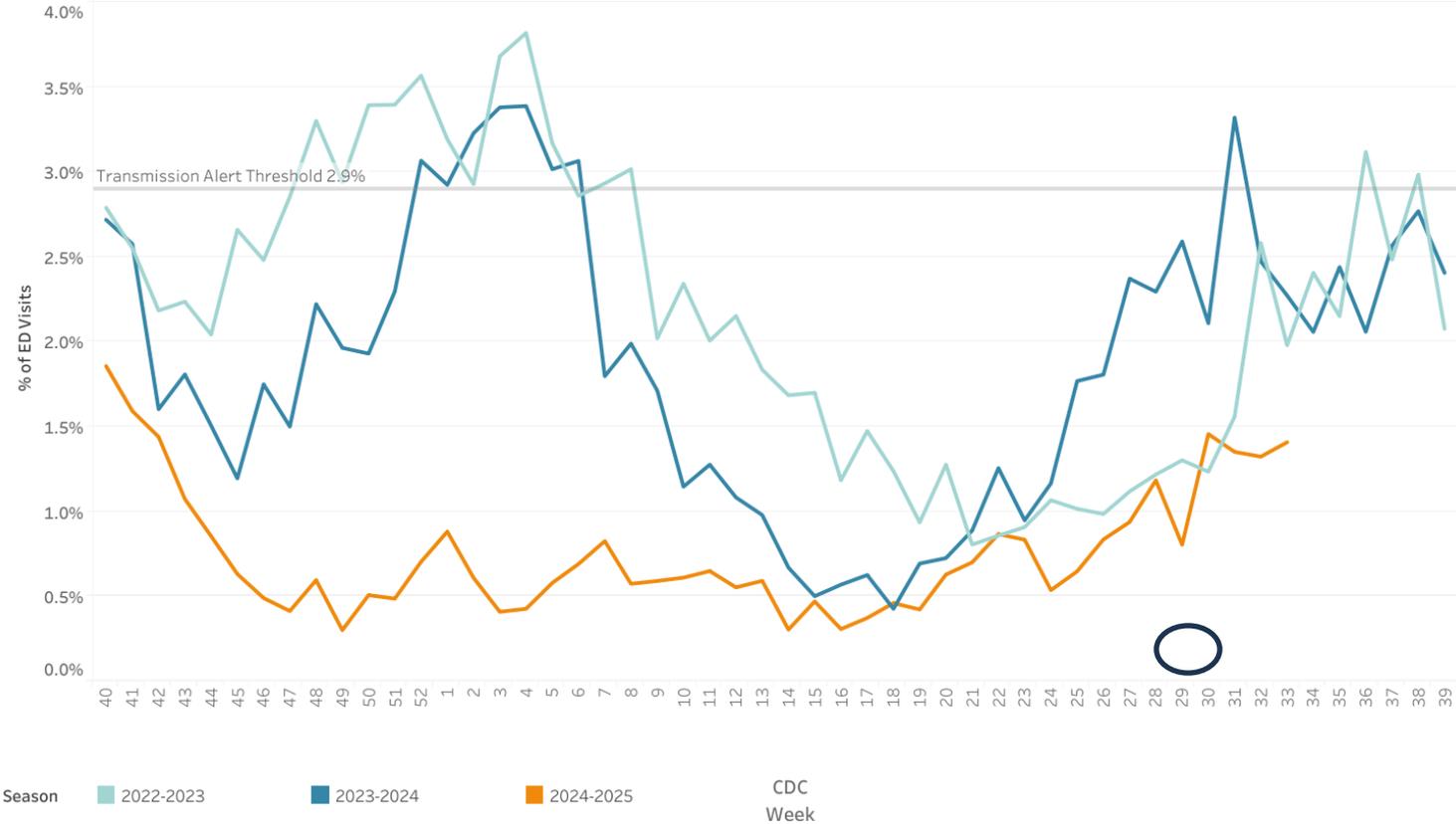
0.0

Below 0.4%
Threshold

COVID-19



Percent of Emergency Department for COVID-19



Executive Summary



Influenza & RSV: No updates, new season will be here soon



COVID has been increasing and indications a wave is beginning, will see how it develops, possible it could cross the threshold if trajectories continue in the coming weeks and could be the start of resp season.

Masking Threshold changes for 25-26 season:



[NHWRN memo](#) – updates memo forthcoming



New approach for 25-26 season – combined acute respiratory illness (ARI) syndromic surveillance metric.

