



# Michigan Flu Focus

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

March 27, 2026

Vol. 23; No. 25

Week Ending March 21, 2026 | WEEK 11

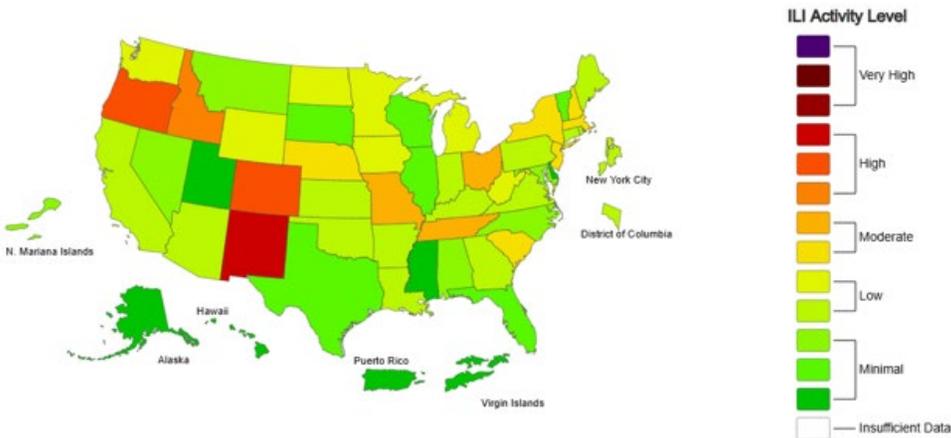
Editor: Sue Kim, MPH

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

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

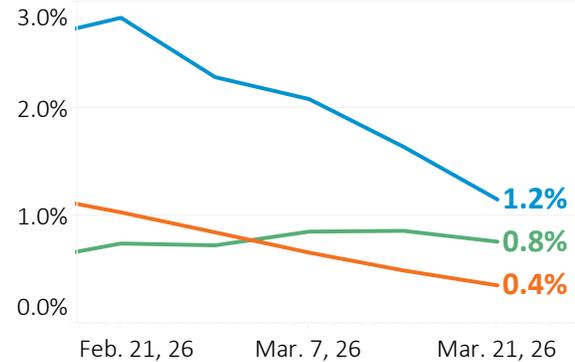
This system monitors visits for respiratory illness that includes fever plus a cough or sore throat, also referred to as ILI, not laboratory confirmed influenza and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.

2025-26 Influenza Season Week 11 ending Mar 21, 2026



Source: [CDC FluView](#) | [MDHHS Respiratory Disease Reports](#)

### Percent of Emergency Department Visits Associated with COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV



For the 2025-2026 respiratory season:

<b>26.9%</b> of Michiganders have received an <b>influenza</b> vaccine	<b>9.4%</b> of Michiganders have received a <b>COVID-19</b> vaccine
<b>35.1%</b> of Michiganders 0-7 months old have received an <b>RSV</b> antibody	<b>44.7%</b> of Michiganders +75 years old have received an <b>RSV</b> vaccine

## 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 **March 21<sup>st</sup>**, a total of **123** influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in the U.S. during the 2025-26 flu season – **85%** among children who were not fully vaccinated against influenza.

*Michigan Pediatric Flu Deaths by Region, 2025-2026*

Region	C	N	SE	SW	Total
	1	1	2	0	4

## Updates of Interest

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has confirmed one additional influenza-associated pediatric death in Michigan for the 2025-2026 season. The reported death involves a child from the Northern Region and brings the current confirmed total to four Michigan pediatric influenza-associated deaths for the 2025-2026 season.

