

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report



2021 Reporting Week 30 : July 25 – July 30

This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

Okaloosa COVID-19 Surge Continues...

COVID-19 cases continue to increase, and community transmission is **HIGH** for the fourth week in a row. The number of new cases reported this past week is comparable to what Okaloosa saw in early January. The percent of all COVID-19 tests that are positive in the past week is at an all-time high for Okaloosa County at **25.3%**. Last week, the CDC reported the current strain of this virus is as infectious as chickenpox!

For Week 30, respiratory syndrome was the top reason individuals aged 35 years and older visited local emergency departments. As of August 3, our local hospitals reported the highest number of individuals admitted for COVID-19 in Okaloosa since the start of this pandemic: **81!** Over 72% of those hospitalized are between 18-64 years. Before Tuesday, the highest number hospitalized was 67 in one day, which was during the first week of January 2021.

Only one way to stop this current surge - Get VACCINATED!

COVID-19 vaccines are **HIGHLY EFFECTIVE** and **SAFE**. Last week Okaloosa saw a substantial increase in the numbers of residents getting their first dose of vaccine. But we still have less than 40% of the eligible population fully vaccinated. While this vaccine is extraordinary at its effectiveness for an individual, the protective effect of vaccines works best when the majority who are eligible get vaccinated, providing a blanket of protection around those who can't get vaccinated or whose immune systems are weakened due to serious illness. In Okaloosa County, this includes 31,000+ children who are currently not eligible for the vaccine and about 6,000 people with weakened immune systems. Protect yourself AND your family, friends, and neighbors – [Make a plan to get vaccinated this week!](#)

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COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 30 Review		Difference from Wk29
Resident Case Count	925	+394
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	448.1	+190.8
Average Resident Cases per Day	132.1	+56.2
Percent Positivity	25.3%	+6
Deaths	3	+2
Cumulative Cases March 2020 - Feb 2021	18900	
Cumulative Cases March 2021 - Present	4452	
Cumulative Deaths March 2020 - Feb 2021	327	
Cumulative Deaths March 2021 - Present	56	

Data Source: Merlin Database

Week 30 Community Risk Level		
COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
HIGH	448.1	25.3%
PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH		
Low	<10	<5%
Moderate	10-49	5-7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8-9.9%
High	>100	>10%

Community risk level is the color of the higher risk level for the two indicators.

Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 30: July 25 - July 31

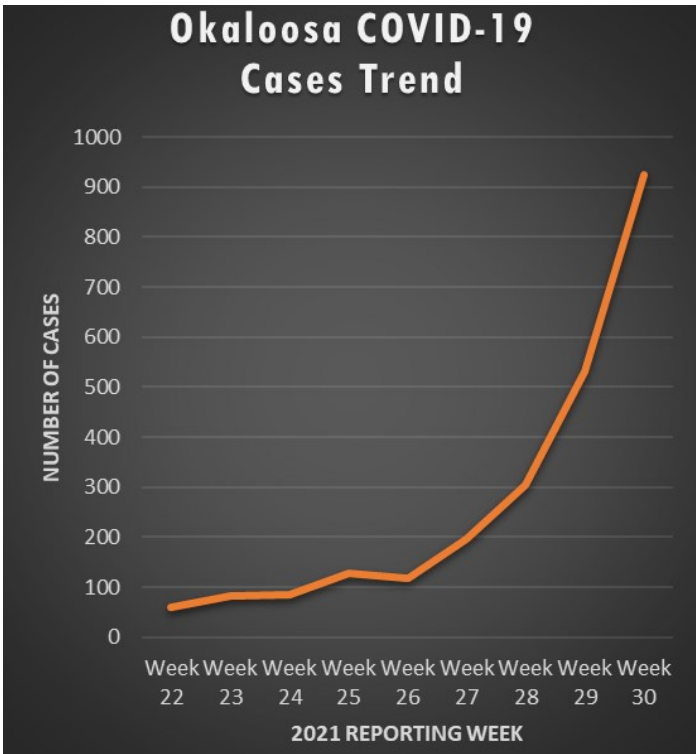


Figure 1: Trend of total COVID-19 cases by week. Data source: Merlin Database

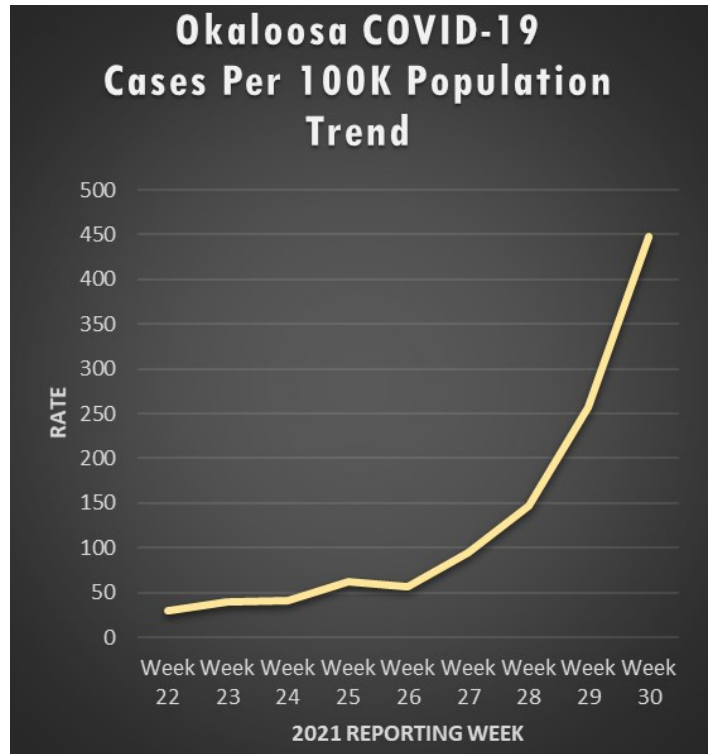


Figure 2: Trend of COVID-19 case rates by week. Data source: Merlin Database

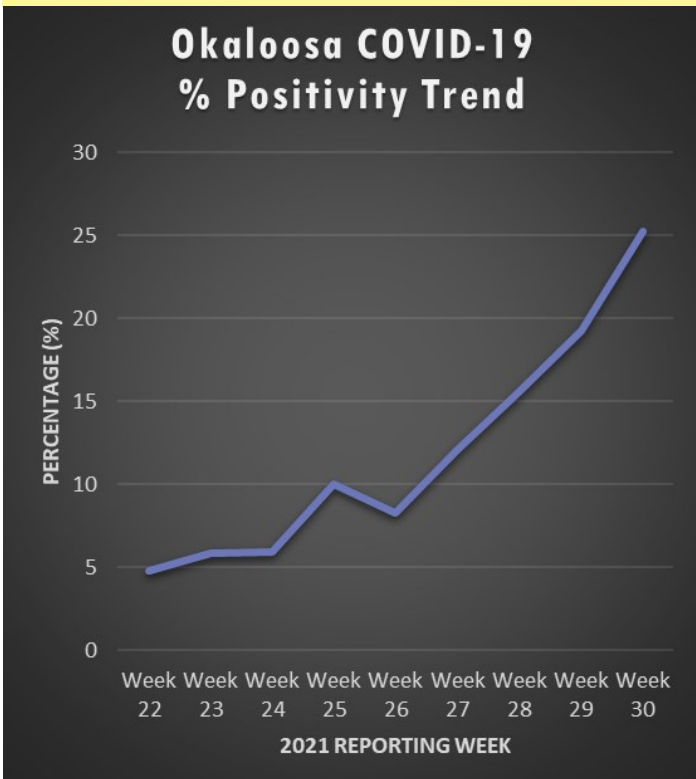


Figure 3: Trend of 7-day moving percent positivity of COVID-19 cases by week. Data source: Merlin Database

COVID-19 Cases by Age Group			
Age Group	Okaloosa Resident Cases since 03/01/21 through Week 30	% by Age Group	Difference from Week 29
0-11	332	7.6%	+73
12-14	105	2.4%	+20
15-24	729	16.7%	+140
25-44	1735	39.8%	+371
45-64	1047	24.0%	+242
65-74	266	6.1%	+52
75-84	91	2.1%	+18
85+	55	1.3%	+9
Unknown	1	0.0%	0
Total	4361	100%	925

Data Source: Merlin Database



COVID-19 Fully Vaccinated = No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 30: July 25 - July 31

