

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 10, 2023

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

1. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Welcome – Christy Keegan, newly appointed Board Member

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Approval of December 2022 Minutes

3. Commissioner's Report (Dr. Smith)

- a. Budget Update (Thomas Gibney)
- b. COVID Update
- c. Flu/RSV Update
- d. Medical Examiner Report

MEETING CONCLUSION

Ulster County Board of Health
January 10, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Golden Hill Office Building
239 Golden Hill Lane
Kingston, NY 12401

PRESENT: Stephanie Turco, Christy Keegan

EXCUSED: Dr. Gina Carena, Dr. Ashanda Saint Jean, Kathleen Rogan

ABSENT: Dr. Marta Sanchez, Naomi Stevens

UCDOH: Dr. Carol Smith- Commissioner of Health
Thomas Gibney - Deputy Director for Administration

GUEST: None

Call To Order: 5:15PM

NEW Business: Ms. Turco welcomed Christy Keegan as the newly appointed member of the Board.

OLD Business: Approval of the December minutes was tabled until the February 14th meeting due to a lack of a quorum.

Commissioner's Update: Dr Smith reported on the following:

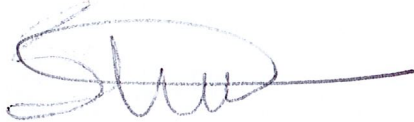
- a. **2023 Approved Budget:** Dr. Smith introduced Thomas Gibney, Deputy Director for Administration, to the Board. Mr. Gibney gave an overview of the 2023 Adopted Budget to the Department of Health. The goal was to propose a budget that was a close to flat as possible. Mr. Gibney explained that 3 positions were approved: Environmental Health Manager, Supervising Health, and Senior Public Health Engineer. The budget is approximately a 10-million-dollar budget with half being funded thru grants, State-Aid, and general revenue. (See attached)
- b. **COVID Update:** Reviewed the most recent COVID numbers (see attached). Ulster County has been deemed a county of high transmission by the CDC. Dr. Smith recommends wearing a mask when social distancing is not feasible. The new variant Xbb 1.5 is being closely watched by NYSDOH. Ulster County is currently collecting only the lab confirmed PCR positive tests. The latest vaccine appears to be a "good fit" to fighting the virus. PSAs, website, and social media outlets are regularly updated to give the latest updates and recommendations.
- c. **Flu Update:** Dr. Smith distributed the most recent weekly flu report (See attached). The flu is extremely high this year. Ulster County currently has a higher rate of pediatric deaths than the national rate.

d. **Medical Examiner Stats:** The report was distributed to the Board (see attached). Ms. Turco asked that the past 4 years of stats be presented at the next Board of Health meeting.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was not made due to a lack of a quorum.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 5:00 PM, Golden Hill Office Building, 239 Golden Hill Lane, Kingston, NY 12401.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sturco', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephanie Turco, LCSW - Chair

Today				
Official Counts For			1/10/2023	
Data As Of			1/9/2023	
Total Tests	827908		+214	Since Yesterday
Confirmed Cases	53743		+51	Since Yesterday
Transferred	-770		0	No Change Since Yesterday
Recovered	53117		+55	Since Yesterday
Fatalities	410		0	No Change Since Yesterday
Active	216		-4	Since Yesterday

7 day rolling average today is 14.9%

ResTown	Town	Active	Recovered	Deceased	Total Confirmed
City of Kingston	City of Kingston	21	7973	68	8062
Wawarsing	Town of Wawarsing	24	3960	19	4003
Hurley	Town of Hurley	5	1449	12	1466
Lloyd	Town of Lloyd	24	4489	76	4589
Ulster	Town of Ulster	49	3345	73	3467
Marlborough	Town of Marlborough	16	2668	10	2694
Saugerties	Town of Saugerties	7	4867	34	4908
Shawangunk	Town of Shawangunk	11	3941	14	3966
New Paltz	Town of New Paltz	22	4647	22	4691