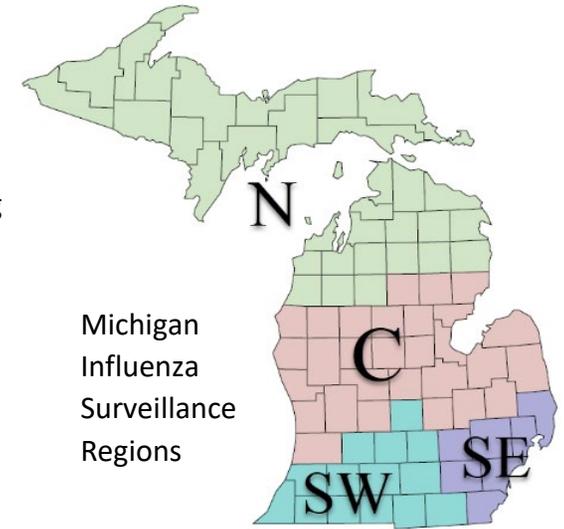
## U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)

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>). 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 for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE).

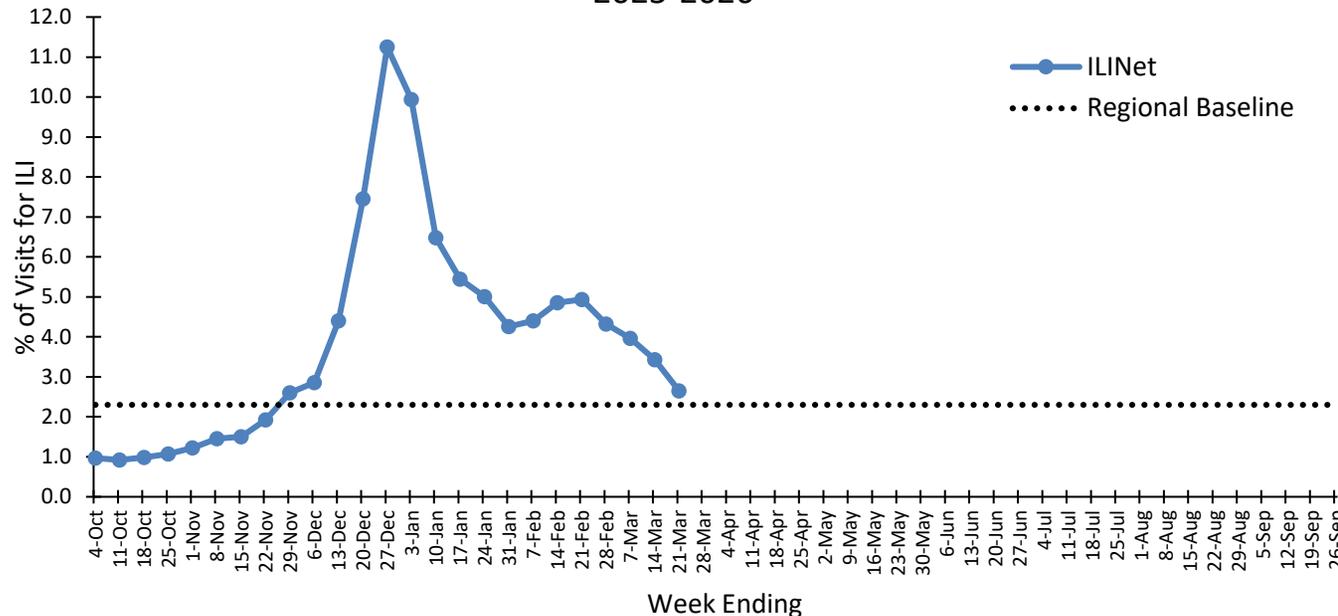
<sup>‡</sup>ILI is defined as fever (>100°F) and a cough and/or a sore throat.

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

	C	N	SE	SW
# of Reporters (256)	78	31	113	34
ILI %	3.3	4.7	2.2	2.0



Percentage of Visits for ILI in Michigan Reported by ILINet, 2025-2026



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: 2.7%** ↓

(Last week: 3.4%)

Regional Baseline: 2.3%

A total of **2,923** patient visits due to ILI were reported out of **110,265** outpatient visits.

