U.S. Army Public Health Center

Army Influenza Activity Report

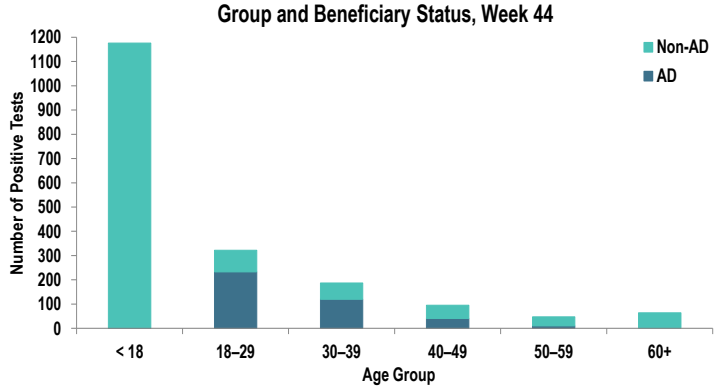
Week ending 5 November 2022 (Week 44)

SUMMARY

Influenza activity is increasing in the Army population. One thousand four hundred and forty-eight positive influenza A and eighteen influenza B specimens were reported during surveillance Week 44. Additionally, six influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported in Week 44; the season total thus far is 24 compared to an average of 7 influenza-associated hospitalizations during the same time period during 2017–2020. Nationwide, early increases in seasonal influenza activity continue, with 12.8% of specimens tested by clinical laboratories being positive for influenza A or B. Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) activity is also increasing in the Army population within the past week. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continue to report increased RSV activity in the general population. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting the annual influenza vaccine. Continue to engage in proper hygiene practices, like hand washing, and avoiding others while sick to reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Positive Respiratory Specimen Results from Army MTFs by Age Group and Beneficiary Status, Week 44



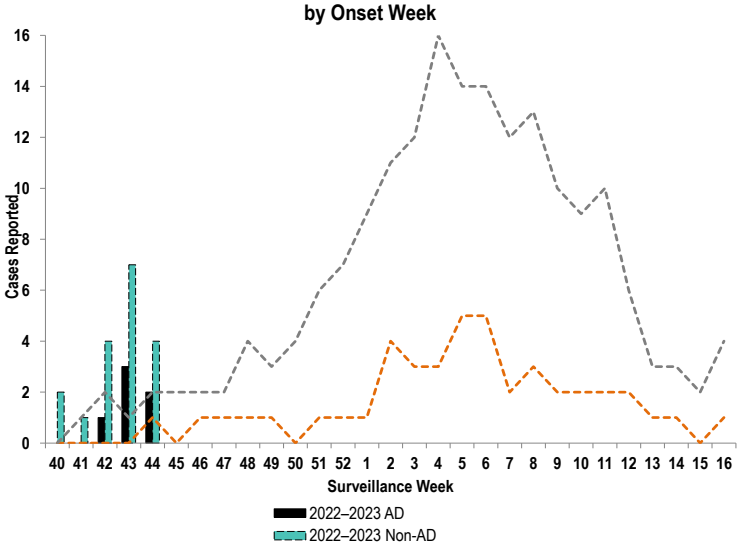
AD: Four hundred and five positive respiratory specimens were collected from AD Service members (SMs) during Week 44; 57.5% (n=233) of the positive specimens were collected from SMs 18 – 29 years of age.

Non-AD: One thousand four hundred and eighty-six positive respiratory specimens were collected from non-AD individuals during Week 44; 79.1% (n=1,175) of the positive specimens were collected from individuals under 18 years of age.

The age and beneficiary status of some cases were not available. Therefore, all calculations involving these variables were conducted using only available data. Differences in total results, and age- and beneficiary status-specific results may be noted throughout the report.

INFLUENZA-ASSOCIATED HOSPITALIZATIONS

Army Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations Reported in DRSi by Onset Week



Six influenza-associated hospitalizations, two of which were reported as AD, with an onset date in Week 44 were reported to the Disease Reporting System internet (DRSi). The season total thus far is 24 hospitalizations. The Week 44 average during the 2017–2020 seasons was 3 hospitalizations (with an average of 7 hospitalizations reported from the start of the season through Week 44).

