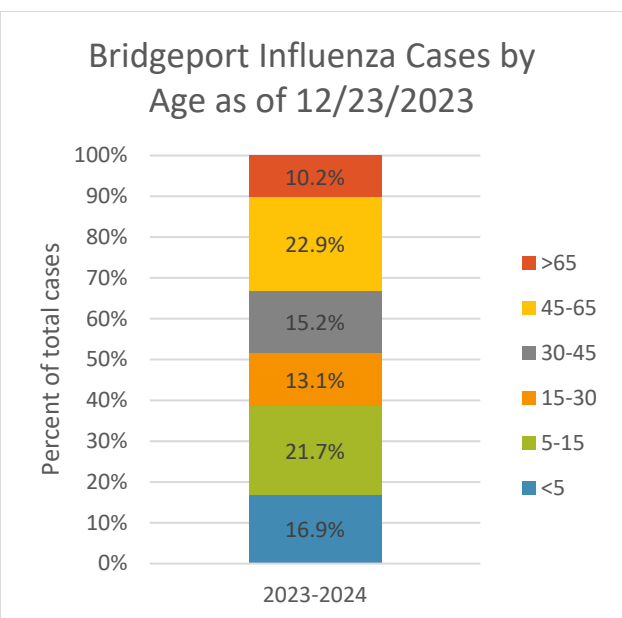
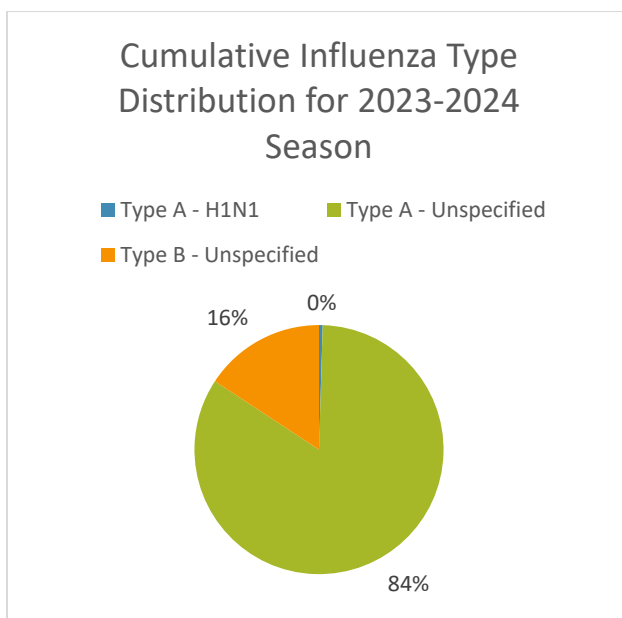
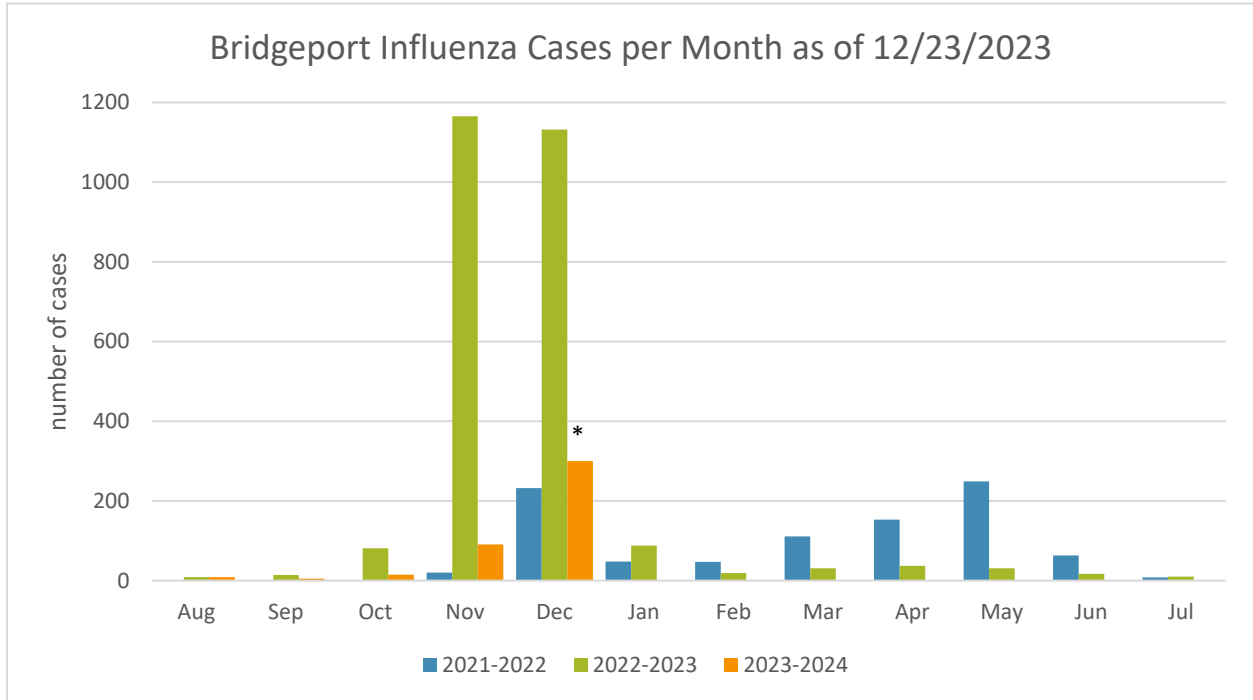


