

Marion County Influenza Situation Report

2021-2022 Seasonal Influenza Week 51

(December 19 – December 25, 2021)



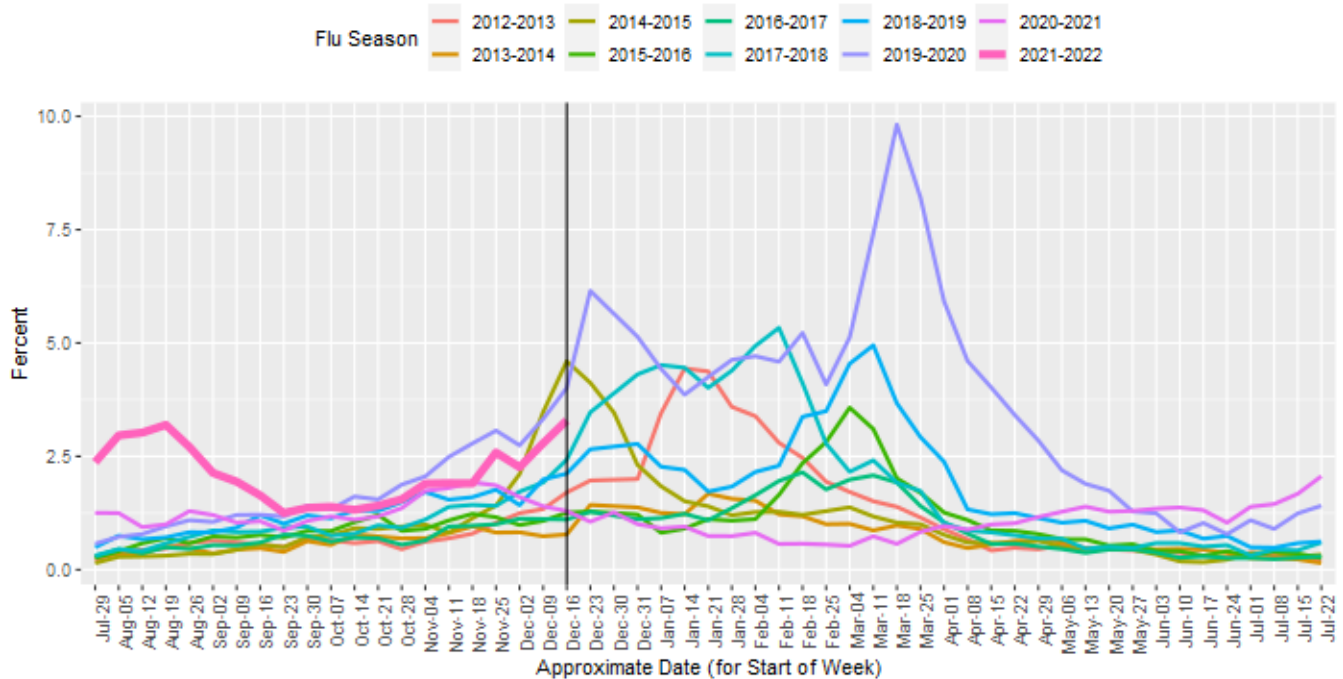
Marion County Public Health Department, IN 2021-12-20

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Influenza-like Illness ED visits in Marion County are rapidly increasing and expected to remain high into January.

Percent of ILI related ED Visits



DR1202 Fereshteh Gholipour MCPHD EPI (epidemiology@marionhealth.org) Data Source: ISDH ESSENCE 2021-12-27

- Emergency Department (ED) visits with Influenza-like Illness (ILI) symptoms, for all ages, are rapidly increasing and this year has the third highest ILI-related ED visit percentage for Week 51 in the past nine influenza seasons.
- During Week 51 (Dec. 19 to Dec. 25), **3.29% of Marion County ED visits had ILI symptoms**. ED visits with ILI symptoms have increased since Week 50 (2.79%). The median percent of ILI-related ED visits for Week 50 in the last 5 years (2017-2021) was 1.99%.
- Among Marion County hospitals' ED population, ILI was most common in the 0-4 age group (10.7%). This rate is higher than both the median percentage of ILI for ages 0-4 for Week 51 over the last 5 years (2017-2021) (7.09%) and this year's Week 50 rate for this age group (9.2%).
- ED visits for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) for 0-4 years old have rapidly increased since last week and will likely be higher in January than in previous years.
 - RSV is a common respiratory virus that is the most common cause of bronchiolitis and pneumonia for children under 1 year of age in the U.S.
- The COVID-19 pandemic may impact the Indiana Syndromic ILI data. Surveillance indicators that monitor outpatient and ED visits for ILI will detect visits for other respiratory illnesses with similar symptoms, including COVID-19.

Note: ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) visit means that the patient reported fever with cough or sore throat or used the word "flu" or "influenza" to describe either their symptoms or their reason for the ED (Emergency Department) visit.

