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THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026 | CINCINNATI.COM | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

CPS' low vaccine rates raise concerns

Missing documents likely to blame, officials say

Grace Tucker
Cincinnati Enquirer
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio officials recently launched a public dashboard displaying kindergarten vaccination rates statewide to in-

crease transparency around childhood immunizations in public and private schools.

But for Cincinnati Public Schools, the Ohio Department of Health dashboard has instead raised concerns about vaccination documentation.

According to the state dashboard, only about 1 in 4 CPS kindergartners appear to be fully vaccinated – a figure health officials say likely reflects miss-

ing documentation rather than actual vaccination status.

Despite what the state data shows, the district told The Enquirer it believes “most CPS students are vaccinated or actively working to complete required immunizations.”

The Cincinnati numbers could signal a lack of compliance with several Ohio laws, including requirements for kindergartners to be vaccinated against

diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella, Hepatitis B, chicken pox and polio.

State law also says unvaccinated students cannot attend school for more than 14 days without written proof of a medical or nonmedical exemption or documentation that shows they're in the process of being immunized. Health

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'Stunning' Labor Day display to surround spectators

New bridge will reroute, close some NKY exits

Patricia Gallagher Newberry
Cincinnati Enquirer
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project interrupted Interstate 75 traffic with work on the Ohio side of the river last month.

This month, Covington will see interruptions. They will last longer and some will be permanent.

With all eyes on the bridge project – following a groundbreaking event on May 7 – here's what to expect on the south side of the Ohio River in coming weeks and months.

Good news, bad news for Covington traffic

The good news: You will still be able to get to Covington from the interstate (called I-71/75 through Northern Kentucky), according to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

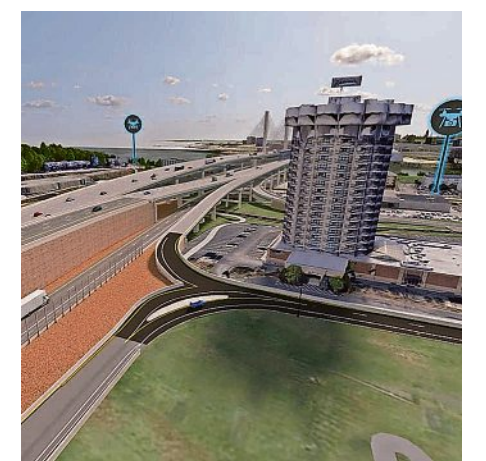
The bad news: Two ramps will close this month, with one reopening in October and the other by summer 2027.

And maybe worse news: The West Fifth Street ramp from southbound I-71/75, that takes drivers east into Covington, will close for good around May 26. So will West Fifth Street from Crescent Avenue to the off-ramp from I-71/75.

Ditto for Covington's Texas Turn-around, which will close for good in October. Installed in 2022 at a cost of \$8.8 million, it loops vehicles from westbound Fourth Street to northbound I-75.

But back to good news: “At the end of the project, there will be the same number of exits to/from Covington as

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Covington traffic will be impacted by the bridge project. PROVIDED BY THE KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

WEBN fireworks show to rival biggest in U.S.

Haadiza Ogwude Cincinnati Enquirer | USA TODAY NETWORK



The biggest fireworks show in Cincinnati is set to be bigger and brighter this year. • Organizers of the Western & Southern/WEBN Fireworks show announced May 12 that the city's annual Labor Day display, returning Sept. 6, will be some of the “biggest fireworks in America.” • To celebrate the event's 50th anniversary and the United States' 250th year, the show will be more immersive, with organizers stating that spectators will be “inside of the fireworks.” See FIREWORKS, Page 5A

The Western & Southern/WEBN Fireworks show is a Cincinnati tradition. To celebrate the event's 50th anniversary and the United States' 250th year of freedom, the Sept. 6 show will be more immersive, with organizers stating that spectators will be “inside of the fireworks.” PHOTOS BY JOE SIMON FOR THE ENQUIRER

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Volume 186th | No. 29
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