



# DUPAGE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## DuPage County Weekly Respiratory Illness Surveillance Report<sup>1</sup> Week 46: 11/12/2023 – 11/18/2023

*This report summarizes key respiratory illness surveillance indicators in DuPage County. Indicators include reportable conditions (influenza intensive care unit admissions, pediatric influenza deaths, novel influenza A viruses), emergency department syndromic ([ILI](#), [CLII](#), [RSV](#), and [BARI](#)) and outpatient sentinel (ILI) surveillance trends, long-term care facility outbreaks, school absenteeism data, medication sales, and hospital capacity data.<sup>1</sup> All data are provisional and may change as additional reports are received. This report and reports for prior weeks can be found [here](#).*

### Report Outline (click to go directly to section):

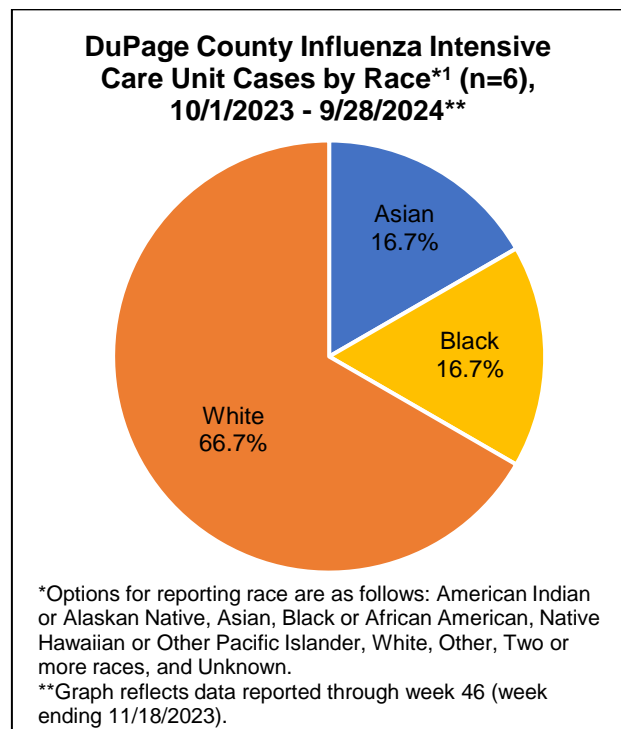
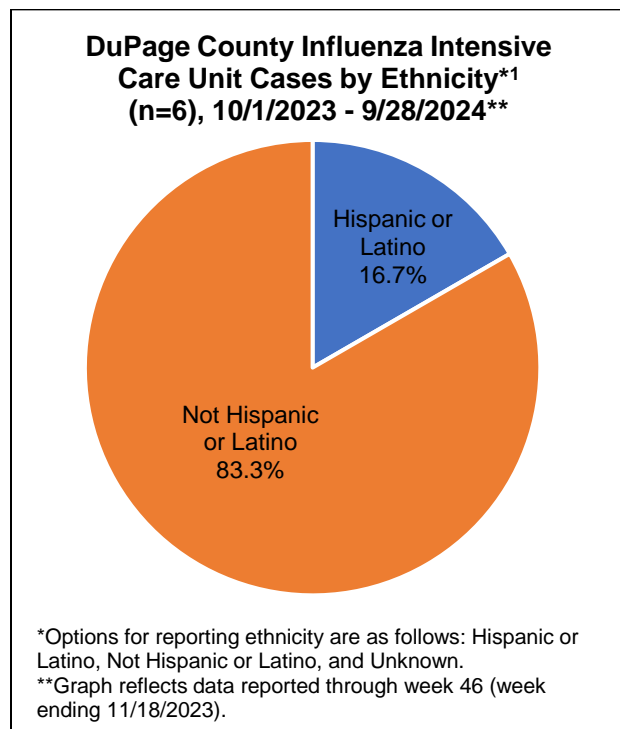
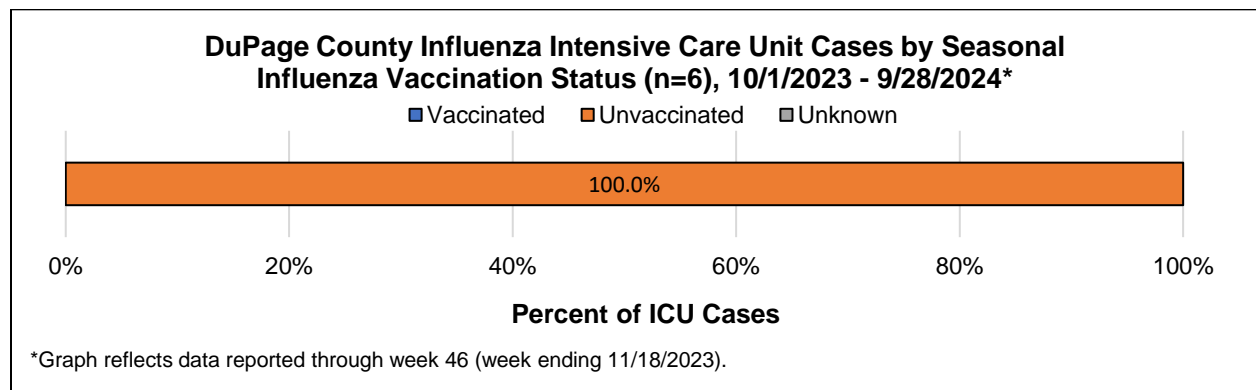
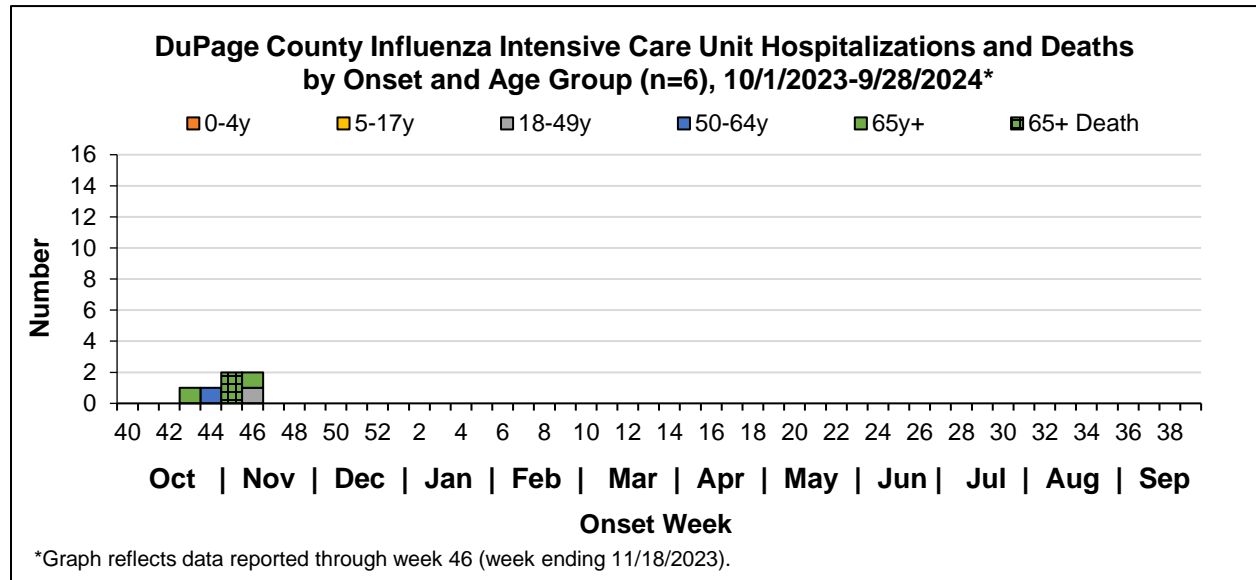
- [Summary](#)
- [Influenza Intensive Care Unit Hospitalizations](#)
- [Influenza Laboratory Test Results](#)
- [Emergency Department Respiratory Illness Activity](#)
- [Outpatient Clinic Influenza-like Illness Activity](#)
- [School Absenteeism Reporting](#)
- [Footnotes and Additional Resources](#)

