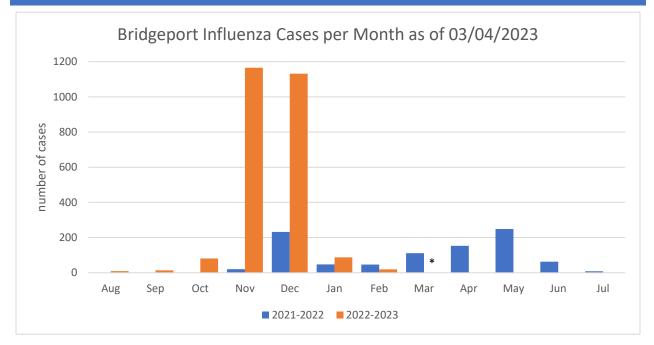
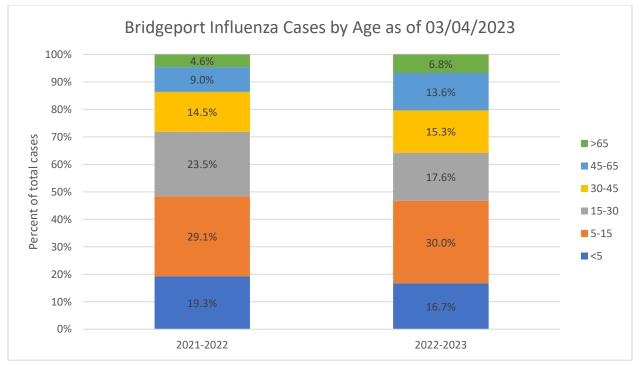


INFLUENZA EPI REPORT: 2022-2023

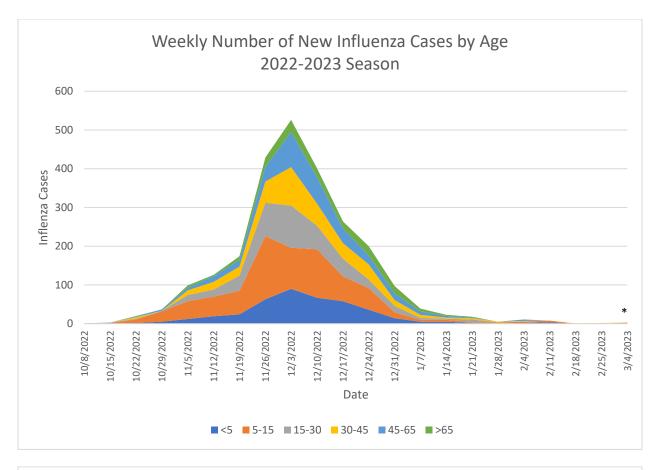
WEEK 9 - MARCH 4, 2023

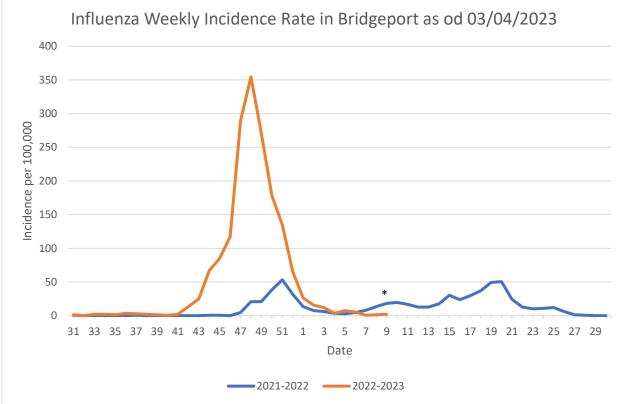
BRIDGEPORT - CASES REPORTED THROUGH MARCH 4, 2023



