



# Michigan Flu Focus

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

March 18, 2022

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## Week Ending March 12, 2022 | WEEK 10

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

### Updates of Interest

Multiple detections of HPAI A(H5) viruses in birds have occurred in a growing number of states including Michigan. CDC considers the risk to the public to be low. MDHHS has developed a set of guidelines and tools for health monitoring of potentially exposed people. Please visit [www.michigan.gov/cdinfo](http://www.michigan.gov/cdinfo), under “Communicable Diseases (A-Z),” Influenza topic.

### Seasonal Flu Vaccination Coverage

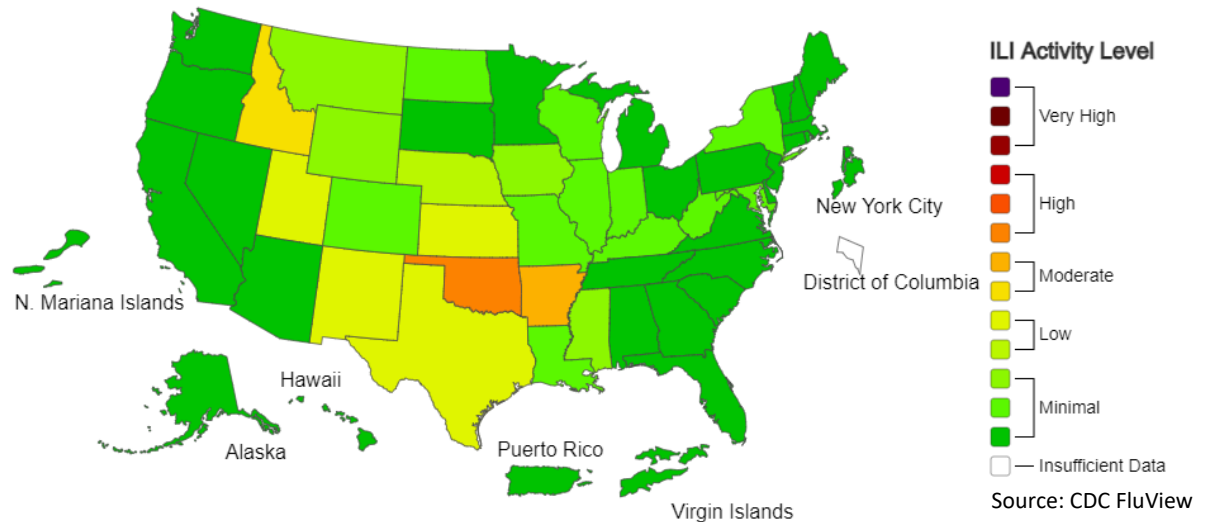
Michigan's goal is to vaccinate **4 million** residents during the 2021-2022 flu season.

As of **March 5, 2022** there have been **3,142,732** doses administered (**81.2%** towards goal) for the 2021-2022 flu season.

Please visit the Flu Vaccination Dashboard at [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu) for more info.

### Outpatient Respiratory Illness Activity Map Determined by Data Reported to ILINet

This system monitors visits for respiratory illness that includes fever plus a cough or sore throat, also referred to as ILI, not laboratory confirmed influenza and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.  
2021-22 Influenza Season Week 10 ending Mar 12, 2022



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, thirteen (13) 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.

