miOttawa Department of Public Health

# Ottawa County Respiratory Illness Report

Submitted for Publication November 20, 2026

*Dates of data may vary.*

*Scan code or click HERE to tell us what you think of this report*

# Executive Summary

## Influenza (Flu)

- Influenza activity in Ottawa County **is increasing**
- Influenza activity is **low** in Michigan. Influenza activity is **increasing in many parts of** the United States and **higher than usual for this time of year**
- The number of hospital Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admissions for influenza in West Michigan is **low**

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- Ottawa County hospital occupancy indicators show a **low and stable** percent of patients hospitalized with COVID-19

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

- RSV activity in Ottawa County is **low and stable**
- RSV activity is **low and stable** in Michigan and **low and gradually increasing in** the United States

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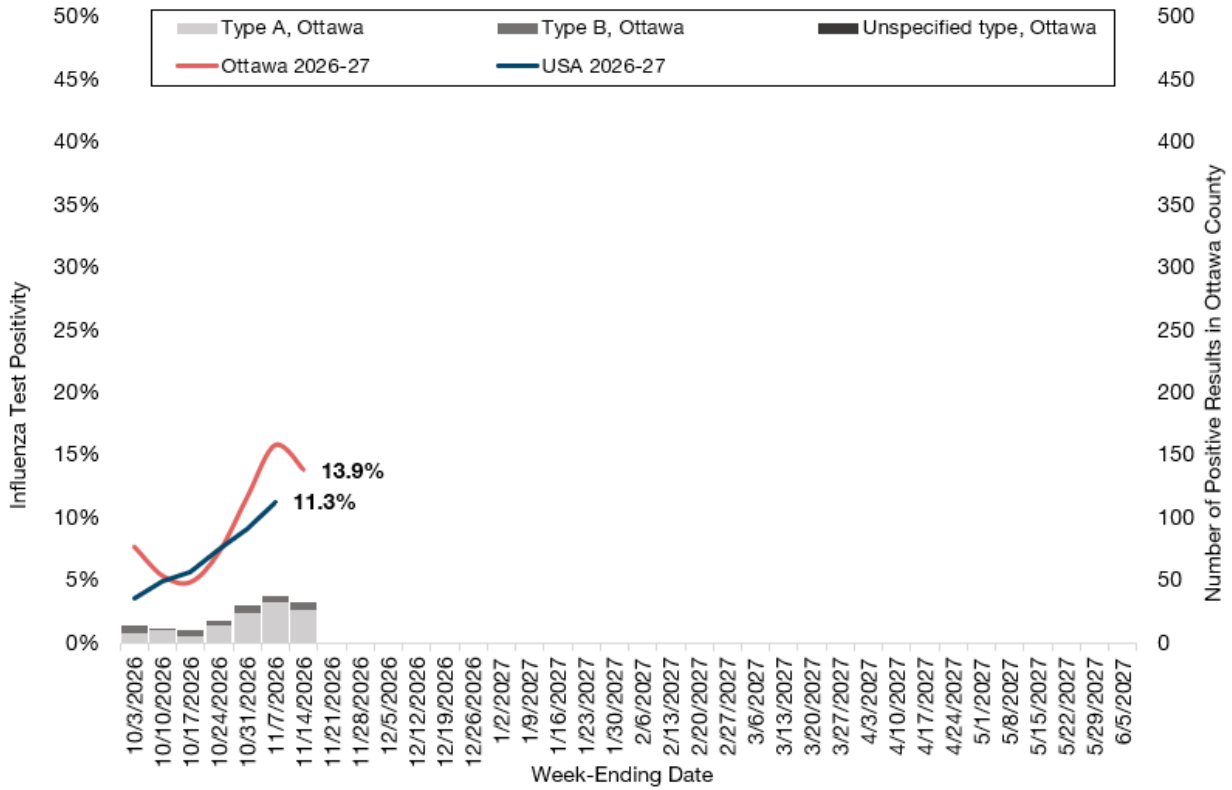
# Influenza Surveillance

*MMWR* Week 45: November 8, 2026 – November 14, 2026*

*Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

# Influenza Test Positivity in the USA and Ottawa County

**Figure 1: Influenza Test Positivity* by Week, Ottawa County and United States**




*Influenza positivity is the percentage of reported tests performed that are positive, indicating community circulation.

**Table 1: Influenza Positive Tests Reported in Ottawa County – Last 7 Weeks**

| MMWR Week | Week-Ending Date | Type A | Type B | Unspecified | Total Influenza | Total Tested | Positivity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 39 | 10/3/2026 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 183 | 7.7% |
| 40 | 10/10/2026 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 225 | 5.3% |
| 41 | 10/17/2026 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 11 | 227 | 4.8% |
| 42 | 10/24/2026 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 18 | 249 | 7.2% |
| 43 | 10/31/2026 | 24 | 6 | 0 | 30 | 258 | 11.6% |
| 44 | 11/7/2026 | 33 | 5 | 0 | 38 | 240 | 15.8% |
| 45 | 11/14/2026 | 27 | 6 | 0 | 33 | 238 | 13.9% |

***Note:*** *Data currently reflect a limited number of reporting sites and likely underestimate total activity; figures may change as more data become available.*

## Influenza Activity – Week 45

📈 **Ottawa County: Decreased to 13.9%** (from 15.8% in Week 44) but remains moderate and overall increasing.

📊 **Testing volume: Down 0.8%** (from 240 to 238 tests).

📌 **National week 44** positivity: 11.3%** - Flu activity continues to increase and is higher than usual for this time of year.

