



**Summit County Public Health
Influenza Surveillance Report
2022 – 2023 Season
Report #28**



**Flu Surveillance Weeks 30 & 31 (4/23/2023 to 5/6/2023)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention MMWR Weeks 17 & 18**

2022-2023 Influenza Season Summary (October 2, 2022 to May 6, 2023)

Laboratory Testing:

	<u>2022 – 2023</u>	<u>2021 – 2022</u>	<u>2020 - 2021</u>
Influenza Tests ordered:	30,573	35,598	16,247
Positive test results:	3,617	1,942	3
Type A:	3,575	1,913	0
Type B:	42	29	3

<i>Total influenza hospitalizations:</i>	619	148	1
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<i>Influenza – related deaths:</i>	17	3	0
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<i>Pneumonia – related deaths:</i>	278	602	584
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<i>COVID-19 – related deaths:</i>	150	716	829
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Some deaths were due to the development of pneumonia as the result of a COVID-19 infection, while others were due to pneumonia from other causes, or complications of COVID-19 that did not include pneumonia.

Summit County Surveillance Data:

In **Weeks 30 & 31** of influenza surveillance, influenza-related activity was Low¹ in Summit County.

Table 1: Overall Influenza Activity Indicators in Summit County by week				
	Week 30 MMWR 17 N (%) ¹	Week 31 MMWR 18 N (%) ¹	Percent change from previous week	Number of weeks increasing or decreasing
Lab Reports: Influenza				
Test Performed	505	507	0.4%	↑1
Positive Tests (Number and %)	1 (0.2)	3 (0.6)	+198.8%	↑1
Influenza A (Number and %)	1 (0.2)	3 (0.6)	+198.8%	↑1
Influenza B (Number and %)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	-	-
Acute care hospitalizations for Influenza:	1	0	-	↓1
Schools absenteeism²	9.0	9.6	+6.4%	↑1
Deaths (occurred in Summit County)				
Pneumonia associated	10	6	-40.0%	↓1
Influenza associated	0	0	-	-
COVID-19 associated	3	1	-66.7%	↓3
Emergency room visits (EpiCenter)³ (Figure 3)**				
Total ED Visits	-	-	-	-
Constitutional Complaints	-	-	-	-
Fever and ILI	-	-	-	-
<p>2) Absence is for any reason. Percent is from total number of students enrolled. Data was collected from approx. 9 schools or school districts throughout Summit County (n = approx. 32,000 students)</p> <p>3)** Percent is from total number of emergency room interactions – elimination of data from a significant reporting facility has resulted in decreases in current and previous week data. Notable changes in EpiCenter data are the result of a temporary programming issue in one or more of the reporting facilities. **A significant number of ER visits are expected to be unaccounted for at this time** Notable decrease/ elimination of ER Related data are the result of a known reporting issue and not reflective of actual trends. This will be retroactively updated when possible.</p> <p>Note: Data is provisional and may be updated as more information is received. Percentages should be interpreted with caution. Small changes in number can result in large changes in percent. When a percentage, or prevalence, is available in this table, the percent change will be calculated from those values</p>				

Lab reports: During week 30 and 31 of influenza surveillance, reporting Summit County facilities performed 1,017 flu tests, of which 4 had positive results. **(Figure 4) Note: Influenza data are collected from selected reporting partners and do not represent positivity rates for the entire county.**

Acute Care Hospitalizations: There were no reported admissions during week 31, this was one less than the previous week. **Figure 2** displays hospitalizations in Summit County.