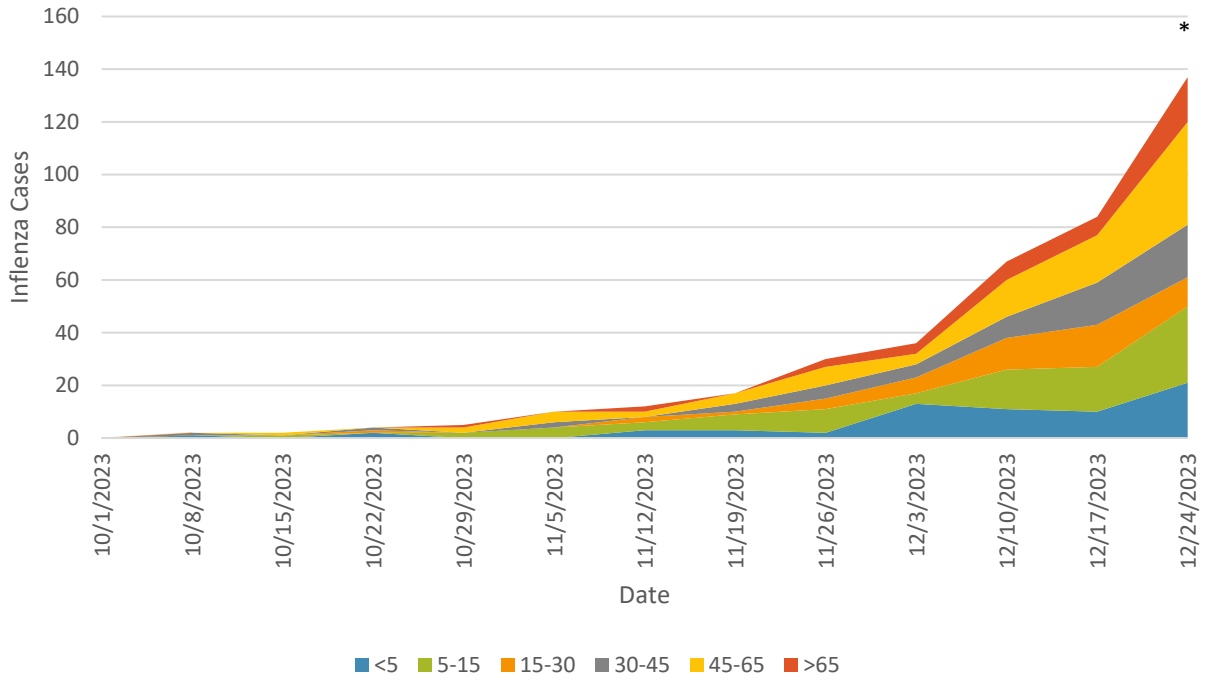
INFLUENZA EPI REPORT: 2023-2024

WEEK 51 – DECEMBER 23, 2023

