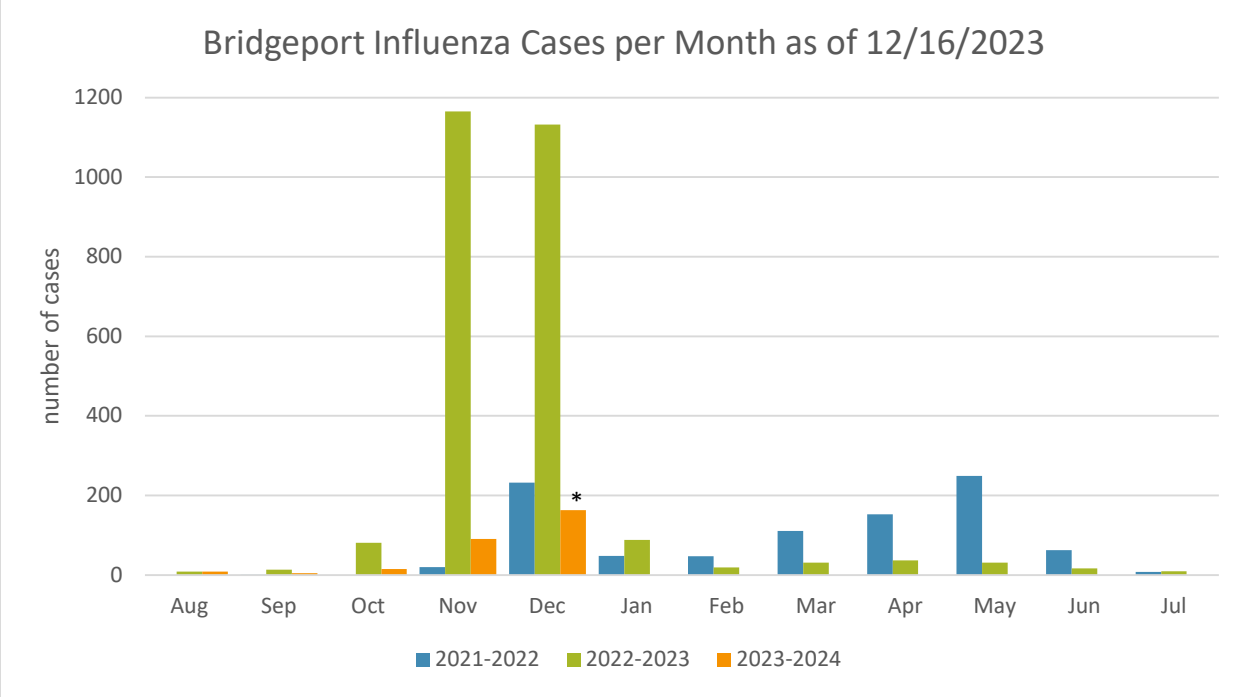
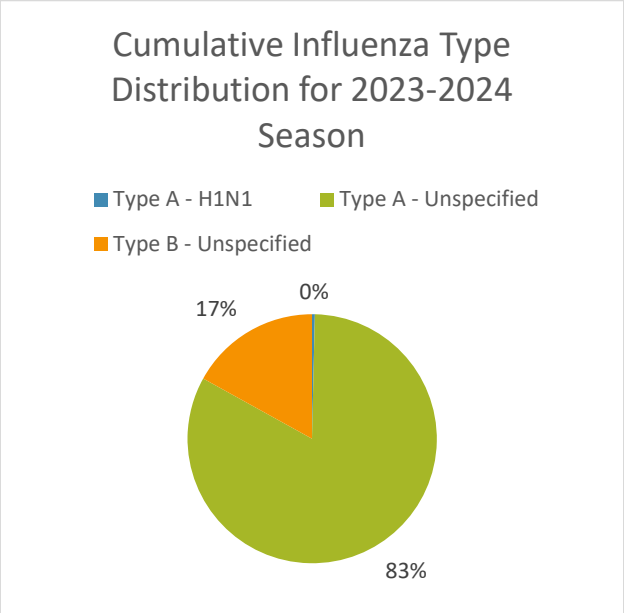
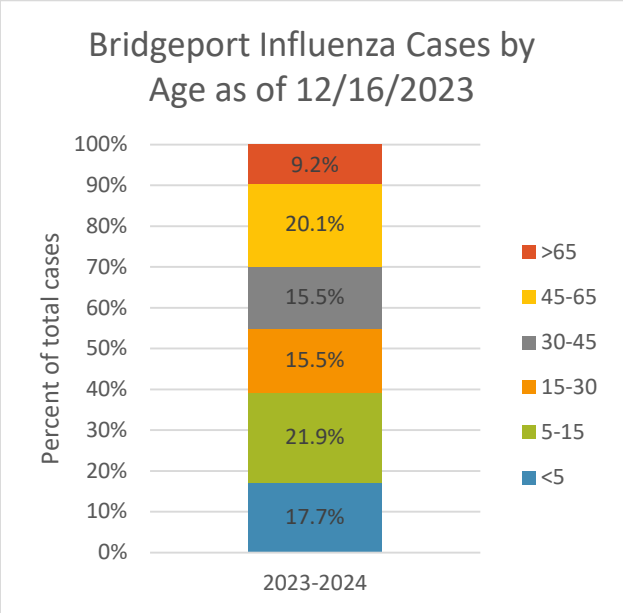
INFLUENZA EPI REPORT: 2023-2024

