

Milwaukee Respiratory Virus Surveillance Update

MMWR Week 8, Ending February 24, 2024

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Overview

County

- There were 2 influenza-associated hospitalizations reported in Milwaukee County during the week ending on February 24, 2024. From October 1, 2023 through February 24, 2024, there have been 428 reported influenza-associated hospitalizations in Milwaukee County (306 City of Milwaukee residents).

State

- Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity is at moderate or high levels in every region of Wisconsin and influenza is the predominant virus of the week.
- While influenza activity is increasing, RSV and COVID-19 are decreasing.
- Influenza A and B are co-circulating, but the proportion of influenza infections due to influenza B is increasing.

National

- Seasonal influenza activity remains elevated nationally with increases in some parts of the country. This week 12 jurisdictions experienced moderate activity and 27 jurisdictions experienced high or very high activity.
- 2 influenza-associated pediatric deaths occurred during this week.
- Influenza A viruses were the most frequently reported this week.

Influenza Vaccine Composition 2022-2023 Influenza Season All standard-dose flu shots will be quadrivalent (no trivalent standard-dose flu shots will be available this season). The quadrivalent vaccines for use in the 2023-2024 influenza season contain the following:

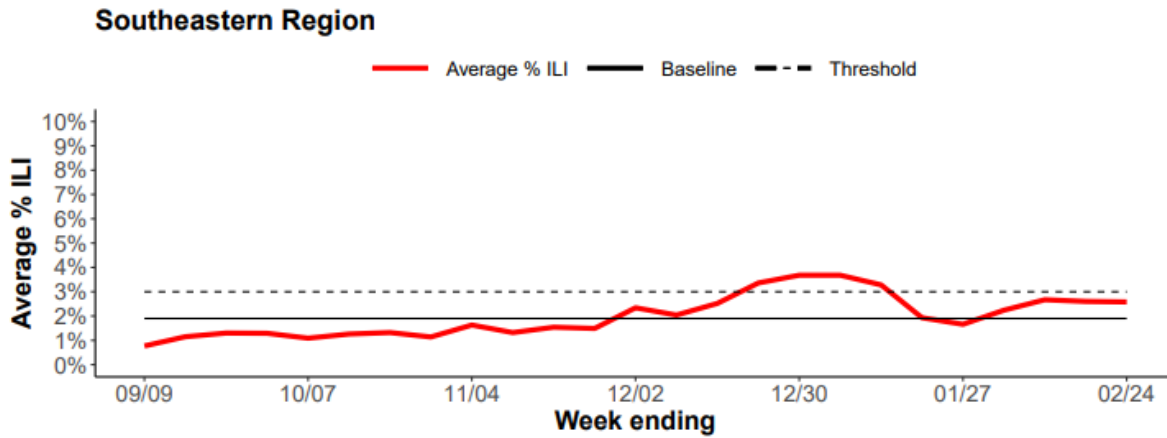
- an A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
- an A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like virus;
- a B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus; and
- a B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus

CDC Pediatric Data (Since Week 40)

2023-24 To Date: Total Deaths	2022-23 To Date: Total Deaths	Pediatric Deaths This Week	Notes on Deaths
93	182	2	Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths occurring during the 2023-2024 season were reported to CDC during Week 8. One death occurred during Week 6 (the week ending February 10, 2024) and one occurred during Week 7 (the week ending February 17, 2024). Both deaths were associated with an influenza B virus with no lineage determined. A total of 93 influenza-associated pediatric deaths occurring during the 2023-2024 season have been reported to CDC.

