

RESPIRATORY VIRUS SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Week 44: Oct 26-Nov 01, 2025



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Purpose: This report describes current trends in suburban Cook County for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. Selected graphics are presented on pages 2-4. For complete surveillance data on these pathogens, please visit our [respiratory dashboard](#).

Key Points:

COVID-19, Influenza, RSV

- RSV activity remains low, and activity levels for flu and COVID-19 remain minimal.
- Emergency room visits and hospital admissions associated with RSV are continuing to increase, especially in children under 5.
- ICU admissions associated with COVID-19 continue to be reported weekly, primarily in those over 65.
- Wastewater detections for all monitored pathogens remain low.

Is anything else going around?

- Test positivity for [rhinovirus/enterovirus](#), is still elevated above baseline, but has been trending down for the last few weeks. These pathogens typically cause mild illness, like the common cold.

Recommendations

- CDC's [core recommendations](#) for *individuals* include staying up to date with all recommended respiratory virus vaccines, practicing good respiratory hygiene (covering your cough, washing your hands), taking steps for cleaner air, and using precautions to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses when you are sick. This means staying home until you've been fever-free for 24 hours and your symptoms are getting better. CDC also recommends individuals are familiar with treatment options for flu and COVID-19, especially if you are at [high risk](#) for severe outcomes.
- CDC's [core recommendations](#) for *organizations* include supporting vaccination efforts (like hosting a clinic or providing time off for vaccination and recovery), encouraging good respiratory hygiene with posters and adequate hand-washing supplies, taking steps for cleaner air, and supporting time off for individuals to stay home when sick or to seek treatment.
- If you haven't already made a plan to [get vaccinated](#), now is the time. It can take a few weeks for protection to build after receiving a vaccine. Get protected before the holiday season begins.

We would like to thank all of our surveillance partners for their help in collecting this information! Additional details on our methods can be found [here](#).

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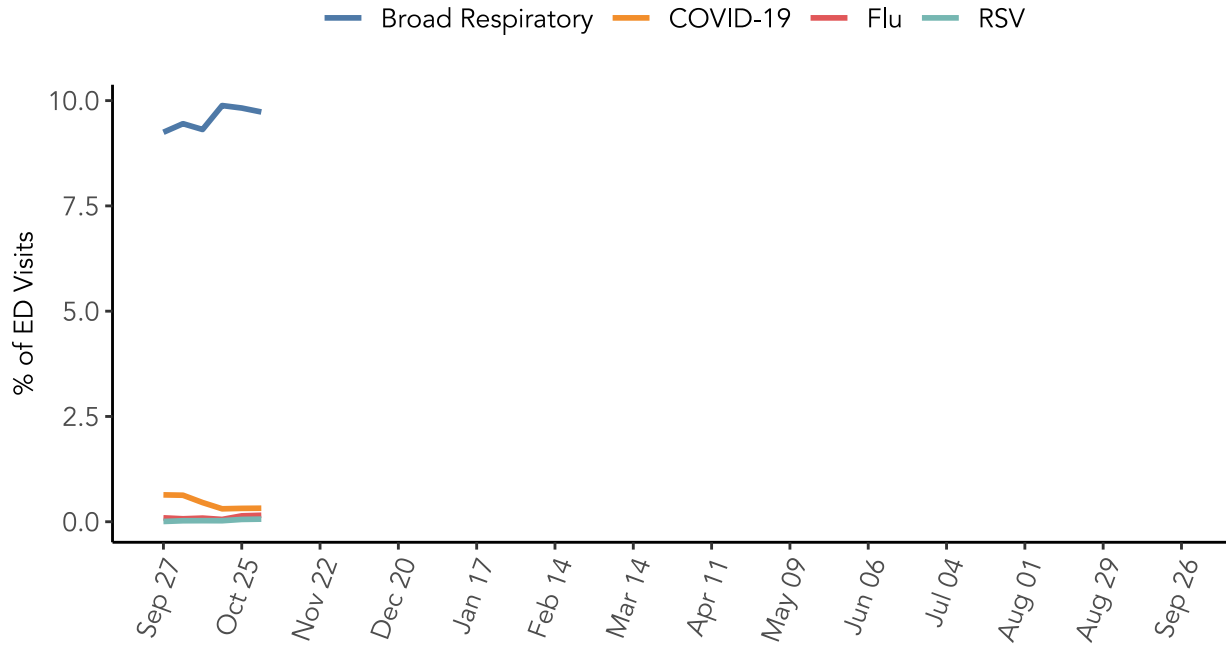
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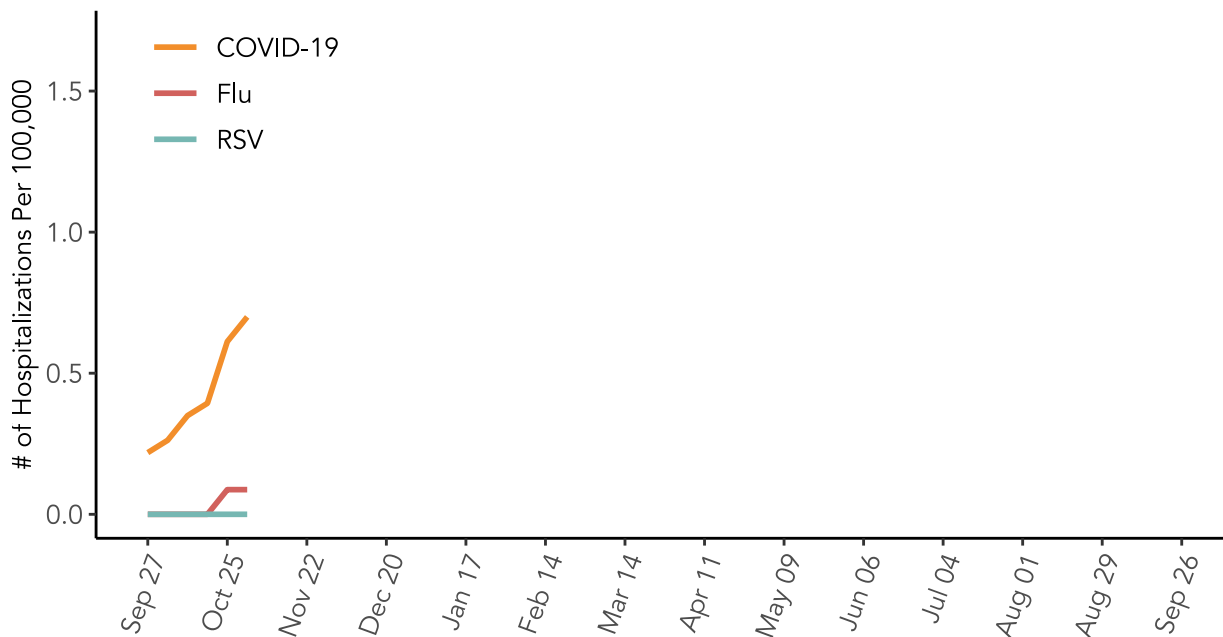
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Emergency Rooms Visits by Respiratory Diagnosis



