



## Weekly Epidemiologist Report

May 30, 2023

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### COVID-19

Data for COVID-19 was collected on Thursday, May 30, 2023, from the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Local Health Line List Portal and data.ct.gov.

Table 1 below illustrates both cumulative data and the change in the number of all laboratory-confirmed positive tests from the previous report. All data in this report is preliminary and is subject to change. Figure 1.1 illustrates the trend in the number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 tests in the Central Connecticut Health District since the beginning of the pandemic in March of 2020.

**Table 1**

Town	Overall Summary	Cumulative	Past 7 Days
<b>Berlin</b> (Population 20,436)	Cumulative Cases	5055	3
	COVID-19 Associated Deaths	59	0
<b>Newington</b> (Population 30,014)	Cumulative Cases	8,145	5
	COVID-19 Associated Deaths	157	0
<b>Rocky Hill</b> (Population 20,115)	Cumulative Cases	5,314	1
	COVID-19 Associated Deaths	157	0
<b>Wethersfield</b> (Population 26,008)	Cumulative Cases	7,182	6
	COVID-19 Associated Deaths	67	0

**Figure 1.1**

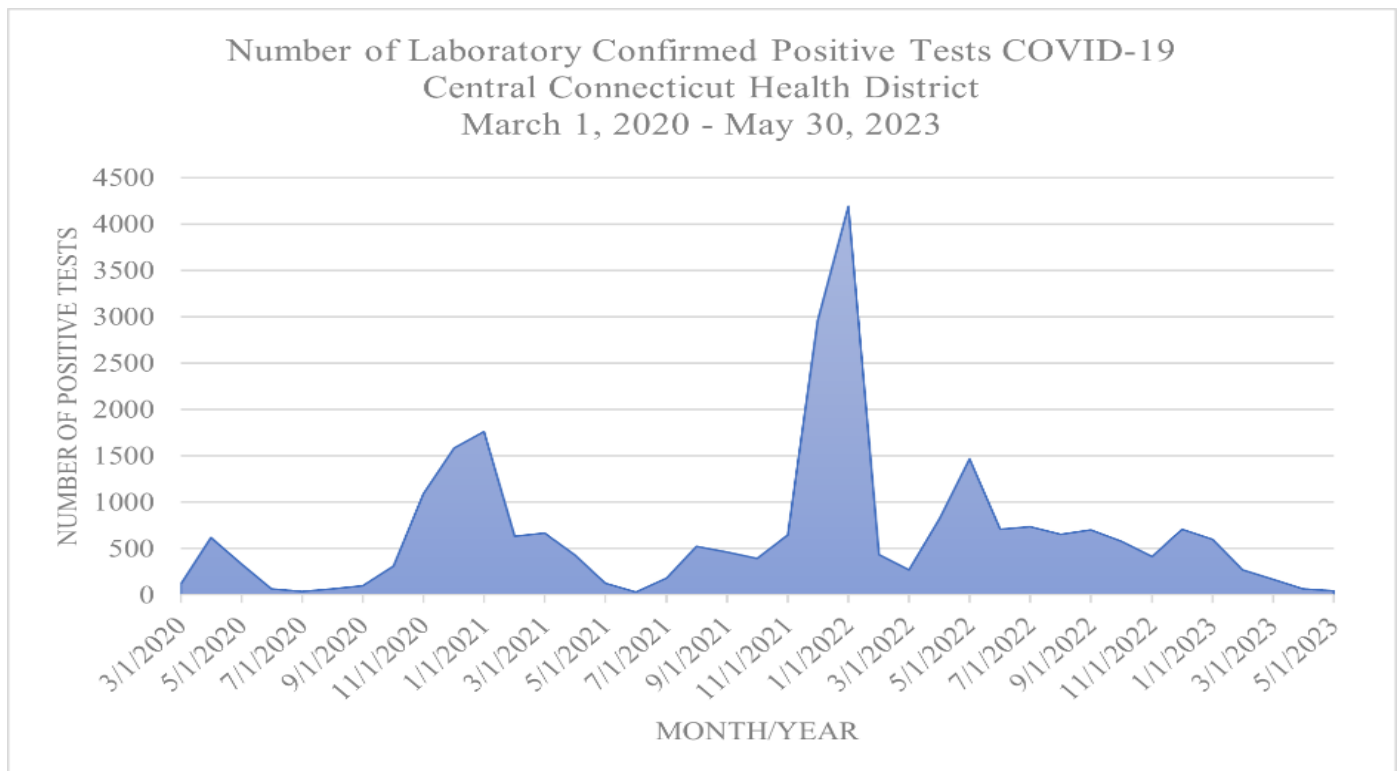
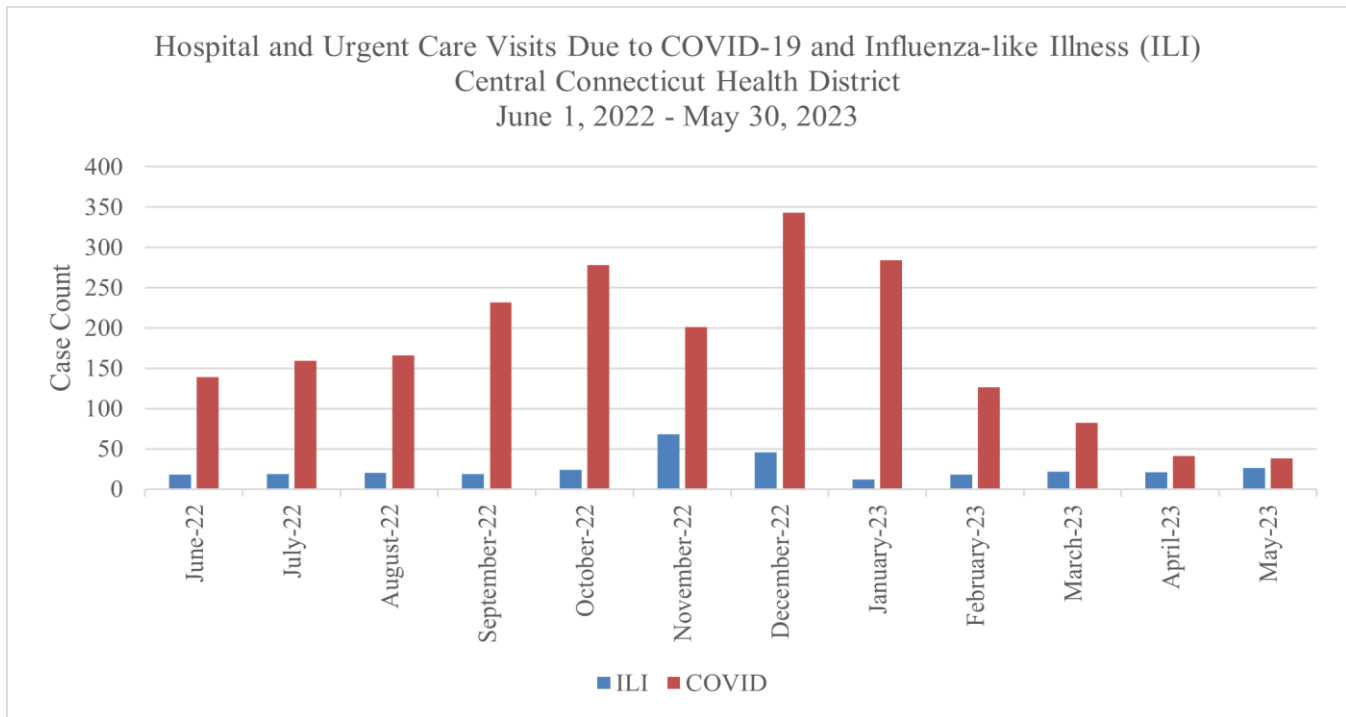


Figure 1.2 below illustrates the syndromic surveillance of hospital and urgent care visits due to COVID-19 (those with a COVID-19 diagnosis and symptoms) and influenza-like illness (ILI). The cases in Figure 1.2 are residents of the Central Connecticut Health District who are seeking emergent care due to COVID-19 or ILI. COVID-19 testing and syndromic surveillance have remained low this past month.

