

# Ottawa County Respiratory Illness Report

Submitted for Publication April 19, 2024

*Dates of data may vary.*



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# Executive Summary

## *Influenza (Flu)*

*Influenza activity in Ottawa County remains elevated but continues to decline.*

*Influenza activity remains elevated but is declining in [Michigan](#). Influenza activity in the [United States](#) continues to decline.*

## *Coronavirus (COVID-19)*

*Ottawa County hospital occupancy indicators show a low percent of patients hospitalized with COVID-19; wastewater signals from Holland/Zeeland, Allendale, and Grand Haven-Spring Lake remain low and stable.*

*The weekly rate of new COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population is relatively low and decreasing in both [Michigan](#) and the [United States](#).*

## *Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)*

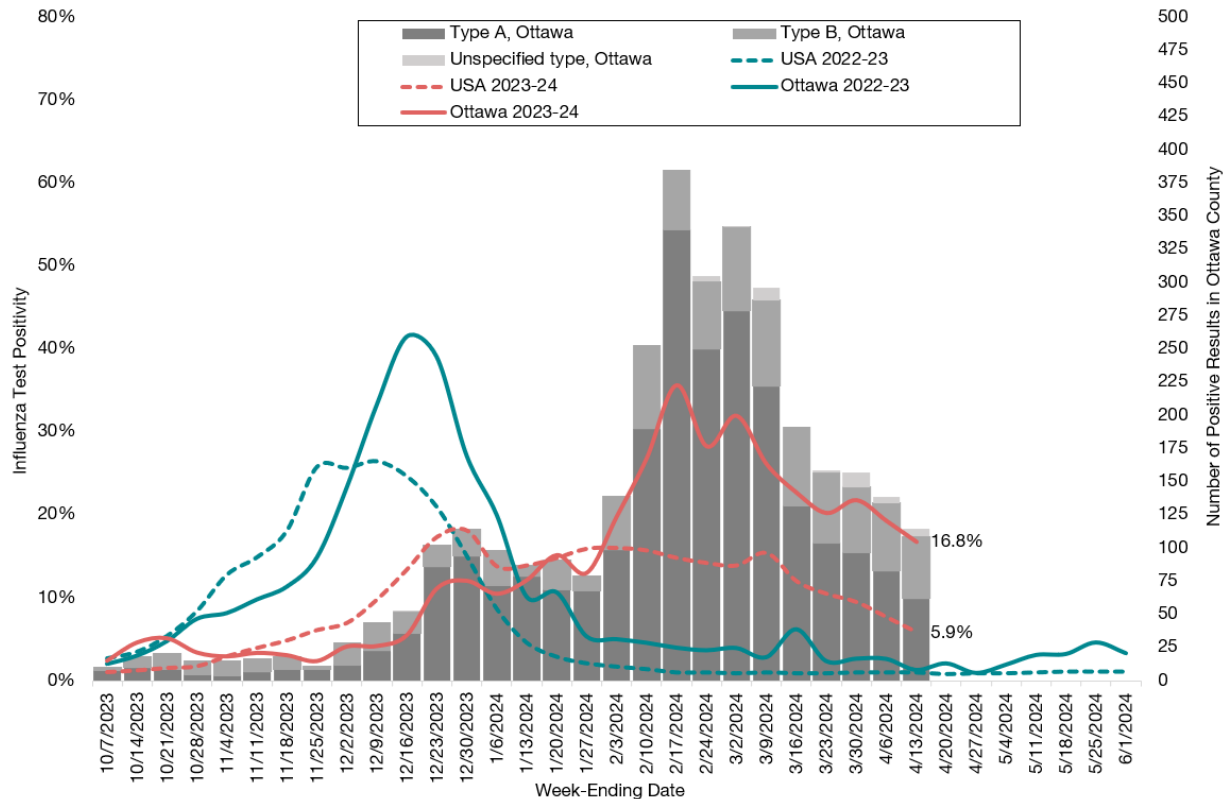
*Ottawa County surveillance data shows that local RSV activity is low. RSV activity in [Michigan](#) increased slightly but remains low. RSV activity across the [United States](#) remains low and stable.*

# Influenza Surveillance

*MMWR\* Week 15: April 1, 2024 – April 13, 2024*

# Influenza Test Positivity in the USA and Ottawa County

**Figure 1: Positivity Rate\* of Influenza Tests by Week, Ottawa County and United States**



**Table 1: Influenza Positive Tests Reported in Ottawa County – Last 8 Weeks**

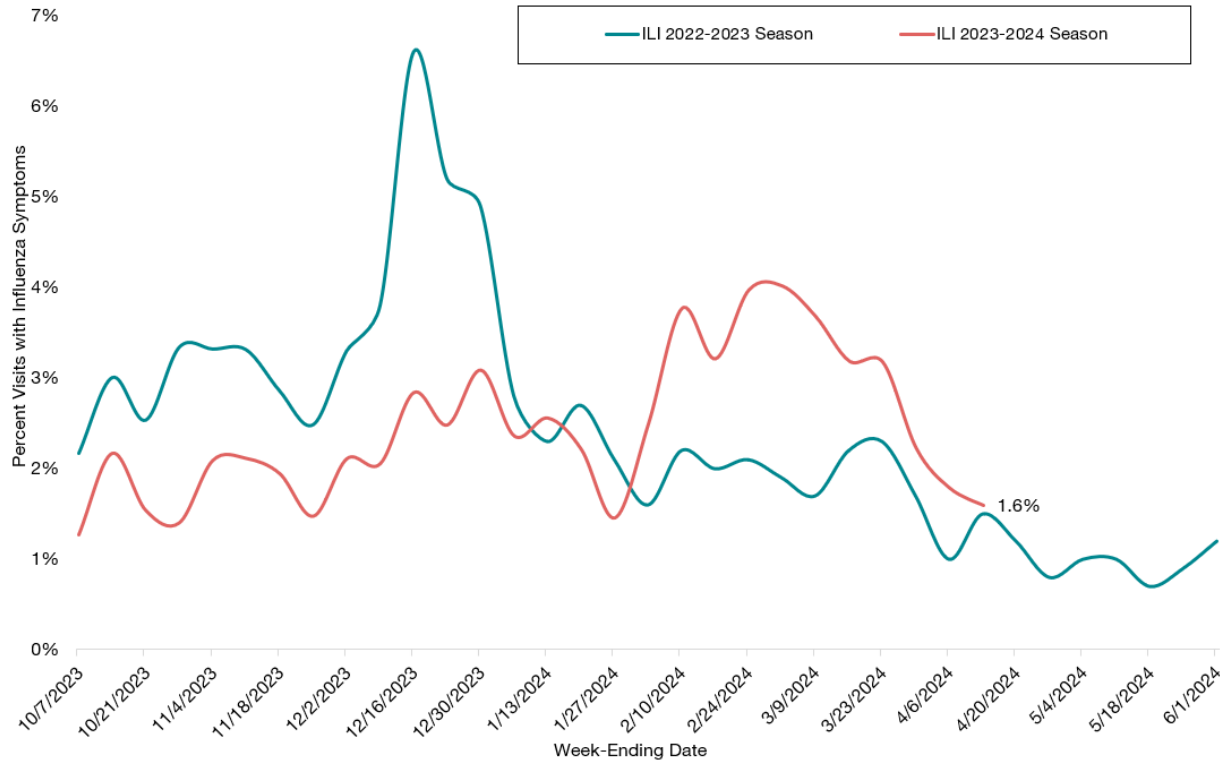
Week-Ending Date	Type A	Type B	Unspecified	Total Influenza	Total Tested	Positivity
2/24/2024	250	51	4	305	1077	28.3%
3/2/2024	279	63	1	343	1072	32.0%
3/9/2024	222	65	9	296	1131	26.2%
3/16/2024	132	59	0	191	840	22.7%
3/23/2024	104	53	2	159	784	20.3%
3/30/2024	97	49	11	157	719	21.8%
4/6/2024	83	51	5	139	719	19.3%
4/13/2024	62	47	6	115	684	16.8%

