

Respiratory Illness Update for Grand Forks County

2025-2026 Seasonal Summary



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Data Sources

- **Case Data**

- Case counts are sourced from mandatory reportable condition data reported to NDHHS from healthcare providers and medical laboratories throughout the state. These counts only include laboratory confirmed cases and does not typically include clinically diagnosed cases without lab testing.

- **Sentinel Laboratory Data**

- NDHHS receives aggregated influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 testing data from participating sentinel laboratories across the state. For this report, NDHHS provides GFPH this data for Grand Forks County. The total number of positive tests and the total number of tests conducted in each week are reported and used to create a county-wide percent positivity. This reporting is voluntary, and reporting may vary by week and by facility. Updated data may not be provided if primary healthcare providers for Grand Forks County have not reported laboratory data for the given week due to no data or low numbers of testing data impacting data accuracy.

- **Hospitalization Data**

- Hospitalization data source has changed to data collected by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) which requires acute care and critical access hospitals to report information regarding COVID-19, influenza, RSV, bed capacity, and occupancy to CDC's NHSN. This data source provides more reliable information and thus all previous hospitalization data has been replaced with this more accurate data. For more information on NHSN's collection of these data please visit: [Hospital Respiratory Data | NHSN | CDC](#)

- **Outpatient ILINet Data**

- Information on outpatient visits to healthcare providers for respiratory illness referred to as influenza-like illness (ILI) is collected through the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet). ILI is defined as a fever (temperature of 100°F or greater) and a cough and/or a sore throat. Since ILINet monitors visits for ILI and not laboratory-confirmed respiratory viruses, it will capture visits due to any respiratory pathogen that presents with the symptoms of fever plus cough or sore throat. ILI is reported as a percent and represents the Number of Patients with ILI/Total Number of Patients. These data should be evaluated in context of other surveillance data.

- **Immunization Coverage Estimates**

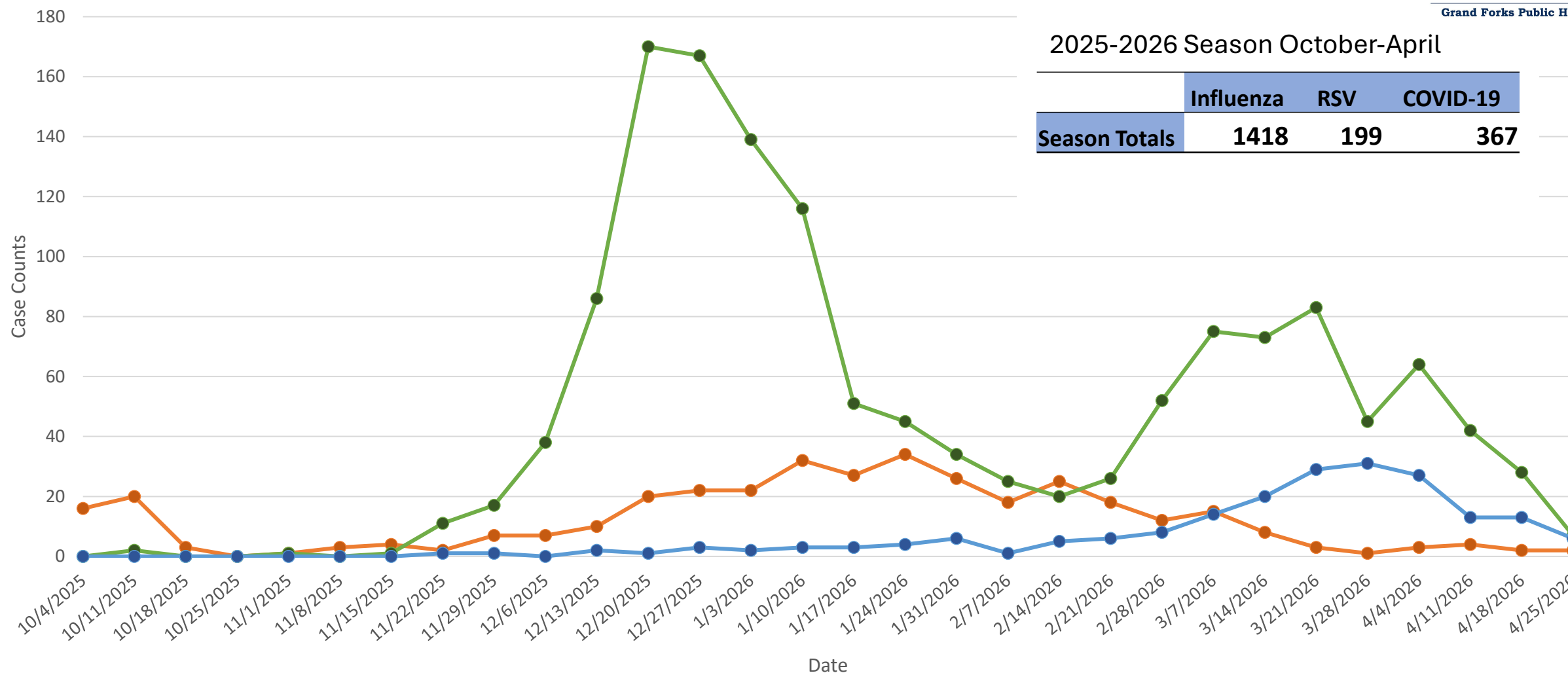
- Estimates utilize the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS) to calculate the number of individuals considered up-to-date. These estimates are pulled from the NDHHS Respiratory Immunization Dashboard, <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/health/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>



