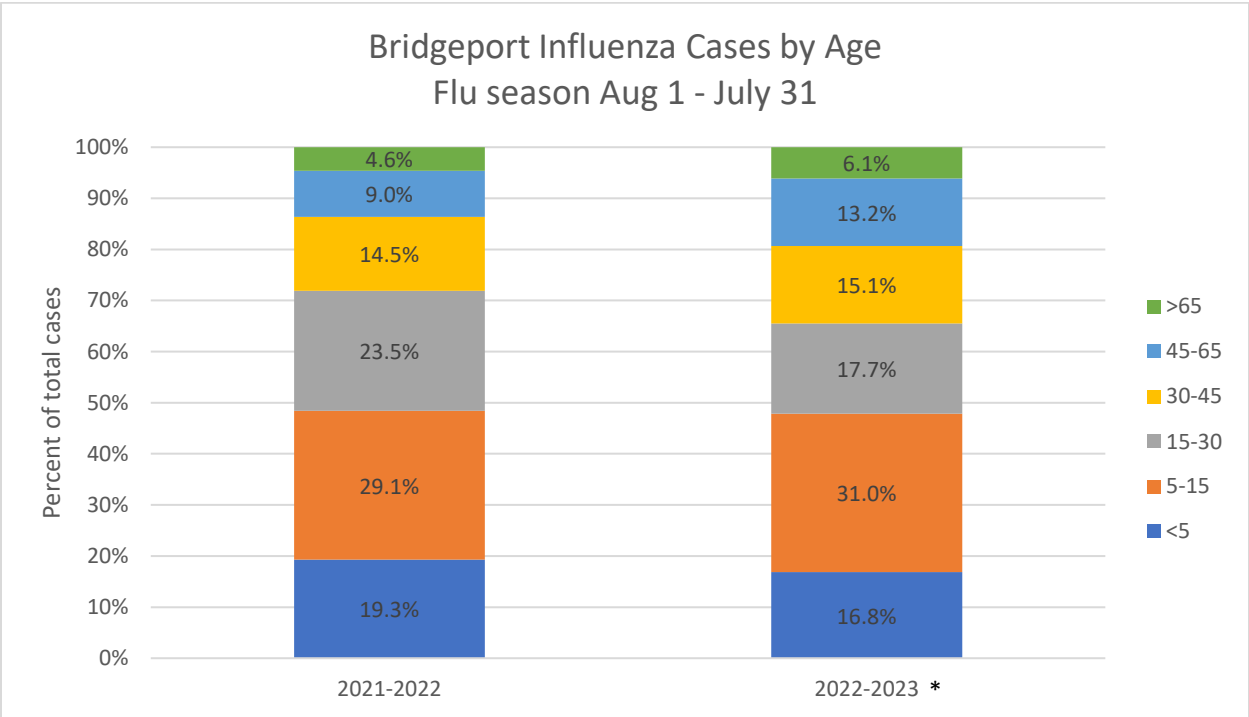
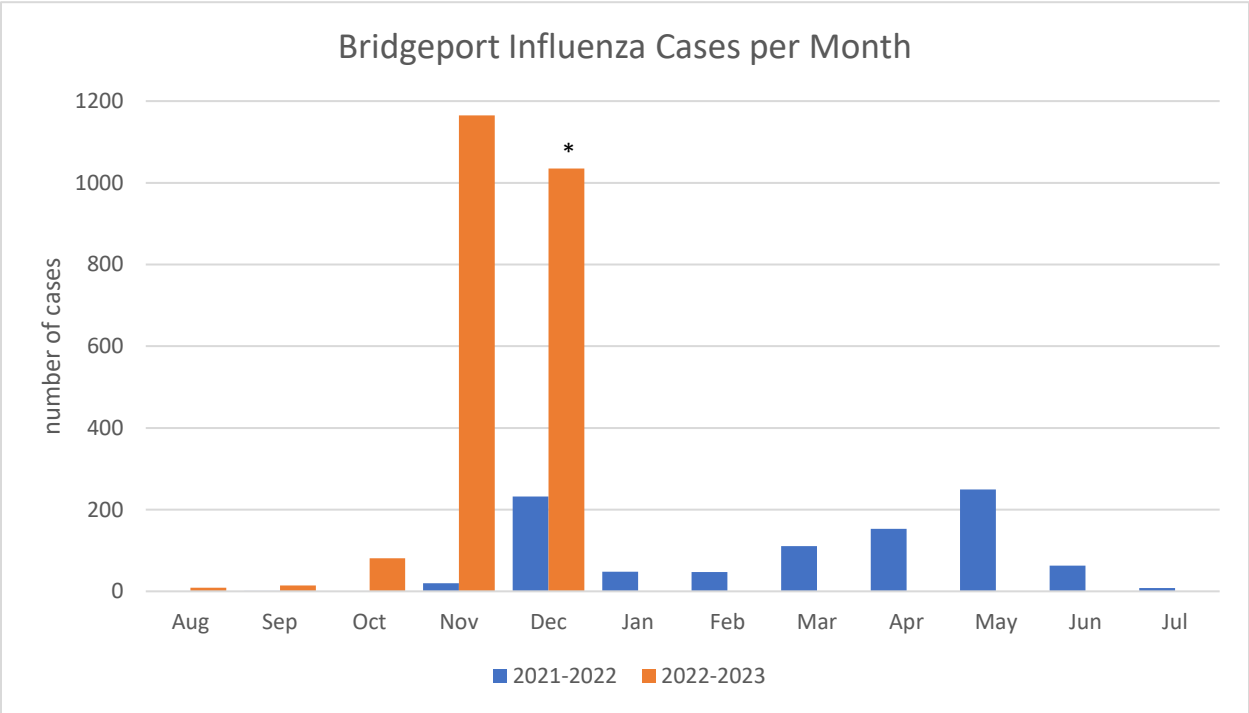