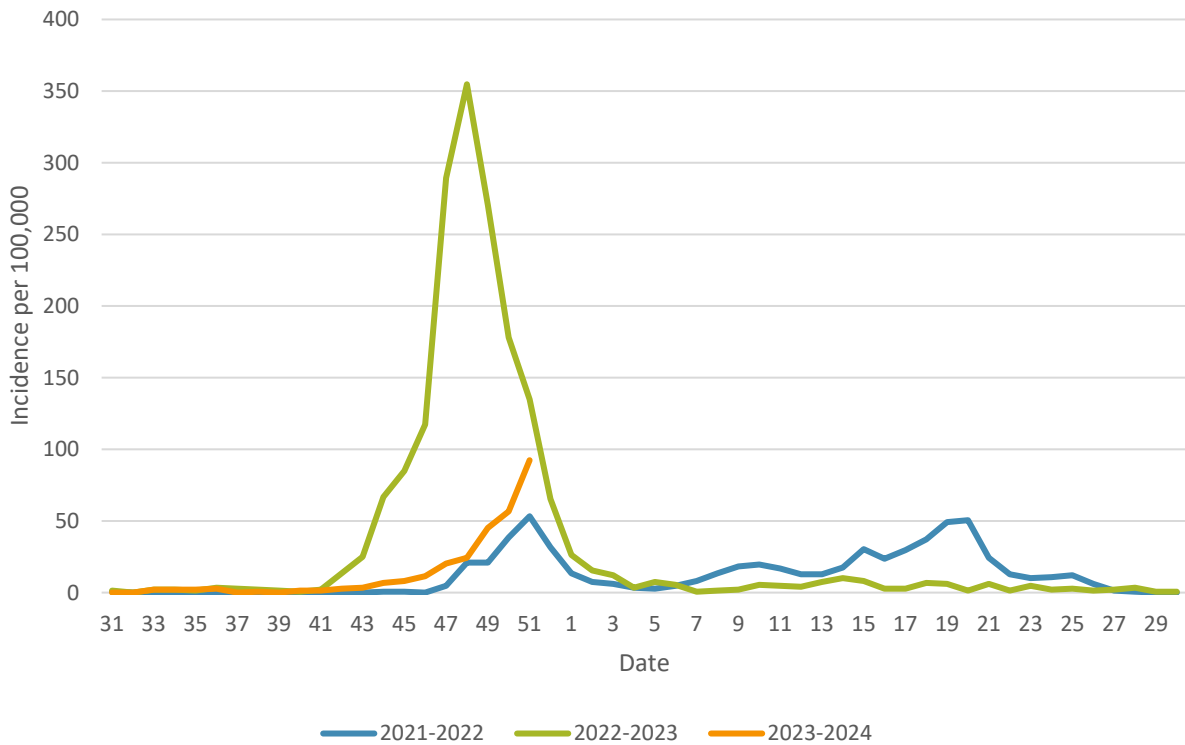
BRIDGEPORT – CASES REPORTED THROUGH DECEMBER 23, 2023