**Figure 1.2**



**NATIONAL RESPIRATORY AND ENTERIC VIRUS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (NREVSS)**

**UPDATE:**

*Data for the following CDC disease surveillance programs were updated on May 23, 2023.*

**Norovirus**

The Northeastern Region levels of PCR detection of norovirus have decreased significantly. Norovirus can remain on surfaces for weeks at a time and is extremely contagious. Symptoms of norovirus include diarrhea, vomiting, nausea and stomach pain. <https://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/about/index.html>

**Human Parainfluenza Virus Types 1-3**

Nationally, parainfluenza virus types 1-2 (HPIV) test positivity continue to increase, while HPIV 3 test positivity has dropped significantly. HPIV is associated with croup and can cause upper and lower respiratory illness and cold-like symptoms. For more information on HPIV please visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/parainfluenza/hcp/clinical.html>

**Adenovirus**

Nationally adenovirus test positivity has decreased significantly. Adenovirus is the most common cause of respiratory illness. Adenovirus can also cause gastroenteritis, conjunctivitis, cystitis, and less commonly, neurological disease. For more information please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/adenovirus/hcp/clinical-overview.html>

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

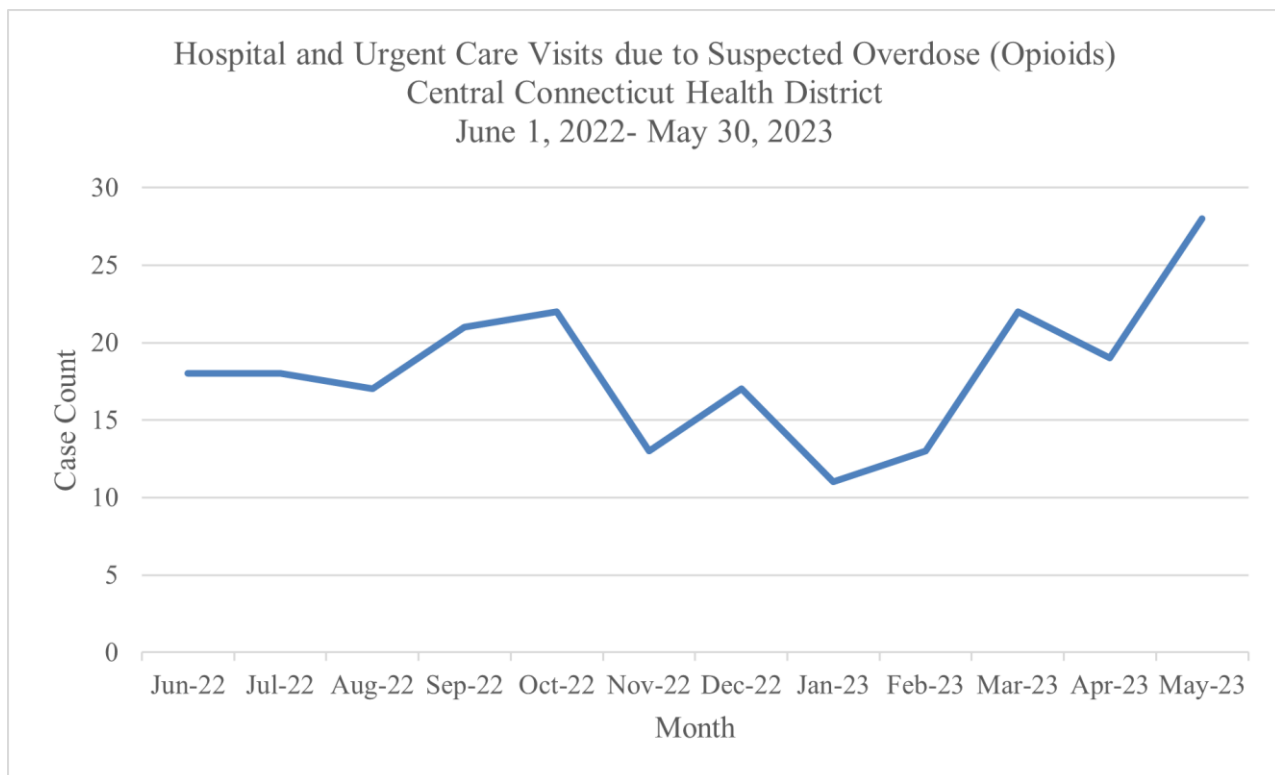
In the State of Connecticut, RSV (antigen and PCR) test positivity remains low and stable. RSV can cause different types of respiratory illness, however it most commonly causes cold-like symptoms. It can cause serious illness, such as bronchitis and pneumonia in infants and young children and people who are immunocompromised or who have chronic lung disease. For more information please visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/clinical/index.html>

