

## Flu Watch

MMWR Week 49: December 5 to December 11, 2021

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

### **Geographic Spread**



South Carolina reported widespread activity this week. This is the first week at widespread activity.

#### Influenza Indicators

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

#### Regional Influenza Activity



No change



Increased



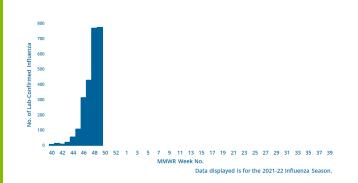
Decreased



Decreased

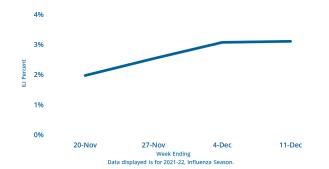
#### **Virologic Surveillance**

This week **775** lab-confirmed tests were reported. In the current flu season, there have been **2503** lab-confirmed tests reported.



#### Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance

The percent of patient visits to sentinel providers for an influenza-like illness (ILI) was **3.1%**, which is **below** South Carolina's baseline (**3.6%**). The ILI activity level overall was **moderate**.



#### **Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations**

This week **22** influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported by **41** hospitals. The cumulative hospitalization rate is **1.7 per 100,000**. In the current flu season, there have been **85** influenza-associated hospitalizations.

#### **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: <a href="https://www.scdhec.gov/FluWatch">https://www.scdhec.gov/FluWatch</a>

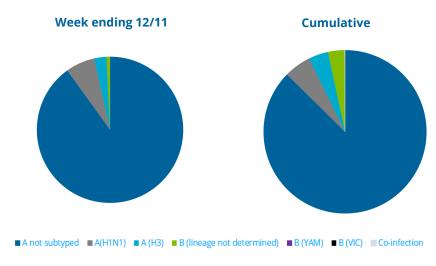
For national surveillance, please visit: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/">https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/</a>

## **Virologic Surveillance**

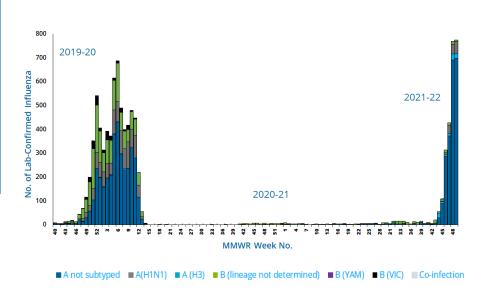
Lab-Confirmed Influenza Cases by Influenza Type to Date*							
	No. of Cases (%)						
Influenza Type	This Week	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	5 season average		
Overall	775	2503	50	309	108		
Influenza A	769(99.2)	2419(96.6)	9(18.0)	142(46.0)	60(55.6)		
A(H3)	21(2.7)	98(4.1)		11(7.7)	9(15.0)		
A(H1N1)	50(6.5)	134(5.5)	1(11.1)	42(29.6)	12(20.0)		
A(NS)**	698(90.8)	2187(90.4)	8(88.9)	89(62.7)	39(65.0)		
Influenza B	6(0.8)	83(3.3)	39(78.0)	166(53.7)	47(43.5)		
B (Victoria)				16(9.6)	3(6.4)		
B(Yamagata)					1(2.1)		
B (LND) <sup>+</sup>	6(100.0)	83(100.0)	39(100.0)	150(90.4)	43(91.5)		
Influenza Virus Coinfection§	0(0.0)	1(0.1)	2(4.0)	1(0.3)	1(0.9)		
Influenza/SARS -CoV-2 Coinfection <sup>£</sup>	3(0.4)	11(0.5)	4(4.3)	0(0.0)	N/A		

<sup>\*</sup>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 2021-22 influenza season began on October 3, 2021 and will end on October 1, 2022.

#### **Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Cases, by Virus Type**



#### Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Cases, 2019-20 Season to Present



<sup>\*\*</sup>NS – not subtyped +LND – lineage not determined

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Cases with more than one influenza A subtype in the same sample or with influenza A and B viral types in the same sample simultaneously.

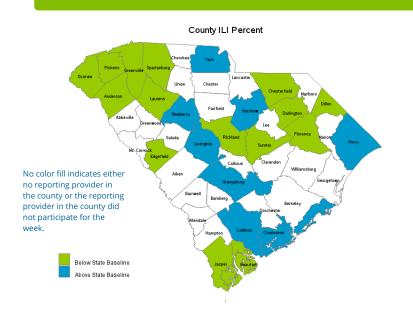
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>£</sup>Lab-confirmed influenza cases who also tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus from specimens collected on the same date.

## Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

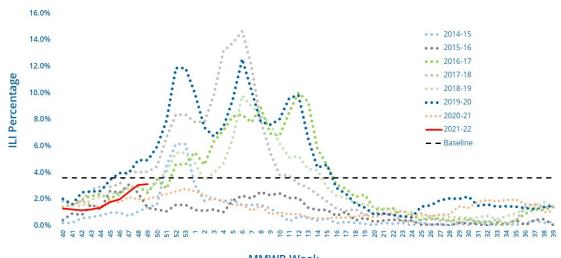
This week, the ILI activity level was moderate and **3.1%** of patient visits to SC ILINet providers were attributed to an influenza-like illness. This is **below** the state baseline of **3.6%**.

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

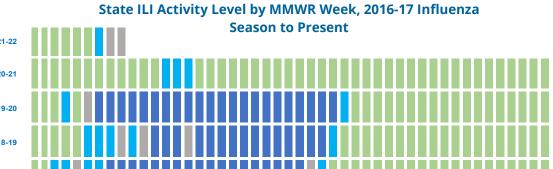
\*\*ILI percentage is dependent upon the number of reporting providers and/or can vary by disease activity or the number of providers submitting reports.\*\*



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



#### MMWR Week



ILI ACTIVITY LEVELS: MINIMAL LOW MODERATE HIGH

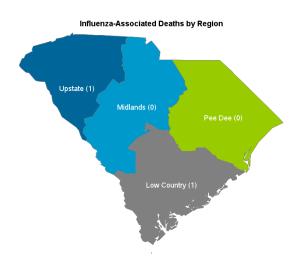
Influenza Season

# Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations And Deaths

Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group*						
	No. of Hospitalizations (Rate)					
Influenza Season	Overall	Ages 0-4	Ages 5-17	Ages 18-49	Ages 50-64	Ages 65+
This Week	22(0.4)	1(0.3)	1(0.1)	3(0.1)	2(0.2)	15(1.7)
2021-22	85(1.7)	9(3.0)	2(0.2)	18(0.9)	10(0.9)	46(5.3)
2020-21	47 (0.9)	2(0.7)		16(0.8)	8(0.8)	21(2.4)
2019-20	225 (4.5)	21(7.2)	10(1.2)	42(2.1)	62(6.3)	90(10.8)
5 season average	136(2.8)	9(3.0)	5(0.7)	23(1.1)	34(3.5)	65(8.3)

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	0(0.0)					
2021-22	2(0.0)				1(0.1)	1(0.1)
2020-21	3(0.1)			1(0.1)	1(0.1)	1(0.1)
2019-20	10(0.2)			1(0.1)	1(0.1)	8(0.9)
5 season average	7(0.1)			1(0.1)	1(0.1)	5(0.6)

<sup>\*</sup>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 2021-22 influenza season began on October 3, 2021 and will end on October 1, 2022.



#### **Cumulative Hospitalization Rate for Past and Current Seasons**



#### Reported Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations, 2019-20 Season to present

