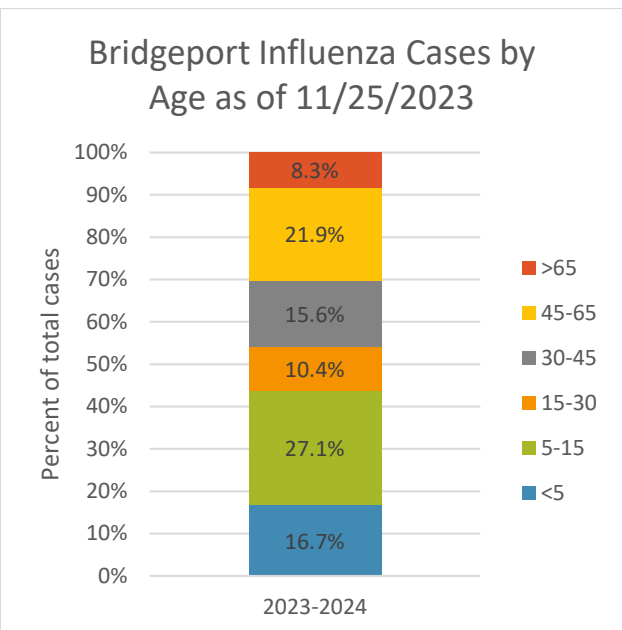
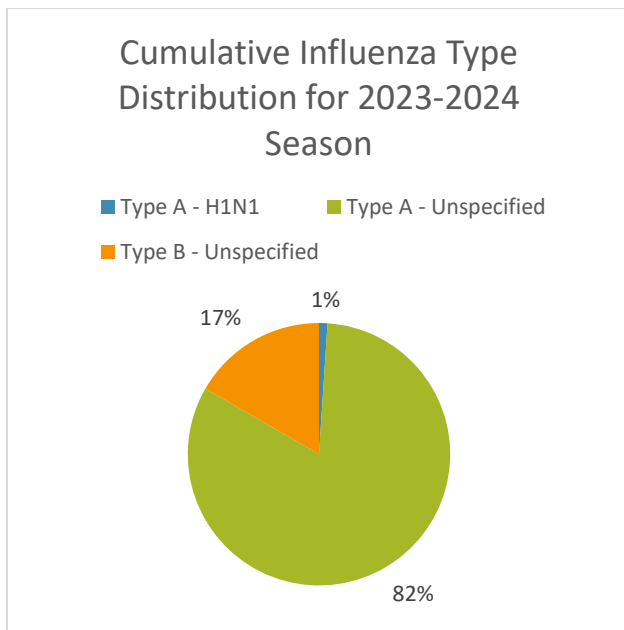
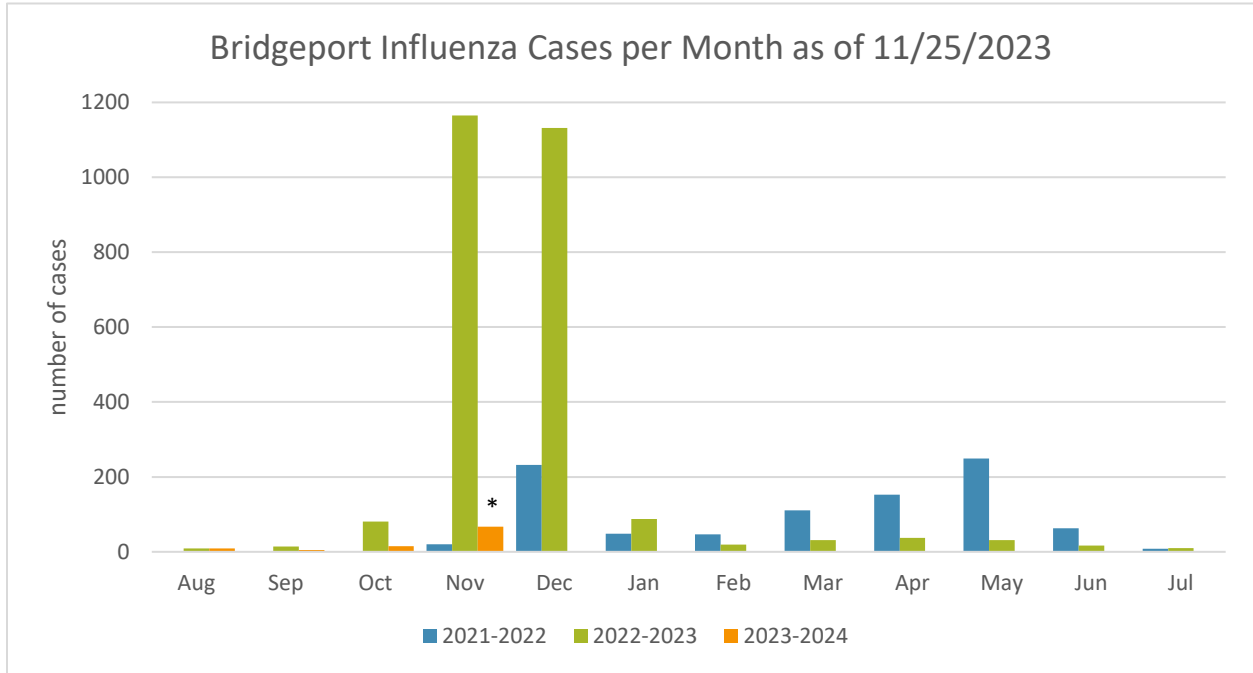


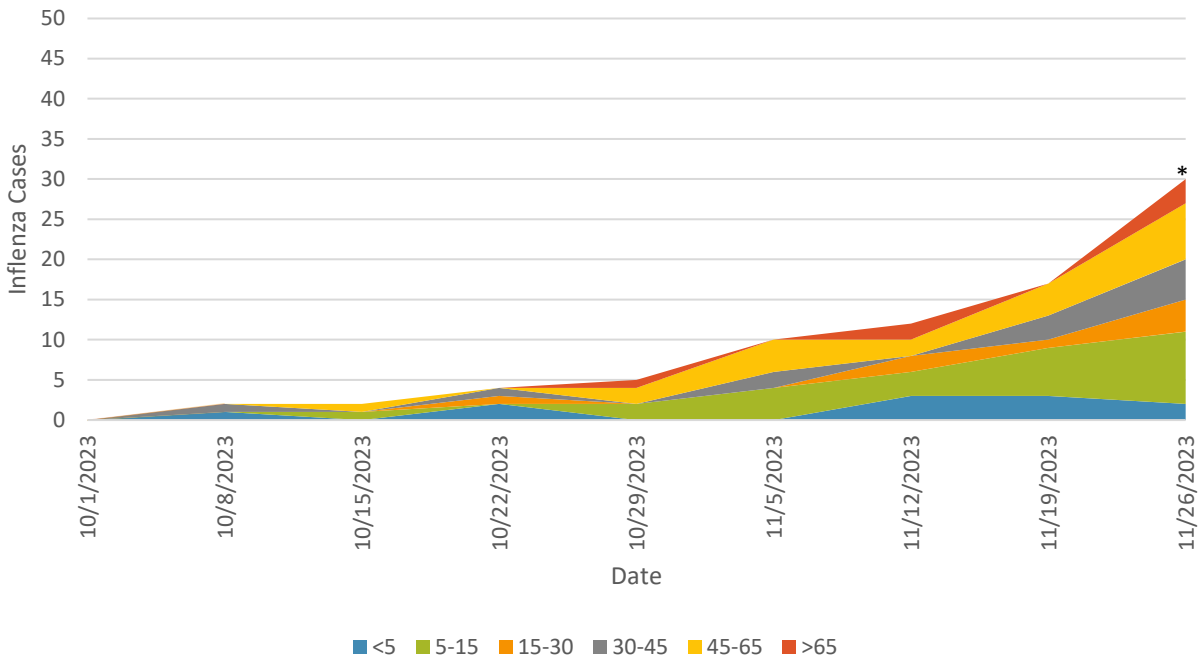
INFLUENZA EPI REPORT: 2022-2023

WEEK 47 – NOVEMBER 25, 2023

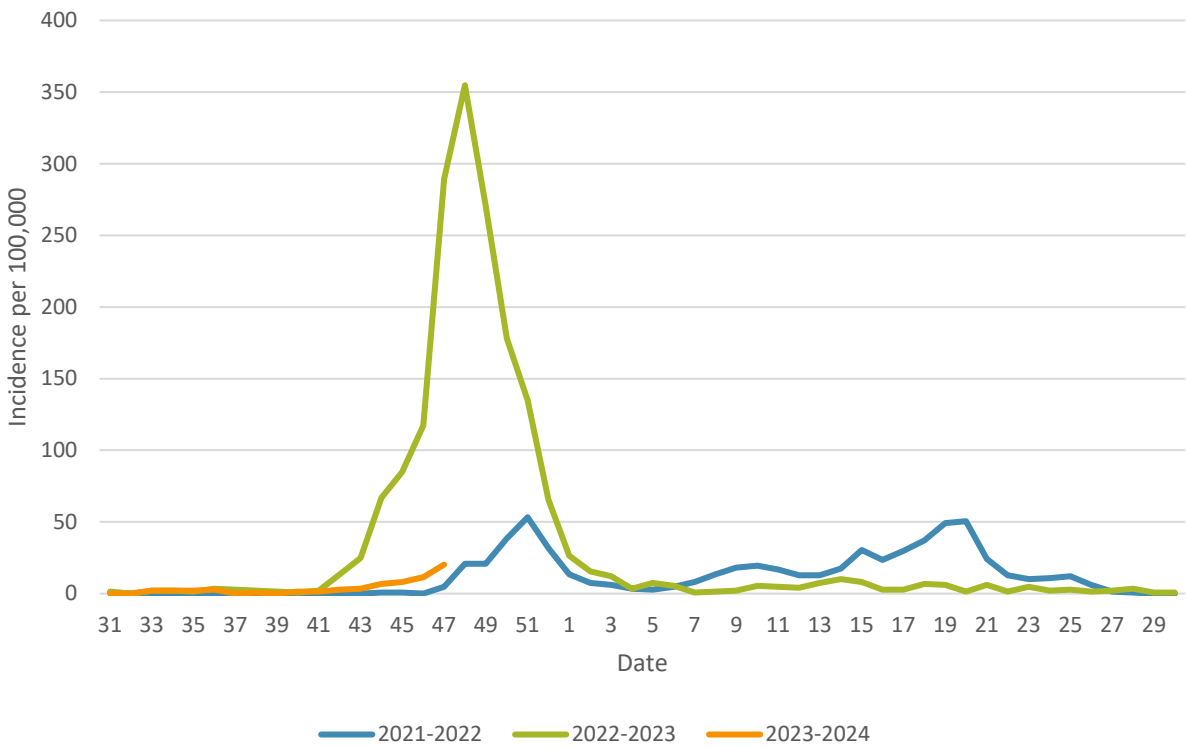
BRIDGEPORT – CASES REPORTED THROUGH NOVEMBER 25, 2023



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

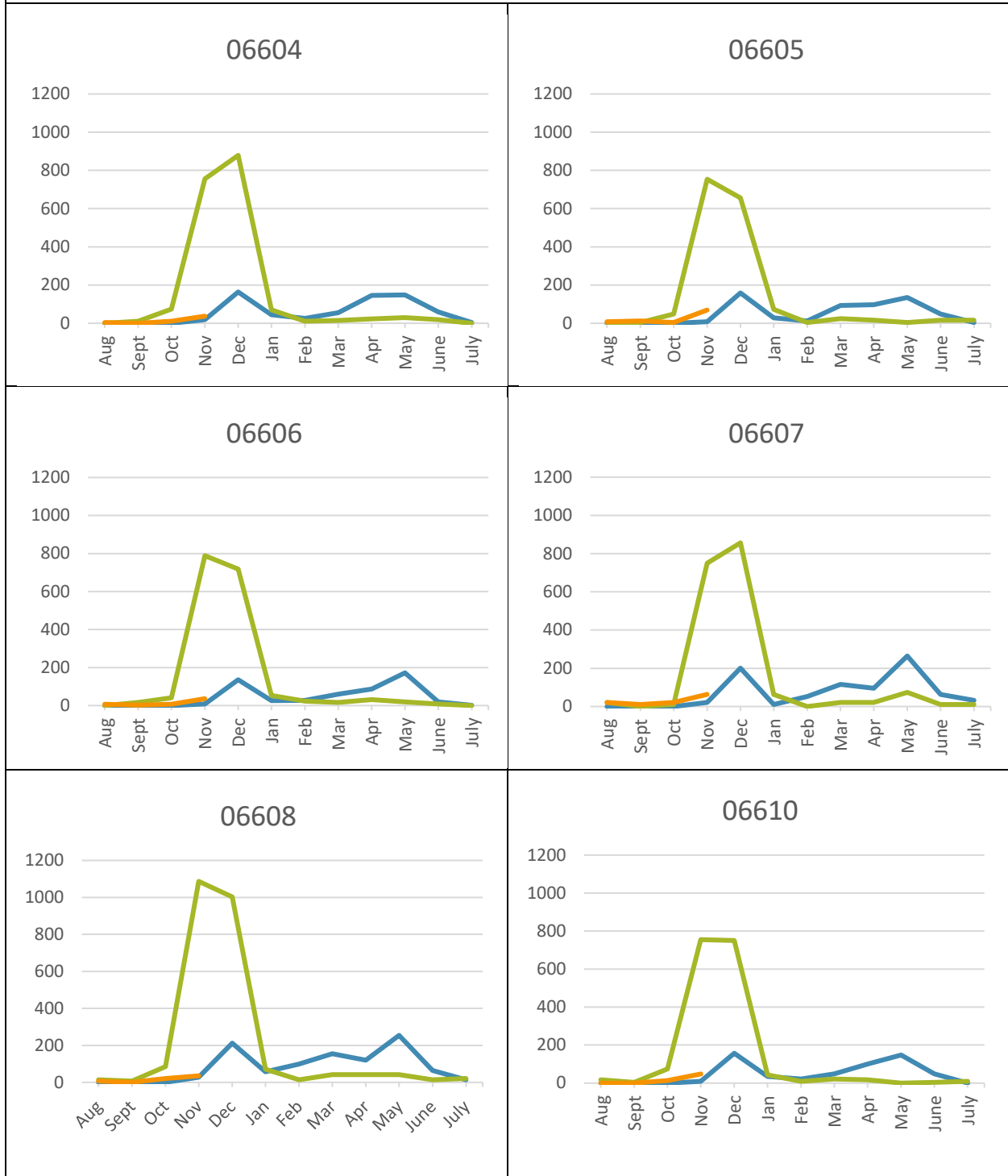


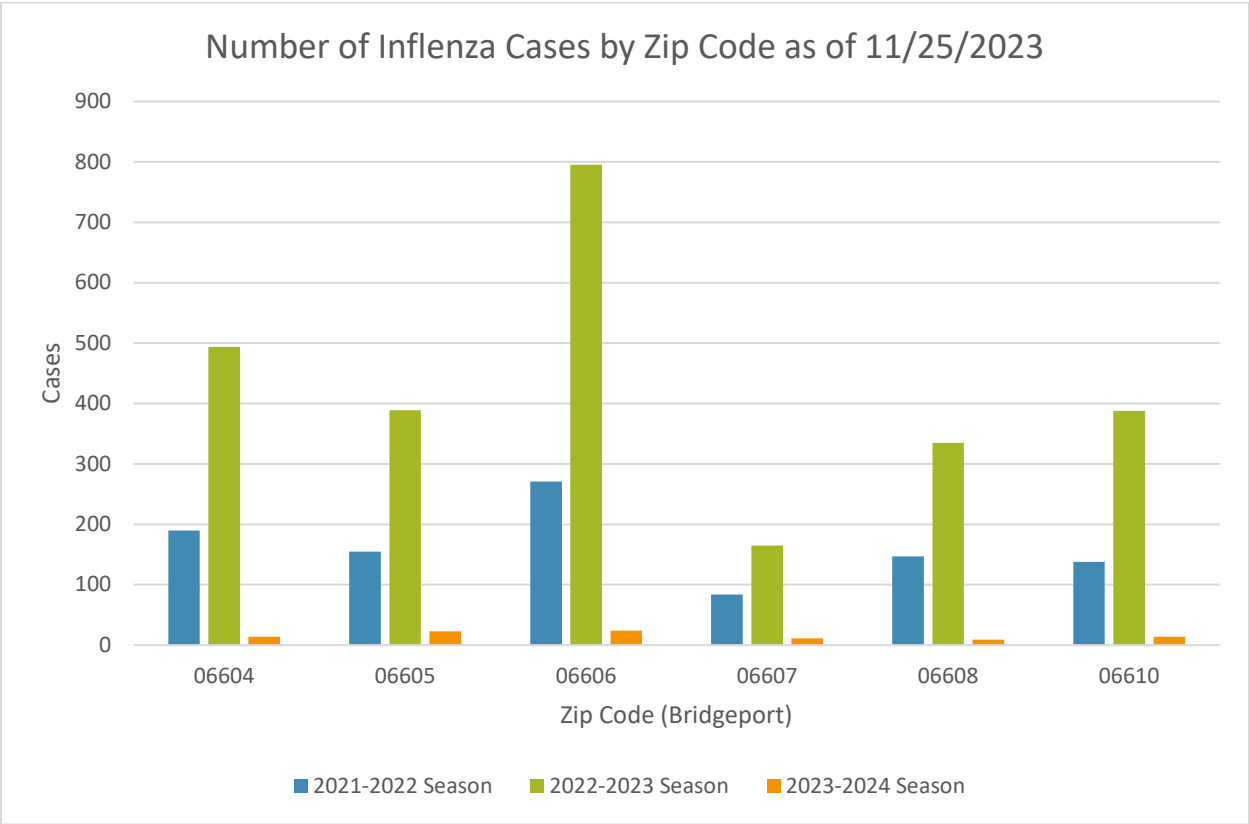
