

District 2 Public Health

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Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties

November 12, 2024

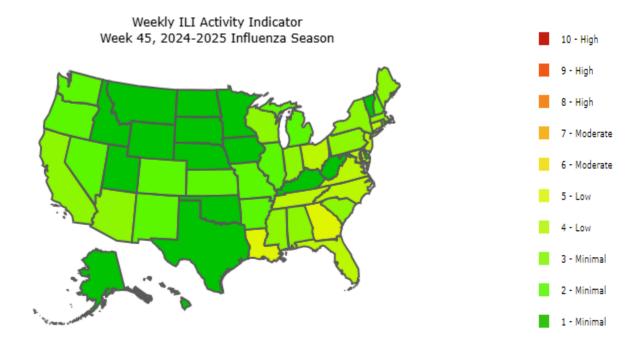
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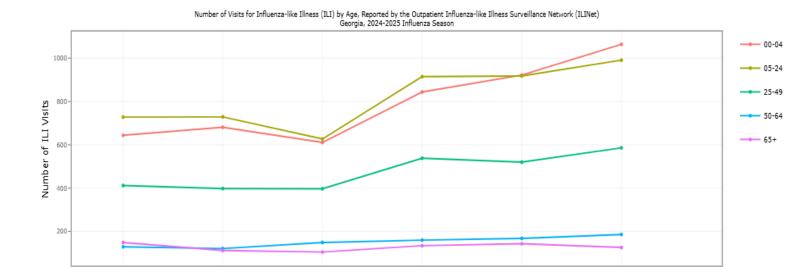
Georgia Flu Surveillance Update: Week 45 (Ending November 9, 2024)

As of Week 45, Georgia flu activity was Low= 5 (on the scale of 1-13). Activity levels are based on the percent of outpatient visits in Georgia due to Influenza-like illness during this timeframe.

For the corresponding week, the percentage of outpatient visits for Influenza-like Illness was 3.7% (which is above the regional baseline of 3.2%), the number of influenza-associated death was 0 (0 total for the current ILI season); the number of Metro Area Influenza Hospitalizations was 7 (29 total for current Flu season); and the number of Influenza Outbreaks was 0 (0 total for current Flu season).



Map shows Influenza-like cases in US southern region. Georgia activity indicator is at level 5 (Low) on week 45 as shown in Light Green color.



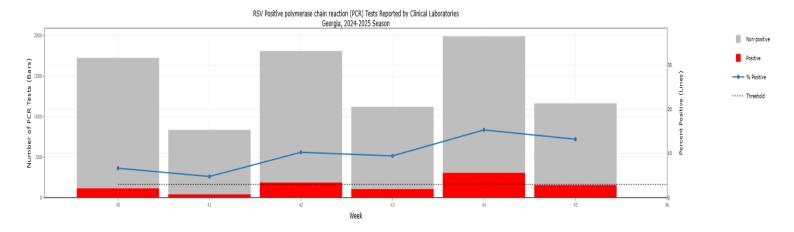
For week 45, the graph shows an increase in cases for age groups 00-04, 05-24, 25-49, and 50-64 and decrease for age group 65+.

Week

Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV) Surveillance

Data from NREVSS are also analyzed to measure the RSV seasonality. Antigen and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are analyzed separately to determine the start and end of RSV season. Season onset is defined as the first week of two consecutive weeks when the percent positive of ALL laboratory confirmed tests are greater than or equal a certain threshold. The end is defined as the first week of two consecutive weeks when the percent positive of ALL laboratory confirmed tests are less than a certain threshold. For antigen-based testing, the threshold is 10% and for PCR the threshold is 3%.

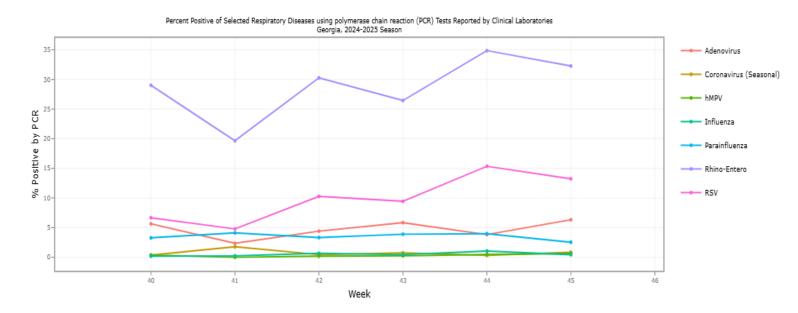
During week 45, clinical laboratories in Georgia reported testing 1,871 (5.8% positive) antigen specimens and 1,164 (13.2% positive) PCR specimens.



For week 45, RSV PCR positive test results show a slight decrease in cases compared to the previous week.

Other Respiratory Disease Surveillance

Trends in influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses are displayed below using NREVSS polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing data.



For week 45, Adenovirus shows increase in cases along with Coronavirus (seasonal) also showing slight increase in cases compared to previous week. Rhino-Entero, RSV, and hMPV show a decrease in cases.

Summary: Number of PCR Tests (% Positive)

(70) Collinson	Week 45	Total since Week 40
Adenovirus	474 (6.3%)	4,721 (4.7%)
Coronavirus (Seasonal)	474 (0.8%)	4,721 (0.6%)
Influenza	1,164 (0.4%)	8,655 (0.6%)
Parainfluenza	474 (2.5%)	4,721 (3.5%)
RSV	1,164 (13.2%)	8,654 (10.5%)
Rhino-Enterovirus	474 (32.3%)	4,721 (30.3%)
hMPV	474 (0.6%)	4,721 (0.3%)

Getting vaccinated is the best thing you can do to protect yourself and others.

District 2 health departments have vaccines available. Please contact your local health department for information on how to get your vaccine at http://phdistrict2.org/?page_id=597.

To learn more about how to protect yourself against flu and other respiratory diseases, visit DPH website at https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/acute-disease-epidemiology/viral-respiratory-diseases and CDC website at https://www.cdc.gov/flu/