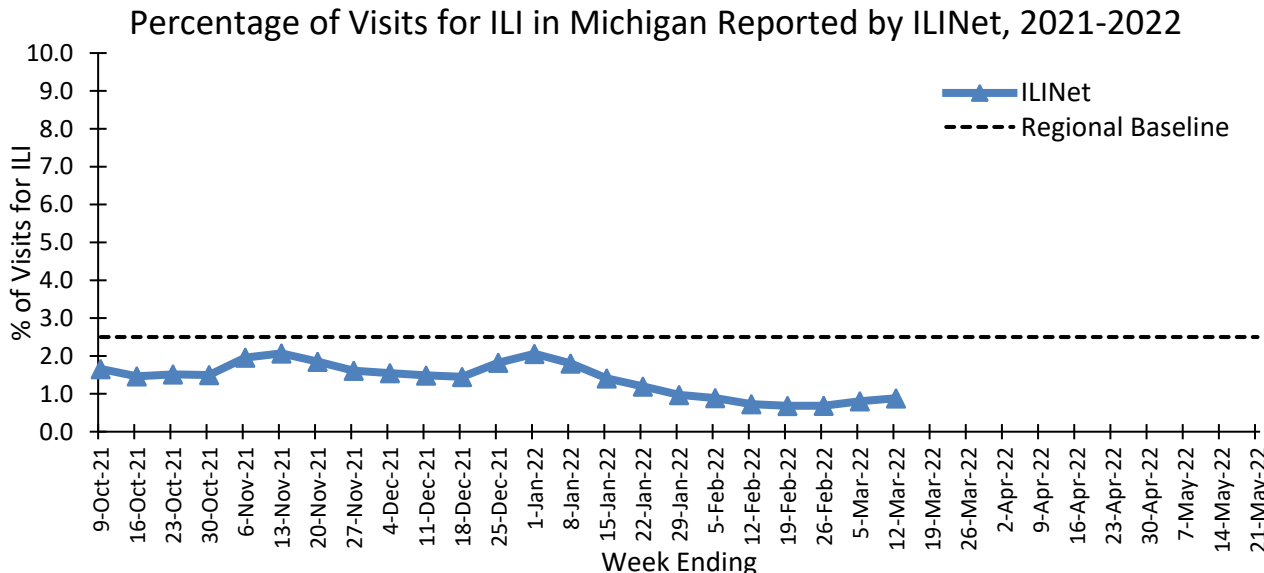
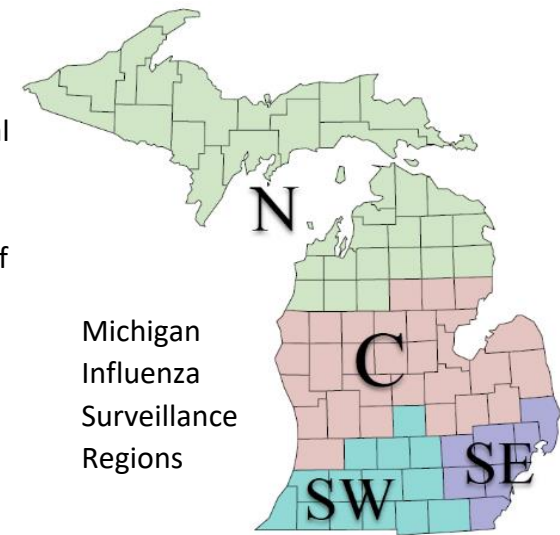
## U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)

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<sup>‡</sup>). 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.

<sup>‡</sup>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 ( <b>151</b> )	52	18	53	28
ILI %	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.9



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: **0.9%**

(Last week: 0.8%)

Regional Baseline\*: 2.5%

A total of 626 patient visits due to ILI were reported out of 70,848 outpatient visits for Week 10.

\*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, **1.7%** of outpatient visits were due to ILI (Last week: 1.6%)

