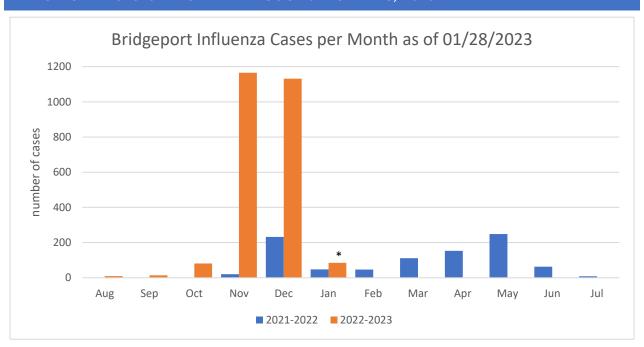
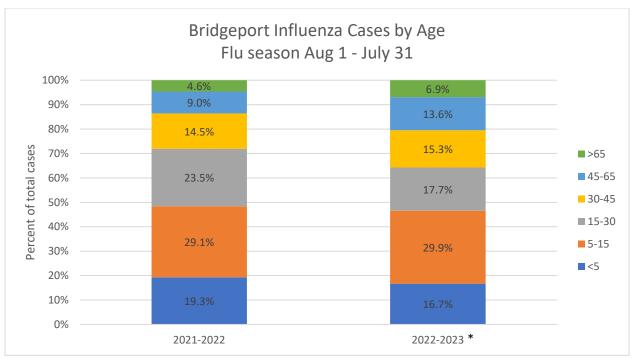
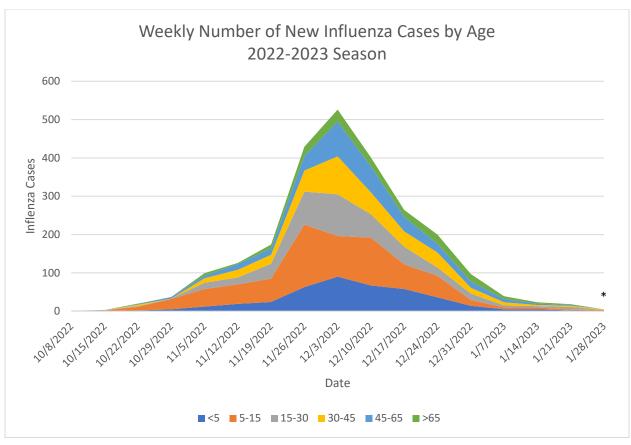
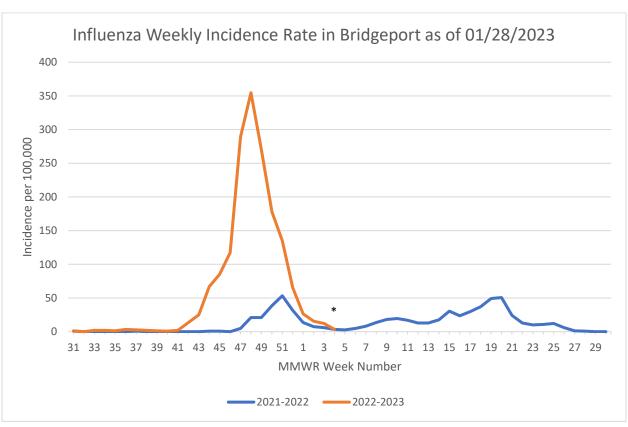