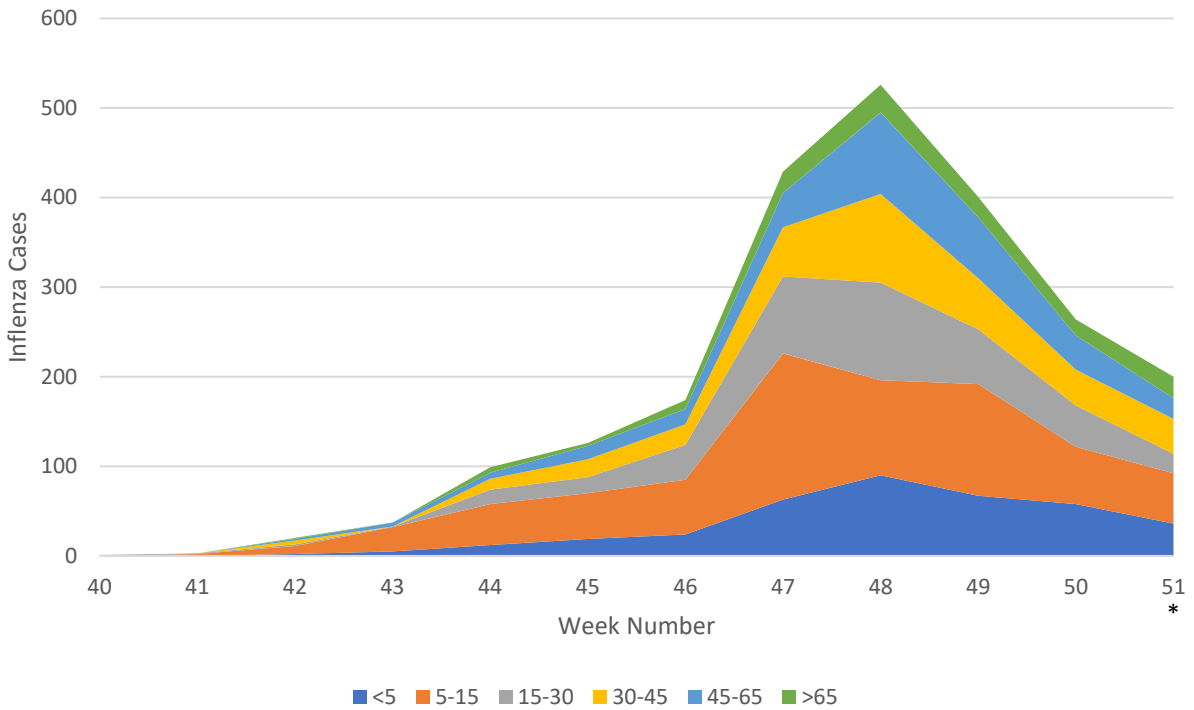
# INFLUENZA EPI REPORT: 2022-2023 SEASON

