COVID, Influenza, and RSV Hospitalizations by Age Group in Washtenaw Residents

September 25, 2022 – April 29, 2023

Washtenaw County
Health Department

Summary

Starting in fall 2022, Washtenaw County Health Department (WCHD) began posting a weekly comparison of COVID-19, influenza (flu), and/or RSV hospitalizations in Washtenaw residents during the typical respiratory illness season (September through April). Hospitalizations were displayed by age group so that we could more easily see how the different respiratory viruses impacted children, older adults, and the whole community.

From fall 2022 through spring 2023, the total number of COVID-related hospitalizations and deaths in Washtenaw residents far surpassed those for influenza and RSV (see table below). However, children and adults were affected differently by each respiratory virus. Most RSV hospitalizations occurred in children 0–4 years old (62%), whereas over 50% of COVID and influenza hospitalizations occurred in older adults aged 65+ years old. Although each virus peaked at slightly different times, all three were actively circulating in the community from mid-November to early January, causing numerous hospitalizations in Washtenaw residents.

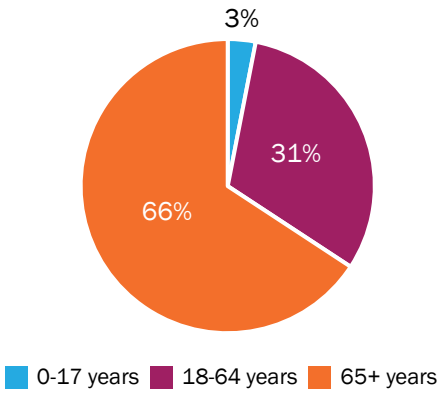
Vaccines: Influenza (flu) and COVID vaccines were available during this timeframe for individuals 6 months and older. No vaccine was available for RSV.

Hospital Admissions and Deaths in Washtenaw Residents

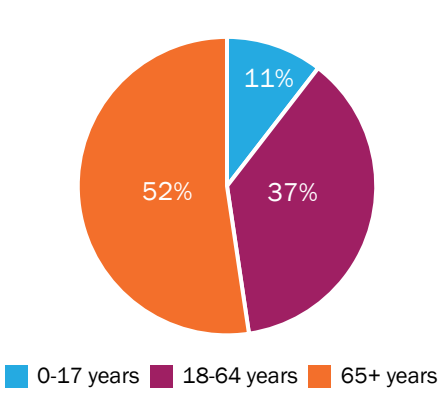
Virus	Total hospitalizations	ICU admissions	Total adult deaths	Total child deaths
COVID-19	882	5%	77	0
Influenza	191	8%	9	0
RSV	169	11%	0	1

Hospitalizations by Age Group in Washtenaw Residents

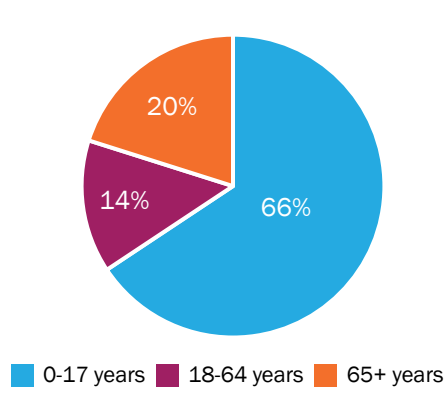
COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Age Group
(n=882)



Influenza Hospitalizations by Age Group
(n=191)



RSV Hospitalizations by Age Group
(n=169)