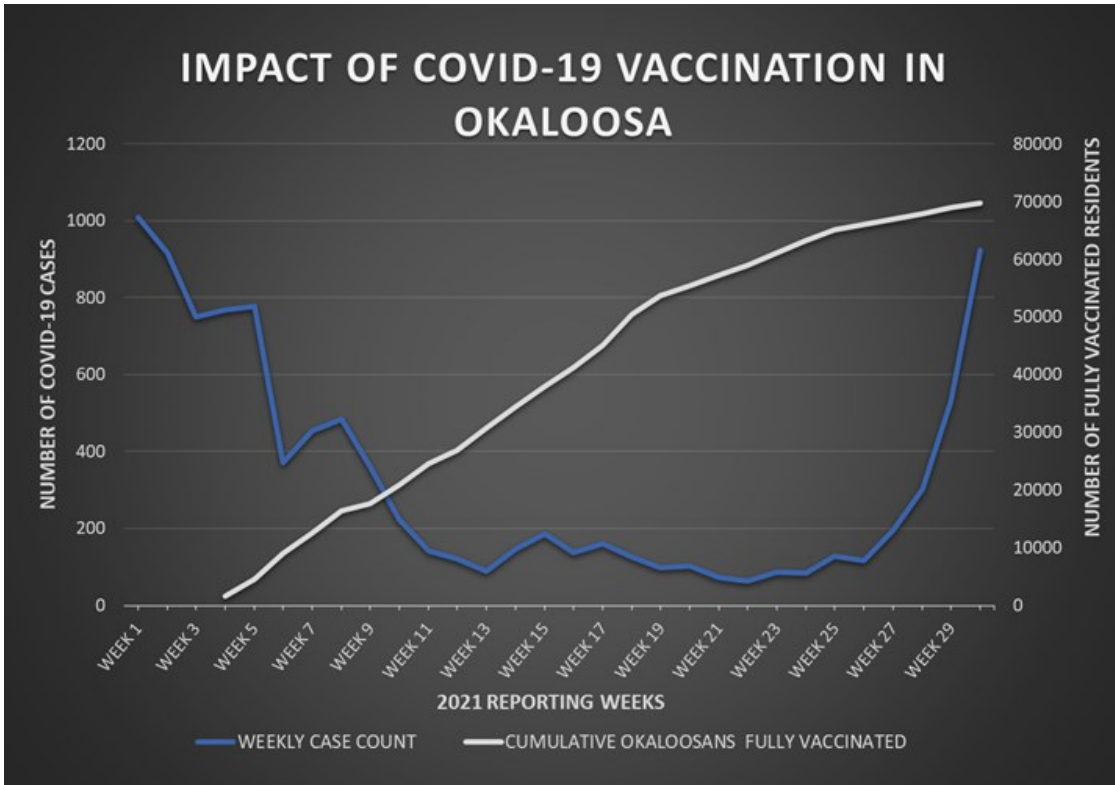


Figure 4:

Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.

Data Source: Merlin Database

PERCENT OF BREAKTHROUGH INFECTION IN FULLY-VACCINATED CASES:

0.18%

PERCENT OF DEATHS IN FULLY-VACCINATED CASES:

0%

Vaccination Impact in Okaloosa

Fully Vaccinated Okaloosa Residents by Age Group		
Age Group	# Fully Vaccinated	% of Age Group Fully Vaccinated
12-14	873	11.8%
15-24	4980	20.1%
25-44	14130	24.1%
45-64	23718	47.3%
65-74	15095	75.9%
75-84	7977	78.2%
85 +	2919	81.4%
Total 12+	69692	39.8%

Data Source: Merlin Database

COVID-19 Vaccinations: Okaloosa vs. US		
	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	39.8%	58.2%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	78.0%	80.1%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 30: July 25 - July 31

