



# Delaware Weekly Influenza Report

## MMWR Week 41 (October 9, 2022- October 15, 2022)

### Delaware Division of Public Health

#### National Influenza Synopsis 2022-2023:

National influenza data is updated Friday of each week. Please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> for the most current information. The percentage of national respiratory specimens testing positive was at 4.4% this week. **Zero** new influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to the CDC this week. The total for the 2022-2023 season is **zero** influenza associated pediatric deaths. This week, National Outpatient ILI data showed **eight** jurisdictions experienced moderate influenza-like-illness activity and **ten** jurisdictions experienced high or very high influenza-like-illness activity.

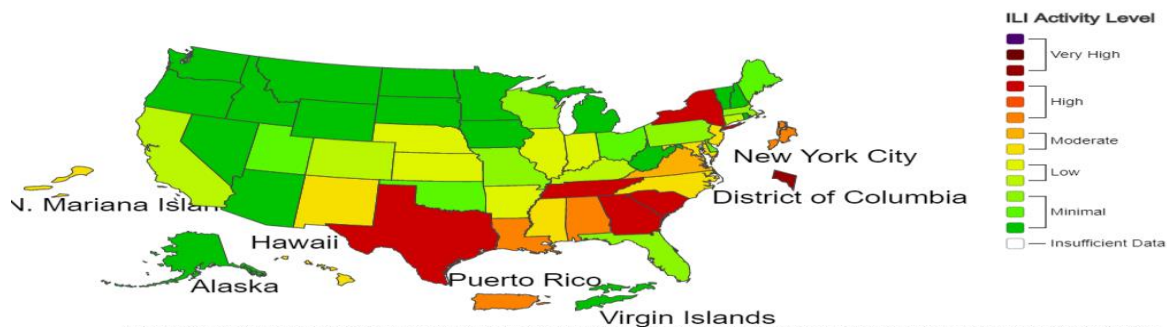


#### A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division

##### 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.

2022-23 Influenza Season Week 41 ending Oct 15, 2022



\*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.

\*For the data download you can use Activity Level for the number and Activity Level Label for the text description.

\*This graphic notice means that you are leaving an HHS Web site.

For more information, please see CDC's Exit Notification and Disclaimer policy.  
For more information on the methodology, please visit Outpatient Illness Surveillance methods section.

#### Summary of International Influenza Activity:

Globally, influenza activity remained low. Generally, activity has decreased or remained low in most countries this period

In the temperate zones of the southern hemisphere, overall influenza activity appeared to further decrease this reporting period, except in South Africa where activity increased.

In Oceania, detections of primarily influenza A(H3N2) decreased overall and influenza-like activity (ILI) activity was at low levels in most Pacific Island countries.

In Southern Africa, there was an increase in influenza activity again in recent weeks with mainly influenza B viruses reported.

In the Caribbean and Central American countries, low influenza activity was reported with influenza A(H3N2) most frequently detected.

In the tropical countries of South America, influenza detections were low, and A(H3N2) detections predominated.

In tropical Africa, influenza activity remained low with influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominant among the reported detections.

In Southern Asia, influenza detections were predominantly A(H1N1) pdm09 viruses, with influenza A(H3N2) and influenza B viruses also reported.

In South-East Asia, influenza activity decreased a little, with influenza A(H3N2) viruses predominant.

In the countries of North America, influenza activity remained at inter-seasonal levels as typically observed at this time of year. Influenza A(H3N2) was predominant among the few subtyped viruses.

In Europe, overall influenza activity remained at inter-seasonal levels with influenza A(H3N2) predominant among the subtyped viruses.

In Central Asia, no influenza detections were reported.

In Northern Africa, no influenza detections were reported.

In East Asia, influenza activity of predominantly influenza A(H3N2) continued to decrease in China. Elsewhere, influenza illness indicators and activity were low.

In Western Asia, detections of predominantly influenza A(H3N2) and B viruses continued to be reported, through at low levels.

**Influenza Surveillance 2022-2023:**

During MMWR week 41, there were **19** laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza reported among Delaware Residents. Reports of influenza-like-illness (ILI) received from participating providers, facilities, and institutions in Delaware show the ILI rate is **1.26%** which is below Delaware's 2022-2023 baseline rate of 2.1%. Nationally, **3.0%** of visits to a healthcare provider were for ILI, which is above the 2022-2023 national baseline of 2.5%.

