

Subject line: LTCF January 2025 Post-Release Updates

This email is intended for Facility and Group users of the Long-term Care Facility (LTCF) Component of NHSN.

Dear NHSN Users,

Below is important information regarding updates to the NHSN Long-term Care Facility Component. The changes described below became available with the January 2025 NHSN release and are now visible within the NHSN application.

Resources on the [LTCF | Respiratory Pathogens and Vaccination Module | NHSN | CDC](#) webpage have been updated, where indicated, with revised forms, instructions, FAQs, CSV templates, and file layout documents.

Annual Facility Survey

The **2024 Long Term Care Annual Facility Survey** is now available in the **National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)** application. To access the survey, follow the steps below:

1. From your NHSN home page, locate the “**Action Items**” section, where the survey will be listed.
2. Alternatively, click the “**Surveys**” tab on the **blue left navigation panel** to find the survey.

Important: Facilities that are currently participating, or plan to participate, in any Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) modules (such as urinary tract infections, laboratory-identified events for C. difficile and multidrug-resistant organisms, or prevention process measures) **must complete the survey by March 1, 2025.**

Additionally, a **guidance document** on how to complete the annual survey can be found [here](#) on the NHSN webpage.

We encourage users responsible for submitting the annual survey to review the form before accessing it within NHSN. You may need to consult with other members of your organization to complete certain questions. A paper version of the new survey, for data collection purposes only, is available, along with the respective **table of instructions**. These resources can be accessed on the LTCF homepage or by using the following links:

- [Annual Facility Survey Paper Form](#)
- [Annual Facility Survey Table of Instructions](#)

Resident and Staff Demographic Data

MENA, Middle Eastern or North American, is now available as an option for race. This option became available in the application on 1/1/2025.

This option is available within the following modules and/or screens within the NHSN application.

- o HAI Module (UTI and LabID)
- o POC Test Reporting Tool

- o Person-Level Forms (COVID-19 Vaccination for residents and staff)
- o Resident tab
- o Staff tab
- o CSV Upload/API (for any of the forms listed above)

Respiratory Pathogens and Vaccination Modules

RPV Summary Form for Residents

- Beginning on January 1, 2025, facilities are required to complete **all** questions for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV on the RPV Resident Summary Form. This impacts the RPV Resident Summary Form, Resident Person-Level Form, and RPV Resident CSV Upload.
- A new **Completed Date** variable is available in NHSN (through the export .CSV file and analysis and reporting functions) to show when RPV resident summary data submission is complete. A date and time will populate for the variable once data for all required questions on the form (questions 1-4ci) have been entered and saved in NHSN.
- The reporting frequency for residents has not changed. Please continue reporting data each week.
- The NHSN Team hosted a webinar for long-term care facilities on December 11, 2024. The webinar covered important updates on reporting requirements for residents and healthcare personnel that were implemented on January 1, 2025. You can access the webinar slides [here](#).
- A webinar replay will be held on January 7, 2025, at 1 PM Eastern Time. Facilities can register for the webinar using this link: https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Sd8zLQXEQCWI9vKCrJcpw#/registration
- The COVID-19 Surveillance Pathways, (Resident Impact and Facility Capacity (RIFC), Staff and Personnel, Supplies and PPE, Therapeutics, and Ventilator Capacity) have been retired as of January 1, 2025. Data can no longer be entered or updated for these pathways. Reports can still be generated in the Analysis tab within the application.

COVID-19 Vaccination

Up to Date Definition Changes for COVID-19 Vaccination Data Reporting (Quarter 1 of 2025)

- Beginning the first week of reporting for Quarter 1 of 2025 (December 30, 2024 – March 30, 2025), individuals **aged 65 years and older** are Up to Date when they have received **2 doses of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine** or received **1 dose of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine in the past 6 months**.
- The Resident and Staff Person-Level vaccination forms have been updated to incorporate this definition.

- There is **no change** to the Up to Date definition for individuals **younger than 65 years**. Individuals younger than 65 years are Up to Date when they have received 1 dose of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine (any time since it was approved in August 2024).

- More information about the Up to Date definition for each quarter is found here: [Understanding Key Terms and Up to Date Vaccination \(cdc.gov\)](#).

Import/Export

Updates:

- The CompletedDate field can now be exported for the Resident RPV form.
- The field, Sex at Birth, can now be imported via the Residents and Staff .CSV files.
- The VaccType field was removed as a requirement for the CSV upload for Residents and Staff.

Please use **NHSN-ServiceNow** to submit questions to the NHSN Help Desk. The portal can be accessed [here](#) or through your CDC Secure Access Management Services (SAMS) account. After logging into SAMS, the NHSN-ServiceNow link is located at the bottom of the page.

Thank you for your partnership,

The NHSN LTC and Prevention & Therapeutics Units