COVID, Influenza, and RSV Hospitalizations by Age Group in Washtenaw Residents
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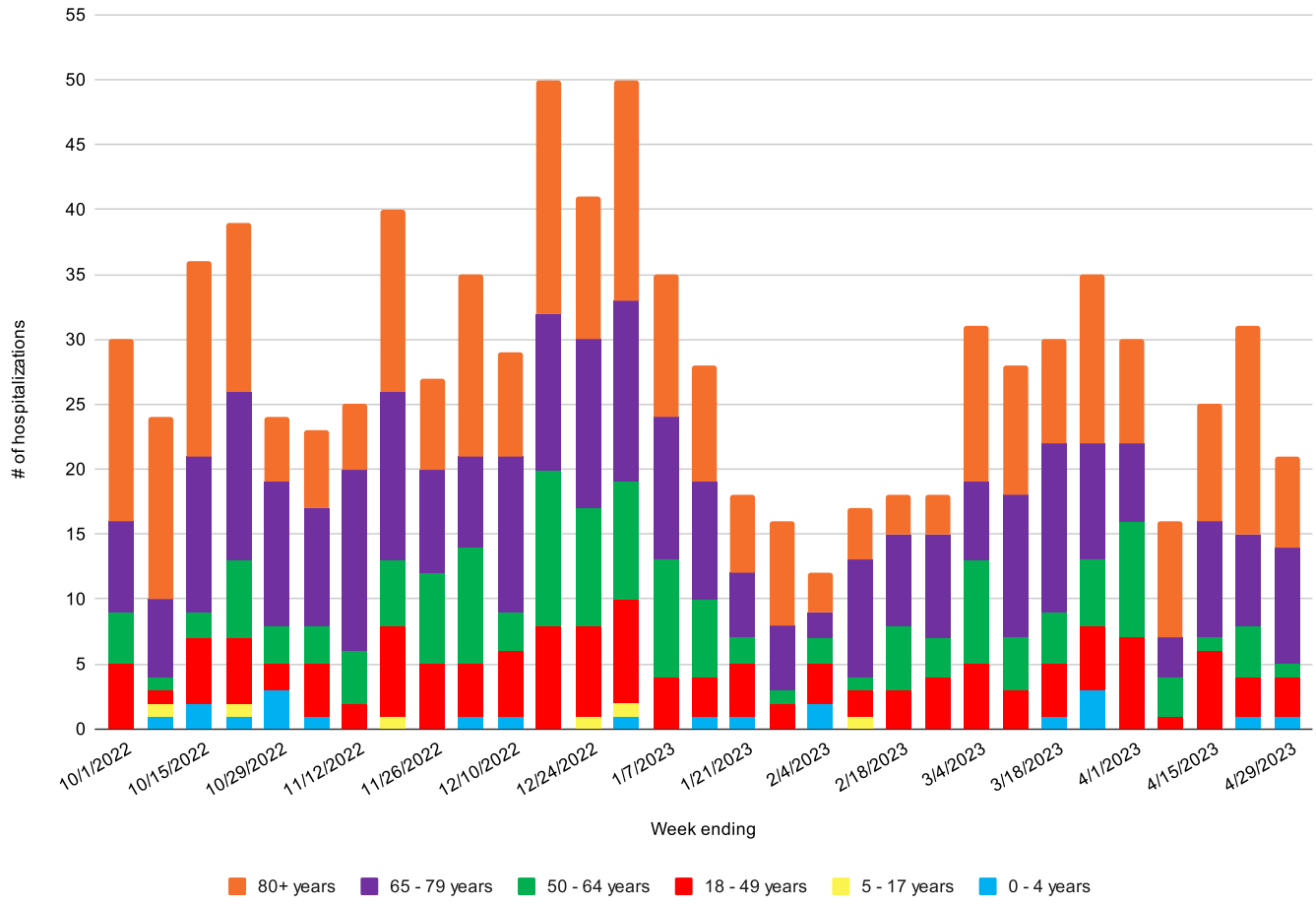
COVID-19

- Elevated community circulation for 31 weeks (10 or more hospitalizations per week)
    - Stayed above 10 hospitalizations per week for entire reporting period
- Peaked at the end of December/early January
- Median age of COVID-related hospitalizations: 73 years
- Proportion of COVID-related hospitalizations in children 0–17 years: 3%
- Proportion of COVID-related hospitalizations in adults aged 65+ years: 66%