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2025-2026 Respiratory Pathogen Case Counts



2025-2026 Season October-April

	Influenza	RSV	COVID-19
Season Totals	1418	199	367

Source: NDHHS

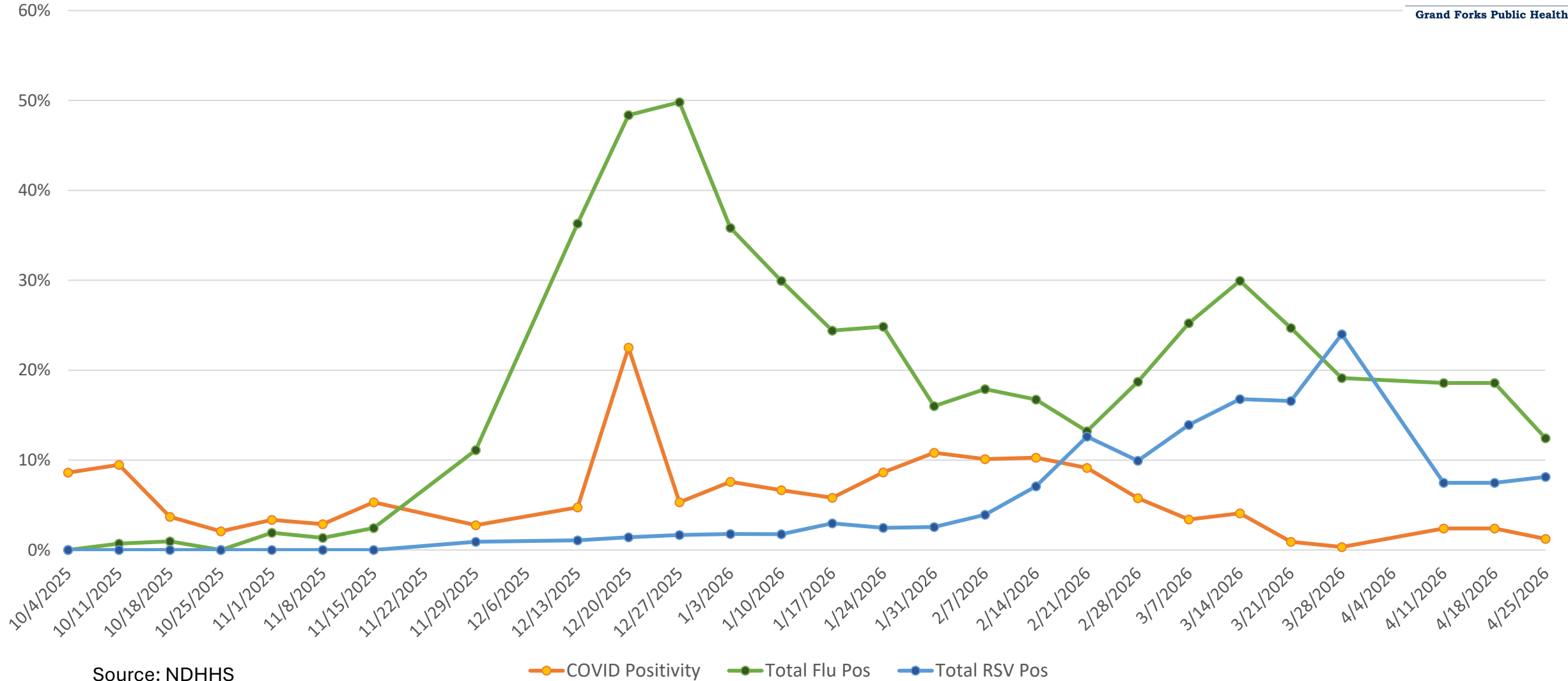
COVID-19 Influenza RSV

Sentinel Laboratory Testing Percent Positivity



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Source: NDHHS

Data were not available for 11/22/25 and 12/6/25.

