

END OF SEASON INFLUENZA AND RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS FACT SHEET 2022-2023

Sacramento County Public Health uses various sources of data to monitor influenza activity in the County. Using these data sources, this fact sheet provides preliminary surveillance data on influenza activity in Sacramento County for the 2022-2023 influenza season for Week 40 through Week 21 (10/2/22 to 5/27/23).

INFLUENZA

Hospital Emergency Department (ED) Visits

The percent of influenza-like illness (ILI)-related ED visits⁵ peaked earlier in the 2022-2023 season in December (Week 49 ending 12/10/22) compared to the 2019-2020 and 2018-2019 seasons with peaks in January and March [Figure 1]. The percent of ILI-related ED visits at the peak was also higher for the 2022-2023 season than both the 2019-2020 and 2018-2019 seasons (1.3 and 2.1 times higher, respectively) at the highest point.

Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH)

SCPH confirmed a total of 104 severe influenza cases for the 2022-2023 season, with 58 influenza-related intensive care unit (ICU) hospitalizations and 46 deaths among persons of all ages. Although the incidence at the peak was comparable to that of the 2019-2020 season (1.3 vs. 1.4 per 100,000) [Figure 2], the total number of ICU hospitalizations and deaths was lower than both the 2019-2020 and 2018-2019 seasons (174 and 140 cases, respectively).

The highest number and rate of reported cases was among those 65 years of age and older [Figure 3]. The second highest case rate was among those less than 18 years of age.

Figure 1. Percent of Influenza-like Illness-Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits¹, Sacramento County, 2022-2023 vs. 2018-2020

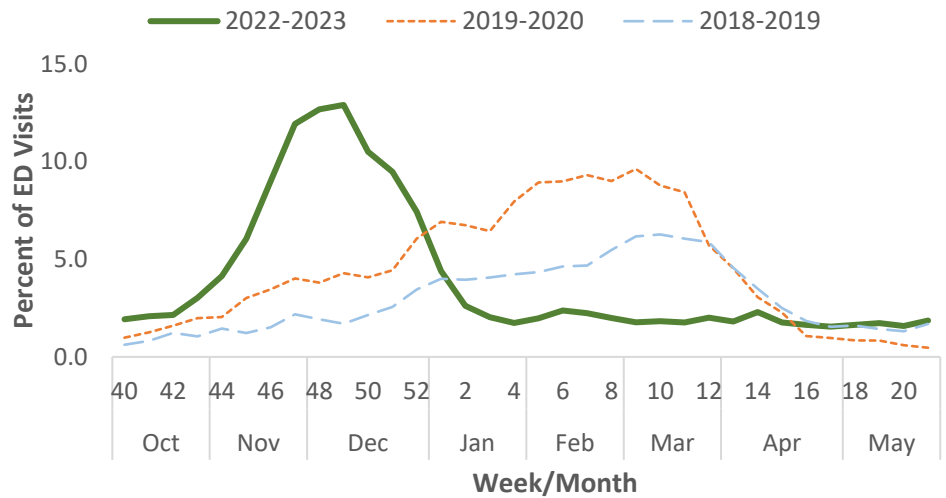


Figure 2. Influenza-Related Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Hospitalizations and Deaths, Sacramento County, 2022-2023 vs. 2018-2020

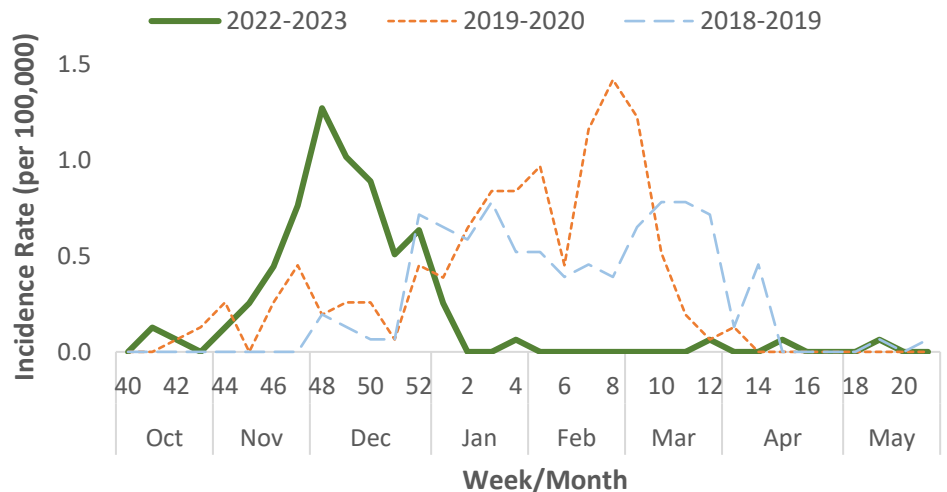
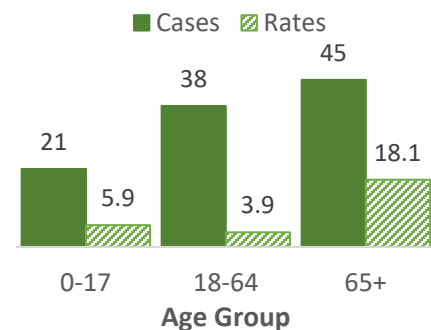


Figure 3. Influenza-Related ICU Hospitalizations and Deaths, Total Cases and Rates (per 100,000) by Age Group, Sacramento County, 2022-2023 Season



All reported cases were either influenza type A (90.0%) or unknown (1.0%) [Figure 4]. The majority (88.5%) of reported cases were not subtyped. Of those that were subtyped, 90.9% were influenza A (H3).