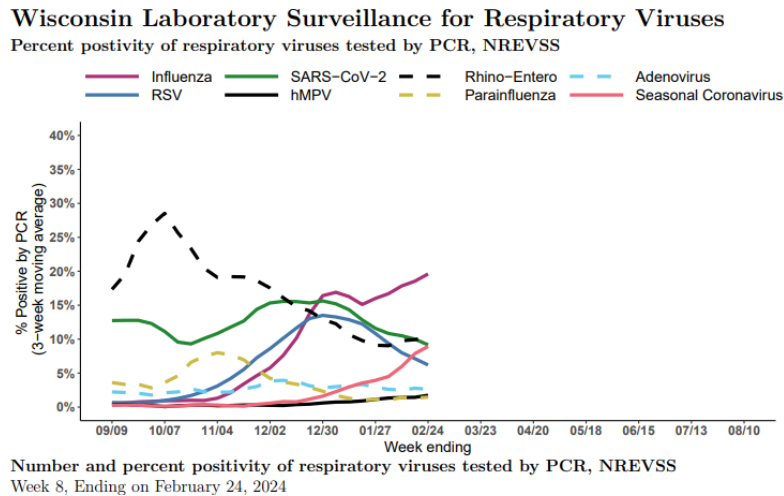
Statewide and Regional Influenza Activity

Influenza-like illness levels were above baseline statewide and above baseline in the southeastern region of the state.



Wisconsin Department of Health Services Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, February 24, 2024

Respiratory Virus Laboratory Surveillance



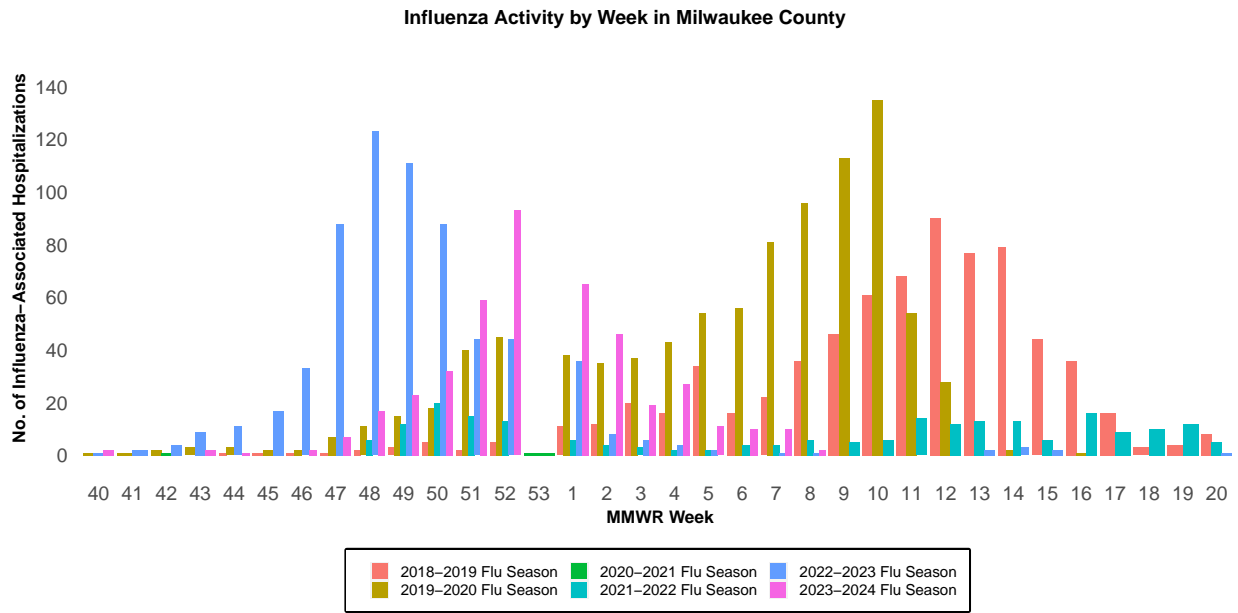
RSV = respiratory syncytial virus, hMPV = human metapneumovirus

Wisconsin Department of Health Services Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report, February 24, 2024

