



INFLUENZA REPORT

2023-2024 Influenza Season

MMWR Week 12 (3/17/24-3/23/24)

Weekly Report of Influenza and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Activity



Influenza and Influenza-like Illness Activity

Spread

Regional

Transmission levels continued to decrease in most counties this week

Flu Activity

High

Reported activity levels remain elevated across the state

ILI Activity

High

Continued reports of outpatient respiratory illnesses

Co-circulating

Other Viruses:

low levels of SARS-CoV-2 and RSV

Seasonal Data

Types of Flu

Influenza A and B viruses are circulating

Subtypes

All three viruses (A/H1N1, A/H3N2, and B/Victoria) were reported in equal proportions this week

Outbreaks

0

No newly reported LTCF or school associated outbreaks this week

Severity

Hospitalizations

Nationally, the number of hospital admissions has been decreasing since January

Deaths

0

No locally reported pediatric deaths; 126 pediatric deaths reported in the US so far this season

Syndromic

0

No syndromic anomalies were reported this week

EMS

13

Suspected ILI reports this week

Hot Spots

Tracking Trends

Several counties reported another slight decrease in case counts



Geographic Activity by Regions

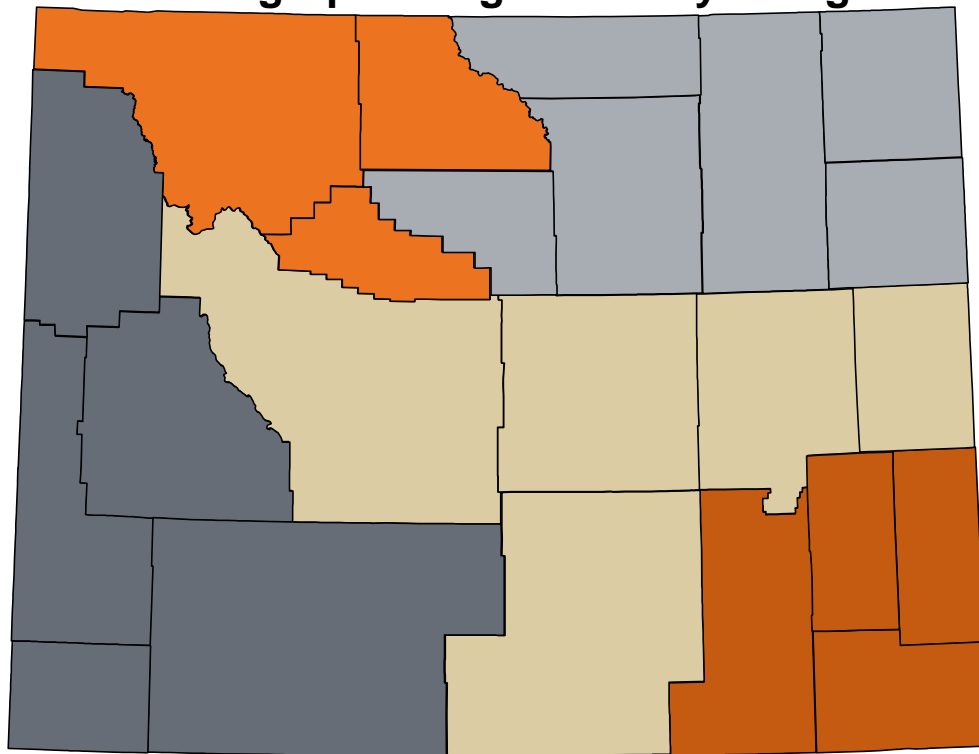
Wyoming as a whole had **high** ILI activity this week (MMWR Week 12). Transmission levels remain elevated across the state, although overall reported case counts continue to decrease.

Healthcare providers in **10** counties reported ILI activity.

The electronically reported influenza cases represent **all five** Infectious Disease Epidemiology (IDE) Geographic Regions.