WEEK 51 – ENDING DECEMBER 24, 2022

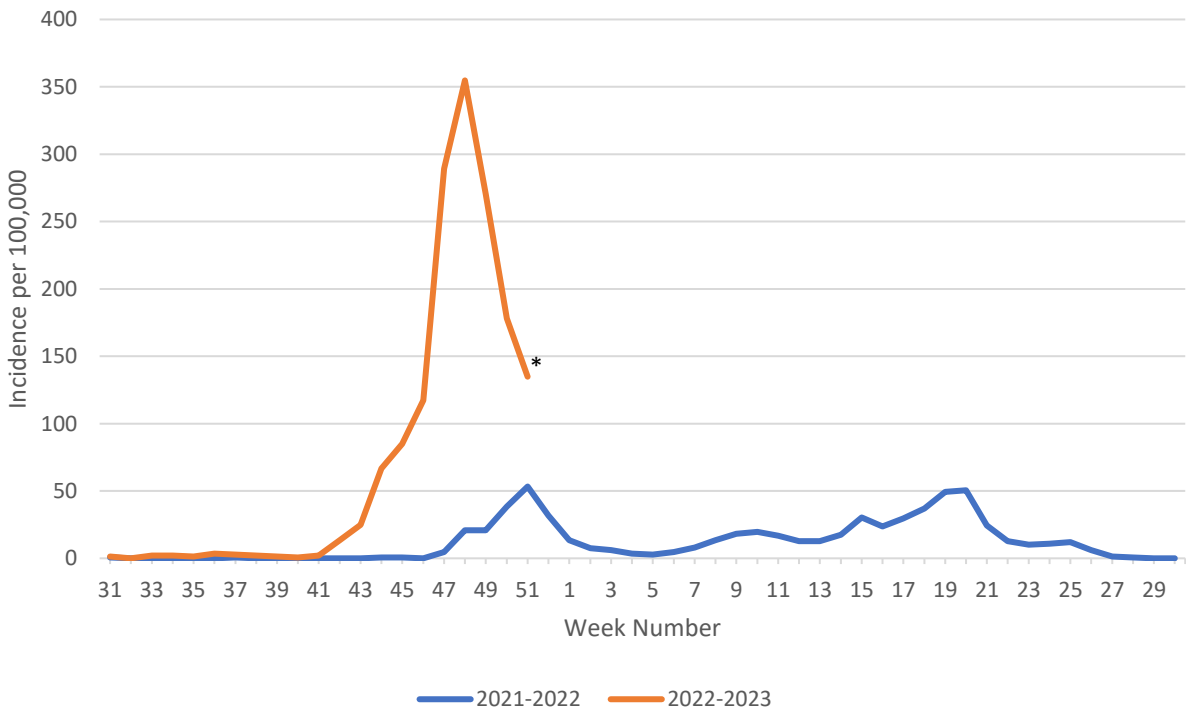
## BRIDGEPORT – CASES REPORTED THROUGH DECEMBER 24, 2022