Milwaukee County Influenza Activity

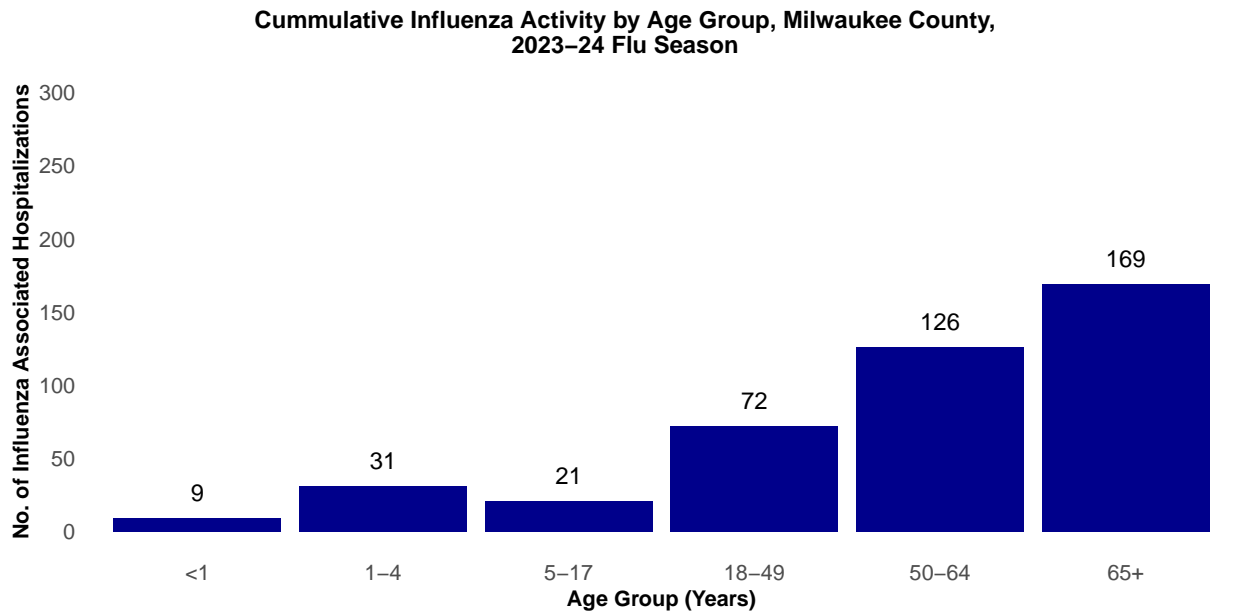
From October 1, 2023 through February 24, 2024 there have been 428 reported influenza-associated hospitalizations in Milwaukee County.

Milwaukee County Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations



*Flu activity was unusually low in the 2020-2021 flu season, despite high levels of testing. COVID-19 mitigation measures such as wearing face masks, social distancing, staying home, and school closures, in addition to flu vaccination, likely contributed to the low flu activity during this season.

Milwaukee County Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group MMWR Week 40, 2023 through Week 8, 2023

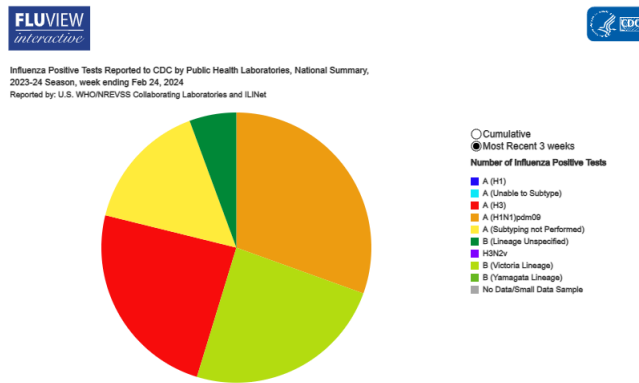


Influenza Testing Data

Public Health Laboratory Influenza Testing Data To-Date (Since Week 40)

Lab	Number Tested to date	Number Positive to date	Most Recent Week Percent Positive	Predominant A Subtype and Strain	Predominant B Strain	Predominant Type (A or B)
CDC	2,214,809	249,106	12,376/87,299(14.2%)	(H1N1)pdm09	Victoria	A
WSLH	-	-	3,623/17,274 (21%)	Unknown	Unknown	A
MHDL	11	2	2/11 (18.18%)	Unknown	Unknown	A

