



Influenza Increases

December 29, 2023

The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) is seeing an increase in influenza cases in Winnebago County. Healthcare providers should be at increased awareness for influenza (flu) in patients, residents in congregate settings, visitors, and staff.

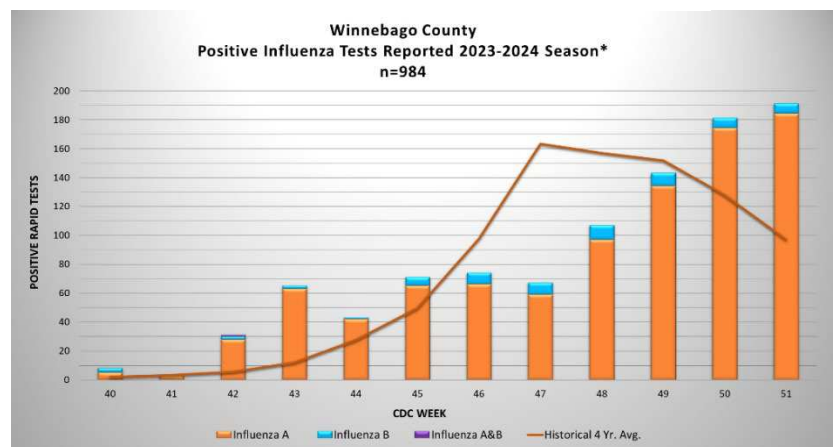
Influenza surveillance has identified (Figure 1) a 78.5% increase in flu over the past 3 weeks.

- CDC Week 48 - 107 cases
- CDC Week 51 - 191 cases

Influenza-like illness (ILI) complaints from emergency departments are above the baseline percentage of 2.3%.

- 2.64% in Week 49
- 3.16% in Week 50
- 2.45% in Week 51

Figure 1: Positive Influenza Cases



WCHD Asks All Healthcare Providers To:

- **Test** for flu along with COVID-19 and RSV among persons with respiratory illness
- **Prescribe** antiviral treatment for flu as [recommended](#)
- **Promote** influenza vaccination

Practice and promote the three C's in helping prevent the spread of influenza in our community:

- **CLEAN** - Wash your hands
- **COVER** - Cover your cough and sneeze
- **CONTAIN** - Contain your germs, stay home if you are sick

Please contact WCHD's Communicable Disease Program at 815-720-4050 to report an outbreak or with any questions.

Additional Resources:

- IDPH: [Influenza](#)
- CDC: [Influenza](#)
- WCHD: [Weekly Influenza Reports](#)