\*Influenza positivity is the percent of influenza tests conducted by reporting providers and laboratories that result positive. Elevated influenza positivity is often an indication that influenza is circulating in the community.

- During week 15, influenza test positivity in Ottawa County decreased to 16.8% from 19.3% the previous week. The number of influenza tests decreased by 5% from the previous week, from 719 to 684.
- The latest influenza positivity estimate in Ottawa County is much higher than that reported at a similar time last influenza season (1.3%).
- Seasonal influenza activity nationally continues to decline. National influenza test positivity for week 15 was 5.9%.

# Syndromic Surveillance for Influenza in Ottawa County

**Figure 2: Percentage of Emergency Department (ED) and Urgent Care (UC) Visits in Ottawa County with Influenza-like Illnesses (ILI)\***



\*Influenza-like illness include sudden onset of fever, cough and/or sore throat.

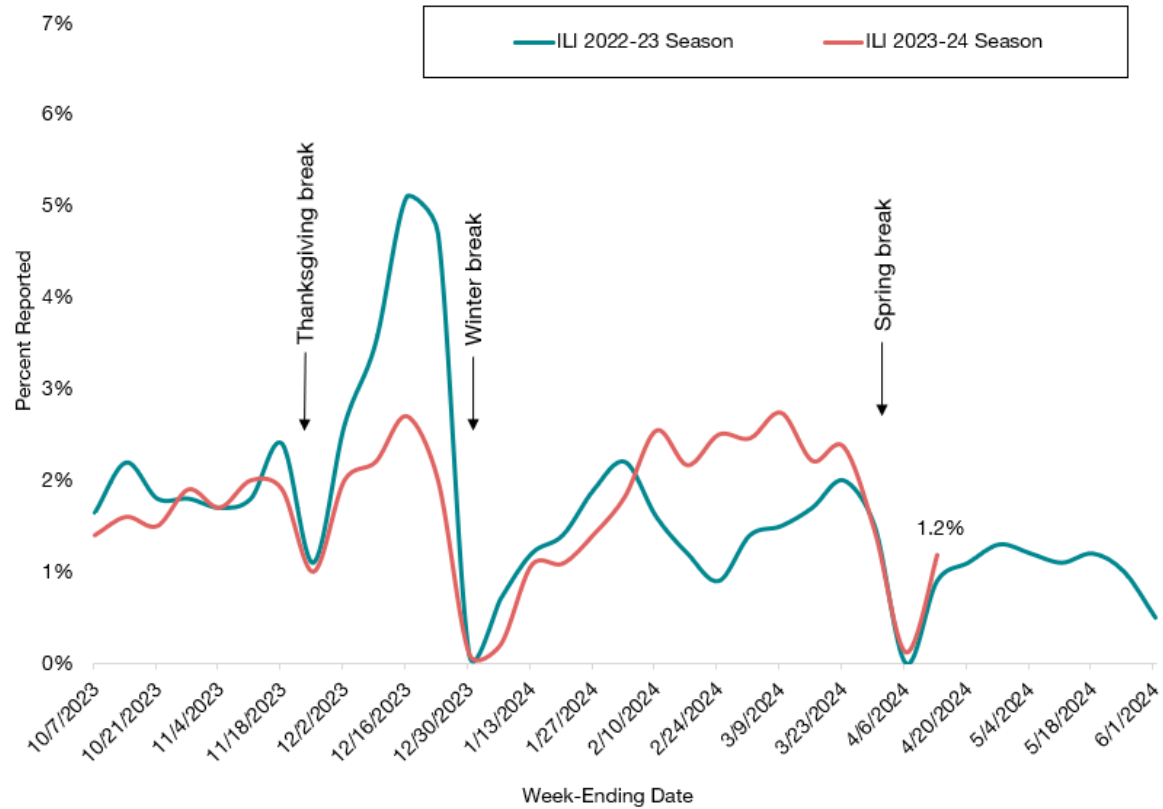
**Table 2: Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits with Influenza-like Illnesses in Ottawa County – Last 8 Weeks**

MMWR Week	Week-Ending Date	ILI Visits	Total ED/UC Visits	Percent of ED/UC Visits
8	2/24/2024	102	2565	4.0%
9	3/2/2024	107	2662	4.0%
10	3/9/2024	98	2663	3.7%
11	3/16/2024	80	2509	3.2%
12	3/23/2024	77	2424	3.2%
13	3/30/2024	54	2429	2.2%
14	4/6/2024	41	2297	1.8%
15	4/13/2024	40	2507	1.6%

- During week 15, Ottawa County Emergency Department and Urgent Care visits with ILI reported decreased to 1.6% from 1.8% the previous week.