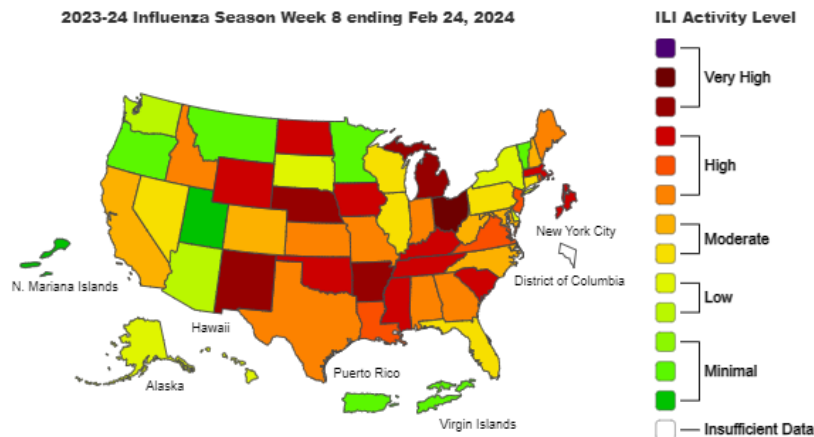
National Influenza Testing Data, CDC FluView



<http://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/fluportaldashboard.html> accessed 03/01/2024

National Influenza Activity

Outpatient Respiratory Illness Activity Map, CDC FluView

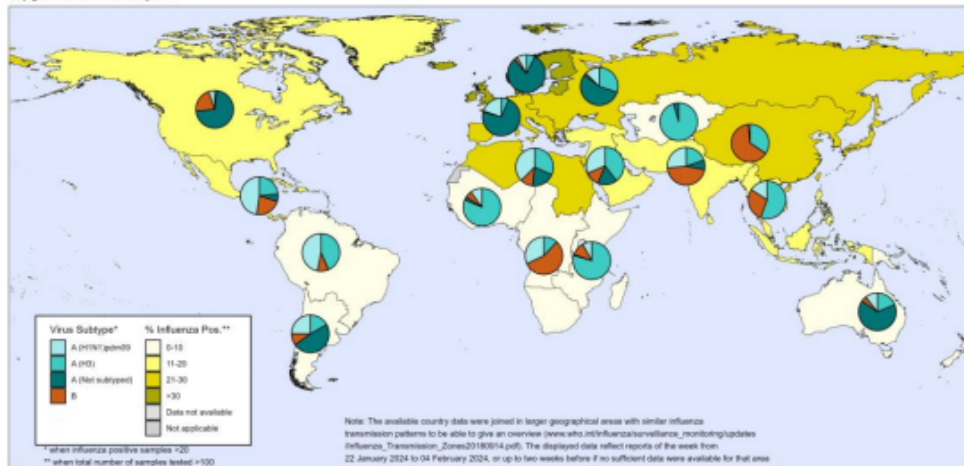


<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm#MS2> accessed 03/01/2024

Global Influenza Activity

Percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza, by influenza transmission zone.¹ Map generated on 16 February 2024. (The displayed data reflect reports of the weeks from 22 January 2024 to 04 February 2024 or up to two weeks before if insufficient data were available for an area for that period.)

