



District 2 Public Health

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

09/29/2025

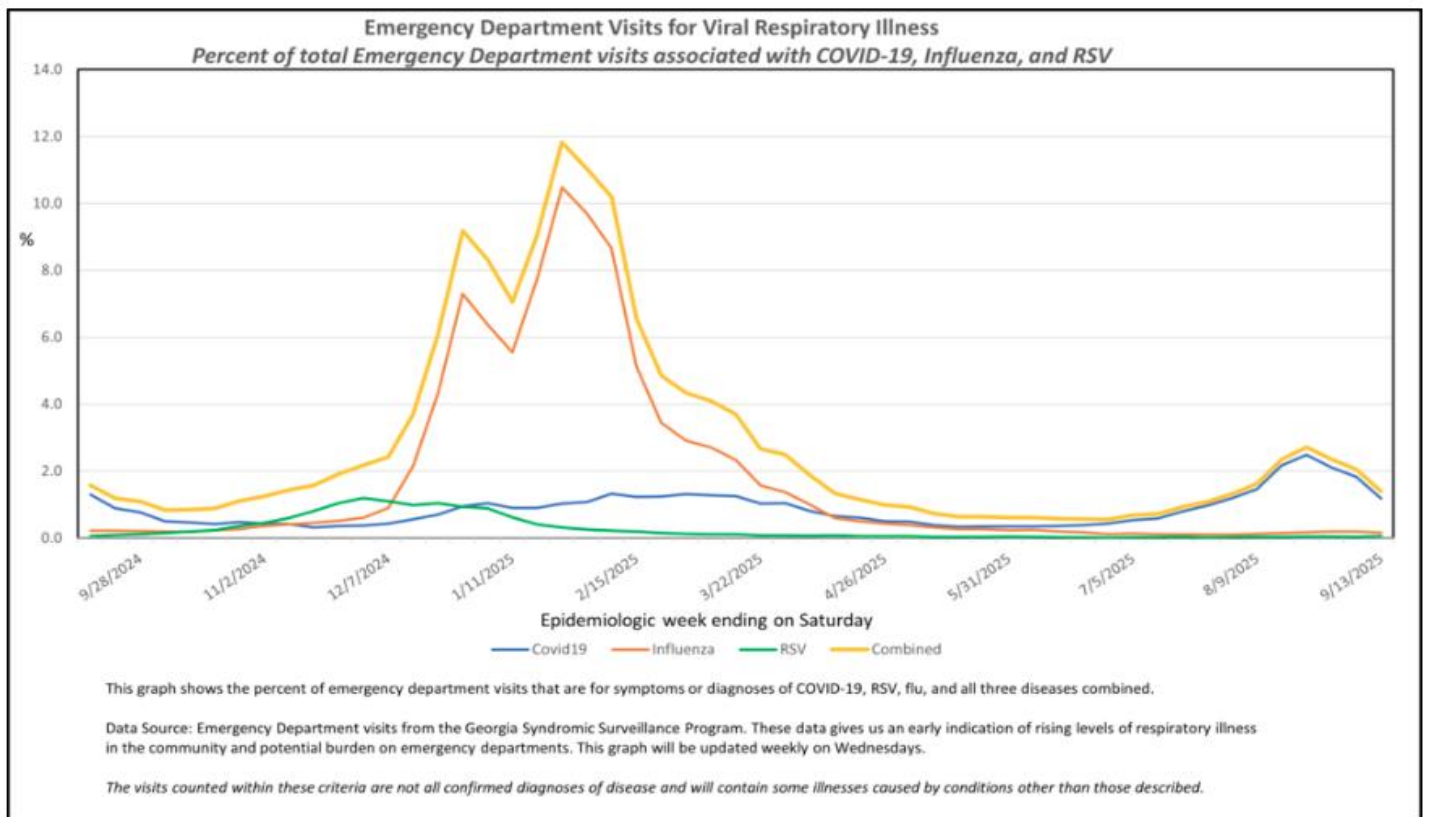
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Viral Respiratory Diseases Surveillance

Pan-Respiratory Virus Surveillance (Georgia - Last Updated 09/13/25)