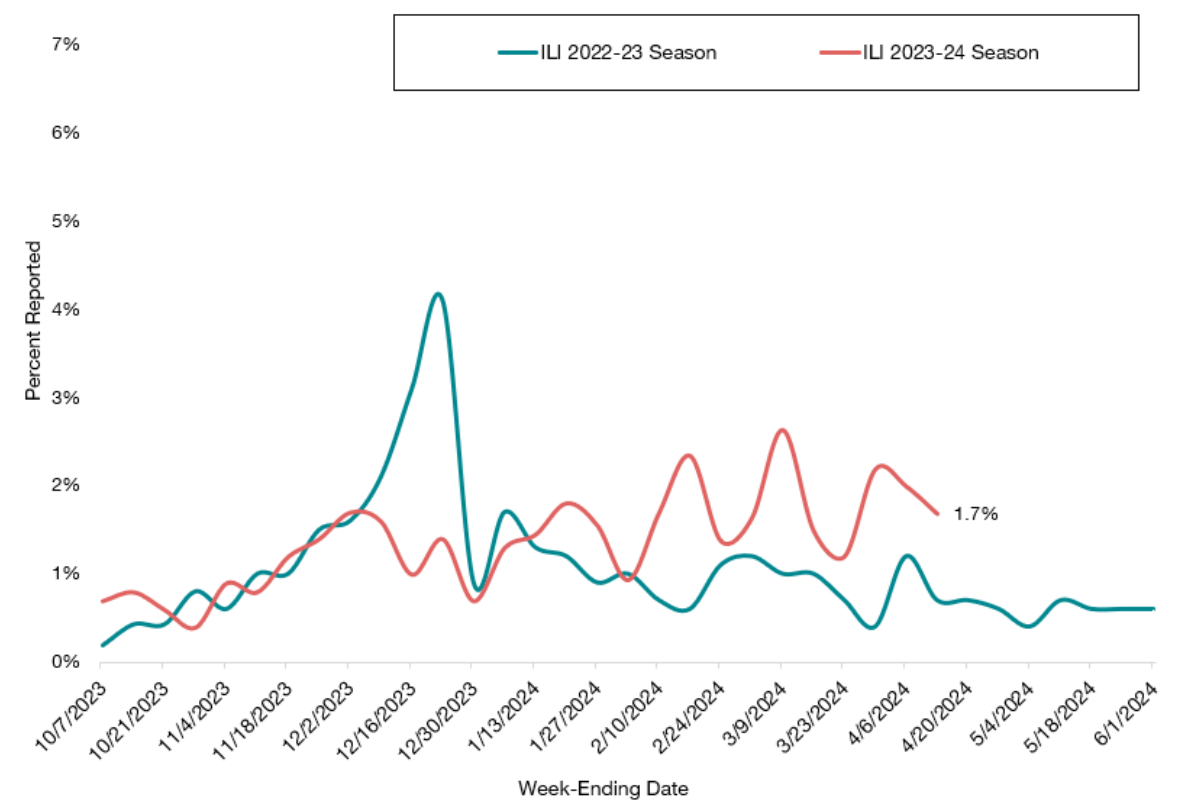
# Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Reporting Schools, Child Care, and Healthcare Settings

Figure 3: Percent ILI in Schools and Child Care by Week



- During week 15, the proportion of ILI reported in school/child care settings was 1.2%, higher than that reported the previous week. This is expected due to school resuming after spring break. The proportion of ILI reported in week 15 is slightly higher than that reported at the same time last season (0.9%).

Figure 4: Percent Healthcare ILI Visits by Week



- Reported ILI in healthcare offices was 1.7% during week 15.
- There have been three reported influenza outbreaks in long-term care facilities (LTCFs) during the 2023-24 season in Ottawa County. No new LTCF influenza outbreaks were reported in week 15.

# Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality & Vaccine Coverage

## Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality

**Table 3: Influenza-associated Pediatric Mortality**

	2023-24 Season (YTD)	2022-23 Season (YTD)	2022-23 Season Total
Ottawa County	0	0	0
Michigan	1	4	4
United States	142	174	184

**Note:** All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.

## Influenza Vaccination Coverage

- The best way to reduce the risk of getting the seasonal flu and its potentially serious complications is to get vaccinated every year. Over the past five influenza seasons, average vaccination coverage in Ottawa County hovered around 40%. Table 4 below reflects total vaccination coverage rate in Ottawa County and statewide (Michigan) over the last five seasons and through April 6 this season.

**Table 4: Influenza Vaccination Rates in Ottawa County and Michigan, Previous Five Seasons and 2023-24 Season YTD**

	2018-19 Season	2019-20 Season	2020-21 Season	2021-22 Season	2022-23 Season	2023-24 Season (YTD)
Ottawa County	39%	40.2%	42.9%	40.1%	35.4%	30.6%
Michigan	30.3%	31.6%	34.3%	31.8%	29.2%	25.6%
Healthy People 2030 Target	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%

*YTD = Year To Date*

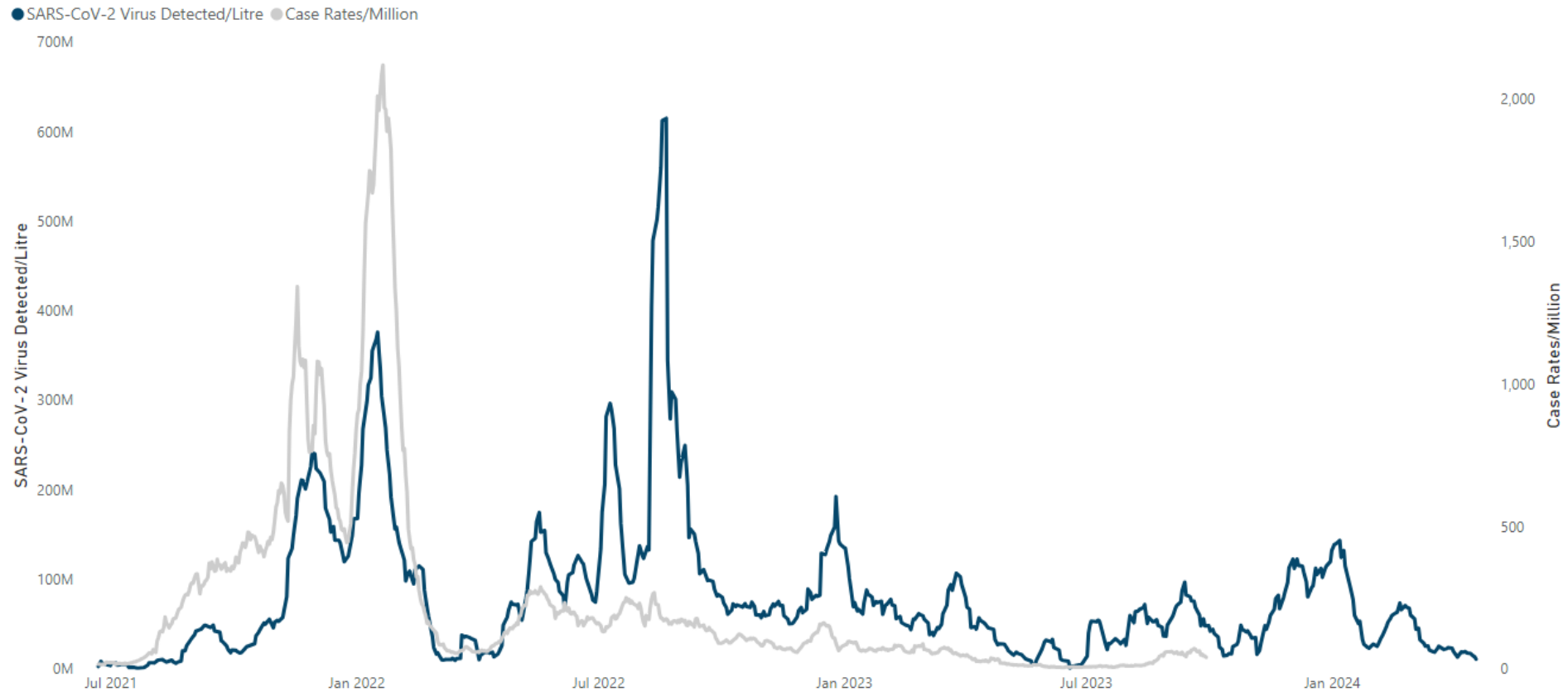
# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Surveillance

*Dates of data may vary.*



# Holland-Zeeland Wastewater Surveillance

SARS-CoV-2 Virus Detected/Litre by Sample Date With COVID-19 Case Rates/Million by Referral Date (7-Day Averages)



**Data Interpretation:** The **blue line** on the graph shows the 7-day average levels of SARS-CoV-2 virus (N2 markers) detected in wastewater sampled from treatment plants in Holland & Zeeland. The **gray line** on the graph represents the 7-day average COVID-19 case rates/million for all of Ottawa County by referral date.

