

# Michigan Flu Focus

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

January 23, 2026

Vol. 23; No. 16

## Week Ending January 17, 2026 | WEEK 2

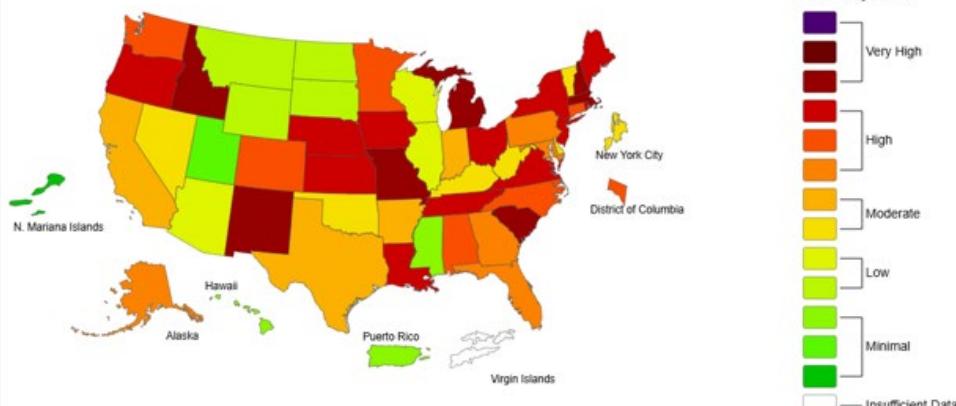
Editor: Sue Kim, MPH

*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

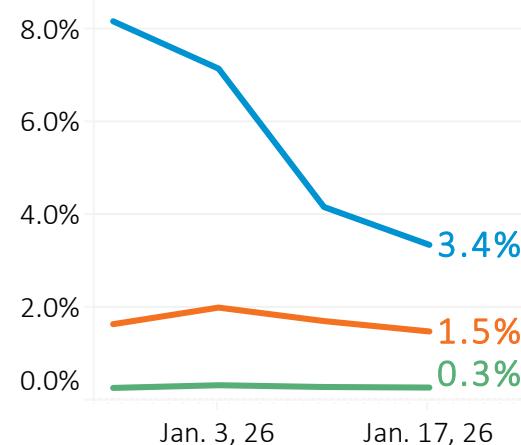
This system monitors visits for respiratory illness that includes fever plus a cough or sore throat, also referred to as ILI, not laboratory confirmed influenza and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.

2025-26 Influenza Season Week 2 ending Jan 17, 2026



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

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



For the 2025-26 respiratory season:

**25.6%** of Michiganders have received an **Influenza** vaccine      **8.9%** of Michiganders have received a **COVID-19** vaccine

**35.7%** of Michiganders 0-7 months old have received an **RSV** antibody      **43.7%** of Michiganders +75 years old have received an **RSV** vaccine

## Updates of Interest

Nationally, seasonal influenza activity remains elevated, but has decreased for three consecutive weeks. [CDC estimates](#) that there have been at least 19,000,000 illnesses, 250,000 hospitalizations, and 10,000 deaths from flu so far this season.

Please see CDC's latest [FluView report](#) for more information.

## Influenza-associated Pediatric Mortality

Nationally, forty-four (44) influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported for the 2025-2026 flu season. No influenza-associated pediatric deaths in Michigan have been confirmed by MDHHS for the 2025-2026 season.

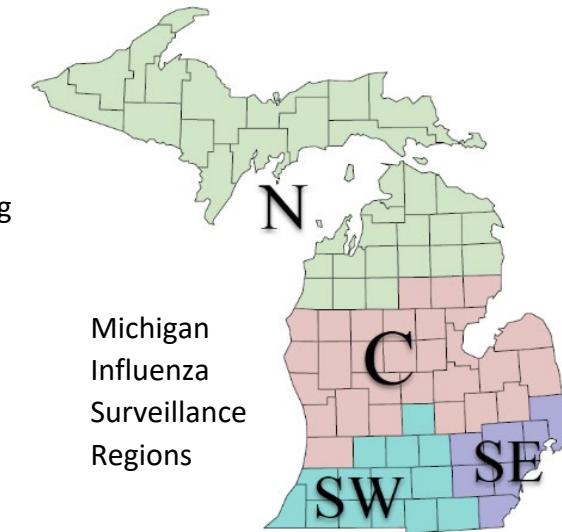
# Influenza-like Illness Outpatient Surveillance