**Past Influenza Surveillance from 2021-2022:**

During MMWR Week 41, there was 0 laboratory-confirmed case of influenza reported among Delaware Residents. Reports of influenza-like-illness (ILI) received from participating providers, facilities, and institutions in Delaware show ILI was 1.04% compared to Delaware's 2021-2022 baseline of 2.0%. Nationally, 1.8% of visits to a healthcare provider were for ILI, which was below the 2021-2022 national baseline of 2.5%. All regions were below baselines.

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**Table 1:** Comparison the MMWR Week 41 of the 2020-2021 Influenza Season, 2021-2022 Influenza Season, and current 2022-2023 Influenza Season Confirmed<sup>1</sup> Influenza Cases Reported Statewide by County

Confirmed Flu Cases by County	2020-2021 Influenza Season			2021-2022 Influenza Season			Current 2022-2023 Influenza Season <sup>3</sup>		
	Week 41	YTD <sup>2</sup>	YTD County Percentage (%)	Week 41	YTD <sup>2</sup>	YTD County Percentage (%)	Week 41	YTD <sup>2</sup>	YTD County Percentage (%)
STATEWIDE	0	0	--	0	0	--	19	25	-
New Castle County	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	18	21	85%
Kent County	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	-	-	0%
Sussex County	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	-	-	0%

<sup>1</sup>Influenza Cases are confirmed via PCR testing

<sup>2</sup>YTD stands for “Year to Date” and represents the cumulative number of cases through the current MMWR Week being assessed for the 2020-21 and 2022-23 influenza seasons, respectively.

<sup>3</sup>There may be technical discrepancies of reporting numbers week to week due to retroactive reporting or reclassification of cases.

**Table 2:** Comparison of MMWR Week 41 of the 2020-2021 Influenza Season, 2021-2022 Influenza Season, and current 2022-2023 Influenza Season Confirmed<sup>1</sup> Influenza Cases Reported Statewide by Age

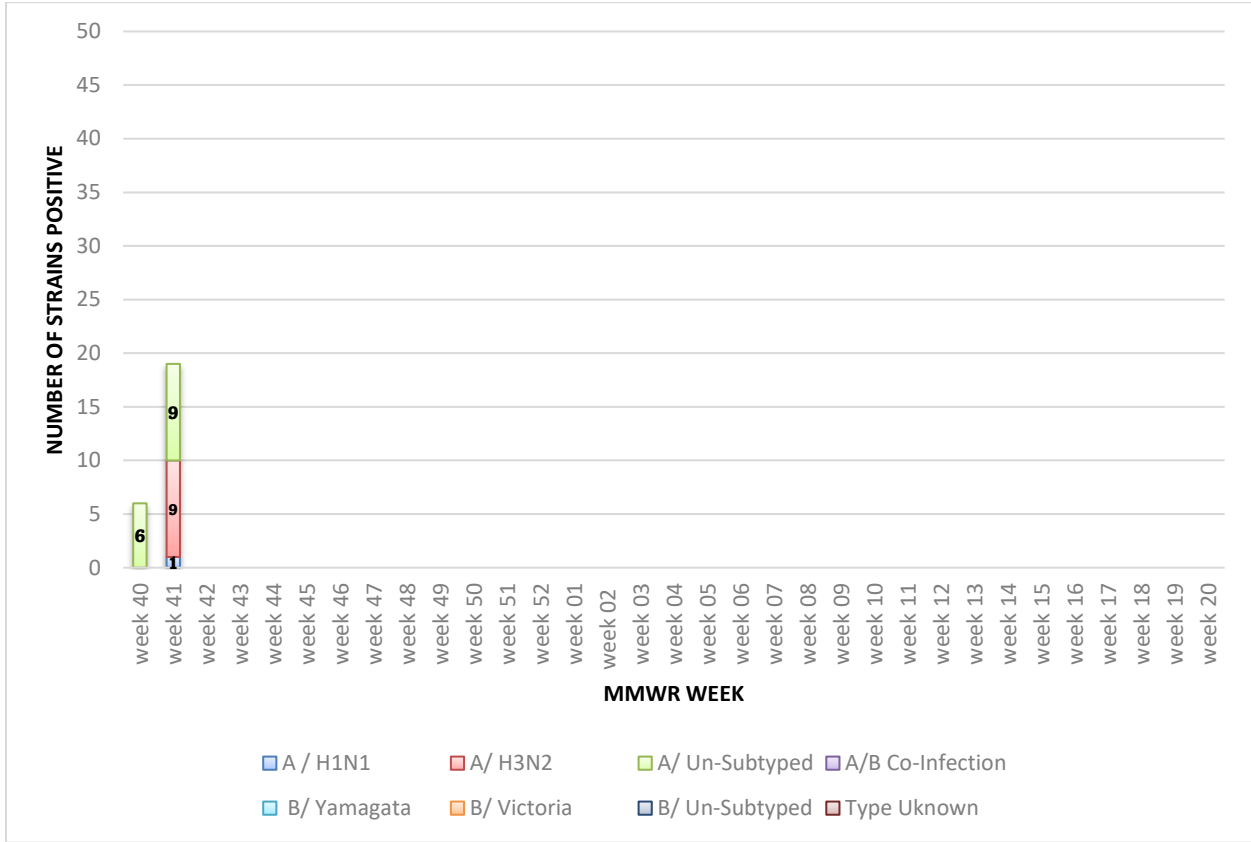
Confirmed Flu Cases by Age Group*		2020-2021 Influenza Season			2021-2022 Influenza Season			Current 2022-2023 Influenza Season		
		Week 41	Total Count	YTD <sup>2</sup>	Week 41	Total Count	YTD <sup>2</sup>	Week 41	Total Count	YTD <sup>2</sup>
STATEWIDE	0-4 years	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	19	25
	5-11 years	-								
	12-17 years	-								
	18-34 years	-								
	35-49 years	-								
	50-64 years	-								
	65+ years	-								