**Notes:** Use of at home tests since late 2021 likely reduces the number of positive tests reported to Public Health, resulting in artificially deflated case rates. Display of wastewater data may change as analytical methods are refined. A data point from Zeeland collected June 23, 2022, was removed from data analysis as an extreme outlier. County case rate calculation was discontinued on September 27, 2023 due to limited resources to maintain data.

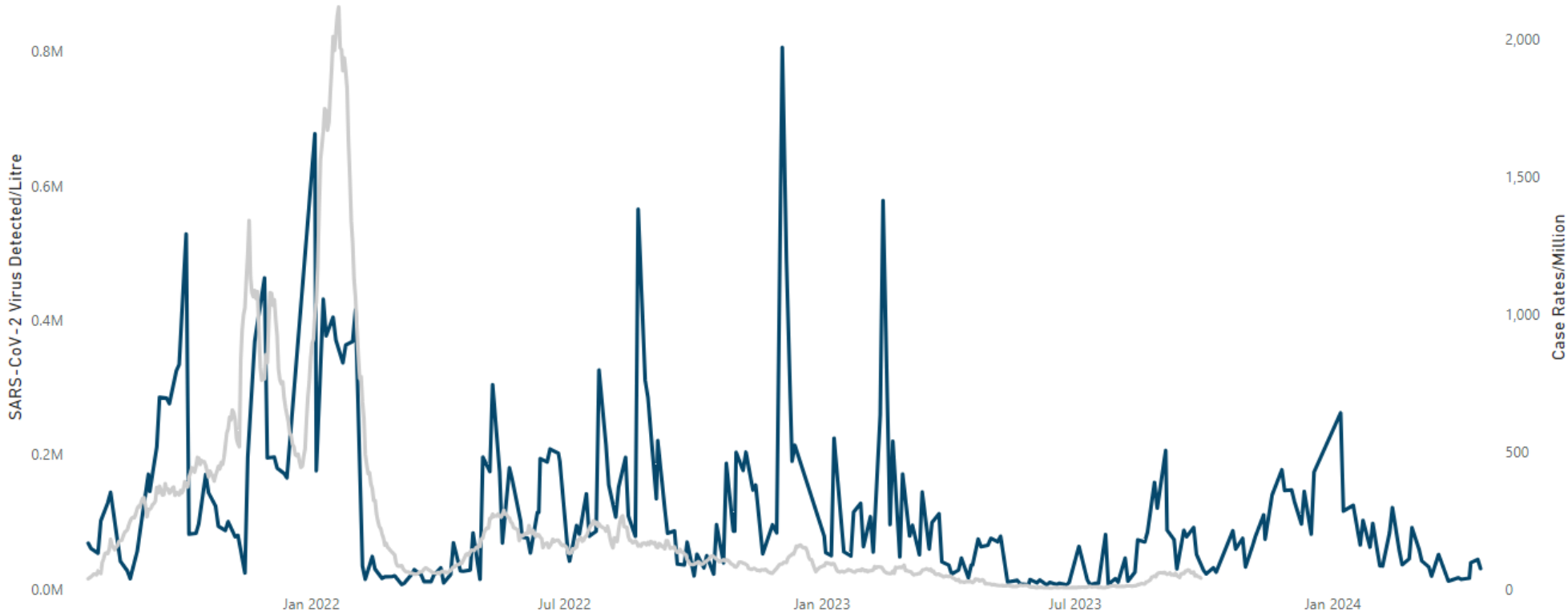
**Source:** Hope College Global Water Research Institute as part of the MDHHS SEWER-Network, Aaron Best, Ph.D. ([best@hope.edu](mailto:best@hope.edu))

**Additional Information:** [Michigan COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Pilot Project \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com), [Coronavirus - Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project \(SWEET\) \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)

# Allendale Wastewater Surveillance

SARS-CoV-2 Virus Detected/Litre by Sample Date With COVID-19 Case Rates/Million by Referral Date (7-Day Averages)

● SARS-CoV-2 Virus Detected/Litre ● Case Rates/Million



**Data Interpretation:** The **blue line** on the graph shows the 7-day average levels of SARS-CoV-2 virus (N2 markers) detected in wastewater sampled from the treatment plant in Allendale. The **gray line** on the graph represents the 7-day average COVID-19 case rates/million for all of Ottawa County by referral date.

**Notes:** Use of at home tests since late 2021 likely reduces the number of positive tests reported to Public Health, resulting in artificially deflated case rates. Display of wastewater data may change as analytical methods are refined. County case rate calculation was discontinued on September 27, 2023 due to limited resources to maintain data.

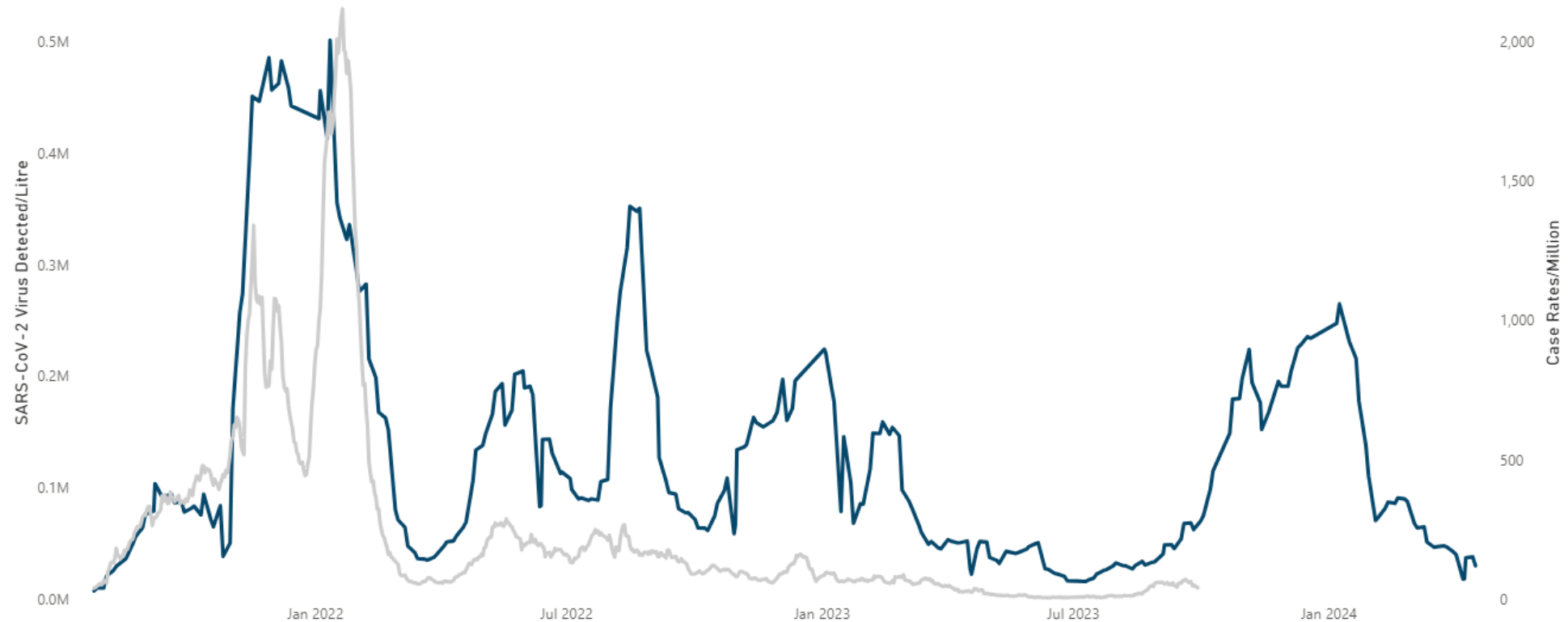
**Source:** Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute as part of the MDHHS SEWER-Network, Ryan Otter, Ph.D. ([otterr@gvsu.edu](mailto:otterr@gvsu.edu))