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

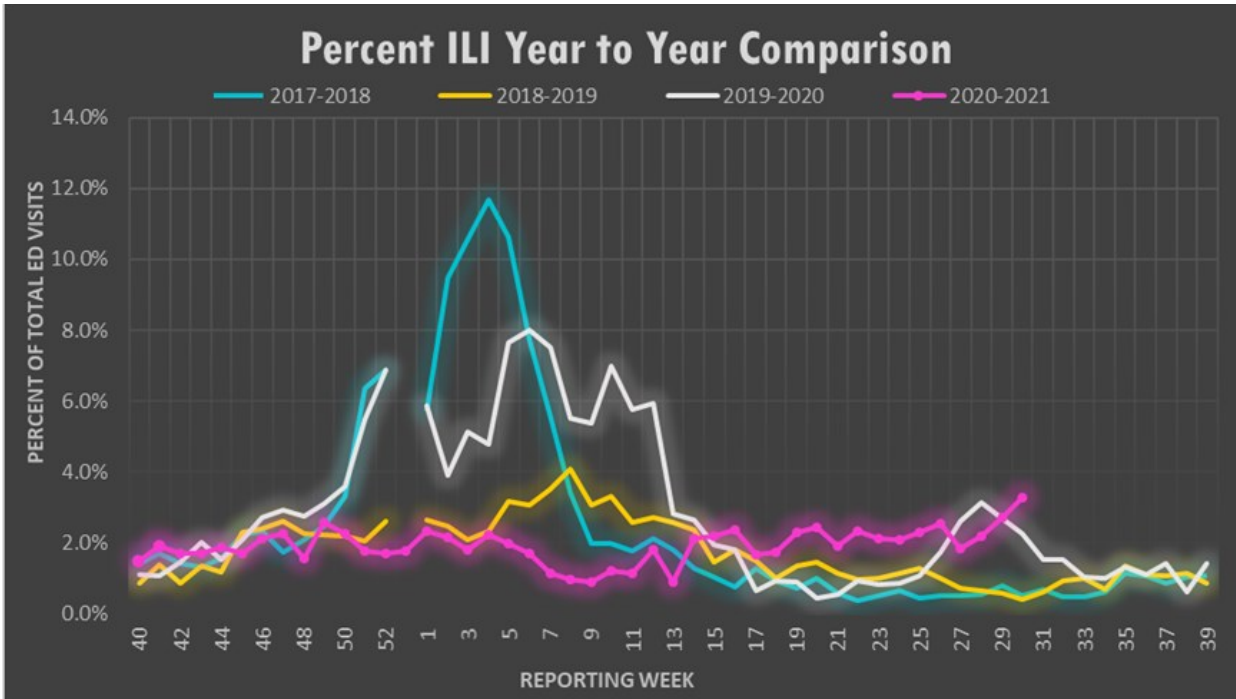


Figure 5: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 30, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported an increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 2.70% during Week 29 to 3.26% during Week 30. Flu partners reported three positive rapid influenza tests this week (1 Type A, 2 Type B). Over the past three weeks, five out of 87 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (4 Influenza B unspecified, 1 Influenza A/B unspecified). There were no reported ILI admissions, outbreaks, or deaths reported this week. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 30 is higher than that of Week 30 last year.

Note: Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 30, 2021			
Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	31	234	13.25%
5-19	13	329	3.95%
20-34	22	602	3.65%
35-54	15	724	2.07%
55-74	10	617	1.62%
75+	0	284	0.00%

Data Source: ESSENCE

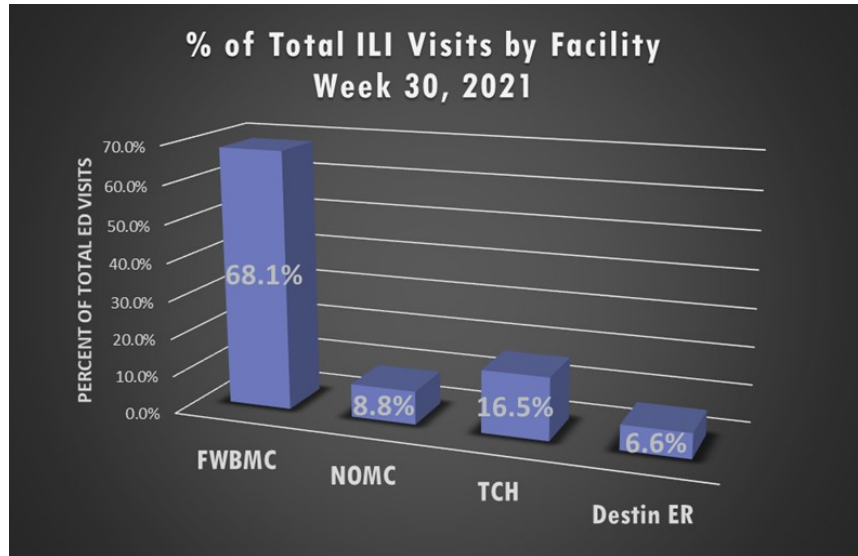


Figure 6: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=91). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 30: July 25 - July 31