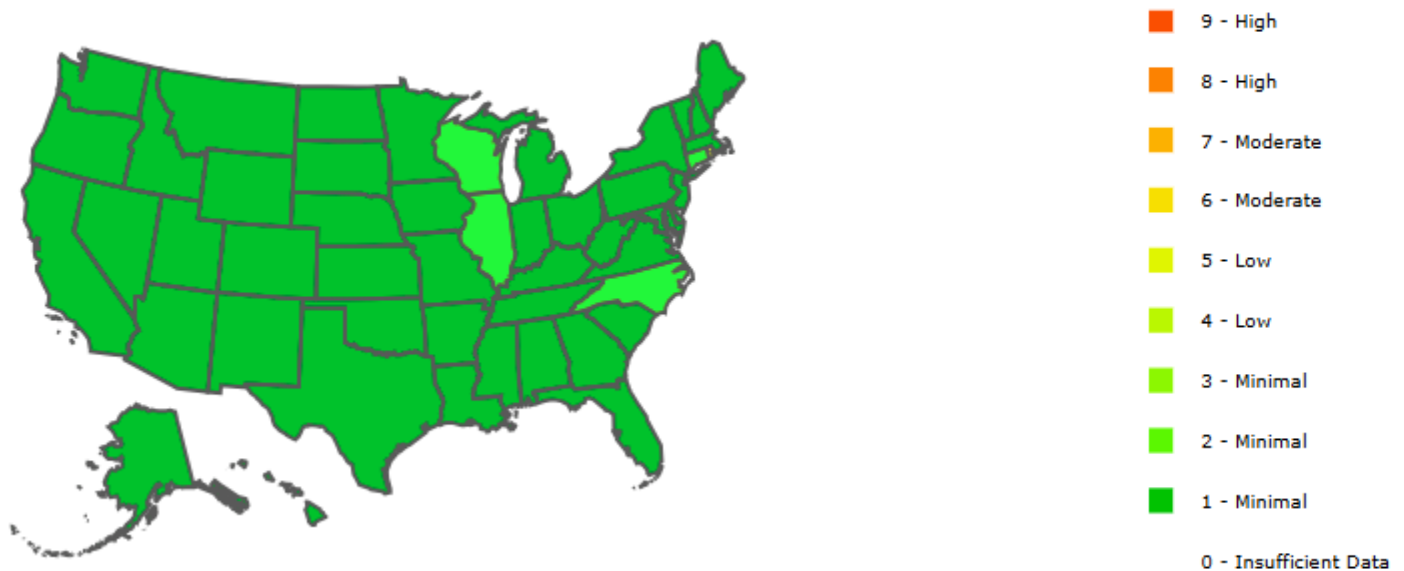
The graph above shows the percentage of emergency department visits that are for symptoms or diagnoses of COVID-19, RSV, Flu, and all three combined. The graph continues to show decline in number of COVID-19 cases and all ILI cases combined.

Georgia Flu Surveillance Update: Week 38 (Ending September 20, 2025)

As of Week 38, Georgia flu activity was minimal (1 on the scale of 1-13). Activity levels are based on the percent of outpatient visits in Georgia due to influenza-like illness (ILI) during this timeframe.

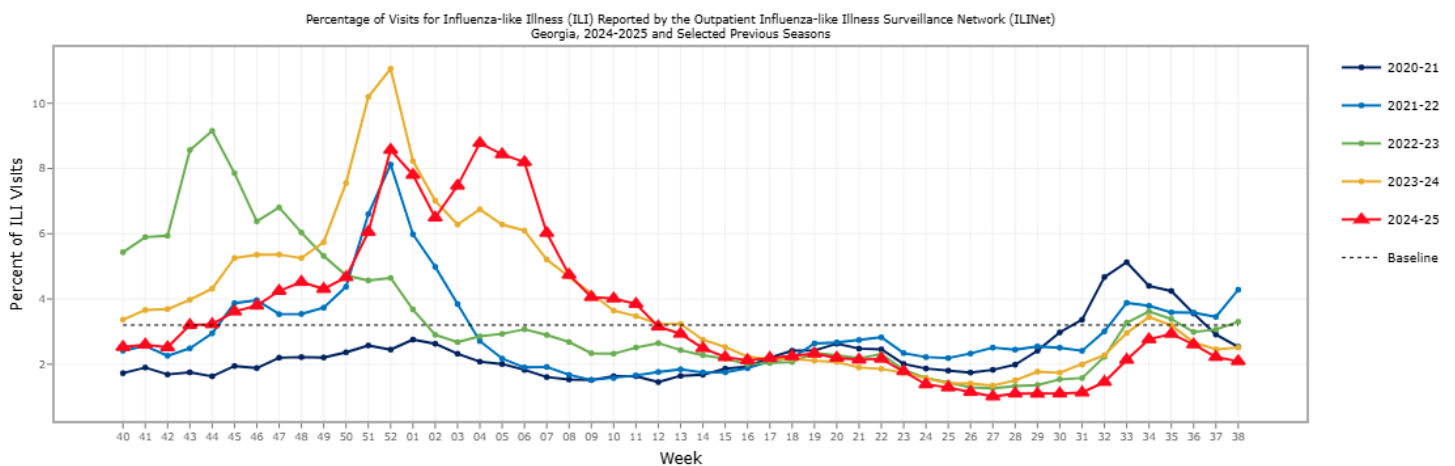
For the corresponding week, the percentage of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness was 2.1% (which is below the regional baseline of 3.2%), the number of influenza-associated deaths was 0 (168 total for the current ILI season- Oct. 2024 to present); the number of Metro Area Influenza Hospitalizations was 4 (5,258 total for current flu season); and the number of influenza outbreaks was 0 (277 total for current flu season).