<sup>1</sup>Influenza Cases are confirmed via PCR testing

<sup>2</sup>YTD stands for “Year to Date” and represents the cumulative number of cases through the current MMWR Week being assessed for the 2020-21 and 2022-223 influenza seasons, respectively.

\*Cell counts with less than 10 cases are suppressed for smaller age groups. Due to suppression guidelines, stratification by age group, within each county, is not shown in the table above.

**Figure 1: Confirmed Cases of Influenza by Type and Subtype/Lineage, Delaware 2022-2023 Influenza Season**



During MMWR Week 41 for the 2022-2023 Delaware Influenza season, there were **19** confirmed cases of Influenza. Currently in this season the predominate strains of influenza in Delaware is shared between **Influenza A (un-subtyped) and Influenza A (H3N2)**.

**Table 3: Comparison of MMWR Week 41 of the 2020-2021 Influenza Season, 2021-2022 Influenza Season, and current 2022-2023 Influenza-related Hospitalizations and Deaths Statewide**

Hospitalizations and Deaths due to Influenza	2020-2021 Influenza Season				2021-2022 Influenza Season				Current 2022-2023 influenza Season			
	Week 41	YTD Totals <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of Confirmed Case (%) <sup>2</sup>	YTD Percentage of Confirmed Cases (%) <sup>3</sup>	Week 41	YTD Totals <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of Confirmed Case (%) <sup>2</sup>	YTD Percentage of Confirmed Cases (%) <sup>3</sup>	Week 41	YTD Totals <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of Confirmed Case (%) <sup>2</sup>	YTD Percentage of Confirmed Cases (%) <sup>3</sup>
Hospitalizations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8	26%	32%
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%

<sup>1</sup>YTD stands for “Year to Date” and represents the cumulative number of cases through the current MMWR Week that were hospitalized or died

<sup>2</sup>Percentage of cases confirmed during the single MMWR Week

<sup>3</sup>Percentage of cases for the cumulative count of confirmed cases through the influenza season to the current MMWR Week.