### Summary for Week 46

- Based on surveillance system indicators, **influenza-like illness**<sup>2</sup> activity in DuPage County is currently estimated to be **low**.
- DuPage County's [COVID-19 Hospitalization Admission Level](#) is **low**.
- **Three influenza-associated intensive care unit (ICU) admissions** were reported (2023-2024 influenza season provisional total: 6 cases, including 2 deaths).
- **No influenza-associated pediatric deaths** were reported (2023-2024 influenza season provisional total: 0 deaths).
- **No influenza A, novel virus cases** were reported.
- **8 respiratory illness outbreaks** were reported in long-term care facilities (LTCF). 2023-2024 season provisional total = 39 outbreaks:
  - COVID-19: 37
  - Influenza or influenza-like illness: 2
  - RSV: 0
- **Two clusters of increased ILI absenteeism** were reported in schools (2023-2024 influenza season provisional total: 2 clusters).
- **There were increases in over-the-counter medication sales** for ILI-related conditions this week.
- **No hospitals were on bypass** this week due to insufficient capacity.
- **Wastewater surveillance data on COVID-19, influenza, and/or RSV and other pathogens** are available at: <https://iwss.uillinois.edu/>, <https://data.wastewaterscan.org/>, <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#wastewater-surveillance>
- **Updates on influenza activity in Illinois** are available here: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/influenza-surveillance/report.html>
- **Respiratory illness reports and dashboard (coming soon)** for DuPage County are available at: [www.dupagehealth.org/RespiratoryIllness](http://www.dupagehealth.org/RespiratoryIllness)
- **Additional COVID-19 data, including by municipality, severity, and race/ethnicity**, for DuPage County can be found here: [www.dupagehealth.org/COVID19data](http://www.dupagehealth.org/COVID19data)

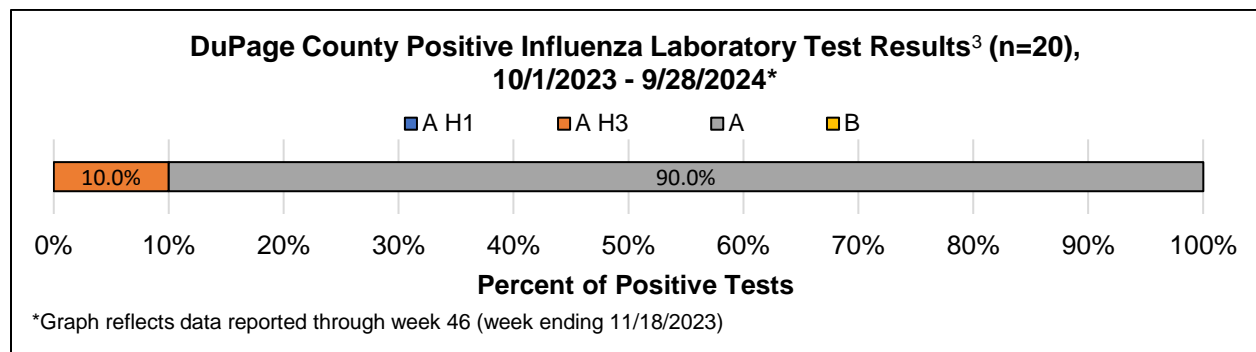
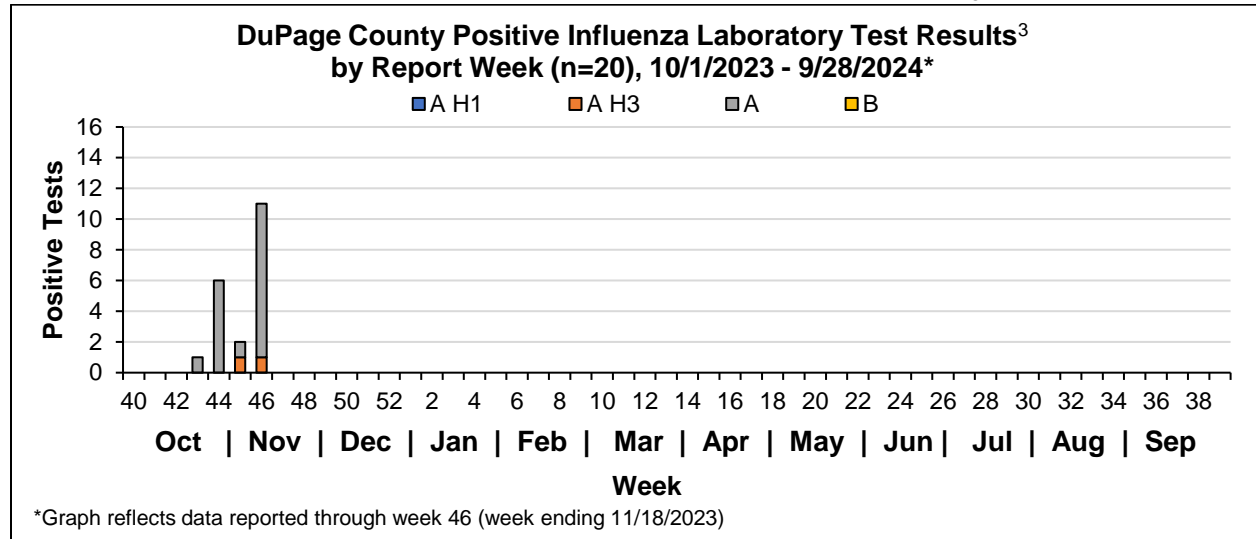
### Influenza Intensive Care Unit Hospitalizations