The DRSi does not capture cases older than 65 years old for influenza-associated hospitalizations.

Data are preliminary and subject to change.

Questions?
Email APHC DEP

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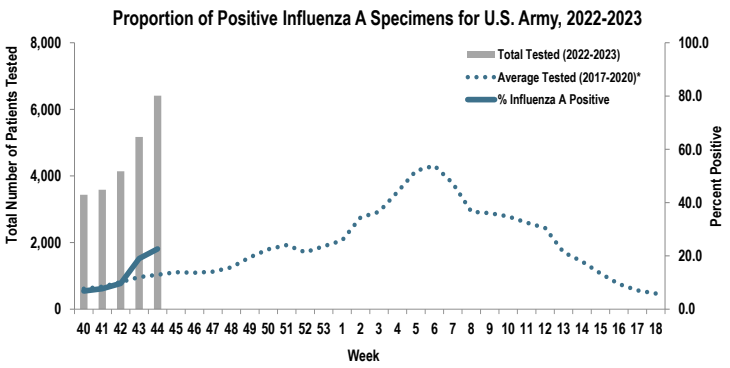
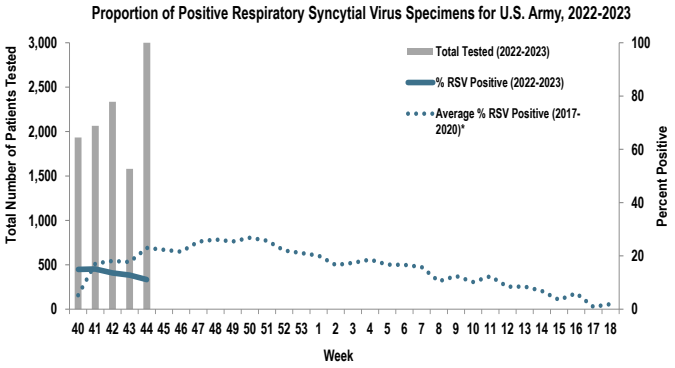
INFLUENZA A ACTIVITY - ARMY



Of the 6,409 specimens tested for influenza A during Week 44, 1,448 (22.6%) were positive. This is an increase of 47.3% from Week 43 (n=983).

RSV ACTIVITY - ARMY



Of the 3,234 specimens tested for RSV during Week 44, 360 (11.1%) were positive. This is an increase of 2.0% from Week 43 (n=353).

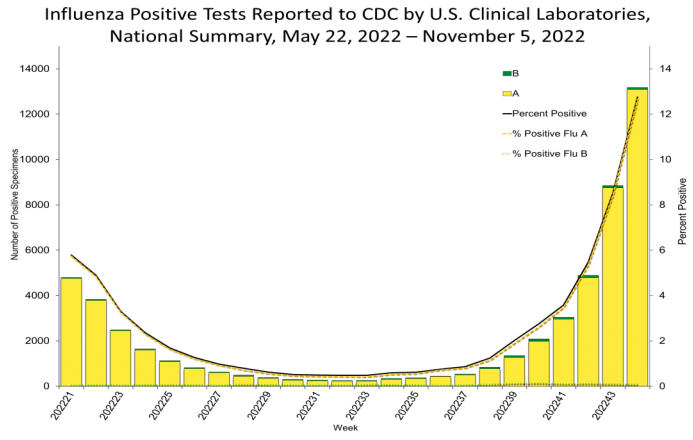
Data from the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 influenza seasons are not included in comparison calculations due to the unusually low incidence of influenza.