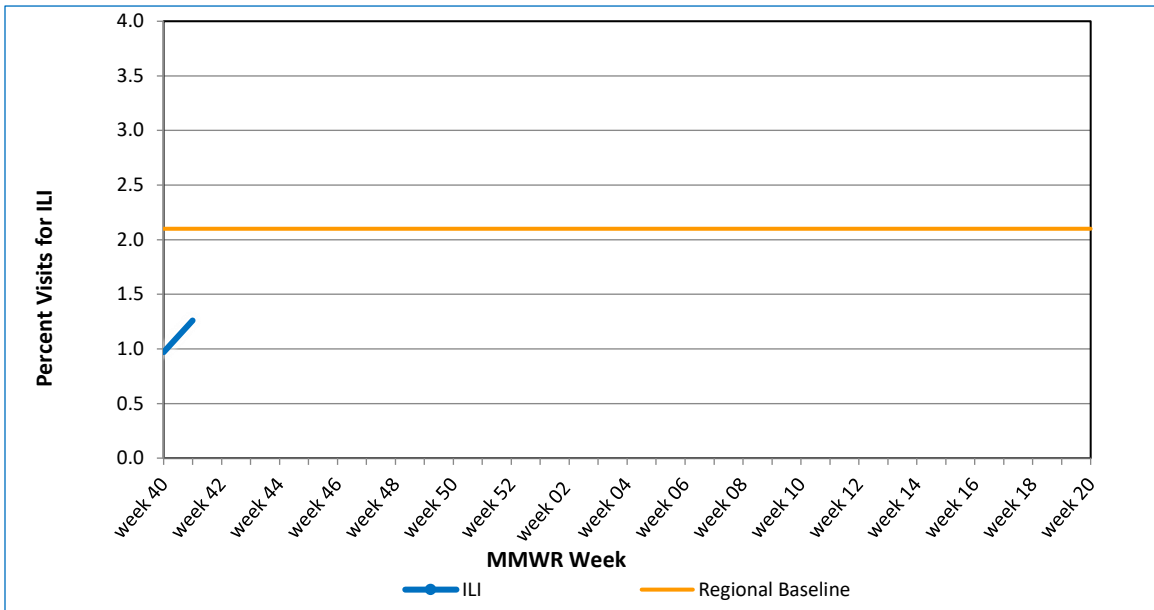
**Table 4:** Annual Number of Influenza Cases Reported by Flu Season, Delaware 2004-05 through 2022-2023

<b>Influenza Season</b>	<b>Total Annual Influenza Cases</b>
2004 – 2005	995
2005 – 2006	541
2006 – 2007	508
2007 – 2008	1,401
2008 – 2009	738
2009 – 2010	2,247
2010 – 2011	1,479
2011 – 2012	267
2012 – 2013	1,781
2013 – 2014	1,843
2014 – 2015	2,390
2015 – 2016	1,843
2016 – 2017	4,590
2017 – 2018	9,050
2018 – 2020	6,387
2020 – 2020	7,075
2020-2021	26
2021-2022	2784
<b>2022-2023 (YTD)</b>	<b>25</b>

## U.S. Outpatient Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) Sentinel Providers

An ILINet (sentinel) provider conducts surveillance for influenza-like illness (ILI) in collaboration with the Division of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Data reported by ILINet providers, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, provide a national and

**Figure 2:** Percentage of Visits for Influenza-Like Illness Reported by Sentinel Providers<sup>1</sup> participating in the U.S. Outpatient ILI Surveillance Network (ILINet), Delaware 2022-2023



Delaware's regional baseline<sup>1</sup> for healthcare visits relating to ILI symptoms in the 2022-2023 Influenza Season is 2.1 % and the national baseline<sup>2</sup> is 2.5%. In MMWR Week 41, the amount of ILI related visits reported by sentinel providers in Delaware is at 1.26% and is below the regional and national baselines.

