

COVID-19 Hospital Data Reporting Guidance

Reporting Updates to CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network Post-COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Important:

- The information provided in this document serves as a notification of changes that will take effect June 11, 2023. Please continue to follow the current [hospital COVID-19 reporting guidance](#) through the June 10, 2023. More details on the implementations schedule can be viewed [here](#).
- This information does not apply to Long-term Care Facilities or Dialysis Facilities. It also does not impact Healthcare Personnel (HCP) COVID-19 Vaccination reporting to NHSN.
- State and jurisdictional partners may have reporting requirements related to or independent of the federal reporting requirements. Facilities are encouraged to work with relevant state, territorial, local, and tribal (STLT) partners to ensure complete reporting.

Background:

In its [FY 2023 Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System \(IPPS\) and Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System \(LTCH PPS\) Final Rule \(CMS-1771-F\)](#), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized a revision to the hospital, critical access hospital (CAH), psychiatric facility, and rehabilitation facility infection prevention and control conditions of participation (CoP) requirements. The CoP required hospitals, CAHs, and psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities to continue reporting on a reduced number of COVID-19 data elements after the conclusion of the current COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) until April 30, 2024, unless the Secretary establishes an earlier ending date.

Overview of NHSN COVID-19 Hospital Data Reporting Guidance Updates:

Two primary changes will be implemented for the COVID-19 hospital data reporting guidance post-public health emergency, in accordance with the CMS Conditions of Participation cited above:

1. Data element reduction

- The number of data elements required to be reported to CDC will be reduced from 62 elements to 44 elements.
- Data elements that will no longer be required and will be made optional:
 - 9a: Total hospitalized adult suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients
 - 10a: Total hospitalized pediatric suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients
 - 11: Hospitalized and ventilated COVID-19 patients - Patients currently hospitalized in an adult, pediatric, or neonatal inpatient bed who have suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 and are on a mechanical ventilator

- 12a: Total ICU adult suspected or laboratory- confirmed COVID-19 patients
- 13: Hospital onset - Total current inpatients with onset of suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 fourteen or more days after admission for a condition other than COVID-19
- 17b: Previous day's adult admissions with suspected COVID-19 and breakdown by age bracket: 18-19 • 20-29 • 30-39 • 40-49 • 50-59 • 60-69 • 70-79 • 80+ • Unknown
- 18b: Previous day's pediatric admissions with suspected COVID-19
- 19: Previous day total ED visits
- 20: Previous day total COVID-19-related ED visits
- Data elements designated as optional within the guidance updates can still be reported using the same processes.

2. Reporting cadence – weekly submission of daily values

- Reporting cadence will change from a daily requirement to a weekly requirement, with values reported for each day of the previous week (defined as Sunday – Saturday) by the submission deadline of Tuesday.
 - For example: Data for Sunday, June 11 – Saturday, June 17 would need to be submitted by end of day local time, Tuesday, June 20.
 - Daily values for required fields should be reported for each day in the previous week; data should NOT be reported as aggregated values over the entire week.
- The option to report daily will remain available.

NOTE: NHSN will continue to collect several key COVID-19 hospital data elements, many which are and will continue to be displayed on CDC's COVID Data Tracker and available for download in datasets on healthdata.gov. These data elements include:

- Counts of new admissions of patients with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 (for all patients, adult and pediatric patients separately, and by age group)
- Counts of inpatient and ICU bed capacity and occupancy (for all beds, and adult and pediatric beds separately)
- Counts of patients currently hospitalized or in the ICU with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 (for all patients, and adult and pediatric patients separately)

CDC's updated general infection control guidance for SARS-CoV-2 continues to contain recommendations for prevention of COVID-19 in healthcare facilities. The guidance was updated on 5/8/2023 to address recommendations impacted by the end of the public health emergency. Full details regarding infection control guidance can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>

Implementation schedule:

- The changes described in this message will take effect shortly after the conclusion of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) on May 11, 2023.
 - Saturday, June 10, 2023: implement updated reporting requirements in NHSN
 - NHSN application will be offline for updates – details on offline times will be provided closer to the date
 - Sunday, June 11, 2023: start date for updated reporting requirements
 - Tuesday, June 20, 2023: first Tuesday that can be used for weekly submission deadline flexibility
- **Please continue reporting under current requirements through June 10, 2023**

Please reach out to NHSN@cdc.gov using the subject line “COVID-19 Hospital” with any questions.

Additional resources:

- Information from CDC on the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration expiration can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/end-of-phe.html>
- CDC has published two articles in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports which offer a more detailed description of changes to data after the COVID-19 public health emergency declaration expires. Find them here:
 - [COVID-19 Surveillance After Expiration of the Public Health Emergency Declaration — United States, May 11, 2023](#)
 - [Correlations and Timeliness of COVID-19 Surveillance Data Sources and Indicators — United States, October 1, 2020–March 22, 2023](#)