



# Michigan Flu Focus

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

October 16, 2026

Vol. 24; No. 01

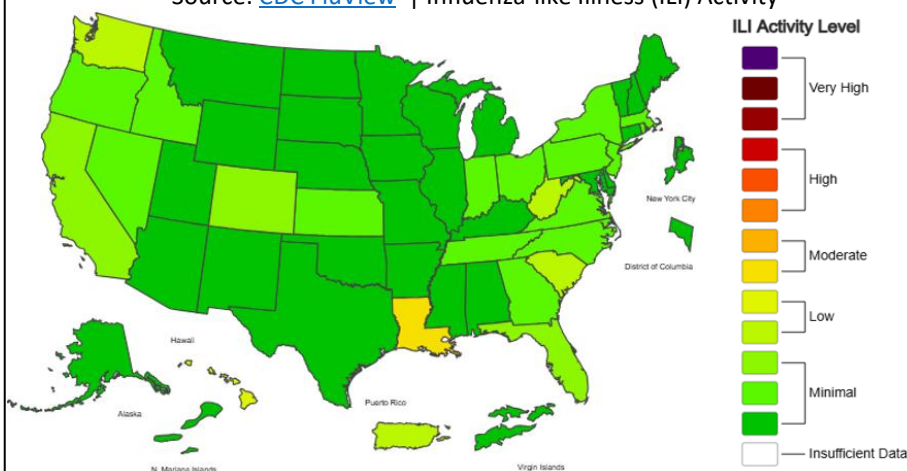
Week Ending October 10, 2026 | WEEK 40

Editor: Sue Kim, MPH

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

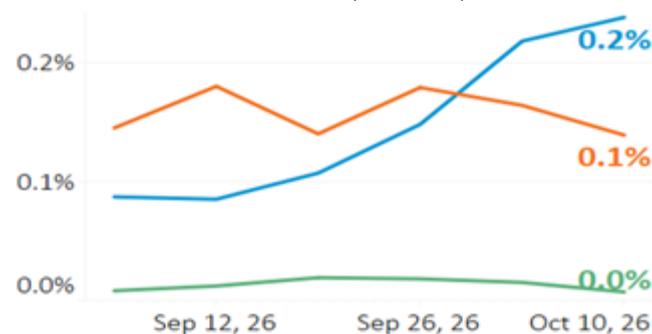
## Outpatient Respiratory Illness Activity

2026–2027 Influenza Season Week 40 ending Oct 10, 2026  
Source: [CDC FluView](#) | Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Activity



## Emergency Department Visits

Percent Associated with COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV



Source: [MDHHS Respiratory Disease Reports](#)

## Immunizations

Updated 2026–2027 immunization coverage data will be available soon.

Thank you for your patience during the MCIR transition.

## Updates of Interest

Michigan's Chief Medical Executive Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian issues [standing recommendation](#) on respiratory virus vaccines:

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations.](#)
- [Flu Vaccine Recommendations.](#)
- [RSV Vaccine Recommendations.](#)

Please visit [www.michigan.gov/COVIDFluRSV](http://www.michigan.gov/COVIDFluRSV) for more information.

## Influenza-associated Pediatric Mortality

Regional-level data on pediatric flu deaths of Michigan residents will be shared in the Michigan Flu Focus. Information on age group, sex, vaccination status or more specific geography will not be shared in order to protect the privacy of the children and their families.

As of **October 10<sup>th</sup>**, no influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Michigan during the 2026–2027 flu season. Last season, 198 influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported nationally, with 12 in Michigan.

*Michigan Pediatric Flu Deaths by Region, 2026–2027*

| Region | C | N | SE | SW | Total |
|--------|---|---|----|----|-------|
|        | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0  | 0     |

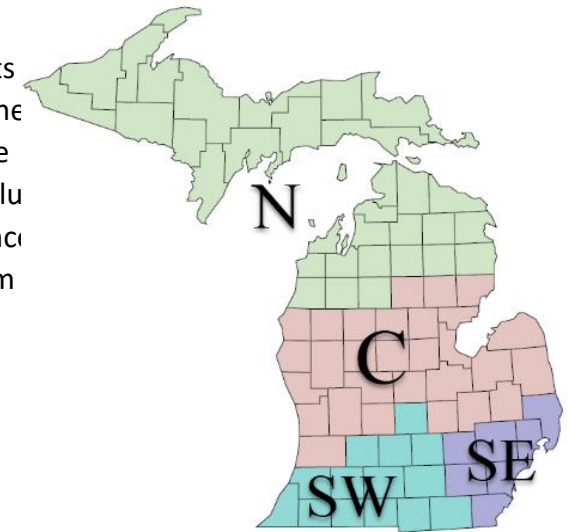
## U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)

Michigan participates in ILINet, a collaborative effort between the CDC, state, 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>). ILINet data is collected from a range of healthcare settings including family medicine, internal medicine and student health clinics. It also incorporates syndromic surveillance data submitted by urgent care and emergency departments through the Electronic Surveillance System the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE).