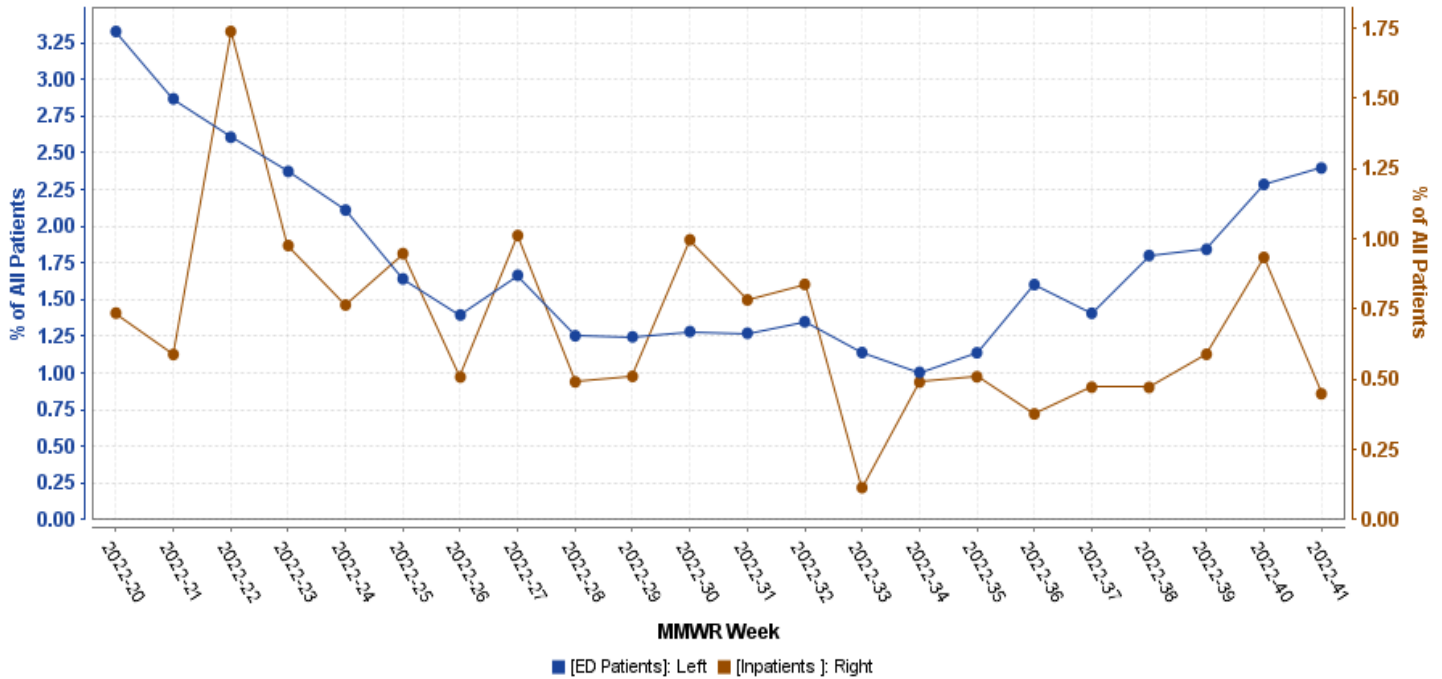
<sup>1</sup>The regional baseline is calculated by the CDC using non-influenza weeks from the previous three influenza seasons. Delaware is in Region 3, which also includes DC, MD, PA, VA, and WV.

<sup>2</sup>The National baseline is calculated by the CDC using non-influenza weeks from the previous three influenza seasons.



**Figure 3: Percentage of Emergency Care Visits and Inpatients Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)**  
 MMWR Week 20 - MMWR Week 41, Delaware 2022-2023

**ILI ED, Inpatient, and Outpatient Visits from MMWR Week 20 to MMWR Week 40**



Syndromic data collected from ESSENCE shows that from Week 20 through Week 41, the percentage of ED visits due to ILI symptoms has decreased from past weeks but is significantly higher than last year’s season. The percentage of ED visits for ILI for Week 41 was highest in Sussex County (**4.91%**), followed by Kent County (**1.66%**), and New Castle County (**1.63%**).

**Additional Respiratory Virus Surveillance**

**Table 5: Current 2022-2023 Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) Season Confirmed<sup>1</sup> Cases Reported Statewide by County**

Confirmed RSV Cases by County <sup>3</sup>	Current 2022-2023 Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) Cases		
	Week 41	YTD <sup>2</sup>	YTD County Percentage (%)
STATEWIDE	89	162	-
New Castle County	80	146	90.1%
Kent County	-	11	6.7%
Sussex County	-	-	-%

<sup>1</sup>Respiratory syncytial virus, (RSV) Cases are confirmed via PCR testing

<sup>2</sup>YTD stands for “Year to Date” and represents the cumulative number of cases through the current MMWR Week being assessed for the 2020-21 and 2022-22 <sup>1</sup>Respiratory syncytial virus, respectively.

<sup>3</sup>There may be technical discrepancies of reporting numbers week to week due to retroactive reporting or reclassification of cases.

**Table 6: Current 2022-2023 Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) Confirmed<sup>1</sup> Cases Reported Statewide by Age**