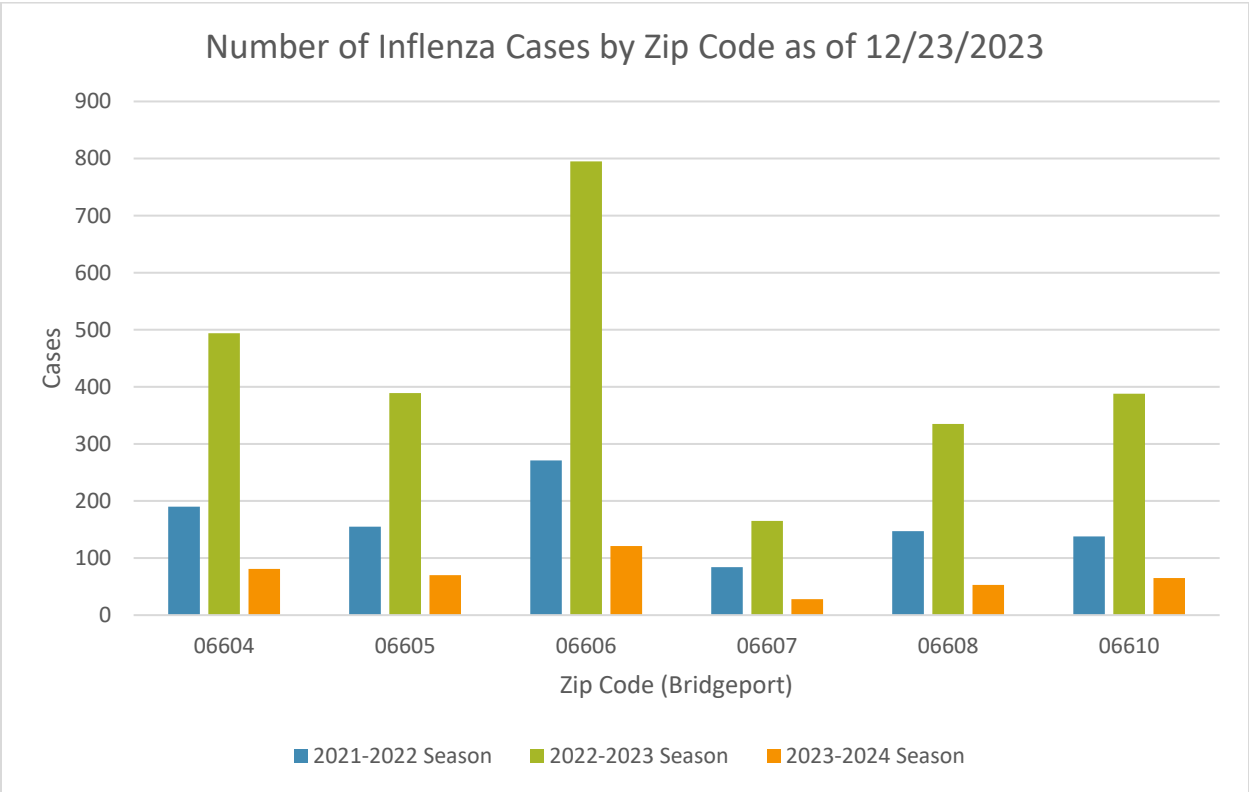