WEEK 50 – DECEMBER 16, 2023

BRIDGEPORT – CASES REPORTED THROUGH DECEMBER 16, 2023

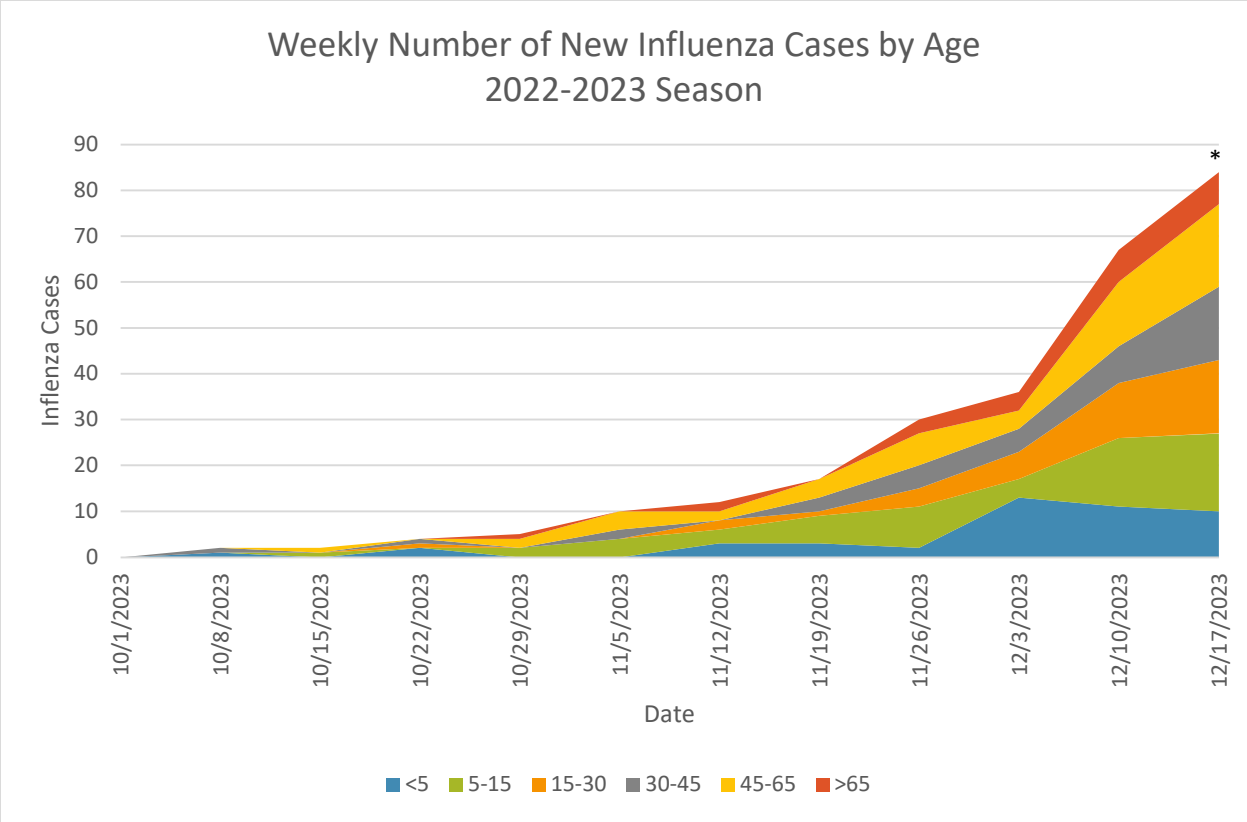


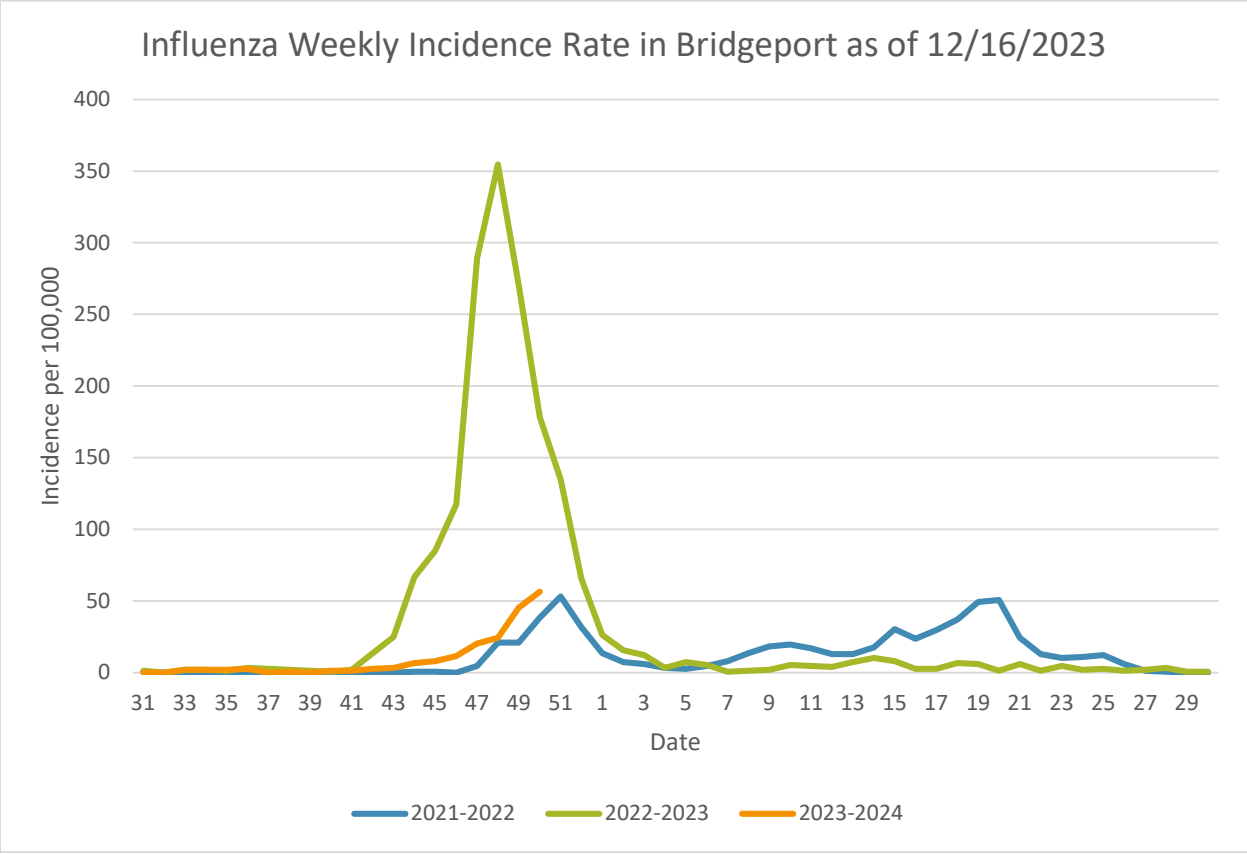




Updated December 28, 2023