**Additional Information:** [Michigan COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Pilot Project \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com), [Coronavirus - Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project \(SWEET\) \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)

# Grand Haven-Spring Lake Wastewater Surveillance

SARS-CoV-2 Virus Detected/Litre by Sample Date With COVID-19 Case Rates/Million by Referral Date (7-Day Averages)

● SARS-CoV-2 Virus Detected/Litre ● Case Rates/Million



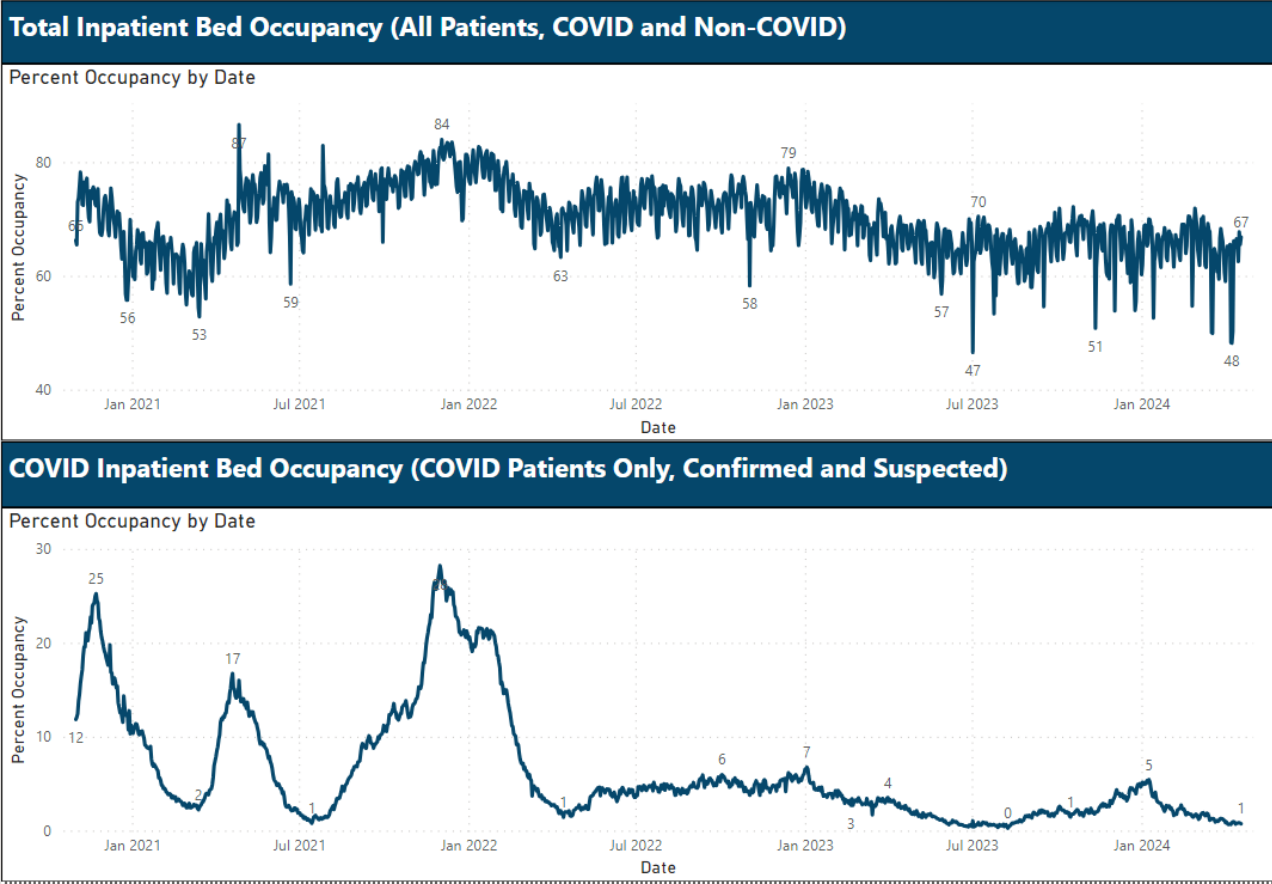
**Data Interpretation:** The **blue line** on the graph shows the 7-day average levels of SARS-CoV-2 virus (N2 markers) detected in wastewater sampled from the treatment plant in Grand Haven / Spring Lake. The **gray line** on the graph represents the 7-day average COVID-19 case rates/million for all of Ottawa County by referral date.

**Notes:** Use of at home tests since late 2021 likely reduces the number of positive tests reported to Public Health, resulting in artificially deflated case rates. Display of wastewater data may change as analytical methods are refined. County case rate calculation was discontinued on September 27, 2023 due to limited resources to maintain data.

**Source:** Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute as part of the MDHHS SEWER-Network, Ryan Otter, Ph.D. ([otterr@gvsu.edu](mailto:otterr@gvsu.edu))