**Week 45 (week-ending November 14, 2026) data was not available at the time of publication.

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

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

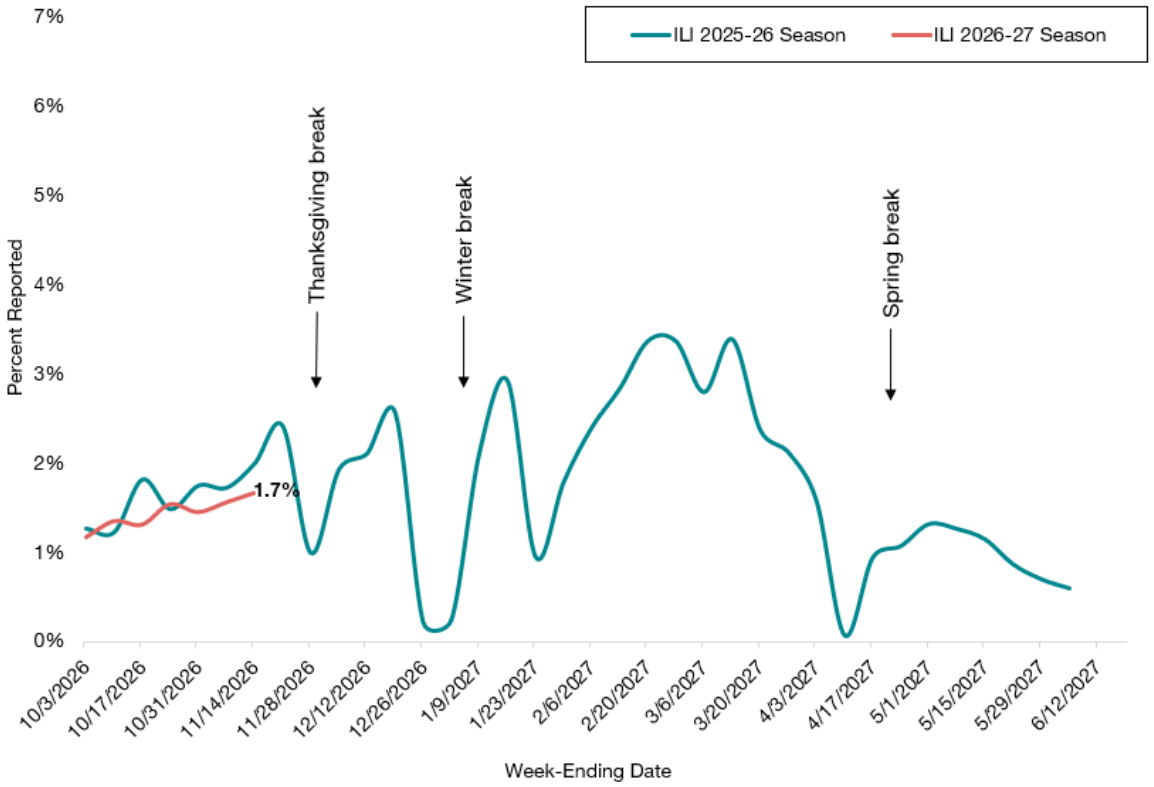
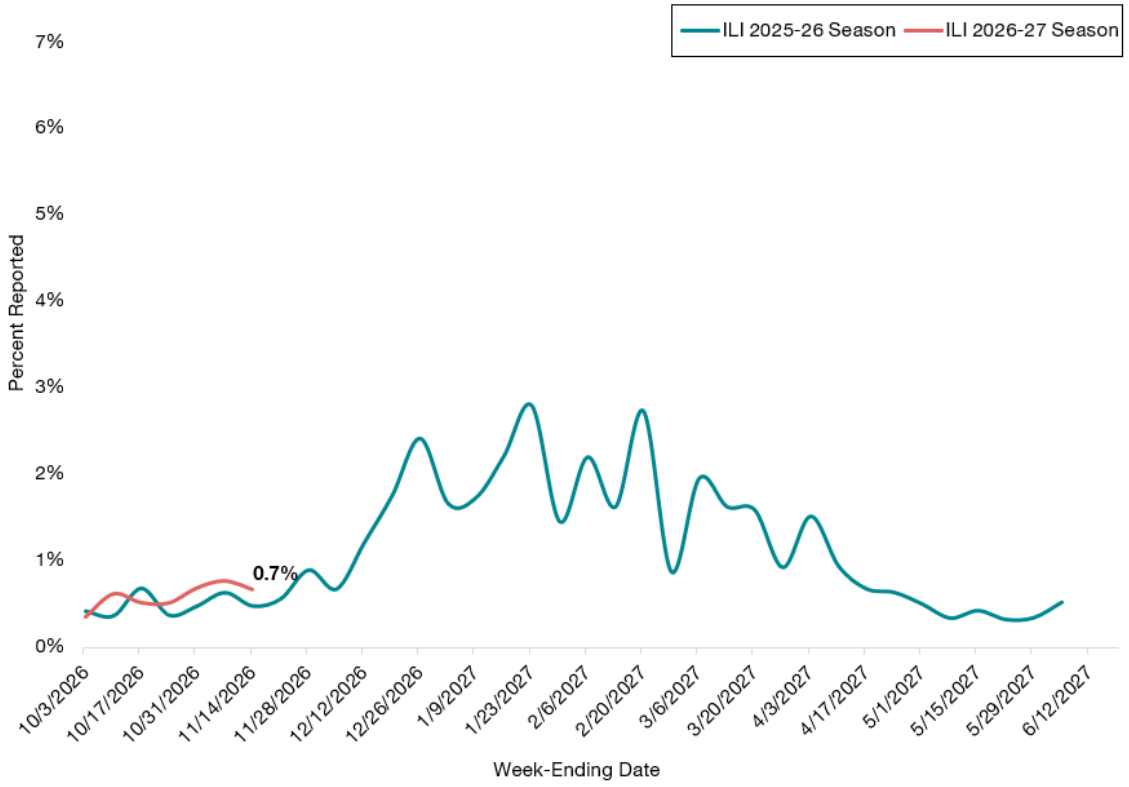



**Figure 4: Percent Healthcare ILI Visits by Week**




## ILI in Schools/Child Care – Week 45

📈 **1.7% of reports** were influenza-like illness **(slightly lower than the 2.0% last season).**

