Influenza Briefing




Matthew D. Levy, MD, MPH
Health Officer
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Prince George's County Council
Health, Human Services and Public Safety Committee

Tara H. Jackson
Acting County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

DATA

National, Regional, Local

Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

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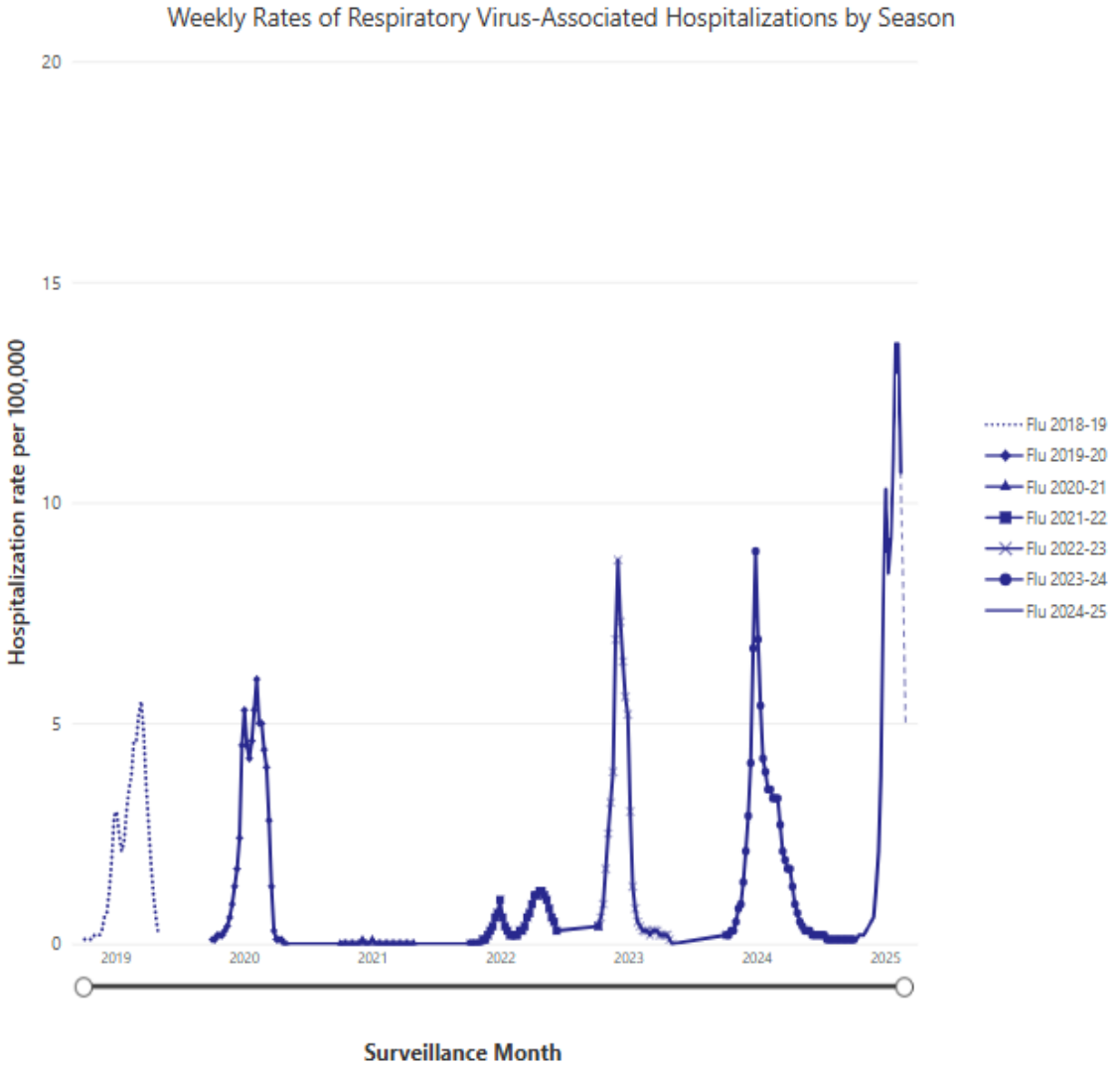
National Influenza Trends