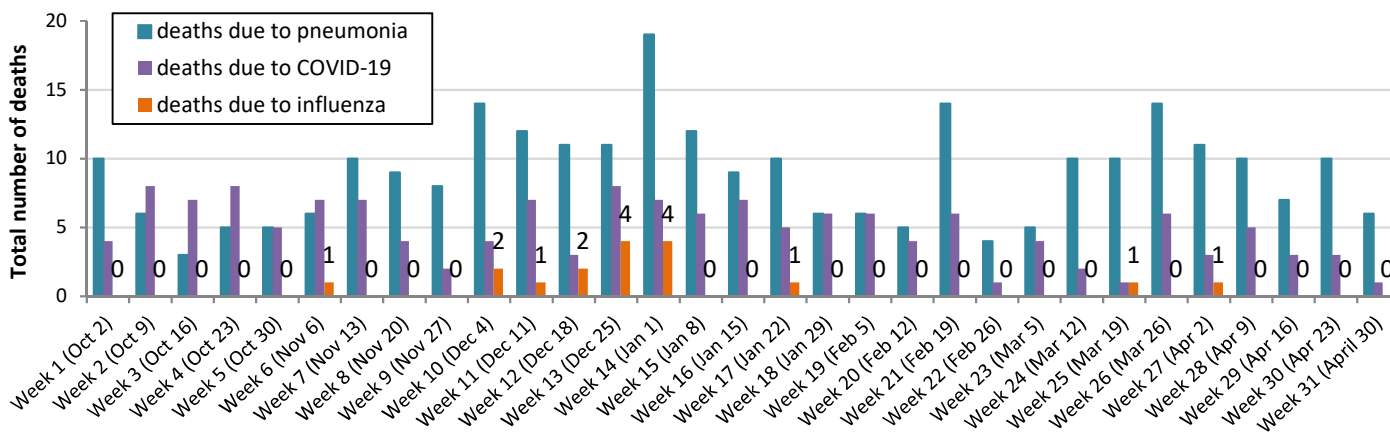
School absenteeism includes absences regardless of reasoning. There was a 6.4% increase in school absences from week 30 to 31.

Zero Influenza related deaths, 4 COVID-19 related deaths and 16 pneumonia related deaths occurred in Summit County during weeks 30 & 31. The rate of pneumonia related deaths decreased by 40% and COVID-19 related deaths decreased by 66.7% from week 30 to 31.

Figure 1 displays weekly counts of deaths occurring in Summit County associated with pneumonia, COVID-19 and influenza.

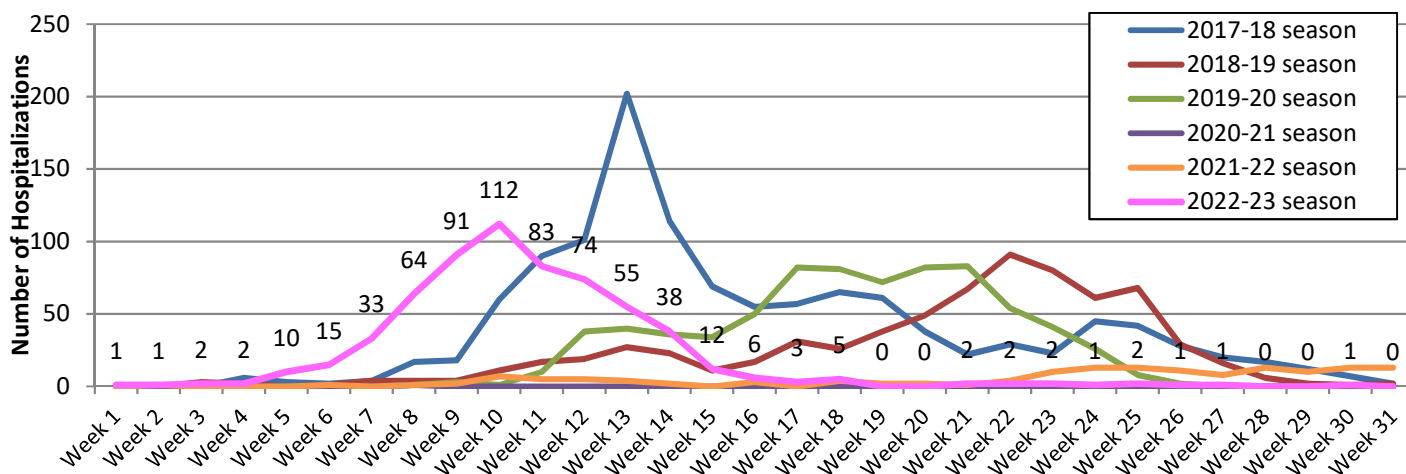
The measure of 'influenza-related activity in Summit County' will be determined based on week to week comparison of table 1 indicators. The scale is as follows: 1/5 indicators increase (very low), 2/5 indicators increase (low), 3/5 indicators increase (moderate), 4/5 indicators increase (high), 5/5 indicators increase (very high).