Weekly Number of New Influenza Cases by Age  
2022-2023 Season



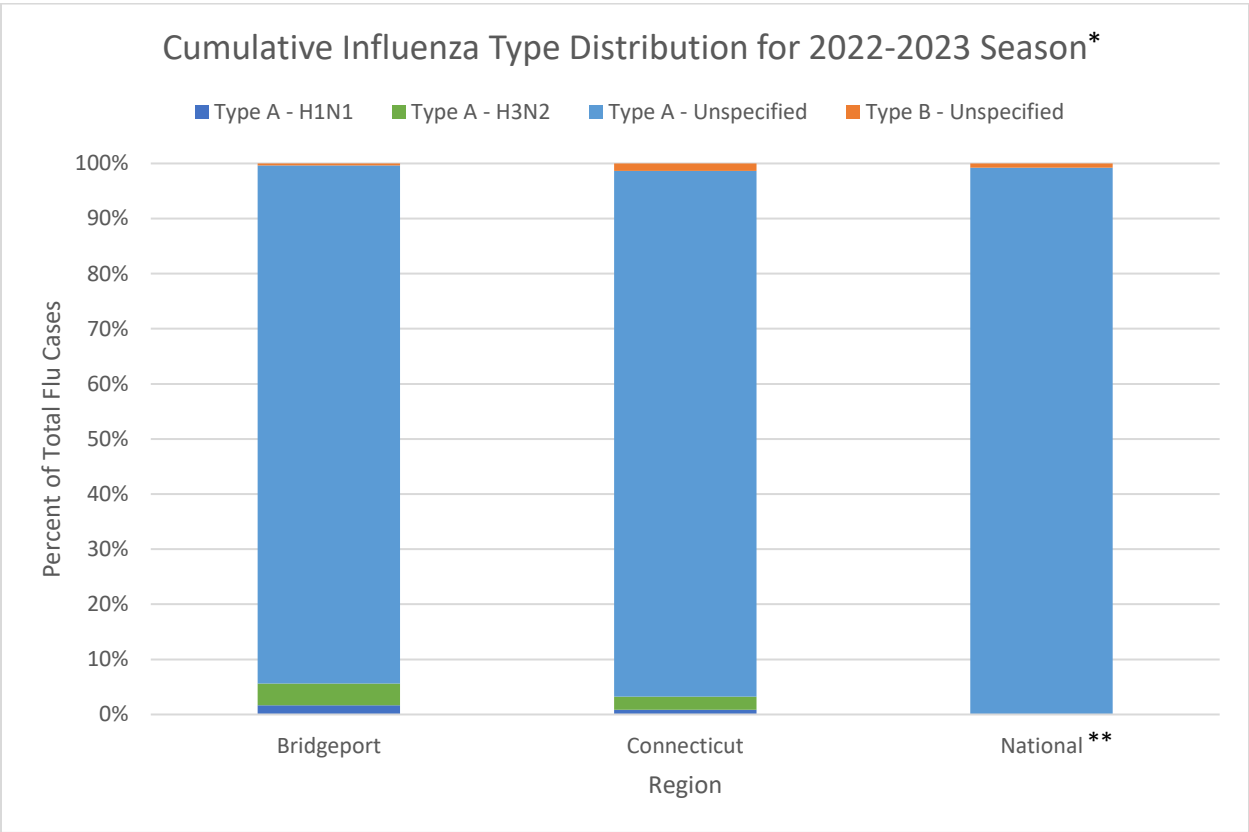
