

Influenza Weekly Tracking Report

for week ending **November 12, 2022**

Report date: November 18, 2022



Introduction

This report is intended to bring current information to the American public on the unfolding 2022/23 flu season. As the season progresses, there is heightened public health concerns about the prevalence of influenza-like illness, in addition to respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and COVID-19 infections.

In response to this, the IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science, drawing on IQVIA's FAN Flu/Cold/Respiratory Activity Notification Program® and IQVIA RxInsight, is publishing a weekly update based on these services.

If you have questions about this report, please contact us at info@IQVIAInstitute.org

Murray Aitken

Executive Director, IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science

Summary — Week ending November 12, 2022

OVERALL FLU CASES ~12X THE LEVEL OF THE SAME WEEK DURING BASELINE PERIOD*

Influenza cases continue to set historically high records as the flu season intensifies. Through mid-November, the 2022/23 flu season is showing a sharp increase over the prior 10 years, which suggests an unusually high level of incidence over the course of the full season.

* three year average of the 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, flu seasons

12x
CASES
SAME WEEK
BASELINE PERIOD

- For the season to date (from mid-August) this year is running at almost six times (5.8) the level of the baseline period, up 485%
- This year is running more than nine times (9.3) the level of the 2021/22 flu season which was unusually mild, up 835%
- This week shows a significant increase in the level compared to baseline and prior years, indicating a worsening of the seasons trend
- Flu diagnoses typically peak around the end of year/early January, but significant year-to-year fluctuations occur

PEDIATRIC CASES ~16X THE LEVEL OF THE SAME WEEK DURING BASELINE PERIOD

The level of incidence in children is trending exceptionally high and occurring at the same time RSV diagnoses are also increasing.

16x
CASES
SAME WEEK
BASELINE PERIOD

- For the most recent week of November 12, the estimated total number of pediatric influenza cases in the U.S. was over ~16 times (15.6) the level of the corresponding week during the baseline period
- For the season to date, pediatric flu is nine times (9.0) the baseline level, up 797%, and almost 13 times (12.8) the 2021/22 flu seasons, up 1,178%

SOME REGIONS TRENDING MUCH HIGHER — >1,000% UP IN SOME AREAS

All regions of the country are reflecting higher levels of flu to date than last year, although there is significant regional variation.

↑1,307%
IN EAST
SOUTH CENTRAL

- The East South Central region is now trending the highest of all regions in its increase over the 2021/22 season to date, up 1,307%; while South Atlantic and West South Central regions also continue to trend much higher, with estimated cases running above the 2021/22 season by 1,192% and 1,127% respectively
- New England and Mountain regions continue to show the lowest increases over last year of all regions, but still have more than double the cases of last year at 195% and 194% higher respectively