### National Surveillance

In the United States, **2.9%** of outpatient visits were due to ILI. This is **below** the national baseline of 3.1%

**Become an ILINET provider!**

Contact Arianna Eaton at

[eatona4@michigan.gov](mailto:eatona4@michigan.gov)

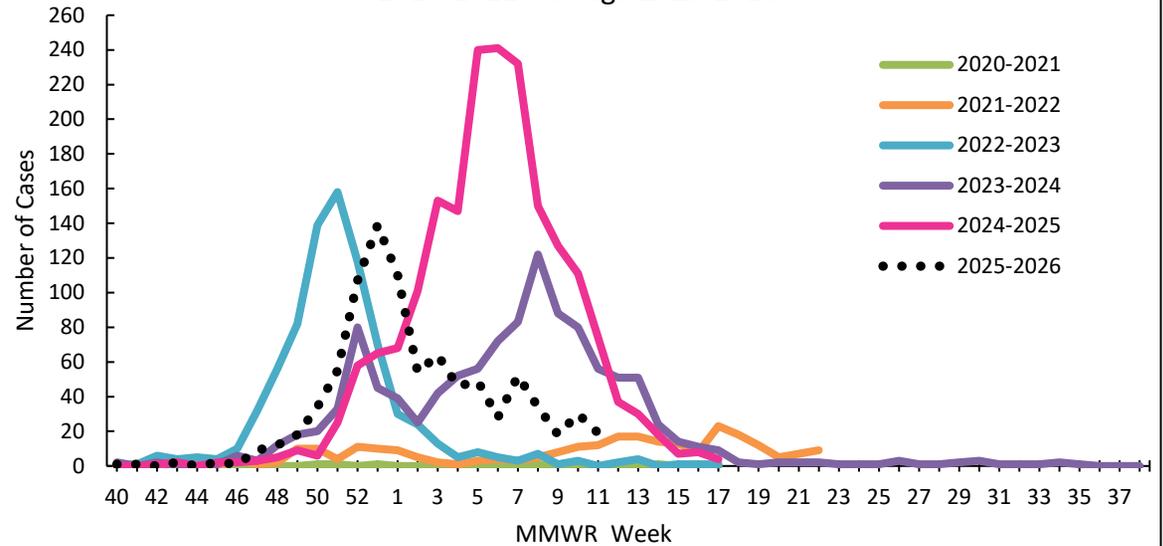
## Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-NET)

The 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 (Change from Previous Week)	3 (-5)	16 (-6)	<b>19 (-11)</b>
Cumulative Cases	122	763	<b>885</b>

MI FluSurv-NET Cases by Season, 2020-2021 Through 2025-2026



## 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.

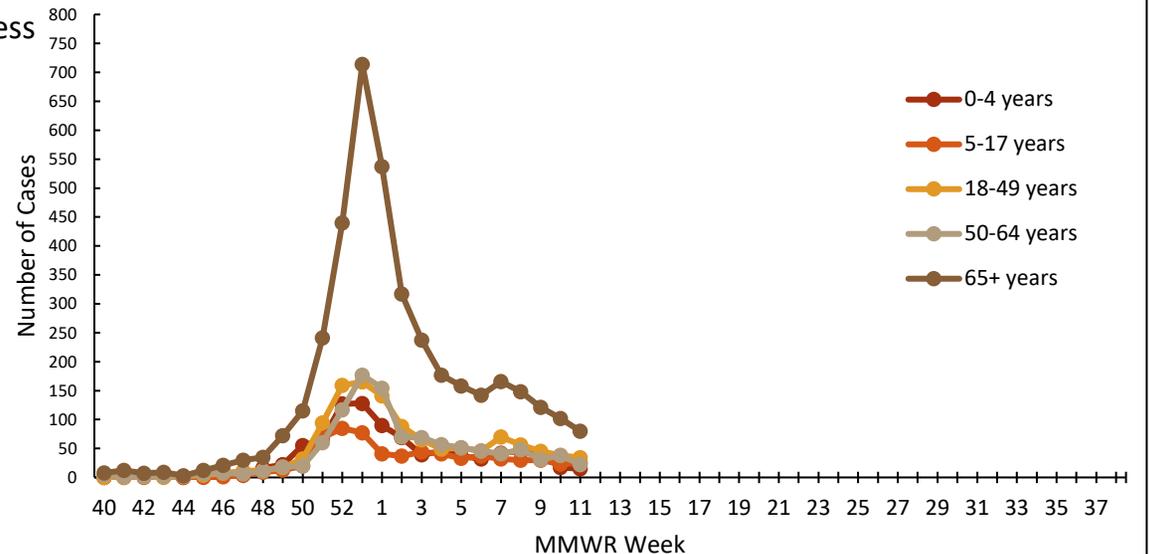
### # of Influenza Hospital Admissions Reported During this Time Period