Esopus	Town of Esopus	9	1890	8	1907
Plattekill	Town of Plattekill	9	2460	15	2484
Rochester	Town of Rochester	1	1648	8	1657
Rosendale	Town of Rosendale	0	1059	6	1065
Marbletown	Town of Marbletown	0	1153	3	1156
Gardiner	Town of Gardiner	4	1143	8	1155
Unknown	Unknown	9	3639	17	3665
Woodstock	Town of Woodstock	2	1077	2	1081
Olive	Town of Olive	1	828	7	836
Shandaken	Town of Shandaken	1	401	1	403
Denning	Town of Denning	0	62	0	62
Hardenburg	Town of Hardenburg	0	0	0	0
Out of County	Out of County	0	252	5	257
Town of Kingston	Town of Kingston	1	166	2	169
Total		216	53117	410	53743

Patient Facility	Total Confirmed	Total Active	Active - Employees	Active - Non-Employees	Recovered	Deceased
Ten Broeck Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing	652	32	0	32	575	45
Northeast Center for Rehabilitation and Brain Injury	281	6	0	6	270	5
Mohonk Mountain House	247	4	1	3	243	0
Golden Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center	534	1	1	0	495	38
New Paltz Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing	150	1	0	1	140	9

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

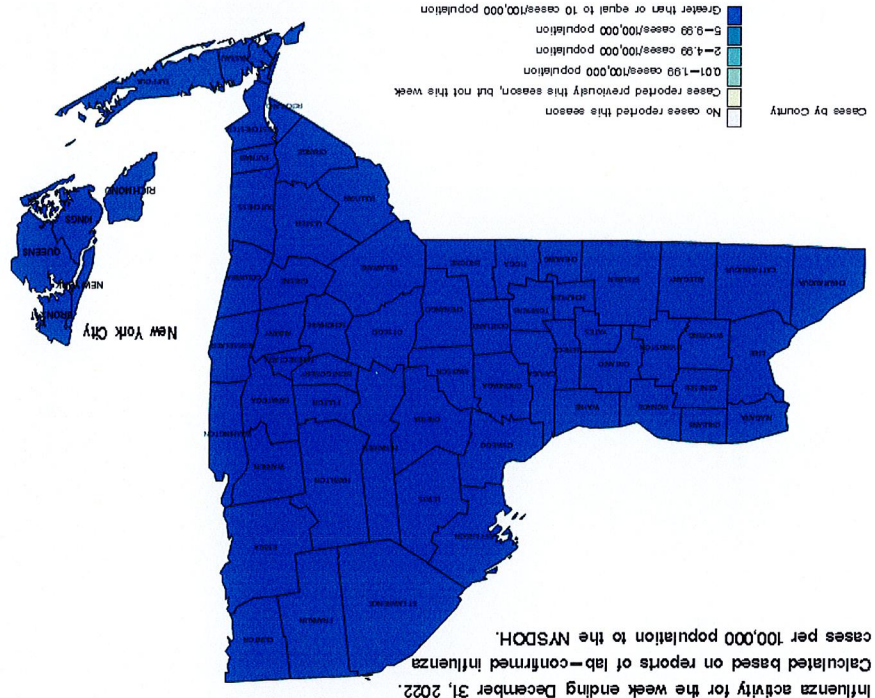
The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) collects, compiles, and analyzes information on influenza activity year round in New York State (NYS) and produces this weekly report during the influenza season (October through the following May).

During the week ending December 31, 2022

- Influenza activity level was categorized as geographically widespread? This is the 13th consecutive week widespread activity has been reported this season.
- Laboratories tested 78,424 specimens for influenza, of which 22,905 (29%) were positive, a 41% decrease over last week. Of the 8,845 specimens submitted to WHO/NREVSS clinical laboratories, 1,982 (22.41%) were positive. 1,981 were positive for influenza A and 1 for influenza B.
- Of the 99 specimens tested at Wadsworth Center, 15 were positive for influenza A (H1), 77 were positive for influenza A (H3), 4 were positive for influenza A not subtyped, and 1 was positive for influenza B Victoria.
- The percent of patient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI³) from ILInet providers was 5.40%, above the regional baseline of 3.40%.
- The number of patients hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed influenza was 2,375, a 7% decrease over last week.
- There was 1 influenza-associated pediatric death reported this week. There have been 6 influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported this season.