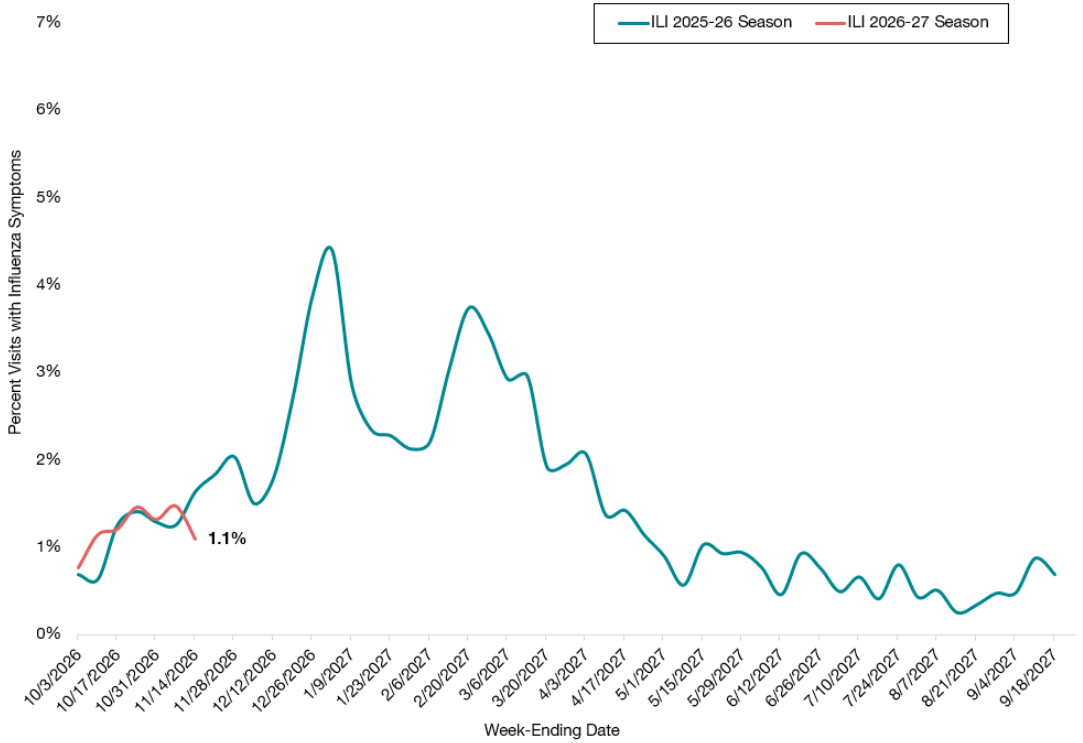
## ILI in Healthcare – Week 45

📊 **0.7% of visits** were for influenza-like illness.

✅ **One influenza outbreak** has been reported in LTCFs (Long-Term Care Facilities) this season.

# Syndromic Surveillance for Influenza in Ottawa County

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



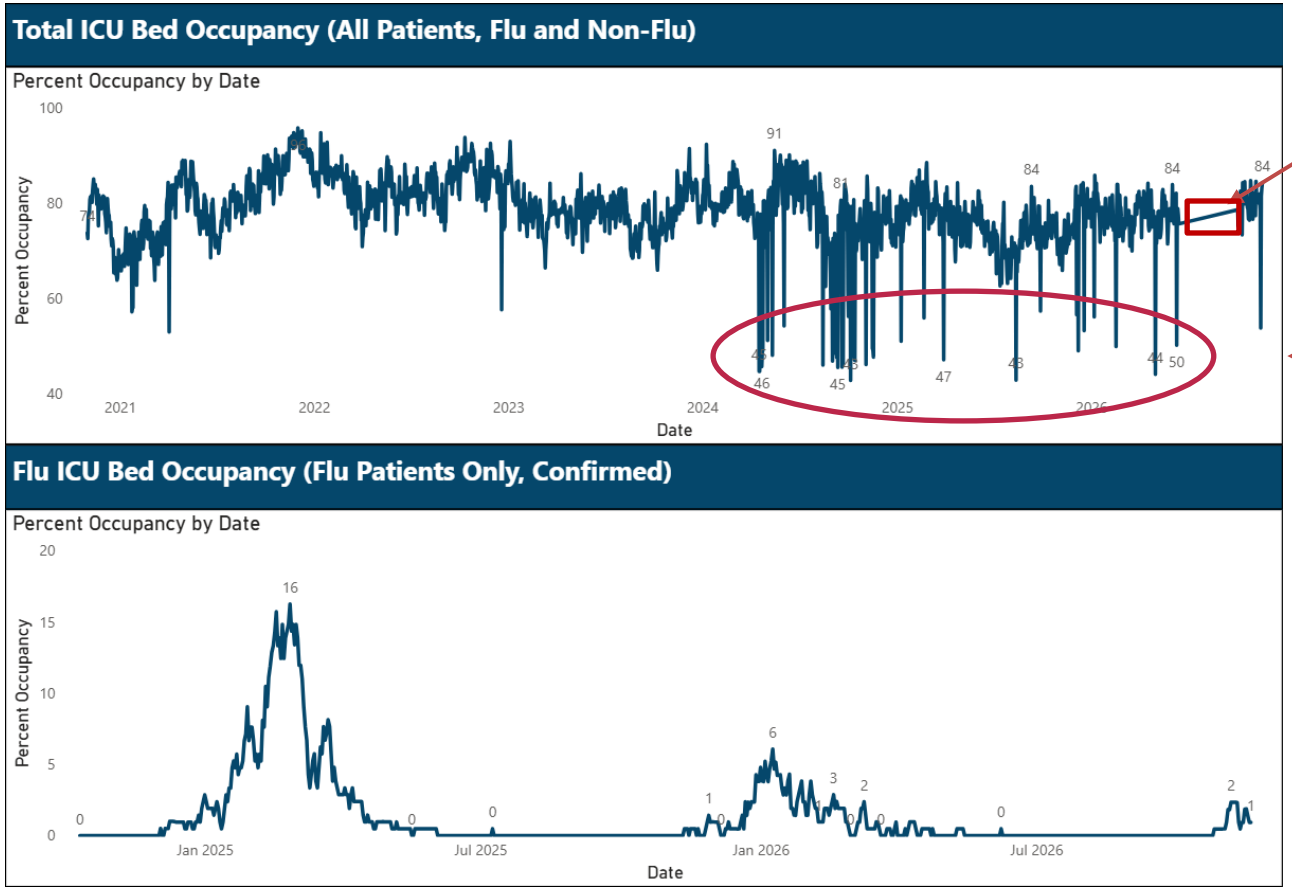

*Influenza-like illnesses include sudden onset of fever, cough and/or sore throat.