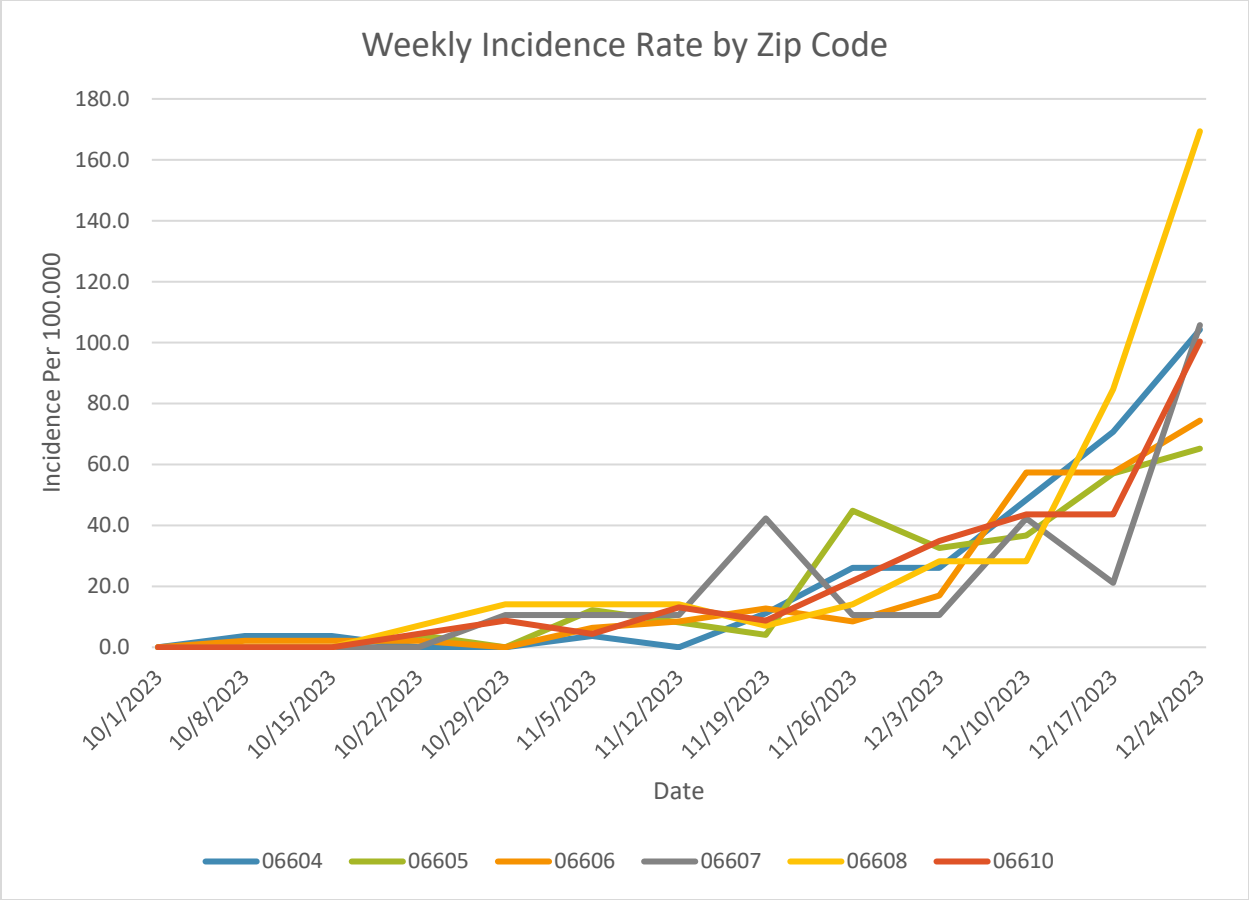