Week Ending Jan 17, 2026

## 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).

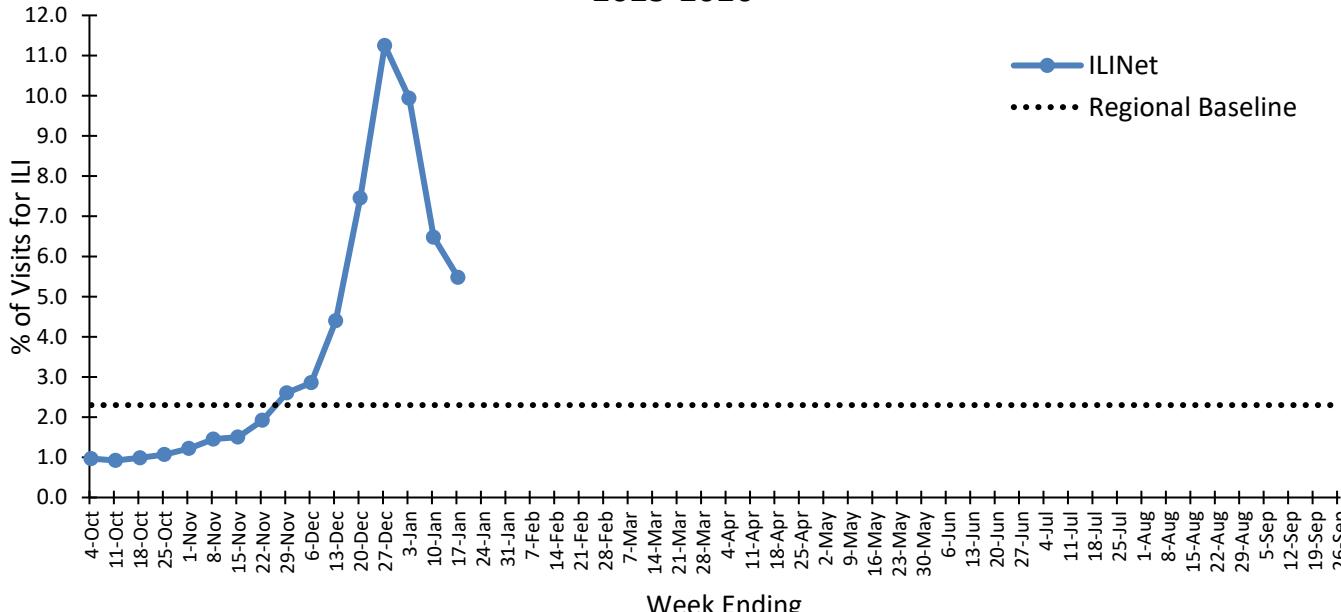
<sup>‡</sup>ILI is defined as fever (>100°F) and a cough and/or a sore throat.



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

	C	N	SE	SW
# of Reporters (251)	78	33	114	35
ILI %	5.2	6.2	5.9	4.3

### 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: 5.5% ↓

(Last week: 6.5%)

Regional Baseline: 2.3%

A total of **5,848** patient visits due to ILI were reported out of **106,771** outpatient visits.

### National Surveillance

In the United States, **4.4%** of outpatient visits were due to ILI.