- National flu hospitalizations for the 2024-2025 season peaked at 13.6 hospitalizations per 100,000, in the first week of February, higher than any in the previous seasons accessible via CDC RESP-NET.
  - 2023-2024 Season: Peak of 8.9 per 100,000
  - 2022-2023 Season: Peak of 8.7 per 100,000
  - 2021-2022 Season: Peak of 1.2 per 100,000
  - 2020-2021 Season: Peak of 0.1 per 100,000
  - 2019-2020 Season: Peak of 6.0 per 100,000
  - 2018-2019 Season: Peak of 5.5 per 100,000
- Good News: Hospitalizations have dropped each consecutive week since the peak in early February. The CDC's latest hospitalization data shows a projected (subject to change) a rate of 5.0 per 100,000 for the week ending 3/1/25.



Flu Hospitalization = individual who tested positive for influenza within 14 days before or during hospitalization.

Data sourced from:
https://www.cdc.gov/resp-net/dashboard/index.html

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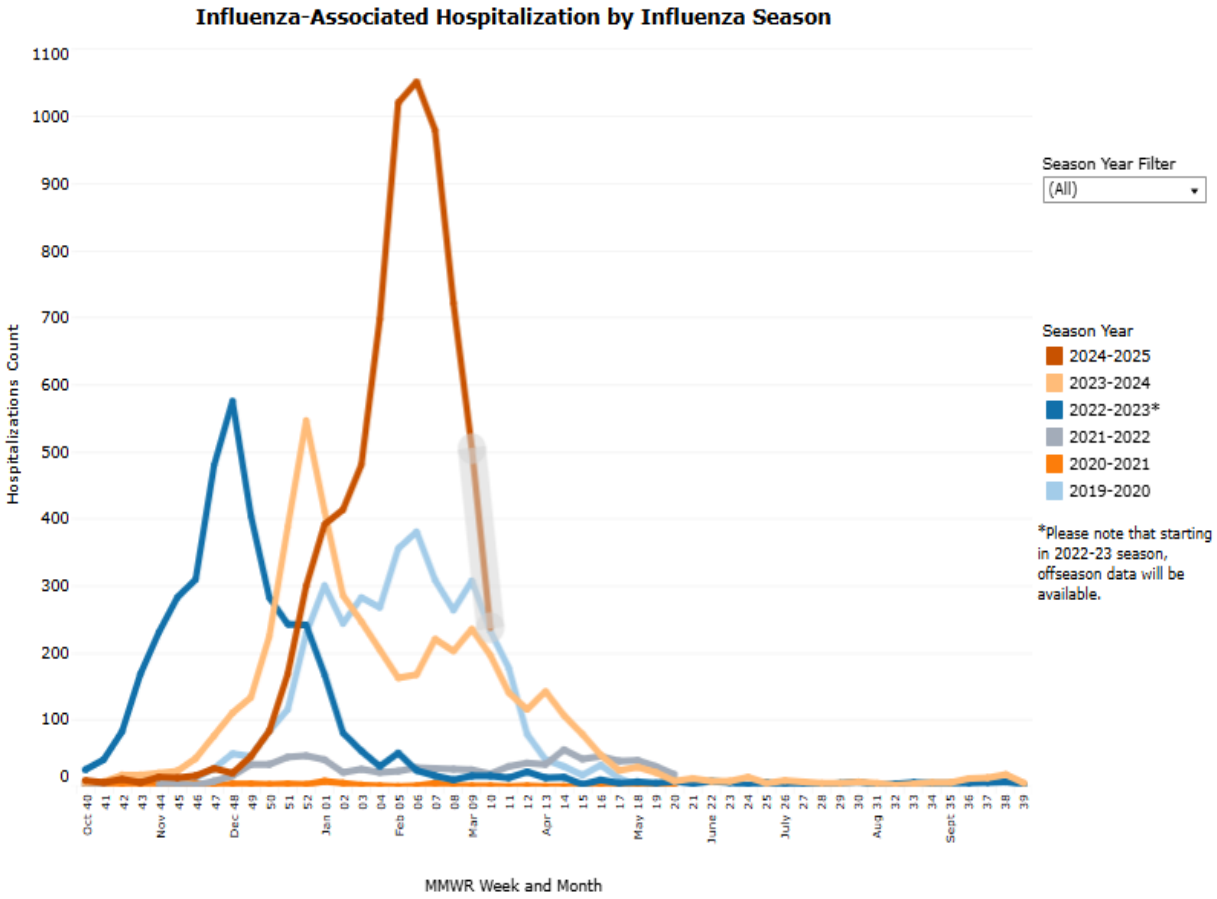
Maryland Influenza Trends