Figure 1. Weekly Summit County death counts associated with pneumonia and influenza during 2022-2023 season



Hospitalizations: In Week 31, Summit County hospitals reported 0 influenza-associated hospitalizations. In Week 30 there was 1 new influenza-associated hospitalization. **Figure 2** displays weekly confirmed hospitalization counts for Summit County.

Figure 2. Summit County weekly influenza-associated hospitalizations, 2022-2023 season and previous five seasons



EpiCenter collects and analyzes health related data in real time to provide information about the health of the community. This system tracks ER visits related to constitutional complaints and fever and ILI. **Figures 3** displays the weekly number of ER visits related to ILI and flu symptoms in Summit County. ****A significant number of ER visits remained unaccounted for at the end of 31 weeks, due to a known issue with the ER data surveillance tool**** The finalized graph containing ER visits will be updated once the data is available for weeks 10-31.

Figure 3. Weekly ED visits in Summit County related to Fever + ILI stratified by age groups, 2022 to 2023 season

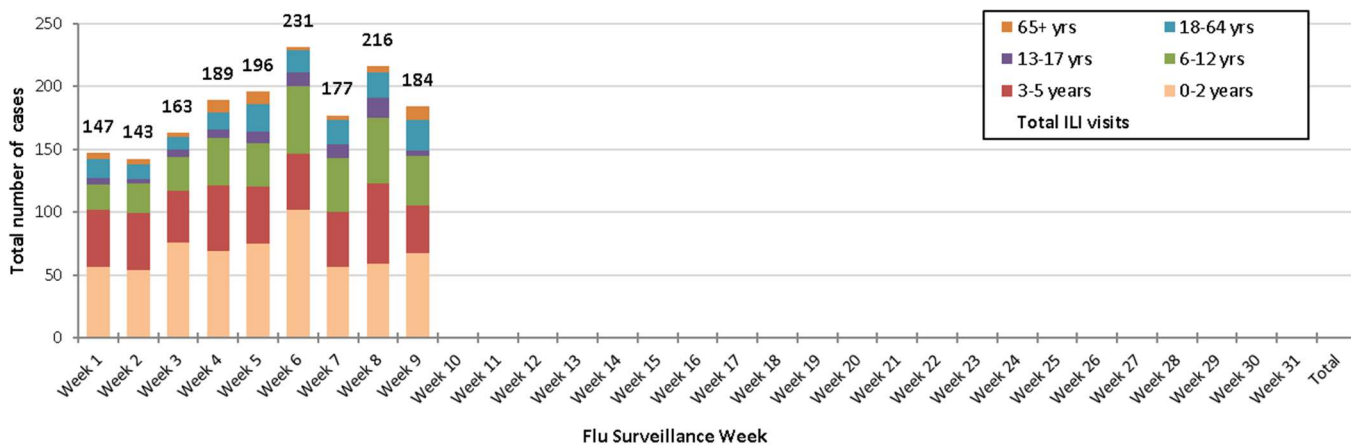
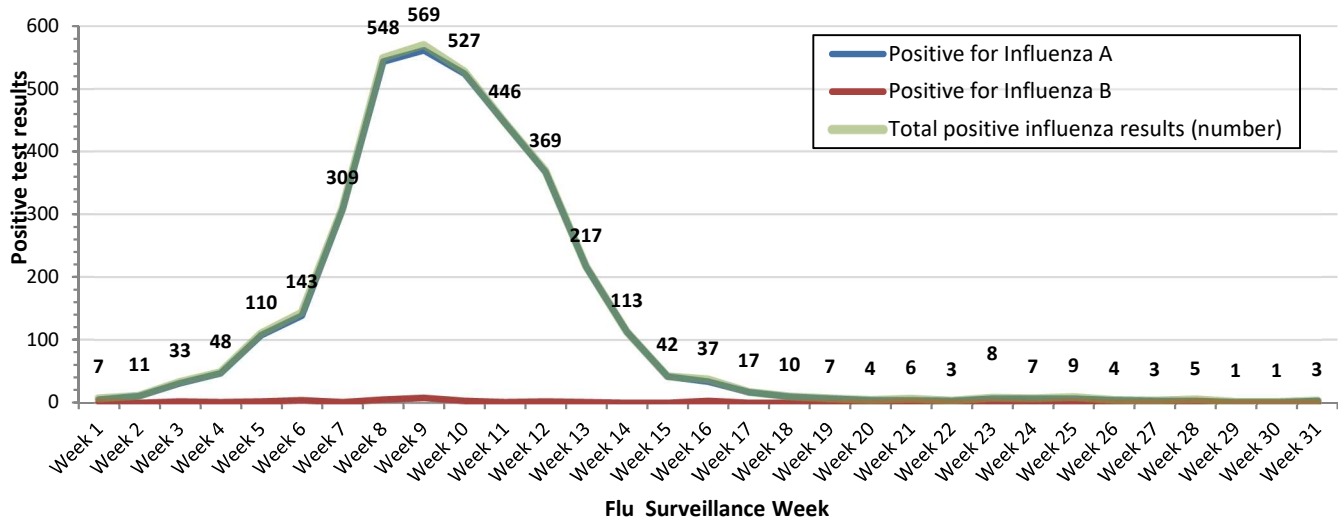