Laboratory Reports of Influenza (Including NYC)

Influenza activity for the week ending December 31, 2022. Calculated based on reports of lab-confirmed influenza cases per 100,000 population to the NYSDOH.



- All 62 counties reported cases this week.
- Incidence ranged from 19.92-291.98 cases/100,000 population.
- Note: Counties with smaller populations are likely to have an incidence rate greater than 10 cases/100,000 population when fewer (less than 10) lab-confirmed cases have been reported.

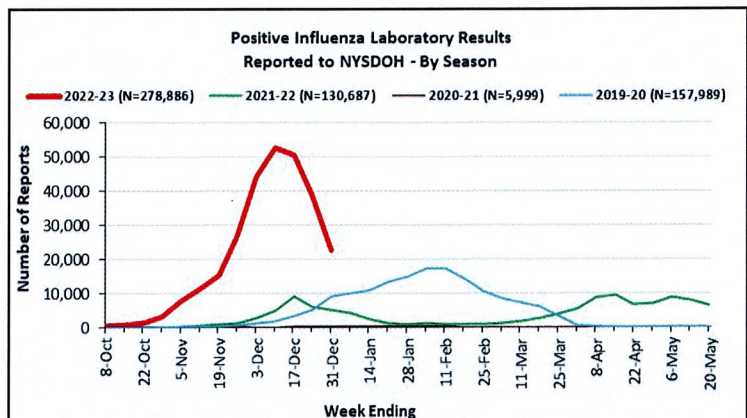
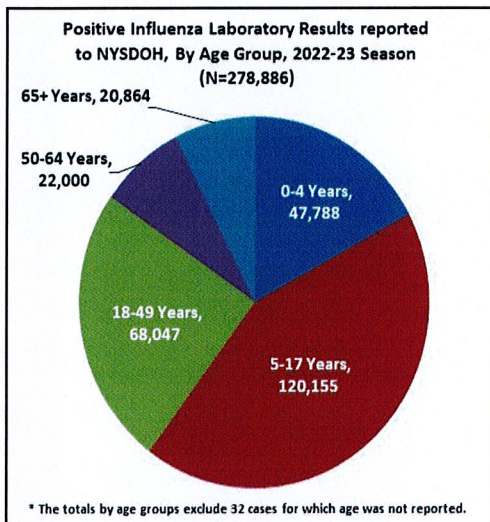
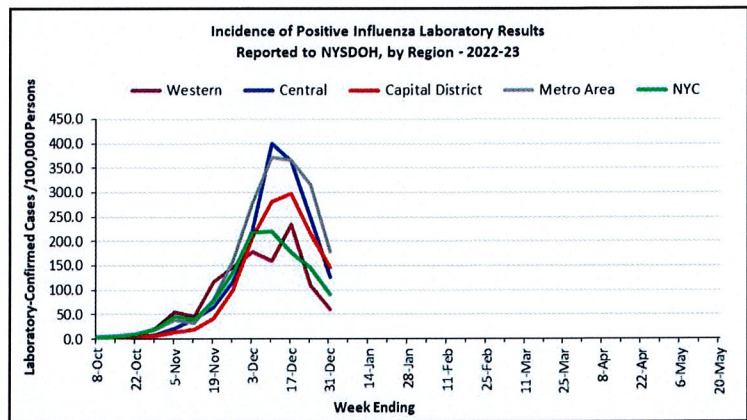
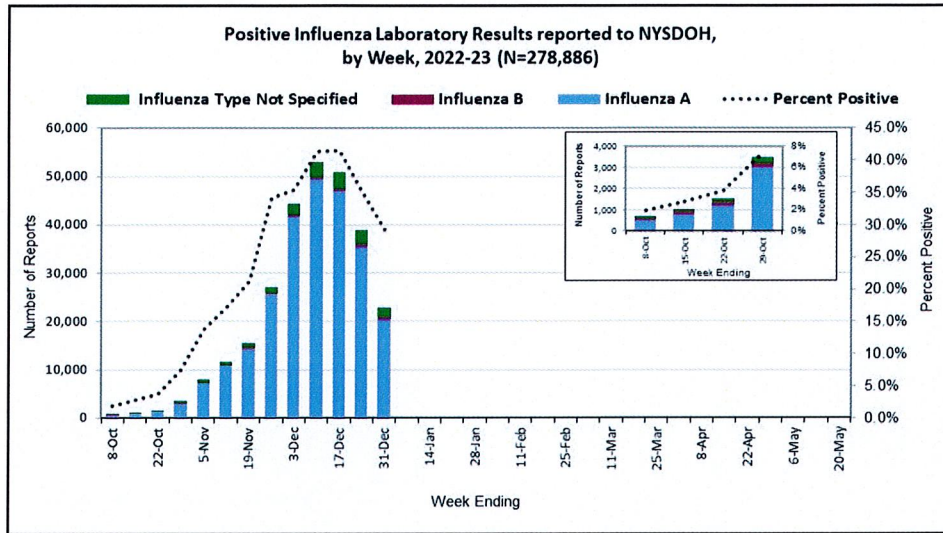
¹ Information about influenza monitoring in New York City (NYC) is available from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene website at: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh>. National influenza surveillance data is available on CDC's FluView website at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>.