Percentage of respiratory specimens that tested positive for influenza
By influenza transmission zone
Map generated on 16 February 2024

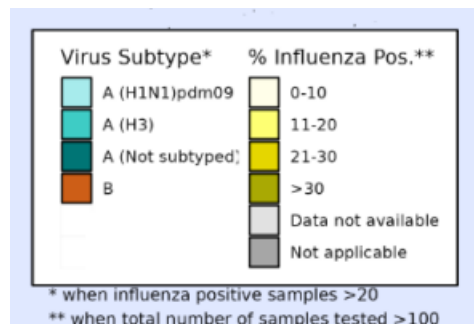


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data source: Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) FluNet (www.who.int/flu-net)
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<https://www.who.int/teams/global-influenza-programme/surveillance-and-monitoring/influenza-updates>, accessed 03/01/2024

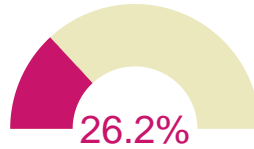


- In the countries of North America, influenza activity remained elevated but some indicators continued on a decreasing trend. Positivity for influenza A viruses decreased slightly in the United States of America (USA) and remained stable in Canada, while positivity for influenza B viruses increased slightly in both countries.
- In Europe and Central Asia, influenza activity overall in the region remained above the 10% positivity epidemic threshold. The influenza season was declared to have started in week 51 in the Region. In the week ending 4 February, two countries reported very high influenza.

Influenza Vaccination Uptake by City of Milwaukee Residents, 2023-2024 Season

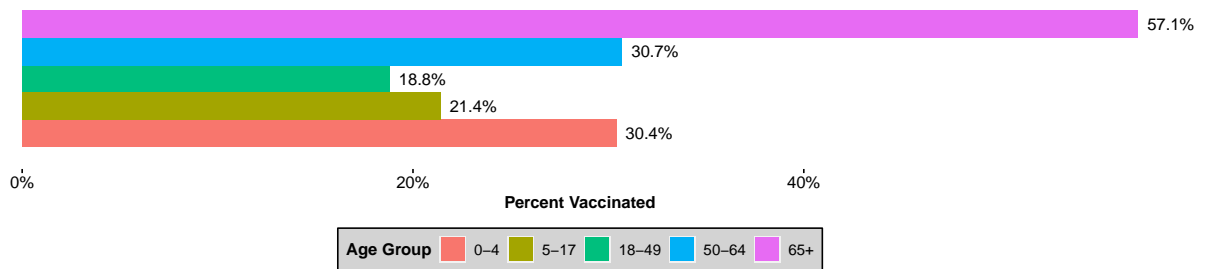
Overview

- City of Milwaukee residents who have received at least one dose of flu vaccinations as of March 1, 2024:

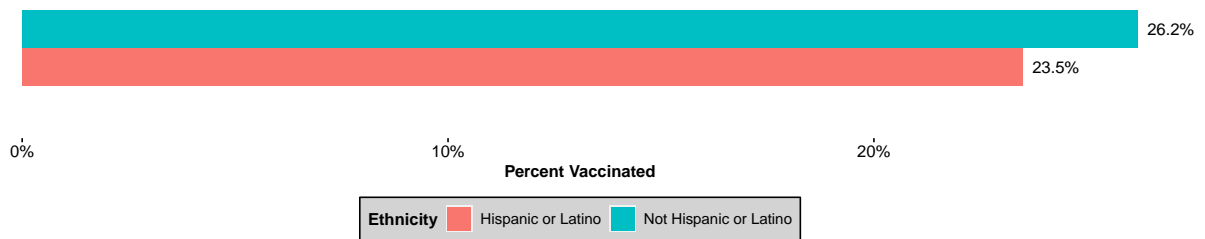


Influenza Vaccination Coverage for 2023-2024 Season by Demographics

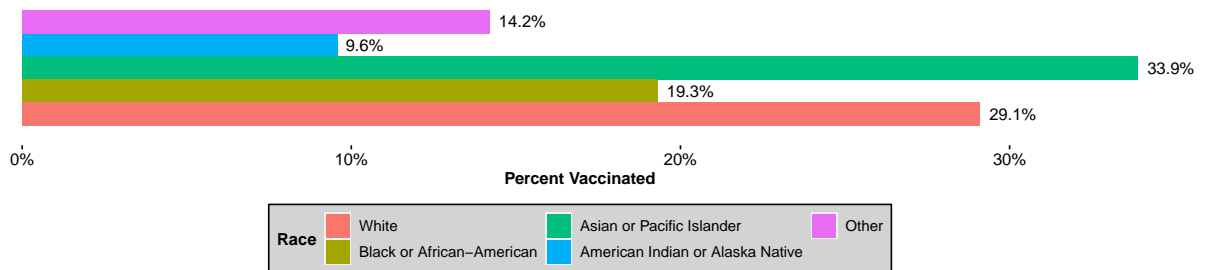
Influenza Vaccinations by Age Group



Influenza Vaccinations by Ethnicity

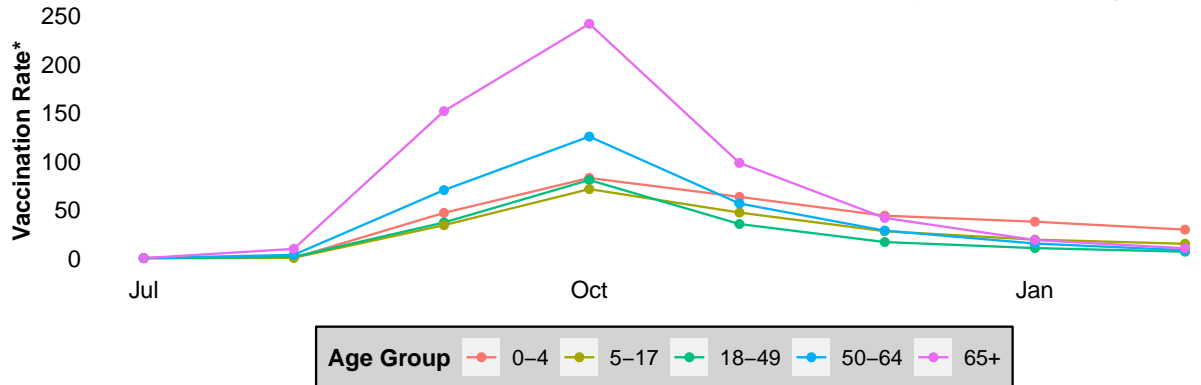


Influenza Vaccinations by Race



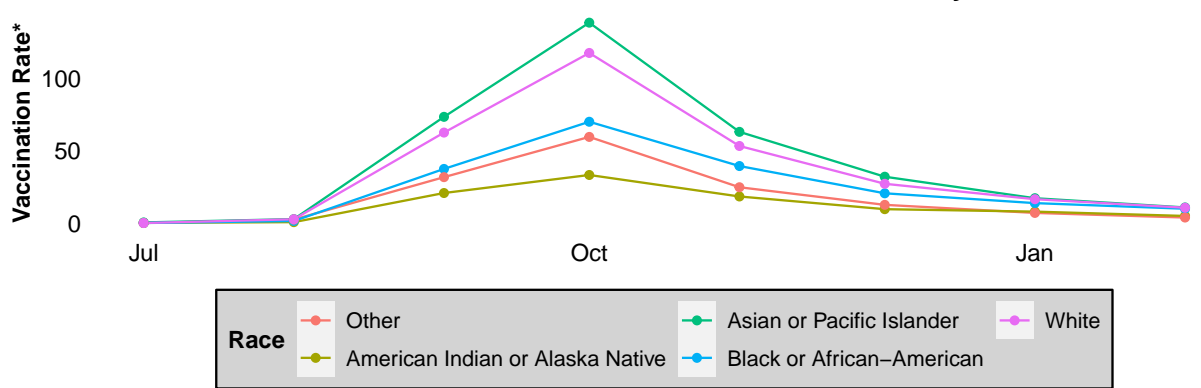
Vaccination Uptake Timelines

Influenza Vaccinations for Milwaukee Residents, 2023–24 Season by Month and Age Group



*Vaccination rates are per 1000 residents using 2021 ACS 5-year population estimates