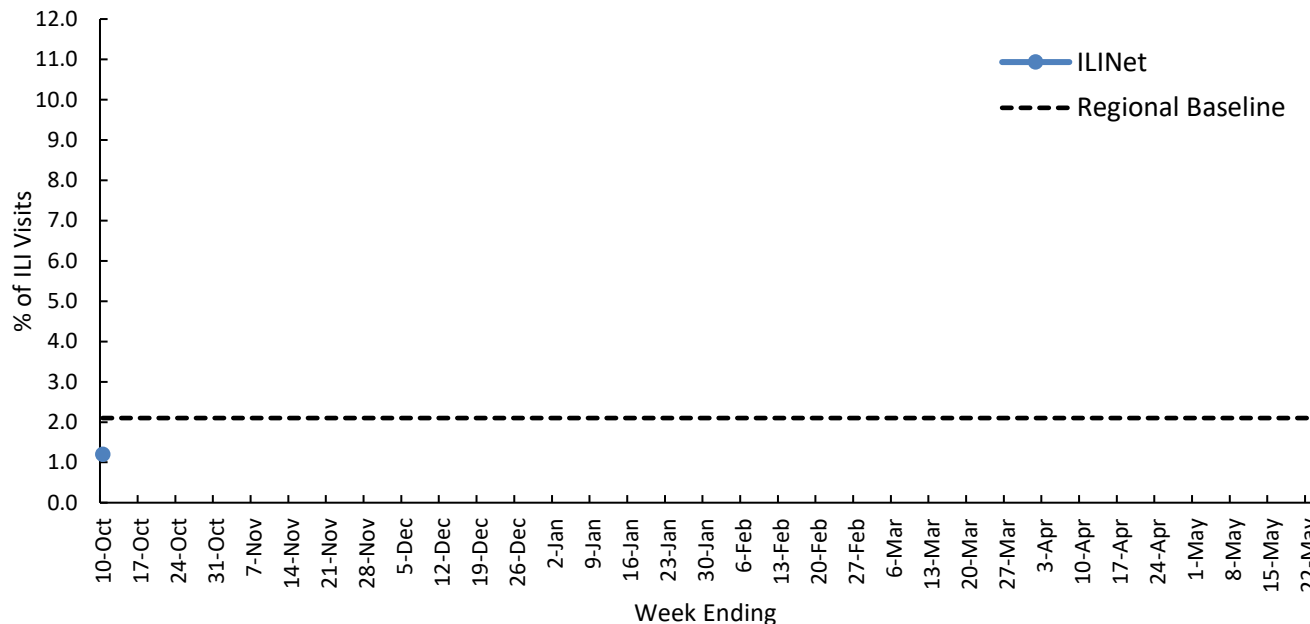
<sup>†</sup>ILI is defined as fever (>100°F) and a cough and/or a sore throat.

### # of Reports and ILI % by Region During this Time Period

|                               | C   | N   | SE  | SW  |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| # of Reporters ( <b>253</b> ) | 77  | 32  | 110 | 34  |
| ILI %                         | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.6 |



Percent of Outpatient ILI Visits in Michigan Reported by ILINet, 2026–2027



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: 1.2% ↑**

(Last week: 1.1%)

Regional Baseline: 2.1%

A total of **1,268** patient visits due to ILI were reported out of **108,206** outpatient visits.

### National Surveillance

In the United States, **2.1%** of outpatient visits were due to ILI. This is **below** the national baseline of 2.9%.

### Become an ILINET provider!

Contact Arieanna Eaton at [eatona4@michigan.gov](mailto:eatona4@michigan.gov)

## Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-NET)

CDC's Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-NET) provides population-based rates of laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Michigan participates for Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, Livingston and Washtenaw Counties.