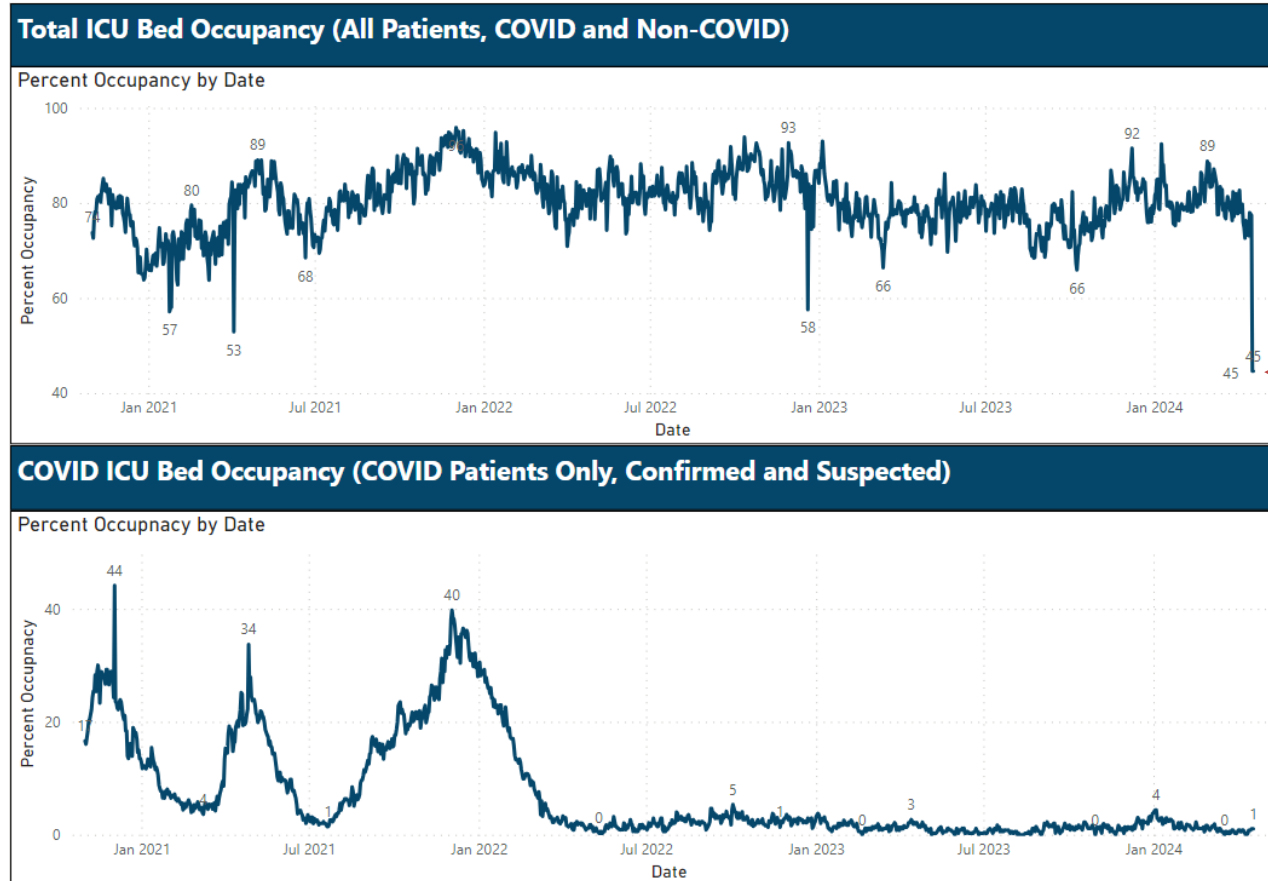
**Additional Information:** [Michigan COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Pilot Project \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com), [Coronavirus - Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project \(SWEET\) \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)

# Ottawa County Inpatient Bed Occupancy



- Total hospital bed occupancy is 67%.
- Currently, 1% of all inpatient beds are occupied by COVID-19 patients.

# Ottawa County Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Bed Occupancy



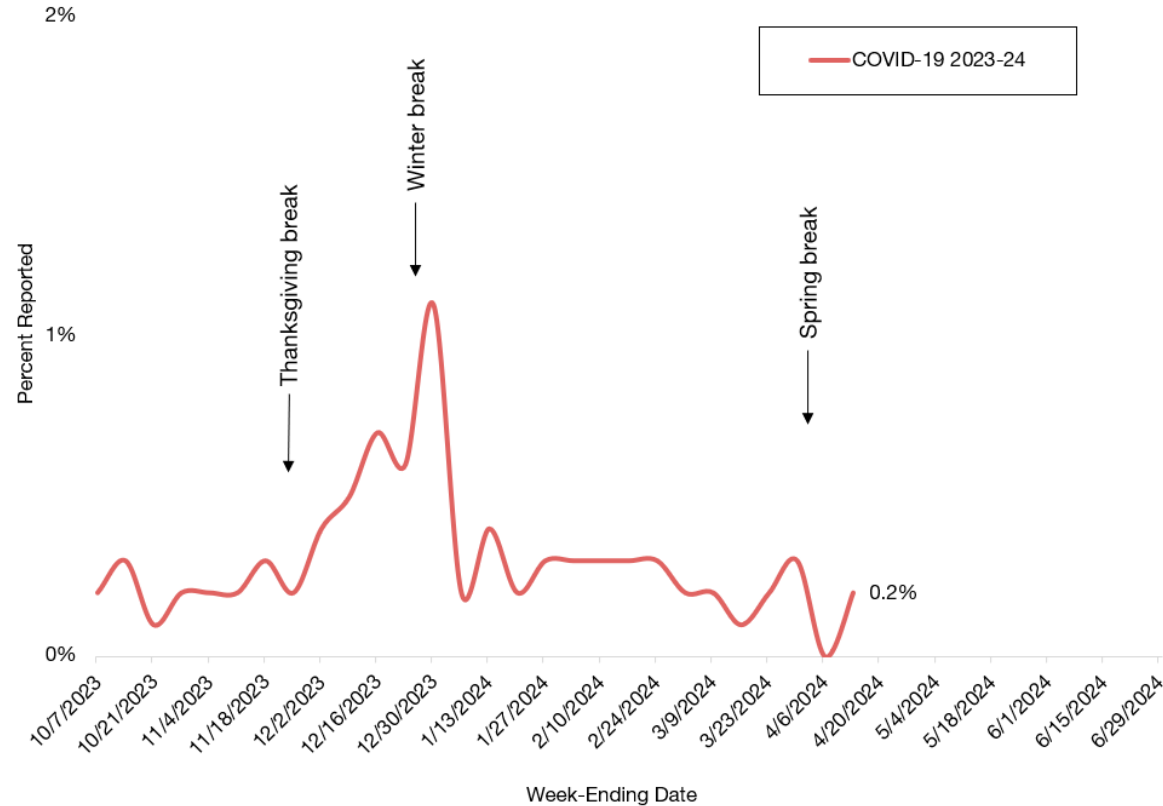
ICU occupancy may be artificially low due to data entry issues.

ICU = Intensive Care Unit

- Total ICU bed occupancy varies considerably by day. Currently, ICU bed occupancy is 45%.
- As of April 18, 2024, 1% of ICU beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients.

# COVID-19 Surveillance from Reporting Schools/Child Care Facilities

Figure 5: Percent COVID-19 Cases Reported\* by Week, Ottawa County Schools and Child Cares



\*Not all schools/childcare facilities in Ottawa County report each week. Over the last eight weeks an average of about 18 schools/child care facilities reported cases weekly.