**Table 2: Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits with Influenza-like Illnesses – Last 7 Weeks**

| MMWR Week | Week-Ending Date | ILI Visits | Total ED/UC Visits | Percent of ED/UC Visits |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 39 | 10/3/2026 | 19 | 2468 | 0.8% |
| 40 | 10/10/2026 | 30 | 2614 | 1.1% |
| 41 | 10/17/2026 | 31 | 2557 | 1.2% |
| 42 | 10/24/2026 | 38 | 2593 | 1.5% |
| 43 | 10/31/2026 | 33 | 2493 | 1.3% |
| 44 | 11/7/2026 | 35 | 2366 | 1.5% |
| 45 | 11/14/2026 | 27 | 2455 | 1.1% |

- During week 45, Ottawa County ED and UC ILI visit reports **decreased to 1.1%** from 1.5% the previous week.

# Ottawa County Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Bed Occupancy




Data are not shown for the off-season (June 15 – October 3, 2026).

ICU occupancy was artificially low due to data entry issues.

ICU = Intensive Care Unit

- Currently, ICU bed occupancy is **84%**.
- As of November 19, 2026, **1%** of ICU beds were occupied by flu patients.

# Influenza Vaccination Coverage

**Flu Vaccination Report**

- Vaccination remains the best protection against flu and its serious complications
- Ottawa County average vaccination rate: Gradual decline from ~40% to ~30% over past five seasons
- Current data (through November 7, 2026) shown for both county and state levels
- See Table 3 for detailed year-by-year comparison of Ottawa County vs. Michigan rates

**Table 3: Influenza Vaccination Rates in Ottawa County and Michigan, Previous Five Seasons and 2026-27 Season YTD**

| | 2021-22 Season | 2022-23 Season | 2023-24 Season | 2024-25 Season | 2025-26 Season | 2026-27 Season (YTD) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ottawa County | 40.1% | 35.4% | 31.7% | 30.3% | 31% | 14.6% |
| Michigan | 31.8% | 29.2% | 26.6% | 25.8% | 27% | 15.2% |
| Healthy People 2030 Target | 70% | 70% | 70% | 70% | 70% | 70% |

*YTD = Year To Date*
*Data as of week-ending 11/7/2026*

# Ottawa County Influenza Vaccination Rates by Season

**Figure 5: Influenza Vaccination Rates in Ottawa County by Season**

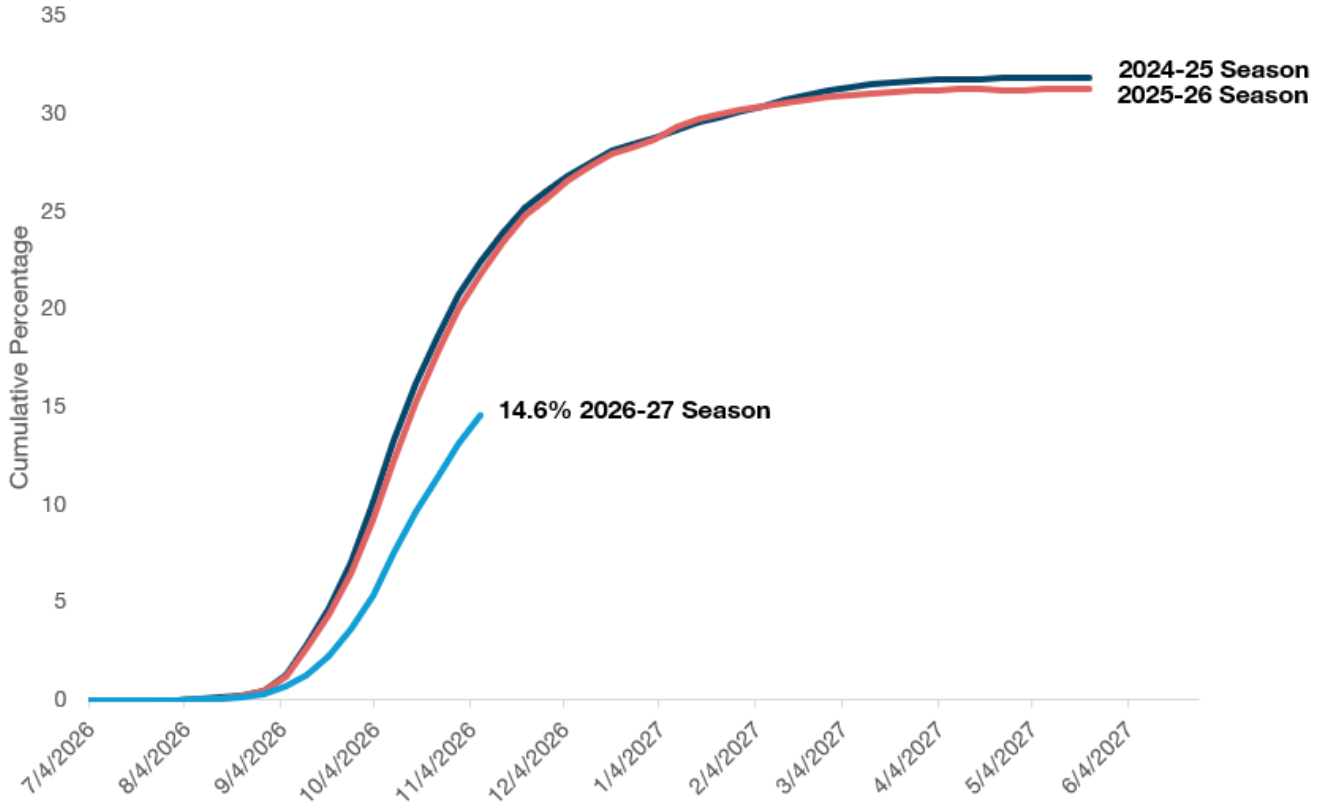



**Table 4: Vaccination Rates Year to Date in Ottawa County**

| | 2024-25 (YTD) | 2025-26 (YTD) | 2026-27 (YTD) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ottawa County | 22.4% | 21.8% | 14.6% |

