

## Preview Mode

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### Weekly Influenza Hospitalizations

Hospitals are required to report the daily aggregate number of hospitalized patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza by age group each week.

Weekly reporting for the 2020-21 influenza season will begin Sunday October 11, 2020 (for the week ending Saturday October 10, 2020) and will continue through Wednesday May 26, 2021 (for the week ending May 22, 2021).

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### Completing the survey

#### **Which patients should be counted?**

Count all hospitalized patients who have evidence of laboratory-confirmed influenza.

#### **Include:**

- Patients who were admitted to an inpatient unit of the hospital (an overnight stay is not required)
- Patients who were kept in observation for > 24 hours
- Community-associated and healthcare facility-associated (nosocomial) cases (NOTE: nosocomial cases must also be reported through NORA)

#### **Exclude:**

- Patients who only visited the emergency department
- Outpatients who stayed in the facility <24 hours
- Patients previously reported by a different hospital and later transferred to your hospital

#### **Evidence of a positive influenza test may be:**

- A laboratory report from a rapid influenza diagnostic test (RIDT)
- Viral culture
- RT-PCR
- Immunofluorescence antibody staining (IFA or DFA)
- Written note of a positive test (e.g., from a test performed prior admission); or a verbal report from a healthcare provider

**Note:** Single serology tests are **NOT** confirmatory for influenza infection.

To be considered confirmatory, both acute and convalescent serology specimens must be obtained and tested - and the convalescent specimen must show at least a four-fold or greater rise in antibody titer.

**During which week should a patient be counted?**

Surveillance weeks begin on Sunday at 12:01 AM and end the following Saturday at midnight.

Whenever possible, use influenza specimen collection date and time when determining in which week a patient should be counted (previously submitted data can be revised directly in HERDS for up to 6 weeks).

For patients previously diagnosed with influenza and hospitalized at a later date, use the date of hospitalization to determine the reporting week.

Report each individual patient only once, when first identified as a case. Do not count the same patient in multiple weeks, unless discharged and then readmitted for a new laboratory-confirmed influenza illness.

**Entering data into HERDS**

Each week, report into HERDS anytime between Sunday at 12:01 AM through Wednesday at noon, the number of cases identified during the previous week ending Saturday at midnight.

Time Period corresponds to the surveillance week ending date.

For example, for cases identified during the week 10/04/2020 thru 10/10/2020, enter the data anytime between Sunday 10/11/2020 (12:01 AM) and Wednesday 10/14/2020 (noon), under the time period **10/10/2020**.

Report the daily number of cases by age group: 0-4, 5-17, 18-49, 50-64, and  $\geq 65$  years.

If there are no cases to report, enter '0' (zero) in all of the required fields - rather than not submitting the survey.

**To fully complete the data submission process, be sure to follow all three steps below:**

- Press the **Save** button
- Press the **Review and Submit** button
- Press the **Submit to DOH** button

**Note:** Clicking "Review and Submit" alone does not submit your data to DOH.

Any Saved data will be submitted on your behalf after noon each Wednesday.

Data revisions or submission of data after the Wednesday deadline (e.g., based on confirmatory testing results) are always encouraged. You may submit current or revised data directly into HERDS for the current week - PLUS up to the previous 6 weeks.

Data from earlier weeks (beyond the previous 6 weeks) may be revised or entered by contacting the Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP) at 518-408-5163.

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**Survey Support**

For any surveillance program questions or concerns - or for questions regarding the content of this survey please contact the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control (BCDC) at (518) 473-4439.

Technical questions regarding HERDS may be directed to OHEP at (518) 408-5163.

Questions regarding Commerce access may be directed to the Commerce Accounts Management Unit (CAMU) at (866) 529-1890.

**Reporter Contact Information**

Name \*

Title \*

Phone Number (in xxx-xxx-xxxx format) \*  (R)

E-mail address \*  (R)

**WEEKLY HOSPITALIZATIONS BY AGE CATEGORY**

For each day of the week, enter the total number of newly admitted or already hospitalized patients with:

- newly diagnosed with laboratory-confirmed influenza
- grouped according to the appropriate age category

(Enter '0' for none)

**Age Group: 0 - 4 Years**

Sunday: 0 - 4 Years \*

Monday: 0 - 4 Years \*

Tuesday: 0 - 4 Years \*

Wednesday: 0 - 4 Years \*

Thursday: 0 - 4 Years \*

Friday: 0 - 4 Years \*

Saturday: 0 - 4 Years \*

**Age Group: 5 - 17 Years**

Sunday: 5 - 17 Years \*

Monday: 5 - 17 Years \*

Tuesday: 5 - 17 Years \*

Wednesday: 5 - 17 Years \*

Thursday: 5 - 17 Years \*

Friday: 5 - 17 Years \*

Saturday: 5 - 17 Years \*

**Age Group: 18 - 49 Years**

- Sunday: 18 - 49 Years \*
- Monday: 18 - 49 Years \*
- Tuesday: 18 - 49 Years \*
- Wednesday: 18 - 49 Years \*
- Thursday: 18 - 49 Years \*
- Friday: 18 - 49 Years \*
- Saturday: 18 - 49 Years \*

**Age Group: 50 - 64 Years**

- Sunday: 50 - 64 Years \*
- Monday: 50 - 64 Years \*
- Tuesday: 50 - 64 Years \*
- Wednesday: 50 - 64 Years \*
- Thursday: 50 - 64 Years \*
- Friday: 50 - 64 Years \*
- Saturday: 50 - 64 Years \*

**Age Group: 65 Years and Older**

- Sunday: 65 Years and Older \*
- Monday: 65 Years and Older \*
- Tuesday: 65 Years and Older \*
- Wednesday: 65 Years and Older \*
- Thursday: 65 Years and Older \*
- Friday: 65 Years and Older \*
- Saturday: 65 Years and Older \*

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