

# Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

## 2023 Reporting Week 03: January 15 — January 21



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.

### COVID-19 Trends

COVID-19 levels continue to plateau for Okaloosa. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level (Low):** Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

On December 20, 2022, the CDC released a health alert network (HAN) for [Important Updates on COVID-19 Therapeutics for Treatment and Prevention](#) which provides information on COVID-19 Omicron sublineages with reduced susceptibility to specific monoclonal antibody treatments.

### ILI Trends

Influenza-like illness (ILI) in Okaloosa decreased for 2023 Week 03 and is in line with the normal elevated average (current level: 2.83%; normal average: 3.0%). Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

On December 14, 2022, the CDC released a HAN for [Interim Guidance for Clinicians to Prioritize Antiviral Treatment of Influenza in the Setting of Reduced Oseltamivir](#) (e.g., Tamiflu). To date, the FDA and the Florida Department of Health have not received notification of shortages. General information on availability of antiviral medications can be found at [Influenza 2022-2023 \(fda.gov\)](#).

### Contact Us:

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in Okaloosa County**

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## COVID-19 Snapshot

### Week 03 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
<b>LOW</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

### PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

### Week 03 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
<b>HIGH</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>16.3%</b>

### PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH

<b>Low</b>	<10	<5.0%
<b>Moderate</b>	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
<b>Substantial</b>	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
<b>High</b>	>100	>10.0%

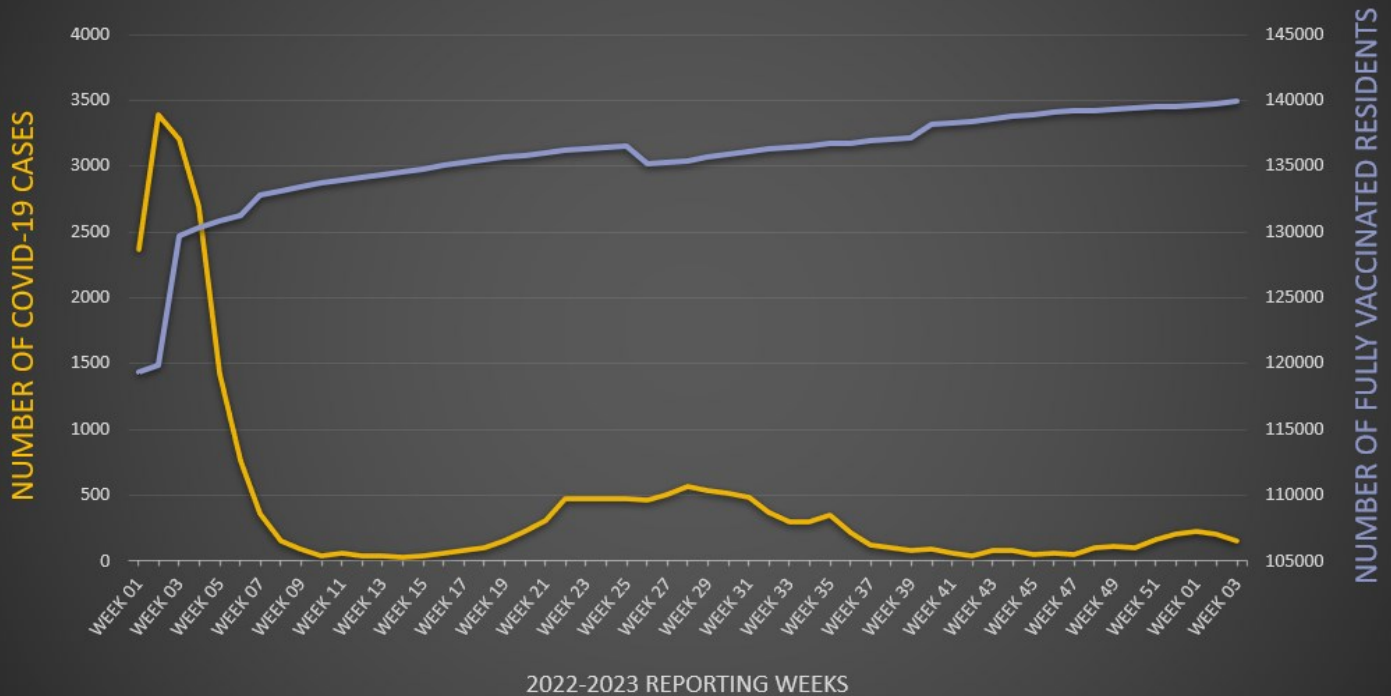
Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



# COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 03: January 15— January 21

## COVID-19 IN OKALOOSA, CASES vs. VACCINATION



**Figure 1:** Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.  
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 03 Review		Difference from Wk 2
Resident Case Count	153	-53
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	72.6	-25.2
Average Resident Cases per Day	21.9	-7.5
Percent Positivity	16.3%	-3.0

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or [NewsMedia@flhealth.gov](mailto:NewsMedia@flhealth.gov).

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	70.9%	73.2%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.7%	77.3%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.4%	78.9%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	94.1%

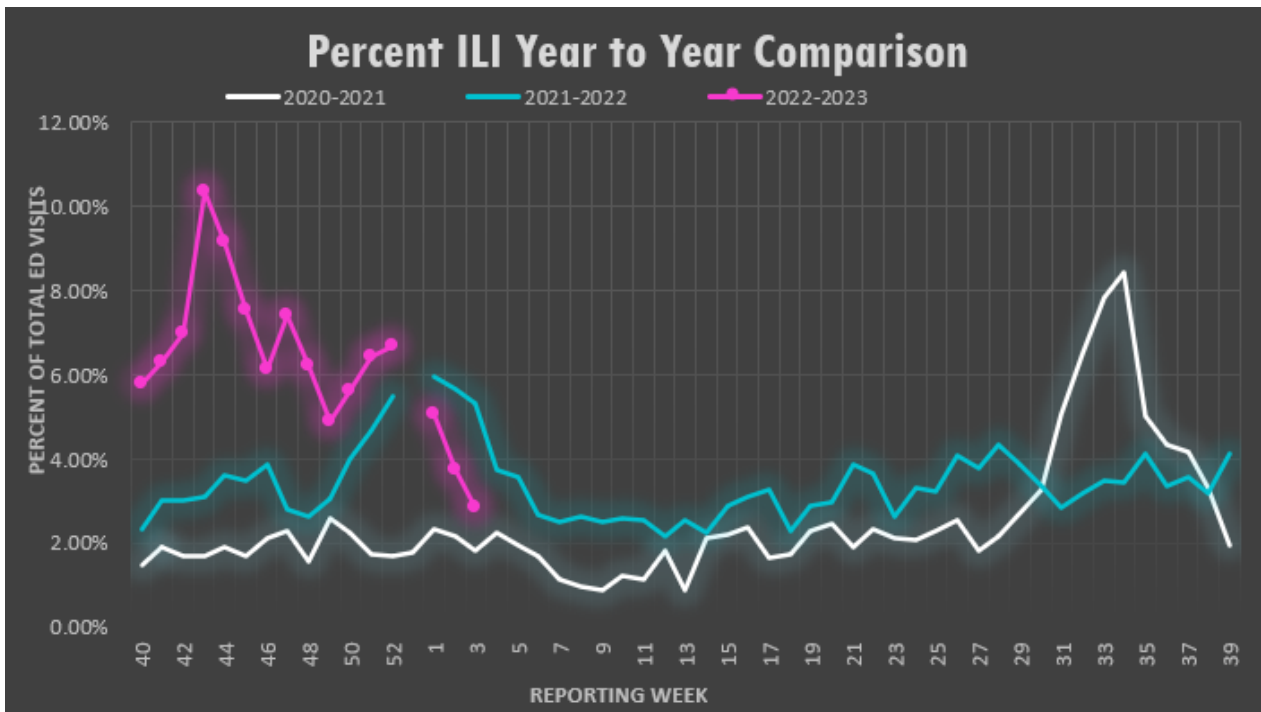
Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



# Influenza-Like Illness

Week 03: January 15 - January 21

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 2:** Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

**ANALYSIS:** During Week 03, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported a decrease in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County decreased from 3.75% during Week 02 to 2.83% during Week 03. Flu partners reported 6 positive rapid flu tests this week (3 Influenza A and 3 Influenza B). Over the past three weeks, 14 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (8 Influenza A H3, 5 Influenza A H1N1, and 1 Influenza A H1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. One outbreak has been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 03 is lower than that of Week 03 last year.

