

Weekly Flu Surveillance Report

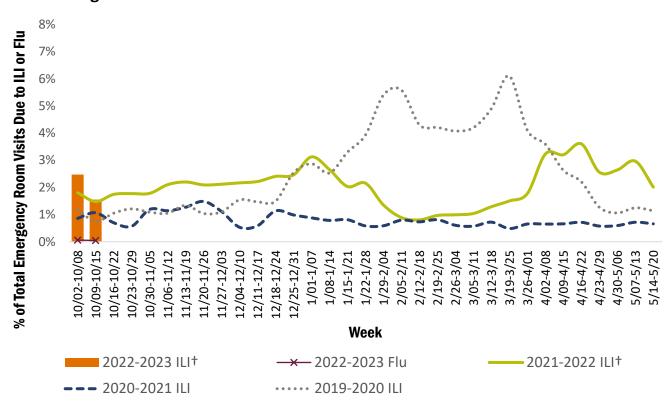
2022/2023 Flu Season

Timeframe: 10/09/2022 - 10/15/2022

- The Influenza-like Illness (ILI) activity level is minimal in Vermont.
 For a description of national influenza activity levels, please <u>click here</u>.
- Nationally, seasonal flu activity has been increasing in recent weeks, varying by region. The southeast and south-central areas of the country are reporting the highest levels of activity early in this season.
- COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses are also being spread during this flu season.
 Vaccination and respiratory illness prevention strategies are recommended. Follow these links for up-to-date <u>Vermont</u> and <u>national</u> COVID-19 data.

Syndromic Surveillance

Vermont Emergency Room and Urgent Care Visits for Influenza-like Illness or Diagnosed Influenza



†The definition of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) was updated in September 2021 to no longer exclude patients with another diagnosed non-influenza illness. The 2021-22 season's ILI data are not directly comparable to previous seasons due to this change.

Flu Surveillance Report

Illness Definitions

Influenza-like Illness (ILI): determined using the patient's chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis. ILI is the presence of a fever equal to or exceeding 100°F with the addition of cough or sore throat. As of 2021, the ILI definition no longer excludes patients with another diagnosed non-influenza illness.

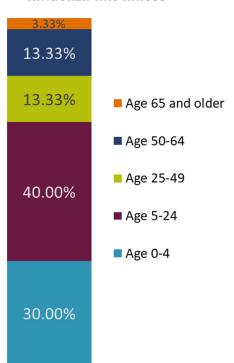
Influenza (Flu): determined by the patient's chief complaint of a fever with the addition of cough or sore throat and a discharge diagnosis of influenza.

ILINet Sentinel Provider Data

This surveillance data is based upon reports submitted by ILINet, a nationwide group of medical offices that act as influenza sentinels. Sentinel providers report the number of patients with an influenza-like illness (ILI) seen by their practices each week.

About 0.58% of visits were due to influenza-like illness among Vermont ILINet providers reporting this week. This is a decrease from 0.83% the previous week.

Age Distribution of Patients with an Influenza-like Illness



Laboratory Data

The **Health Department Lab** performs surveillance subtype testing to determine the type of flu, for example H3, H1N1, etc. This information helps determine the circulating virus strains, not the spread of flu virus.

| Type and Subtype | This week: 10/09/22-10/15/22 | Season so far: 10/02/22-10/15/22 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Flu A H3 | 0 | 0 |
| Flu A H1N1 | 0 | 0 |
| Flu B | 0 | 0 |

Flu Surveillance Report

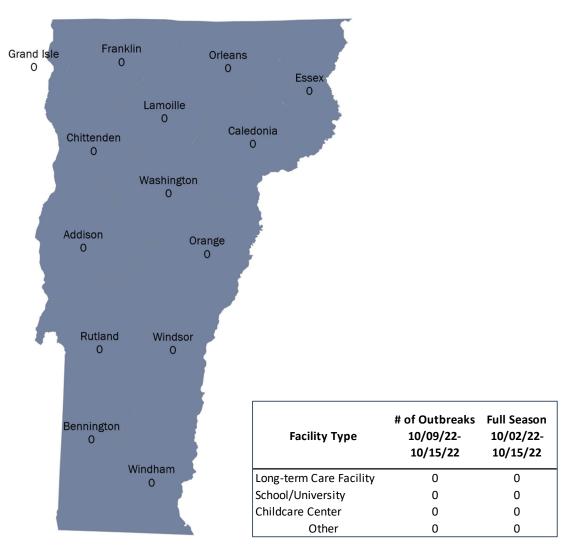
The **National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System** (NREVSS) collects data on the number of PCR flu tests performed by participating Vermont labs and how many were positive. This helps determine flu activity in the community.

2.38% of PCR tests run this week were positive, an increase compared to 0.28% the previous week. During the 2022-23 season, 0.83% of flu PCR tests reported through NREVSS have been positive. Positive results reported through NREVSS this season have been influenza A.

Reported Outbreaks

Institutional outbreaks of flu or influenza-like illness (excluding respiratory illnesses not caused by influenza viruses, e.g. COVID-19) are reportable to the Health Department.

Number of Influenza-like Illness and Influenza Lab Confirmed Outbreaks, 10/02/2022 - 10/15/2022



For more information: Hilary Fannin hilary.fannin@vermont.gov