This is **above** the national baseline of 3.1%

### Become an ILINet provider!

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

# Influenza-associated Hospitalization Surveillance

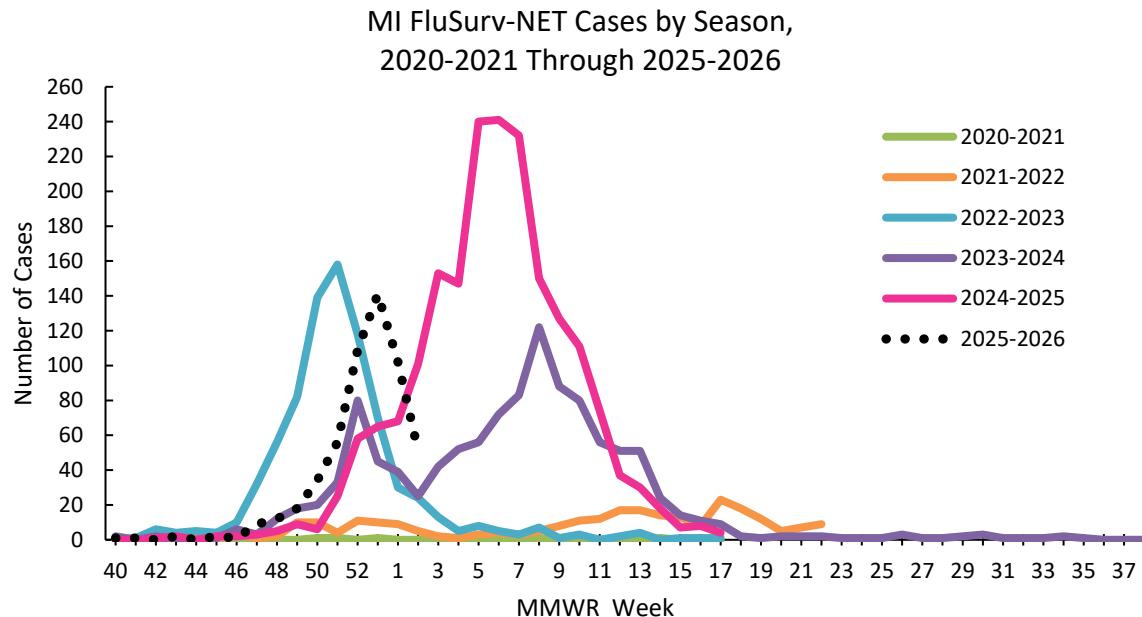
Week Ending Jan 17, 2026

## 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)	8 (-3)	43 (-48)	51 (-51)
Cumulative Cases	69	470	539



## Michigan Influenza Hospitalizations

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

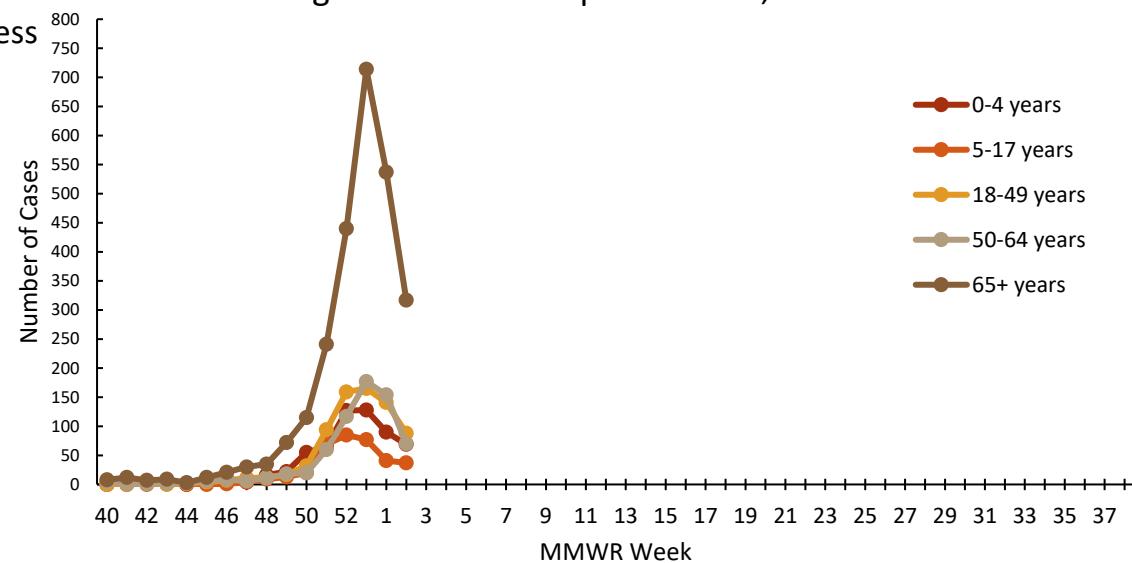
### # of Influenza Hospitalizations Reported During this Time Period