Weekly Number of New Influenza Cases by Age
2022-2023 Season



Influenza Weekly Incidence Rate in Bridgeport as of 12/23/2023



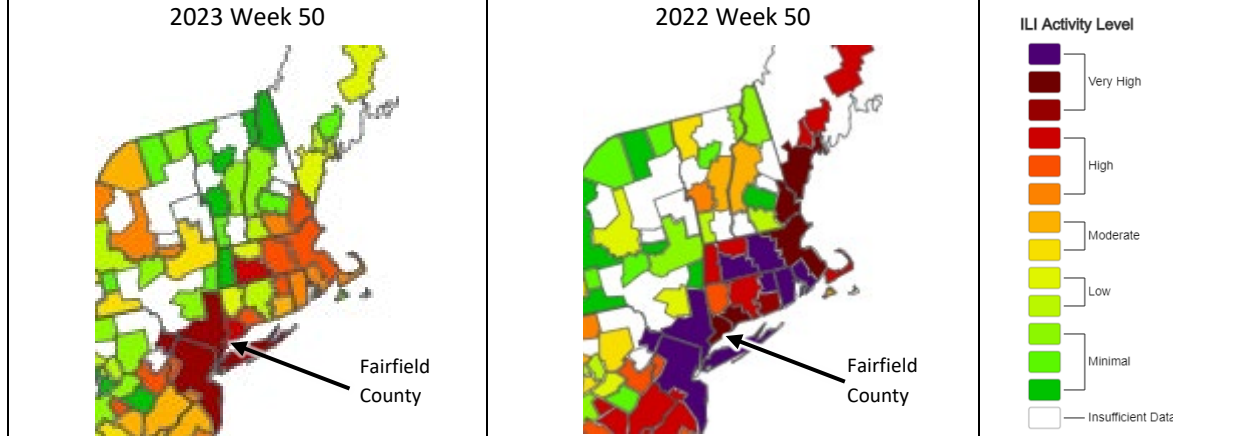




A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division

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.



	Week ending 12/16/2023	Total this season
<i>CT Influenza Cases</i>	1,417	5,120
<i>CT Influenza Hospitalizations</i>	52	283
<i>CT Influenza Deaths</i>	1	12

NATIONAL INFLUENZA MAPS PAST SEASON COMPARISON 2019-2023

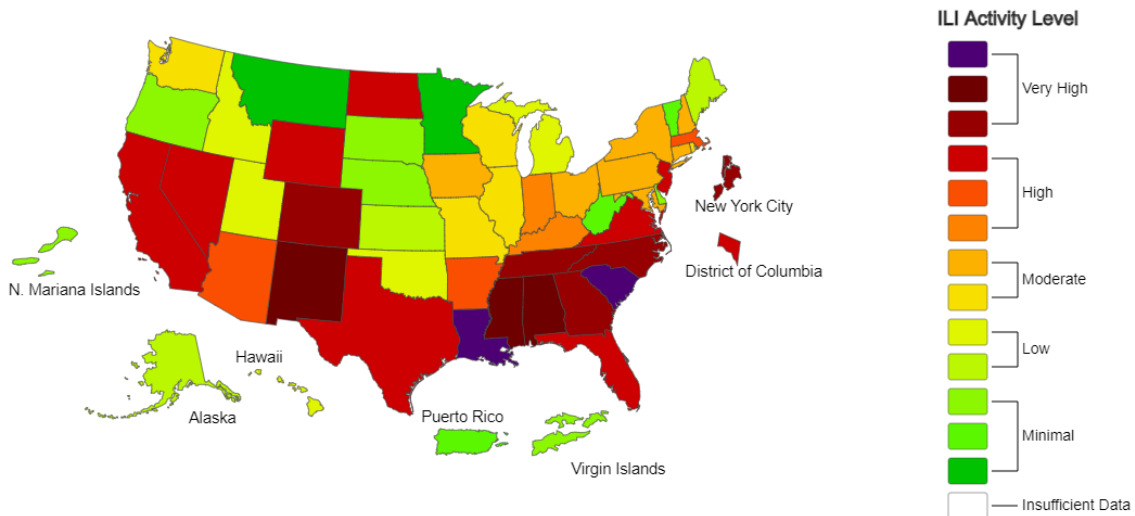


A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division

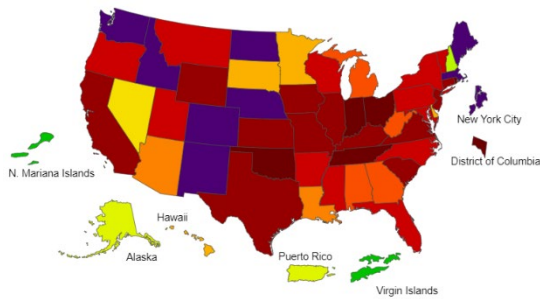
Outpatient Respiratory Illness Activity Map Determined by Data Reported to ILINet

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.