² No Activity: No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza reported to the NYSDOH.
³ Sporadic: Small numbers of lab-confirmed cases of influenza reported.
 Local: Increased or sustained numbers of lab-confirmed cases of influenza reported in a single region of New York State; sporadic in rest of state.
 Regional: Increased or sustained numbers of lab-confirmed cases of influenza reported in at least two regions but in fewer than 31 of 62 counties.
 Widespread: Increased or sustained numbers of lab-confirmed cases of influenza reported is greater than 31 of the 62 counties.
 Increased or sustained as 2 or more cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza per 100,000 population.
 ILI = influenza-like illness, defined as temperature 100° F with cough and/or sore throat in the absence of a known cause other than influenza.

Laboratory Reports of Influenza (including NYC)

Test results may identify influenza Type A, influenza Type B, or influenza without specifying Type A or B. Some tests only give a positive or negative result and cannot identify influenza type (not specified).

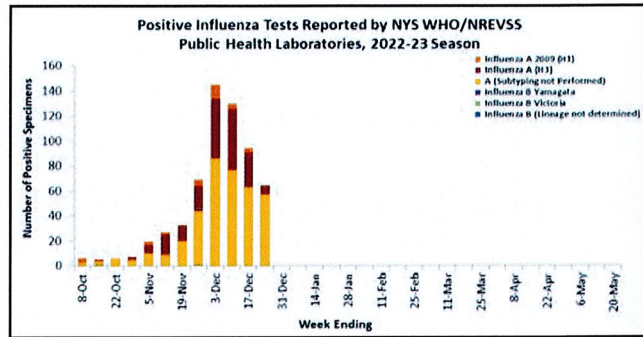
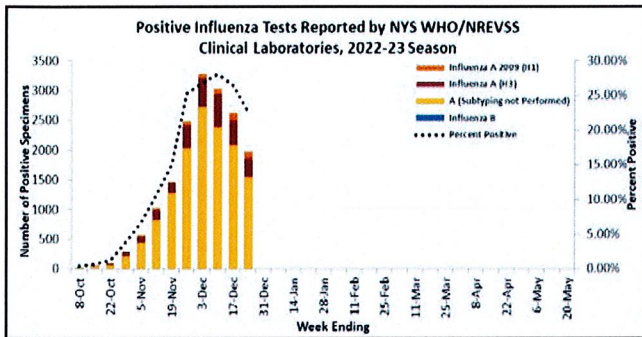
County-level data is displayed on the NYS Weekly Influenza Surveillance (Interactive Views) at <https://nyshc.health.ny.gov/web/nyapd/new-york-state-flu-tracker>. To download the data, please go to Health Data NY at <https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/Influenza-Laboratory-Confirmed-Cases-By-County-Beg/jr8b-6qh6>.