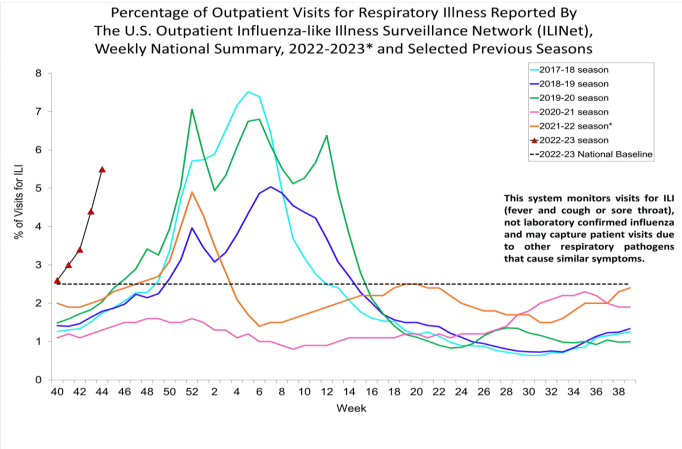
		Week 41	Week 42	Week 43	Week 44	Season Total
Army MTF Laboratory Results, 2022-23	Adenovirus	8	7	12	17	52
	Enterovirus	0	0	25	0	25
	Influenza A	276	403	983	1,448	3,342
	Influenza B	12	14	19	18	93
	Parainfluenza	32	30	18	48	162
	RSV	312	318	353	360	1,631
	Negative	2,966	3,394	3,788	4,539	17,548
	Total	3,606	4,166	5,198	6,430	22,853

Of the 6,430 specimens tested during Week 44, 22.6% (n=1,891) were positive for any type of respiratory illness. Influenza A accounted for 76.6% (n=1,448), RSV accounted for 19% (n=360), parainfluenza accounted for 2.5% (n=48), influenza B accounted for 1.0% (n=18), and adenovirus accounted for 0.9% (n=17). Additionally, the reported number of specimens tested increased by 23.7% from Week 43 to Week 44.

Significantly more tests for influenza have been conducted this season compared to past seasons; 22,739 specimens have been tested for influenza A so far this season compared to the average of 4,094 specimens during the same time period in 2017-2020.

INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) ACTIVITY - UNITED STATES





Nationwide in Week 44, incident ILI activity was 5.5%; this is above the national baseline of 2.5%. Additionally, a total of 103,311 specimens were tested for influenza by select clinical laboratories and submitted to the CDC; 13,178 (12.8%) were positive. Influenza A accounted for 99.3% (n=13,086) of the total positive specimens.

Locations providing Week 43 laboratory data as of 10 November 2022: Ft. Belvoir, Ft. Benning, Ft. Bliss, Ft. Bragg, Ft. Campbell, Ft. Carson, Ft. Eustis, Ft. Gordon, Ft. Hood, Ft. Huachuca, Ft. Irwin Ft. Jackson, Ft. Knox, Ft. Leavenworth, Ft. Lee, Ft. Leonard Wood, Ft. Lewis, Ft. Meade, Ft. Polk, Ft. Riley, Ft. Rucker, Ft. Sam Houston, Ft. Stewart, Ft. Wainwright, Korea, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Redstone Arsenal, Tripler Army Medical Center, the U.S. Military Academy, and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

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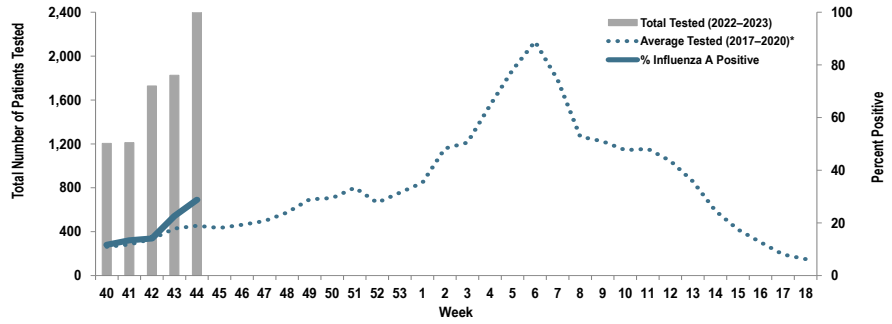
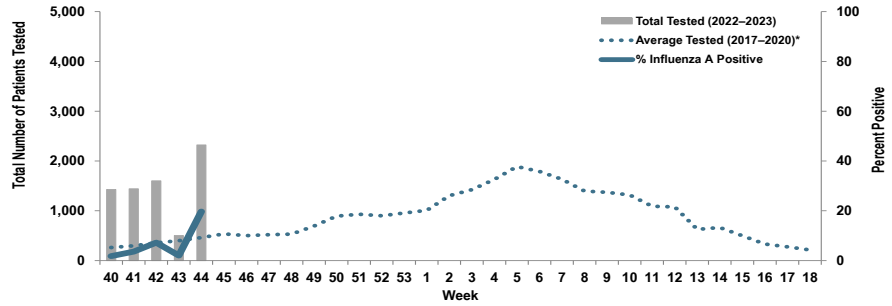
Proportion of Influenza A Positive Specimens by Week and Region, Army Medical Laboratories, 2022–2023 as Compared to 2017–2020*