*data are incomplete





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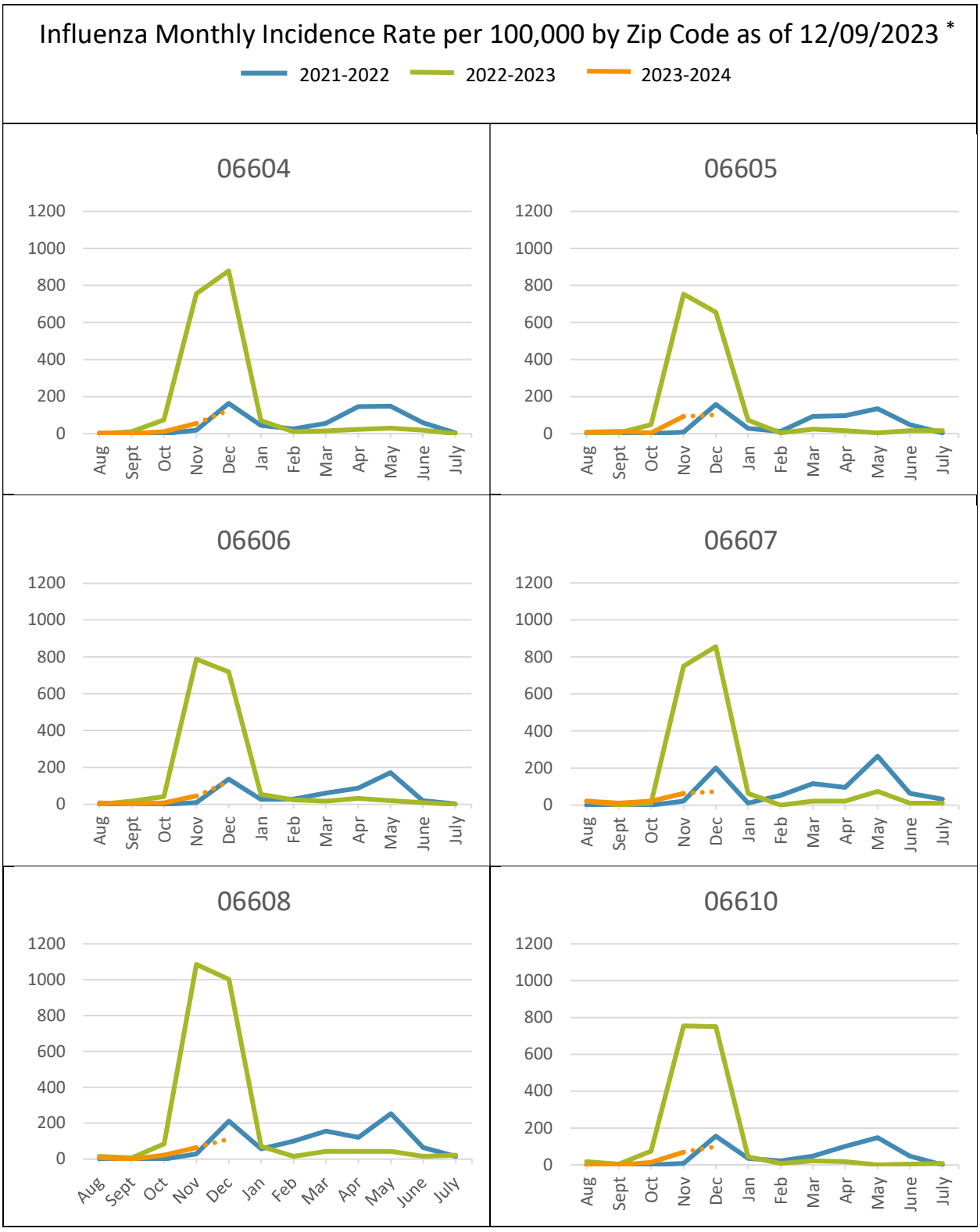