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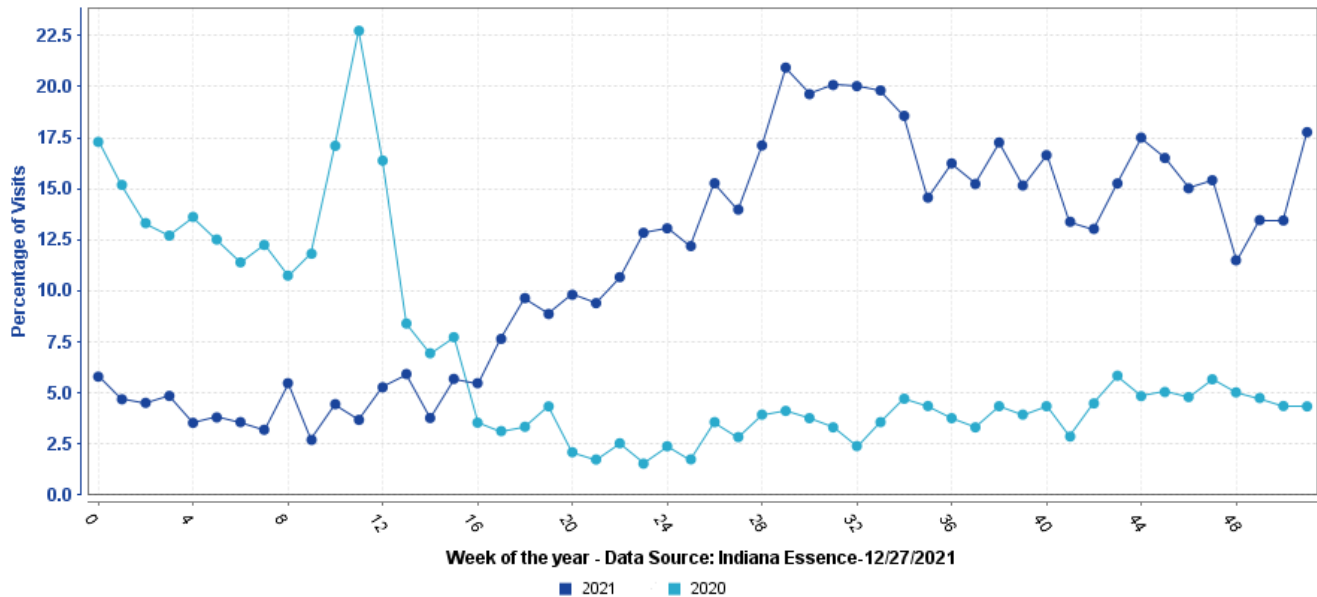


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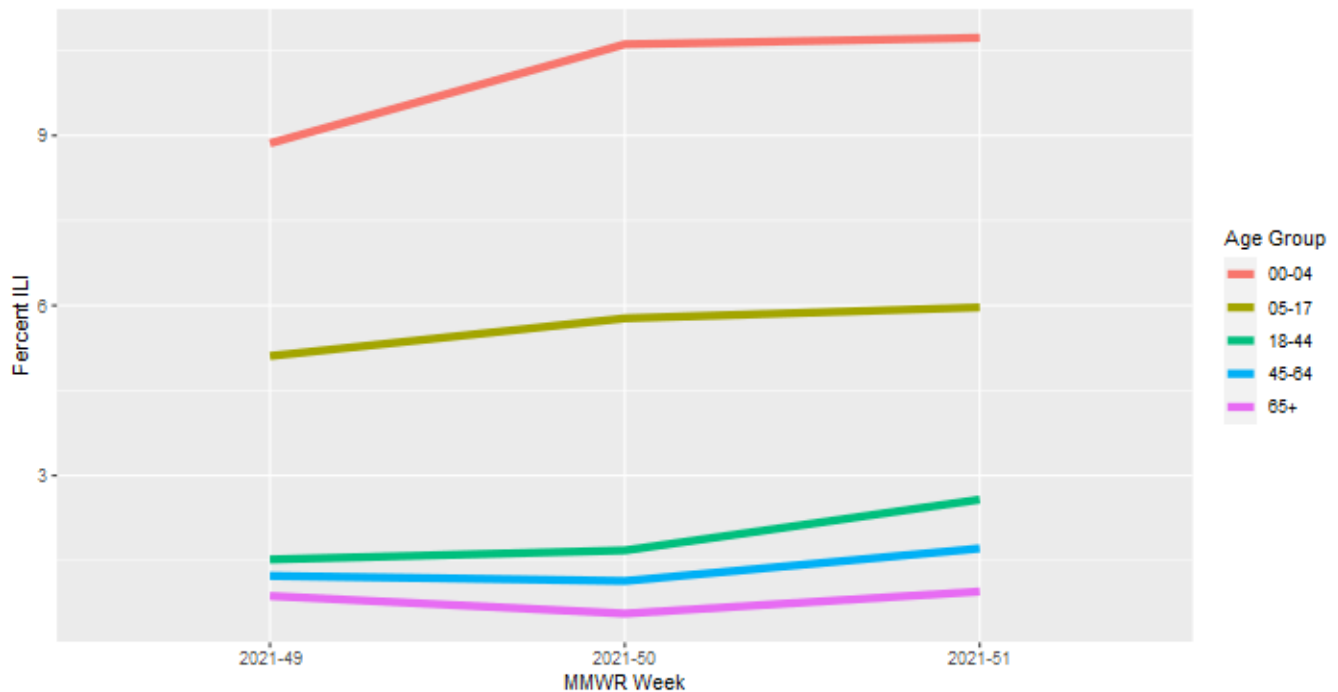
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Percentage of Visits with RSV Syndromes at Marion County EDs (0-4 years old)



Percent of ILI related ED Visits by Age Group



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Marion County (Week 50)

- The percentage of ILI-related ED visits was 2.79%.