Regional Health Command - Atlantic (RHC-A)



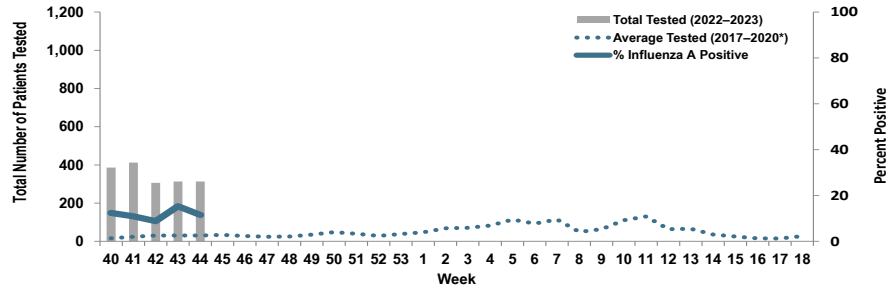
Week 44			
Age Group	AD	Non-AD	Season Total
< 18	1	527	**1,256**
18–29	140	53	**430**
30–39	71	33	**227**
40–49	23	25	**101**
50–59	8	16	**51**
60+	0	30	**68**
Total	**243**	**684**	**2,133**

Regional Health Command - Central (RHC-C)



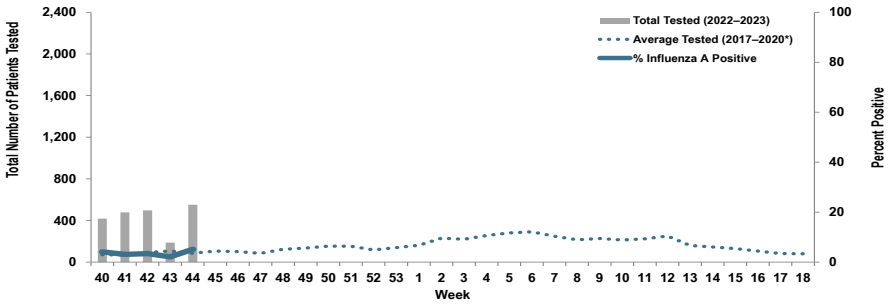
Week 44			
Age Group	AD	Non-AD	Season Total
< 18	0	261	**506**
18–29	52	25	**161**
30–39	34	23	**100**
40–49	10	22	**50**
50–59	1	14	**33**
60+	0	15	**40**
Total	**97**	**360**	**890**

Regional Health Command - Europe (RHC-E)



Week 44			
Age Group	AD	Non-AD	Season Total
< 18	0	22	**110**
18–29	7	0	**59**
30–39	2	2	**24**
40–49	2	0	**9**
50–59	0	1	**1**
60+	0	0	**2**
Total	**11**	**25**	**205**

Regional Health Command - Pacific (RHC-P)



Week 44			
Age Group	AD	Non-AD	Season Total
< 18	0	14	**37**
18–29	7	4	**33**
30–39	1	0	**8**
40–49	0	1	**5**
50–59	1	0	**4**
60+	0	0	**4**
Total	**9**	**19**	**91**

*2017–2018 influenza season - 2019–2020 influenza season. Data from the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 influenza seasons are not included in comparison calculations due to the unusually low incidence of influenza.