*Data as of week-ending 11/7/2026*

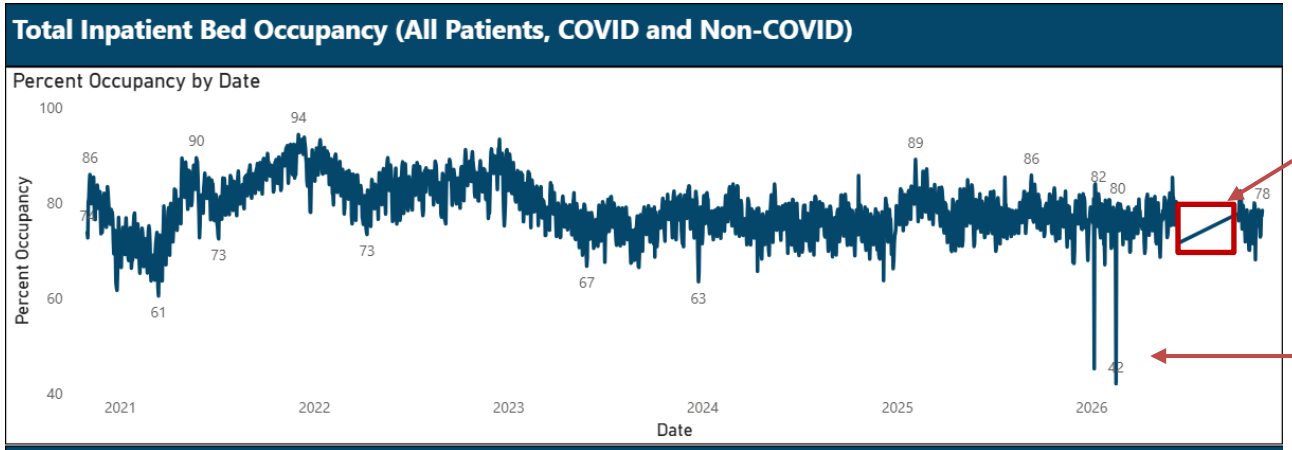
- As of November 7, 2026, flu vaccination rates for the 2026-27 season in Ottawa County are **14.6%, much lower** than the **21.8%** observed at the same point in the 2025-26 season and the **22.4%** observed at this same point in the 2024-25 season.

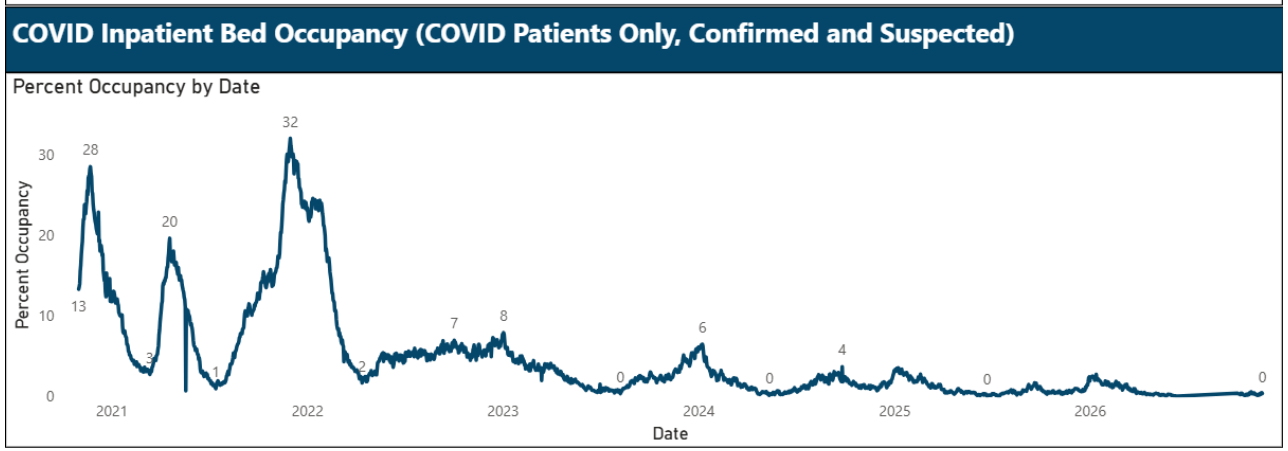
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# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Surveillance

*Dates of data may vary.*

# Ottawa County Inpatient Bed Occupancy



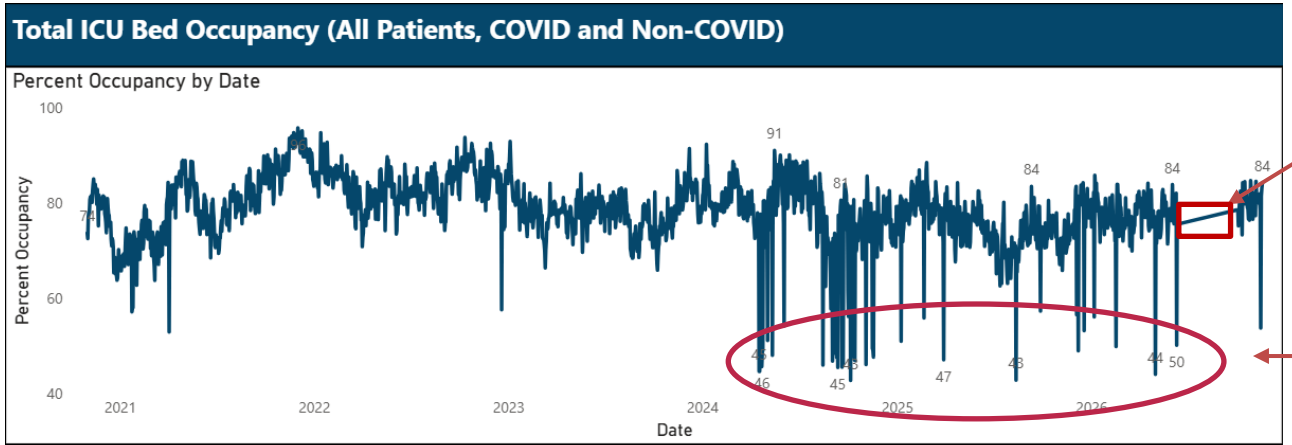

Data are not shown for the off-season (June 15 – October 3, 2026).