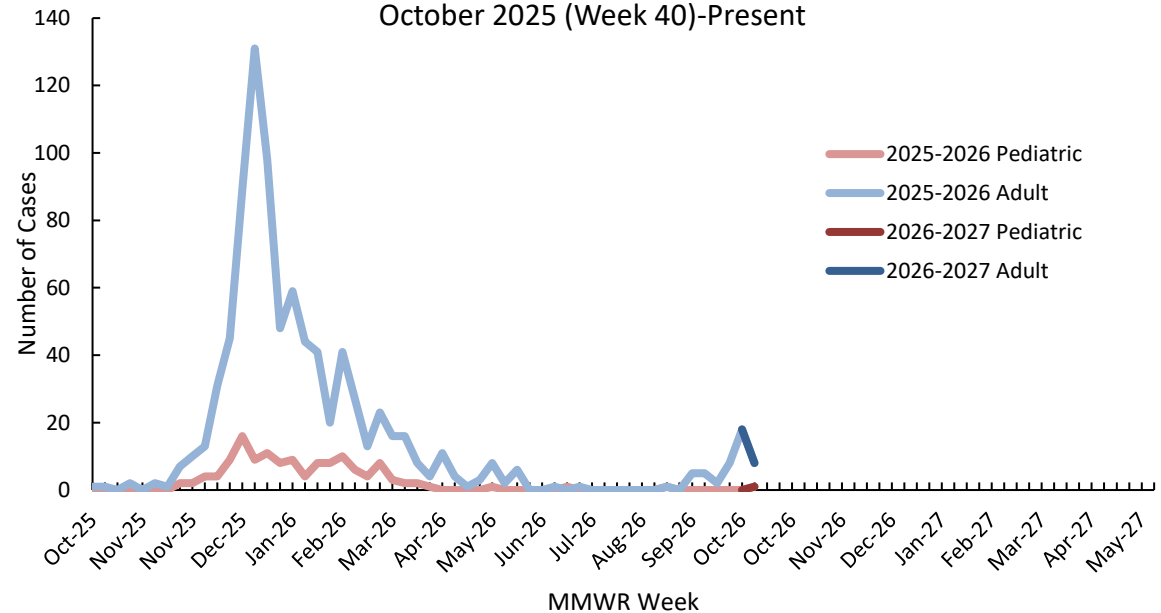
### # of MI FluSurv-NET Cases Reported During this Time Period

|                                      | Pediatric | Adult      | Total     |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Cases<br>(Change from Previous Week) | 1<br>(+1) | 8<br>(-10) | 9<br>(-9) |
| Cumulative Cases                     | 1         | 8          | 9         |

For historical Michigan FluSurv-NET data, please see

[CDC's RESP-NET Dashboard](#).

MI FluSurv-NET Cases,  
October 2025 (Week 40)-Present



## Michigan Influenza Hospital Admissions

Starting October 2024, acute care hospitals and critical access hospitals (representing 90% of the state) began reporting confirmed influenza cases among admitted patients.

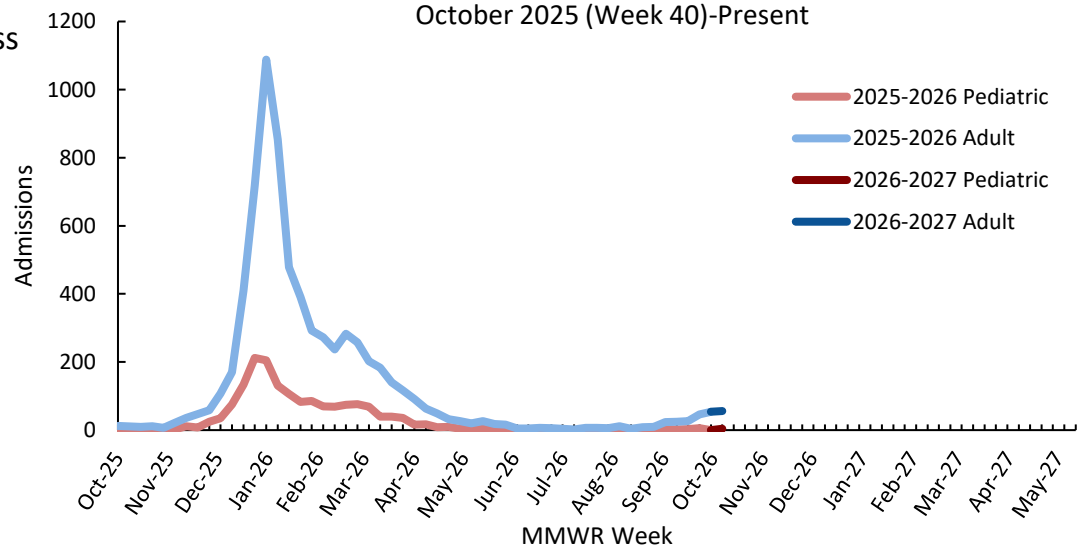
### # of Influenza Hospital Admissions Reported During this Time Period

| Region           | C  | N | SE | SW | Total |
|------------------|----|---|----|----|-------|
| Hospitalizations | 17 | 2 | 28 | 10 | 57    |