World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory & Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) Collaborating Laboratories

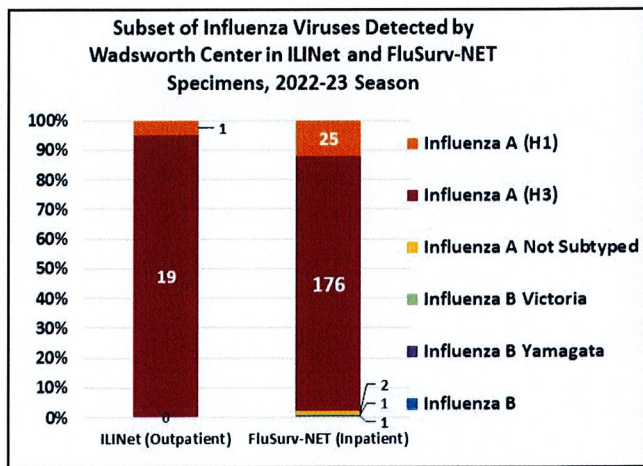
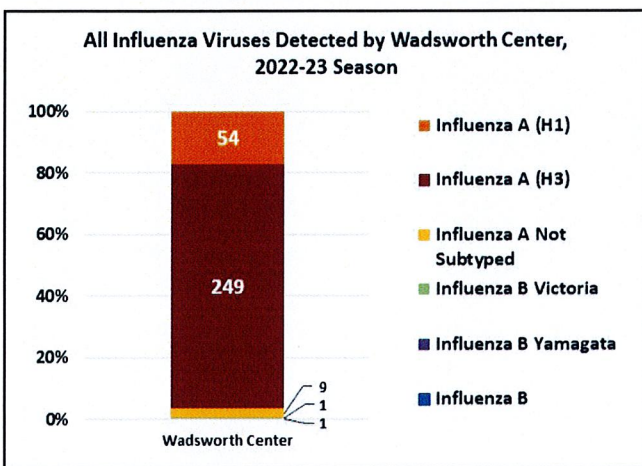
Clinical laboratories that are WHO and/or NREVSS collaborating laboratories for virologic surveillance report weekly the number of respiratory specimens tested and the number positive for influenza types A and B to CDC. Since denominator data is provided, the weekly percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza is calculated.

Public health laboratories that are WHO and/or NREVSS collaborating laboratories also report the influenza A subtype (H1 or H3) and influenza B lineage (Victoria or Yamagata).



Influenza Virus Types and Subtypes Identified at Wadsworth Center (excluding NYC)

Wadsworth Center, the NYSDOH public health laboratory, tests specimens from sources including, outpatient healthcare providers (ILINet) and hospitals (FluSurv-NET). There are 2 common subtypes of influenza A viruses – H1 and H3. Wadsworth also identifies the lineage of influenza B specimens Yamagata or Victoria. Rarely, an influenza virus is unable to have its subtype or lineage identified by the laboratory. Wadsworth sends a subset of positive influenza specimens to the CDC for further virus testing and characterization.



Influenza Antiviral Resistance Testing

The Wadsworth Center Virology Laboratory performs surveillance testing for antiviral drug resistance.⁴

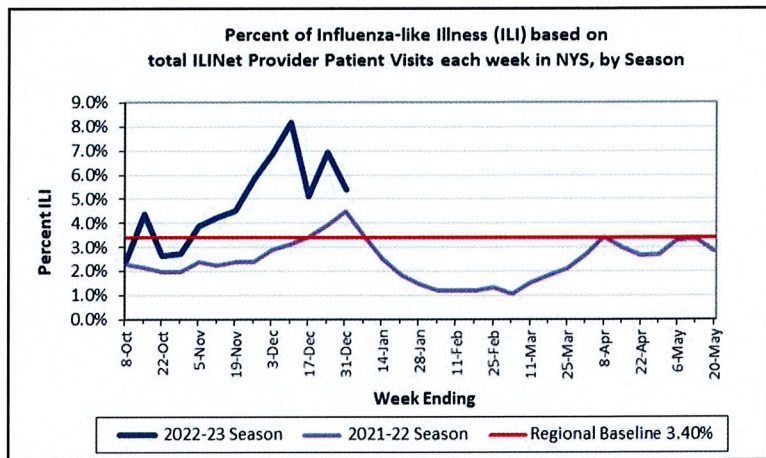
Data will be displayed here later in the season.

Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) (excluding NYC)

The NYSDOH works with ILINet healthcare providers who report the total number of patients seen and the total number of those with complaints of influenza-like illness (ILI) every week in an outpatient setting.

