

Flu Watch

MMWR Week 44: October 29 to November 4, 2023

All data are provisional and subject to change as more reports are received.

Influenza Indicators

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Geographic Spread

South Carolina reported **widespread activity** this week.

Virologic Surveillance

This week **531** lab-confirmed tests were reported. In the current flu season, there have been **1,821** lab-confirmed tests reported.

Influenza Indicator	Change from Previous Week
Lab-confirmed tests	No Change
ILI Percent	Increased
Hospitalizations	Increased





Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations

This week **35** influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported by **53** hospitals. The cumulative hospitalization rate is **2.4 per 100,000**. In the current flu season, there have been **122** influenza-associated hospitalizations.



Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance

The percent of patient visits to sentinel providers for an influenza-like illness (ILI) was **3.7%**, which is **above** South Carolina's baseline (**3.2%**). The ILI activity level overall was **high**.

Influenza-Associated Deaths

This week, **0** influenza-associated deaths were reported. The cumulative mortality rate is **0.0 per 100,000**. In the current flu season, there have been **2** influenza-associated deaths.

For a description of South Carolina's influenza surveillance components and definitions go to: <u>http://www.scdhec.gov/Health/DiseasesandConditions/Infe</u> ctiousDiseases/Flu/FluData/

Virologic Surveillance

Lab-Confirmed Influenza Cases by Influenza Type to Date*								
	No. of Cases (%)							
Influenza Type	This Week	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	5 season average			
Overall	531	1821	21354	109	4309			
Influenza A	216(40.7)	830(45.6)	20938(98.1)	77(70.6)	4212(97.7)			
A(H3)		3(0.4)	518(2.5)	24(31.2)	110(2.6)			
A(H1N1)	12(5.6)	40(4.8)	405(1.9)	1(1.3)	83(2.0)			
A(NS)**	204(94.4)	787(94.8)	20015(95.6)	52(67.5)	4019(95.4)			
Influenza B	312(58.8)	983(54.0)	385(1.8)	32(29.4)	91(2.1)			
B (Victoria)		18(1.8)						
B(Yamagata)								
B (LND) ⁺	312(100)	965(98.2)	385(100.0)	32(100.0)	91(100.0)			
Influenza Virus Coinfection [§]	3(0.6)	8(0.4)	31(0.1)	-	6(0.1)			

Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Cases, by Virus Type





*Data presented from previous influenza seasons represents the data from that season through the same week as the current season. Nationally, the influenza season begins with MMWR week 40 and ends with MMWR week 39. The 2023-24 influenza season began on October 1, 2023 and will end on September 28, 2024.

**NS - not subtyped +LND - lineage not determined

⁵Cases with more than one influenza A subtype in the same sample or with influenza A and B viral types in the same sample simultaneously.

[■] A not subtyped ■ A(H1N1) ■ A (H3) ■ B (lineage not determined) ■ B (YAM) ■ B (VIC) ■ Co-infection

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

This week, the ILI activity level was **high** and **3.7%** of patient visits to SC ILINet providers were attributed to an influenza-like illness. This is **above** the state baseline of **3.2%**.

Reports were received from providers in **23** counties, representing all DHEC Public Health regions.

ILI percentage is dependent upon the number of reporting providers and/or can vary by disease activity or the number of providers submitting reports.



Percentage of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Visits Reported by Sentinel Providers for Past and Current Seasons



MMWR Week



State ILI Activity Level by MMWR Week, 2017-18 Influenza Season to Present

ILI ACTIVITY LEVELS: MINIMAL LOW MODERATE HIGH

Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations And Deaths

Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group*							
	No. of Hospitalizations (Rate)						
Influenza		Ages	Ages	Ages	Ages	Ages	
Season	Overall	0-4	5-17	18-49	50-64	65+	
This Week	35(0.7)	1(0.4)	2(0.2)	10(0.5)	4(0.4)	18(2.0)	
2023-24	122(2.4)	4(1.4)	6(0.7)	25(1.2)	20(2.0)	67(7.4)	
2022-23	687(13.5)	26(9.1)	53(6.4)	166(8.1)	119(11.8)	323(35.8)	
2021-22	16(0.3)	1(0.4)	1(0.1)	5(0.2)	3(0.3)	6(0.7)	
5 season	165(2.2)	7(2.4)	12(1.5)	41(2.0)	20(2.0)	75(8.3)	
average	165(3.3)	7(2.4)	12(1.5)	41(2.0)	30(3.0)	75(8.3)	
Influenza-Associated Deaths by Age Group*							

Influenza-Associated Deaths by Age Group*						
	No. of Deaths (Rate)					
Influenza Season	Overall	Ages 0-4	Ages 5-17	Ages 18-49	Ages 50-64	Ages 65+
This Week						
2023-24	2(0.0)					2(0.2)
2022-23	16(0.3)		2(0.2)		4(0.4)	10(1.1)
2021-22	1(0.0)					1(0.1)
5 season	4(0.1)		1(0.1)		1(0.1)	2(0.3)
average						

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Cumulative Hospitalization Rate for Past and Current Seasons

Reported Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations, 2021-22 Season to Present