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

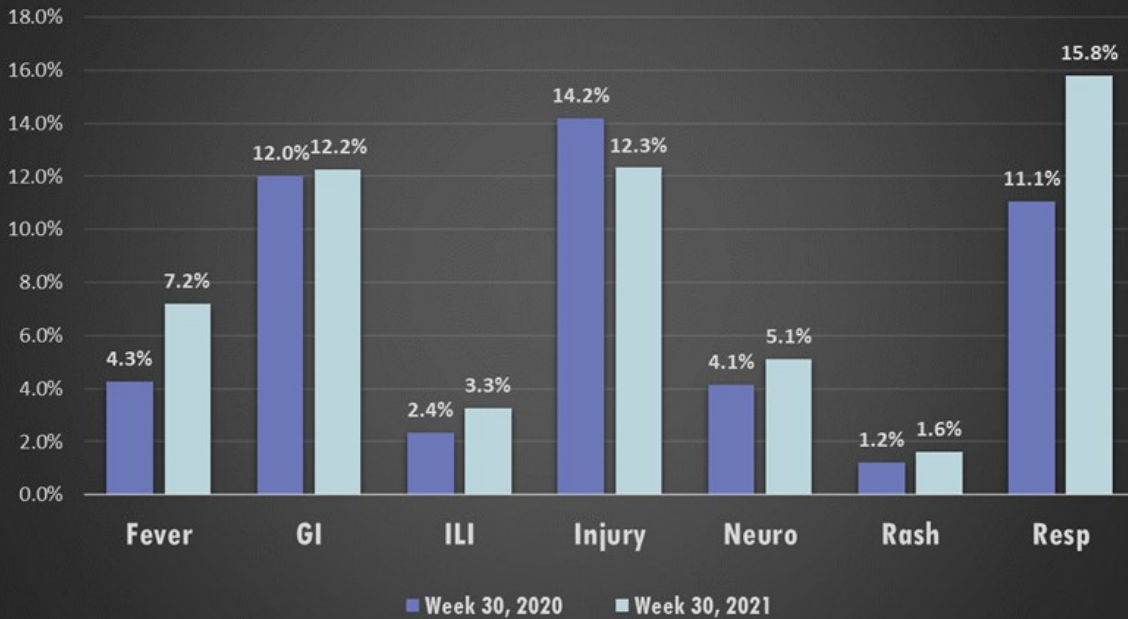


Figure 7: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2021 Week 29 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2793). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%.

Data source: ESSENCE

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 30—Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	49
5-19	INJURY	30
20-34	RESP	50
35-54	RESP	55
55-74	RESP	39
75+	RESP	19

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 30—North Okaloosa Medical Center

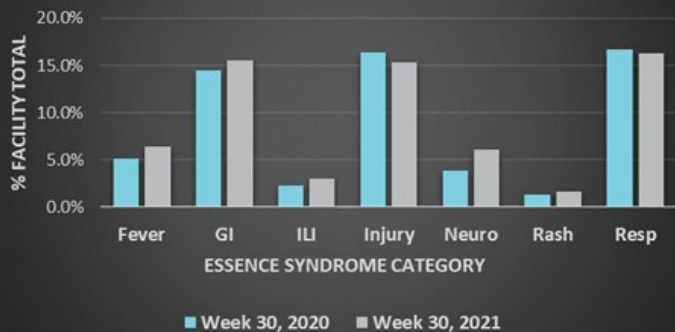
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	9
5-19	RESP	10
20-34	GI	20
35-54	RESP	22
55-74	RESP	25
75+	RESP	12



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 30: July 25 - July 31

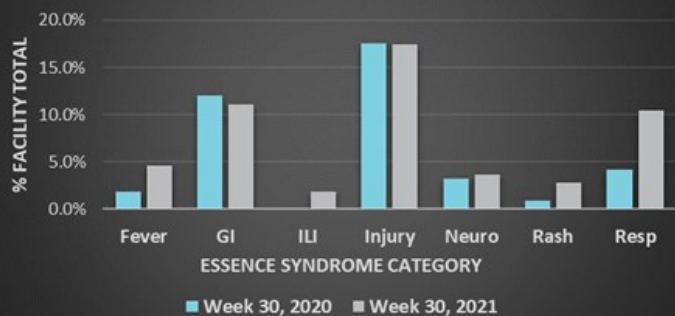
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 30—Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	7
5-19	INJURY	11
20-34	GI	15
35-54	RESP	20
55-74	GI	20
75+	INJURY	13

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 30—DestinER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	7
5-19	INJURY	18
20-34	INJURY	10
35-54	GI, INJURY	11, 11
55-74	INJURY	9
75+	INJURY	3

Week 30—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	FEVER
5-19	INJURY
20-34	GI
35-54	RESP
55-74	RESP
75+	RESP

Data Source: ESSENCE