Note: ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) visit means that the patient reported fever with cough or sore throat or used the word "flu" or "influenza" to describe either their symptoms or their reason for the ED (Emergency Department) visit.

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- Infants and toddlers aged 0-4 had the highest age-specific percent of ILI-related ED visits (9.2%).

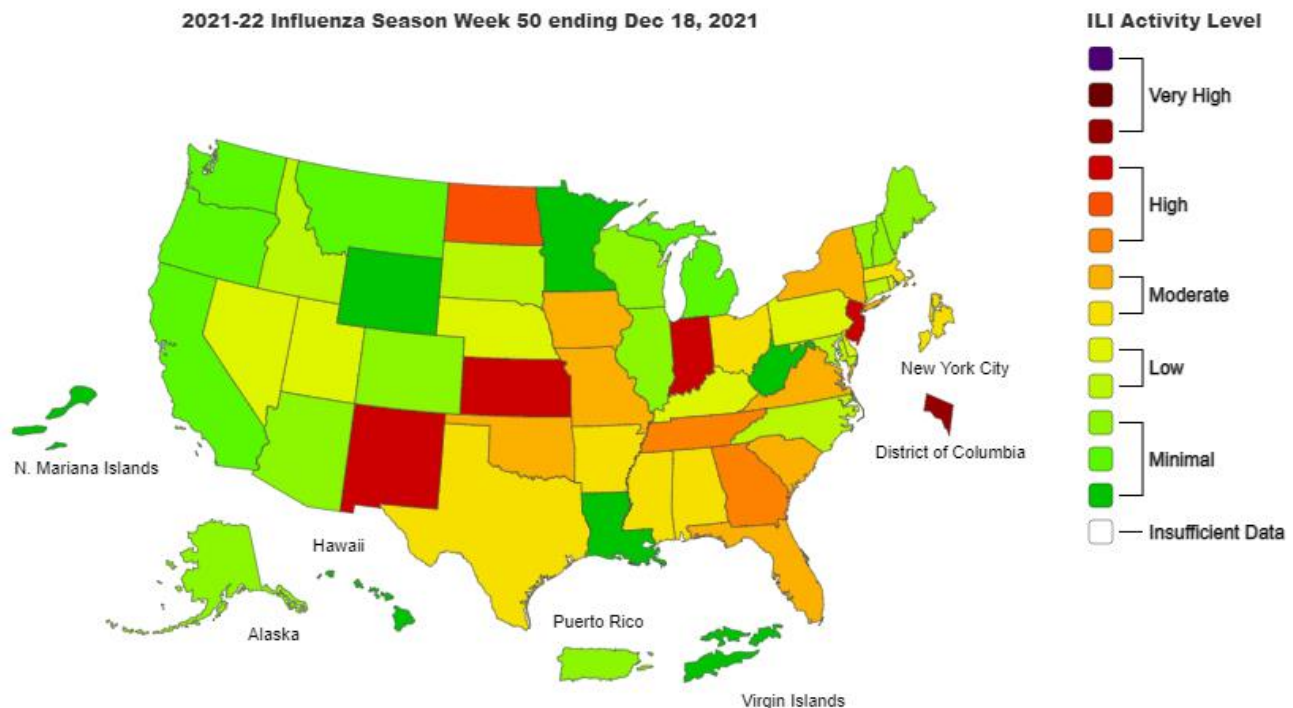
Indiana (Week 49) **Note: Week 50 data have not been posted yet, due to the holiday weekend

<https://www.in.gov/health/erc/files/Weekly-Flu-Report-Week-49-2021-2022.pdf>

- Indiana is experiencing low ILI activity. For Week 49, IDOH reported 2.25% ILI at sentinel provider sites and 2.28% ILI at ED and urgent care visits.
- There have been **three (3) influenza-associated death** this season. One death occurred during Week 38, which was outside of the regular flu reporting season (Weeks 40-20).
- Twenty-nine (29) specimens were tested at the IDOH Laboratory during Week 49. Twenty-four (24) were detected as Influenza negative and five (5) were detected as Influenza A/H3 seasonal virus.

National (Week 50)

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm>



- Seasonal influenza activity in the United States is increasing, including indicators that track hospitalizations. The amount of activity varies by region.
- Of outpatient visits to a healthcare provider, 3.1% were ILI-related, as reported through the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet).
- Two (2) influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported to CDC this flu season.

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- During Week 50, **5.6%** of clinical laboratory specimens were **positive for influenza**. This rate is **higher** than Week 49 (3.5%).
- During Week 50, **691 (2.5%)** specimens were **positive at public health laboratories**.