BRIDGEPORT - CASES REPORTED THROUGH JANUARY 28, 2023

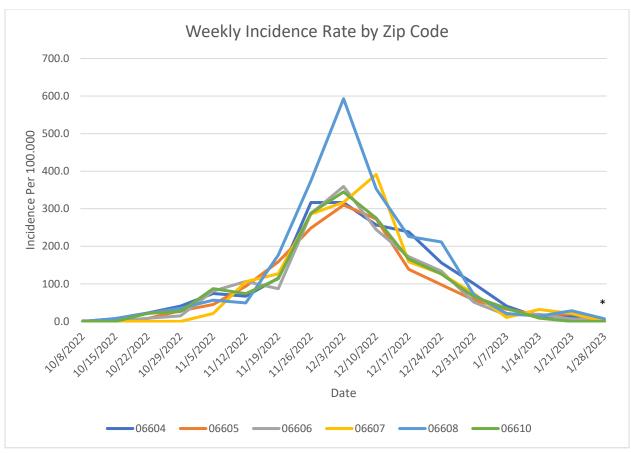


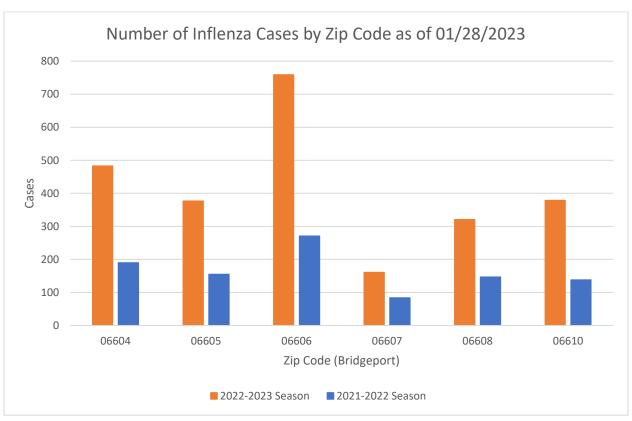


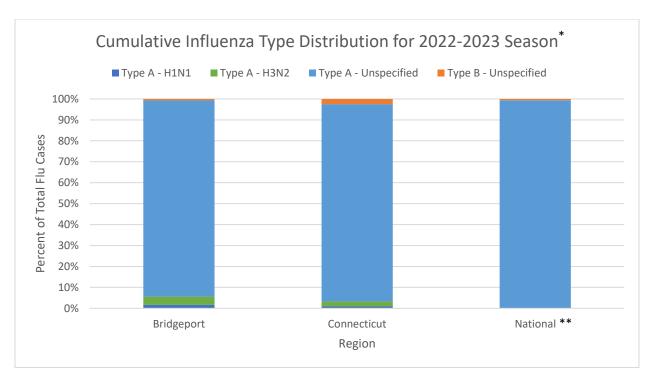






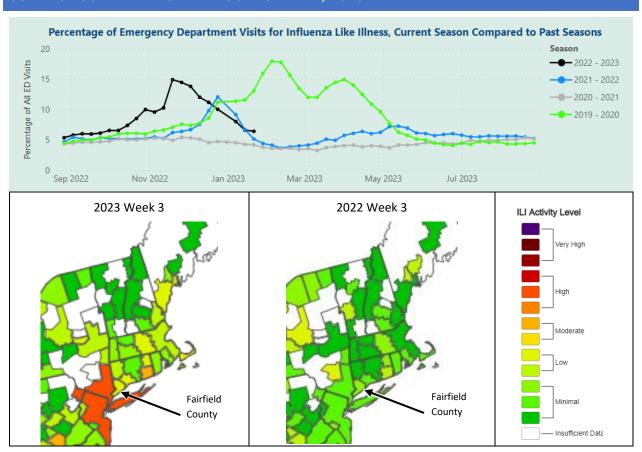


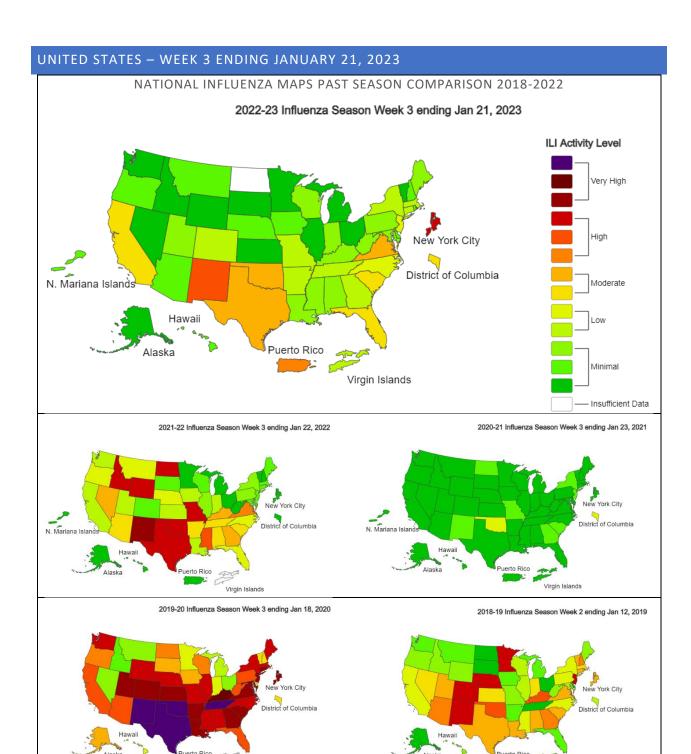




**National data does not include subtyping of influenza viruses

CONNECTICUT - WEEK 3 ENDING JANUARY 21, 2023





SUMMARY

Bridgeport continues to have lower numbers of influenza cases for the month of January than were seen in the previous two months, indicating that the peak seen earlier in the winter has come down. To date, there have been 85 laboratory confirmed case of influenza in Bridgeport in January 2023 while in January of 2022 there were only 48 confirmed cases of influenza. It is worth noting that these numbers only include the cases of influenza in which

Virgin Islands

Virgin Islands

the patient saw a medical provider and they received a test for influenza. As there have only been a handful of new influenza cases this week, the age distribution of the total cases for this influenza season has not changed significantly. The 5-15 year age group continues to have the highest percentage of cases, followed by the 15-30 and <5 age groups. The weekly number of new cases has also continued to decrease for all age groups since the peak during the week ending on 12/03/2022. The weekly incidence rate of influenza cases in Bridgeport has decreased to the level that was seen in the 2021-2022 flu season. These all-around decreases are also present in every zip code in Bridgeport. H3N2 remains the most prevalent subtype of influenza type A when that analysis is performed, and the vast majority of cases are unspecified subtypes of influenza type A. This does not indicate that these are new or unknown subtypes, only that the subtype analysis has not been performed or reported in that instance.