Region	C	N	SE	SW	Total
Hospitalizations	133	54	330	64	581

### # of Influenza Hospitalizations by Region

Age Group	C	N	SE	SW	Total
0-4 years	54	4	509	26	593
5-17 years	33	3	300	22	358
18-49 years	137	37	494	66	734
50-64 years	159	32	390	76	657
65+ years	688	159	1424	302	2573
<b>Total</b>	<b>1071</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>3117</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>4915</b>

## Michigan Influenza Hospitalizations, 2025-2026



If you have any questions about this data, please contact  
[MDHHS-CHECC-EMResource@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-CHECC-EMResource@michigan.gov)

# Laboratory (Virologic) Surveillance

Week Ending Jan 17, 2026

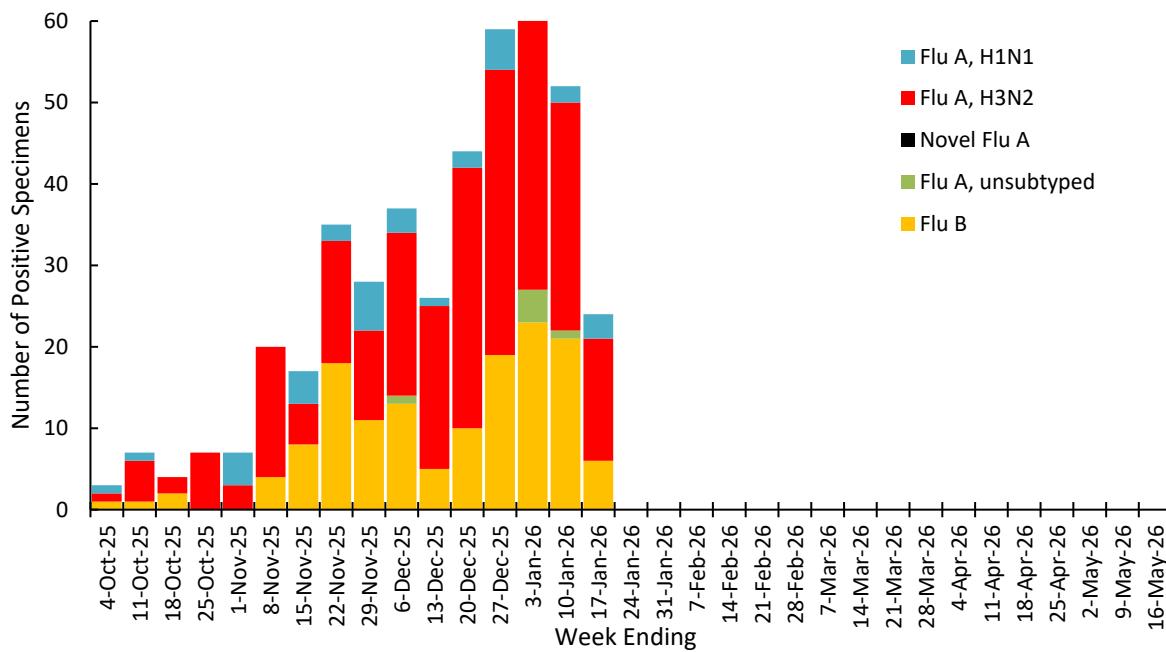
## MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) Virology Laboratory Data

There were **24** (12C, 1N, 8SE, 3SW) 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	6	1	18	13	<b>38</b>
Flu A H3N2	67	18	97	76	<b>258</b>
Novel flu A*	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Flu A unsubtyped	0	1	1	4	<b>6</b>
Flu B**	17	1	91	33	<b>142</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>444</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 (1SE, 5SW, 3C, 1N) reported during this time period.