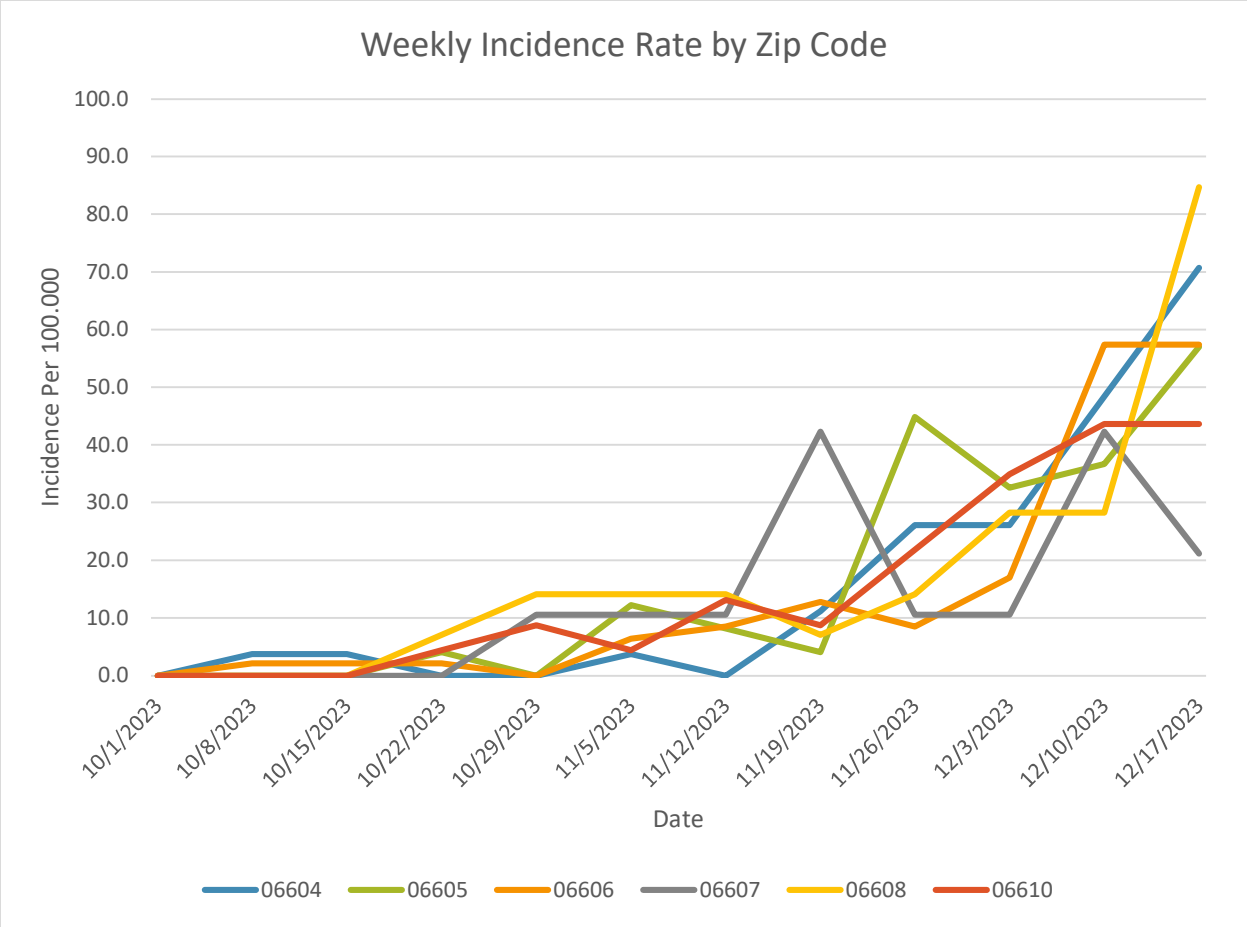
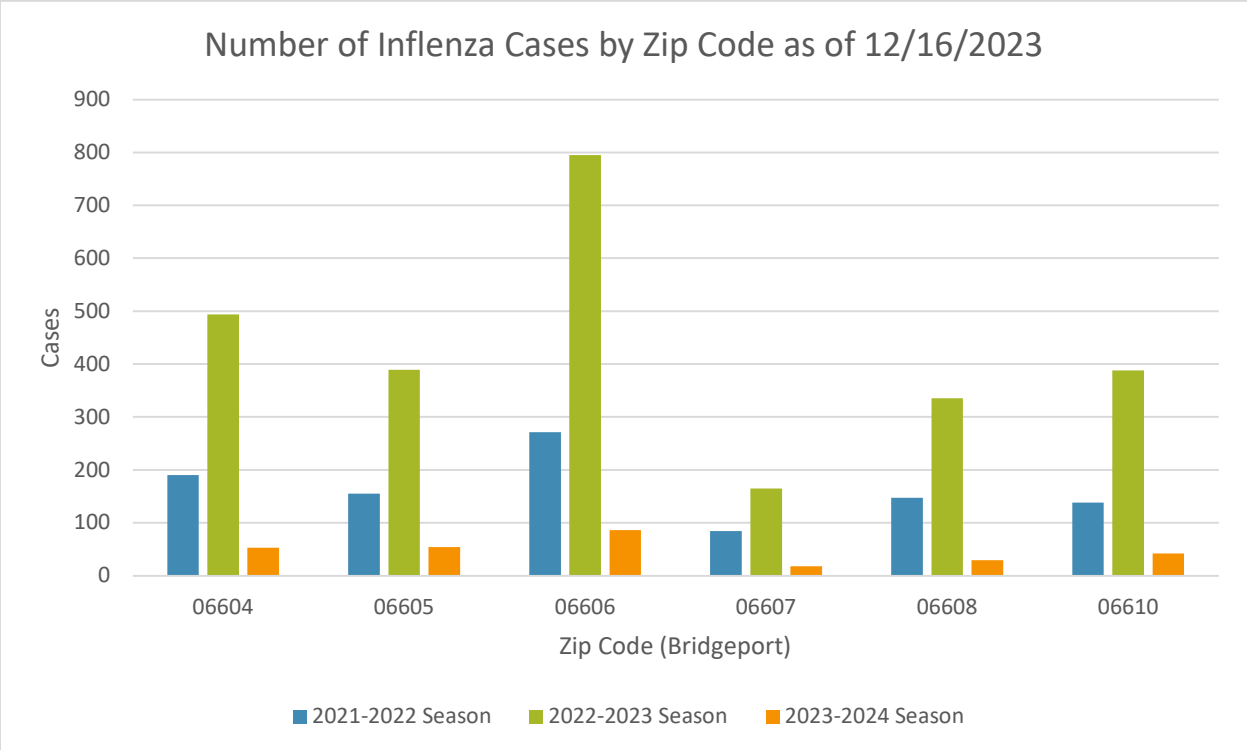