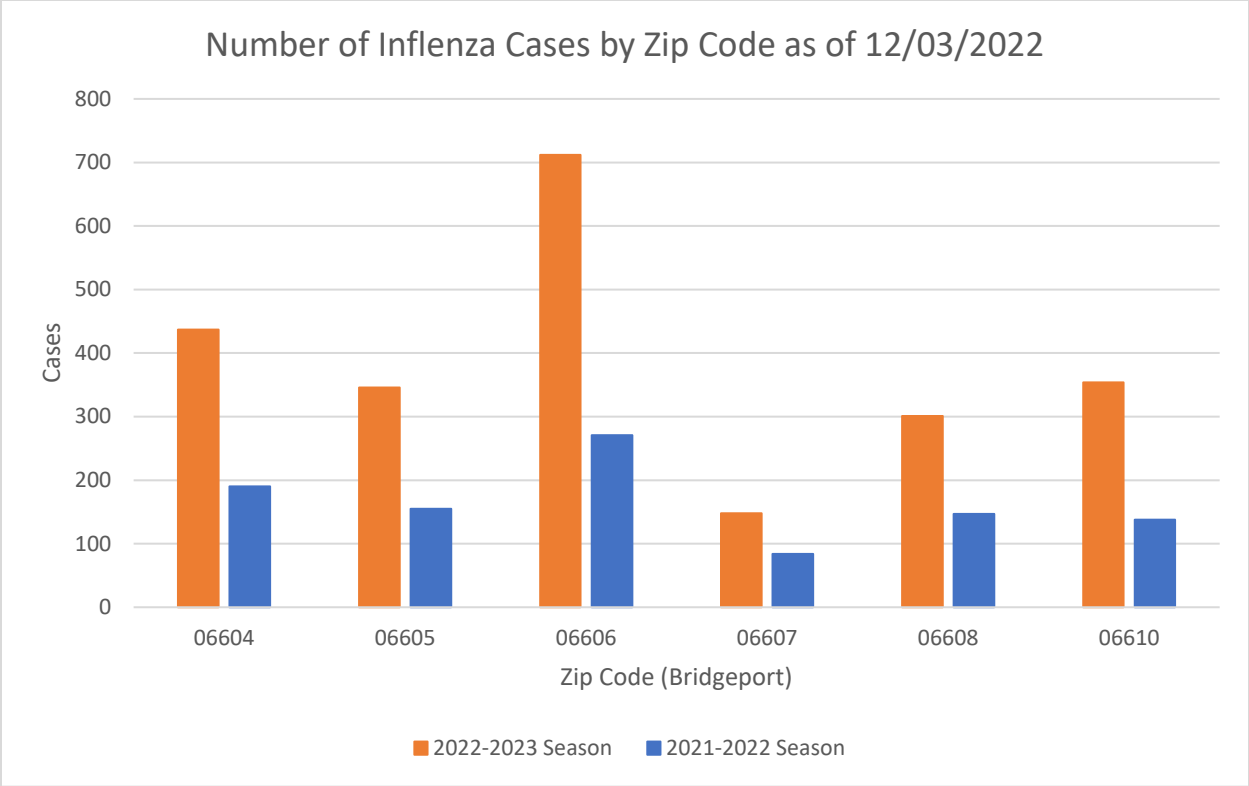
Influenza Weekly Incidence Rate in Bridgeport