Cumulative ICU Admission Rate for Reportable Respiratory Viruses



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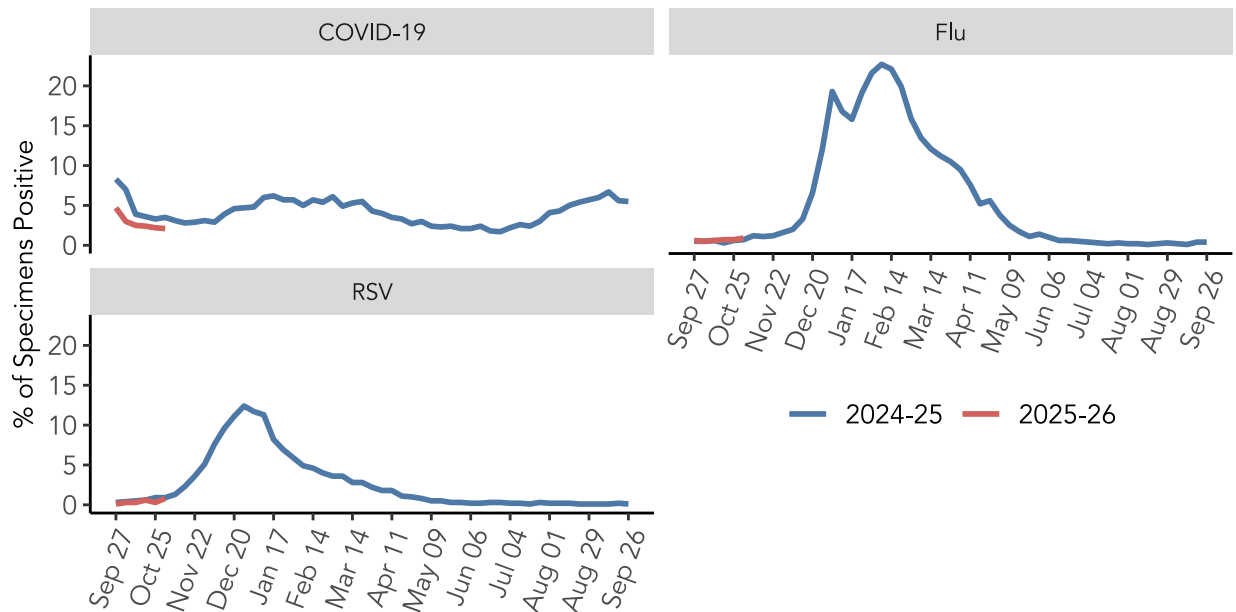