Influenza intensive care unit (ICU) hospitalizations are reportable in Illinois per the [Control of Communicable Diseases Code](#). Deaths include ICU hospitalized cases where the death is due, in full or in part, to influenza.



**Influenza Laboratory Test Results**

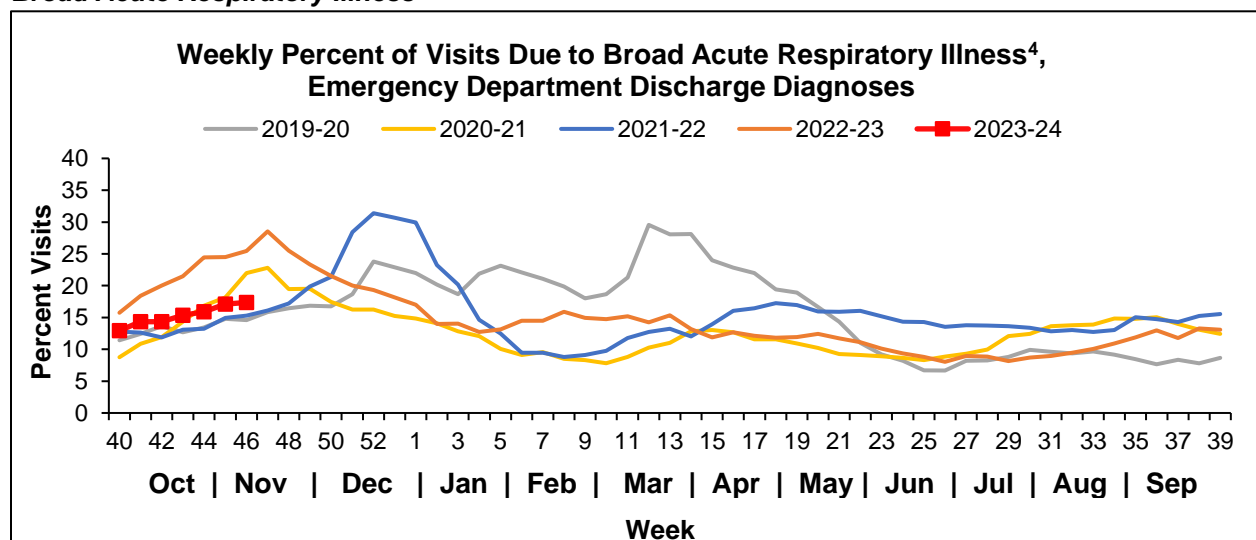
Laboratory data include results for reportable cases and outbreaks, including influenza-associated intensive care unit admissions, pediatric influenza deaths, novel influenza A virus cases, and outbreaks at long-term care facilities.