Number of Positive Influenza A Specimens by Region and Duty Status

Region	Week 41		Week 42		Week 43		Week 44	
	AD	Non-AD	AD	Non-AD	AD	Non-AD	AD	Non-AD
RHC-A	37	126	60	183	171	509	243	684
RHC-C	11	42	25	91	50	190	97	360
RHC-E	18	27	17	10	21	28	11	25
RHC-P	3	12	6	11	3	11	9	19

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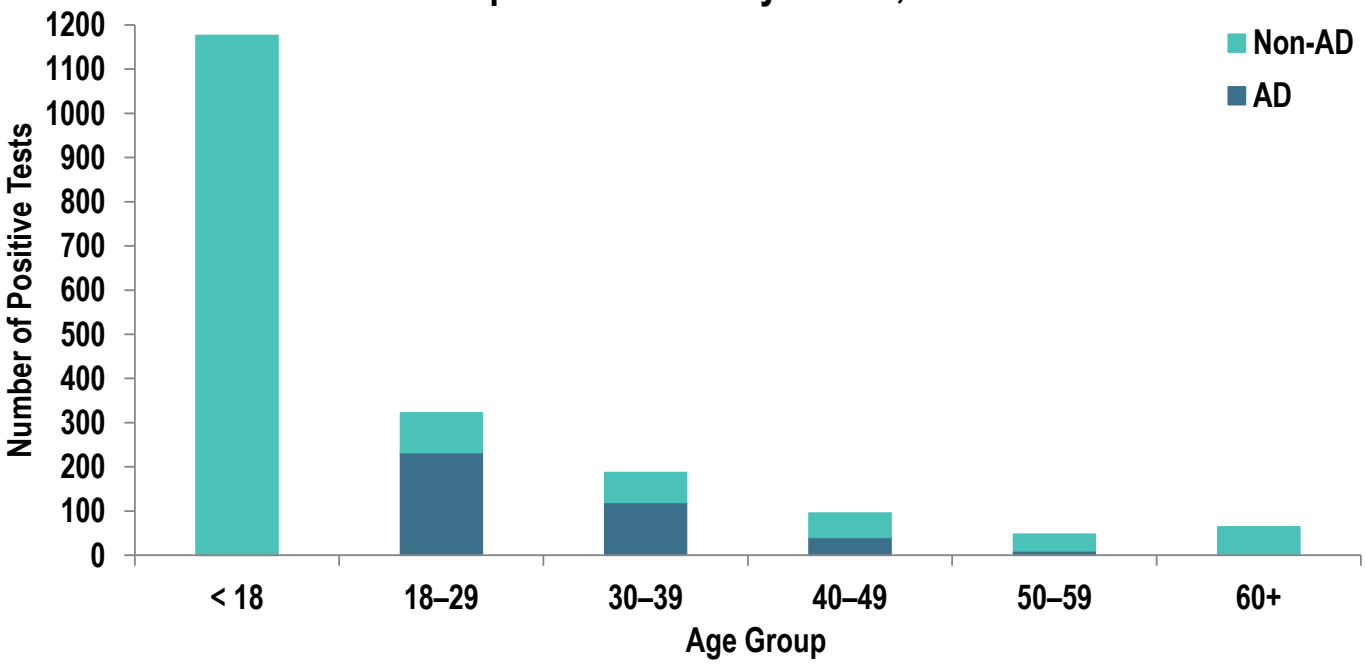
Positive Respiratory Specimen Results from Army MTFs by Age Group and Beneficiary Status, Week 44