## Influenza Monthly Incidence Rate per 100,000 by Zip Code

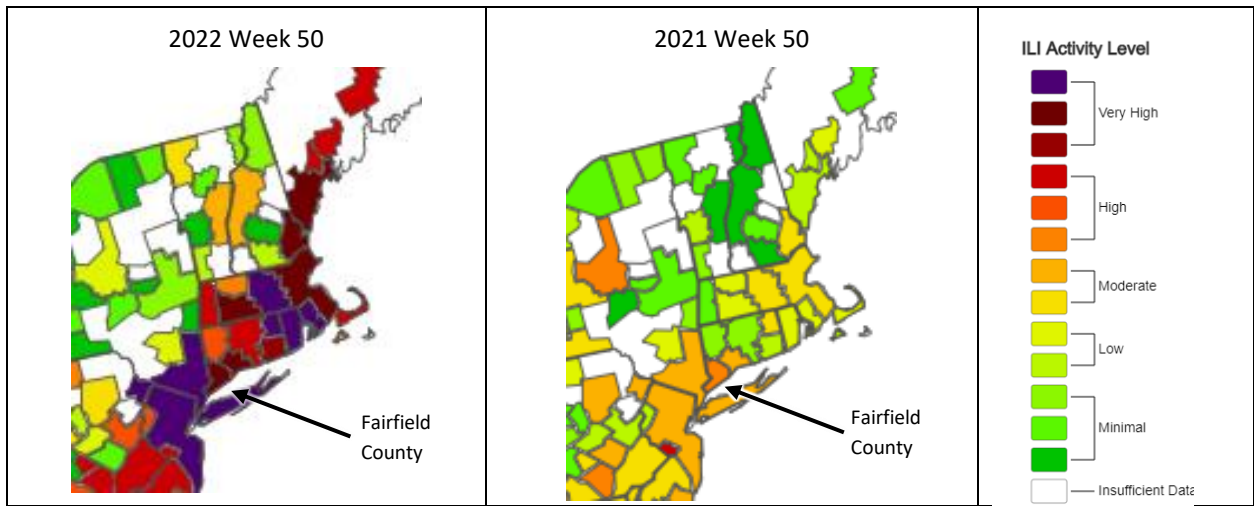
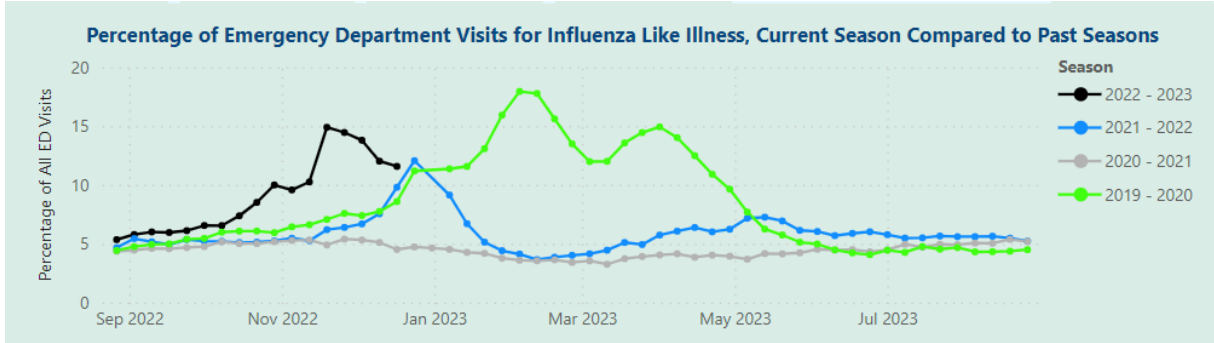
— 2021-2022    — 2022-2023