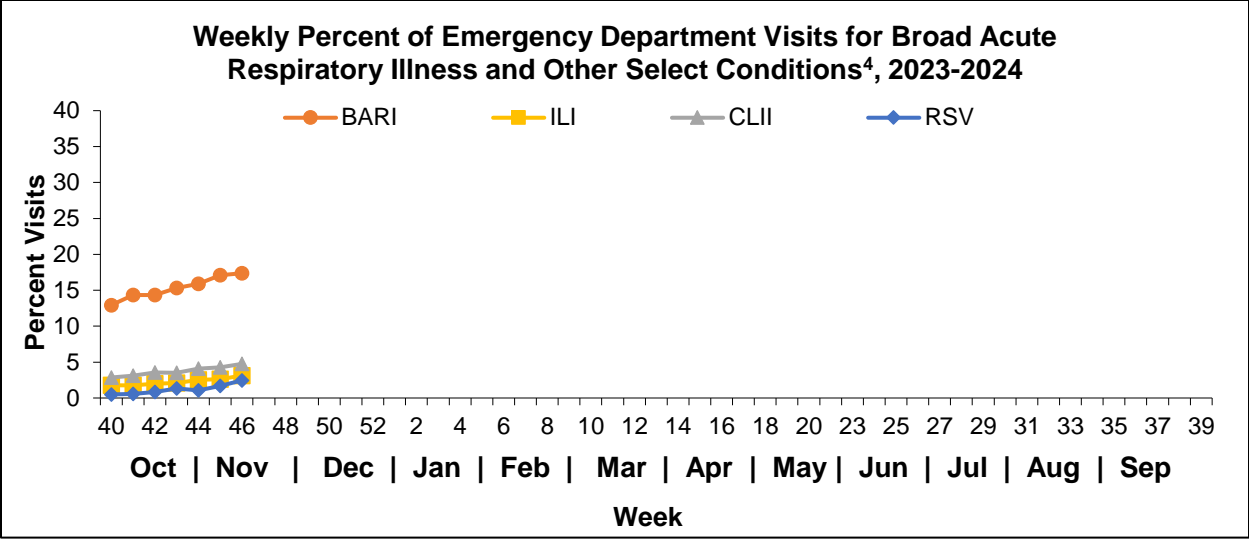


**Emergency Department Respiratory Illness Activity⁴**

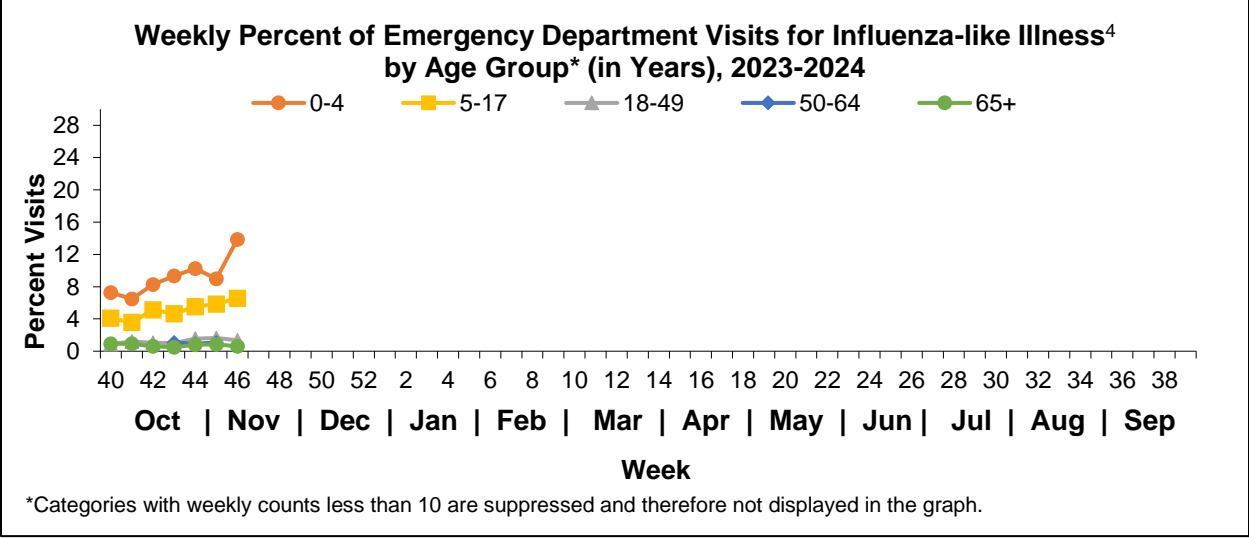
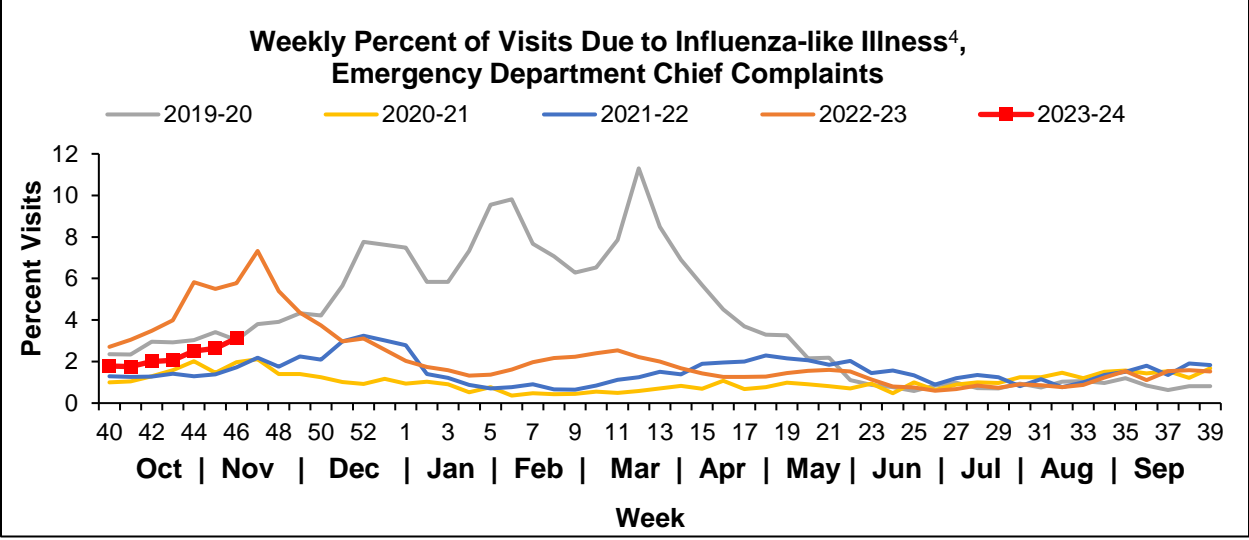
Hospital Emergency Department (ED) [syndromic surveillance](#) data, including chief complaints and discharge diagnoses, are reported in near real-time to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) through Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Data below include ED visits at all six DuPage County acute care hospitals for broad acute respiratory illness (BARI), influenza-like illness (ILI), COVID-19-like illness and/or infection (CLII), and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

**Broad Acute Respiratory Illness**

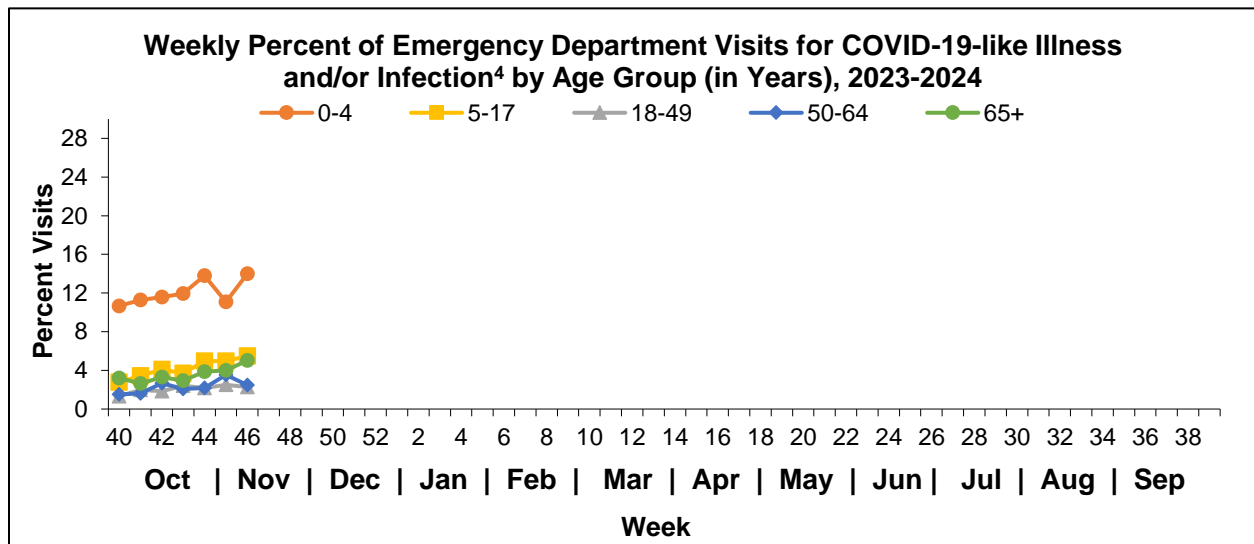
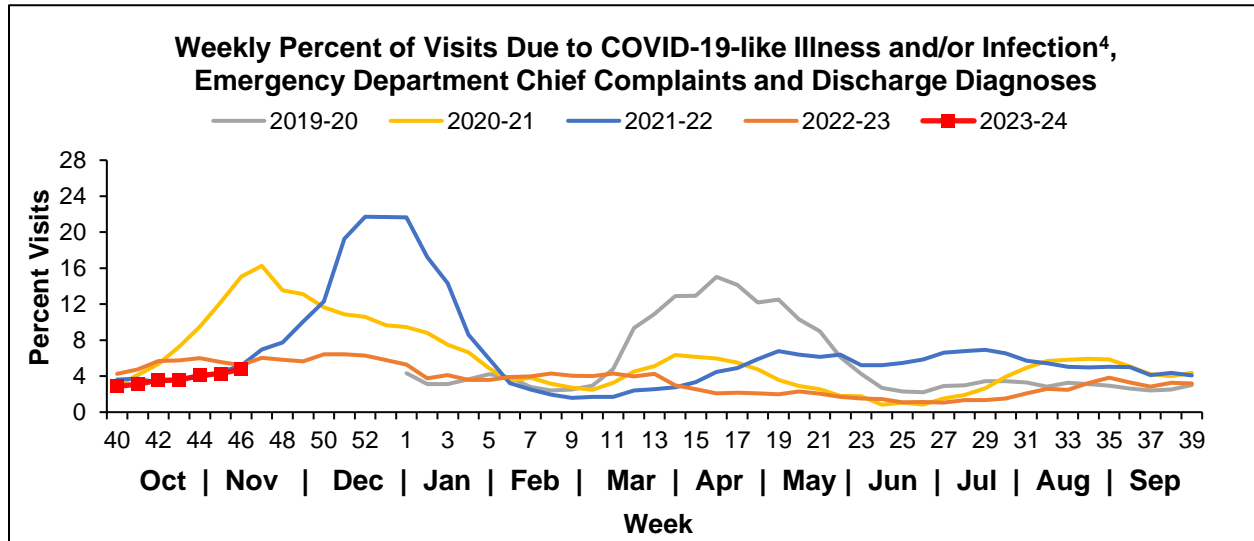