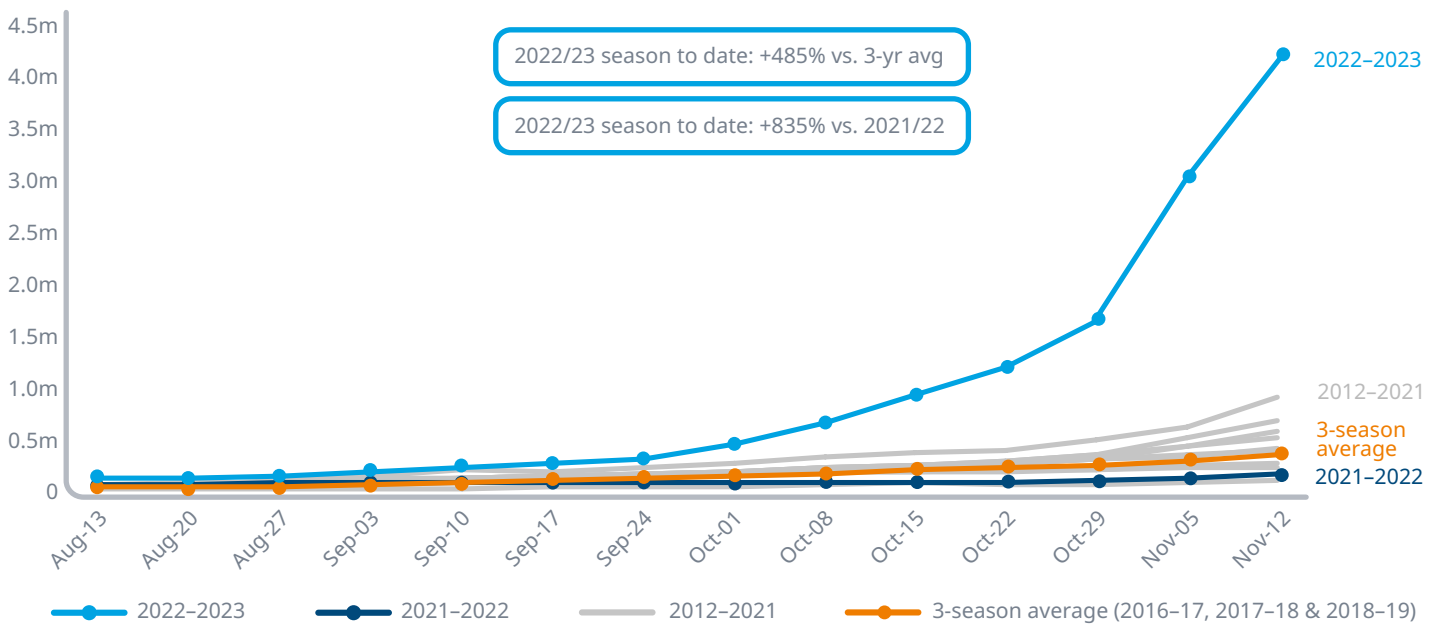
RETAIL PHARMACY VACCINATIONS RUNNING 4.4% ABOVE THE 2021/22 FLU SEASON

Flu vaccinations delivered through retail pharmacies are now running slightly ahead of last year's level for the season to date, after several weeks of lower vaccination rates and despite efforts to raise public awareness of the heightened level of influenza this year.

PHARMACY
VACCINATIONS
↑4.4%

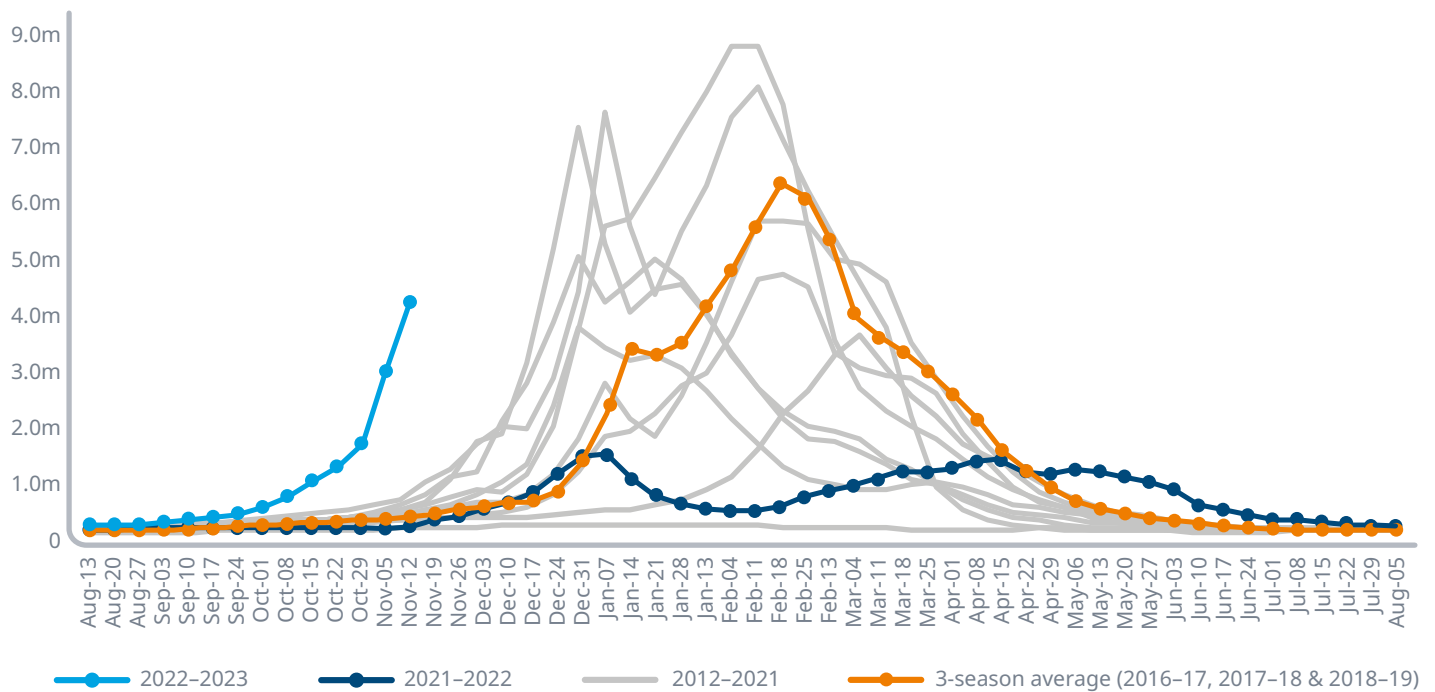
- Total retail pharmacy flu vaccinations through November 4, 2022 are running 4.4% above the 2021/22 flu season, totaling 31.7 million this season to date
- During the week of November 4, the number of flu vaccines administered through retail pharmacies totaled 3.5 million, 31.2% more than the comparable week last year but down from the seasonal high levels of 4.5 million weekly vaccines reported two weeks earlier and reflecting the continuation of the downward trend in weekly vaccinations