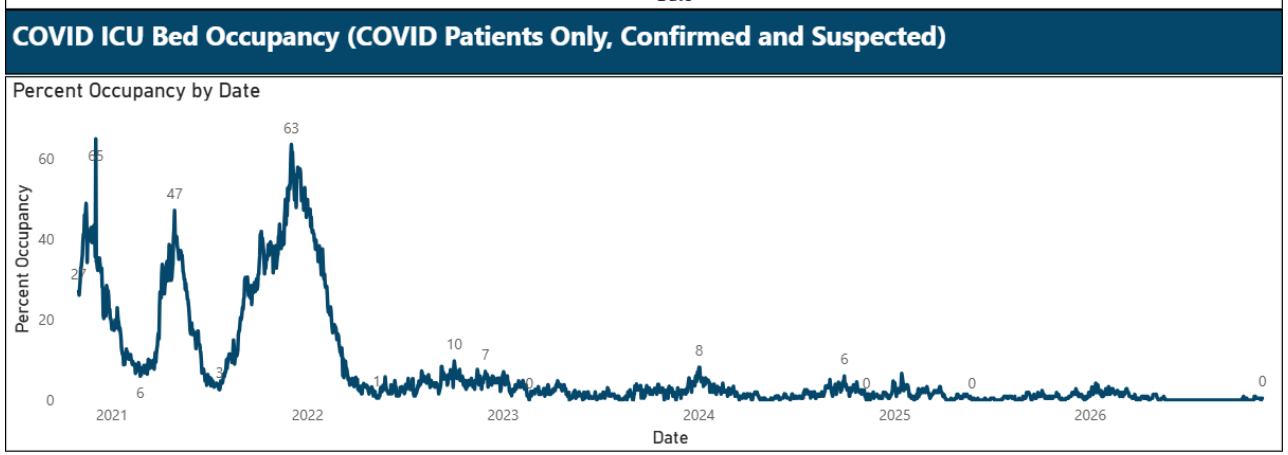
Inpatient occupancy was artificially low due to data entry issues.

- Total hospital bed occupancy is **78%**.
- Currently, **0%** of all non-ICU inpatient beds are occupied by COVID-19 patients.

Data through November 19, 2026

# Ottawa County Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Bed Occupancy




Data are not shown for the off-season (June 15 – October 3, 2026).

ICU occupancy was artificially low due to data entry issues.

ICU = Intensive Care Unit

- Currently, ICU bed occupancy is **84%**.
- As of November 19, 2026, **0%** of ICU beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients.

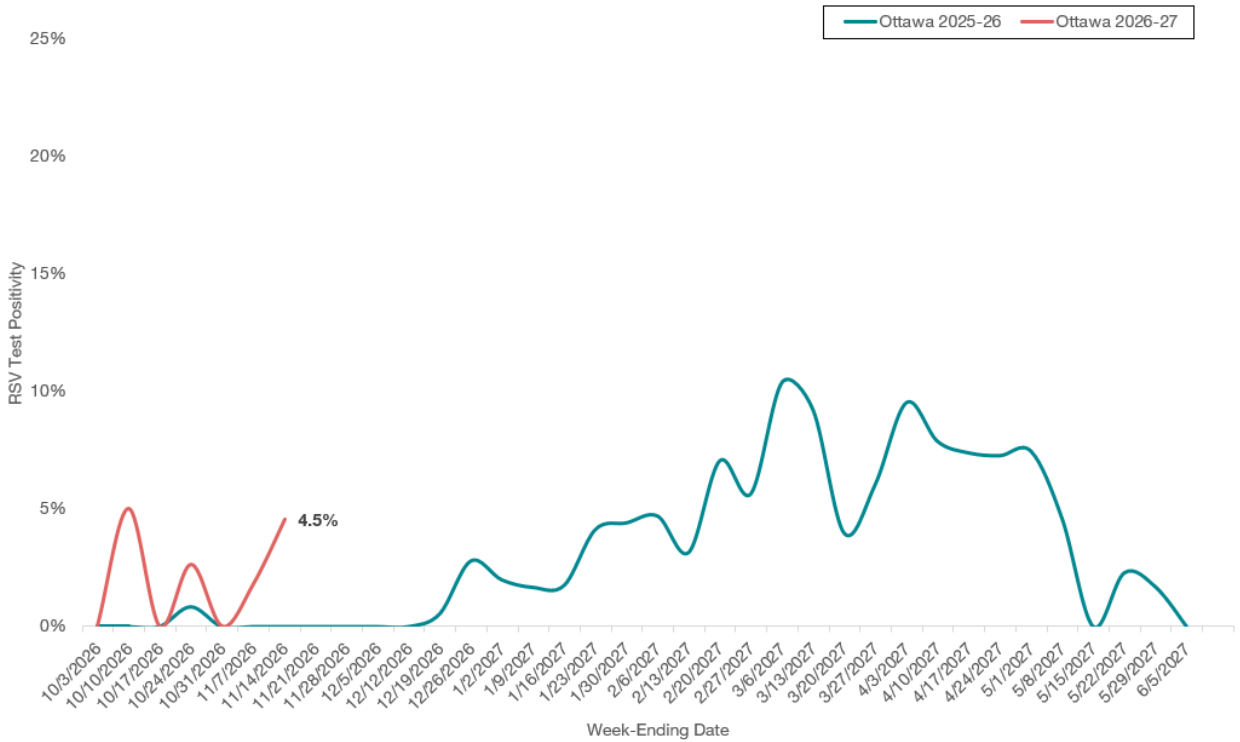
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# Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Surveillance

*MMWR Week 45: November 8, 2026 – November 14, 2026*

# RSV Test Positivity in Ottawa County

**Figure 6: RSV Test Positivity* by Week**




*RSV positivity is the percent of reported RSV tests performed that are positive. Data includes predominantly PCR results. Ottawa data is weekly percentages; data is not smoothed with 3- or 5-week moving averages.