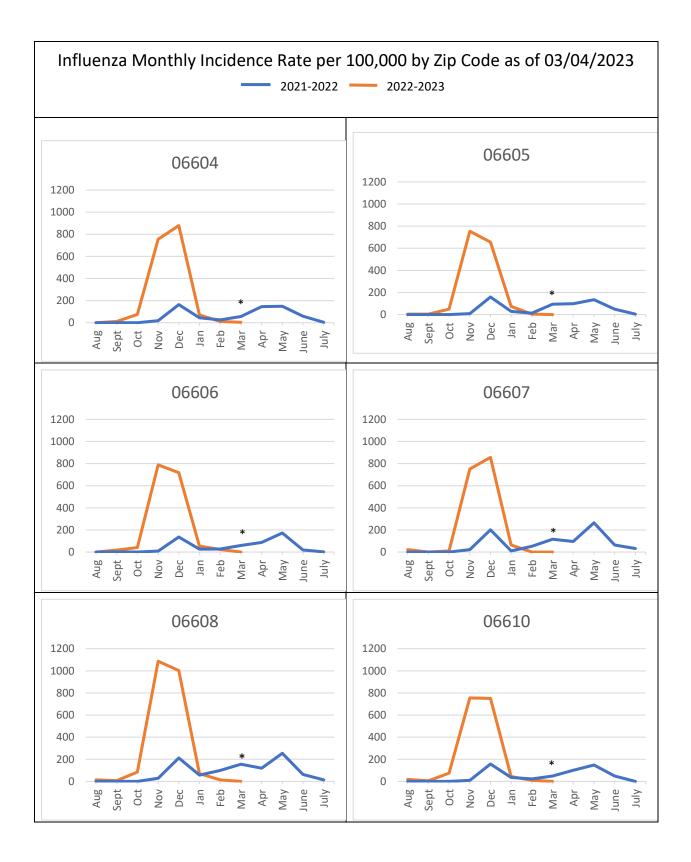


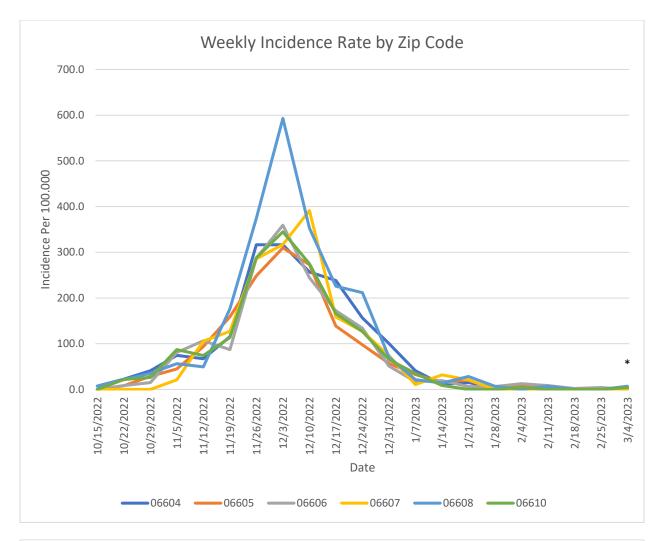
*data are incomplete

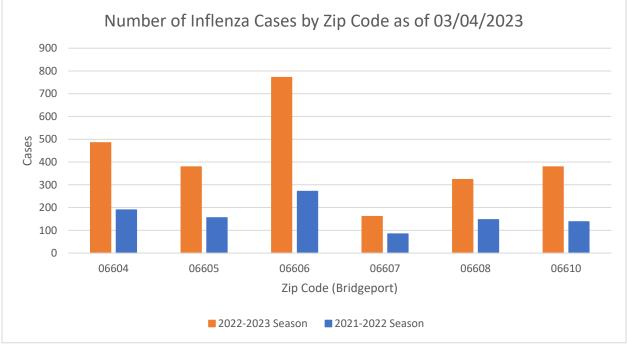




*data are incomplete

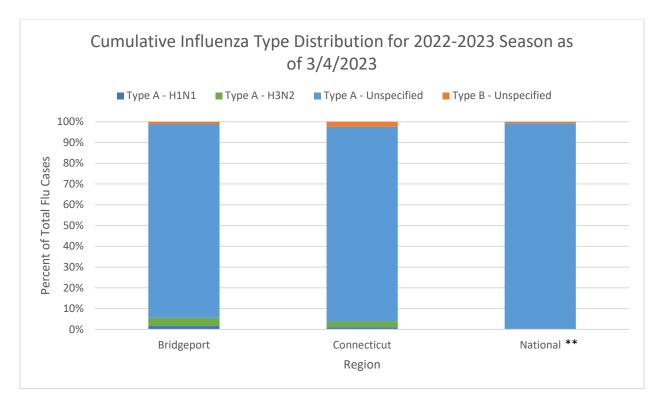






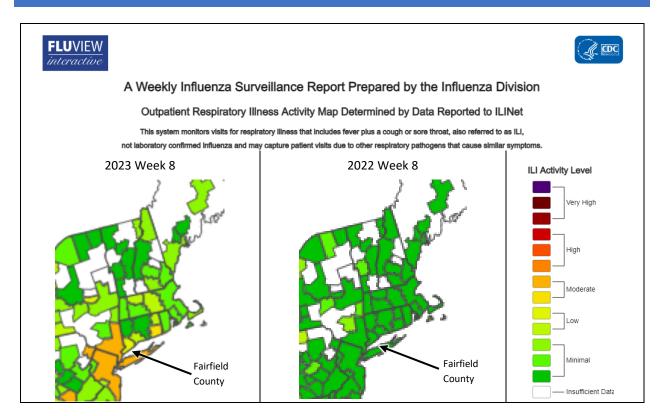
Updated March 10, 2023

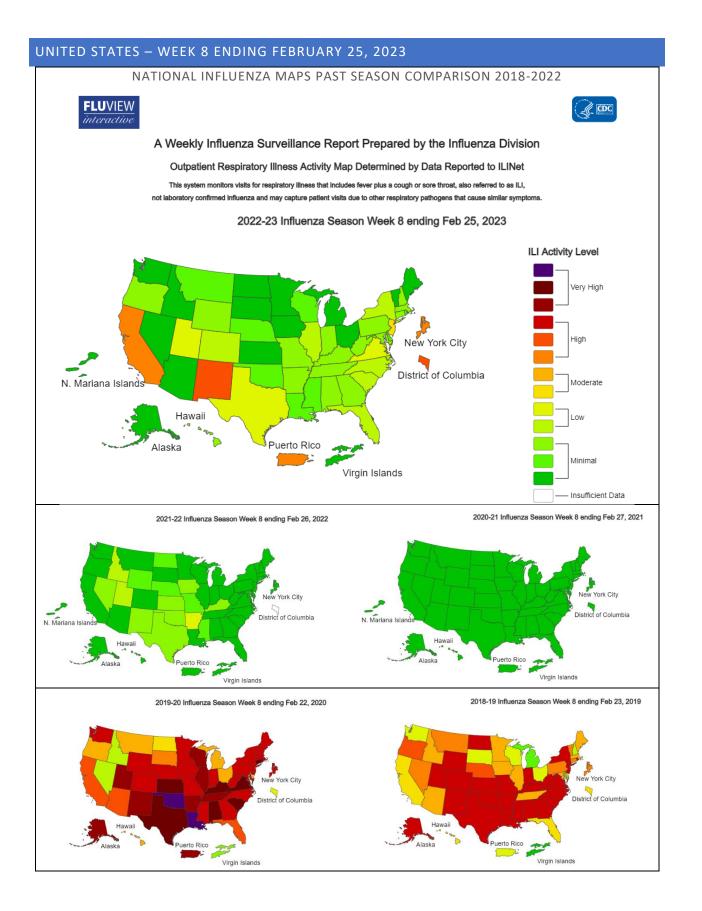
*data are incomplete



**National data does not include subtyping of influenza viruses

CONNECTICUT - WEEK 8 ENDING FEBRUARY 25, 2023





*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

In February there was a total of 19 influenza cases reported for Bridgeport, as of the week ending March 4, 2023. This is much lower than the 47 cases that were reported in February of 2022. Historically, there is a dip in influenza cases during the late winter (around February), which is consistent with the case numbers that we are seeing for February. The spike in influenza cases seen during the late fall was earlier and higher than was seen in the previous year. It remains to be seen if there will be the expected increase in cases during April-May or if those months will pass without incident. The percent of total cases by age remains steady with the highest percentage of cases in 5-15 year olds. The weekly number of cases by age group also continues to be minimal, with a total of 3 new influenza cases reported this past week. The weekly incidence rate for week 9 was 2.0 per 100,000, which is lower than the incidence rate seen for week 9 in 2022 (18.2 per 100,000). For all zip codes, February monthly incidence rates were at or below the numbers seen for the previous year. By week, all zip codes incidence rates have remained approximately steady since the beginning of February. There have been no significant changes in the distribution of influenza viral types for the past 8 weeks and influenza virus type A remains the most common.

Fairfield County and New Haven County are at low levels of influenza like illness (ILI) activity while New York City and New London regions remain at moderate levels of activity. Activity levels across the New England region continues to decrease and most counties are at low or minimal levels of ILI activity.

Nationally, there are 5 states/regions at high levels of ILI activity (District of Columbia, New Mexico, California, New York City, and Puerto Rico). All New England states are at minimal levels of activity (Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine) while New York is at low levels of ILI activity. Only New Jersey is at moderate levels of ILI activity this week and the remainder of the nation is at low or minimal levels. As with the previous week, the overall levels of ILI activity for the U.S. are higher than were seen in 2022 and 2021 (the pandemic shut down year), but lower than 2020 (the start of the pandemic) and 2019.

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

Updated March 10, 2023

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
- <u>CT DPH Flu Tracker</u>
- <u>CDC FluView Weekly Influenza Summary</u>