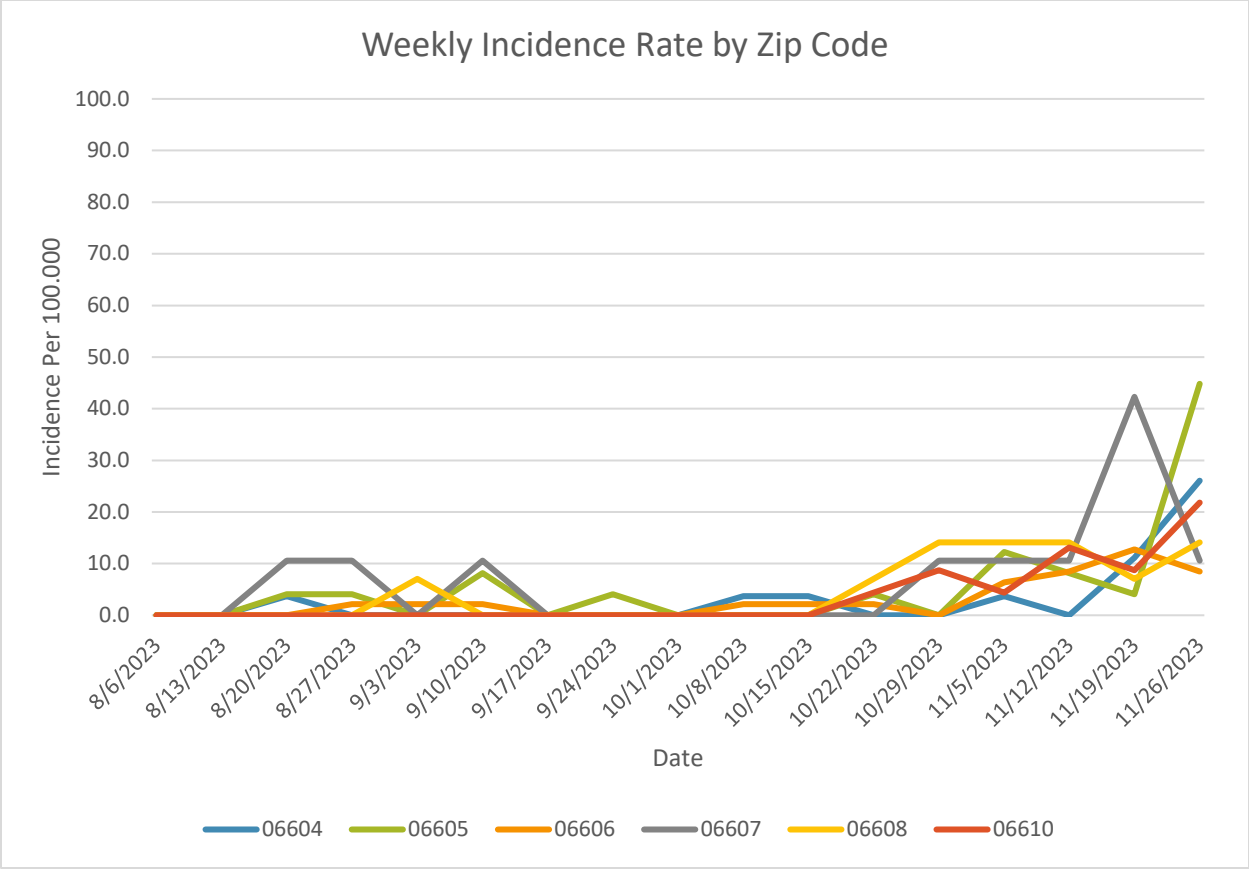
Influenza Weekly Incidence Rate in Bridgeport as of 11/25/2023

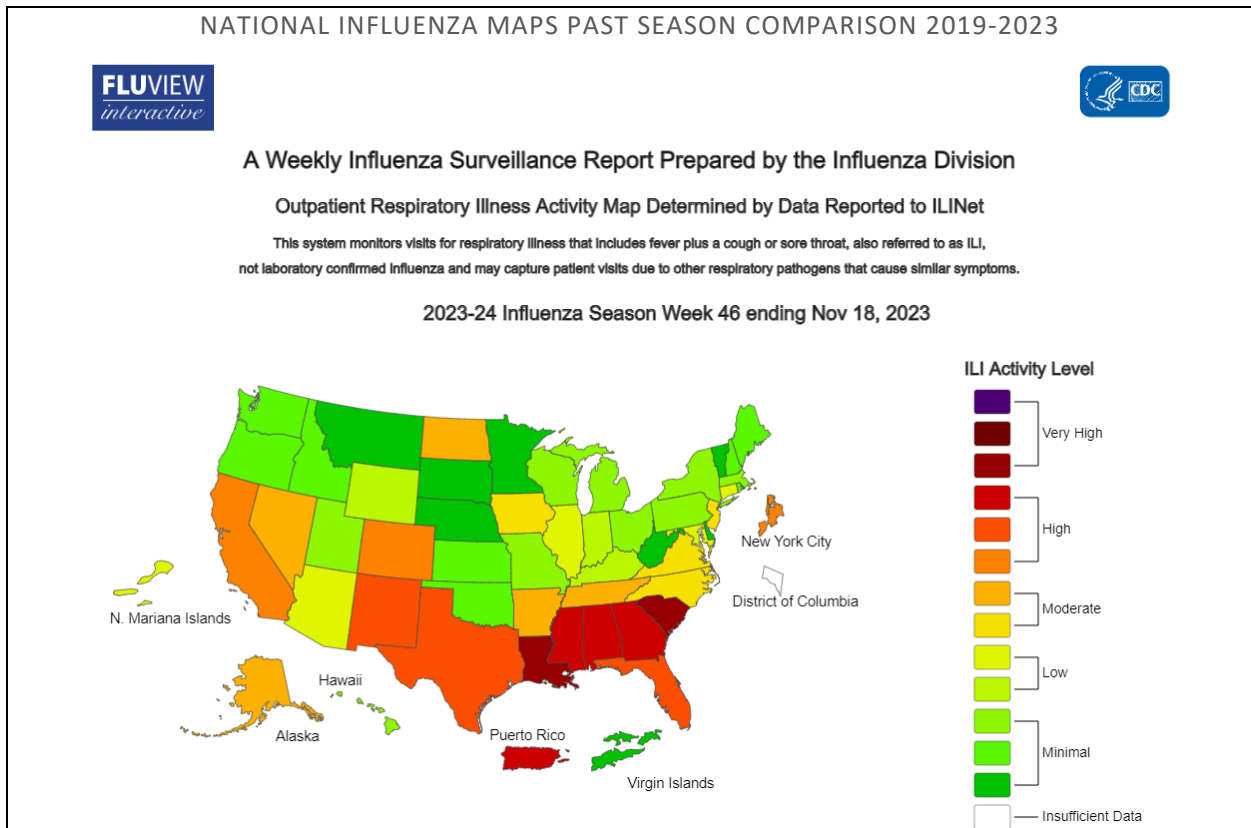
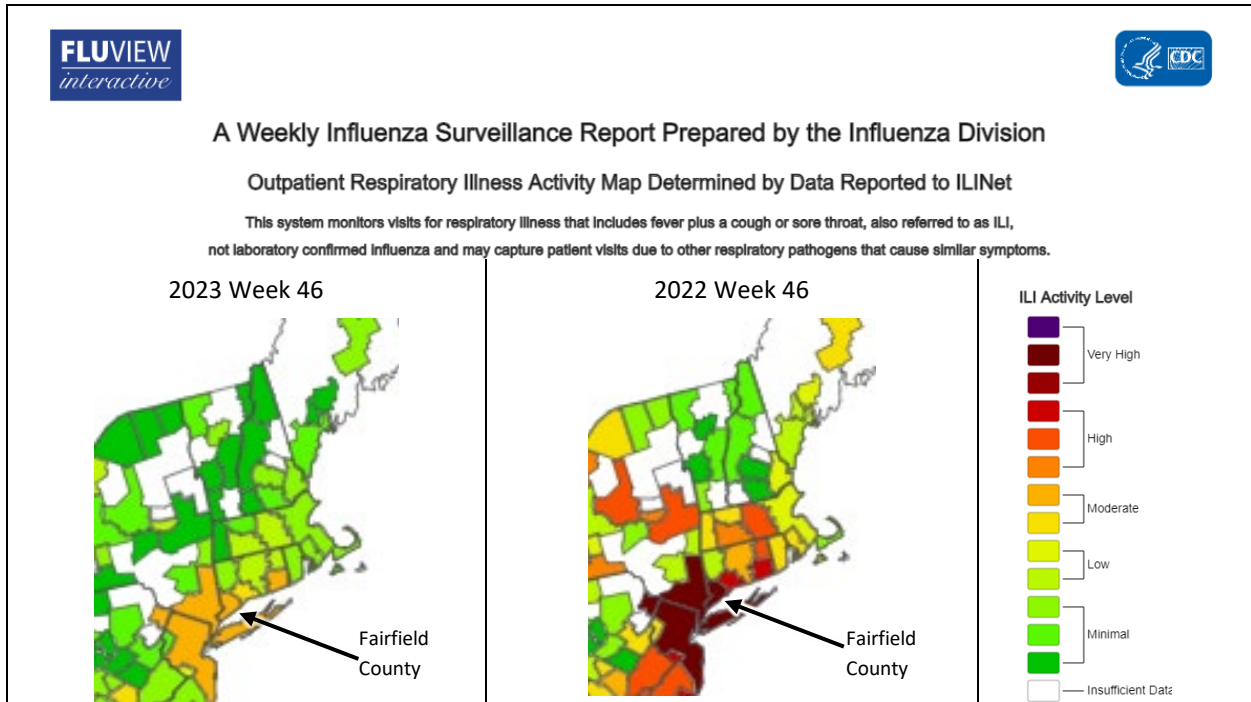


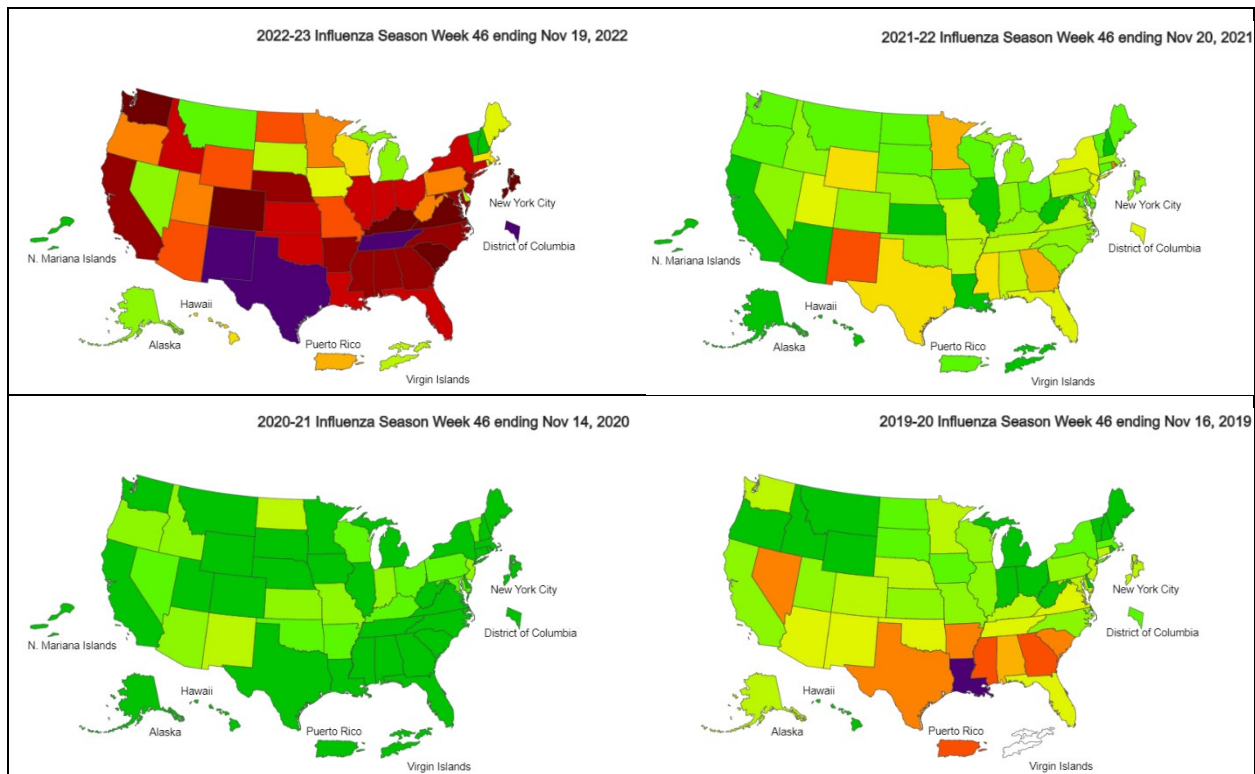
Influenza Monthly Incidence Rate per 100,000 by Zip Code as of 11/25/2023

— 2021-2022 — 2022-2023 — 2023-2024









*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 Bridgeport, there were 30 new laboratory