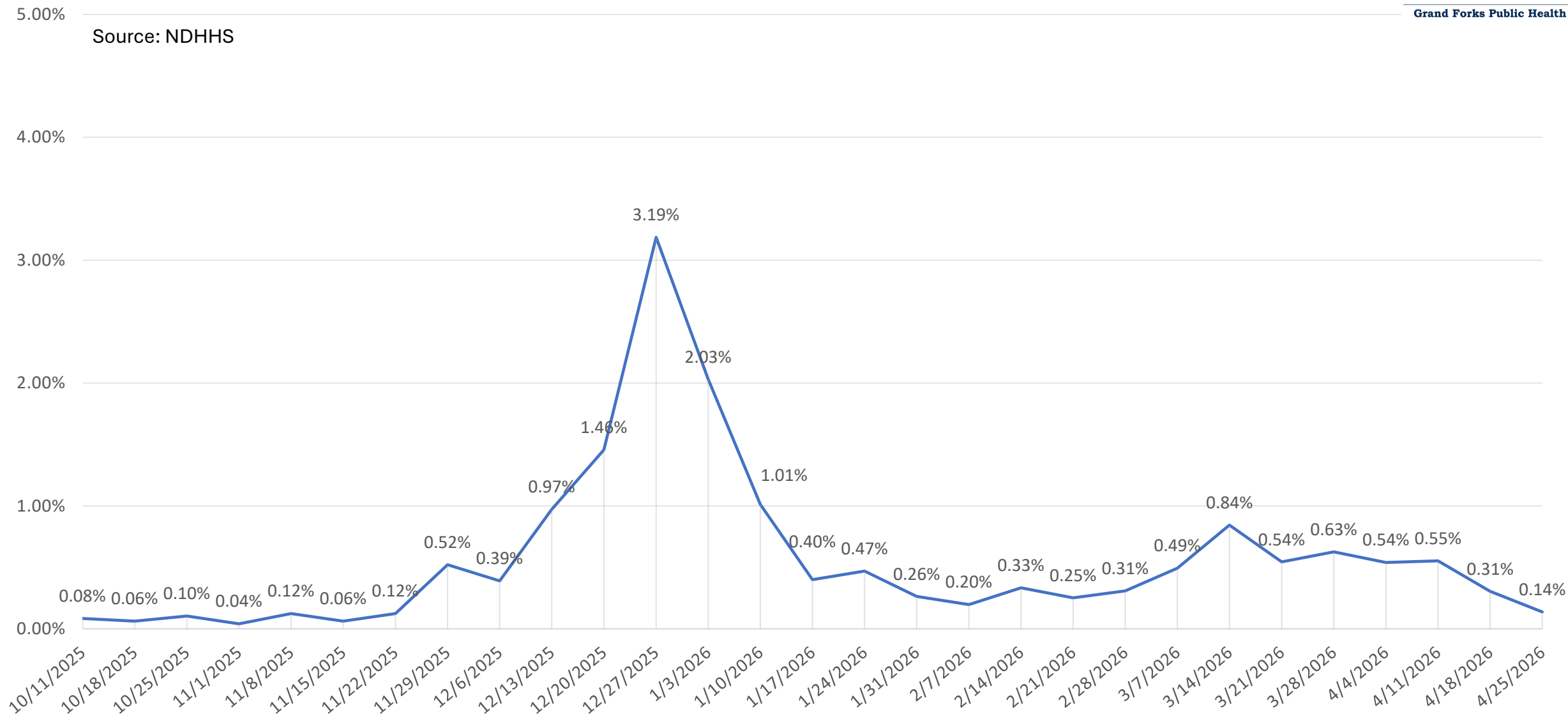


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Grand Forks County Percent of Outpatients With Respiratory Illness

