In December 2021, an estimated **3,200 hospitalizations** were prevented

Analysis: The rate of hospitalization and death per week among not fully vaccinated Nebraskans was calculated, then applied to the Nebraska population to simulate the absence of vaccination. By applying the not fully vaccinated rate of hospitalization and death to the whole population we can understand the protective benefit of vaccination in a different way.

Hospitalizations: COVID-19 hospitalizations were identified from healthcare encounter data obtained from the State Health Information Exchange (CyncHealth), which were matched with Nebraska State Immunization Information System (NESIIS) vaccination data to create a weekly ratio of not fully vaccinated hospitalizations to fully vaccinated hospitalizations. We estimate this data source contains 60-70% of all COVID-19 hospitalizations in Nebraska. We then applied that ratio to incident hospitalizations identified from HHS Protect, which is considered the most complete source for COVID-19 hospitalizations.

Deaths: Deaths were identified from Nebraska vital records death certificate data. A death certificate is completed for all Nebraskans who die in the state. Deaths that included COVID-19 as the immediate cause of death or a contributing cause of death were included in this analysis.