



Michigan Flu Focus

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

November 29, 2021

Vol. 19; No. 7

Week Ending November 20, 2021 | WEEK 46

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Data provided in this report are preliminary and will be updated as additional data is received

Updates of Interest

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory regarding increasing seasonal influenza A (H3N2) activity, especially among young adults and in college and university settings. For more information and recommendations, visit the following link:

www.emergency.cdc.gov/han/2021/han00458.asp

Seasonal Flu Vaccination Coverage

Michigan's goal is to vaccinate **4 million** residents during the 2021-2022 flu season.

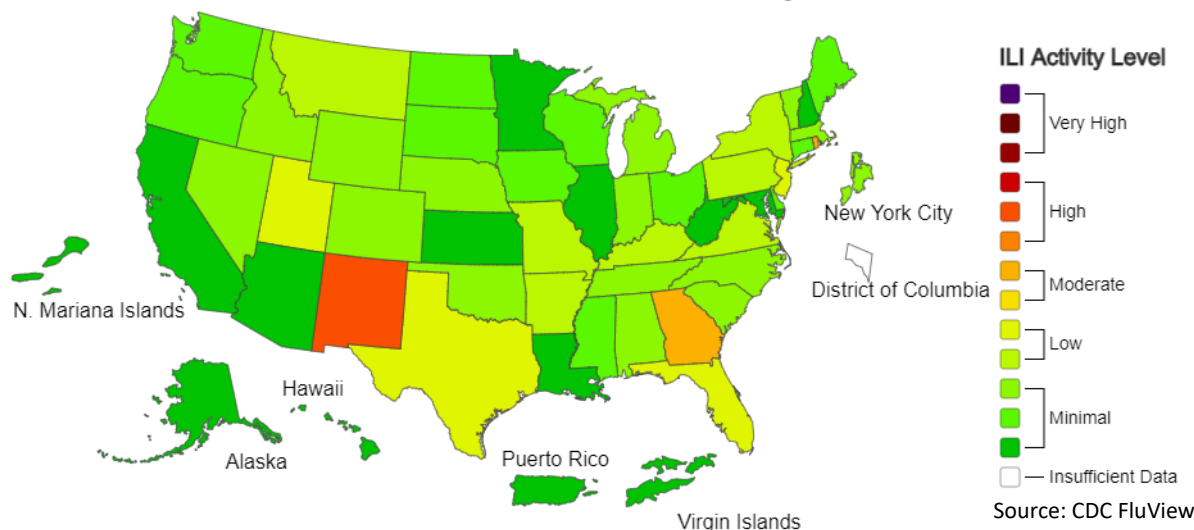
As of **November 20, 2021** there have been **2,389,464** doses administered (**61.1%** towards goal) for the 2021-2022 flu season.

Please visit the Flu Vaccination Dashboard at www.michigan.gov/flu for more info.

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet

This system monitors visits for ILI (fever and cough or sore throat), not laboratory confirmed influenza and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.

2021-22 Influenza Season Week 46 ending Nov 20, 2021



Note: This map represents U.S. ILI activity levels reported to ILINet. The display used in past seasons showing Geographic spread of influenza has been suspended for the 2021-2022 influenza season

Influenza-associated Pediatric Mortality

Nationally, zero (0) influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported thus far for the 2021-2022 flu season.

No pediatric deaths have been confirmed by MDHHS for the 2021-2022 flu season to date.