Weekly ILI Activity Indicator
Week 38, 2024-2025 Influenza Season



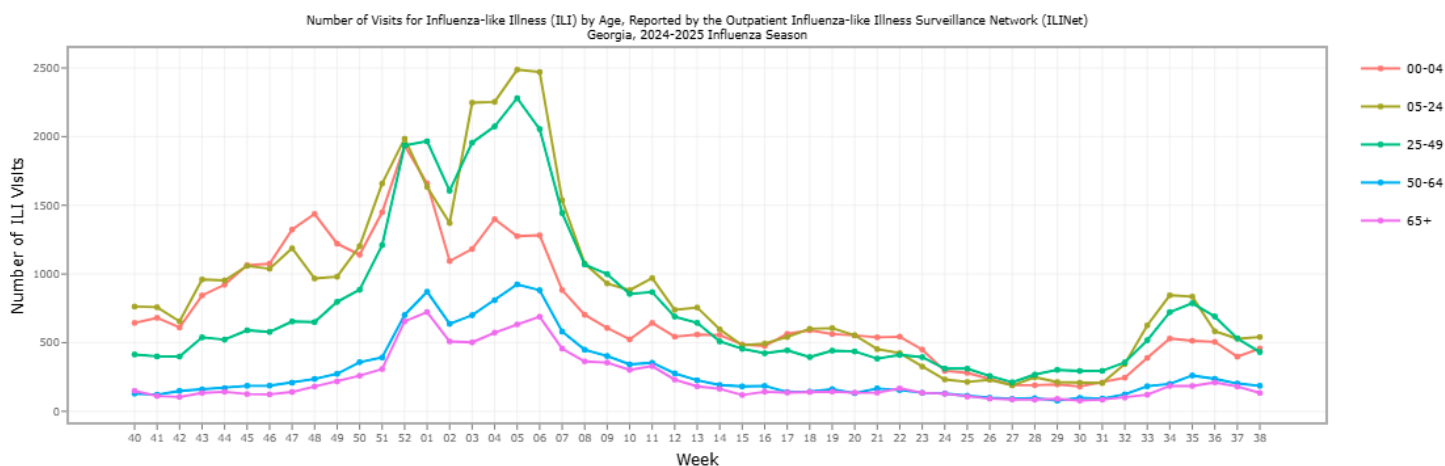
The map shows influenza-like cases in the southern US region. Georgia activity indicator level is at 1 (minimal) on week 38, as shown in green above.

ILI (Influenza-like Illness) Percentages by Season



The graph shows a snapshot of flu in Georgia compared to previous years. Graph shows cases are currently declining as of week 38, percentages of ILI visits are lower in FLU season 2024-2025 (red line) when compared to the same time in previous years.

ILI (Influenza-like Illness) Percentages by Age



For week 38, the graph shows disease in ILI cases for all age groups 25-49 and 65+, increase in age groups 00-04 and 05-24, age group 50-64 remain stable.