The CDC uses trends from past years to determine a regional baseline rate of doctors' office visits for ILI. For NYS, the regional baseline is currently 3.40%. Numbers above this regional baseline suggest high levels of illness consistent with influenza in the state.

Note that surrounding holiday weeks, it is not uncommon to notice a fluctuation in the ILI rate. This is a result of the different pattern of patient visits for non-urgent needs.

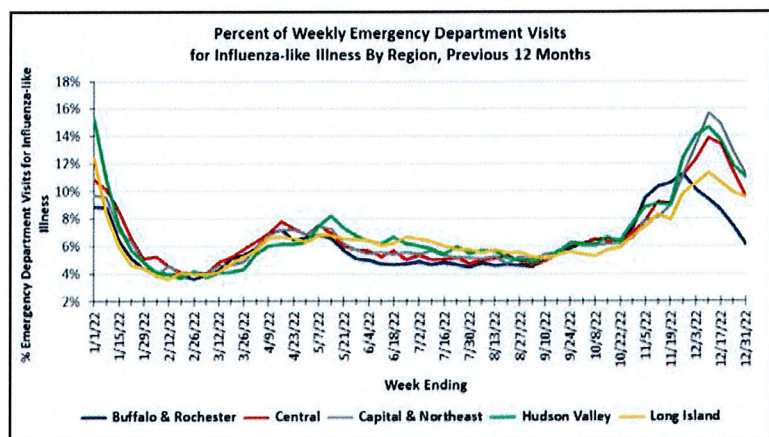


Emergency Department Visits for ILI-Syndromic Surveillance (excluding NYC)

Hospitals around NYS report the number of patients seen in their emergency departments with complaints of ILI. This is called syndromic surveillance.

An increase in visits to hospital emergency departments for ILI can be one sign that influenza has arrived in that part of NYS.

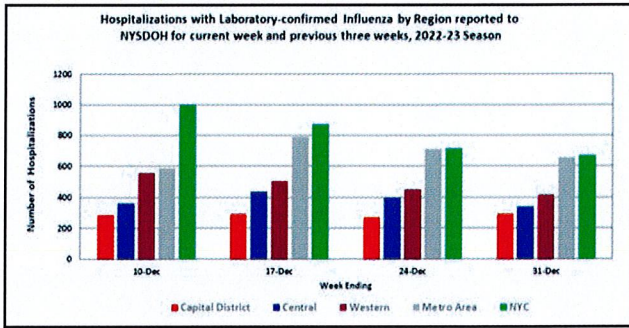
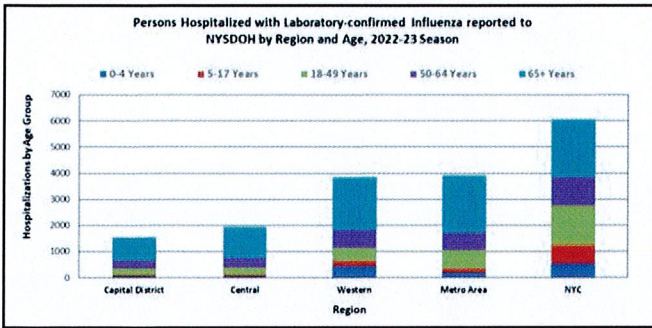
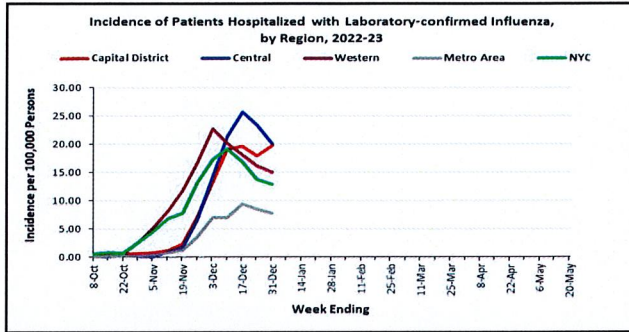
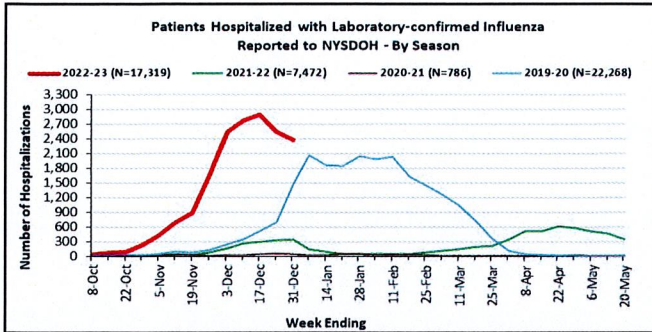
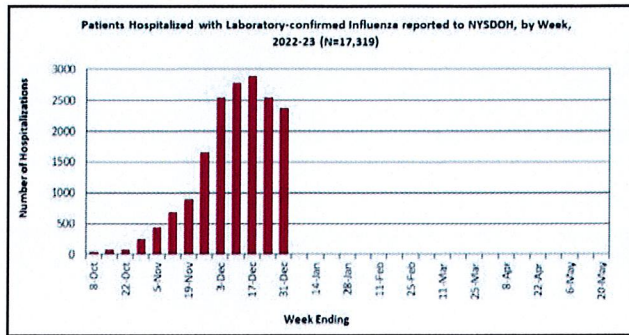
Syndromic surveillance does not reveal the actual cause of illness, but is thought to correlate with emergency department visits for influenza.