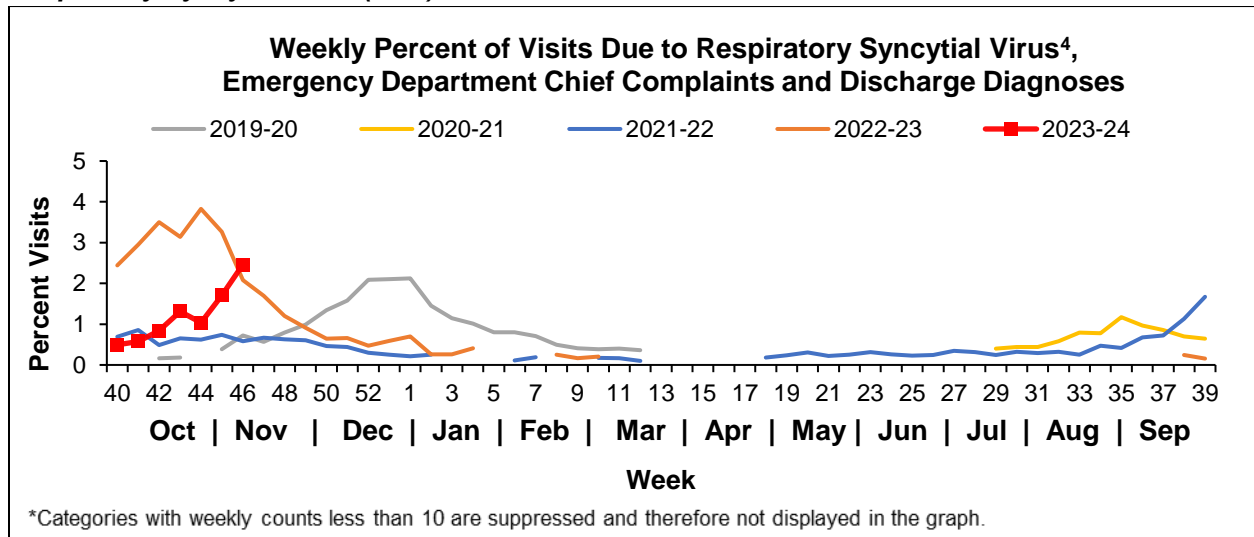
**Influenza-like Illness**



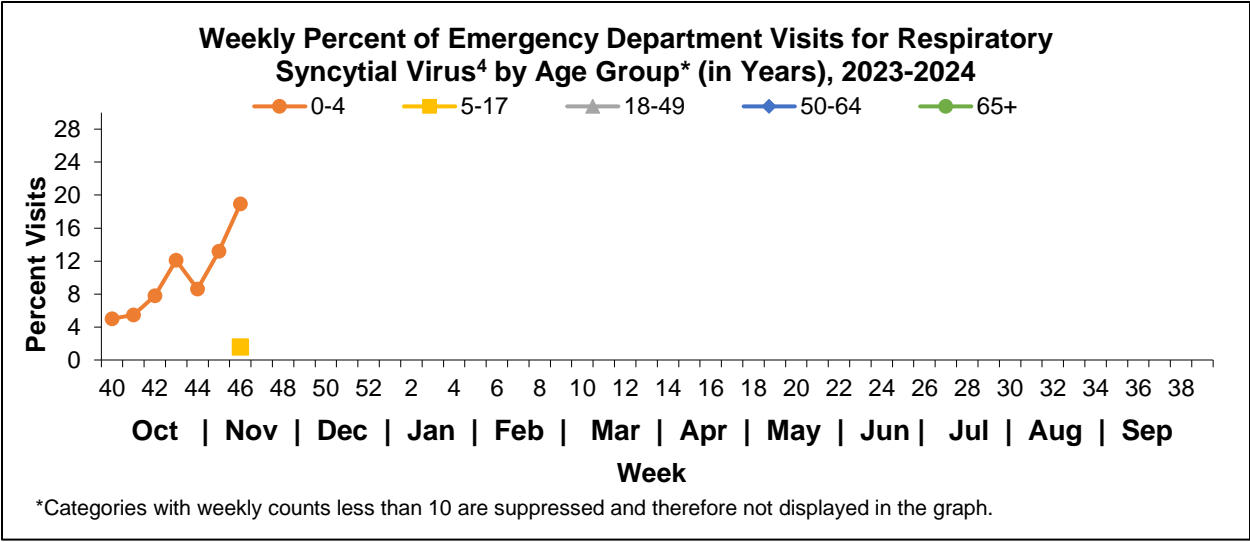
**COVID-19-like Illness and/or Infection**