COVID-19 Snapshot

Early Indicators and Hospitalizations for COVID-19 in the United States- week ending 09/20/2025

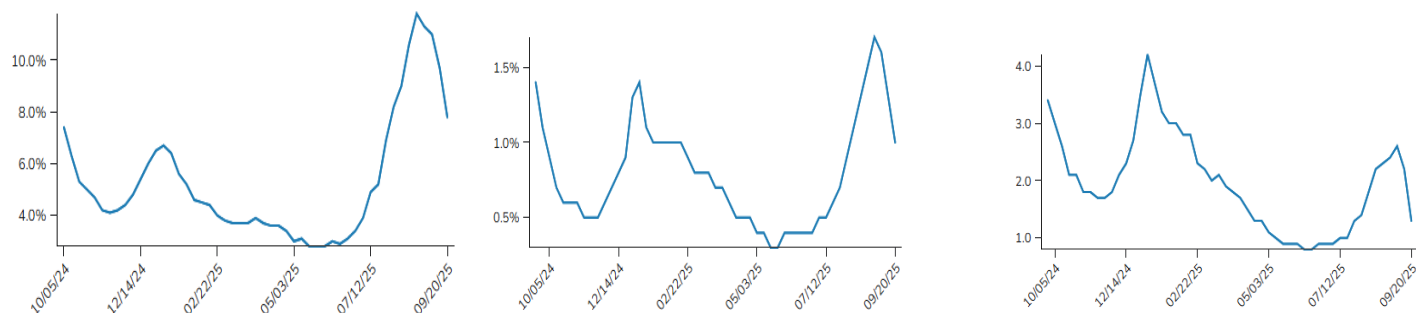


Figure 1: Percent Test Positivity – 7.8%

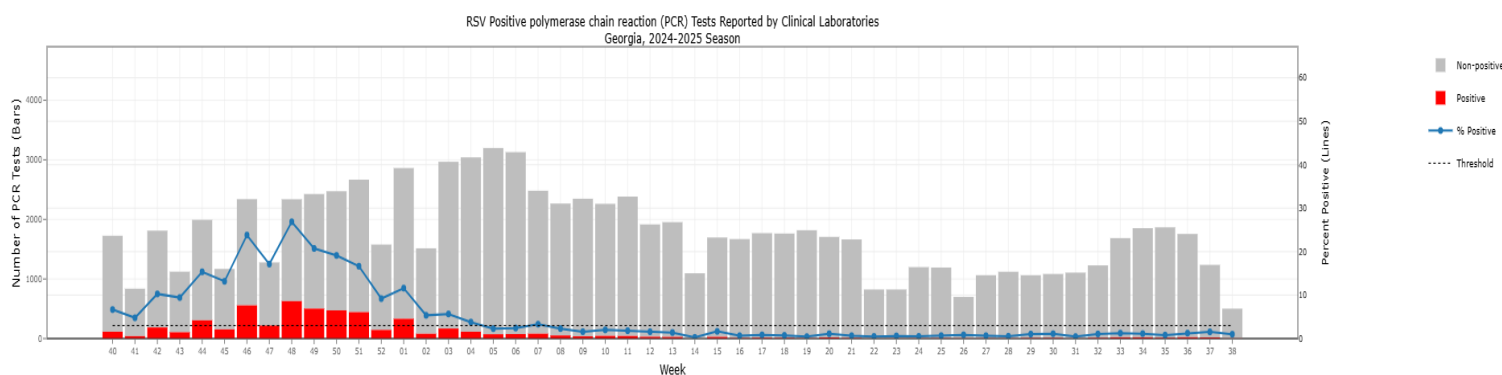
Figure 2: Percent ED Visits Diagnosed as COVID-19 - 1.0%

Figure 3: Hospitalization Rate per 100,000 Population- 1.3%

Figure 1 (percent test positivity) and Figure 2 (percentage of total emergency department visits due to COVID-19) represent the current impact of COVID-19 on communities across the United States. These metrics act as early indicators of potential increases in COVID-19 activity. Figure 3 (hospitalization rate per 100,000 people) assesses severity and disease burden of COVID-19. For the period of 08/31/2025 – 09/27/2025, the SARS-CoV-2 subvariant Omicron XFG was responsible for 85% of all cases in the U.S., followed by the subvariant NB.1.8.1 with 7%.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV) Surveillance

Data from NREVSS are also analyzed to measure 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 lab confirmed tests are less than a certain threshold. For antigen-based testing, the threshold is 10% and for PCR the threshold is 1%. During week 38, clinical laboratories in Georgia reported testing 10 (0.0% positive) antigen specimens and 502 (1.0% positive) PCR specimens.



For week 38, the PCR detections graph shows decrease in RSV PCR positive test results/cases (1%) compared to the previous week (1.5%).

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/>

All Georgia physicians, laboratories, and other health care providers are required by law to report notifiable diseases. Instructions, including notifiable conditions and the timeframe in which they are reportable can be found at <https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/disease-reporting>. Georgia tracks the listed conditions statewide using multiple overlapping surveillance systems, especially in the case of viral respiratory diseases as some are not reportable at the individual case level.