Weekly Influenza Surveillance Summary (Week of 12/10/2023-12/16/2023. Updated: 12/22/2023)

* Influenza activity continues to increase.
* eight influenza-associated ICU hospitalizations were reported for the current surveillance week. Since October 1, 2023, 47 influenza-associated ICU hospitalizations have been reported.
* 510 of 5,436 (9.4%) reported specimens tested for influenza were positive. Since October 1, 2023, 1,972 of 56,716 (3.5%) reported specimens tested for influenza were positive.
* The proportion of emergency department visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) is above local thresholds and the proportion of outpatient visits for ILI are below local thresholds.
* Vaccination is the best way to protect against influenza infection and all Chicagoans six months and older are encouraged to get vaccinated. Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines can be given at the same visit if the timing coincides.
* Chicagoans should ask their healthcare provider or pharmacist about vaccine availability. For those without a healthcare provider or whose healthcare providers do not have the influenza vaccine, a schedule of [City of Chicago influenza vaccination clinics](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/flu/home/vaccine-finder.html) is available on the city website and by calling 311.
* The Illinois Department of Public Health has issued [Influenza Testing and Reporting Guidance](https://www.chicagohan.org/alert-detail?p_p_id=hanalertdetailsweb&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_resource_id=download&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&_hanalertdetailsweb_attachmentId=45702089&_hanalertdetailsweb_alertId=46681288) for the 2023-2024 season. Visit the CDPH [HAN website](https://www.chicagohan.org/diseases-and-conditions/influenza) for more information on how to report.
* Additional information on other respiratory viruses can be found in our [Chicago Respiratory Virus Weekly Surveillance Report](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdph/supp_info/health_data/current_flu_situationinchicago.html).