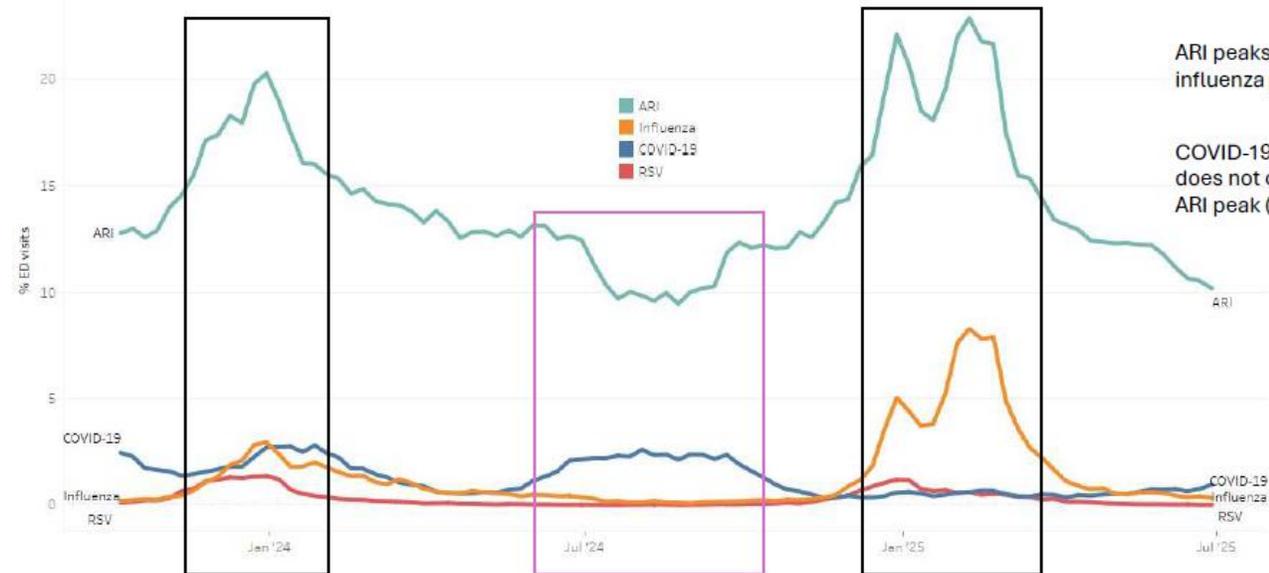


Will still provide numbers for each RSV, COVID, Influenza but the threshold will only be applied to ARI curve

ARI v Pathogen Specific Thresholds

Syndromic surveillance conditions from October 2023 – June 2025

% diagnosed ED visits for King + Pierce + Snohomish



ARI levels higher year-round, but there are seasonal peaks

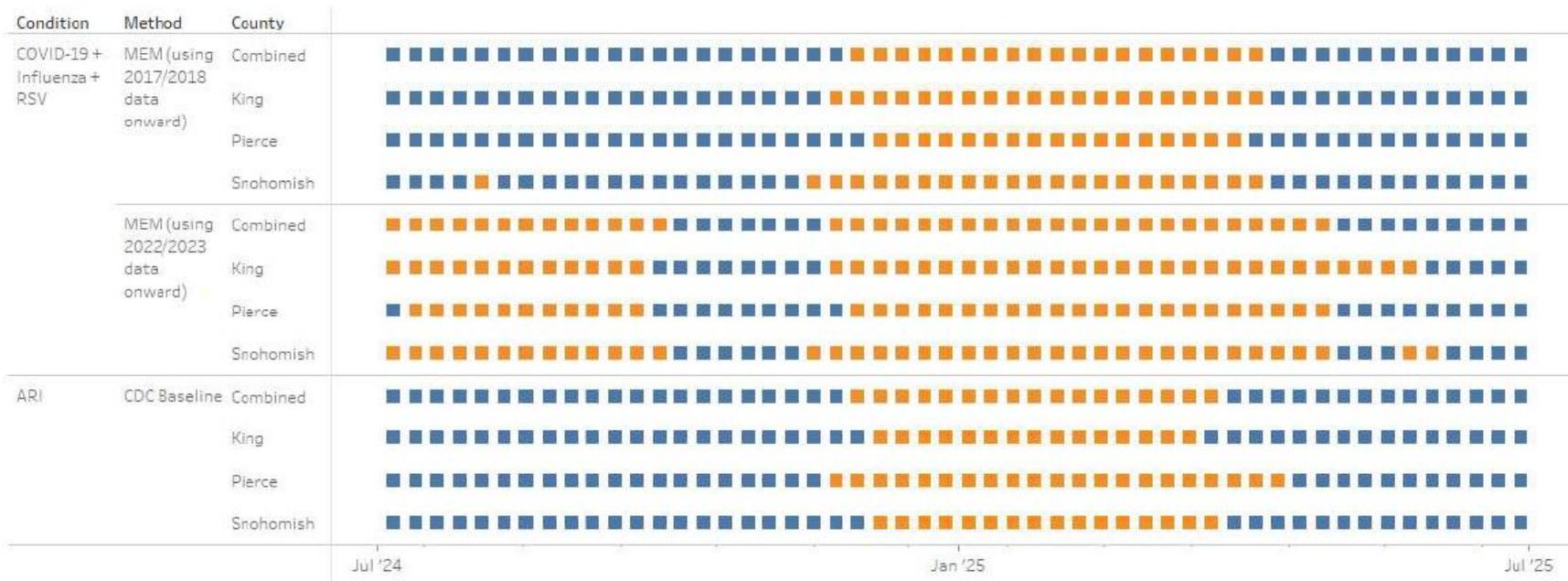
ARI peaks coincide with influenza peaks (black boxes)