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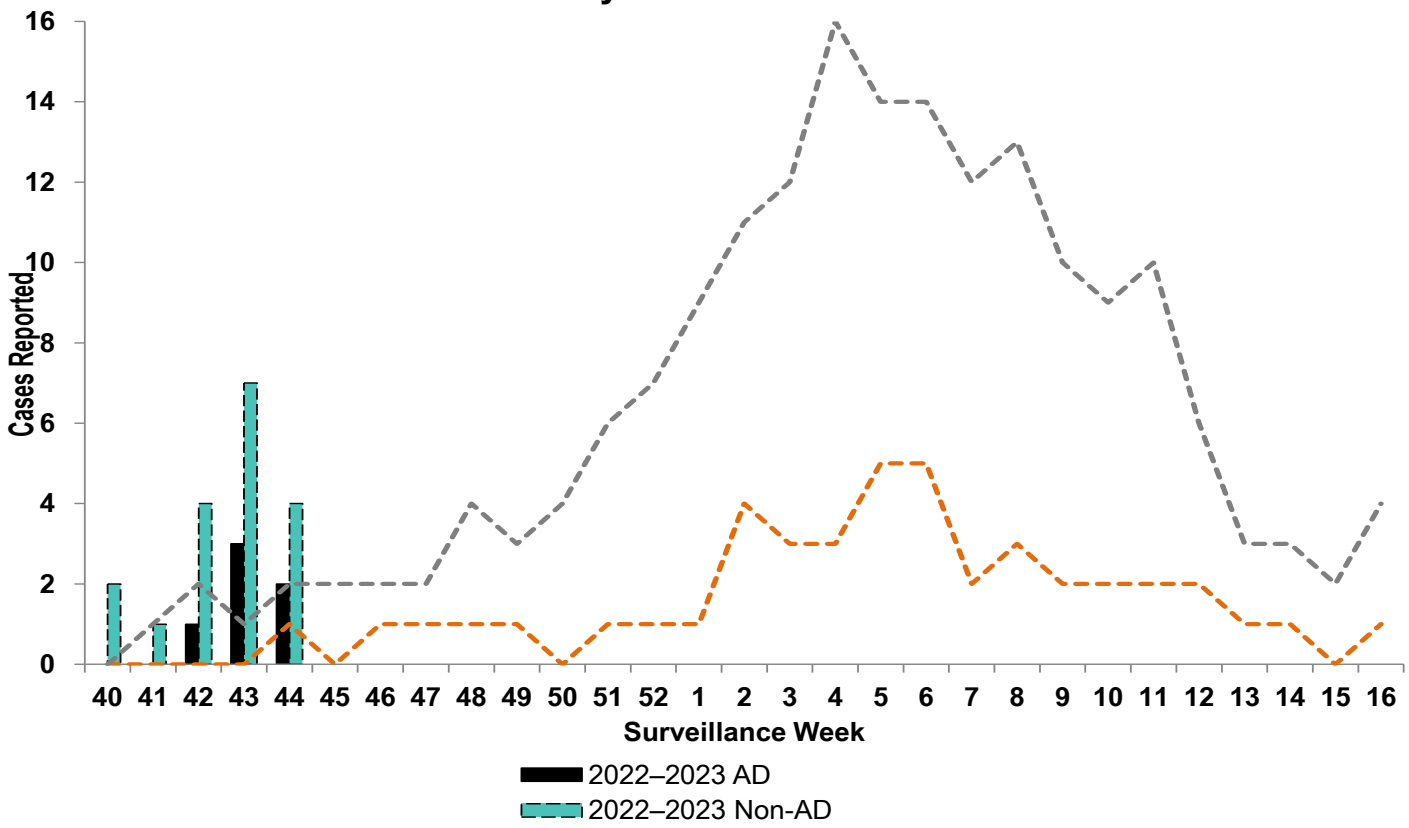
Army Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations Reported in DRSi by Onset Week