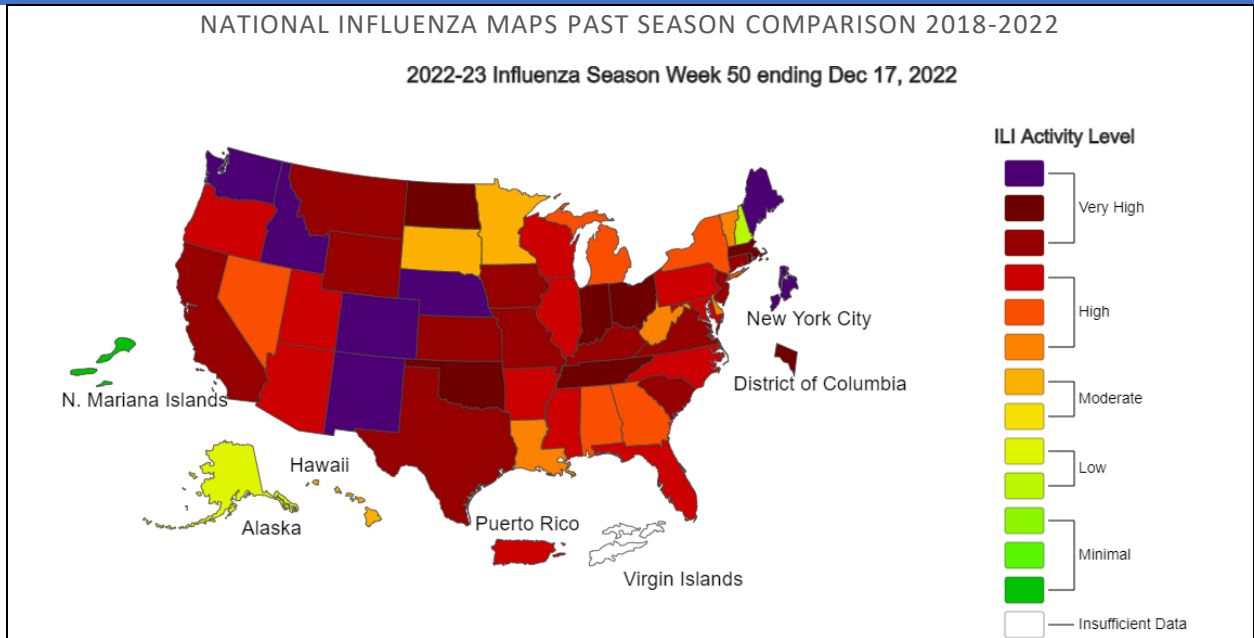


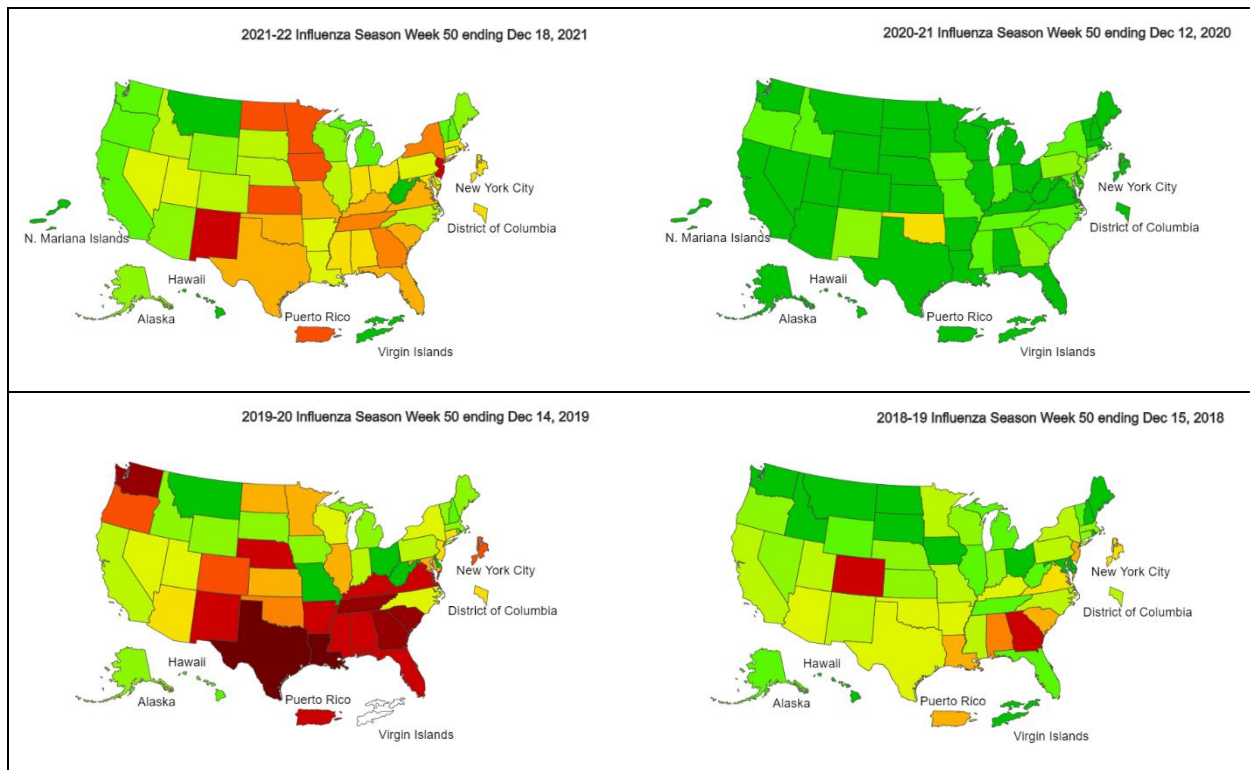
\*\*National data does not include subtyping of influenza viruses