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

**Become an ILINET provider!**

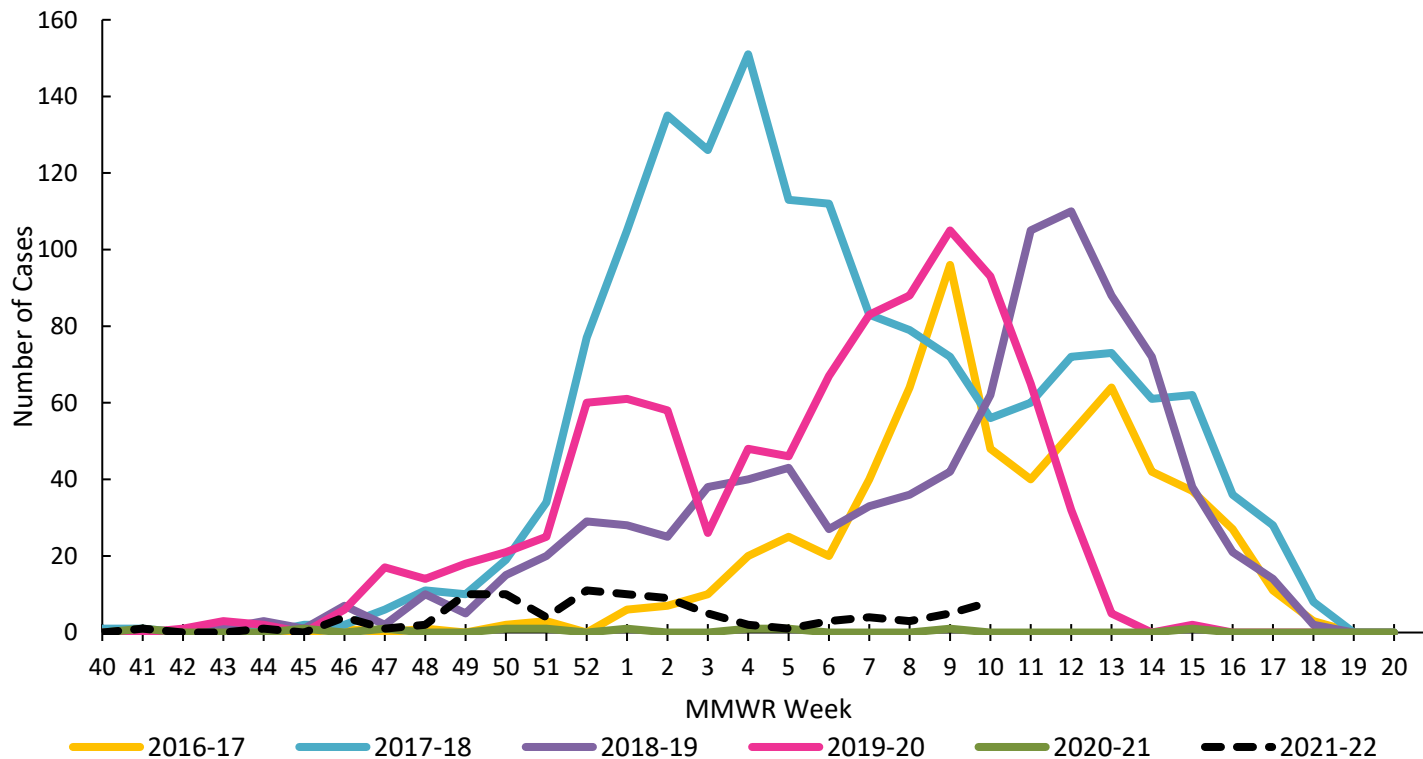
Contact Shelly Doebler at [DoeblerM@michigan.gov](mailto:DoeblerM@michigan.gov)

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> each year. Michigan participates as an IHSP state in FluSurv-NET for Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, and Washtenaw Counties.

There were 8 (2 pediatric, 6 adult) influenza-associated hospitalizations reported to MDHHS for the IHSP during this time period. Since October 1<sup>st</sup>, 94 (24 pediatric, 70 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](mailto:KimS2@michigan.gov))