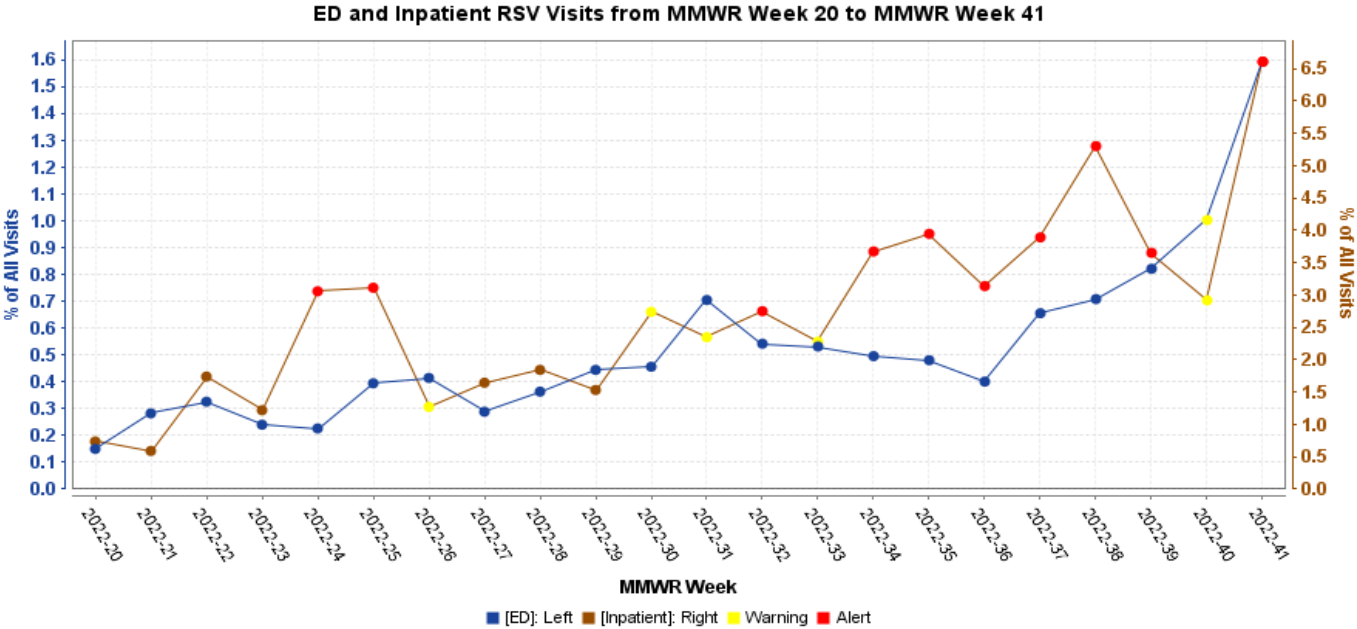
RSV Cases by Age Group*	Current 2022-2023 Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) Cases		
	YTD by Age Group	Total Count Week 41	YTD <sup>2</sup>
STATEWIDE			
0-4 years	130	89	162
5-11 years	29		
12-17 years	-		
18-34 years	-		
35-49 years	-		
60-64 years	-		
65+years	-		

<sup>1</sup>Respiratory syncytial virus, (RSV) Cases are confirmed via PCR testing

<sup>2</sup>YTD stands for “Year to Date” and represents the cumulative number of cases through the current MMWR Week being assessed for the 2020-21 and 2022-22 Respiratory syncytial virus seasons, respectively.

\*Cell counts with less than 10 cases are suppressed. Due to suppression guidelines, stratification by age group, within each county, is not shown in the table above.

**Figure 4:** Percentage of Emergency Care Visits and Inpatients Due to Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) MMWR Week 20 - MMWR Week 41, Delaware 2022-2023



Syndromic data collected from ESSENCE shows that from Week 20 through Week 41, the percentage of ED visits due to RSV-related ED\* visits has decreased from past weeks. The percentage of ED visits for RSV for Week 41 was highest in New Castle County (**1.17%**), followed by Kent County (**1.16%**), and Sussex County (**0.87%**).

\*The syndrome is defined a combination of chief complaints and discharge diagnoses

**NOTE:** Data provided do not reflect the total number of individuals who have been infected with the Influenza virus or Respiratory Syncytial virus in Delaware during the reporting period due to the following factors:

- Many people ill with influenza-like symptoms do not seek medical care.
- Many who do seek medical care are not tested for influenza.
- The Delaware Public Health Laboratory is limited by capacity to processing a maximum of three specimens per day from each reporting entity.

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) is committed to serving you better by providing the most accurate, up-to-date influenza data available.

- For general information on influenza, visit [flu.delaware.gov](http://flu.delaware.gov) or <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/dpc/immunize-flu.html>.
- For more information on Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html>
- For specific information on DPH flu clinics, visit <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/fluclinics.html>.
- For questions on Delaware's weekly flu report, call the DPH Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at 302-744-4990.
- For questions regarding influenza vaccination, please call 302-744-1060.