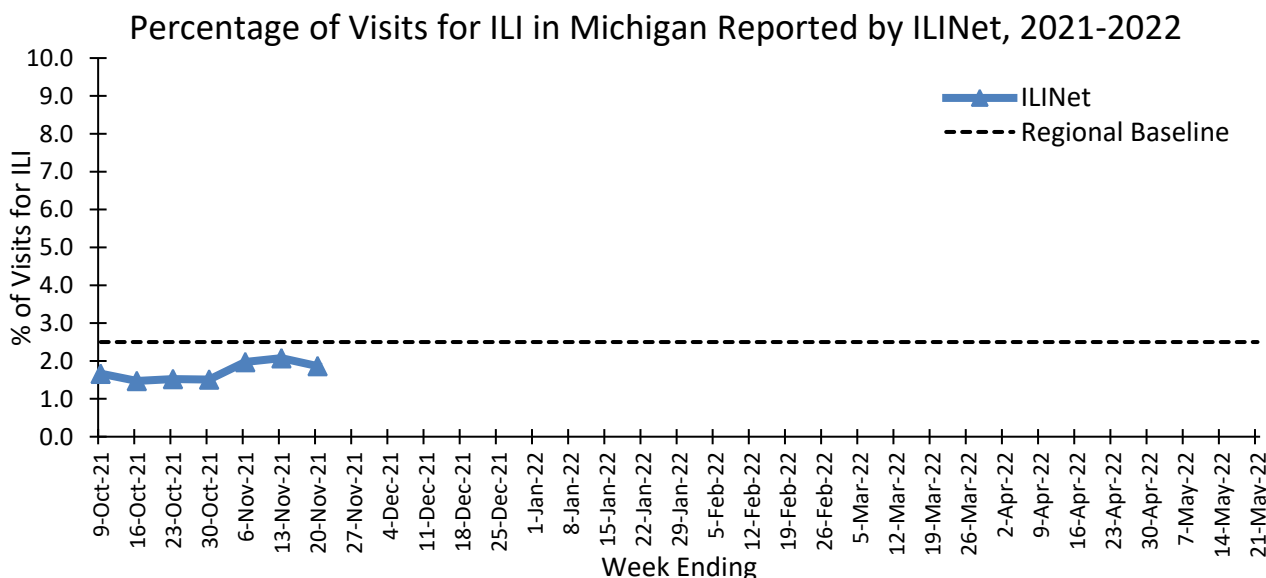
U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)

Michigan participates in ILINet, a collaborative effort between the CDC, state and local health departments, and volunteer sentinel clinicians as part of Michigan's influenza surveillance. ILINet provides data on the total number of outpatient visits to health care providers seen for any reason and the number of those patients with influenza-like illness (ILI[‡]). Participating Michigan emergency department and urgent care facilities send syndromic data voluntarily in near real-time to the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community Based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Discharge diagnosis and chief complaint data elements are used to determine whether visits meet the ILI case definition. One-hundred and forty-one (141) Michigan facilities contributing data to ESSENCE were validated and enrolled in ILINet for the 2021-2022 flu season.

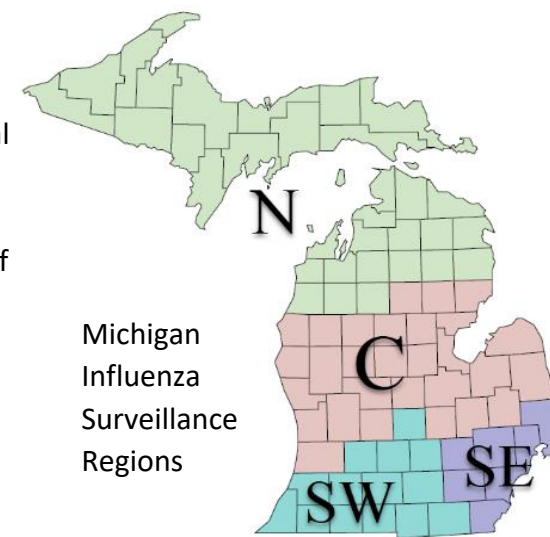
[‡]ILI is defined as fever (>100°F) and a cough and/or a sore throat (new definition for the 2021-2022 season).

Number of Reports and ILI % by Region during this time period:

Region	C	N	SE	SW
No. of Reporters (151)	51	18	54	28
ILI %	1.7	2.4	2.0	1.5



Note: ILINet monitors visits for ILI (fever and cough and/or sore throat) and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.