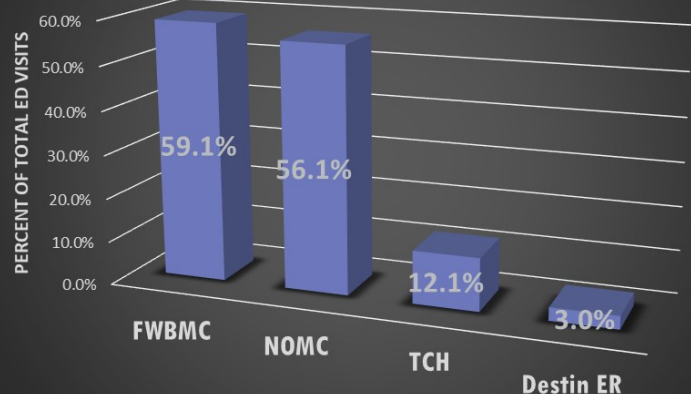
*Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

## % ILI by Age Group Week 03, 2023

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	15	158	9.49%
5-19	17	276	6.16%
20-34	6	493	1.22%
35-54	11	544	2.02%
55-74	14	540	2.59%
75+	3	321	0.93%

Data Source: ESSENCE

## % of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 3, 2023



**Figure 3:** Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=66). Data source: ESSENCE



# Syndromic Surveillance

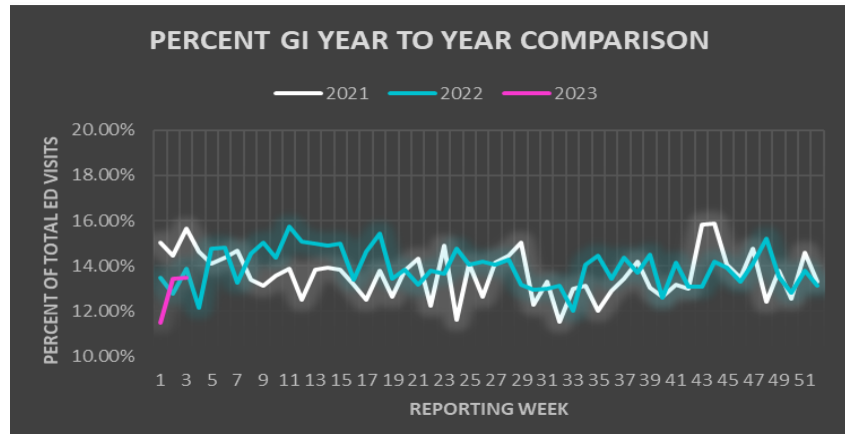
Week 03: January 15 - January 21

## Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

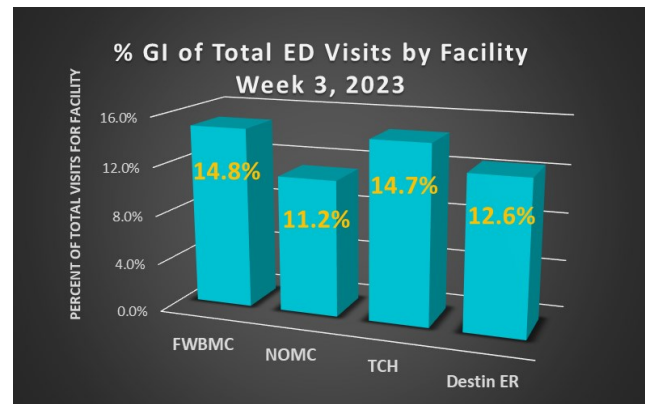


% GI by Age Group Week 03, 2023			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	32	158	20.25%
5-19	45	276	16.30%
20-34	3	493	14.81%
35-54	81	544	14.89%
55-74	61	540	11.30%
75+	23	321	7.17%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