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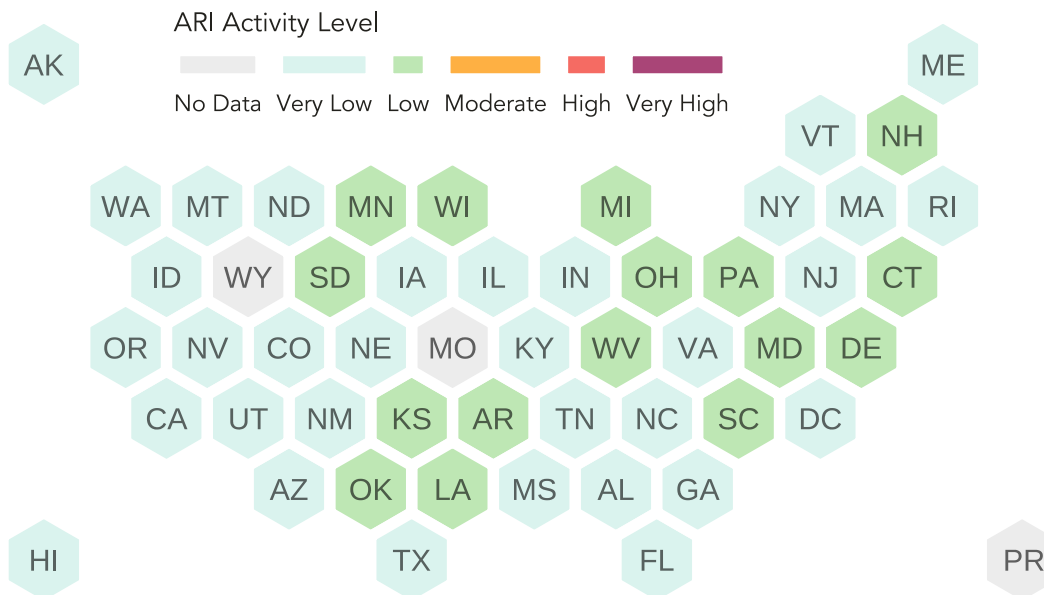
Percent Positivity by Respiratory Virus

Laboratories contributing data differ by pathogen. Lab data may not be comparable between viruses. Graphics are better used to look at trajectory for a given virus over time.



CDC Acute Respiratory Illness Activity Levels by State

Data for the week ending 2025-09-20, most recent CDC data available



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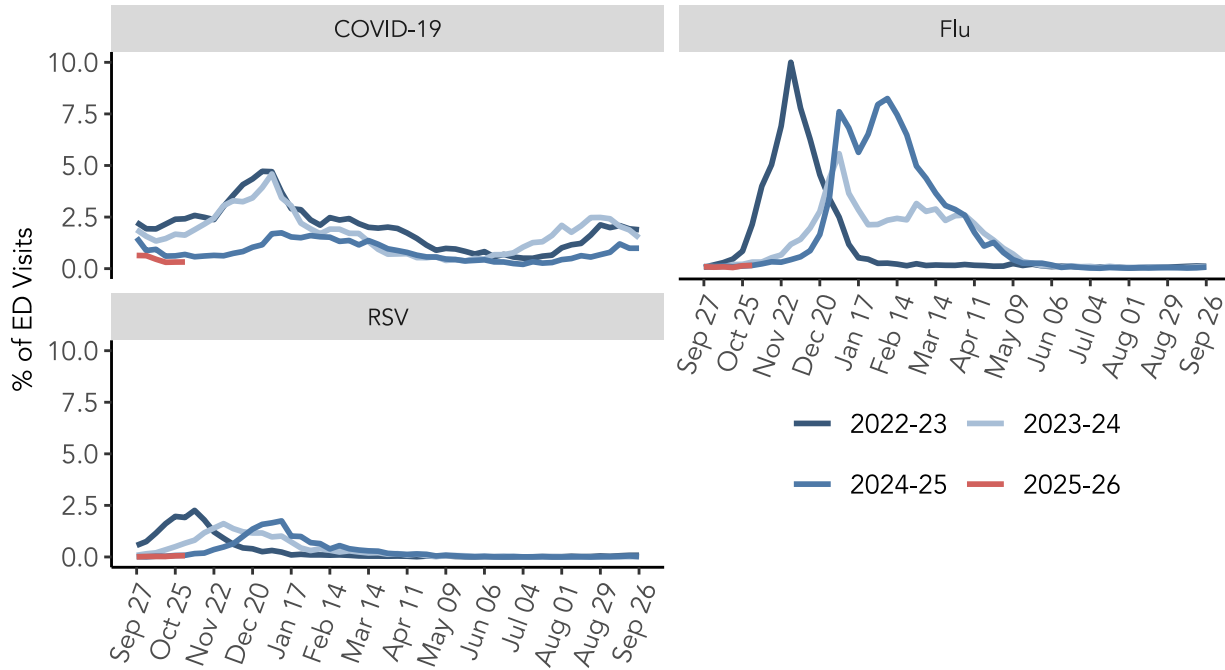
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Emergency Rooms Visits by Season and Diagnosis



Emergency Room Visits by Age and Diagnosis