COVID-19 wave in summer 2024 does not coincide with an ARI peak (purple box)

ARI v Pathogen Specific Thresholds

Weeks above threshold for King + Pierce + Snohomish

2024/2025 season



Respiratory Return to Work Guidance for HCWs

New guidance under review at DOH

Moving to combined respiratory illness approach

Similar to California approach for the last few years

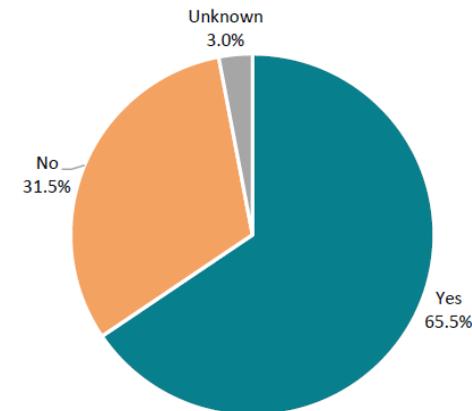
Other states joining as well including MA

Pertussis Update

- Incidence declining
- 145 cases in 2024; 236 cases in 2025 to date (205 at last meeting)
 - ~88% of cases in 0-19 yo age groups
- ~65.5% of cases had at last one Pertussis containing vaccine
 - Of those with at least 1 Vaccine ~90% are considered “up-to-date” (UTD)
 - **0-3 ~80% never received vaccine**

- No new outbreaks since last meeting
- ~89% of cases exposed in school setting have been UTD