State and National

Influenza A was the dominant type this season, with H3N2 as the predominant subtype.^{1,2} As of Week 20 (ending 5/20/23), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated that there had been at least 27 million illnesses, 300,000 hospitalizations, and 19,000 deaths from influenza so far this season.² Interim estimates found that the 2022-2023 influenza vaccine was 54% effective at preventing severe disease among persons less than 65 years old and 71% effective at preventing severe disease among those less than 18 years old.³

RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)

From hospital ED data, RSV activity peaked during Week 47 (ending 11/26/22) among those less than 18 years old [Figure 5]. A second peak occurred during Week 51 (ending 12/24/22).

A total of 56 RSV-related ICU hospitalizations among those less than 5 years old were reported to SCPH† (data not shown). No RSV-related deaths were reported.

Data Sources: National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP); California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE)

Figure 4. Influenza-Related ICU Hospitalizations and Deaths by Influenza Type, Sacramento County, 2022-2023 Season

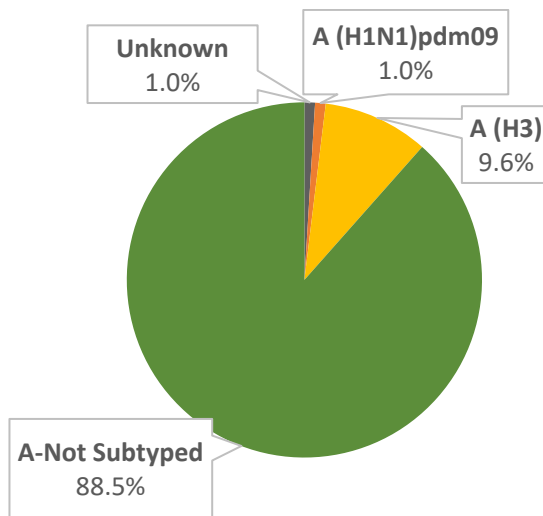
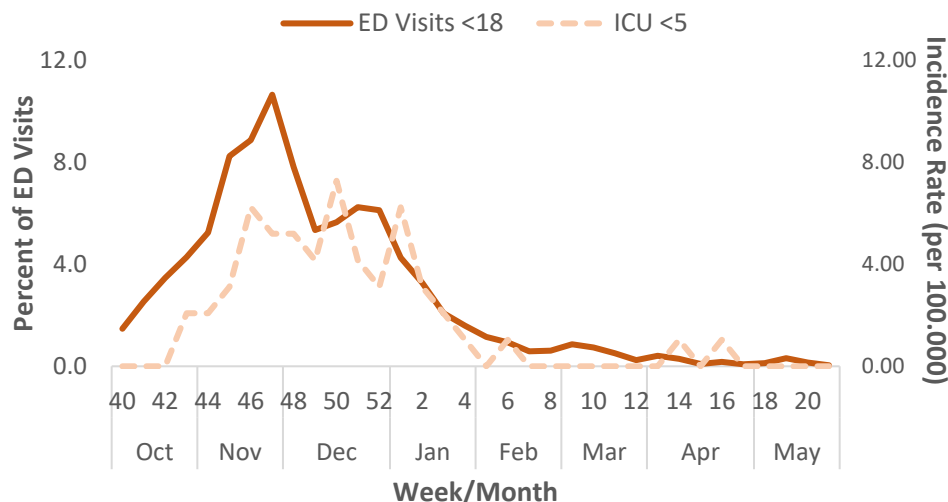


Figure 5. Percent of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)-Related ED Visits <18 Years Old vs. Incidence Rate of RSV-Related ICU Hospitalizations <5 Years Old, Sacramento County, 2022-2023 Season



Notes: Influenza activity was low during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 influenza seasons. Data for the 2022-2023 season is compared to pre-pandemic seasons.

[§]Hospital EDs in Sacramento County provide data to SCPH through the CDC’s NSSP. ILI-related ED visits excludes those with coronavirus in the discharge diagnosis.

[†]SCPH required health care facilities to report RSV-related ICU hospitalization among those <5 years old for the 2022-2023 season.

References:

- ¹CDPH – California Weekly Report – Influenza, RSV, and Other Respiratory Viruses: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/C/DPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Week2022-2320_FINALReport.pdf
- ²CDC – Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/weeklyarchives2022-2023/week20.htm>
- ³CDC – Interim Estimates of 2022-23 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7208a1.htm#:~:text=Data%20from%20two%20current%20studies,and%20adolescents%20aged%20%3C18%20years>