# Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance Report



Subject: Seasonal Vaccination Update Report – COVID-19 & Influenza

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025

This report provides details on COVID-19 and Influenza vaccinations for the 2024-2025 winter season. It presents data and statistics for the current programmes for the eligible groups of Islanders. For historic data, please look at previous public health reports found here: Public Health reports (gov.je)

#### **Key Findings**

As at 1st March 2025:

- 10,790 autumn 2024 COVID-19 boosters have been administered, with 45% of those aged over 65 years having received an autumn booster dose
- an estimated 63% of care home residents have received the autumn 2024 COVID-19 booster dose
- 30,907 flu vaccinations have been administered, with 65% of those aged over 65 years having received a dose

#### COVID-19

#### **Background**

The roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine in Jersey is aligned to the vaccination programme roll-out in the UK following the advice of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). The cohorts that are eligible for the vaccination campaign are defined in the chapter COVID-19 of the Green Book<sup>1</sup>.

This document sets out coverage of the **2024 Autumn Booster COVID-19 vaccine programme** that commenced on  $7^{th}$  October 2024. The report includes the context and challenges of reporting by eligible group in Jersey.

The eligibility for the Autumn Booster 2024 is as follows:

- all adults aged 65 years and over
- residents in care homes for older adults
- persons aged 6 months to 64 years in a clinical risk group (as defined in tables 3 and 4 of the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book<sup>1</sup>)
- health and social care workers
- staff working in care homes for older adults

Population denominator estimates from Statistics Jersey<sup>2</sup> have been used to calculate vaccine coverage. For details on historic COVID-19 vaccinations to date (e.g. first and second dose coverage and so on) please see historic <u>Public Health reports (gov.je)</u>

## **COVID-19 Autumn Booster: Vaccine delivery**

The Autumn 2024 Booster vaccination programme has been delivered in two ways:

- Through appointments with GP surgeries
- Through visits to residential care homes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Green Book COVID-19

Annual Population Estimates by Age and Sex – Statistics Jersey, October 2024

#### Total COVID-19 Autumn 2024 Booster vaccinations up to 1st March 2025:

Total COVID-19 Vaccinations: Autumn 2024 Booster	10,790
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#### COVID-19 Autumn Booster: Coverage estimates by eligible group

Table 1 shows the estimated coverage of each eligible group, along with an assessment of the data quality. Each group contains all individuals who are eligible under that population group, therefore the cumulative number of doses may be higher than the total number of doses administered, as individuals may be eligible under multiple criteria.

Data Quality in the table has been colour coded using the following criteria:

**Red** when the estimate is based on data that is deemed to be of poor or questionable data quality **Amber** for data of moderate quality, with only a small amount of the data being of questionable quality **Green** when the data quality of the estimate is good

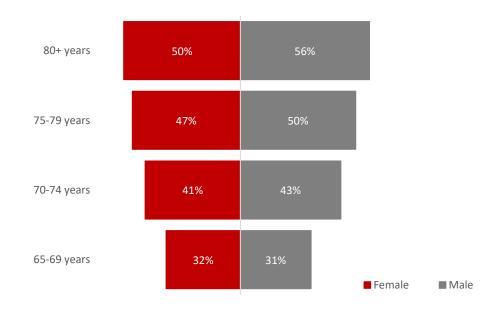
Table 1. Estimate of coverage<sup>3</sup> of the COVID-19 Autumn Booster 2024, by eligible group, with data quality assessment, as at 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Eligible group	Cohort Size	Autumn Booster 2024		Data
		Doses	%	Quality Assessment
Residents in a care home for older adults <sup>4</sup>	1,027 <sup>¢</sup>	652	63%	
Adults 65 years and over	20,140*	9,025	45%	
In a clinical risk group (aged 6 months to 64 years)	12,021+	832	7%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>This may include younger adults living in care home

Figure 1 provides information about the uptake of vaccination by gender and age group. Note that for those aged under 65, only a small cohort are eligible (for example those who are immunosuppressed, or those living in a care home) to receive an Autumn Booster 2024.