Region	C	N	SE	SW	Total
Hospitalizations	57	10	82	27	<b>176</b>

### # of Influenza Hospital Admissions by Region

Age Group	C	N	SE	SW	Total
0-4 years	114	12	729	50	905
5-17 years	83	7	477	86	653
18-49 years	271	59	681	177	1188
50-64 years	295	65	542	158	1060
65+ years	1165	250	1931	558	3904
<b>Total</b>	<b>1928</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>4360</b>	<b>1029</b>	<b>7710</b>

Michigan Influenza Hospital Admissions by Week, 2025-2026



If you have any questions about this data, please contact

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

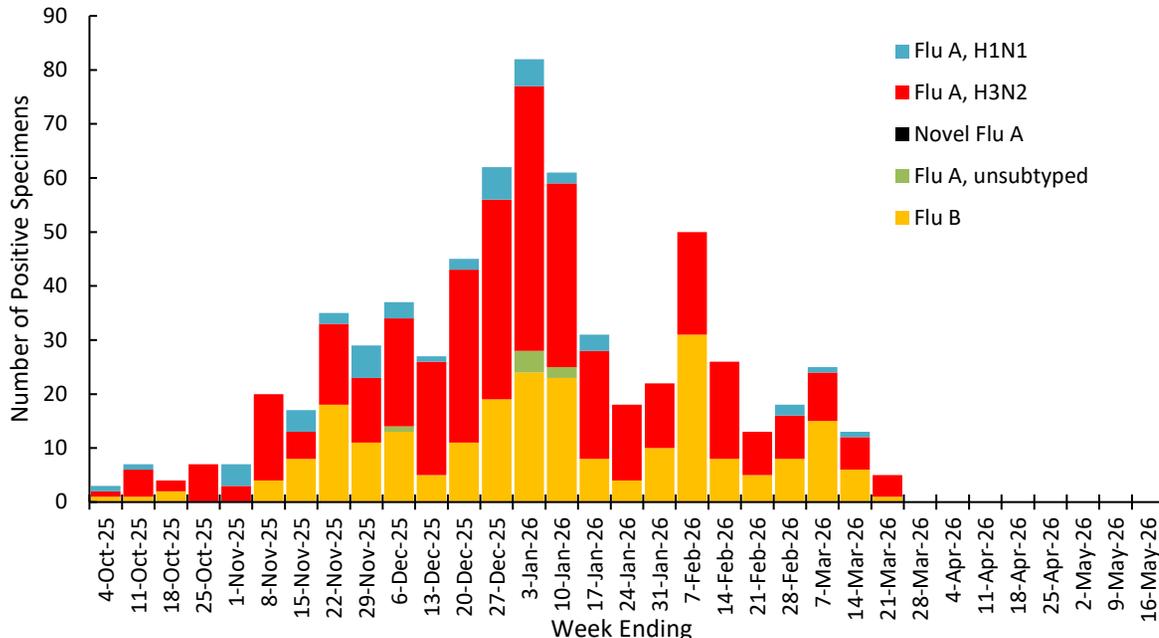
## MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) Virology Laboratory Data

There were 5 (2C, 0N, 3SE, 0SW) positive influenza results reported by the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) during this time period. Positive flu results for the 2025-2026 season are summarized below.