- Influenza-associated hospitalizations in Maryland peaked at 1,051 the week ending 2/8/25, higher than any other weekly peak in the previous seasons available in MDH FluWatch.
  - 2023-2024 Season: Peak of 546
  - 2022-2023 Season: Peak of 575
  - 2021-2022 Season: Peak of 55
  - 2020-2021 Season: Peak of 8
  - 2019-2020 Season: Peak of 380
- Good News: Hospitalizations have dropped each consecutive week since the peak in early February. MDH's latest hospitalization data shows a projected total (subject to change) of 237 for the week ending 3/8/25.



Influenza-Associated Hospitalization = person with an overnight hospital stay along with a positive influenza test of any kind.

Data sourced from:
https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/influenza/Pages/flu-dashboard.aspx

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Prince George's County Influenza Trends

- The weekly percent of Emergency Department visits associated with influenza in Prince George's County peaked at 11.14% the week ending 2/8/2025.
  - 2023-2024 Season Peak: 5.88%
  - 2022-2023 Season Peak: 8.04%

- Good News: Hospitalizations have dropped each consecutive week since the peak in early February.
  - The percentage of ED visits associated with influenza have dropped 55.66% since the recent peak.

Week_End	Percent_Visits_Influenza
1/21/2023	0.42
1/14/2023	0.57
1/7/2023	0.89
12/31/2022	1.55
12/24/2022	2.15
12/17/2022	2.53
12/10/2022	3.82
12/3/2022	6.1
11/26/2022	8.04
11/19/2022	5.23
11/12/2022	6.05
11/5/2022	5.73
10/29/2022	3.6
10/22/2022	1.86
10/15/2022	0.78

Week_End	Percent_Visits_Influenza
3/16/2024	1.72
3/9/2024	2.7
3/2/2024	3.42
2/24/2024	2.84
2/17/2024	2.5
2/10/2024	2.16
2/3/2024	1.75
1/27/2024	2.24
1/20/2024	2.26
1/13/2024	2.74
1/6/2024	3.68
12/30/2023	5.88
12/23/2023	5.4
12/16/2023	3.17
12/9/2023	2.07
12/2/2023	1.28
11/25/2023	0.79

Week_End	Percent_Visits_Influenza
3/1/2025	4.94
2/22/2025	6.35
2/15/2025	8.62
2/8/2025	11.14
2/1/2025	9.72
1/25/2025	6.9
1/18/2025	4.02
1/11/2025	3.66
1/4/2025	3.92
12/28/2024	3.35
12/21/2024	1.67
12/14/2024	0.78
12/7/2024	0.52
11/30/2024	0.28
11/23/2024	0.24

Data sourced from:
https://data.cdc.gov/Public-Health-Surveillance/NSSP-Emergency-Department-Visit-Trajectories-by-St/rdmq-nq56/data_preview

