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 16, 2023**

- Influenza activity was categorized as geographically widespread. This is the fourth consecutive week of widespread activity reported this season.
- Laboratories tested 56,284 specimens for influenza, of which 16,920 (30%) were positive, a 51% increase in positive cases compared with the previous week.
- The number of patients hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed influenza was 1,107, a 35% increase in hospitalized cases compared with the previous week.
- Of the 6,016 specimens submitted to WHO/NREVSS laboratories, 487 (8.10%) were positive. 465 were positive for influenza A and 22 for influenza B.
- The percent of patient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) from ILINet providers was 3.06%, below the regional baseline of 4.20%.
- There were 17 outbreaks reported in hospitals and 17 outbreaks were reported in nursing homes. Season to date, there have been a total of 119 outbreaks reported from hospitals and nursing homes in NYS.
- There were no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported this week. There have been 2 influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported this season.

**Laboratory-confirmed Influenza Reports and Influenza Hospitalizations (including NYC)**


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2 No Activity: No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza reported to the NYSDOH. 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 is defined as 8 or more cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza per 100,000 population

3 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.
Regional Incidence for Lab-confirmed Cases and Hospitalizations
Regional incidence rates are calculated for both lab-confirmed cases and hospitalizations.

Geographic Activity and Incidence Rate
Laboratories that perform testing on NYS residents report all positive influenza test results to NYSDOH. County and regional incidence rates are calculated statewide to determine geographic activity.

- 61 counties reported influenza cases this week.
- Incidence ranged from 0-261.21 cases/100,000 population.
National Respiratory & Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS)
NREVSS surveillance consists of a subset of clinical and public health laboratories in NYS that voluntarily report weekly aggregate data to the CDC for multiple pathogens including influenza, COVID-19, and RSV\(^4\).

World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory & Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS)
The WHO and NREVSS surveillance system consists of a subset of clinical and public health collaborating laboratories that report aggregate data for influenza-positive specimens by type/subtype to CDC.

Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)
The ILINet Program consists of healthcare providers in NYS (excluding NYC) that voluntarily report aggregate data for the total number of visits and the total number of visits of ILI in an outpatient setting.

Healthcare-associated Influenza Activity (including NYC)
NYS Hospitals and nursing homes statewide report outbreaks of influenza to NYSDOH. For additional information about the influenza mask regulation and the status of the Commissioner’s declaration, please visit [www.health.ny.gov/FluMaskReg](http://www.health.ny.gov/FluMaskReg).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Outbreaks*</th>
<th>Capital Region</th>
<th>Central Region</th>
<th>Metro Region</th>
<th>Western Region</th>
<th>Statewide (Total)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lab-confirmed Influenza (any type)</td>
<td>HOSP</td>
<td>NH</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>HOSP</td>
<td>NH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week-to-Date 12/10/2023 - 12/16/2023</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Season-to-Date 10/01/2023 - 12/16/2023</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^4\) RSV is not a reportable condition in New York State.