#### Southeast Region

Influenza A:	Moderate - very high ↓	<sup>↑ = Increase from previous week</sup> <sup>↓ = Decrease from previous week</sup> <sup>→ = Similar to previous week</sup>
Influenza B:	Low - moderate ↑	
SARS-CoV-2:	Slightly elevated ↓	
Parainfluenza:	Low ↑	
RSV:	Low - moderate →	
Adenovirus:	Low →	
hMPV:	Low ↑	

#### Central Region

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

#### Southwest Region

Influenza A:	Moderate - high ↓	<sup>↑ = Increase from previous week</sup> <sup>↓ = Decrease from previous week</sup> <sup>→ = Similar to previous week</sup>
Influenza B:	Elevated ↑	
SARS-CoV-2:	Moderate - high →	
Parainfluenza:	Sporadic - low ↑	
RSV:	Slightly elevated →	
Adenovirus:	Sporadic ↑	
hMPV:	Sporadic →	

#### North Region

Influenza A:	Low →	<sup>↑ = Increase from previous week</sup> <sup>↓ = Decrease from previous week</sup> <sup>→ = Similar to previous week</sup>
Influenza B:	Sporadic ↑	
SARS-CoV-2:	Low ↑	
Parainfluenza:	No activity ↓	
RSV:	Sporadic - low ↑	
Adenovirus:	No activity →	
hMPV:	Sporadic →	

## Congregate Setting Influenza Outbreaks

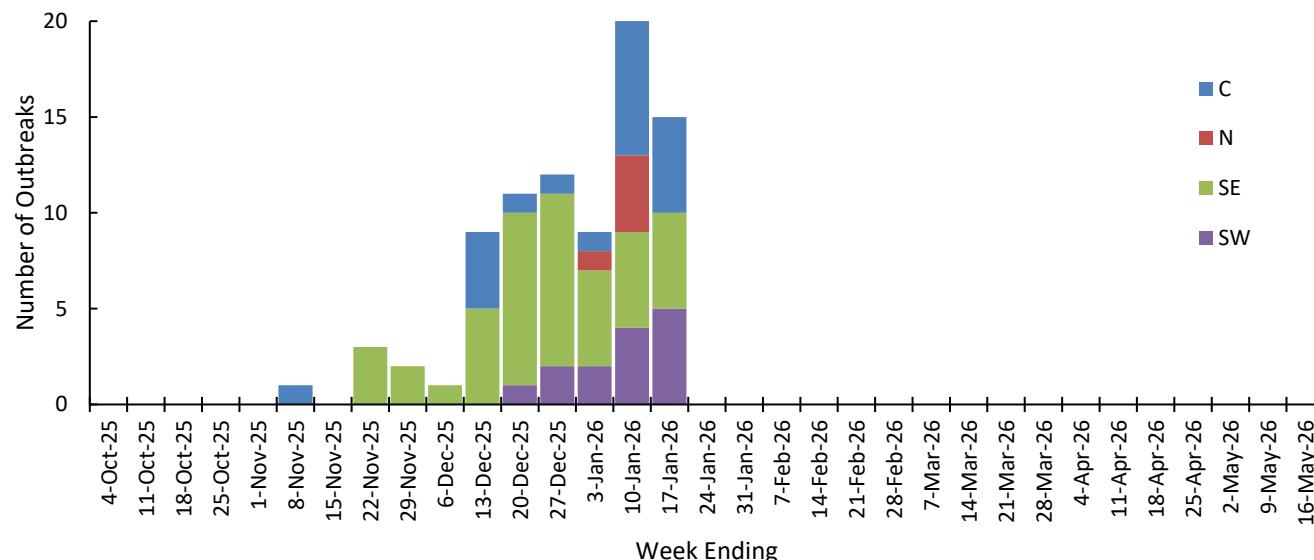
There were **15** (5C, 0N, 5SE, 5SW) confirmed influenza outbreaks reported to MDHHS during this time period. Influenza outbreaks for the 2025-2026 season are summarized below.

### # of Reported Influenza Outbreaks by Region

Facility Type	C	N	SE	SW	Total
Schools: K-12 & College	2	0	15	1	<b>18</b>
Long-term Care / Assisted Living Facility	19	5	24	13	<b>61</b>
Healthcare Facility	0	0	2	0	<b>2</b>
Daycare	0	0	2	0	<b>2</b>
Homeless Shelter	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Correctional Facility	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
Other	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>84</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?