Exhibit 1: Estimated number of total U.S. influenza cases 2012–2022



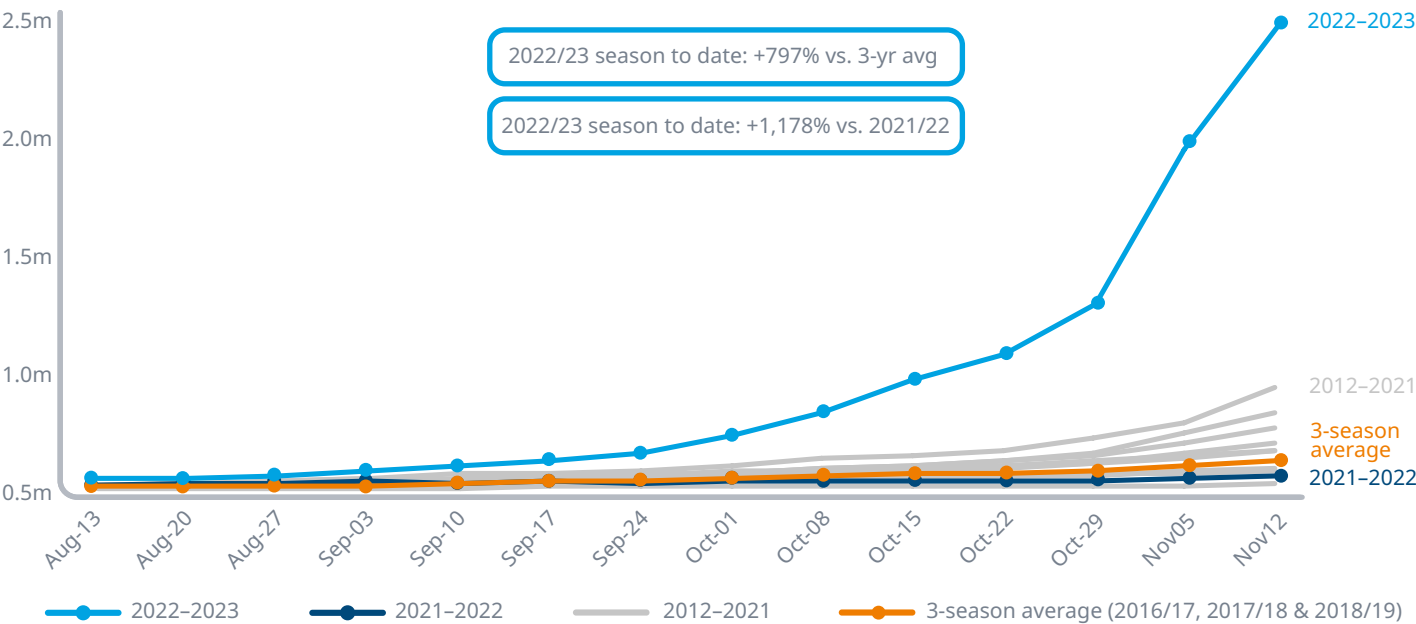
Source: IQVIA Consumer Health FAN, IQVIA Institute, Nov 12, 2022.