Michigan ILI Activity: **1.9%**

(Last week: 2.1%)

Regional Baseline*: 2.5%

A total of 1,489 patient visits due to ILI were reported out of 79,859 outpatient visits for Week 46.

*Regional baseline is determined by calculating the mean percentage of patient visits due to ILI during non-influenza weeks for the previous three seasons and adding two standard deviations.

National Surveillance

In the United States, **2.2%** of outpatient visits were due to ILI (Last week: 2.1%)

This is **below** the national baseline of 2.5%

Become an ILINET provider!

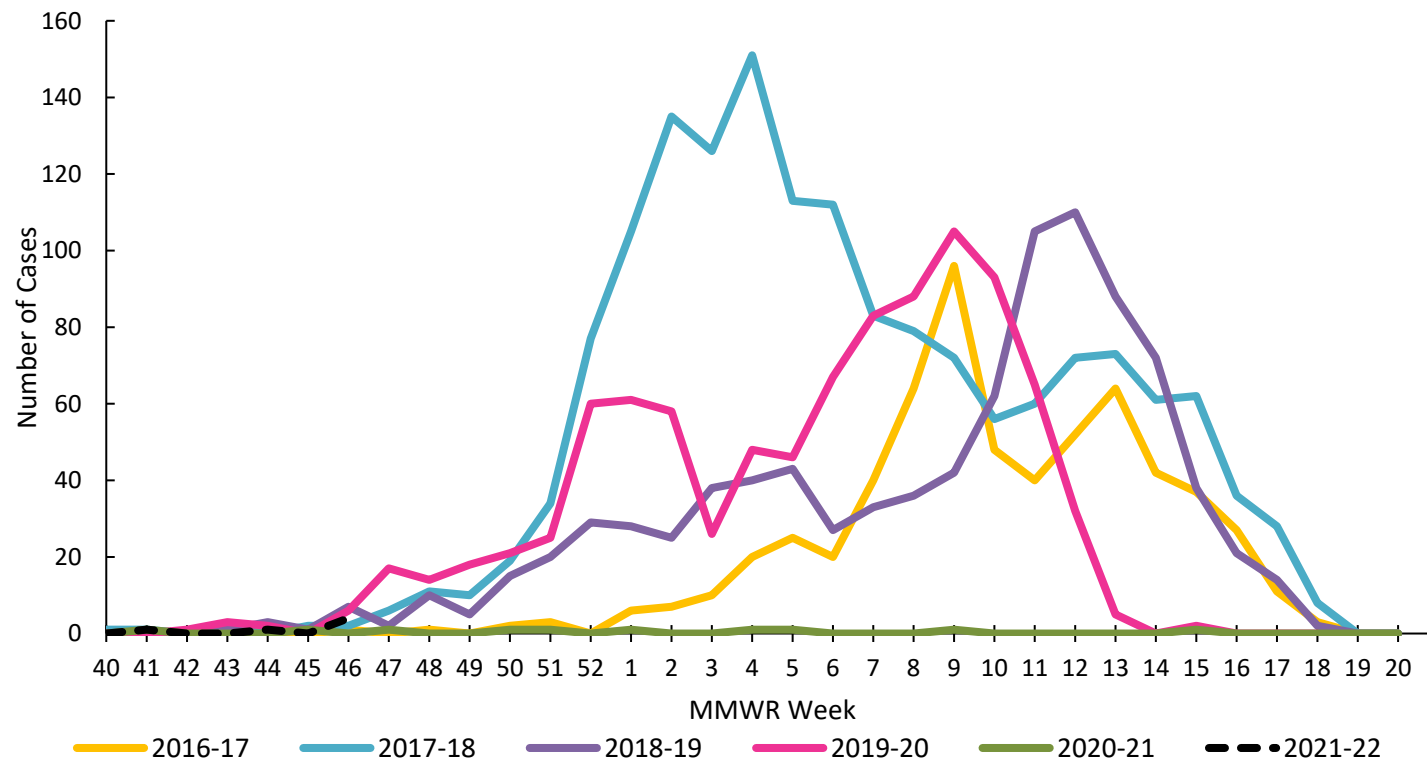
Contact Shelly Doeblar at DoeblarM@michigan.gov

Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Project (IHSP)

The CDC's Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-NET) provides population-based rates of laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations from October 1st through April 30th each year. Michigan participates as an IHSP state in FluSurv-NET for Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, and Washtenaw Counties.