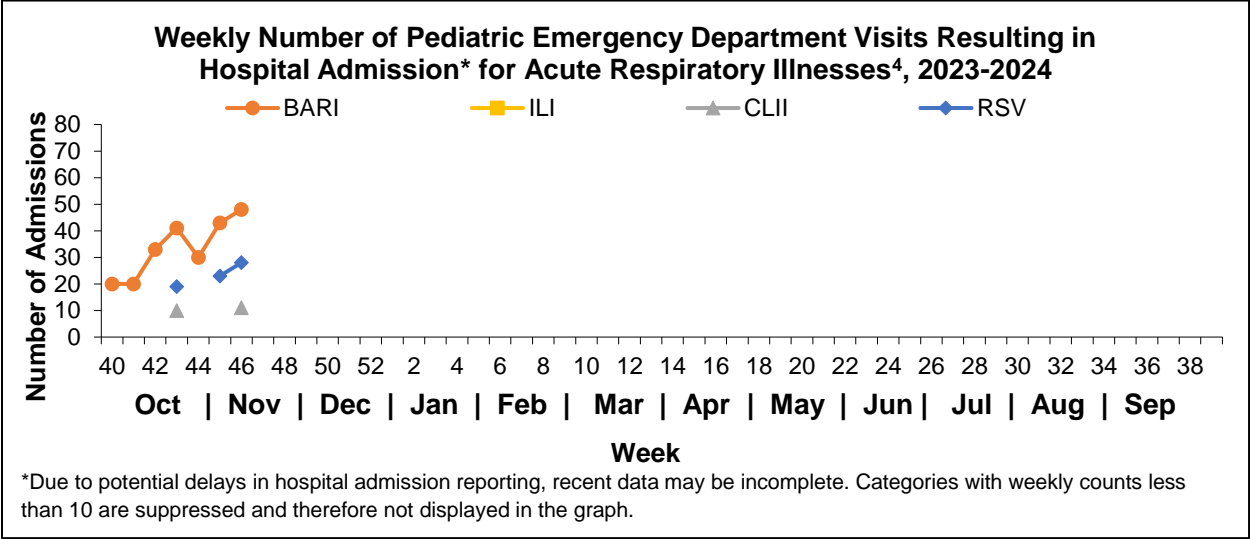
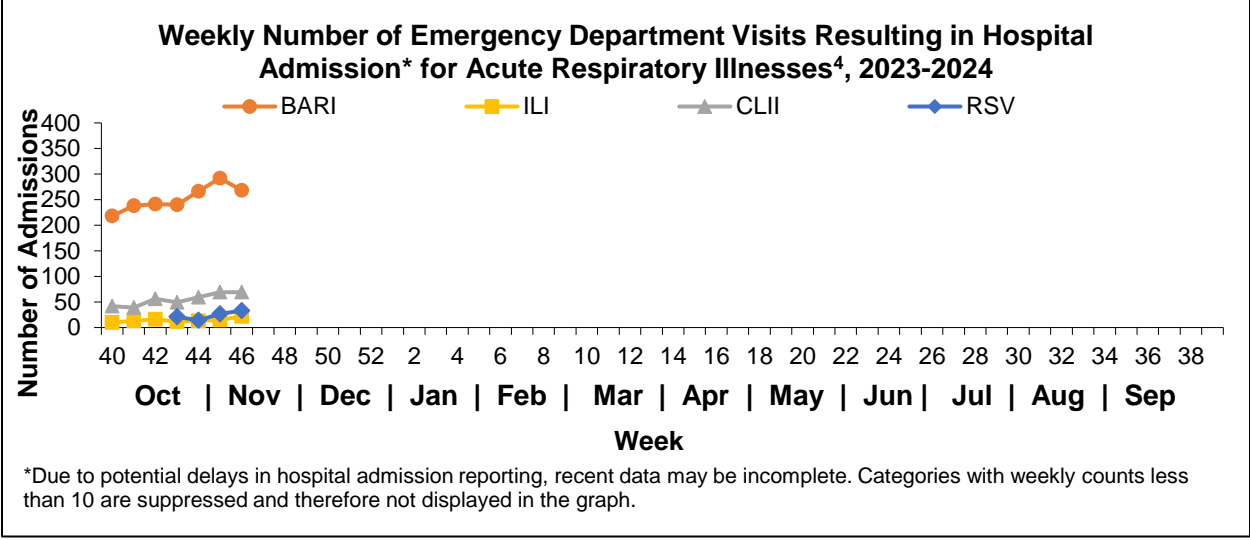
**Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)**



\*Categories with weekly counts less than 10 are suppressed and therefore not displayed in the graph.