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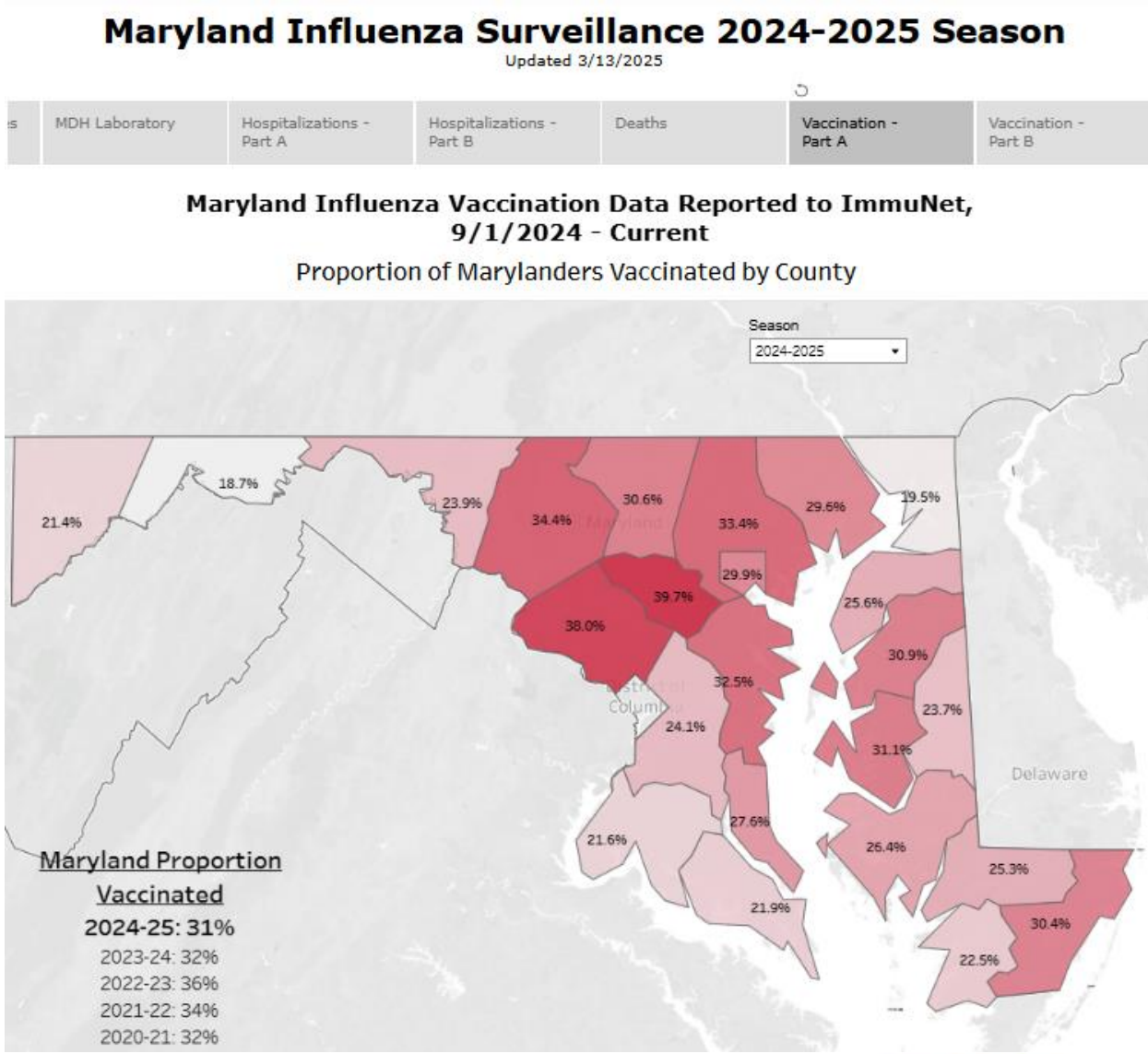
Flu Vaccination Rates in Prince George's County

- Based on vaccination data reported via ImmuNet, MDH estimates that roughly 24.1% of Prince Georgian's received a flu vaccine from a Maryland provider between 9/1/24 and 3/13/25.
- The statewide average vaccination rate is 31%.
  - Howard County has the highest, at 39.7%.
  - Allegany County has the lowest, at 18.7%.
- Statewide, vaccination rates have declined since peaking at 36% in the 2022-2023 season.

- Note: this data is an undercount because it only reflects vaccines administered in Maryland. Residents vaccinated in DC, or another state, are not captured in this data.