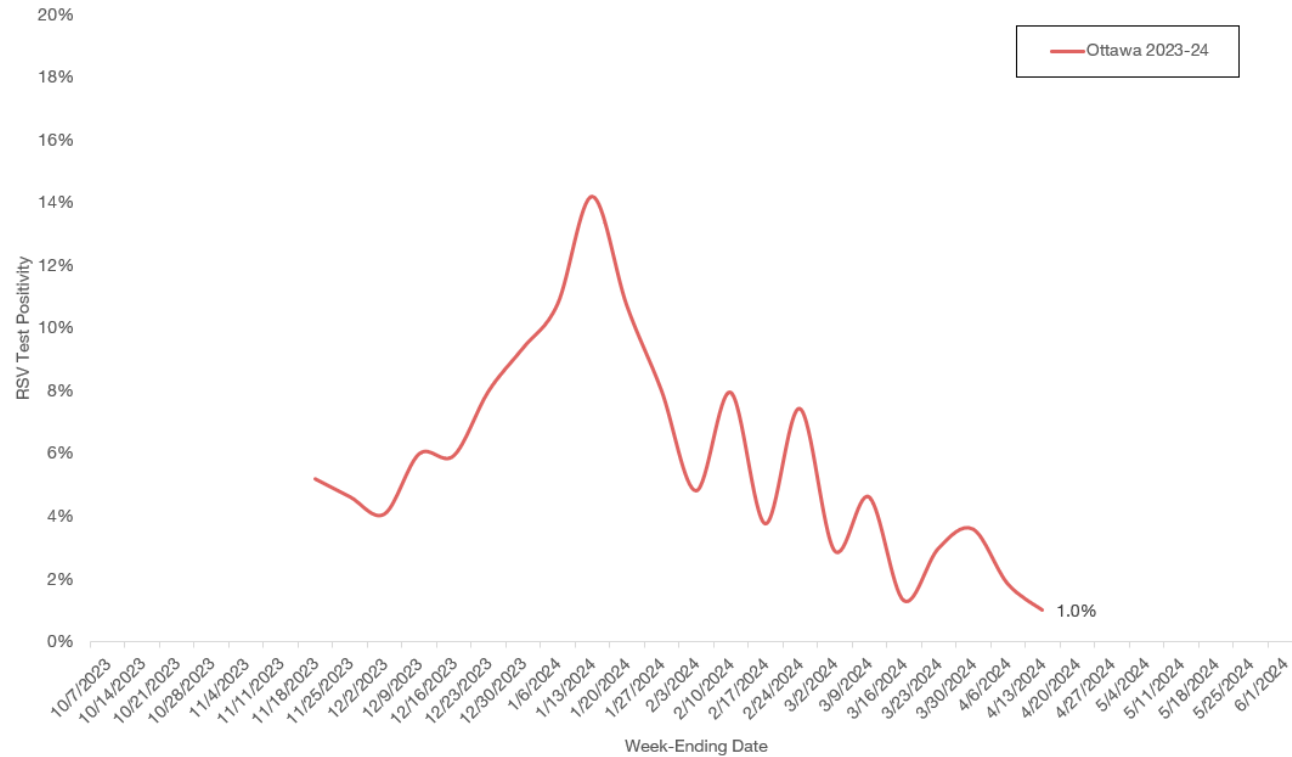
- During week 15, the proportion of COVID-19 student/staff cases reported in Ottawa County school/child care settings was 0.2%, higher than that reported the previous week (0%). This is expected due to school resuming after spring break.
- The surveillance system supporting this data source is new as of Fall 2023. As a novel surveillance system, it will continue to be monitored for its utility in describing COVID-19 activity in schools and child care settings.

# Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Surveillance

*MMWR Week 15: April 7, 2024 – April 13, 2024*

# RSV Test Positivity in Ottawa County

**Figure 6: Positivity Rate\* of RSV Tests by Week, Ottawa County**



**Table 5: RSV Positive Tests Reported in Ottawa County – Last 8 Weeks**

MMWR Week	Week-Ending Date	Total RSV	Total Tested	Positivity
8	2/24/2024	24	322	7.5%
9	3/2/2024	9	308	2.9%
10	3/9/2024	12	259	4.6%
11	3/16/2024	3	226	1.3%
12	3/23/2024	6	201	3.0%
13	3/30/2024	7	194	3.6%
14	4/6/2024	4	214	1.9%
15	4/13/2024	2	195	1.0%

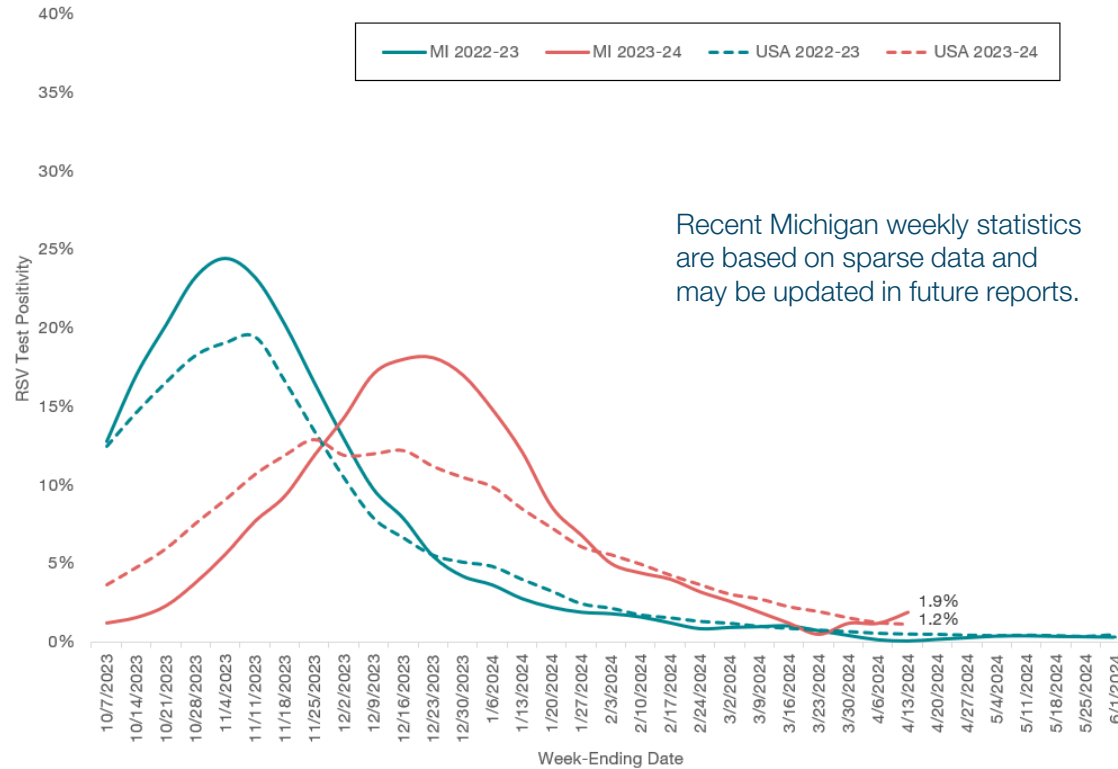
\*RSV positivity is the percent of RSV tests conducted by reporting laboratories that have a positive result. Data includes predominately PCR results. Ottawa data is weekly percentages; data is not smoothed with 3- or 5-week moving averages.

- During week 15, Ottawa County RSV positivity decreased to 1.0%.
- The surveillance system supporting this data source is new as of Fall 2023. As a novel surveillance system, it will continue to be monitored for its utility in describing RSV activity in Ottawa County.