Healthcare providers across the state electronically reported **81 cases** of influenza (rapid influenza diagnostic tests and PCR confirmed tests) this week.

IDE Geographic Regions of Wyoming



- Southeastern (**local**, with cases reported in Laramie, and Platte counties)
- Central (**local**, with cases reported in Fremont and Carbon counties)
- Western (**local**, with cases reported only in Teton County)
- Big Horn (**regional**, with cases reported in Big Horn and Park counties)
- Northeastern (**regional**, with cases reported in Campbell, Crook, and Sheridan counties)



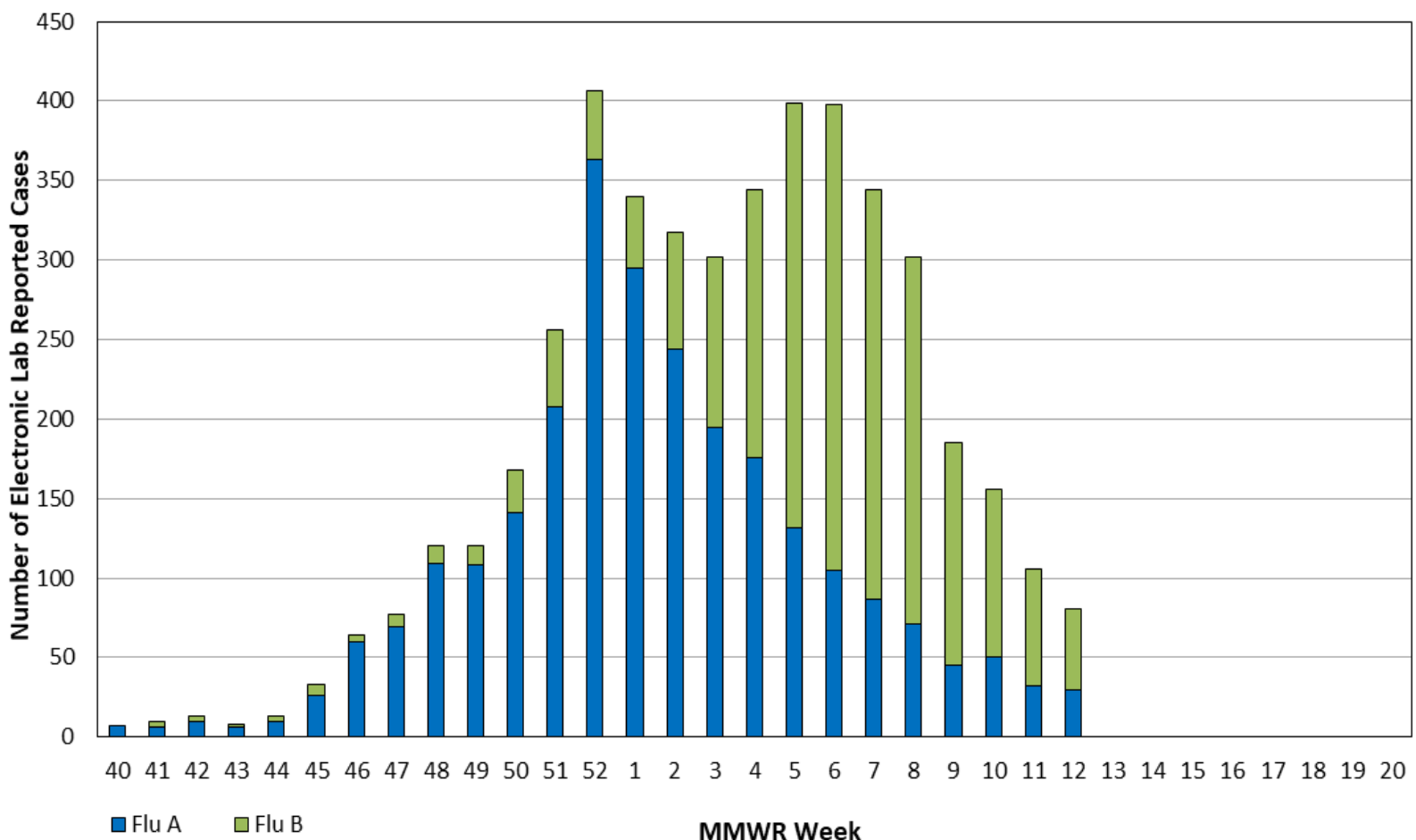
Public Health Laboratory

The overall volume of samples tested for influenza at the Wyoming Public Health Laboratory has increased since the introduction of the CDC Influenza SARS-CoV-2 Multiplex Assay. Wyoming saw a **slight decrease** in the number of positive influenza specimens reported this week compared to week 11.