Figure 4. Influenza diagnostic tests with positive results completed by Summit County health facilities, 2022 - 2023 season



Ohio Influenza Activity: from the Ohio Department of Health:

Current Ohio Activity Level (Geographic Spread) –Minimal

During MMWR Week 18, public health surveillance data sources indicate minimal intensity for influenza-like illness (ILI) in outpatient settings reported by Ohio’s sentinel ILINet providers. The percentage of emergency department (ED) visits with patients exhibiting constitutional symptoms and fever/ILI specified ED visits are below baseline levels statewide. Reported cases of influenza-associated hospitalizations did not increase or decrease. There were 17 influenza-associated hospitalizations reported during MMWR Week 18.

Ohio Department of Health Seasonal Influenza Activity Summary April 30th – May 6th, 2023

Data Source	Current week value	Percent Change from last week ¹	# of weeks ²	Trend Chart ³
Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Outpatient Data (ILINet Sentinel Provider Visits)	1.78%	-1.66%	↓ 1	
Thermometer Sales (National Retail Data Monitor) ⁴	0.33%	0.00%	—	
Fever and ILI Specified ED Visits (EpiCenter)	1.41%	1.44%	↑ 1	
Constitutional ED Visits (EpiCenter)	8.87%	-1.22%	↓ 1	
Confirmed Influenza-associated Hospitalizations (Ohio Disease Reporting System)	17	0.00%	—	

¹Interpret percent changes with caution. Large variability may be exhibited in data sources with low weekly values.

²Number of weeks that the % change is increasing or decreasing.

³Black lines represent current week’s data; red lines represent baseline averages. The 2020-2021 influenza season has been omitted from the five-year baseline averages due to abnormal counts reported during the COVID-19 pandemic. A five-year average, which includes data from the 2016-2017 season through the 2021-2022 season, is displayed.

⁴Due to abnormally high thermometer sales during the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 season data has been omitted. A 5-year average, which includes data from the 2015-2016 season through the 2021-2022 season, is shown.