### # of Influenza Hospital Admissions by Region

| Age Group    | C  | N | SE | SW | Total |
|--------------|----|---|----|----|-------|
| 0-4 years    | 1  | 0 | 1  | 0  | 2     |
| 5-17 years   | 0  | 0 | 1  | 1  | 2     |
| 18-49 years  | 0  | 0 | 2  | 0  | 2     |
| 50-64 years  | 5  | 0 | 3  | 1  | 9     |
| 65+ years    | 11 | 2 | 21 | 8  | 42    |
| <b>Total</b> | 17 | 2 | 28 | 10 | 57    |

Influenza Hospitalizations Reported to EMResource,  
October 2025 (Week 40)-Present



If you have any questions about this data, please contact

[MDHHS-CHECC-EMResource@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-CHECC-EMResource@michigan.gov)

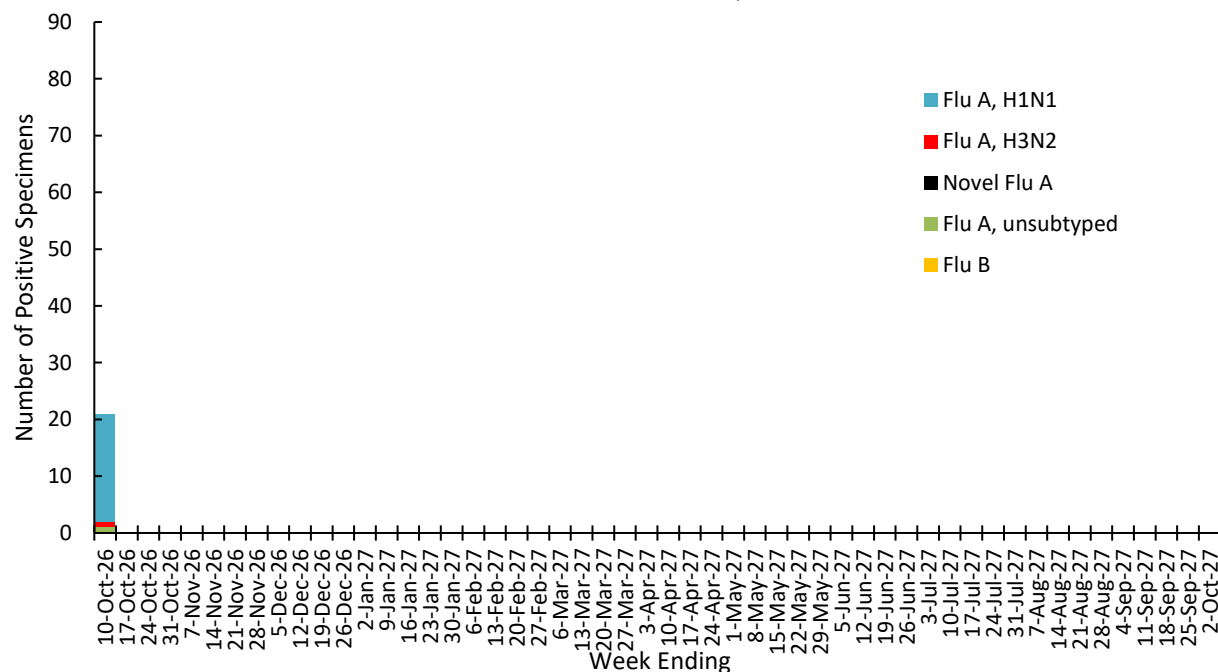
## MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) Virology Laboratory Data

There were **22** (6C, 0N, 10SE, 6SW) positive influenza results reported by the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) during this time period. Positive flu results for the 2026–2027 season are summarized below.