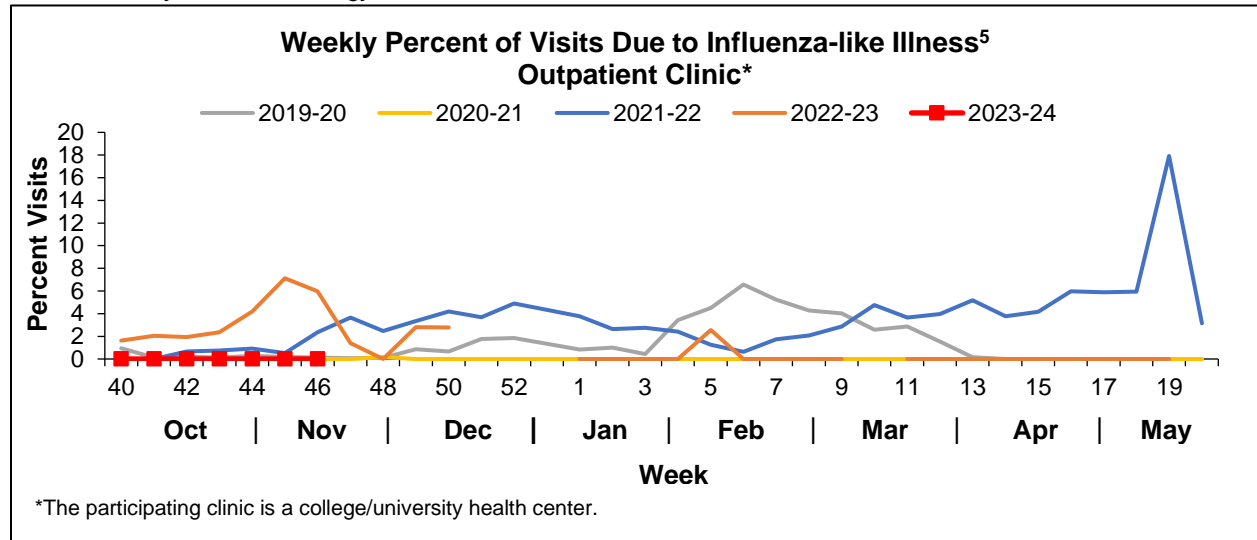


**Emergency Department Visits Resulting in Hospital Admissions**



### Outpatient Clinic Influenza-like Illness Activity

For the 2023-2024 season, one outpatient clinic (a college/university student health center) in DuPage County reports the number of visits for ILI using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System methodology.



### School Absenteeism

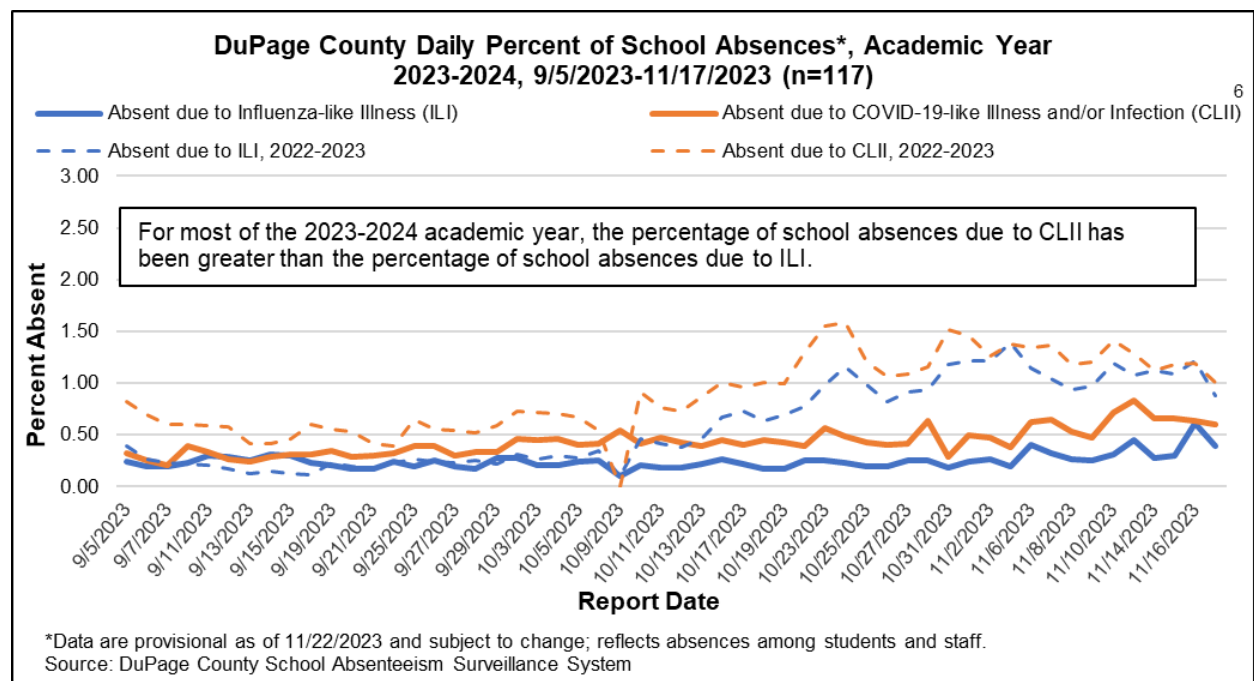
School absenteeism surveillance helps alert school administration and the community to times of increased risk and take the necessary precautions to interrupt the spread of disease. School absenteeism is tracked for DuPage County public and private schools through a voluntary, secure, online reporting platform. Data are collected on absences due to influenza-like illness (ILI), COVID-19-like illness and/or infection (CLII), other (non-illness), unknown reasons, in-school presentation of illness, and total illness among students and staff.

DuPage County Health Department received absenteeism reports from **98 schools (25.0% of 392 public and private schools)** with in-person attendance by students or staff during **Week 46**.

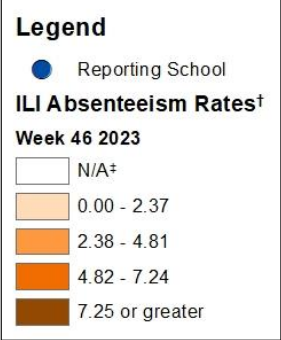
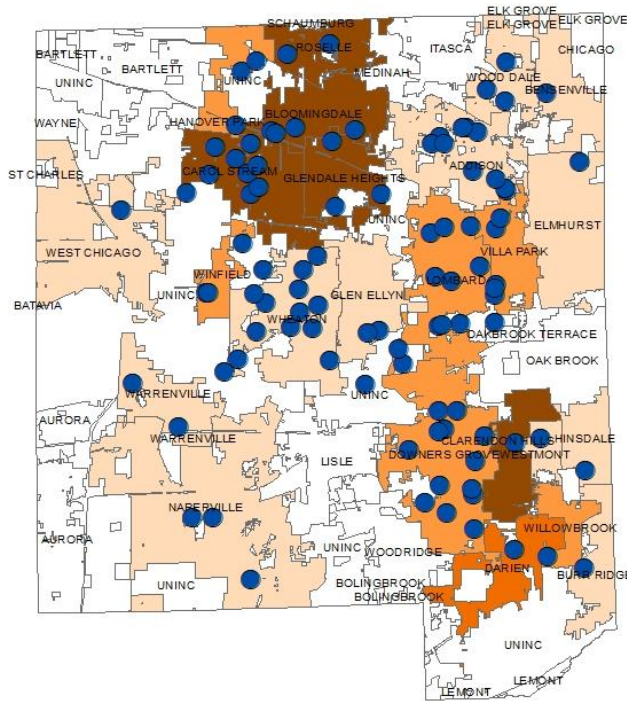
For **Week 46**, the overall **school absenteeism rate** due to:

- **ILI was 4.07 per 1,000 students and staff**
- **CLII was 6.82 per 1,000 students and staff**