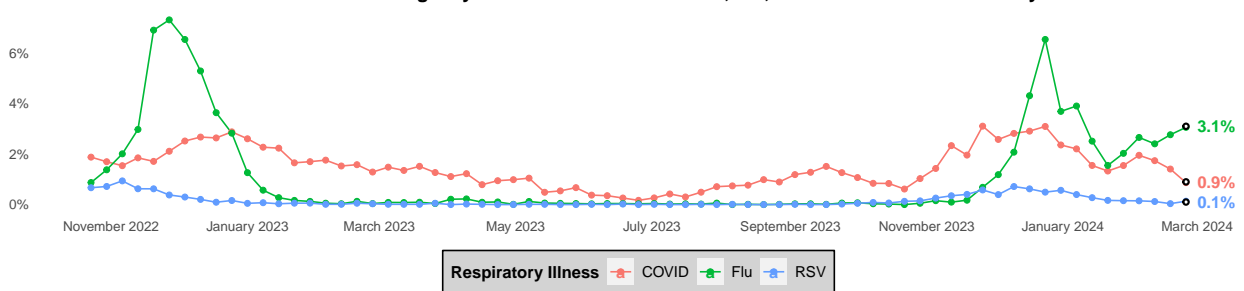
Influenza Vaccinations for Milwaukee Residents, 2023–24 Season by Month and Race



*Vaccination rates are per 1000 residents using 2021 ACS 5-year population estimates

Respiratory Illness Emergency Department Visits in Milwaukee County

Percent of All Emergency Room Visits Due to COVID, Flu, or RSV in Milwaukee County



COVID-19 Activity

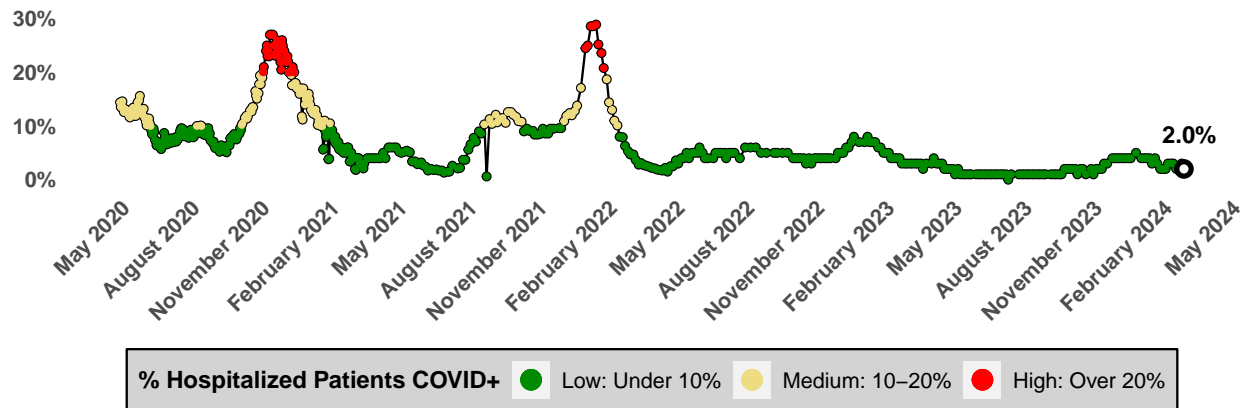
City of Milwaukee COVID-19 Vaccination Uptake

- As of March 1, 2024, 11.7% of city residents are up-to-date with their COVID-19 vaccinations.

COVID-19 Hospital Admission Metrics, Updated March 1, 2023

COVID-19 Hospital Admission Level - Low		
County Weekly Metrics Used to Determine the COVID-19 Hospital Admission Level	Comparison to Prior Week	
New hospital admissions of confirmed COVID-19, past week (total)	129	Down from 143
New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population	8.2	Down from 9.1
% Staffed inpatient beds occupied by patients with confirmed COVID-19 past week (average)	2.8%	Down from 3.2%

