

EPI Log

RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)

Respiratory syncytial Virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. Young children and older adults, especially those with certain underlying health conditions, are at higher risk of severe illness from RSV.

Individual cases of RSV are not reportable in Florida, however, *all outbreaks* of RSV are reportable.

Florida's RSV season is longer than the rest of the nation and has distinct regional patterns. For this reason, the state is broken up into five RSV regions, each with their own RSV season. The Florida Department of Health established regional RSV seasons based on activity thresholds provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Preventions. For our Central region our RSV season is between August through March.

Surveillance is conducted to support clinical decision-making from prophylaxis of premature infants. The determination of seasonal and geographic trends in RSV activity in Florida has important implications for initiating prophylaxis to children at high risk for complications from RSV infection. The American Academy of Pediatrics currently recommends pre-approval from prophylactic treatment be made based on state surveillance data.

In 2023, two vaccines (Arexvy and Abrysvo) and a monoclonal antibody (Nirsevimab) were approved for the prevention of RSV related illness. For more information about these products, refer to the links below:

RSV vaccines: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7229a4.htm>

RSV monoclonal antibody: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7234a4.htm>

Each year there could be updates or changes to the recommended vaccine schedule. Visit [Vaccines and Immunizations | CDC](#) for the 2023 Immunization schedules

Providers are encouraged to input vaccinations into Florida Shots which is a free statewide, centralized online immunization registry that assists healthcare providers, schools and parents track immunization records/ For information go to [Home | Florida SHOTS \(flshotsusers.com\)](#) Source: Florida RSV Review

To report a disease or outbreak: Call (386) 274-0634 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Fax: (386) 274-0641, After Hours: (386) 316-5030. P.O. Box 9190, Bin #111, Daytona Beach, FL 32120-9190



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PREVENT FOOD POISONING DURING THE HOLIDAYS



To report a disease or outbreak:
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Foodborne illness (sometimes called food poisoning, foodborne disease, or foodborne infection) is common, costly and preventable. You can get food poisoning after swallowing food that has been contaminated with germs. Feasting with family is part of many holiday celebrations. Make food safety a part of your holiday party or event plans. Follow these tips to help prevent food poisoning or foodborne illness during the holidays.

- **Keep foods separated.** Keep meat, chicken turkey, seafood and eggs separate from other foods by keeping them in containers or sealed plastic bags.
- **Cook food thoroughly.** Use a thermometer to make sure meats are cooked to a safe internal temperature to kill germs.
- **Thaw your turkey safely.** Thaw turkey in the refrigerator, in a sink of cold water (change water every 30 minutes) or in the microwave. Do not thaw turkey or other foods on the counter.

Wash your hands with soap and water during these key times when you are likely to get and spread germs:

- Before, during and after preparing food.
- Before eating food
- After handling pet food or pet treats or touching pets
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet
- After touching garbage
- After blowing your nose, coughing,

Symptoms of food-borne illnesses include diarrhea, stomach pain or cramps, nausea, vomiting and fever

- **Keep food out of the “danger-zone.”** Bacteria grows rapidly between 40F and 140F. Keep hot food hot and cold food cold. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours. Set the temperature in your refrigerator to 40F or below and the freezer 0F or below.
- **Use pasteurized eggs for dishes containing raw eggs.** Salmonella and other harmful germs live on both the outside and inside of normal-looking eggs. Many holiday favorites such as eggnog, hollandaise sauce and Caesar dressing contain raw eggs. Always use pasteurized when making these dishes.
- **Do not eat raw dough or batter.** Dough and batter made with flour or eggs can contain harmful germs, such as *E. coli* and *Salmonella*. Do not taste or eat raw dough or batter that is meant to be baked or cooked.
- sneezing or caring for someone who is ill.

Pregnancy and Holiday Food

Pregnant people are at increased risk of food poisoning, so take extra care if you are pregnant or preparing food for someone who is.

- Do not eat or drink raw or unpasteurized milk and products made with it, such as soft cheeses. They can contain harmful germs, including listeria.
- Do not drink raw or unpasteurized juice or cider.
- Do not eat smoked seafood that was sold refrigerated unless it is in a cooked dish, such as a casserole.
- Do not eat or taste raw flour, dough or batter.

Volusia County Disease Activity of Frequent Occurrence*	3rdQuarter 2022	3rdQuarter 2023	YTD 2023	Full Year 2022
Vaccine Preventable				
Mumps	1	1	4	3
Pertussis	0	0	2	2
Varicella	2	15	33	10
CNS Diseases and Bacteremia's				
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD)	0	1	1	1
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive)‡	2	4	16	7
Meningitis (bacterial, cryptococcal, mycotic)	2	0	1	10
Meningococcal disease	0	0	0	0
Staphylococcus aureus (GISA/VISA)	0	0	0	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae (invasive disease)‡	7	6	28	28
Enteric Infections				
Campylobacteriosis	13	48	124	77
Cryptosporidiosis	8	2	23	25
Cyclosporiasis	18	9	12	20
Shiga-toxin producing E. coli, (STEC) infection	2	9	31	19
Giardiasis	9	9	36	28
Listeriosis	1	0	1	3
Salmonellosis	47	91	191	165
Shigellosis	4	7	25	7
Typhoid Fever (Salmonella Typhi infection)	0	0	1	0
Viral Hepatitis				
Hepatitis A	0	0	1	12
Hepatitis B, acute	8	4	17	29
Hepatitis B, chronic	43	40	112	128
Hepatitis B, pregnant Women	1	1	6	8
Hepatitis C, acute	17	2	22	69
Hepatitis C, chronic	191	122	518	620
Vector Borne, Zoonoses				
Babesiosis	1	0	1	1
Brucellosis	0	0	1	0
Dengue Fever	0	2	4	3
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	1	3	4	2
Lyme disease	2	4	12	12
Malaria	0	0	1	1
Q Fever, acute	0	0	0	0
Rabies, animal	1	0	1	2
Rabies (possible exposure)	30	87	269	176
Rocky Mountain spotted fever/Spotted Fever	0	0	0	0
Rickettsiosis	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	2	0	0	2
Others				
Arsenic Poisoning/Mercury Poisoning	1	0	1	4
Pesticide-related illness and injury acute	1	0	3	3
Carbon monoxide poisoning	6	1	5	10
Ciguatera Fish Poisoning	0	0	0	0
Hansen's Disease (leprosy)	0	0	5	1
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-2019)	11964	4796	11329	57604
Influenza-associated pediatric mortality	0	0	1	0
Lead poisoning	15	13	69	36
Legionellosis	4	5	17	12
Scombroid Poisoning	0	0	0	1
Tetanus	1	0	0	3
Vibriosis (Excluding Cholera)	5	5	13	123
Cholera (V. cholerae type-01)	0	0	1	0
Monkeypox	19	0	2	30

REFERENCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cdc.gov/flu

Florida Flu Review, Week 17
FloridaHealth.Gov/FloridaFlu

INFLUENZA SEASON 2023-2024 FROM FLORIDA FLU REVIEW WEEK 45

Influenza (flu) is a respiratory infection caused by a variety of flu viruses spread primarily by droplets made when infected people cough, sneeze, or talk. Less often, a person might become infected with flu by touching a surface or object contaminated with flu virus and then touching their own mouth, eyes, or nose. **Influenza-like-illness (ILI)** is defined as the presence of fever and cough or fever and sore throat without a laboratory-confirmed etiology.

Influenza (flu) and influenza-like illness (ILI) surveillance

Figures below show flu and ILI visit data from emergency departments (EDs) participating in ESSENCE-FL and ILI patient data from ILINet providers statewide for the current year and the previous 3 years. Data is calculated based on comparison of the current year's week visit percentage to the previous 3-week average.

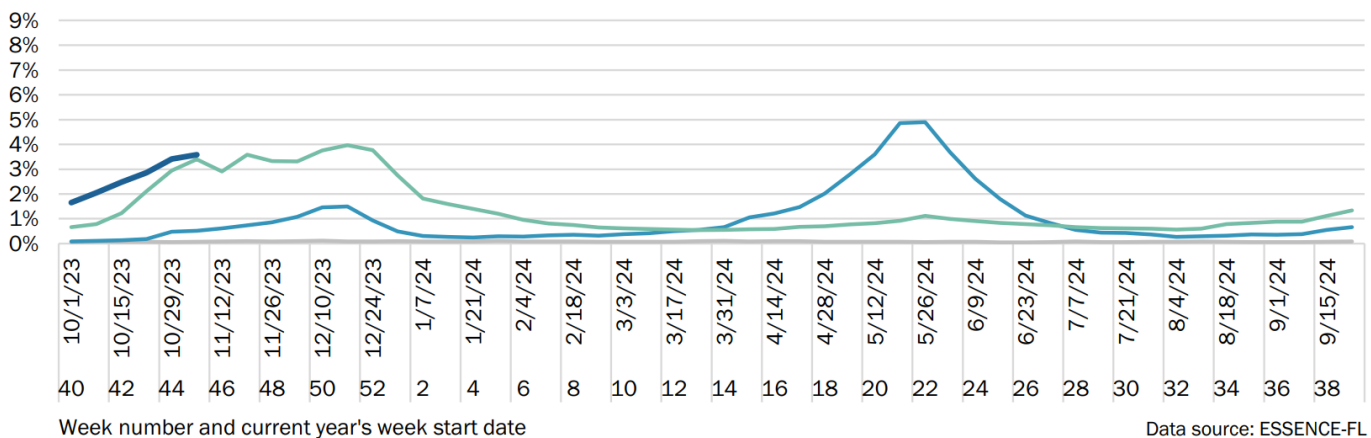
2020-21

2021-22

2022-23

2023-24

Figure 1: Percent of ED visits with discharge diagnoses of flu increased from previous 3-week average



Week number and current year's week start date

Data source: ESSENCE-FL

Florida Department of Health,
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The flu reporting year uses standard reporting weeks outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where every year has 52 or 53 reporting weeks. In Florida, the 2023–24 flu year began October 1, 2023 (week 40) and is ending this year May 18, 2024 (week 20), surveillance continues year round. Seasons vary in timing, severity, and duration. The current predominant strain circulating in our region is Influenza A H1N1 2009 Pandemic strain.

Annual vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and others from potentially severe complications from flu. Flu shots take up to two weeks to become fully effective, so it's important to get vaccinated as soon as possible to reduce your chances of getting the flu this season. To locate a vaccine near you, visit: VaccineFinder.org or contact the Volusia County Health Department vaccine line at (386) 274-0509.

CDC recommends antiviral treatment be initiated as soon as possible for people with confirmed or suspected flu who are at higher risk for complications (children <2 years, adults ≥65 years, pregnant people, and people with underlying medical conditions). Treatment should be administered within 48 hours of illness onset. For more information, contact your health care provider.

Individual cases are not reportable in Florida with the exception of novel flu A (a new subtype of flu A) and flu-pediatric deaths. All outbreaks are reportable in FL. For more information on flu visit

[Influenza \(Flu\) | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/)