Updated December 28, 2023

*data are incomplete

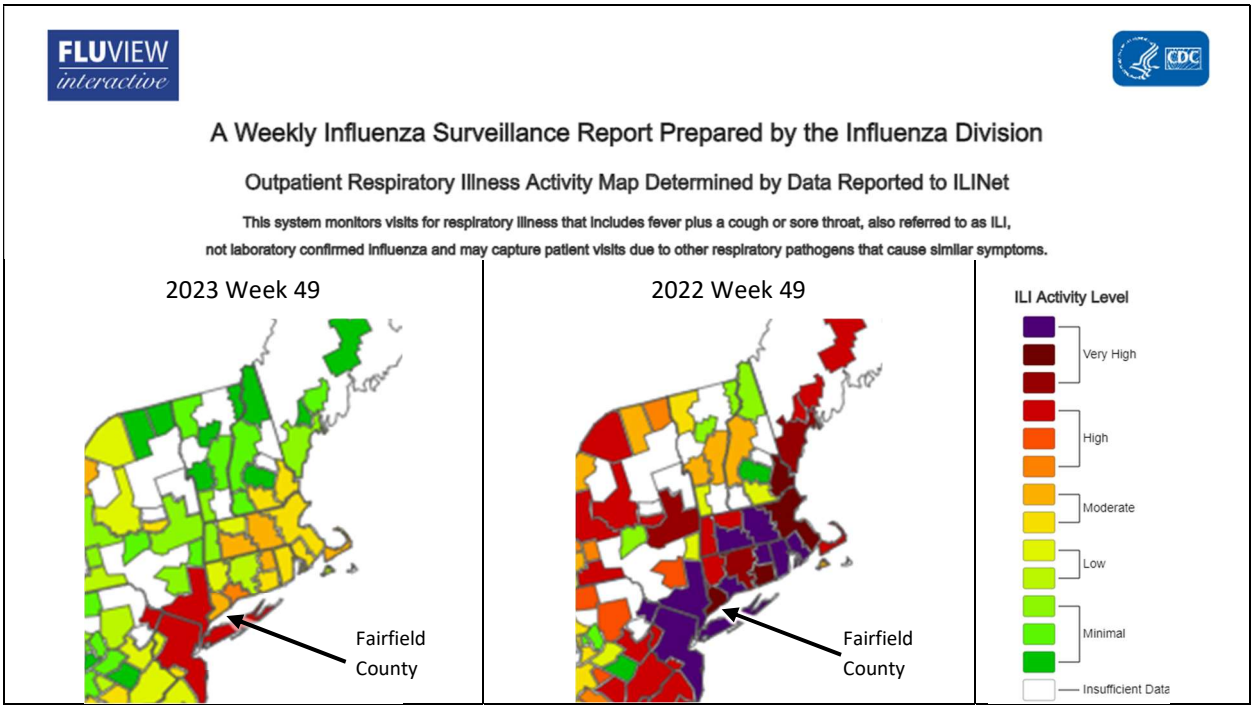




Updated December 28, 2023

*data are incomplete

CONNECTICUT – WEEK 49 ENDING DECEMBER 9, 2023



	Week ending 12/9/2023	Total this season
CT Influenza Cases	1,071	3,666
CT Influenza Hospitalizations	51	228
CT Influenza Deaths	1	8