Figure 1. Uptake of COVID-19 Autumn Booster 2024 by gender and age



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Vaccinated individuals who have subsequently died have not been excluded from coverage calculations as previously.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>⋄</sup>Unstable population (movements in and out of homes)

<sup>\*</sup>Based on Population Estimates from Statistics Jersey

<sup>\*</sup>Collective information held in multiple systems not centralised with potential for double count and transient priority group

### Influenza

#### **Background**

The Government of Jersey co-ordinates a seasonal influenza (flu) vaccine plan every year to prevent flu amongst those who are at a higher risk of flu-associated illness and mortality. This includes older people, pregnant women, and those with certain underlying medical conditions (known clinically as being 'at-risk'). In addition, children are offered the flu vaccine to provide both individual protection to the children themselves and reduce transmission across all age groups to protect vulnerable members of the population.

The roll-out of the 2024-25 flu vaccine programme to eligible groups from the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

# Influenza: Vaccine delivery

The flu vaccine has been delivered through several programmes:

- Through appointments with GP surgeries
- Through appointments or walk-ins with pharmacies
- Through visits to residential care homes
- Through HCS (Health and Community Services) nurses who offer the flu vaccine to school children and nurseries
- Through workplace programmes to eligible workforces such as health workers

Estimates of coverage of the different eligible groups are provided where possible and are supported by contextual information about the data quality.

## Total flu vaccinations up to 1st March 2025:

1	Total Influenza Vaccinations: Winter 2024/2025	20 007	
	Total Influenza Vaccinations: Winter 2024/2025	30,907	

Table 3. Flu vaccinations winter 2024-2025, administered by age groups:

Age Group	Cohort Size	Autumn Booster 2024		Data Quality
		Number of Vaccinations	Coverage	Assessment
0-16 Years <sup>5</sup>	16,780	7,804	47%	
17-49 Years⁵	43,500	3,515	8%	
Aged 50 to 64 years	23,210	6,529	28%	
Aged 65 to 79 years	14,590	8,972	61%	
Aged 80 years or over	5,550	4,087	74%	
Aged 65 years or over	20,140	13,059	65%	

 $<sup>^5</sup>$ Please note that not all this age group cohort is eligible to receive the flu vaccination

# **Data quality issues**

In order to provide metrics on the proportions of each priority group that have received a vaccine, an understanding of the data quality issues surrounding the population data being used to generate estimates and the actions being taken to remediate these is required. Table 4 sets out these issues.

Table 4. Issues that have been found within the data being entered when an individual has their vaccine

Issue	Actions being taken to address issue
Missing care home information, or information	Cross-matching to lists provided by care homes (if available). Vaccination
about residents in care homes not provided by all homes	team requesting and collating further information about numbers of care home residents
Wrong eligibility group/tier is allocated	If possible, this is corrected based on dates and other available
	information. When people return for further doses, missing information will be collected
Care home populations are not stable due to	Population denominators will be reviewed and updated when
movements in and out of these groups	appropriate
Reciprocal health agreements mean all those	As individuals who meet the eligibility criteria can receive a vaccine, this
on-Island who fall into eligible populations can	may impact on totals. This is assumed to be a small number for each
access a vaccine, even if they don't appear in	eligible group.
our population data	
Information about Islanders in a clinical risk	Teams are working to identify individuals in this cohort and provide
group are not held in one information system	targeted communications. Individuals identifying as being in a clinical risk
centrally.	group are verified and coded as such when arriving for their vaccine.
Individuals falling into several different	Typically, a "primary eligibility criteria" is recorded at the time of
eligibility groups (e.g. somebody could be over	vaccination, and this is used categorise the individual into their eligibility
50, clinically indicated, and a healthcare worker)	group and so this is used for reporting.
The flu programme is being delivered through	Where possible, consistency is maintained in how primary eligibility
several programmes, each with different data	criteria is assigned to individuals, helping to increase the accuracy of the
systems and recording protocols, adding	estimates of coverage of the different eligible groups.
difficulty in reporting across the multiple	
eligibility cohorts.	