Percent of Pertussis Cases that Ever Received Vaccine



Pertussis In Snohomish

- Incidence declining past 3 mo substantially

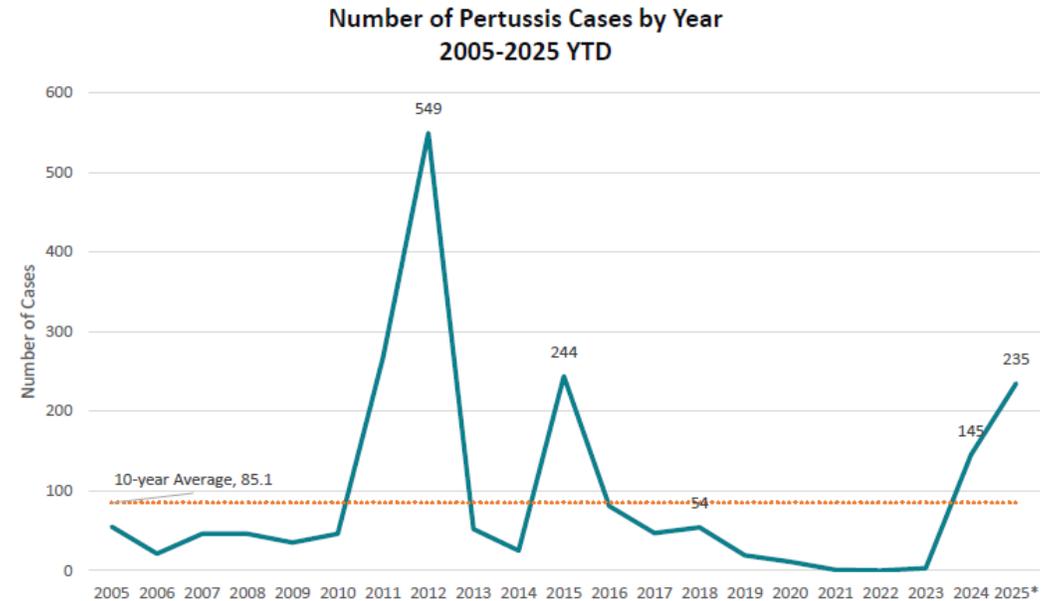
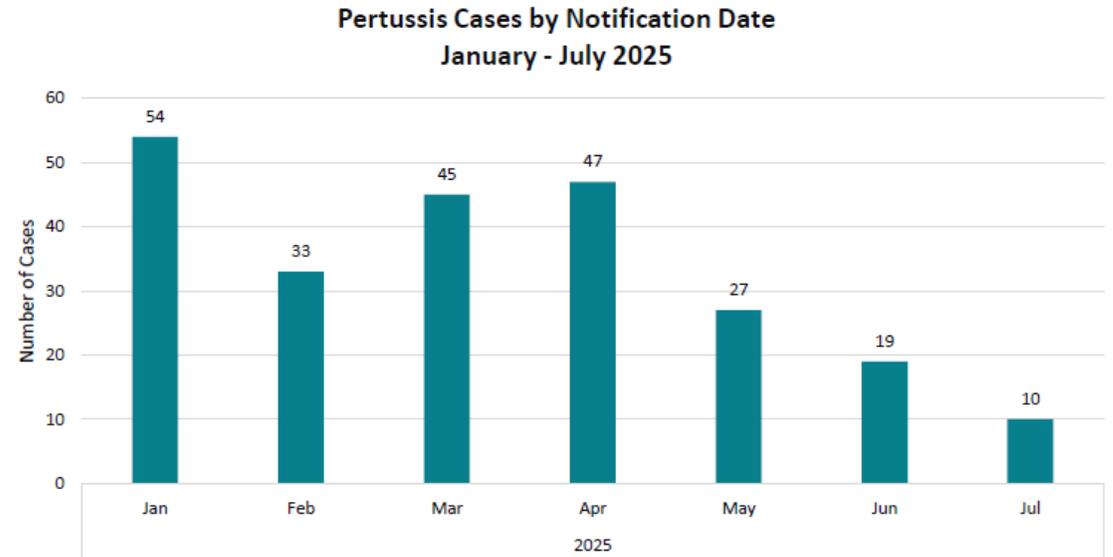
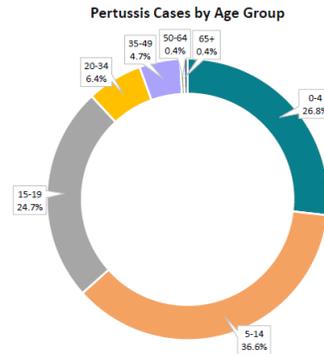
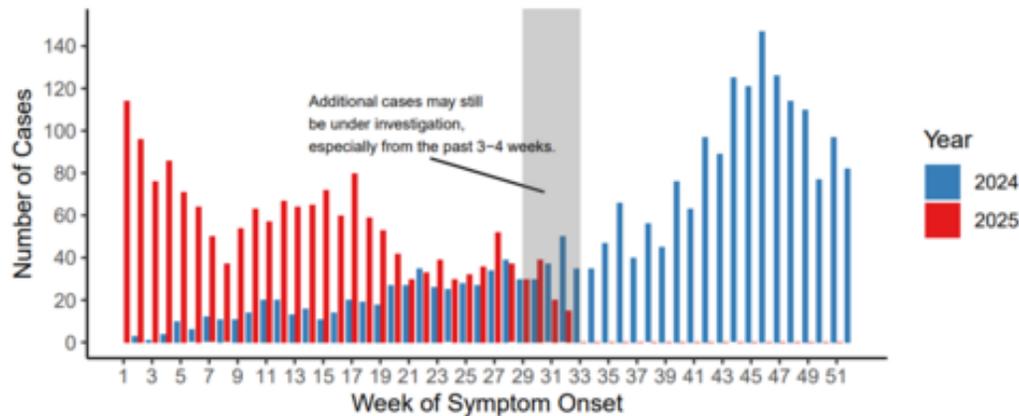


Figure 1: Number of Pertussis Cases Reported in Washington State by CDC Week of Symptom Onset: 2024 (blue) vs 2025 (red)



Malaria in WA??? Really?..Maybe

Further investigation pending

Also a case in NJ

We are investigating possible locally acquired case of malaria

August 6, 2025

The risk to the public is very low.

An East Pierce County woman who has not traveled recently was diagnosed Aug. 2 with malaria. She is receiving treatment and we continue to monitor her status.

We are working with Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to investigate potential sources of infection. It's possible she was recently infected with malaria in Washington. If confirmed, this would be the first known locally acquired case of malaria in Washington.

The most likely cause of a locally acquired case is a mosquito biting someone infected with a travel-associated case of malaria, then passing the infection on to this patient.

Top stories



NBC New York

Health officials investigate rare case of malaria in New Jersey

2 days ago



Scripps News

Malaria case in New Jersey resident raises concern of local transmission

11 hours ago



The New York Times

New Malaria Case Prompts Testing of Mosquitoes in New Jersey

1 day ago

People.com

N.J. Health Officials Are Investigating the First Possible Locally-Acquired...

1 day ago



AOL.com

Malaria case in New Jersey resident who hasn't traveled under investigation

2 days ago



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always working for a safer & healthier
SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Questions?