### # of Positive Influenza Virus Results by Region

	C	N	SE	SW	Total
Flu A H1N1	10	1	18	15	44
Flu A H3N2	133	18	124	102	377
Novel flu A*	0	0	0	0	0
Flu A unsubtype	1	1	1	4	7
Flu B**	49	2	124	61	236
<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>664</b>

### Influenza Positive Test Results, 2025-2026



Note: results are based on specimen collection date

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

\*\*Flu B specimens will no longer be genotyped at MDHHS BOL but will continue being sent to CDC for surveillance.

## Michigan Sentinel Clinical Lab Network Respiratory Virus Data

Ten (10) sentinel clinical labs (3C, 1N, 1SE, 5SW) reported during this time period.

### Central Region

Influenza A:	Low - slightly elevated ↓	↑ = Increase from previous week
Influenza B:	Low - elevated ↓	
SARS-CoV-2:	Low - slightly elevated ↑	↓ = Decrease from previous week
Parainfluenza:	Sporadic ↓	
RSV:	Elevated - moderate ↓	→ = Similar to previous week
Adenovirus:	Sporadic - low ↓	
hMPV:	Low ↓	

### North Region

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

### Southeast Region

Influenza A:	Low - slightly elevated ↓
Influenza B:	Low ↓
SARS-CoV-2:	Low ↓
Parainfluenza:	Sporadic ↑
RSV:	Moderate ↑
Adenovirus:	Low ↑
hMPV:	Low - slightly elevated ↓

### Southwest Region

Influenza A:	Low - slightly elevated ↓
Influenza B:	Elevated ↓
SARS-CoV-2:	Low - slightly elevated ↓
Parainfluenza:	No activity →
RSV:	Slightly elevated ↓
Adenovirus:	Sporadic ↑
hMPV:	Sporadic - low ↑

## Congregate Setting Influenza Outbreaks

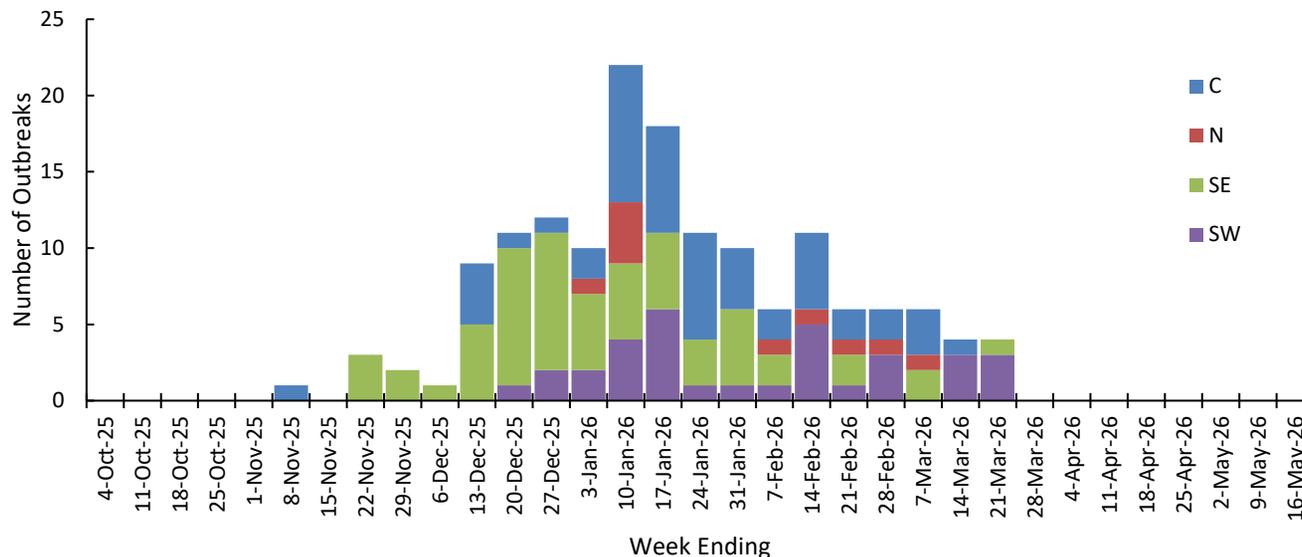
There were 4 (0C, 0N, 1SE, 3SW) confirmed influenza outbreaks reported to MDHHS during this time period. Influenza outbreaks for the 2025-2026 season are summarized below.