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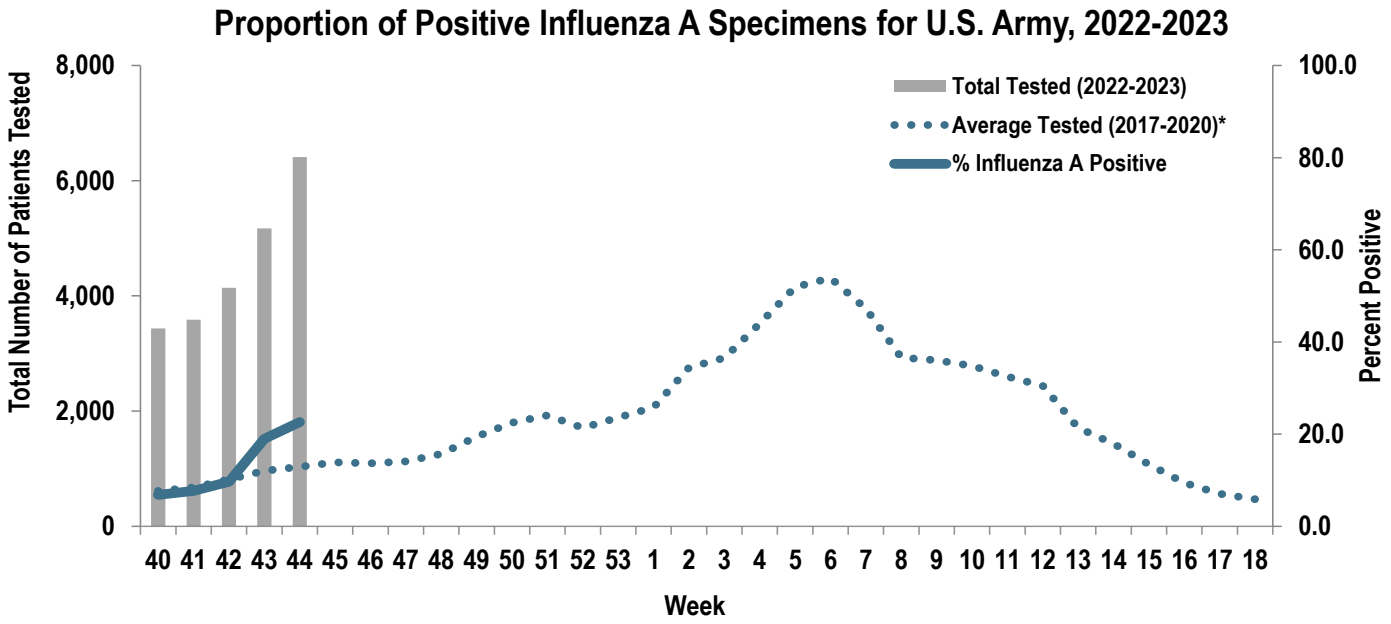

**2017–2018 influenza season - 2019–2020 influenza season. Data from the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 influenza seasons are not included in comparison calculations due to the unusually low incidence of influenza.*

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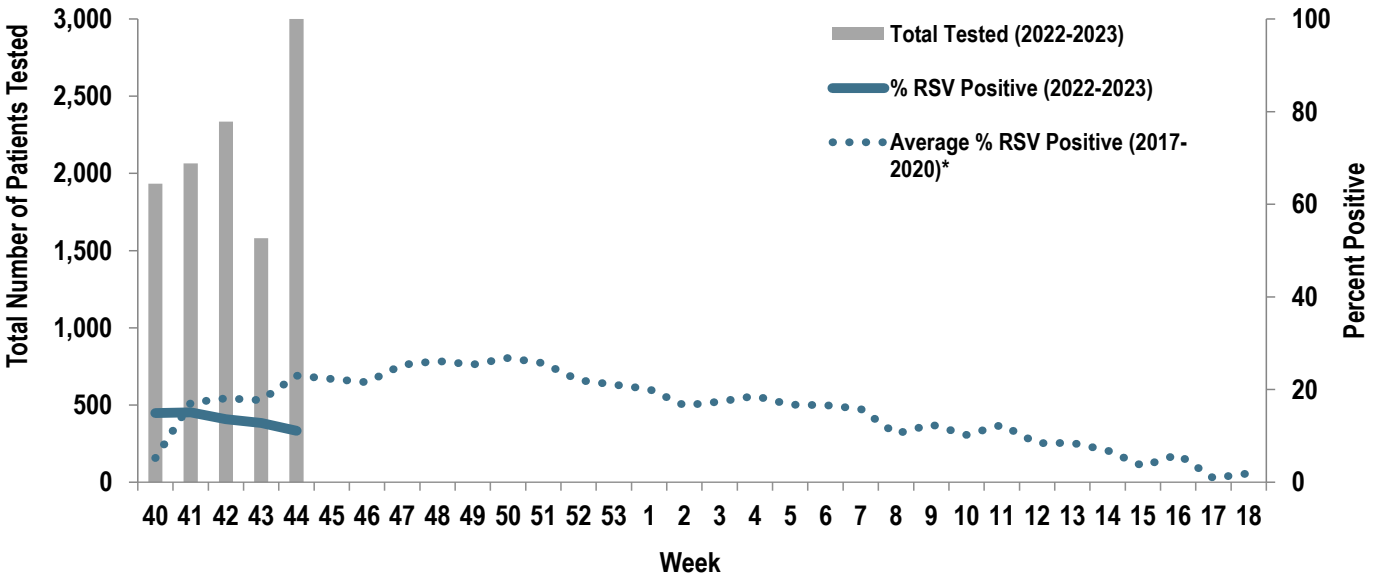
Proportion of Positive Respiratory Syncytial Virus Specimens for U.S. Army, 2022-2023



*2017–2018 influenza season - 2019–2020 influenza season. Data from the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 influenza seasons are not included in comparison calculations due to the unusually low incidence of influenza.