Healthcare and Clinical Laboratories

Clinical laboratories across the United States reported **all three influenza viruses (A/H1N1, A/H3N2, and B/Victoria)** co-circulating in equal proportions during MMWR Week 12.

Electronic Lab Reports of Influenza Cases



* This graph is not representative of all influenza cases across the state

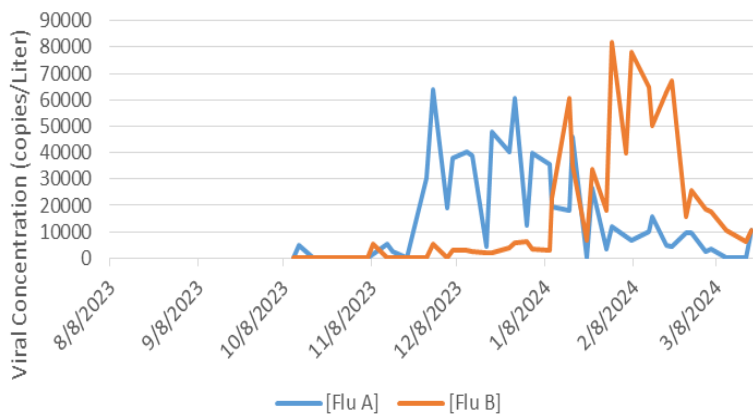
Wastewater Surveillance



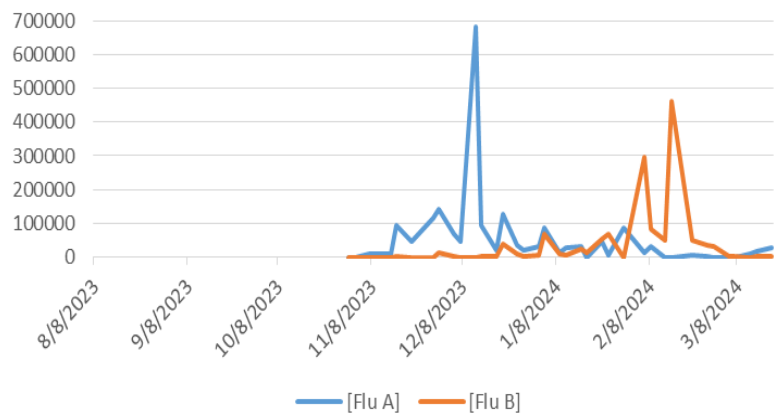
Importance of Wastewater Surveillance:

Jurisdictions across the country have recently started utilizing wastewater sampling to conduct surveillance for different pathogens. Here at the WPHL, we have a team of scientists working to analyze wastewater samples to identify trends in influenza (and many other targets). The graphs pictured below depict trend lines that correlate relatively well with the case counts and activity percentages we have seen so far this season.