⁴Additional information regarding national antiviral resistance testing, as well as recommendations for antiviral treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza virus infection, can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>.

Patients Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza (Including NYC)

- Hospitals in NYS and NYC report the number of hospitalized patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza to NYSDOH.
- The following graphs display incidence admissions “newly admitted”.
- 174 (93%) of 188 hospitals reported this week.



Healthcare-associated Influenza Activity (including NYC)

Hospitals and nursing homes in NYS report outbreaks of influenza to the State. An outbreak in these settings is defined as one or more healthcare facility-associated case(s) of confirmed influenza in a patient or resident or two or more cases of influenza-like illness among healthcare workers and patients/residents of a facility on the same unit within 7 days. Outbreaks are considered confirmed only with positive laboratory testing.⁵

Week-to-Date (CDC week - 52) 12/25/2022 through 12/31/2022	Capital Region			Central Region			Metro Region			Western Region			Statewide (Total)		
	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total
# Outbreaks* lab-confirmed influenza (any type)	4	6	10	4	1	5	11	17	28	2	3	5	21	27	48
# Outbreaks* viral respiratory illness**			0			0			0			0	0	0	0
Total # Outbreaks	4	6	10	4	1	5	11	17	28	2	3	5	21	27	48
Season-to-Date (CDC week - 52) 10/2/22 through 12/31/2022	Capital Region			Central Region			Metro Region			Western Region			Statewide (Total)		
	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total	ACF	LTCF	Total
# Outbreaks* lab-confirmed influenza (any type)	15	39	54	13	38	51	99	114	213	19	60	79	146	251	397
# Outbreaks* viral respiratory illness**			0			0			0			0	0	0	0
Total # Outbreaks	15	39	54	13	38	51	99	114	213	19	60	79	146	251	397

ACF - Article 28 Acute Care Facility

LTCF - Article 28 Long Term Care Facility

*Outbreaks are reported based on the onset date of symptoms in the first case

** Includes influenza-like illness outbreaks where no testing is performed or where an alternate etiology was identified (excludes COVID-19)

For information about the flu mask regulation and the current status of the Commissioner's declaration, please visit www.health.ny.gov/FluMaskReg

⁵For more information on reporting of healthcare-associated influenza, visit http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/control/respiratory_disease_checklist.htm

Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network (FluSurv-NET)