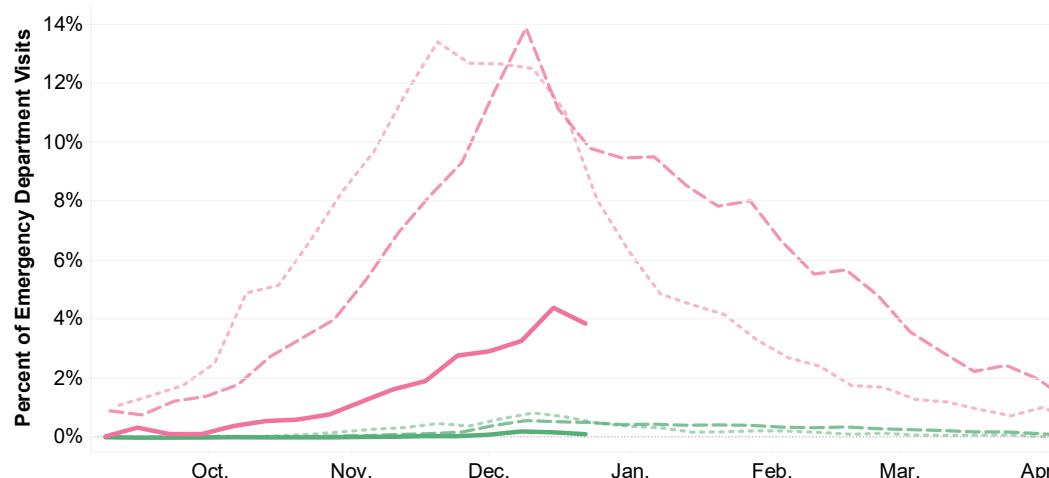
### Outbreak Response Resources:

- [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](#).

### The impact of vaccines in Michigan: the 2025-26 RSV season shows lower emergency department burden in key age groups.

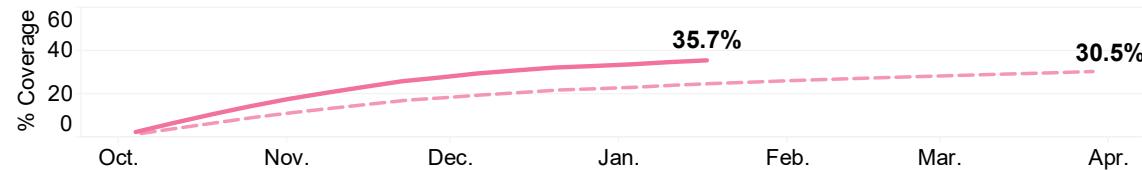
Since RSV immunizations were introduced in 2023, the percent of emergency department visits due to RSV has dropped by **52% among infants under 1 year** and **80% among adults over 65**. This translates to less strain on the healthcare system and faster care for everyone.



Data from October 1st through April 1st for the 2023-24 (dotted) and 2024-25 (dashed) seasons; data from October 1st through January 17th for the 2025-26 (solid) season.

Source: Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Includes 146 emergency departments in Michigan, which represent 99.9% of all emergency department visits in the state.

In more good news, Michigan has record-high RSV immunization coverage in **infants under 1!**



Data from October 1st through April 1st for the 2024-25 (dashed) seasons; data from October 1st through January 17th for the 2025-26 (solid) season.

Source: Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR)

### Influenza News Blast

- LISTEN: The Flu Season in Michigan with Chief Medical Executive for the State of Michigan Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian ([East Lansing Insider](#))
- Flu cases rise sharply among Mid-Michigan children as season hits early ([WNEM](#))
- Flu still 'very high' in Michigan but rates declining ([MLive](#))
- U.S. flu activity fell for a second week. But experts worry the season is far from over ([The Detroit News](#))
- With flu cases on the rise, Chippewa County Health Department urges precautions ([The Sault News](#))
- So called 'super flu' driving record hospitalizations and worries it could get worse ([WXYZ](#))
- Flu Transmission "Very High" In Michigan & Locally ([WHMI](#))
- Children hospitalized for flu hit highest weekly rate in more than 15 years ([WILX](#))
- Health Dept Warns of Increased Level of Influenza in County ([EUP News](#))
- Trump administration seeks to overturn part of Michigan's cage-free egg law ([MLive](#))
- As flu season hits moderately severe, EMU offers no-cost shots at Thursday clinic ([The Eastern Echo](#))

### 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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