Weekly New COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Age Group in Washtenaw County Residents
September 25, 2022 through April 29, 2023 (n=882)



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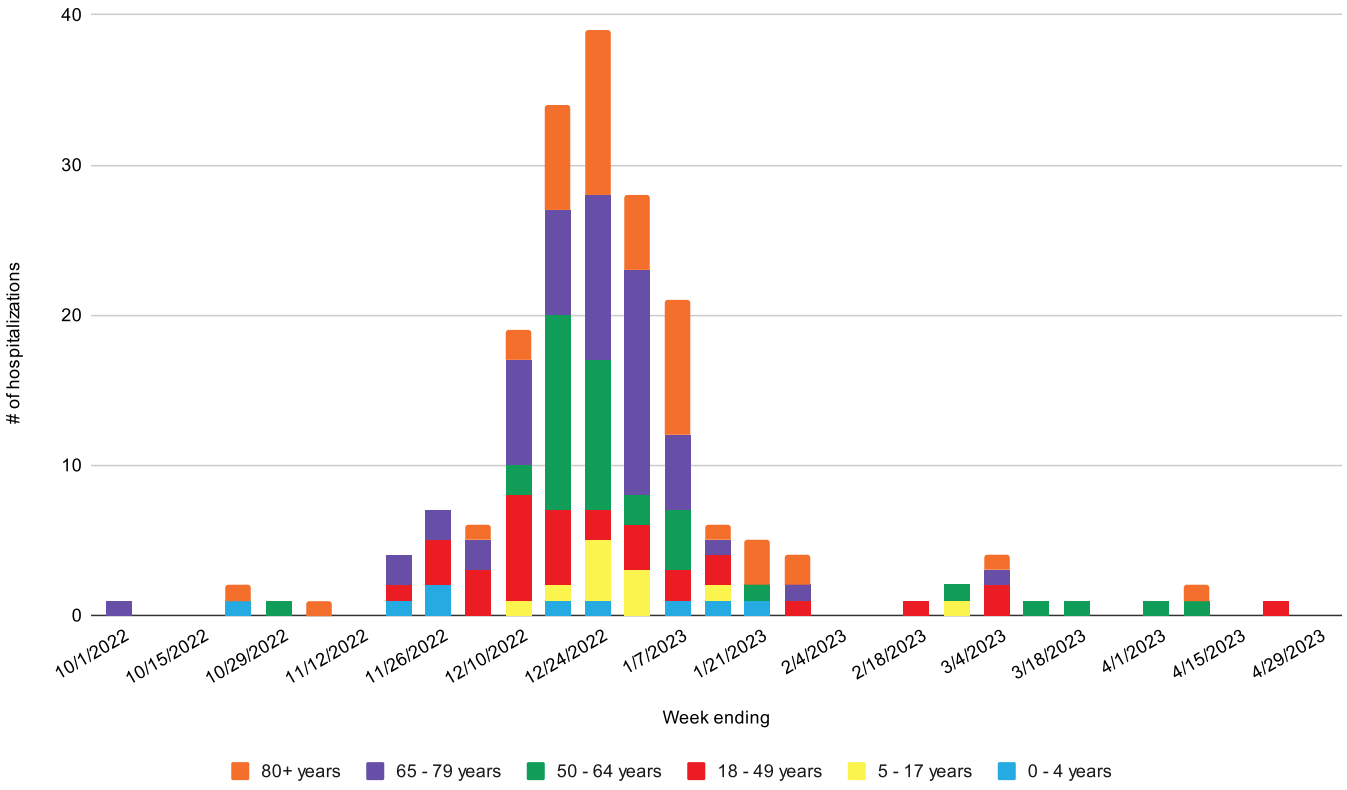
Influenza

- Elevated community circulation for 5 weeks (10 or more hospitalizations per week)
- Peaked in late December
- Median age of influenza hospitalizations: 66 years
- Proportion of influenza-related hospitalizations in children 0–17 years: 11%
- Proportion of influenza-related hospitalizations in adults 65+ years: 52%

