

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report



2022 Reporting Week 08: February 20 — February 26

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.

NEW COVID-19 Community Level Indicator & Trends

The CDC has developed a new tool titled [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) to help communities and individuals determine which prevention steps should be implemented based on local hospital and COVID-19 case numbers. The COVID-19 Community Level will be identified as Low, Medium, or High and will now be focused on indicators that can help predict serious outcomes or strains on the healthcare system. The original [COVID-19 Community Risk \(Transmission\) Levels](#) were put in place to guide direction for layered prevention strategies when vaccines or other therapeutics were not available and will eventually be phased out.

COVID-19 activity continues to decrease overall in Okaloosa. The COVID-19 Community Risk/Transmission Level was lowered to SUBSTANTIAL for Week 08 and the new Community Level indicator is MEDIUM. As of March 1 in Okaloosa County, 5.7% of all hospital beds and 3.5% of ICU beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients. Of the hospitalized individuals, 50.0% are unvaccinated.

COVID-19 Resources

On December 27, 2021, the CDC [updated the COVID-19 isolation and quarantine recommendations](#) for the [general population](#). [Guidance for managing healthcare personnel](#) with COVID-19 exposure or infection was also updated to enhance protection for staff, patients, and visitors.

Please visit the CDC's websites for COVID-19 [vaccinations](#) and, specifically, [booster](#) shots to stay informed with the most current information, and please continue to promote the COVID-19 vaccine as it is highly effective at preventing severe disease and death.

Contact Us:

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COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 08 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
Medium	10.91	8.3%

PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: N/A

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
	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 08 Community Risk / Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
Substantial	72.2	6.2%

PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH

Low	<10	<5%
Moderate	10-49	5-7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8-9.9%
High	>100	>10%

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 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 08: February 20 — February 26