# of Reported Influenza Outbreaks by Region

Facility Type	C	N	SE	SW	Total
Schools: K-12 & College	7	1	16	3	27
Long-term Care / Assisted Living Facility	39	8	35	29	111
Healthcare Facility	3	1	2	1	7
Daycare	1	0	4	0	5
Homeless Shelter	0	0	0	0	0
Correctional Facility	0	0	2	0	2
Other	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>153</b>

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

Influenza Outbreaks in Congregate Settings by Region, 2025-2026



### Did you know?

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

Outbreak Response Resources:

- [MDHHS Guidelines for Influenza and Respiratory Virus Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Facilities](#)
- [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](#).

## Flu's Economic Impact ([National Foundation for Infectious Diseases](#))

When a child comes home sick with flu, most families focus on recovery. What often goes unspoken is the financial, emotional and logistical toll that a single sick week can place on an entire household.

Flu disrupts daily life and those disruptions add up to a staggering economic impact.

According to a [new study](#) done by the [Global Healthy Living Foundation](#) and [Adult Vaccine Access Coalition](#), the 2023–2024 flu season cost the United States nearly **\$29 billion in medical expenses and lost productivity**.

- Missed School, Missed Learning
  - The flu can cause kids to miss school, fall behind, and feel stressed catching up, while families face disrupted routines and extra caregiving demands.
- The Pressure on Working Parents
  - Lost wages, reduced work hours, missed deadlines, job-related stress, and unpaid leave contribute to \$13 billion in lost productivity due to the flu.
- When Flu Becomes More Than “Just the Flu”
  - Severe flu cases can have lasting emotional and financial effects on a family with emergency room visits, hospital stays, follow-up medical care, and/or ongoing bills.

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### ***Prevention is an investment in your family***

*When flu costs the nation nearly \$29 billion in a single season, that figure represents millions of households navigating missed work, medical expenses, and stress.*

*Prevention is not just about avoiding symptoms. It is about protecting your time, income, and peace of mind.*

*Annual flu vaccination and early treatment can reduce severity and complications. Increasing adult and pediatric vaccination rates helps reduce the overall health and economic toll of influenza nationwide.*

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## Influenza News Blast

- Michigan agriculture officials urge poultry owners to stay alert as bird flu risk rises ([WNDU](#))
- RSV Is Still Surging in These 9 States, Hitting Kids Under 4 the Hardest. When Will the Season End? ([Today](#))
- Doctors worry about FDA scrutiny of RSV shots to protect babies ([NPR](#))
- New COVID omicron variant BA.3.2 identified, spreading in 25 states, including Michigan ([WXYZ](#))
- Yep, a mom's COVID shot during pregnancy protects her baby, a large study finds ([NPR](#))
- Italy tracks first European human H9N2 avian flu case ([CIDRAP](#))
- Goodbye flu season, hello Spring bugs, like norovirus ([Your Local Epidemiologist](#))
- A flu timeline: How long are you contagious and when is it OK to go back to work or school? ([KERA News](#))

## Additional Resources

- [MDHHS Influenza Webpage](#) and [Influenza Surveillance in MI](#)
- **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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