Exhibit 2: Estimated number of total U.S. influenza cases 2012–2022



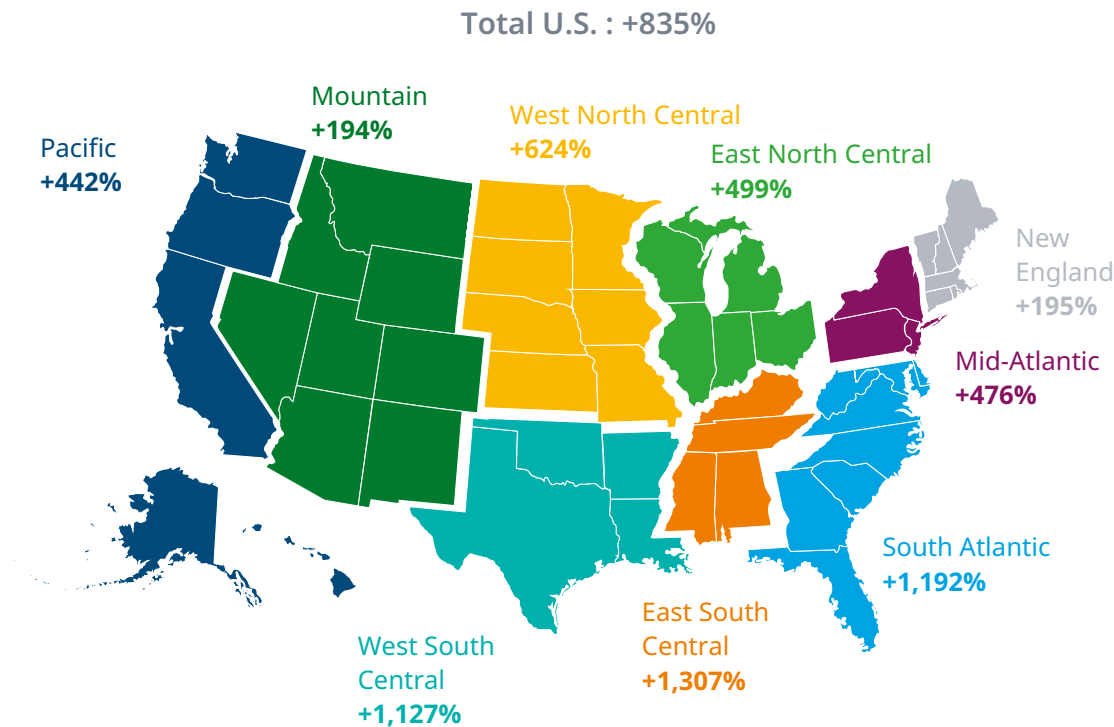
Source: IQVIA Consumer Health FAN, IQVIA Institute, Nov 12, 2022.