COVID-19 IN OKALOOSA, CASES vs. VACCINATION

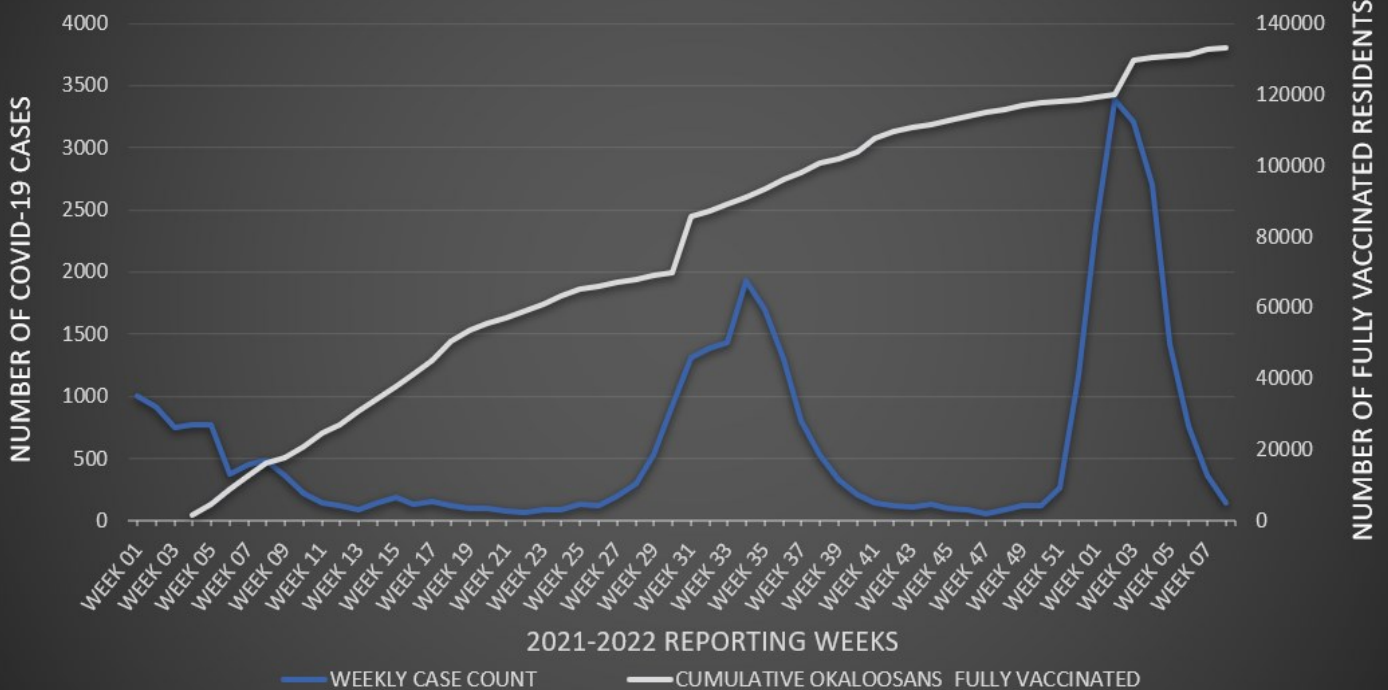


Figure 1: Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 08 Review		Difference from Wk07
Resident Case Count	149	-214
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	72.2	-103.7
Average Resident Cases per Day	21.3	-30.6
Percent Positivity	6.2%	-6.0

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.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	67.5%	69.0%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	73.4%	73.4%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	76.1%	74.9%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	88.7%

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



Influenza-Like Illness

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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.