# RSV Test Positivity in the United States and Michigan

Figure 7: Positivity Rate\* of RSV PCR Tests by Week, United States and Michigan

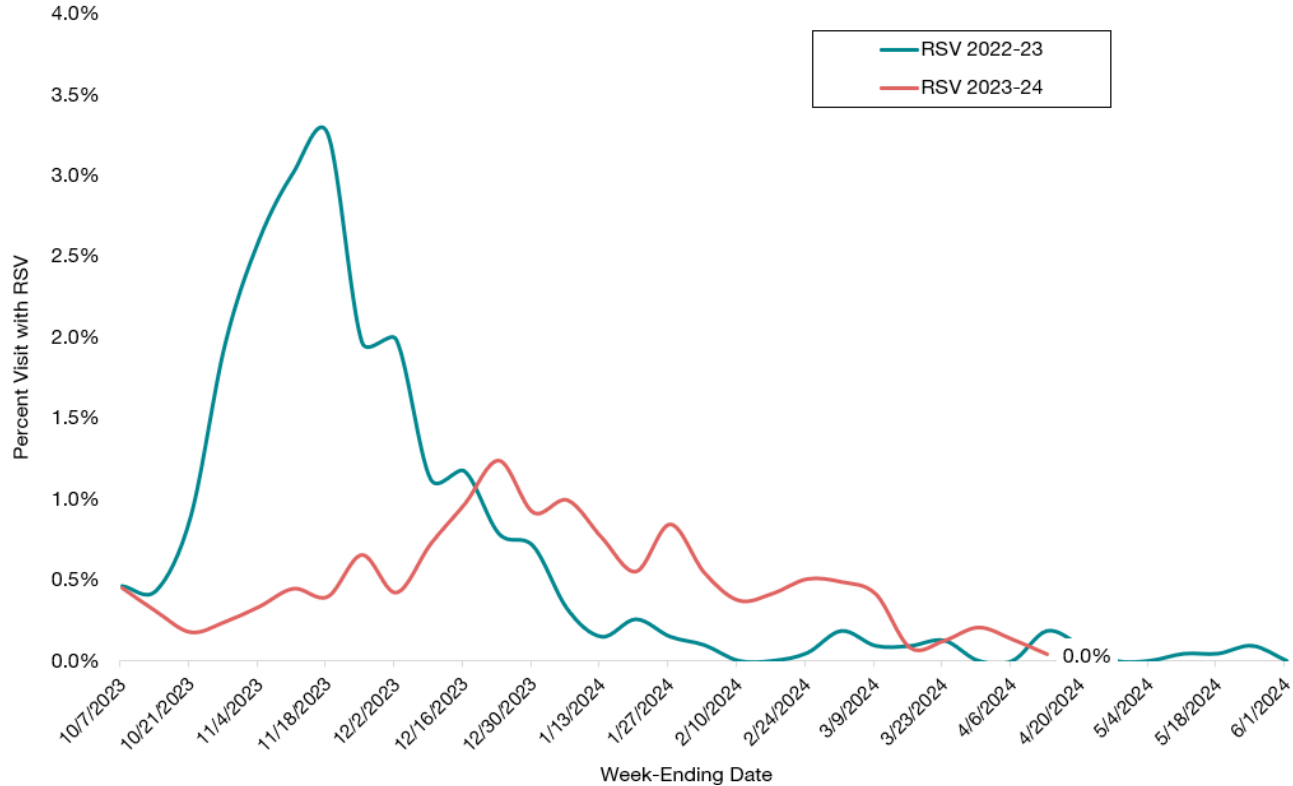


\*RSV positivity is the percent of RSV PCR tests conducted by reporting laboratories that have a positive result. Michigan data displayed are 3-week moving averages. US data displayed are 5-week moving averages.  
**Note:** Due to reporting delays, recent statistics may be updated as more data is obtained.

- During week 15, RSV positivity in the US decreased to 1.2%.
- Michigan RSV positivity increased to 1.9% during week 15.

# Syndromic Surveillance for RSV in Ottawa County

**Figure 8: Percentage of Emergency Department (ED) and Urgent Care (UC) Visits in Ottawa County with Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Illness**



**Note:** Data includes all ages.

**Table 6: Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits with RSV Illnesses in Ottawa County – Last 8 Weeks**

MMWR Week	Week-Ending Date	RSV Visits	Total ED/UC Visits	Percent of ED/UC Visits
8	2/24/2024	13	2565	0.5%
9	3/2/2024	13	2662	0.5%
10	3/9/2024	11	2663	0.4%
11	3/16/2024	2	2509	0.1%
12	3/23/2024	3	2424	0.1%
13	3/30/2024	5	2429	0.2%
14	4/6/2024	3	2297	0.1%
15	4/13/2024	1	2507	0.0%

- During week 15, Ottawa County Emergency Department and Urgent Care visits with RSV illnesses decreased to nearly 0% from 0.1% the previous week.

# Additional Resources

## Influenza (Flu):

- National influenza surveillance data are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm>
- Statewide influenza surveillance reports are available at: <https://www.michigan.gov/flu/surveillance/past-michigan-flu-focus-surveillance-reports>
- State and county level influenza vaccination coverage data are available at: <https://www.michigan.gov/flu/flu-dashboard>
- Disease burden of flu in the United States: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/index.html>
- Preventing Seasonal Flu: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/index.html>
- Seasonal flu vaccine effectiveness studies: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/effectiveness-studies.htm>
- Flu vaccine finder: <https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines/>
- Healthy People 2030 Flu Vaccination Objective: [Increase the proportion of people who get the flu vaccine every year — IID-09 - Healthy People 2030 | health.gov](#)

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources:

- CDC COVID Data Tracker: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>
- Michigan COVID-19 Website: <https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus>
- Michigan Wastewater Dashboard: <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/stats/wastewater-surveillance/dashboard/sentinel-wastewater-epidemiology-evaluation-project-sweep>

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Resources:

- National RSV Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html>
- Preventing RSV: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/about/prevention.html>
- National RSV surveillance data are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/rsv/index.html>

## Multiple Respiratory Illnesses Resources:

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) issued December 14, 2023.

# Data Sources

## Influenza (Flu) and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Data Sources:

- USA Positivity Rate from Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm#ClinicalLaboratories>
- Ottawa County Positivity Rate is calculated from data reported by providers and laboratories in the community through weekly reporting.
- ILI ED and UC visit data is pulled from Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS).
- ILI data in schools/childcare facilities is provided by facilities in the community through weekly reporting.
- ILI healthcare visit data is provided by providers and laboratories in the community through weekly reporting.
- Vaccination data from Michigan Flu Dashboard: <https://www.michigan.gov/flu/flu-dashboard>

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Data Sources:

- Inpatient and ICU Hospitalization data from EMResource.
- COVID-19 cases in schools/childcare facilities are reported by the facility through an online weekly reporting system.

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Data Sources:

- National influenza surveillance data are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm>
- RSV ED and UC visit data is pulled from Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS).
- USA and MI RSV positivity are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/rsv/index.html>