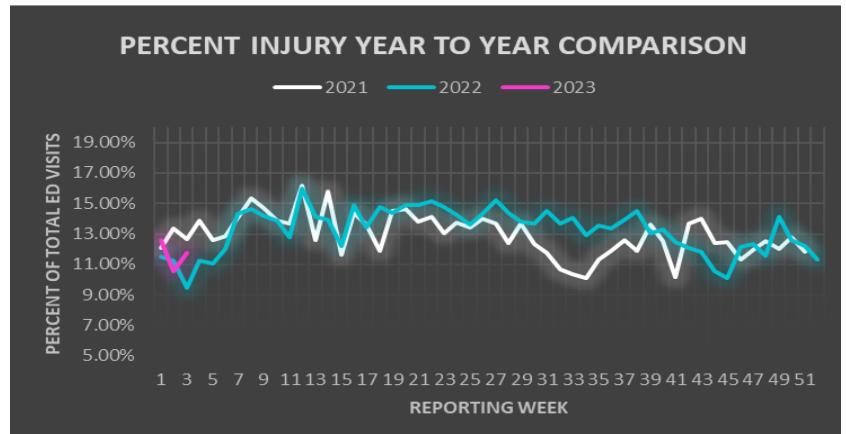


## Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

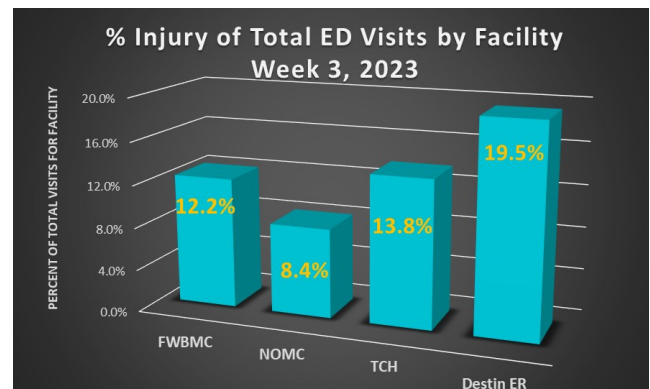


% Injury by Age Group Week 03, 2023			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	24	158	15.19%
5-19	34	276	12.32%
20-34	52	493	10.55%
35-54	62	544	11.40%
55-74	57	540	10.56%
75+	45	321	14.02%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE



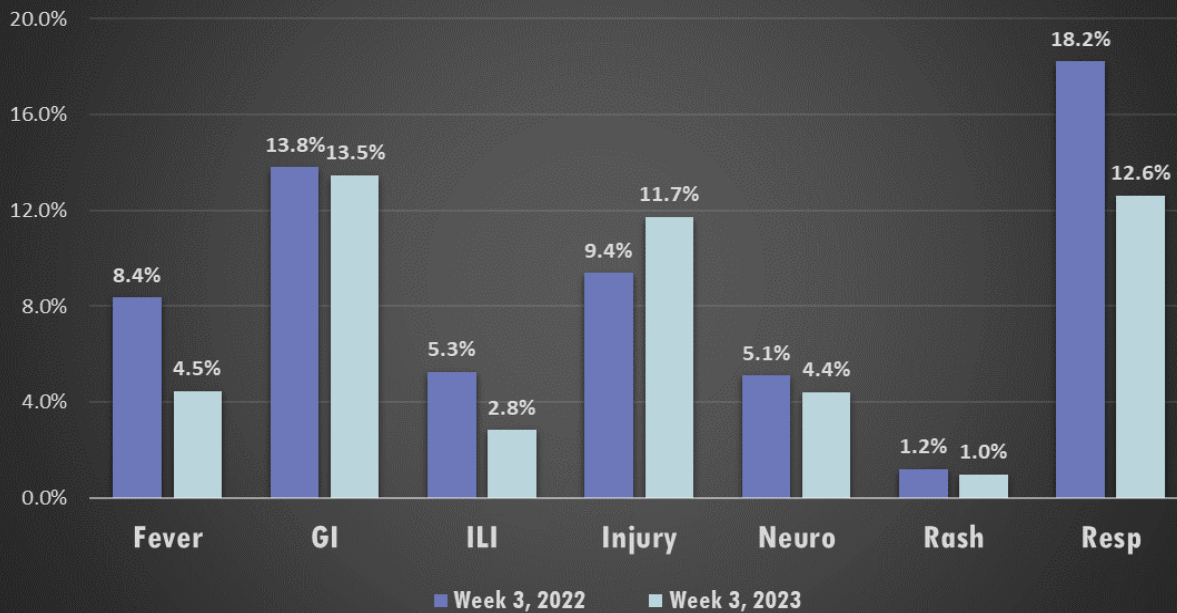




# Syndromic Surveillance

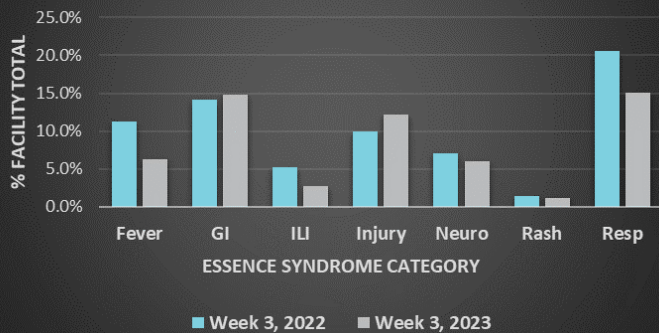
Week 03: January 15 - January 21

## Total ED Visits by Syndrome



**Figure 8:** Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2023 Week 03 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2336). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%. Data source: ESSENCE

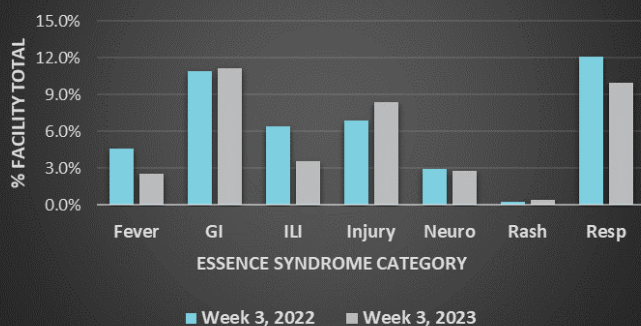
## Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



## Week 03- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER, RESP	27,27
5-19	GI	25
20-34	GI	39
35-54	GI	33
55-74	GI, RESP	29, 29
75+	RESP	28

## North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



## Week 03- North Okaloosa Medical Center

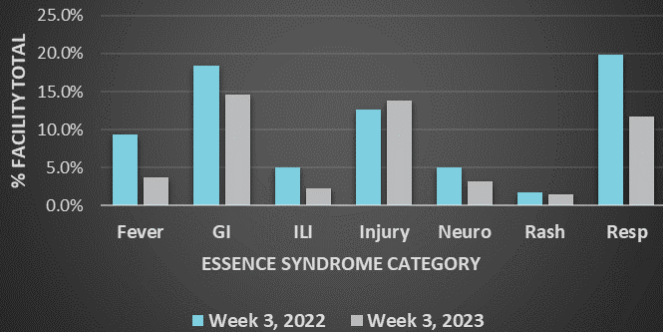
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	13
5-19	GI	9
20-34	GI	17
35-54	GI	32
55-74	RESP	25
75+	RESP	11



# Syndromic Surveillance

Week 03: January 15- January 21

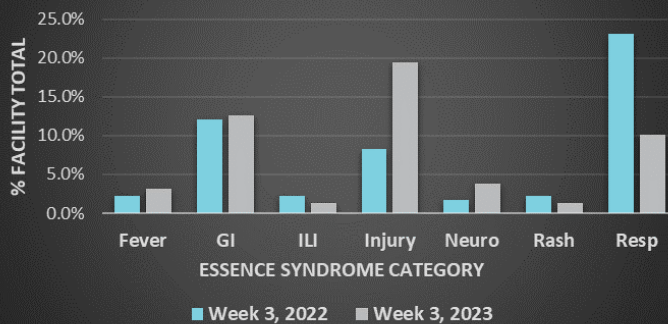
## Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



## Week 03- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER, GI	5, 5
5-19	GI	9
20-34	GI, RESP	13, 13
35-54	INJURY	12
55-74	GI	12
75+	INJURY	10

## DestinER ED Presentations



## Week 03- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	INJURY, RESP	2, 2
5-19	INJURY, RESP	2, 2
20-34	INJURY, GI	4, 4
35-54	GI	8
55-74	INJURY	9
75+	INJURY	7

## Week 03—Okaloosa County

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



Data Source: ESSENCE