Source: NDHHS

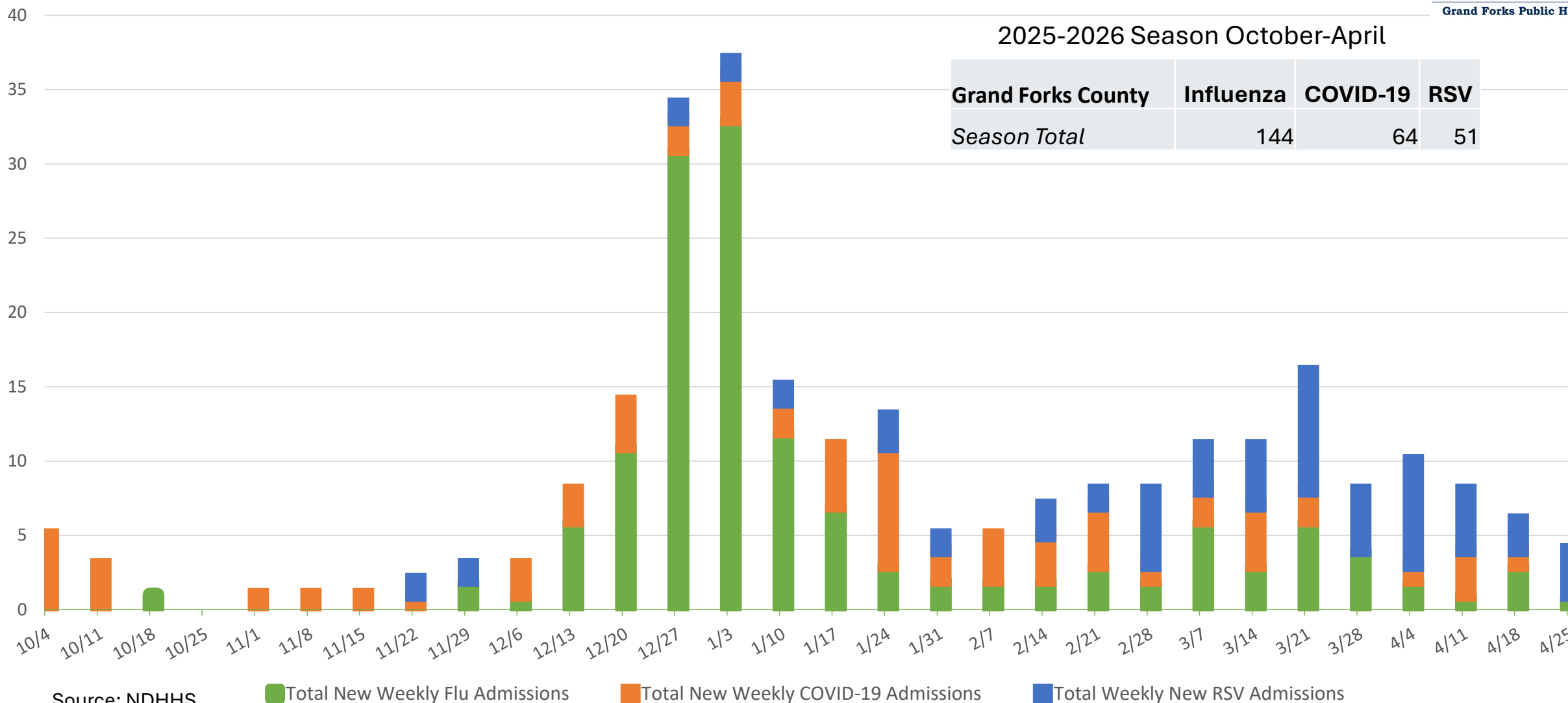




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Grand Forks County Respiratory Illness Hospitalizations



No data reported for 3/1

Grand Forks County Influenza and COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage Estimates

2025-26 respiratory illness season

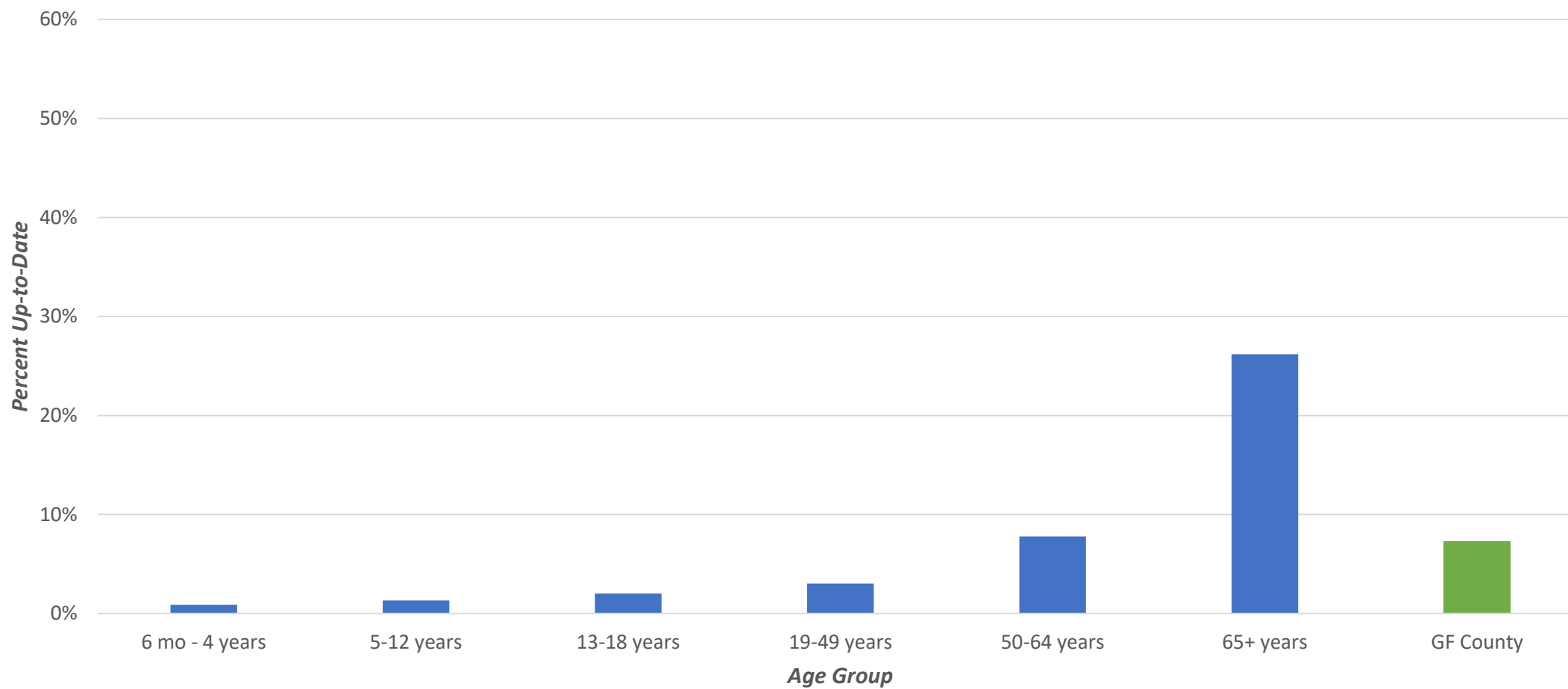




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COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage