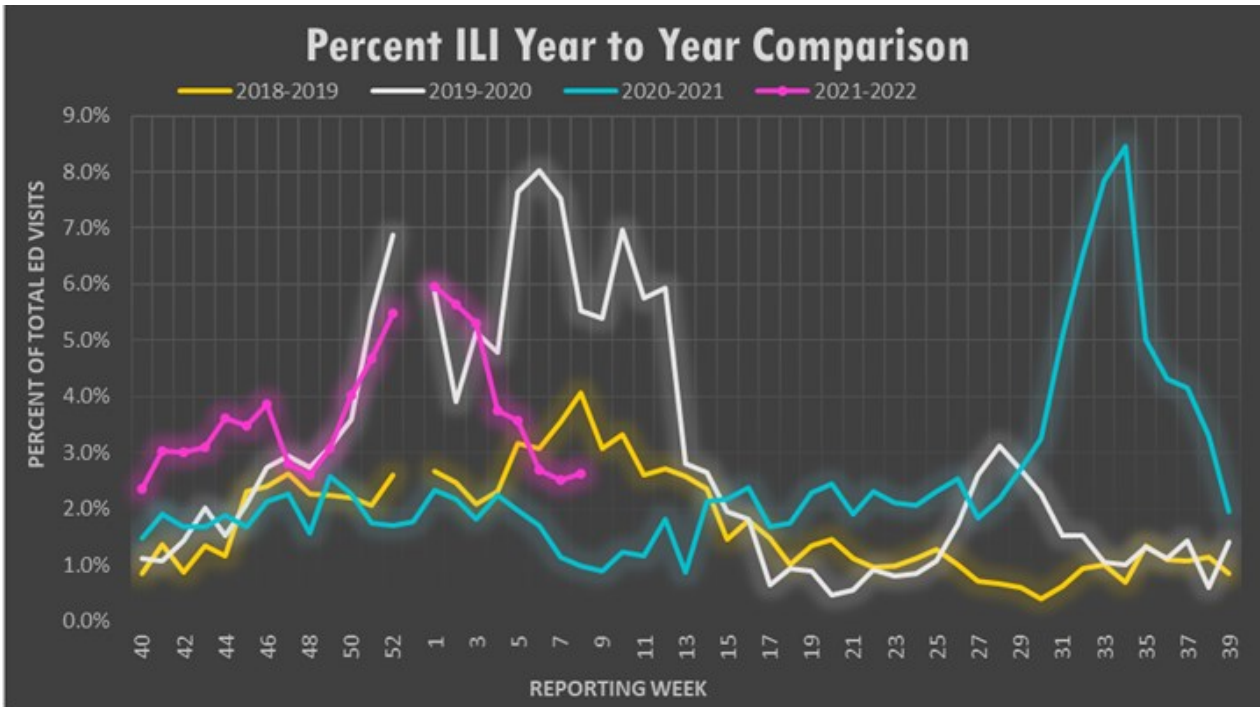


Figure 2: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 08, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported a slight increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 2.51% during Week 07 to 2.62% during Week 08. Flu partners reported no positive rapid influenza tests this week. Over the past three weeks, 31 out of 174 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (28 Influenza A unspecified, 1 Influenza A H3, 2 Influenza B unspecified). There were no ILI admissions, outbreaks, or deaths reported this week. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 08 is higher than that of Week 07 last year.

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

% ILI by Age Group Week 08, 2022			
Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	11	156	7.05%
5-19	21	266	7.89%
20-34	5	434	1.15%
35-54	8	510	1.57%
55-74	8	510	1.57%
75+	4	299	1.34%

Data Source: ESSENCE

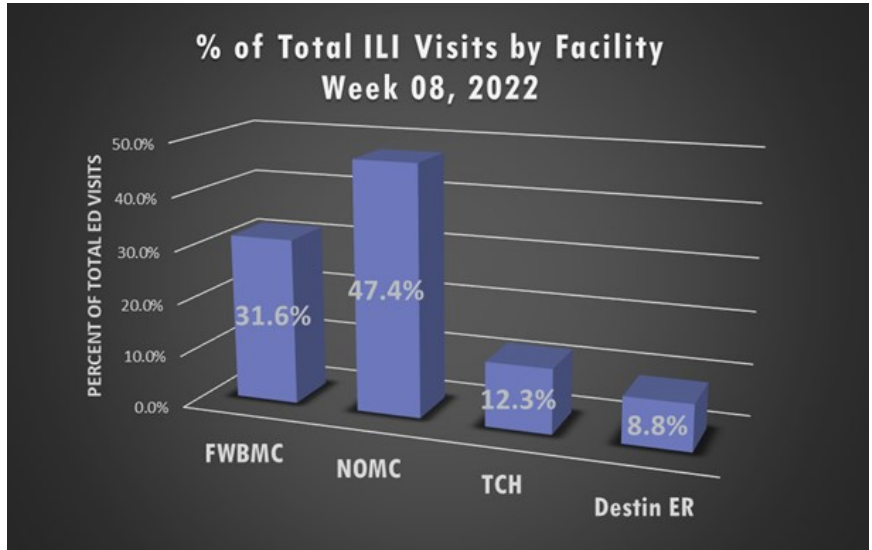


Figure 3: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=57). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 08: February 20 — February 26