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Outbreak Investigation

Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

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Outbreak Investigation Workflow

- PGCPS Office of School Health Services(OHS) notifies the Health Department Communicable and Vector- borne Disease Control (CVDC) Program about reportable illnesses, MDH List of Reportable Conditions, and potential outbreaks, MDH Outbreaks Definitions and Reporting, in PGCPS schools
- For reportable conditions, CVDC provides guidance regarding identification of close contacts, recommended follow up of close contacts, exclusions ,based on COMAR 10.06.01 and CVDC investigation updates.
- For outbreak situations, CVDC and OSH review current mitigations strategies in place to stop the transmission of an illness
- CVDC provides OHS additional mitigation strategies recommended by CDC and MDH and prevention material(hand washing signs, cleaning and disinfection recommendations, sample parent notifications letters, disease specific line list) as needed based on type of outbreak and facility involved
- CVDC works with other community partners who may have had exposures at their facility, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, congregations, after school programs , sport teams and clubs, childcare facilities, doctors' offices and any other entities who report a communicable illness.

JAMES MADISON OUTBREAK SUMMARY

- James Madison MS located at 7300 Woodyard Rd, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 has 840 students and 60+ employees.
- Outbreak was reported on 2/7/25 to the OSH, that the school was experiencing a noticeable uptick in influenza cases.
- The first documented case was identified on 1/16/25. To date (3/14/25), there have been 84-85 cases. Some have not been confirmed by lab testing, but all have had ILI symptoms. A line list has been created for both staff and students to capture signs, symptoms and to track trends/movement of illnesses in the building.
- The number of cases has been designated as a school wide outbreak on 02/18/2025. OSH and the HD are conducting surveillance and monitoring the progress of the disease and below have entered observations and recommendations for infection control and subsequent infection prevention.
- A Flu clinic was offered at James Madison campus for students, parents/guardians and staff on 3/12/2025. About 262 individuals received flu and covid vaccines.

FRANCES FUCHS ECC (Early Childhood Center) OUTBREAK SUMMARY

- 38 ill children at FF ELC as of 3/12/2025
- The school has a total of 498 Students and 120 staff members
- All with fever and some with other symptom combinations
- 7 of the 34 ills tested positive for flu and 6 tested negative for flu
- CVDC conducted a school walk thru on 3/14 to assess the situation and provide mitigation strategies.

Outbreak Response

Flu Outbreak Response

Surveillance and Identification Goals:

- Engage with healthcare providers, urgent care centers, schools, childcare facilities, and nursing homes to quickly identify flu outbreaks.
- Utilize epidemiological data to pinpoint affected geographic areas or institutions.

Rapid Communication:

- Disseminate timely health advisories to the community partners.,
- Use social media platforms, local news channels, community bulletins, and school communication networks to educate the public on flu prevention and available resources.

Flu Outbreak Response

Engage and Collaboration:

- Work with local community organizations, leaders and influencers:
  - faith-based groups
  - businesses
  - non-profits
- PGCPS to swiftly organize onsite vaccination clinics
- Partner with local pharmacies, hospitals, and healthcare providers to supplement vaccination services and increase outreach effectiveness.
- Prioritize high-risk groups such as children, elderly, pregnant women, and immunocompromised individuals in vaccination campaigns.

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Flu Outbreak Response

Flu Vaccination Mobilization and Coordination:

- Deploy no-cost mobile flu vaccination units promptly to identified outbreak communities and schools.
- Extend hours at existing flu clinics, such as the Cheverly Health Center, from Monday through Friday with additional weekend and evening hours during outbreak periods as needed.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Continuously monitor vaccination coverage and disease transmission data.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of response activities through surveys, vaccination rates, and community feedback.