There were 4 (1 pediatric, 3 adult) influenza-associated hospitalizations reported to MDHHS for the IHSP during this time period. Since October 1st, 6 (1 pediatric, 5 adult) influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported in the catchment area for the 2021-2022 season.

IHSP Cases, 2016-2017 through 2021-2022



Washtenaw County was added in the 2017-2018 season

Join the Influenza Sentinel Hospital Network (ISHN)!

What is it? ISHN is a group of hospitals in Michigan that voluntarily report weekly aggregate counts of influenza positive inpatients to assist MDHHS with statewide influenza surveillance.

How it works: As a participating hospital in the ISHN, you would complete a brief Survey Monkey every week containing:

- Number of hospitalizations with a positive influenza test by age group during that time period
- The total number of hospitalizations due to any condition during that time period (if available)

The data you provide will assist public health in recognizing changes in the age or geographic distribution of influenza in this population.

If your facility is interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Sue Kim (KimS2@michigan.gov)

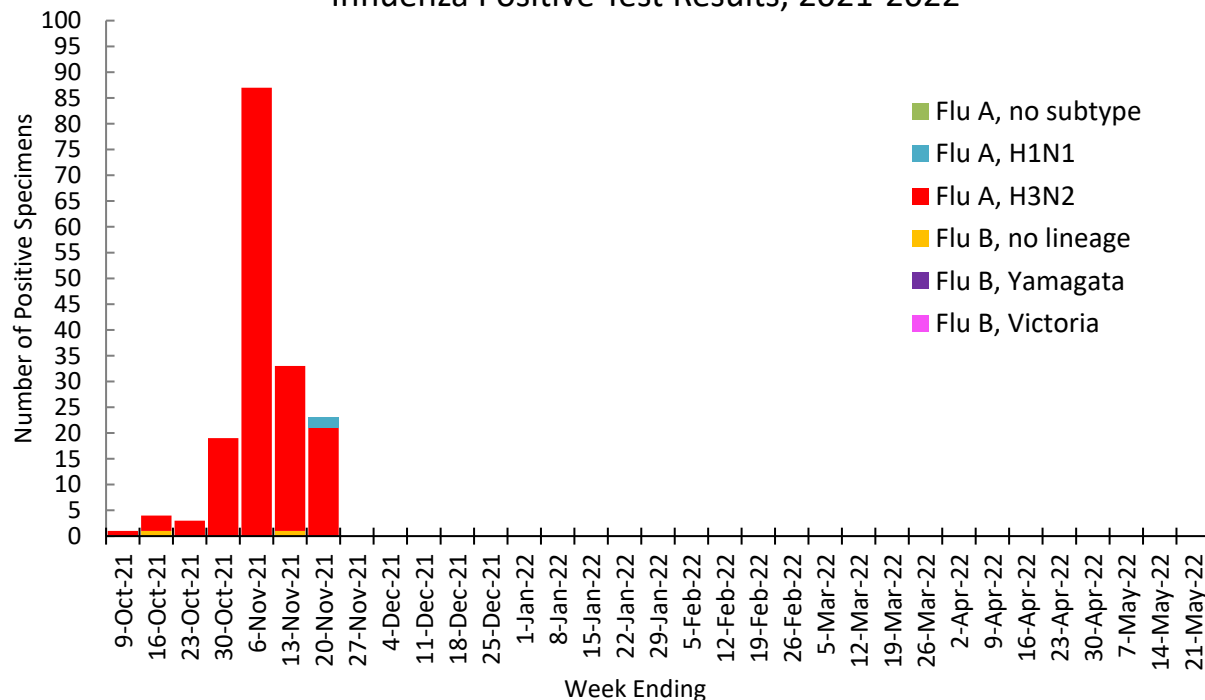
MDHHS BOL Virology Laboratory Data

There were 23 (1C, 0N, 13SE, 9SW) positive influenza results reported by the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) during this time period. Positive flu results for the 2021-2022 season are summarized below.