CONNECTICUT – WEEK 50 ENDING DECEMBER 17, 2022



UNITED STATES – WEEK 50 ENDING DECEMBER 17, 2022





## SUMMARY

In Bridgeport, flu cases continue to rise rapidly and are approaching the numbers seen in November. The majority of cases are in 5-15 year olds, similar to the 2021-2022 flu season. The percentage of cases in the <5 and 15-30 year age groups are lower than was seen in the previous flu season while cases in 30-45 and 45-65 year olds are higher than the previous season. While the total number of new cases went down this week as compared to the previous week, the number of new cases in the >65 years age group increased from 18 new cases last week to 24 new cases this week. All other age groups had fewer new cases this week compared to last week. The incidence rate for influenza continues to fall from the high point seen in week 48 (ending December 3, 2022). We can hope that this decrease indicates the end of a spike in flu cases, but it could be a lull in new cases between major holidays. Incidence rates for 06604 and 06607 have surpassed the rate seen in November (778 cases per 100,000 and 782 cases per 100,000 respectively) while the remaining zip codes in Bridgeport have stayed lower than the incidence rate seen in November. To date in December, 06608 has the highest incidence rate at 931 cases per 100,000 and 06605 has the lowest at 599 cases per 100,000. For total number of cases, 06606 has the highest at 712 as of December 17, 2022 and 06607 has the lowest at 148. Influenza type A remains the dominant virus type with H3N2 as the dominant subtype when this testing is performed. Compared to national data, Bridgeport is seeing a lower proportion of influenza type B while the state as a whole is seeing a higher proportion of type B.

The percentage of emergency department visits for influenza like illness has continued to decline since mid-November. ED visits for the past 2 weeks have been below the highest point seen in the 2021-2022 season and have remained below the peak numbers seen in the 2019-2020 season. Fairfield County remains at very high levels of ILI activity along with the surrounding areas of New Haven County and the New York City metro region. At this time last year, Fairfield County was at high levels of ILI activity and the surrounding areas were at or below moderate levels of ILI activity. As of December 22, 2022, there have been 30 influenza associated deaths and 723 hospitalizations in Connecticut for this flu season.

Connecticut maintains very high levels of ILI activity, but it is lower on the scale than previous weeks. 25 states/metropolitan regions are at very high levels of ILI activity and 21 are at high levels of ILI activity. New Hampshire and Alaska are the only states that remain at low levels of ILI activity at this time. The wave of increased ILI activity seen in the Southeastern states is receding while the levels in the West are rising. Compared to the previous 4 years, influenza like illness activity is higher and more widespread nationally. When planning your New Year's Eve gatherings use precautions to prevent the spread of the flu and start 2023 off healthy; New Year, No Flu!

## 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 Flu Tracker](#)
- [CDC FluView – Weekly Influenza Summary](#)