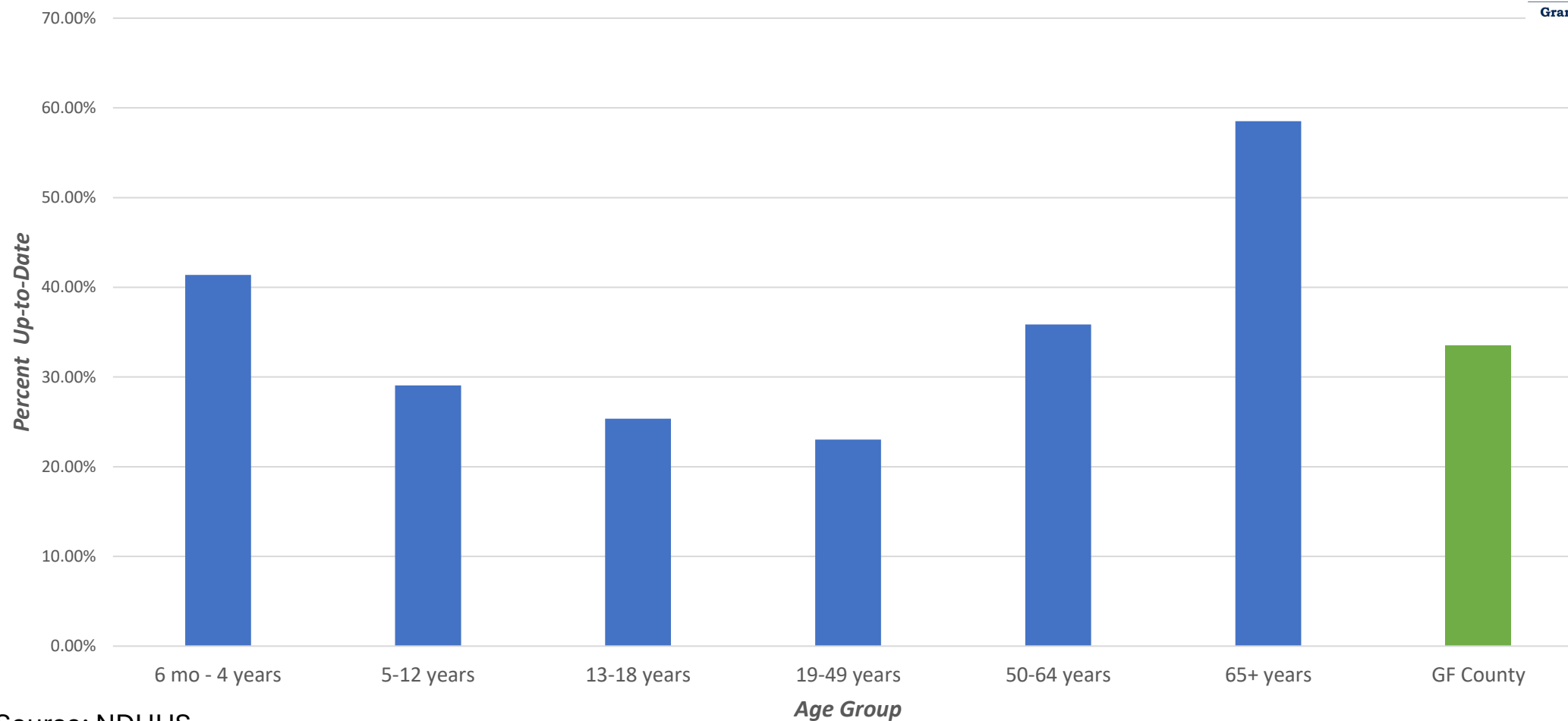
Source: NDHHS



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Influenza Vaccine Coverage



Source: NDHHS

Grand Forks County influenza immunization coverage goal is 70% (Health People 2030).



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