**Table 5: RSV Positive Tests Reported – Last 7 Weeks**

| MMWR Week | Week-Ending Date | Total RSV | Total Tested | Positivity |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 39 | 10/3/2026 | 0 | 1 | 0.0% |
| 40 | 10/10/2026 | 2 | 40 | 5.0% |
| 41 | 10/17/2026 | 0 | 51 | 0.0% |
| 42 | 10/24/2026 | 1 | 38 | 2.6% |
| 43 | 10/31/2026 | 0 | 43 | 0.0% |
| 44 | 11/7/2026 | 1 | 55 | 1.8% |
| 45 | 11/14/2026 | 1 | 22 | 4.5% |

***Note:*** *Data currently reflect a limited number of reporting sites and likely underestimate total activity; figures may change as more data become available.*

- During week 45, test positivity **increased to 4.5%** from 1.8% the previous week.

# Syndromic Surveillance for RSV in Ottawa County

**Figure 7: Percentage of Emergency Department (ED) and Urgent Care (UC) Visits with Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Illness**

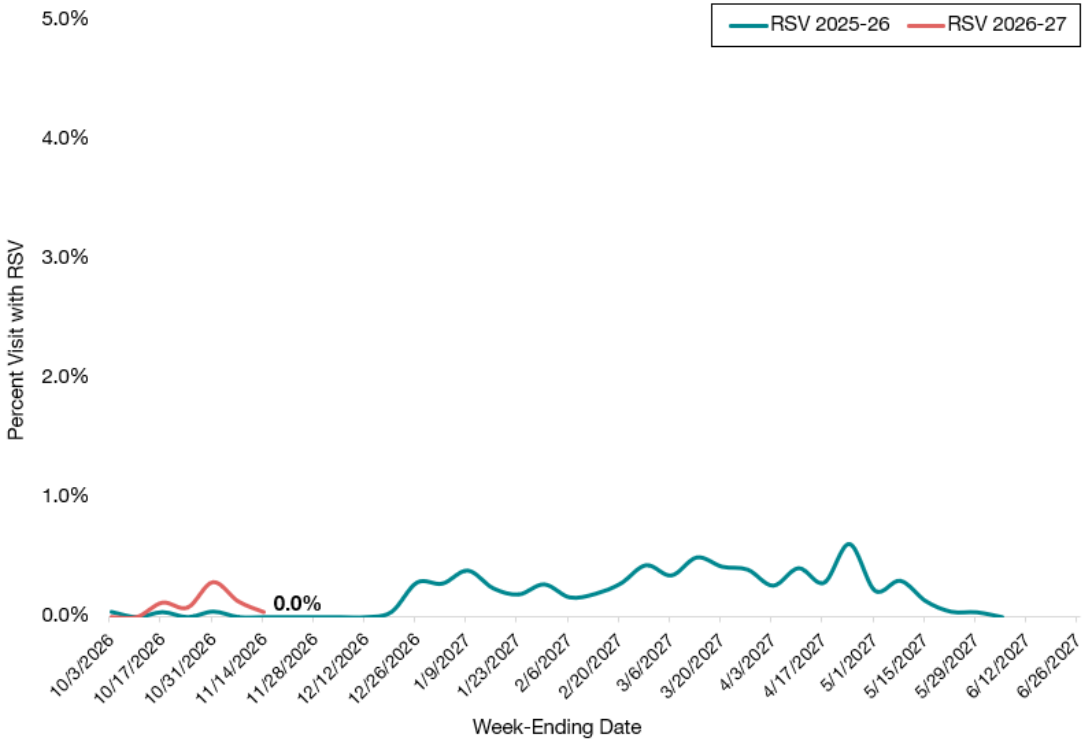



**Table 6: Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits with RSV Illnesses in Ottawa County – Last 7 Weeks**

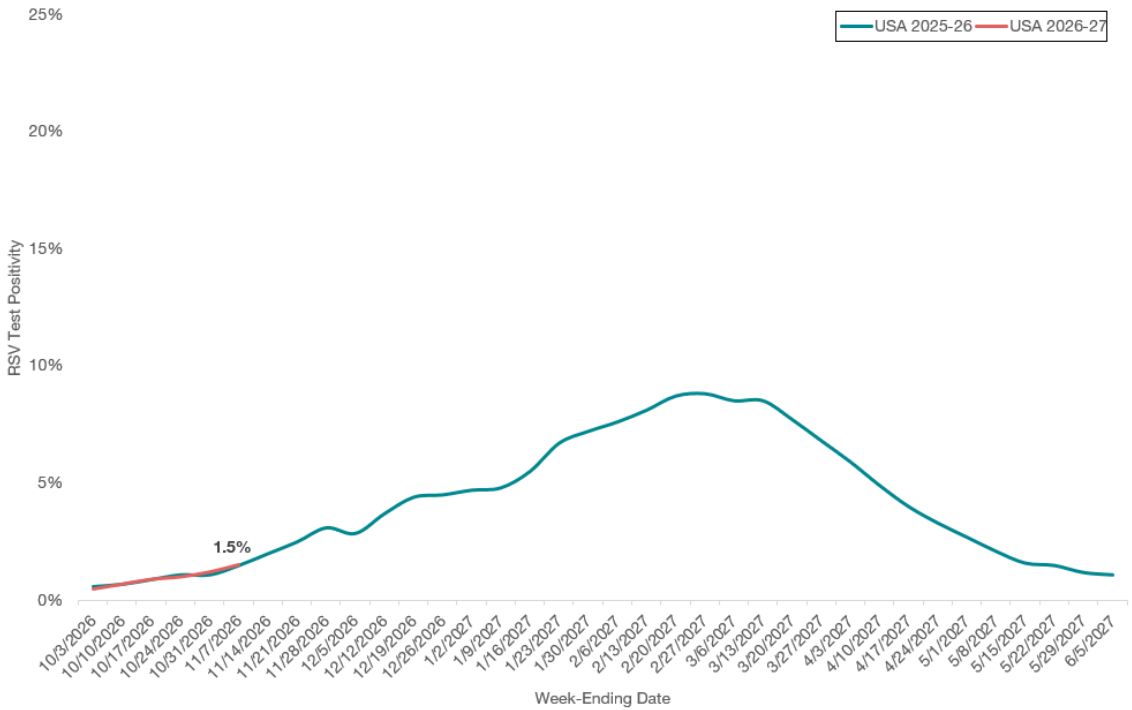
| MMWR Week | Week-Ending Date | RSV Visits | Total ED/UC Visits | Percent of ED/UC Visits |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 39 | 10/3/2026 | 0 | 2468 | 0.0% |
| 40 | 10/10/2026 | 0 | 2614 | 0.0% |
| 41 | 10/17/2026 | 3 | 2557 | 0.1% |
| 42 | 10/24/2026 | 2 | 2593 | 0.1% |
| 43 | 10/31/2026 | 7 | 2462 | 0.3% |
| 44 | 11/7/2026 | 3 | 2366 | 0.1% |
| 45 | 11/14/2026 | 1 | 2455 | 0.0% |