Source: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/seasonal-influenza/ohio-flu-activity>

Ohio Surveillance Data

- The U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Laboratories System and the National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) has reported 169,978 tests for influenza performed at participating facilities; of these, 1,147 tested positive for influenza A(H1N1pdm09), 1,256 for influenza A(H3N2), 21,740 for influenza A (subtyping not performed), and 217 for influenza B (through 05/06/2023).
- Five influenza-associated pediatric mortalities have been reported so far during the 2022-2023 influenza season (through 05/06/2023).
- No novel influenza A virus infections have been reported so far during the 2022-2023 influenza season (through 05/06/2023).
- Incidence of confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations in 2022-2023 season = 9,101 (through 05/06/2023)

National Surveillance: from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

National Outpatient Illness Surveillance:

Nationwide during week 18, 2.0% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to respiratory illness that included fever plus a cough or sore throat, also referred to as ILI. This has remained stable (change of ≤ 0.1 percentage points) compared to week 17 and is below the national baseline of 2.5%. Nine of 10 HHS regions are below their respective baselines; Region 9 is above its baseline. Multiple respiratory viruses are co-circulating, and the relative contribution of influenza virus infection to ILI varies by location.

Figure 5. Percentage of Outpatient Visits for Respiratory Illness reported By the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), Weekly National Summary, 2022-2023* and Selected Previous Seasons.