Exhibit 3: Estimated number of pediatric U.S. influenza cases 2012–2022



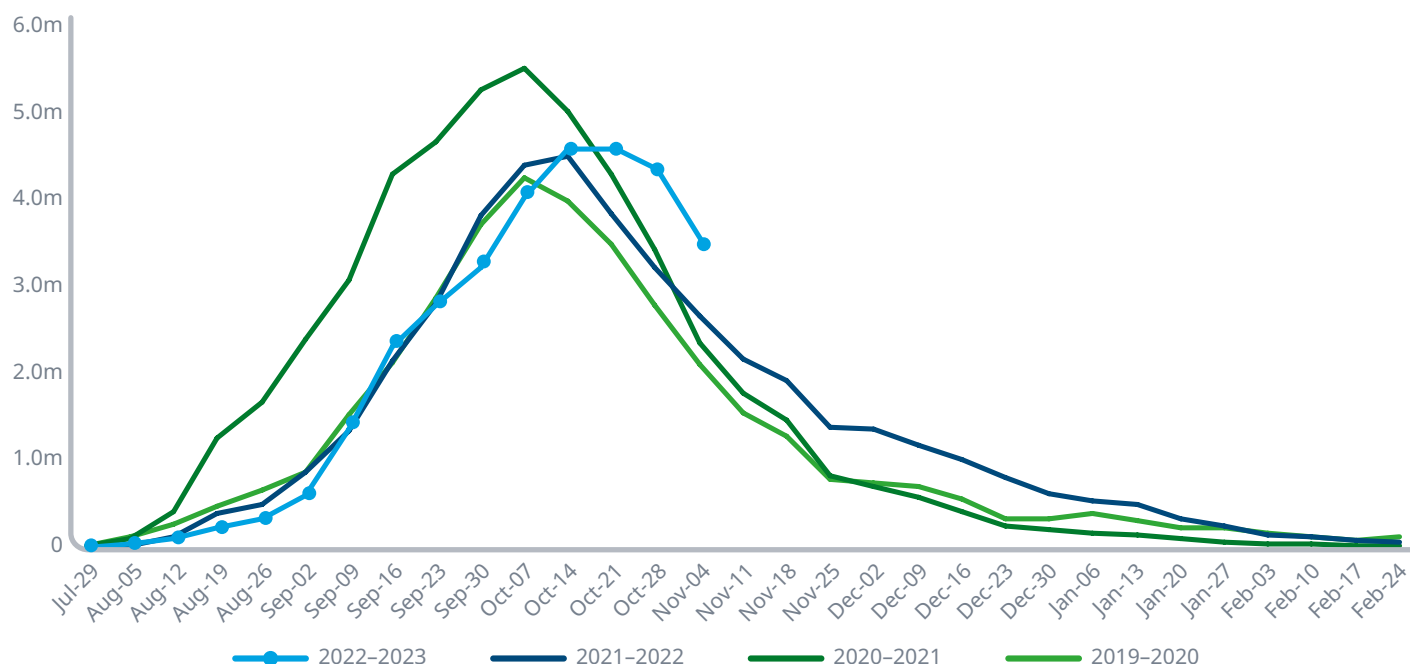
Source: IQVIA Consumer Health FAN, IQVIA Institute, Nov 12, 2022.

Exhibit 4: Regional increases in total U.S. influenza cases, season to date through week ending November 12, 2022



Source: IQVIA Consumer Health FAN, IQVIA Institute, Nov 12, 2022.

Exhibit 5: Total U.S. retail flu vaccinations 2019–22, through week ending November 4, 2022



Source: IQVIA RxInsight, IQVIA Institute, Nov 2022.

NOTES

- Baseline is defined as a three-year average of the 2016/17, 2017/18, and 2018/19 flu seasons.
- The FAN program has been used for more than 35 years to predict variations in demand for related over-the-counter medications.
- The modeling draws on a combination of diagnostics information from office-based medical claims, prescription claims from retail pharmacies, and deliveries of over-the-counter medications to establish estimates of diagnosed and treated populations.
- The FAN model evaluates correlations of multiple sources and weights by channel before projecting to national totals of affected populations.
- Modeling and projections are updated weekly.
- Flu vaccinations captured in IQVIA RxInsight are based on transactions processed through pharmacy dispensing systems in chain and independent pharmacies, food stores and mass merchants.
- This report is produced independently by the IQVIA Institute as a public service, without industry or government funding. The contributions of Beth Attiani, Scott Biggs, Jianqing Gao, Mary Kate Newell, and Chip Schaible are gratefully acknowledged

CONTACT US

If you have questions about this report,
please contact us at info@IQVIAInstitute.org

iqviainstitute.org

iqvia.com