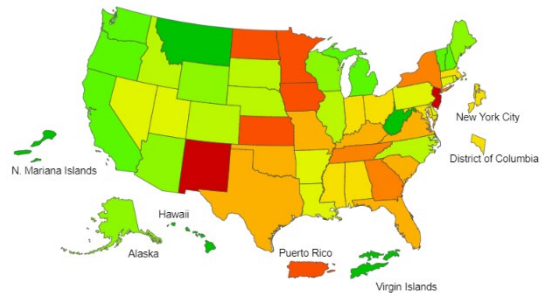
2023-24 Influenza Season Week 50 ending Dec 16, 2023



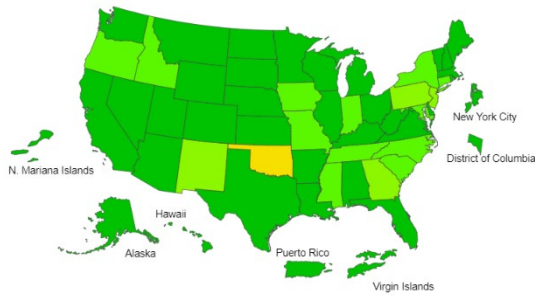
2022-23 Influenza Season Week 50 ending Dec 17, 2022



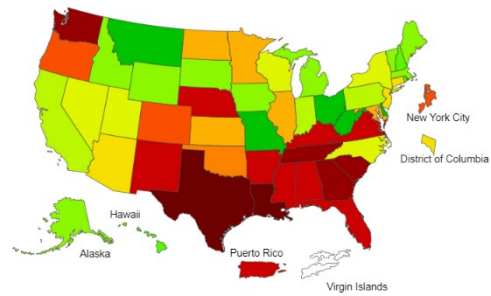
2021-22 Influenza Season Week 50 ending Dec 18, 2021



2020-21 Influenza Season Week 50 ending Dec 12, 2020



2019-20 Influenza Season Week 50 ending Dec 14, 2019



*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

There was a total of 137 new laboratory confirmed influenza cases in Bridgeport for the week ending 12/23/2023, a 63% increase over the previous week. Influenza cases in Bridgeport for December 2023 (300 cases) have surpassed the number of cases seen in December 2021 (232 cases), but remain well below the cases seen in December 2022 (1,132 cases). With only about a week left in the year, we can breathe a sigh of relief that we made it through December with far fewer cases than we experienced at this time last year. Flu tests are still dominated by the influenza type A virus and very little subtype analysis is being done. When examined by age group, 45-65 year olds now have the highest percentage of total cases (22.9%) followed by 5-15 year olds (21.7%) and then <5 year olds (16.9%). This is due to an increase in cases in 45-65 year olds over the past 3 weeks while other age groups have only seen mild increases in case numbers over the same time period. The incidence rate has increased to 92.4 cases per 100,000 population. In comparison, during this week last year the incidence rate was decreasing from the early flu season spike in cases but was still at 134.9 per 100,000. Within Bridgeport, the 06608 zip code has seen a sharp increase in weekly incidence rate, up to 169.4 cases per 100,000. All other zip codes have also seen increases in weekly influenza incidence rates indicating that the flu is spreading throughout Bridgeport and not concentrated in a single part of the city.

In Connecticut, there were 1,417 new influenza cases reported bringing the seasonal total to 5,120. There were also 52 new hospitalizations and 1 new death due to influenza for the week ending 12/16/2023. This brings the seasonal total to 283 hospitalizations and 12 deaths. Fairfield County is at high levels of influenza like illness (ILI) activity as is the nearby New York metro region and New Haven County.

Connecticut as a whole is at moderate levels of ILI activity, indicating a steady increase in influenza like symptoms across the state. Nationally, there are 10 states at very high ILI activity levels and 15 states at high levels. The Southeastern and Southwestern US continues to have hot spots of ILI activity, but these increases are spreading North into the mid-Atlantic and Midwestern states steadily. With the holiday travel and large indoor gatherings that are common at the end of December, it is expected that these increased levels of ILI activity will continue to spread beyond the current concentrations.

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](#)