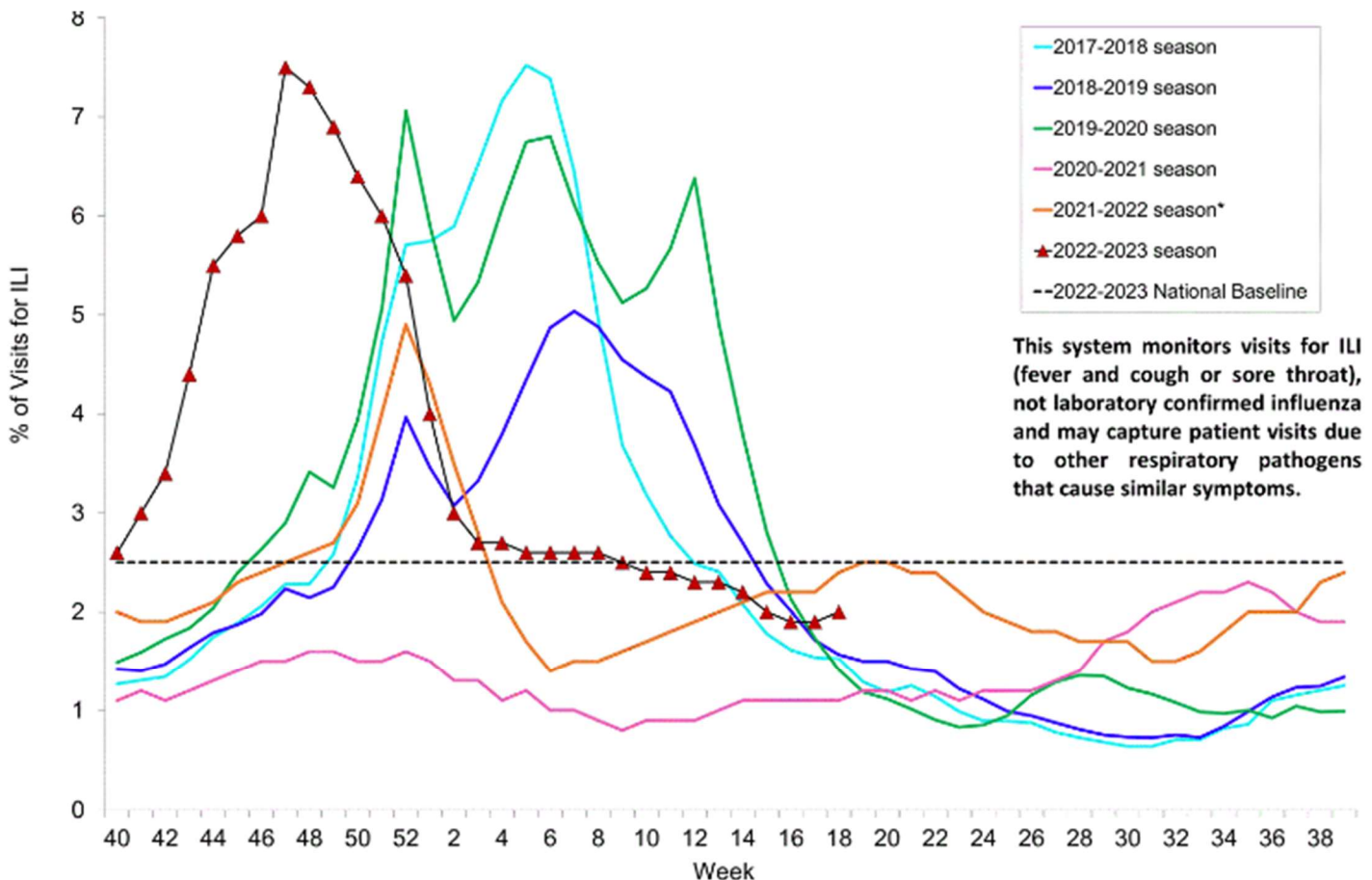
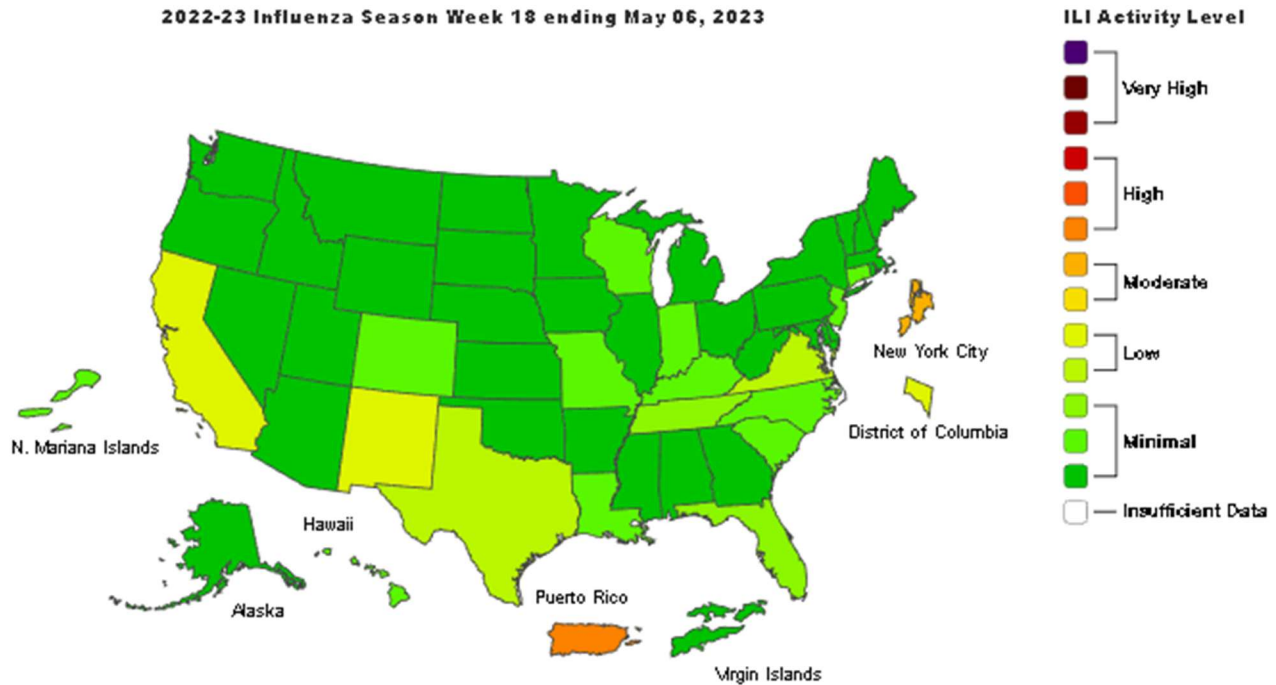