of Positive Influenza Virus Results by Region

	C	N	SE	SW	Total
H1N1	0	0	2	0	2
H3N2	5	0	150	11	166
Infl B	0	0	2	0	2
Total	5	0	154	11	170

Influenza Positive Test Results, 2021-2022



Note: Based on Specimen Collection Date. Flu B lineage data will be reported based on MDHHS BOL testing runs and will be backtracked into this graph

Michigan Sentinel Clinical Lab Network Respiratory Virus Data

Eight (8) sentinel clinical labs (2SE, 1SW, 4C, 1N) reported for the week ending 11/20

SE Region	
Influenza A:	elevated
Influenza B:	no activity
Parainfluenza:	elevated
RSV:	moderate – high
Adenovirus:	slightly elevated
hMPV:	low
Central Region	
Influenza A:	sporadic
Influenza B:	no activity
Parainfluenza:	elevated
RSV:	moderate
Adenovirus:	slightly elevated
hMPV:	low
SW Region	
Influenza A:	no activity
Influenza B:	sporadic
Parainfluenza:	low
RSV:	moderate
Adenovirus:	low
hMPV:	sporadic – low
North Region	
Influenza A:	sporadic
Influenza B:	sporadic
Parainfluenza:	low
RSV:	elevated
Adenovirus:	sporadic
hMPV:	sporadic

There were 2 (OC, ON, OSE, 2SW) influenza outbreaks reported to MDHHS during this time period. Influenza outbreaks for the 2021-2022 season are summarized below.

of Influenza Outbreaks by MI Region

Facility Type	C	N	SE	SW	Total
Schools: K-12 & College	0	0	1	2	3
Long-term Care / Assisted Living Facility	0	0	0	1	1
Healthcare Facility	0	0	0	0	0
Daycare	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless Shelter	0	0	0	0	0
Correctional Facility	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	3	4

Did you know?

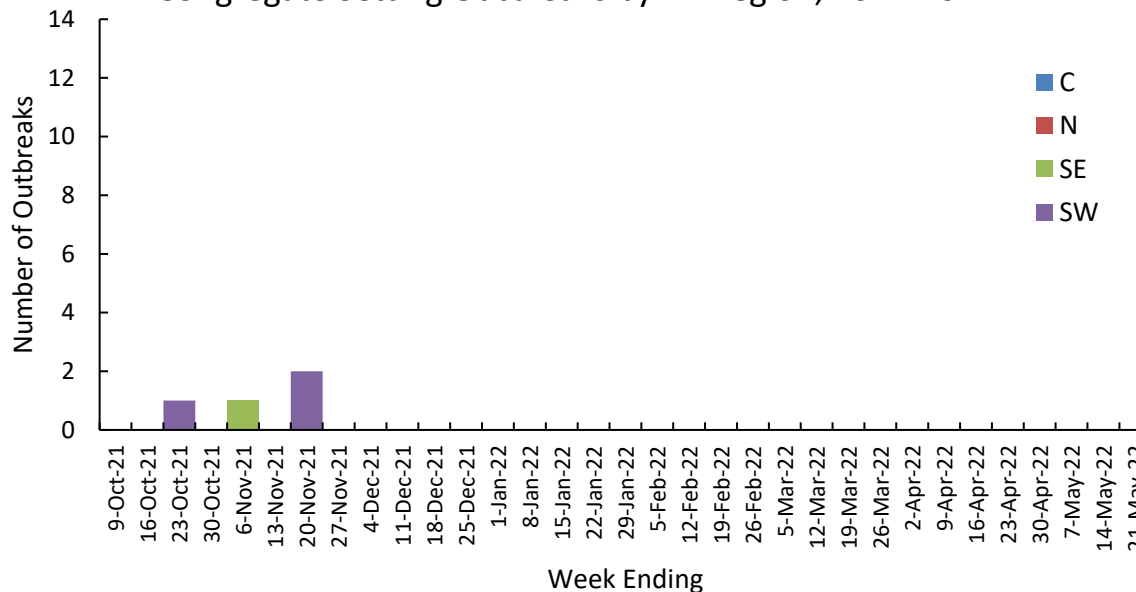
Congregate setting outbreaks of viral respiratory illness are required to be reported to your local health department? See:

- [Influenza Guidance for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Guideline for influenza and Respiratory Virus Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Facilities](#)

Note: Data are reported on laboratory confirmed influenza outbreaks. For information on outbreaks exclusively associated with COVID-19, please visit the MDHHS Covid-19 webpage located under Additional Resources on the last page. Non-flu, non-COVID outbreaks and ILI outbreaks without confirmatory flu testing are not reported in the table and graph.

Mixed outbreaks with confirmed flu (including COVID) will be included in the table and graph. There were 0 mixed outbreaks reported during Week 46.

Congregate Setting Outbreaks by MI Region, 2021-2022



Influenza Vaccine Update Increasing Flu Activity

On November 15, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published an [article](#) discussing a [Flu View](#) report which shows increasing flu activity in some states. In recent weeks, there has been an increase of influenza A(H3N2) activity. This marks the first significant flu activity for the 2021-2022 flu season. Most of these cases have been found in young adults and children.

The University of Michigan Ann Arbor campus has reported a large and sudden influx of flu cases among students. The CDC, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Washtenaw County Health Department, and the University of Michigan (U-M) are working together to investigate the outbreak.

Since October 6, 2021, [U-M reports](#) that its University Health Service has diagnosed more than 500 cases of flu. The surge in new cases has promoted MDHHS to request epidemiologic assistance (Epi-Aid) from CDC. The main goals of an Epi-Aid are to evaluate the scope of the outbreak, assess risk factors for infection, support infection control measures, and quantify vaccine uptake amount cases.

Although flu activity has been at a historical low during the 2020-2021 flu season; flu activity was expected by experts to resume normal circulation patterns. For the weeks of October 23, 2021, through November 6, 2021, influenza A(H3N2) viruses have been reported by public health laboratories in seven of the 10 HHS regions. Historically, influenza A(H3N2) predominant seasons are often associated with more severe flu seasons, especially for vulnerable populations (older adults and young children).

Flu vaccination is the best way to prevent the spread of flu. CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get an annual flu vaccine. Visit www.vaccinefinder.org to find out where you can get a flu vaccine today.

Influenza News Blast

- [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Influenza Update](#)
- [Mandatory Influenza Vaccination for Healthcare Personnel Honor Roll](#)
- [Flu and Tdap Vaccination Coverage Among Pregnant Women – United States, April 2021](#)
- [CDC Program Engages Partners to Promote Vaccine Equity Among Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups](#)
- [Pediatric Flu Deaths During 2019-2020 Reach New High](#)
- [CDC 2021-2022 Flu Vaccination Campaign Kickoff](#)
- [Study: Identifies Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Severe Flu Outcomes](#)

Additional Resources

- [MDHHS Influenza Webpage](#)
- [Influenza Surveillance in Michigan](#)
- [MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories \(BOL\) Webpage and Test Request Forms](#)
- [MDHHS COVID-19 Outbreak Reporting](#)
- [CDC FluView Weekly Report](#)
- [CDC Healthcare Professionals Flu Toolkit](#)
- [Immunization Action Coalition: Ask the Experts - Flu](#)

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