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

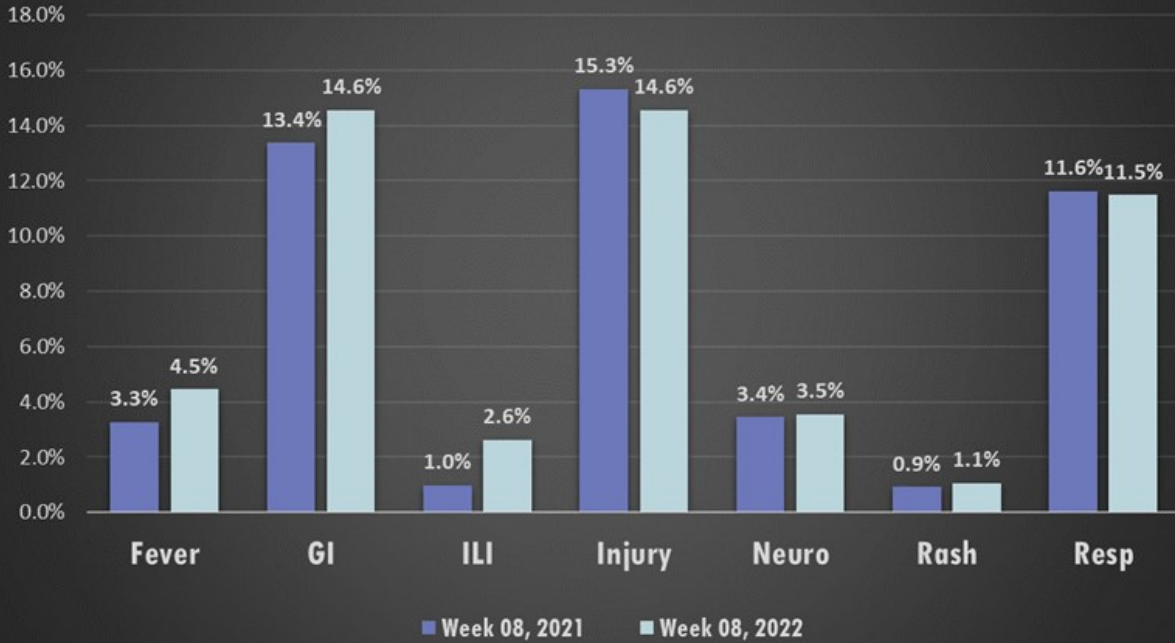


Figure 4: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2022 Week 08 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2178). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%. Data source: ESSENCE

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 08—Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	24
5-19	RESP	27
20-34	INJURY	40
35-54	INJURY	41
55-74	INJURY	31
75+	INJURY	25

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



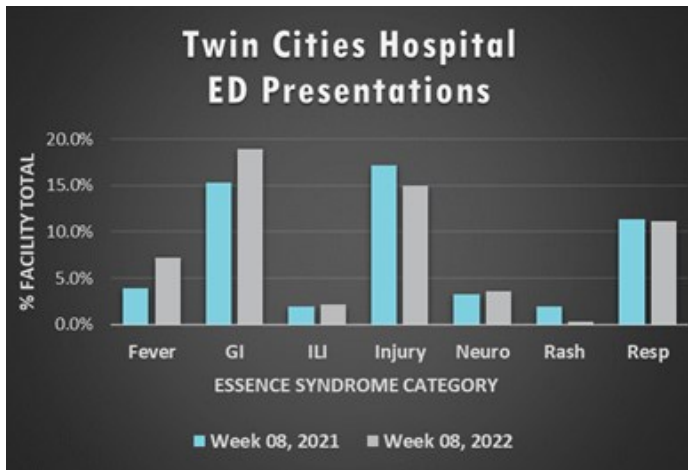
Week 08—North Okaloosa Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	INJURY	10
5-19	INJURY	17
20-34	GI	18
35-54	GI, INJURY	17, 17
55-74	RESP	24
75+	INJURY	11



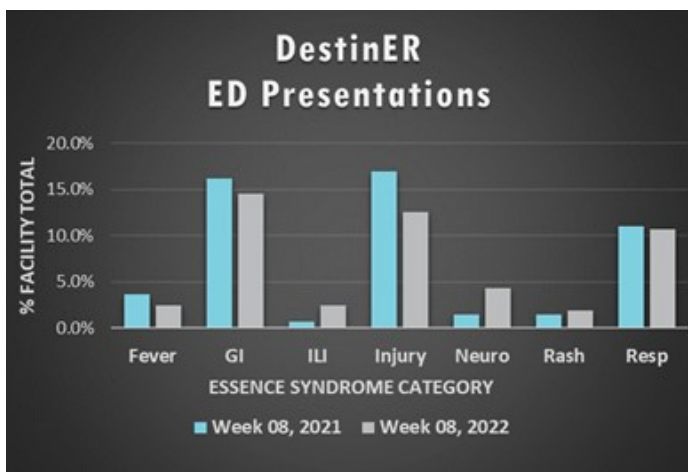
Syndromic Surveillance

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Week 08—Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER, INJRY	5, 5
5-19	FEVER	7
20-34	GI	16
35-54	GI	20
55-74	INJURY	9
75+	INJURY	14



Week 08—Destin ER

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

Week 08—Okaloosa County

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



Data Source: ESSENCE