The percentage of emergency department visits for influenza like illness in Connecticut has leveled off since the previous week, but it remains below the level seen during the 2019-2020 flu season. Fairfield County and the nearby counties in Connecticut are at low or minimal levels of influenza like illness activity while the New York City and New Jersey regions remain at high levels of ILI activity.

ILI activity levels continue to decline across the nation. Only 3 states/regions are classified as having high levels of ILI activity this week (New York City, New Mexico, and Puerto Rico). 7 states/regions are at moderate levels of ILI activity and 11 are at low levels of activity. The rest of the U.S. is at minimal levels of ILI activity, a relief to many. The ILI activity level for this week is lower than was seen at this time in 2022, 2020, and 2019.

The CDC estimates that there have been 25-49 million cases of influenza in the U.S. from October 1, 2022 to January 21, 2023. Making the assumption that influenza cases are spread evenly across the U.S. during that time period, that would suggest approximately 11,000-22,000 influenza cases in Bridgeport during that same time period. Of that estimated number of cases, 2,458 have seen a medical professional, been tested for influenza, and have had those laboratory results reported in the CT Electronic Disease Surveillance System. Influenza cases are only required to be reported when associated with a hospitalization or death so there is a high likelihood that there are many more cases of influenza in the community where the patient does not visit a medical professional or the disease is not reported. While the reported influenza cases have greatly decreased, suggesting an overall decrease in influenza in the community, caution should still be exercised with regards to influenza exposure as we are still in the middle of flu season.

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