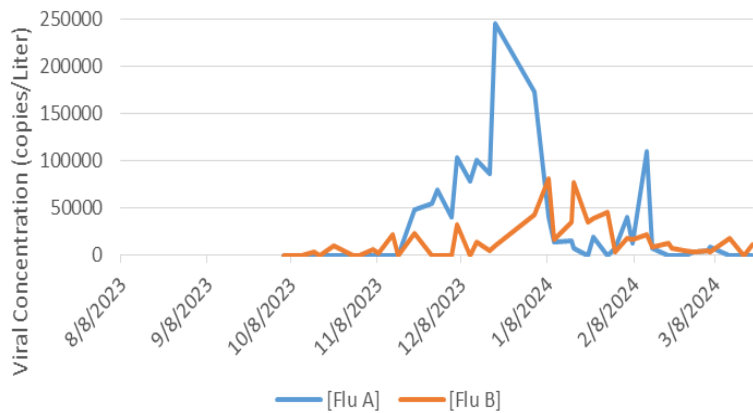
Influenza A and B Concentration Levels in Cheyenne Wastewater



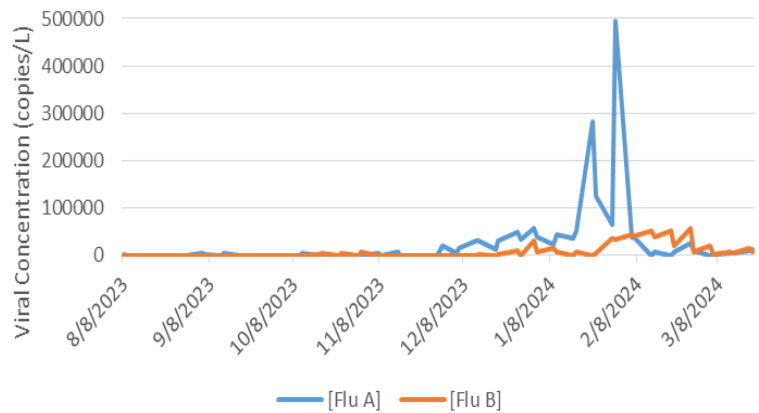
Influenza A and B Concentration Levels in Rawlins Wastewater



Influenza A and B Concentration Levels in Green River Wastewater



Influenza A and B Concentration Levels in Sheridan Wastewater



Sampling and Analysis Methodologies:

For each city, twice a week, we have a wastewater utility operator take a 24 hour composite sample from the influent channel prior to treatment, of which they send us a total of 150mL in three 50mL tubes for us to test. They then ship the samples chilled via priority overnight so that we can run all of our measurements the following day. The sampling procedure is conducted in triplicate, and we take an average of the three to determine the estimated concentration of viral particles present in the wastewater for any given day. We then take the average concentration and divide it by our percent recovery to account for any deviation due to differing levels of present inhibitors. Each plot point on the graph represents the average viral concentration for a set of triplicates, normalized for the percent recovery.