### # of Positive Influenza Virus Results by Region

|                 | C        | N        | SE        | SW       | Total     |
|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Flu A H1N1      | 5        | 0        | 8         | 6        | 19        |
| Flu A H3N2      | 1        | 0        | 0         | 0        | 1         |
| Novel flu A*    | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0         |
| Flu A unsubtype | 0        | 0        | 1         | 0        | 1         |
| Flu B**         | 0        | 0        | 1         | 0        | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>6</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>22</b> |

Influenza Positive Test Results, 2026–2027



Note: results are based on specimen collection date

\*Novel influenza A results include: H5, H1N1v, H1N2v, H7N2v, H1v, H3v

## Michigan Sentinel Clinical Lab Network Respiratory Virus Data

Ten (10) sentinel clinical labs (4C, 1N, 1SE, 4SW) reported during this time period.

### Central Region

|                |            |                                                                                                    |
|----------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Influenza A:   | Low ↑      | ↑ = Increase from previous week<br>↓ = Decrease from previous week<br>→ = Similar to previous week |
| Influenza B:   | Very Low ↑ |                                                                                                    |
| SARS-CoV-2:    | Low ↑      |                                                                                                    |
| RSV:           | Very Low ↑ |                                                                                                    |
| Parainfluenza: | Low ↑      |                                                                                                    |
| Adenovirus:    | Very Low ↓ |                                                                                                    |
| hMPV:          | Very Low ↑ |                                                                                                    |

### North Region

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Influenza A:   | No activity → |
| Influenza B:   | No activity → |
| SARS-CoV-2:    | No activity ↓ |
| RSV:           | No activity → |
| Parainfluenza: | No activity → |
| Adenovirus:    | No activity → |
| hMPV:          | No activity → |

### Southeast Region

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Influenza A:   | Low ↓         |
| Influenza B:   | No activity → |
| SARS-CoV-2:    | Very Low ↓    |
| RSV:           | Very Low ↓    |
| Parainfluenza: | Very Low ↑    |
| Adenovirus:    | Low ↑         |
| hMPV:          | Very Low →    |

### Southwest Region

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Influenza A:   | Low ↓         |
| Influenza B:   | Very Low ↑    |
| SARS-CoV-2:    | Low ↑         |
| RSV:           | Very Low ↓    |
| Parainfluenza: | Very Low ↑    |
| Adenovirus:    | Very Low ↑    |
| hMPV:          | No activity → |

## Congregate Setting Influenza Outbreaks

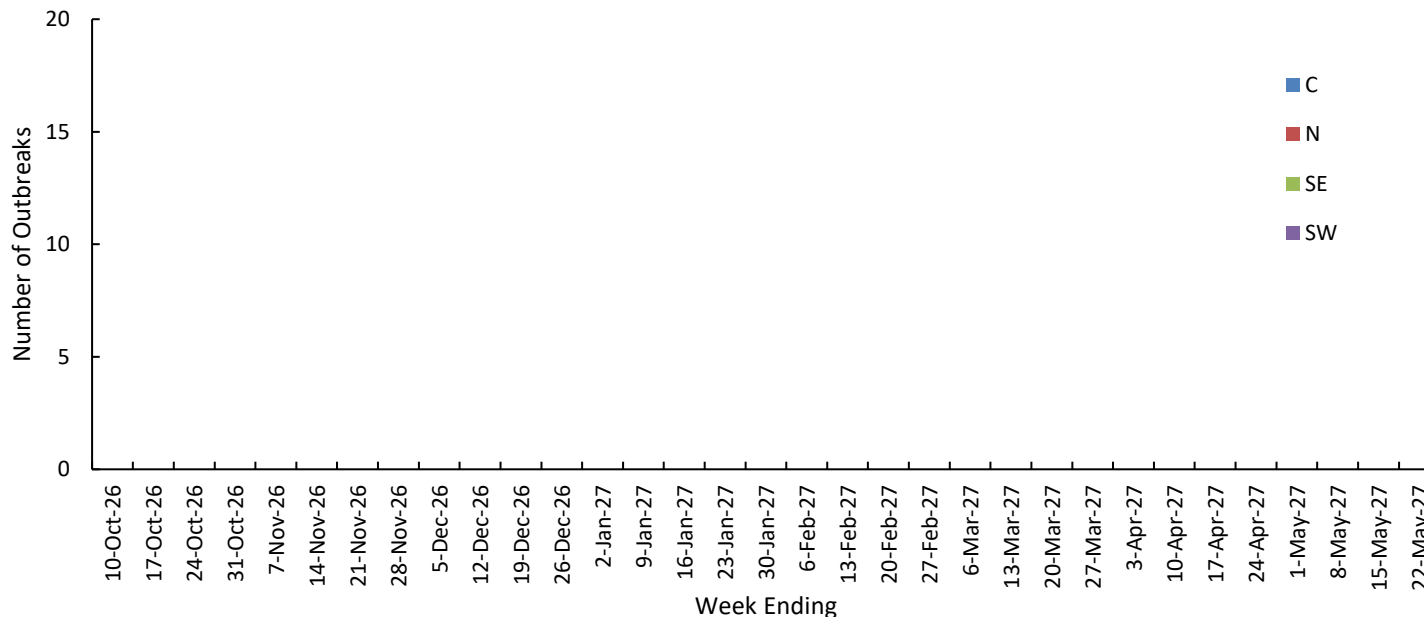
There were **0** confirmed influenza outbreaks reported to MDHHS during this time period. Influenza outbreaks for the 2026–2027 season are summarized below.