**Note:** Data includes all ages.

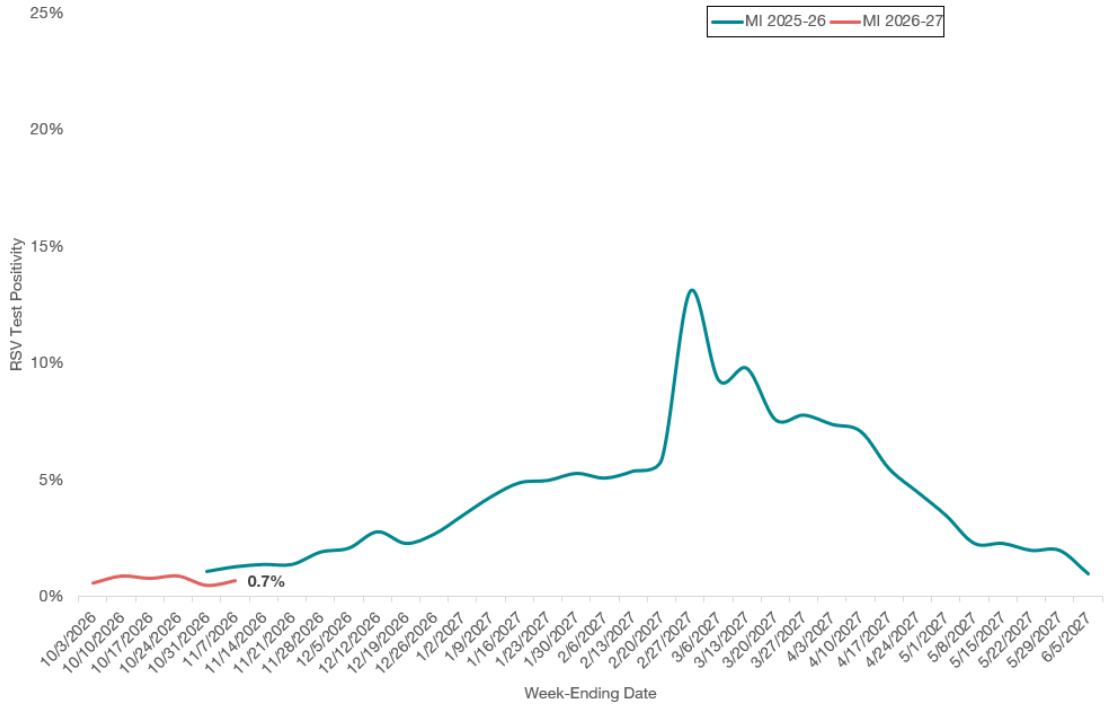
- During week 45, Ottawa County ED and UC visits with RSV illnesses **decreased to 0.0%** from 0.1% the previous week.

# RSV Test Positivity in the United States and Michigan

### Figure 8: RSV Test Positivity* by Week, United States




### Figure 9: RSV Test Positivity* by Week, Michigan




*RSV positivity is the percent of reported RSV PCR tests performed that are positive. 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 44**,** RSV positivity in the US was **1.5%**, the same as the 2025-2026 season around the same time **(1.5%)**.

During **week 44****, RSV positivity in Michigan was **0.7%**, lower than the 2025-2026 season around the same time **(1.3%)**.

**Week 45 (week-ending November 14, 2026) data was not available at the time of publication.

# Additional Resources

## Influenza (Flu):

- National influenza surveillance data are available at: https://www.cdc.gov/fluview/index.html
- 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/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/infectious-diseases/seasonal-respiratory-viruses/respiratory-disease-reports
- Past 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-burden/php/about/index.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/index.html
- Preventing Seasonal Flu: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevention/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/index.html
- Seasonal flu vaccine effectiveness studies: https://www.cdc.gov/flu-vaccines-work/php/effectiveness-studies/?CDC_AAref_Val=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: https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/vaccination/increase-proportion-people-who-get-flu-vaccine-every-year-iid-09

## 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

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Resources:

- National RSV Information: https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html
- Preventing RSV: https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/vaccines/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/about/prevention.html
- National RSV surveillance data are available at: https://www.cdc.gov/nrevss/php/dashboard/index.html
- Michigan Respiratory Illness Dashboard: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/chronicdiseases/seasonal-respiratory-viruses/respiratory-disease-reports

# 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/fluview/?CDC_AAref_Val=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 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.

## 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 RSV surveillance data are available at: https://www.cdc.gov/nrevss/php/dashboard/index.html
- RSV ED and UC visit data is from Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS).

*Compiled by Tiffany Simecki, Ottawa County Department of Public Health Epidemiologist*