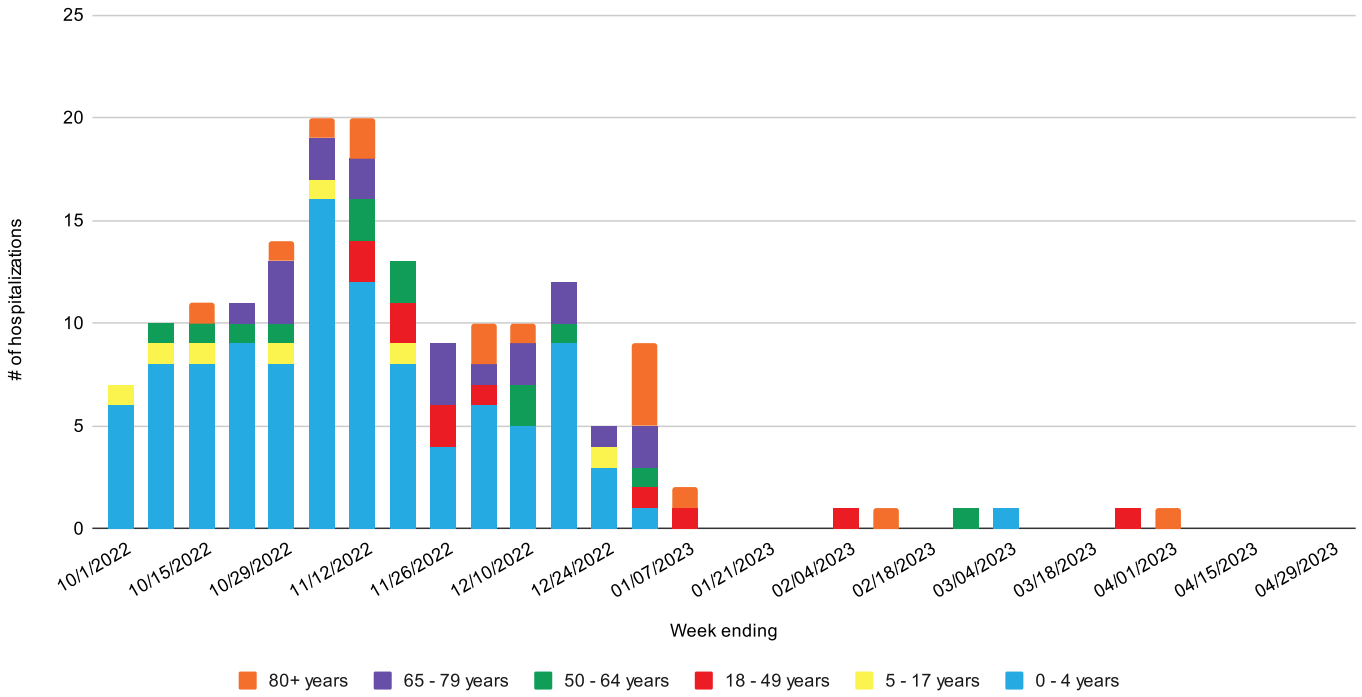
Weekly Influenza-related Hospitalizations by Age Group in Washtenaw County Residents
September 25, 2022 through April 29, 2023 (n=191)



RSV

- Elevated community circulation for 10 weeks (10 or more hospitalizations per week)
- Peaked in early to mid-November
- Median age of RSV hospitalizations: 23 months
- Proportion of RSV-related hospitalizations in children 0–17 years: 66%
- Proportion of RSV-related hospitalizations in adults 65+ years: 20%

Weekly New RSV Hospitalizations by Age Group in Washtenaw County Residents
September 25, 2022 through April 29, 2023 (n=169)



Data source: Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS)

Visit www.washtenaw.org/health for additional infectious disease data.