Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19 Increasing

During Week 51, Okaloosa experienced an increase in both COVID-19 and influenza-like illness (ILI) activity. The COVID-19 community risk was elevated to HIGH. On December 27, the CDC updated the COVID-19 isolation and quarantine recommendations for the public. Guidance for managing healthcare personnel with COVID-19 exposure or infection was also updated to enhance protection for staff, patients, and visitors. COVID-19 vaccination counts in Okaloosa County continue to increase slowly (see page 3). Providers are encouraged to review CDC’s Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Resources for Health Professionals for counseling on co-administration of COVID-19 and flu vaccines, patient education, and the 2021-22 flu vaccine composition. Please continue to promote the COVID-19 vaccine as it is highly effective at preventing severe disease and death. For more information on the Omicron variant, please visit Omicron Variant: What You Need to Know.

COVID-19 Booster Shots and Monoclonal Antibody Resources

On October 21, 2021, the CDC Expanded Eligibility for COVID-19 Booster Shots. The CDC recommends that certain people are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 booster shot, including those who received Moderna and J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccines. Additionally, CDC continues to recommend that moderately and severely immunosuppressed people who completed either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine series get a third dose of the same mRNA vaccine at least 28 days after the second dose as they may not build the same level of immunity to 2-dose vaccine series compared to people who are not immunocompromised. FREE Monoclonal Antibody Treatments are available in Okaloosa for adult and pediatric patients (12 and older) either diagnosed or exposed to someone with COVID-19 and at high risk for severe illness, hospitalization, or death from COVID-19. Please follow the link for all locations.

COVID-19 Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 51 Review</th>
<th>Difference from Wk50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Case Count</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Case Count per 100K Population</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Resident Cases per Day</td>
<td>37.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Positivity</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 51 Community Risk Level</th>
<th>New Cases per 100K Population per Week</th>
<th>% Positivity per Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: SUBSTANTIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Cases per Week</th>
<th>% Positivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>10-49</td>
<td>5-7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substantial</td>
<td>50-99</td>
<td>8-9.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>&gt;100</td>
<td>&gt;10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 in Okaloosa County

Week 51: December 19 – December 25

Okaloosa COVID-19 Cases Trend

Okaloosa COVID-19 Cases Per 100K Population Trend

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

Okaloosa COVID-19 % Positivity Trend

COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Okaloosa Resident Cases since 03/01/21 through Week 51</th>
<th>% by Age Group</th>
<th>Difference from Week 50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-11</td>
<td>2108</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>+14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>2547</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>+44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-44</td>
<td>5715</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>+110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-64</td>
<td>3860</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>+64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>1016</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-84</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85+</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16627</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>+260</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Merlin Database
COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 51: December 19 – December 25

IMPACT OF COVID-19 VACCINATION IN OKALOOSA

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 & CDC COVID Data Tracker

VACCINATION DATA RESOURCE

The CDC COVID Data Tracker presents county level vaccination data that includes vaccinations from:

- FL SHOTS, including FL Department of Health, retail pharmacies, and long-term care facilities,
- Dialysis centers participating in the Federal Dialysis Center Program,
- Health Resources and Services Administration partner sites, and
- Federal entities such as Department of Defense, Veterans Health Administration, Indian Health Service and Bureau of Prisons.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fully-Vaccinated Groups</th>
<th>OKALOOSA</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>70.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age</td>
<td>68.2%</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age</td>
<td>91.3%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of Breakthrough Infection in Fully-Vaccinated Individuals: 1.92%

Data Source: Merlin & CDC COVID Data Tracker
**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 51, 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 4.06% during Week 50 to 4.66% during Week 51. Flu partners reported no positive rapid influenza tests this week. Over the past three weeks, 51 out of 247 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (3 Influenza A H3, 38 Influenza A unspecified, 10 Influenza B unspecified). There were no ILI admissions, outbreaks, or deaths reported this week. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 51 is higher than that of Week 51 last year.

*Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. 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=96). Data source: ESSENCE
Figure 7: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2021 Week 51 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2060). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%.

Data source: ESSENCE
### Week 51—Twin Cities Hospital

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Top Syndrome</th>
<th>Total ED Visits for Syndrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>FEVER</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-19</td>
<td>GI</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-34</td>
<td>RESP</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-54</td>
<td>RESP</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-74</td>
<td>GI</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75+</td>
<td>INJURY</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 51—Destin ER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Top Syndrome</th>
<th>Total ED Visits for Syndrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>RESP</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-19</td>
<td>ILLI, RESP</td>
<td>7, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-34</td>
<td>GI</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-54</td>
<td>INJURY</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-74</td>
<td>RESP</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75+</td>
<td>INJURY</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 51—Okaloosa County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Top Syndrome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>RESP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-19</td>
<td>RESP</td>
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<td>20-34</td>
<td>GI</td>
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<tr>
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<td>RESP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75+</td>
<td>INJURY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: ESSENCE