Figure 6. Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity level indicator determined by data reported to ILINet



Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Global Surveillance:

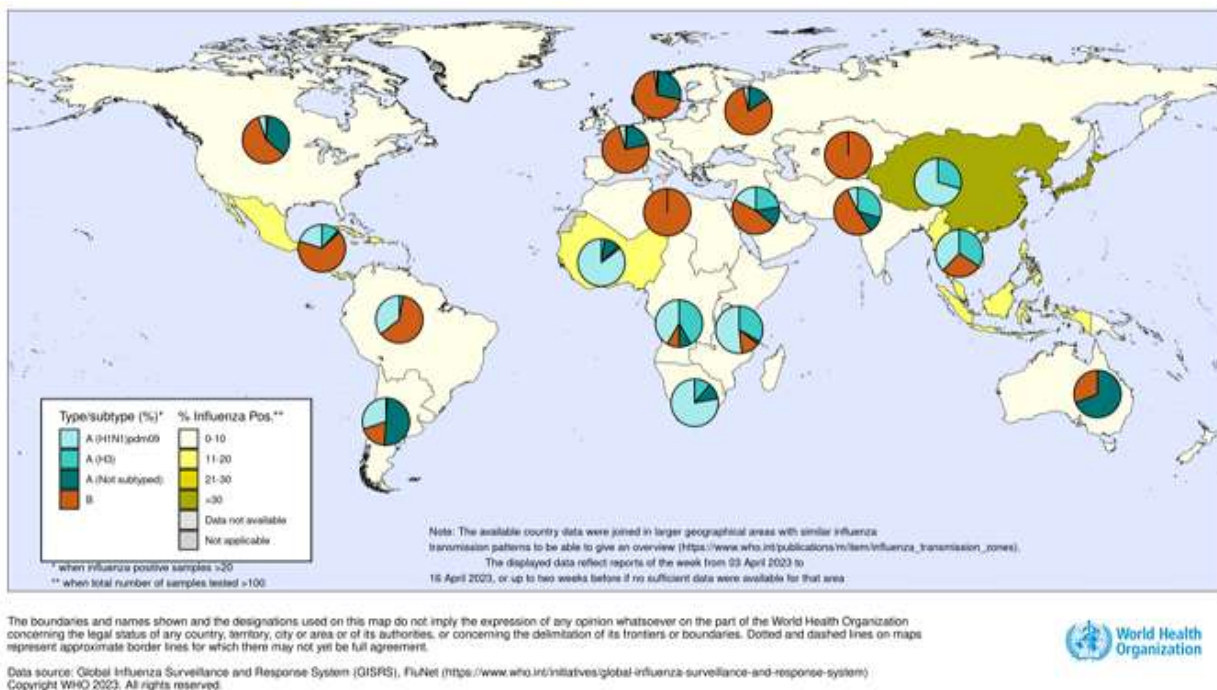
Influenza Update N° 444 01 May 2023, based on data up to 16 April 2023

Summary

- Countries are recommended to monitor the relative co-circulation of influenza and SARS-CoV-2 viruses and report to FluNet and FLUID directly or via regional platforms. They are encouraged to enhance **integrated surveillance** and in southern hemisphere countries step-up their influenza vaccination campaign to prevent severe disease and hospitalizations associated with influenza. Clinicians should consider influenza in differential diagnosis, especially for high-risk groups for influenza, and test and treat according to national guidance.
- Globally, influenza detections decreased further due to decreased detections in the northern hemisphere, while some countries in the southern hemisphere reported increased influenza detections in recent weeks.
- In the countries of North America, most indicators of influenza activity were at levels typically observed between influenza seasons. Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and B viruses predominated in the United States of America (USA), whereas influenza B viruses predominated in Canada.
- In Europe, overall influenza detections decreased and influenza positivity from sentinel sites decreased to the epidemic threshold of 10% at the regional level. Overall, influenza B viruses predominated in both sentinel and non-sentinel surveillance as all subregions experienced a wave of influenza B activity after an initial influenza A wave. Of the few influenza A viruses detected, the majority were influenza A(H1N1)pdm09. Influenza detections decreased or were stable in all reporting countries.
- In Central Asia, influenza activity remained very low with sporadic influenza B/Victoria lineage detections reported in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- In Northern Africa, no influenza detections were reported.
- In Western Asia, influenza activity decreased overall with detections of all seasonal influenza subtypes.
- In East Asia, influenza activity decreased overall, although a sharp increase of mainly influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 detections was reported in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), China. A low level of influenza detections continued to be reported in the Republic of Korea.