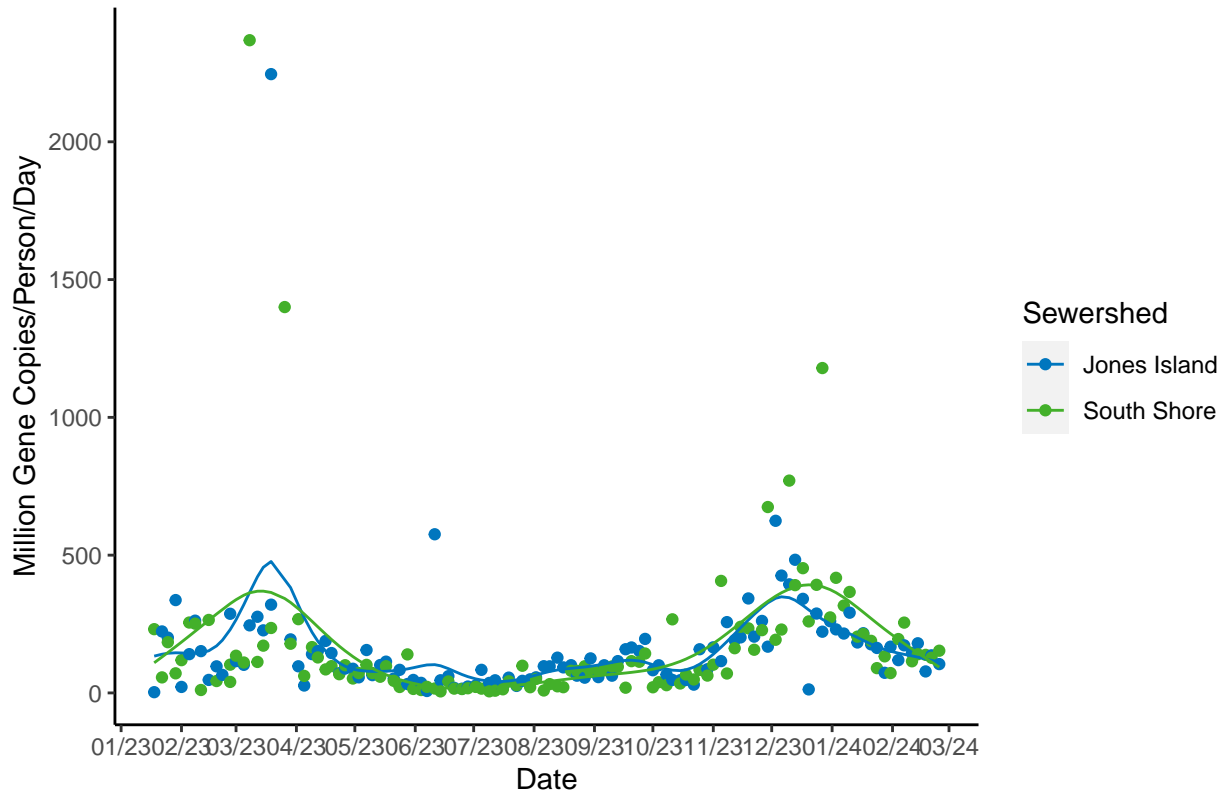
Hospitalized Patients that are COVID-19 Positive Timeline, Milwaukee County



Data Source: HERC Region 7
Last Update: 2024-02-29

SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Surveillance

COVID-19 Trends in Milwaukee Sewersheds



Category: Compared to the last 6 months of data, the average of the last three most recent SARS-CoV-2 measurements are in the 28 percentile for Jones Island Sewershed and are in the 44 percentile for South Shore Sewershed. These measurements are *low* for Jones Island and *moderate* for South Shore.

Trajectory: Wastewater concentrations of SARS-CoV-2 *significantly increased* in the Jones Island or South Shore sewersheds.

Please note that at this time, the values reported here are slightly different than the values reported for Jones Island and South Shore on the DHS COVID-19 Wastewater Dashboard – this is not an error. The differences are due to the Milwaukee Health Department Lab (MHDL) using different methodologies than the lab who sends data to DHS.