Updated December 28, 2023

*data are incomplete

UNITED STATES – WEEK 49 ENDING DECEMBER 9, 2023

NATIONAL INFLUENZA MAPS PAST SEASON COMPARISON 2019-2023

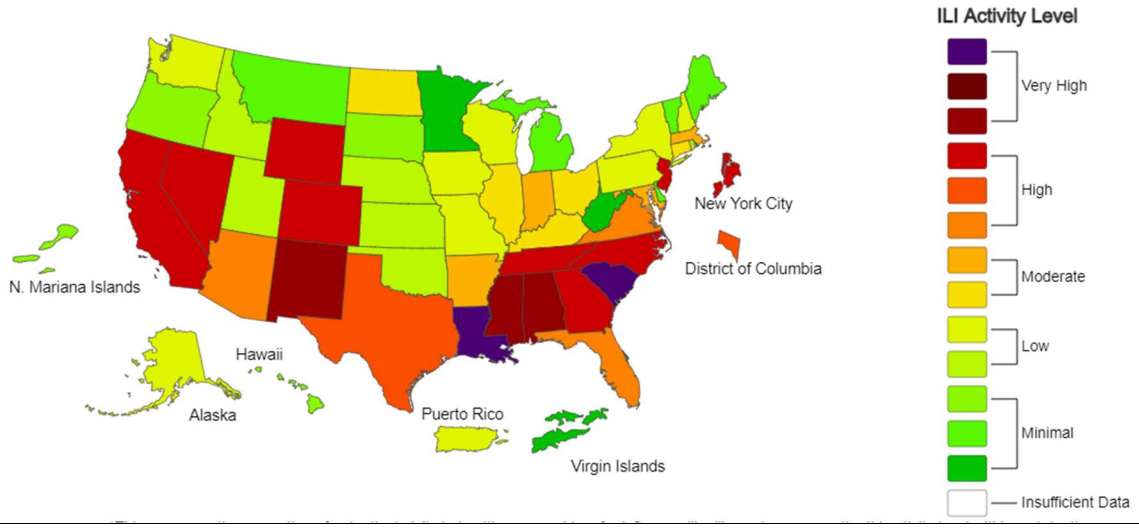
FLUVIEW interactive

A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division

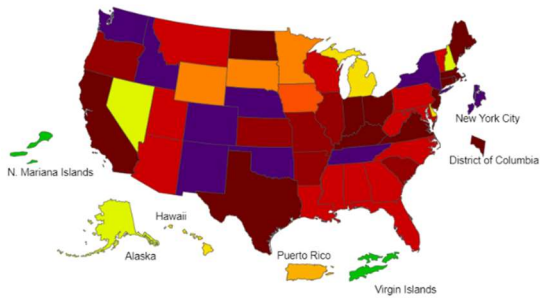
Outpatient Respiratory Illness Activity Map Determined by Data Reported to ILINet

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.

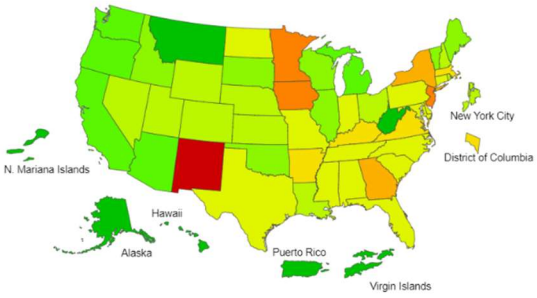
2023-24 Influenza Season Week 49 ending Dec 09, 2023



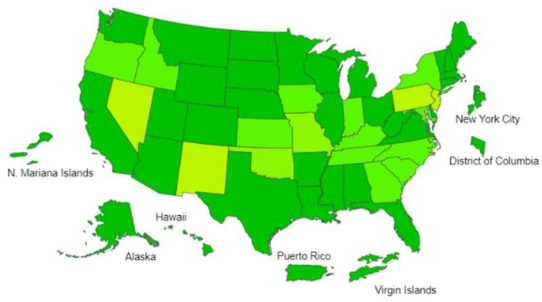
2022-23 Influenza Season Week 49 ending Dec 10, 2022