## SUSPECTED OVERDOSES

Figure 2.1 below shows the syndromic surveillance of those brought to urgent care or the hospital for a suspected overdose due to opiates. The figure illustrates an uptick in the number of suspected overdoses this past month of those residing in the CCHD. If you or a love one are experiencing addiction to opiates, please reach out to the health district, so we can help provide you with narcan, fentanyl test strips, and resources and services for getting help (860)785-8380 or email Sara Piatti at [spiatti@ccthd.org](mailto:spiatti@ccthd.org).

**Figure 2.1**



## FOOD RECALLS

Click the link to know what foods have been recalled because they are contaminated. Please check your cupboards and throw out any of these items: <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/>

## **FOOD-BORNE ILLNESS**

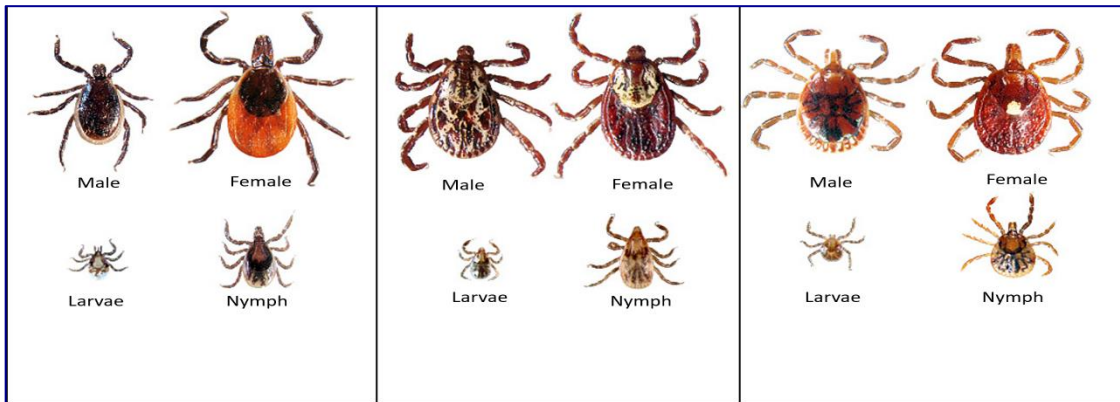
The District is currently seeing an increase in the number of Reportable Disease Confidential Case Report Forms PD-23 for food-borne illnesses. The PD-23 is the primary form used to report diseases, emergency illnesses and health conditions and are sent to both the State Department of Public Health and Local Health Departments. The form can be found at <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Epidemiology-and-Emerging-Infections/Provider-Reporting>.

To find out how to prevent food-borne illness please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/keep-food-safe.html>.

If you believe you may be experiencing food poisoning, please contact your provider as soon as possible or seek medical attention at an urgent care practice and request a stool sample. Keep a log of the things you have previously consumed in the past three days from the onset of your symptoms. If you believe you may have developed your illness from eating out, save any leftovers you may have, to submit for testing. This will make it easier for an epidemiological investigation for potential food-borne illness outbreaks due to contaminated foods.

## **TICK-BORNE DISEASE**

As we approach the summer months, we are expecting to see an increase in the number of blagged legged deer tick nymphs. Please visit <https://www.ccthd.org/vectorbornedisease> to find out how to properly remove a tick and how to submit it to the health department for testing. Below are illustrations of what the Blacklegged Deer Tick, American Dog Tick and Lone Star Tick look like in the different stages of their life cycle, respectively.



The Health District continues to promote staying up to date with vaccinations, practicing proper hand hygiene and the frequent cleaning of surfaces to continue to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses and fomite transmission of other infectious agents.

If you need N-95 masks, at-home test kits, or help finding a primary care provider, please contact our health educator, Betty Murphy, at (860) 785-8380 or [emurphy@ccthd.org](mailto:emurphy@ccthd.org).

*The Central Connecticut Health District is committed to improving the quality of life in our communities through prevention of disease and injury, fostering of a healthy environment, and promotion of the health of our residents.*