# of Reported Influenza Outbreaks by Region

| Facility Type                             | C        | N        | SE       | SW       | Total    |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Schools: K-12 & College                   | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Long-term Care / Assisted Living Facility | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 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>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |

Note: Data are reported on outbreaks with laboratory-confirmed influenza.

Influenza Outbreaks by Region, 2026–2027



## Did you know?

Congregate setting outbreaks of viral respiratory illness are **required** to be reported to your local health department.

Outbreak Response Resources:

- [Guidelines for Respiratory Virus Outbreaks in Long-Term Care \(LTC\) Facilities And Other Congregate Settings.](#)
- [MDHHS Respiratory Illness Outbreak Response Tool for use in Skilled Nursing Facilities.](#)
- [CDC Viral Respiratory Pathogens Toolkit for Nursing Homes.](#)

For more information on outbreaks please visit the [Michigan Respiratory Virus Dashboard.](#)

## Michigan's 2026-2027 Respiratory Vaccine Recommendations

Michigan's Chief Medical Executive, Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, issued the [following standing recommendation](#) on Thursday:

As of October 15, 2026, health care providers in Michigan should refer to the respiratory virus immunization recommendations produced by the American Medical Association, when determining which vaccines their patients should receive and the timing for their administration for the 2026-2027 respiratory season.

"Vaccines against COVID-19, RSV and influenza won't prevent every illness this winter – there are many other respiratory viruses circulating – but each vaccine provides important protection against viruses known to cause serious disease," said Bagdasarian. "While vaccination may not stop mild infections, it can significantly reduce the risk of emergency department visits, hospitalization and even death. I strongly recommend Michiganders stay up to date on vaccines. If you have questions about which vaccines are right for you, talk with your health care provider."

Additionally, Dr. Bagdasarian reaffirmed a previous standing recommendation from last season centering COVID-19 vaccination. The previous guidance considers "any person over the age of six months without contraindication who has not received a dose of a Food and Drug Administration- (FDA) approved or authorized 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine...is eligible to receive an age-appropriate dose." This means that this season, those who have not yet received the 2026-2027 COVID-19 vaccine are automatically eligible to receive an age-appropriate dose of the current vaccine.

These recommendations should not supersede clinical judgement in decision making with individual patients.

## Influenza News Blast

- Ask Dr. Nandi: What vaccines doctors say you may need for respiratory virus season | [WXYZ Detroit](#)
- Doctors urge flu shots as activity rises early in parts of the US | [Mid-Michigan Now](#)
- COVID-19, flu, RSV or a cold? A guide for parents | [MSUToday](#)
- Should you get a high-dose flu vaccine? Here's what experts recommend | [The Washington Post](#)
- A Colorado child died from flu, the first pediatric death of the viral respiratory season | [CPR News](#)
- Bird flu caused the death of Jackie, a California bald eagle who captured hearts | [ClickOnDetroit](#)
- Focus on efficacy, family protection can increase flu vaccination, study notes | [CIDRAP](#)
- Washable, light-chargeable air filter shows promise for masks and air purifiers | [CIDRAP](#)

## Additional Resources

- [Michigan COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [Michigan Flu Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [Michigan RSV Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [MDHHS Influenza Webpage](#) and [Influenza Surveillance in Michigan](#).
- **NEW!** [MDHHS Seasonal Respiratory Viruses Surveillance and Immunizations Dashboard](#).
- [MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories \(BOL\) Webpage](#).
  - [Test Request Forms](#).
- [Immunization Action Coalition: Ask the Experts - Flu](#).
- [CDC FluView Report](#).

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

## MDHHS Contributors

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