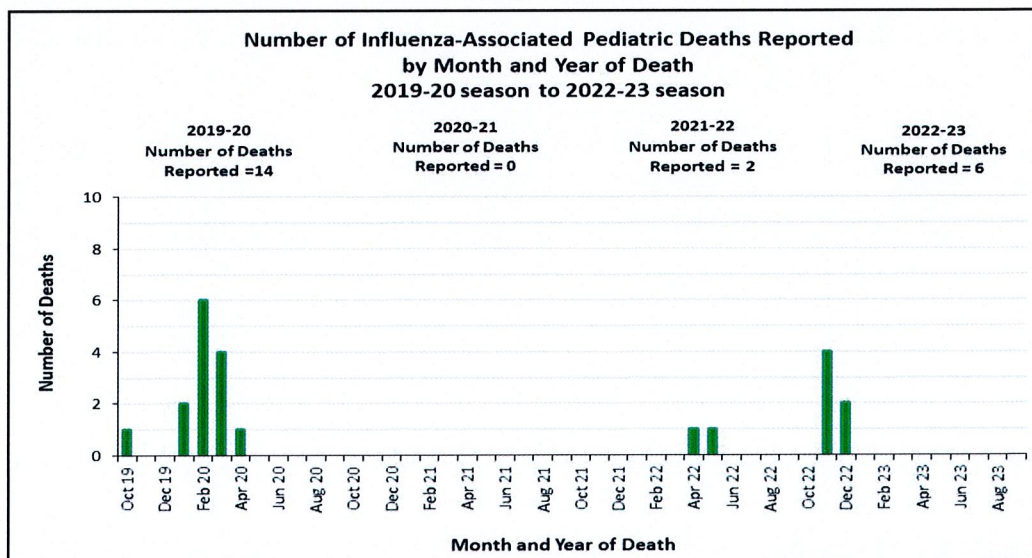
As part of the CDC's FluSurv-NET, the NYS Emerging Infections Program (EIP) conducts enhanced surveillance for hospitalized cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza among residents of 15 counties.⁶ Underlying health conditions are assessed through medical chart reviews for cases identified during the season.⁷

Data will be displayed here later in the season.

Pediatric influenza-associated deaths reported (including NYC)

Local health departments report pediatric influenza-associated deaths to NYSDOH.

Flu-associated deaths in children younger than 18 years old are nationally notifiable. Influenza-associated deaths in persons 18 years and older are not notifiable. All pediatric flu-associated deaths included in this report are laboratory-confirmed.



Department of Health

⁶Counties include, in the Capital District: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie; in the Western Region: Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Wayne, and Yates

⁷Data are based on medical record reviews for hospitalized cases currently under investigation and should be considered preliminary.

Ulster County Department of Health

Medical Examiner's Office - Autopsy Cases

Date of Death between 1/1/2022 and 12/31/2022

Total Number of Cases: 199

<i>Cases by Gender</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
F	1	3	4	3	6	4	1	6	5	7	9	6	55
M	13	10	7	12	8	9	9	21	7	13	20	15	144
Grand Total	14	13	11	15	14	13	10	27	12	20	29	21	199

<i>Cases by Manner</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Accidental	4	5	3	10	4	6	6	11	5	12	13	3	82
Homicide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	4
Natural	7	8	6	1	8	5	4	13	2	6	8	2	70
Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	8	15	25
Suicide	2	0	2	4	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	1	17
Undetermined	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	14	13	11	15	14	13	10	27	12	20	29	21	199

<i>Cases by Category</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Alcohol	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
Blunt Force Trauma - non-MVA	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	4
Cardiovascular	2	6	3	0	2	1	2	9	1	3	6	1	36
Cardiovascular and Diabetes	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Cardiovascular and Obesity	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	4
Diabetes	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Drowning	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Fall	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Gunshot Wound	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	10
Hanging	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Motor Vehicle Accident	0	1	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	12
Non-Opioid Substance	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Non-Opioid Substance w/ Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Non-Opioid Substance w/ Other Substances	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
Non-Opioid Substance w/ Other Substances and Alcohol	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Obesity	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Opioid	3	0	0	3	0	1	2	4	1	0	3	0	17
Opioid w/ Other Substances	0	3	0	2	2	3	1	5	5	8	5	0	34
Opioid w/ Other Substances and Alcohol	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Other	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	3	1	3	2	1	20
Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	6	12
Pending - Suspected Opioid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	9	13
Pneumonia	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Ulster County Department of Health
Medical Examiner's Office - Autopsy Cases
Date of Death between 1/1/2022 and 12/31/2022

Total Number of Cases: 199

Pulmonary Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Sharp Force Trauma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Smoke Inhalation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	14	13	11	15	14	13	10	27	12	20	29	21	199