- In the Caribbean and Central American countries, influenza activity of mainly influenza B/Victoria lineage viruses was low or below baseline in most countries, although increases in influenza activity were reported in a few countries and activity was at a moderate level in Jamaica.
- In the tropical countries of South America, influenza activity increased during this reporting period due to increased detections of A(H1N1)pdm09 in Peru and slight increases were reported in a few other countries.
- In tropical Africa, influenza detections were low in reporting countries. Influenza A virus detections outnumbered B virus detections.
- In Southern Asia, influenza activity remained low with influenza A(H3N2) predominant followed by B/Victoria lineage viruses. Increased activity was reported in Bhutan and Sri Lanka.
- In South-East Asia, influenza activity remained elevated mainly due to detections in Malaysia and Singapore. In Malaysia, activity decreased but there was an increased proportion of influenza A viruses over the past several weeks and influenza A viruses predominated during this period. Influenza A(H3N2) viruses remained predominant in Singapore.
- In the temperate zones of the southern hemisphere, influenza activity remained low, however influenza activity increased slightly in Australia and Chile and in pneumonia surveillance in South Africa. Influenza A viruses were predominant and among the subtyped viruses, influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 predominated in these countries.
- Globally, RSV activity was generally low or decreasing except in Australia, South Africa and a few countries in the Region of the Americas. RSV activity decreased but remained elevated in parts of Australia. In South Africa, the RSV detection rate among children under five years of age in pneumonia surveillance seemed to have peaked a few weeks ago and has decreased to a moderate level. RSV remained elevated in Guatemala and increased in tropical South America (mainly in Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) and Colombia and some countries in temperate South America.
- National Influenza Centres (NICs) and other national influenza laboratories from 117 countries, areas or territories reported data to FluNet for the time period from 03 April 2023 to 16 April 2023 (data as of 4/28/2023 1:08:31 AM UTC). The WHO GISRS laboratories tested more than 355 524 specimens during that time period. 27 958 were positive for influenza viruses, of which 21 176 (75.74%) were typed as influenza A and 6782 (24.26%) as influenza B. Of the sub-typed influenza A viruses, 12 988 (70.16%) were influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and 5525 (29.84%) were influenza A(H3N2). Of the characterized B viruses, 100% (839) belonged to the B/Victoria lineage.

Figure 7. Percentage of respiratory specimens that tested positive for influenza, by influenza transmission zone 1. Map generated on 28 April 2023.



Source: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/influenza-update-n--444>

About this report: Reporting agencies include labs, hospitals, long-term care and community-based care providers, physician offices, university clinic, pharmacies, and schools. Agencies are distributed throughout Summit County and report different indicators of flu activity including total lab tests, numbers of positive tests and type, antiviral prescriptions filled, school absences, and influenza like illness (ILI). Hospitalizations are lab confirmed for influenza and are obtained from the Ohio Disease Reporting System. Number of deaths associated with influenza and pneumonia are gathered from the Summit County Office of Vital Records death listings. Emergency room visits for complaints related to influenza are obtained by syndromic surveillance system (Epicenter).

Special thanks to all agencies who report Influenza related data weekly.

Reporting from participants may not be complete each week. Numbers may change as updated reports are received. For questions, please contact Julie Zidones at the Summit County Public Health Communicable Disease Unit (330-375-2662 or cdu@schd.org). This report was issued on May 12, 2023.