Flu Outbreak Response

Rapid Implementation Example 3/13/2025:

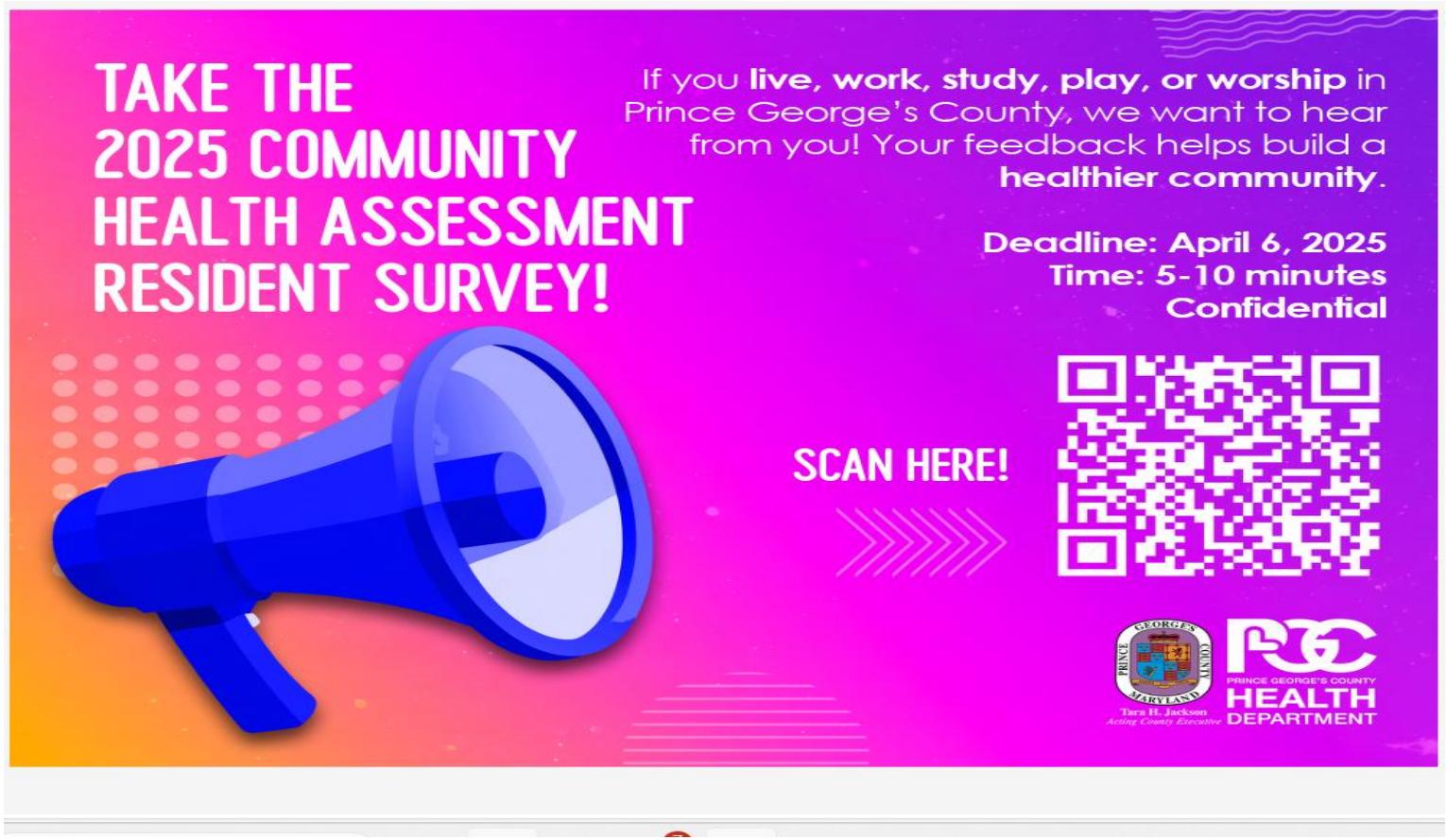
- Successfully established an on-site flu vaccination clinic at James Madison School following an outbreak, vaccinating 164 students and 96 adults=**260**.
- Plans are in place to replicate this successful approach at other schools experiencing flu outbreaks.

Flu Outbreak Response

Next Steps

- Expand mobile vaccination outreach in schools with high infection rates.
- Strengthen partnerships with school nurses and administrators.
- Promote enhanced hygiene protocols and infection control measures in affected schools.
- Conduct post-outbreak assessments to improve response strategies.

Survey Time



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QUESTIONS?

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