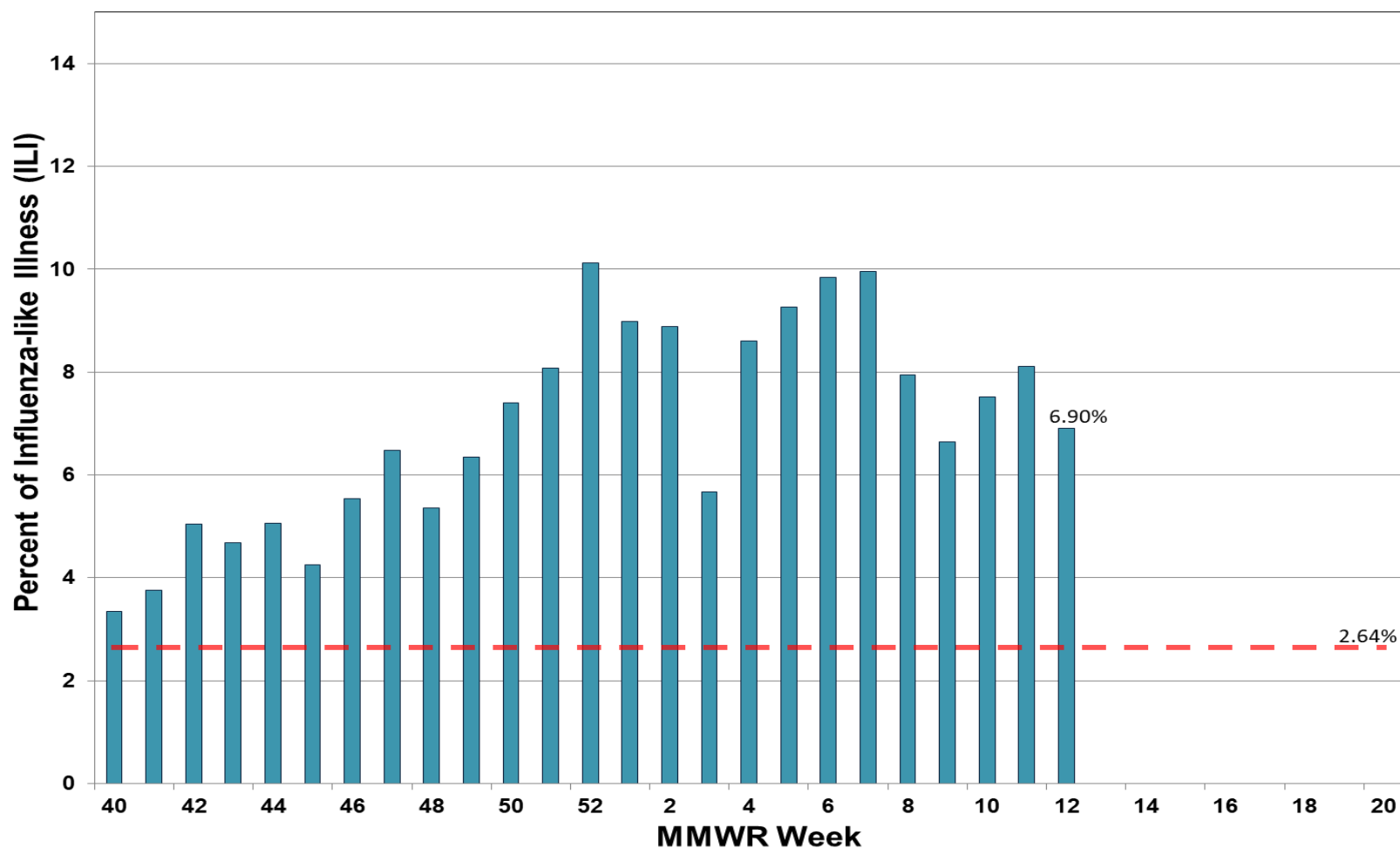
ILINet Providers

The percent of patient visits to ILINet Sentinel Providers for an influenza-like illness was **6.90%**, which is **above** Wyoming's baseline (**2.64%**), and a **decrease** compared to week 11.

The Wyoming Department of Health received reports from **less than 50%** of the ILINet providers across the state. Although weekly percentages could continue to change as additional values are submitted.

Key Updates: Outpatient respiratory illness declined, but remains above baseline nationally. HHS Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8 are below their baselines, while all other regions remain at or above their respective baselines this week. Based on CDC calculations, transmission within Wyoming was **high** this week. Seasonal influenza activity remains elevated, but is decreasing across the country.

Weekly Percent of ILI Visits





Mortality Data

Tracking death certificates is the best surveillance system to capture and identify pneumonia and influenza-associated deaths in Wyoming. According to the CDC, influenza is infrequently listed on death certificates. Also, testing for seasonal influenza infections is not frequently performed, particularly among the elderly, who are at greatest risk for seasonal influenza complications and death. Therefore, public health officials may not identify influenza-associated deaths in many instances; consequently, this surveillance system may underestimate the true impact of influenza-associated deaths across the state.

There have been **42** pneumonia and influenza (P&I) mortality reports certified since the beginning of the 2023-2024 Influenza Season.

Monthly P&I Mortality Reports (2019-2024)