confirmed influenza cases for the week ending November 25th. This number only includes the cases in which a patient was given a flu test at a healthcare provider and does not include influenza infections where no test was administered or where no healthcare provider was contacted. For this reason, and as many cases of the flu can be mild resulting in individuals staying home and not visiting a healthcare provider, it is safe to assume that this number is an underestimation of the actual number of individuals infected with influenza at this time. Children under 15 years of age still bear the brunt of the flu season this year, as is typical of early flu season infections. The weekly incidence rate has increased to 20 per 100,000 population, up from 11 per 100,000 last week. While this is trending higher than the incidence rates seen in 2021-2022, we are well below the high incidence rates seen in the explosive flu season of 2022-2023. All zip codes have seen a small uptick in monthly incidence rates and weekly incidence rates are trending upwards as well. Over the next week it is expected that cases will continue to increase in the wake of large gatherings for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Fairfield County has increased to moderate levels of ILI activity, as has the New York Metropolitan region. The nearby regions range from moderate to minimal levels of ILI activity, but NYC and Fairfield County are often hot spots of flu activity for the region due to the population density of NYC and Fairfield County's proximity to it.

Nationally, ILI activity continues to increase in the Southeastern US and is beginning to increase in the surrounding states. 2 states are now at very high levels of ILI activity (Louisiana and South Carolina) and 10 states are at high levels of ILI activity. Connecticut as a whole is at low levels of ILI activity and New York is at minimal, despite the increased activity in some counties. Compared to previous years, we are witnessing a milder start to the flu season than last year, but a stronger start than seen in 2019-2020. It is not possible to accurately compare this flu season to the 2021-2022 or 2020-2021 seasons due to the effects that the COVID-19 pandemic had on the population. It is clear from the national maps that the restrictions and requirements put into place during the COVID-19 pandemic had a positive effect in reducing the spread of influenza across the nation. It is important to keep these past precautions in mind when traveling during the holiday season; masking when in crowded spaces (such as airplanes), washing your hands frequently, and staying home when sick.

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](#)