**Two clusters** of increased ILI absenteeism were reported in schools.



**DuPage County\* Influenza-like Illness (ILI)  
Absenteeism Rates per 1,000 Students and Staff by School Municipality  
Week 46: 11/13/2023 - 11/17/2023**

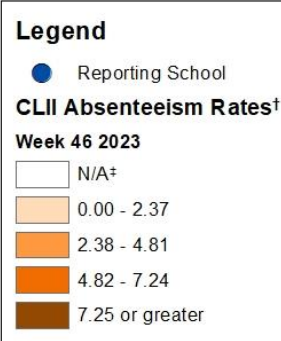
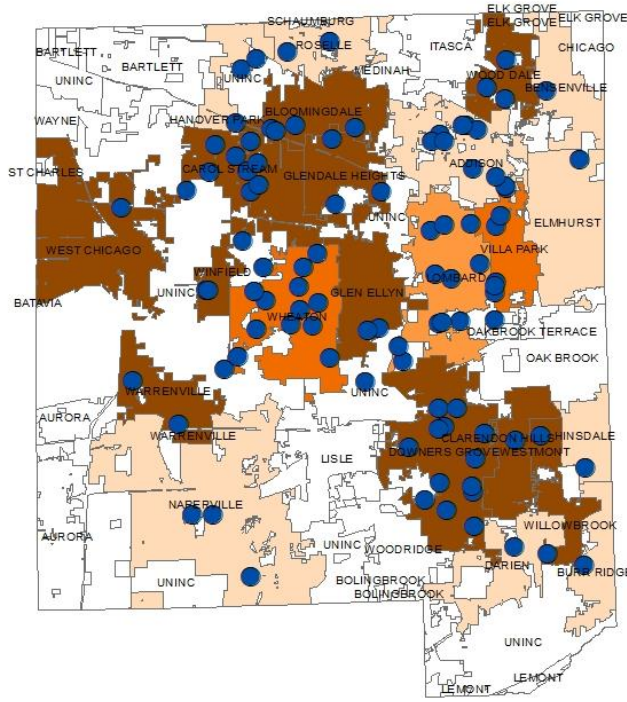


\* May include schools associated with DuPage County school districts.

† Absenteeism rate levels were calculated using standard deviations from the IU baseline.

‡ Data not available or included in incorporated areas. Data from schools in unincorporated areas are included in the municipality of the facility's address.

**DuPage County\* COVID-19-like Illness and/or Infection (CLII)  
Absenteeism Rates per 1,000 Students and Staff by School Municipality  
Week 46: 11/13/2023 - 11/17/2023**



\* May include schools associated with DuPage County school districts.

† Absenteeism rate levels were calculated using standard deviations from the IU baseline.

‡ Data not available or included in incorporated areas. Data from schools in unincorporated areas are included in the municipality of the facility's address.



## Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup> DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) tracks respiratory illness surveillance indicators through a variety of methods. Indicators and sources include: 1) reportable conditions such as influenza intensive-associated care unit admissions, pediatric influenza deaths, and novel influenza A virus cases (source: Illinois-Electronic Disease Surveillance System), 2) long-term care facility outbreaks (source: Outbreak Reporting System), 3) emergency department visits categorized by chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis (source: Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics [ESSENCE]), 4) outpatient sentinel surveillance (source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance), 5) school absenteeism (source: DuPage County school absenteeism system portal), 6) over-the-counter medication sales (source: Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance [RODS]), 7) hospital capacity data (source: EMResource). All data are preliminary and may change as additional reports are received. DuPage County population data are available [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> ILI activity defined as: low – minimal or no ILI activity, moderate – increased ILI activity, high – elevated ILI activity.

<sup>3</sup> Laboratory data include results received for reportable cases and outbreaks, including influenza-associated intensive care unit admissions, pediatric influenza deaths, novel influenza A virus cases, and influenza outbreaks at long-term care facilities.

<sup>4</sup> ESSENCE emergency department data compiled using the following queries available within ESSENCE : broad acute respiratory illness (BARI) defined using the CDC Broad Acute Respiratory DD v1 query, influenza-like illness (ILI) defined using the ED chief complaint ILI syndrome definition set by the National Syndromic Surveillance Program, COVID-19-like illness and/or infection (CLII) defined using the CLI CC with CLI DD and Coronavirus DD v2 query, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) defined using the CDC Respiratory Syncytial Virus v1 query. Effective week 44, the query for ED visits resulting in hospital admission was changed from using the Disposition Category for the ED visit to using the field Has Been Inpatient to track hospital admission status from ED visit, per input and consultation with IDPH.

<sup>5</sup> Reported using Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System methodology. Currently one outpatient clinic at a college/university student health center reports for DuPage County.

<sup>6</sup> COVID-19-like-illness and/or infection (CLII) should include student and staff members who are absent due to 1) any of these [symptoms](#) that are not caused by another condition and/or 2) a positive COVID-19 viral test, with or without symptoms.

**DCHD thanks all of our surveillance partners for their help in collecting this information.**

**For additional information, please contact the DuPage County Health Department Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Unit at 630-221-7553 or [emily.murskyj@dupagehealth.org](mailto:emily.murskyj@dupagehealth.org).**

### **Additional Respiratory Illness Surveillance Reports:**

#### **Influenza:**

- CDC FluView: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>
- IDPH Influenza Surveillance: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/influenza-surveillance.html>
- DCHD weekly respiratory illness reports: <https://www.dupagehealth.org/RespiratoryIllness>

#### **COVID-19:**

- CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>
- IDPH COVID-19 Statistics: <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/data.html>
- DCHD COVID-19 dashboard: <https://www.dupagehealth.org/610/DuPage-County-COVID-19-Dashboard>

#### **RSV:**

- CDC RSV Surveillance: <https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/rsv/index.html>

### **Respiratory Illness Guidance and Resources:**

#### **Influenza:**

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/>
- IDPH: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/influenza.html>
- DCHD Long-term Care Facility Resources: <https://www.dupagehealth.org/724/Long-term-Care-Facility-Resources>

#### **COVID-19:**

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- IDPH: <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19.html>
- DCHD General COVID-19 Resources: <https://www.dupagehealth.org/590/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19-Inform>
- DCHD Long-term Care Facility Resources: <https://www.dupagehealth.org/724/Long-term-Care-Facility-Resources>

#### **RSV:**

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html>
- IDPH: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/cd-school-nurse-guidance/rsv-facts-for-parents.html>