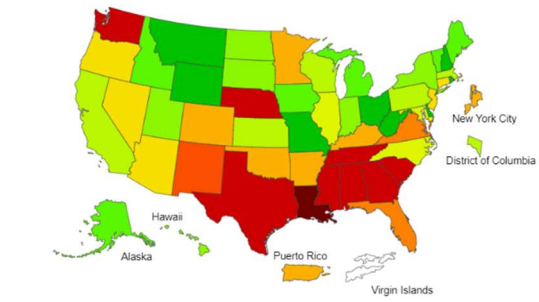
2021-22 Influenza Season Week 49 ending Dec 11, 2021



2020-21 Influenza Season Week 49 ending Dec 05, 2020



2019-20 Influenza Season Week 49 ending Dec 07, 2019



Updated December 28, 2023

*data are incomplete

*This map uses the proportion of outpatient visits to healthcare providers for influenza-like illness to measure the ILI activity level within a state. It does not, however, measure the extent of geographic spread of flu within a state. Therefore, outbreaks occurring in a single city could cause the state to display high activity levels.
*Data collected in ILINet may disproportionately represent certain populations within a state, and therefore may not accurately depict the full picture of influenza activity for the whole state.
*Data displayed in this map are based on data collected in ILINet, whereas the State and Territorial flu activity map are based on reports from state and territorial epidemiologists. The data presented in this map is preliminary and may change as more data is received.
*Differences in the data presented by CDC and state health departments likely represent differing levels of data completeness with data presented by the state likely being the more complete.

SUMMARY

This week there were 84 new laboratory confirmed cases of influenza in Bridgeport, up from 67 the previous week. This increases the incidence rate to 56.7 per 100,000 population, which is lower than the incidence rate seen last year (178.1 per 100,000 population) but higher than the incidence rate seen in 2021 at this time (38.4 per 100,000 population). This increase in incidence rate, while lower than last year, suggests that the number of influenza cases in December will surpass the cases seen in December 2021 and that flu season is not expected to end anytime soon. The incidence rate, week over week, is following the pattern of the 2021-2022 flu season so far, although at a slightly higher rate overall. We can be hopeful that we will see a decrease in flu cases at the start of 2024. The largest age group for flu cases is the 5-15 year old cohort (21.9%), followed by the 46-65 year old cohort (20.1%). This is unusual in that the early months of flu seasons cases are more frequently seen in children and the cases in adults catch up later in the season. The number of cases in <5 year olds has decreased over the past 2 weeks while the number of cases in all other age groups continues to increase. By zip code, 06608 has seen a sharp increase in incidence rate this week, up to 84.7 cases per 100,000 population from 28.2 cases per 100,000 the previous week, and only 06607 has seen a decrease in incidence rate down to 21.2 cases per 100,000 compared to 42.3 cases per 100,000 last week.

Fairfield County has moderate levels of influenza like illness (ILI) activity while the New York Metro region is at high levels of ILI activity. If you are planning to travel into New York City (or any area with high levels of ILI activity) for the holiday season, it is advisable to wear a mask in crowded areas to reduce the spread of respiratory viruses. To date, there have been 8 influenza deaths in Connecticut, one occurring this week, and 228 hospitalizations, 51 this week. This data may change as hospitalizations and deaths can be delayed in reporting root causes. The total number of influenza cases in Connecticut this season is at 3,666 cases as of December 9, 2023.

ILI activity is lowering in the Southeastern US, but still remains high or very high, while ILI activity is increasing elsewhere in the US. ILI activity is lower than the early and intense flu season seen last year and continues to align with the ILI activity seen in the 2019-2020 flu season pre-COVID-19. One glaring difference from this season to the 2019-2020 flu season is the higher levels of ILI activity we currently see in the Western US. It is important to keep in mind the ILI activity as you travel during the winter months and take appropriate precautions to avoid spreading respiratory illnesses.

PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE

- Get vaccinated every flu season
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that may be contaminated with the flu virus
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and if you are sick limit contact with others

- If you have the flu, stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone (except to get medical care or other necessities) without fever-reducing medication
- Take antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them

MORE INFORMATION

How does the flu make you sick? (video)

What should you do if you have the flu? (video)

Is it the flu or COVID-19? (website)

Flu Vaccine Information (website)

DATA SOURCES

- CTEDSS – Bridgeport Influenza Cases
- CT DPH Weekly Viral Respiratory Disease Update
- CDC FluView – Weekly Influenza Summary