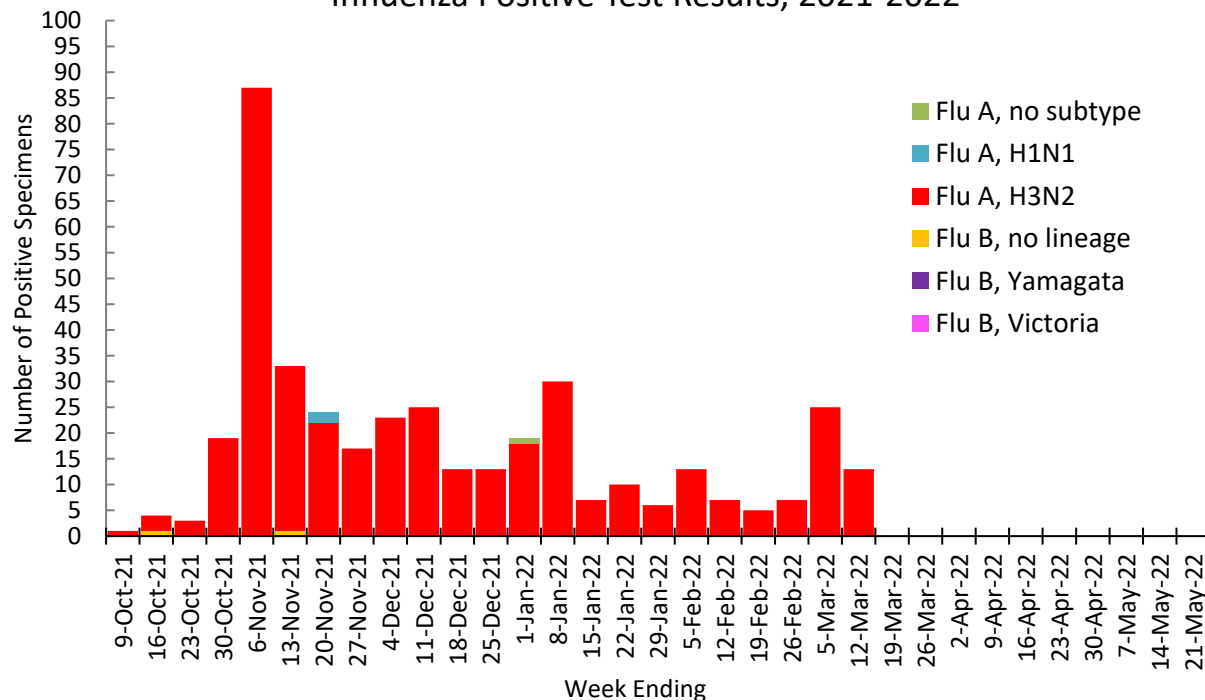
## MDHHS BOL Virology Laboratory Data

There were 13 (7C, 0N, 6SE, 0SW) 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	104	21	196	78	399
Infl B	0	0	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>403</b>

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 (1SE, 1SW, 5C, 1N) reported for the week ending 03/12/2022

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

There were 0 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	2	1	1	2	6
Long-term Care / Assisted Living Facility	6	1	0	1	8
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>

### Did you know?

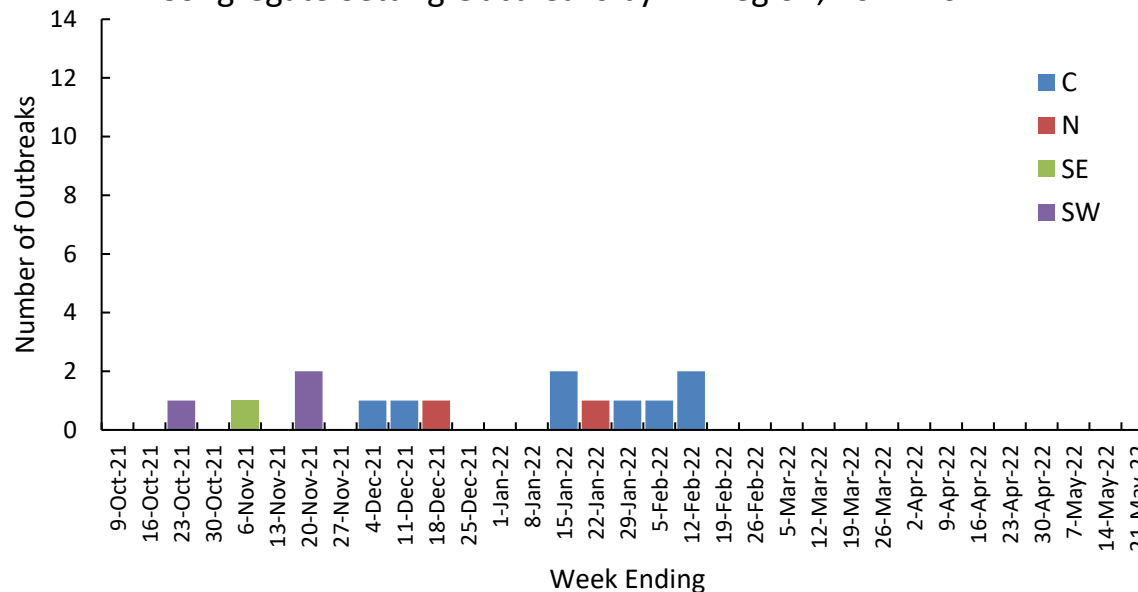
Congregate setting outbreaks of viral respiratory illness are required to be reported to your local health department? See:

- [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 10.**

**Congregate Setting Outbreaks by MI Region, 2021-2022**



## CDC Reports Low Vaccine Effectiveness for Predominant Influenza Strain; Recommends Continued Vaccination for Influenza Virus

As of March 11, 2022, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows influenza activity is increasing in most of the country, particularly in the central and south-central regions. CDC recommends annual influenza vaccination for everyone aged 6 months and older and urges providers to continue to offer vaccination while influenza remains present in local communities.

Preliminary [data](#) from CDC for the 2021-2022 influenza season shows a low level of vaccine effectiveness (VE) against the predominant influenza strain. CDC's report used data from seven study sites in the Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Network and included 3,636 children and adults who experienced outpatient medically attended acute respiratory infection between October 4, 2021- February 12, 2022. Against the most common strain of influenza, A(H3N2), VE was found to be 16%, which is considered not statistically significant. Enrollment in the study was too low to ascertain a reliable understanding of VE by age group or vaccine product.

Despite the low VE reported thus far for this influenza season, CDC continues to recommend health care providers administer influenza vaccine, as vaccines can prevent severe influenza-related outcomes and complications, including hospitalization, ICU admission, and death. Further, a separate [CDC study](#) showed vaccination prevented severe influenza illness in children, even when they were infected with a virus that was antigenically different from the vaccine virus. Quadrivalent vaccines are designed to protect against four influenza viruses (A(H1N1)pdm09, A(H3N2), B/Victoria lineage, and B/Yamagata lineage), and can therefore provide protection from strains that might circulate later in the season.

Flu vaccines are widely available. Individuals can find a local vaccination location at: <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

## Influenza News Blast

- [CDC Provides Interim Estimates of 2021–22 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness](#)
- [CDC Study Shows Flu Vaccination Prevents Severe Flu Illness in U.S. Children](#)
- [Meta-Analysis Shows Low Incidence of Influenza and SARS-CoV-2 Coinfection](#)
- [H5N1 Bird Flu Virus in U.S. Wild Birds, Poultry Poses a Low Risk to the Public](#)
- [CDC Study in Kenya Suggests Being Pregnant Doubles the Risk of Flu Illness](#)
- [Mandatory Influenza Vaccination for Healthcare Personnel Honor Roll](#)
- [CDC 2021-2022 Flu Vaccination Campaign Kickoff](#)

## Additional Resources

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

View Michigan Flu Focus Report archives [here](#).

## Influenza Burden Estimates

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have released [preliminary in-season burden estimates](#) for the 2021-2022 flu season.

CDC estimates that, from **October 1, 2021 through March 12, 2022** there have been:

- **2.9 million – 4.8 million** flu illnesses
- **1.3 million – 2.2 million** flu medical visits
- **28,000 – 57,000** flu hospitalizations
- **1,700 – 4,800** flu deaths

Note: CDC was not able to calculate the cumulative burden of flu for the 2020-2021 flu season, due to historically low numbers of flu.

More information on the 2020-2021 flu season burden estimates is available [here](#).

## MDHHS Contributors

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