



I Raise the Rates! July Edition

In this edition of I Raise the Rates (IRtR), you will find a variety of new resources from several public health partners, educational opportunities, and a brief selection of popular media articles related to immunization.

Make Sure Your Patients Are Up To Date!



National Immunization Awareness Month

August is **National Immunization Awareness Month (NAIM)** - This annual observance highlights the importance of getting recommended vaccines for people of all ages.

CDC estimates that, from October 1, 2023, through June 15, 2024, there have been 25-65 million flu illnesses and 390,00-830,000 flu hospitalizations. This is the ideal time to ensure your patients are up to date on their recommended vaccines.

[Click here](#) to access a number of materials developed by CDC to help promote NAIM.

Additionally, access free resources and actionable strategies to support your efforts at [ACP's Adult Immunization Resource Hub](#).

World Hepatitis Day 2024



World
Hepatitis
Alliance

World
Hepatitis
Day 28 July

Take action. Get tested.

worldhepatitisday.org



On July 28th, World Hepatitis Day was observed to bring the world together to raise awareness of viral hepatitis, its global burden, and to influence real change. Hepatitis A and B are vaccine preventable yet every year, 1.3 million people lose their lives to hepatitis and new data from the World Health Organization shows the number of deaths is also rising. Additionally,

- Hepatitis is now the world's deadliest virus, after COVID-19,
- Hepatitis is the leading cause of liver cancer,
- Over 300 million people are living with hepatitis

Visit [World Hepatitis Alliance](http://WorldHepatitisAlliance.org) for more information and [see how to take action.](#)

Click below to read full summary of World Hepatitis Day

[Read More](#)

Video: **New ACIP Recommendations for RSV, COVID-19 and Pneumococcal Vaccines, Plus Updated Flu Vaccine**

AMA Update

Featured topic and speakers

Is a new COVID vaccine coming out? Which RSV vaccine is better? Are there new PCV vaccines? Which vaccines can be given together? When is the new flu shot available?

The guest speaker is Sandra Fryhofer, MD, AMA's liaison to the Advisory

Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and a member of ACIP's COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup. AMA Chief Experience Officer Todd Unger hosts.



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Original Investigation: **US State Restrictions and Excess COVID-19 Pandemic Deaths**

JAMA Health Forum

Importance: Despite considerable prior research, it remains unclear whether and by how much state COVID-19–related restrictions affected the number of pandemic deaths in the US.

Objective: To determine how state restrictions were associated with excess COVID-19 deaths over a 2-year analysis period.

Design, Setting, and Participants: This was a cross-sectional study using state-level mortality and population data from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for 2020 to 2022 compared with baseline data for 2017 to 2019. Data included the total US population, with separate estimates for younger than 45 years, 45 to 64 years, 65 to 84

years, and 85 years or older used to construct age-standardized measures. Age-standardized excess mortality rates and ratios for July 2020 to June 2022 were calculated and compared with prepandemic baseline rates. Excess death rates and ratios were then regressed on single or multiple restrictions, while controlling for excess death rates or ratios, from March 2020 to June 2020. Estimated values of the dependent variables were calculated for packages of weak vs strong state restrictions. Behavioral changes were investigated as a potential mechanism for the overall effects. Data analyses were performed from October 1, 2023, to June 13, 2024.

Exposures: Age and cause of death.

Main Outcomes: Excess deaths, age-standardized excess death rates per 100 000, and excess death ratios.

Results: Mask requirements and vaccine mandates were negatively associated with excess deaths, prohibitions on vaccine or mask mandates were positively associated with death rates, and activity limitations were mostly not associated with death rates. If all states had imposed restrictions similar to those used in the 10 most restrictive states, excess deaths would have been an estimated 10% to 21% lower than the 1.18 million that actually occurred during the 2-year analysis period; conversely, the estimates suggest counterfactual increases of 13% to 17% if all states had restrictions similar to those in the 10 least-restrictive states. The estimated strong vs weak state restriction difference was 271 000 to 447 000 deaths, with behavior changes associated with 49% to 79% of the overall disparity.

Conclusions and Relevance: This cross-sectional study indicates that stringent COVID-19 restrictions, as a group, were associated with substantial decreases in pandemic mortality, with behavior changes plausibly serving as an important explanatory mechanism. These findings do not support the views that COVID-19 restrictions were ineffective. However, not all restrictions were equally effective; some, such as school closings, likely provided minimal benefit while imposing substantial cost.

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

Flu Warriors Festivals 2024

New Jersey Immunization Network

It is generally recommended that eligible individuals receive a flu vaccine in September or October of each year, in order to build immunity for the coming flu season.

With that in mind, we encourage you to join NJIN at one of our upcoming Flu Warriors Festivals to receive your annual dose.

All are welcome, regardless of health insurance status or immigration status. However, those with health insurance should bring their insurance card and identification.

For the full event schedule, click the document below or visit

[Immunizenj.org/community-events-2024](https://immunizenj.org/community-events-2024).



New Jersey Immunization Network
Flu Warriors Festivals 2024

1. **October 5, 2024** (Sat.)

11:00am-2:00pm

- **Partner:** Saint Joseph's Health
- **Venue:** University Medical Center
- **Address:** 11 Getty Avenue (parking lot outside of Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center Infirmary), Paterson, NJ 07503
- **Vaccines Available:** Influenza

2. **October 8, 2024** (Tues.)

3:00pm-5:30pm

- **Partner:** Southern Jersey Family Medical Center
- **Venue:** Burlington Center
- **Address:** 651 High St, Burlington, NJ 08016
- **Vaccines Available:** Influenza, COVID-19

3. **October 15, 2024** (Tues.)

8:00am-12:00pm

- **Partner:** Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers
- **Venue:** Katz Dalsey Academy Charter School
- **Address:** 3098 Pleasant St, Camden, NJ 08105
- **Vaccines Available:** Influenza, COVID-19

4. **October 26, 2024** (Sat.)

10:00am-2:00pm

- **Partner:** Hackensack Meridian Health
- **Venue:** Jane H. Booker Family Health Center

2024 Adult Immunization Conference

Live Webinar

Wednesday, October 30th, 2024

8:30am-12:30pm

New Jersey Immunization Network
presents

THE 2024 ADULT IMMUNIZATION VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

**Save
the
Date!**



**JOIN US
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**More
details
coming
soon!**



New Jersey Chapter

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