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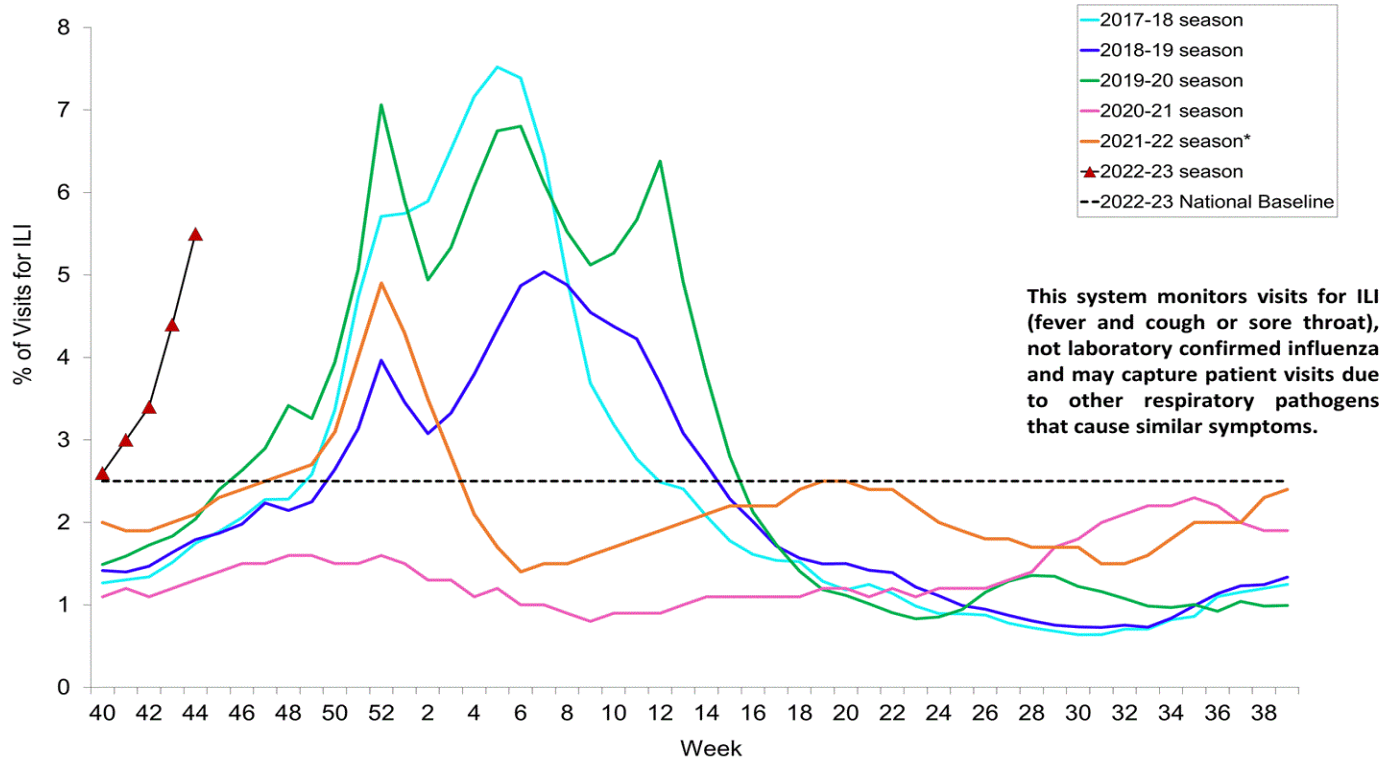
Percentage of Outpatient Visits for Respiratory Illness Reported By The U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), Weekly National Summary, 2022-2023* and Selected Previous Seasons



This system monitors visits for ILI (fever and cough or sore throat), not laboratory confirmed influenza and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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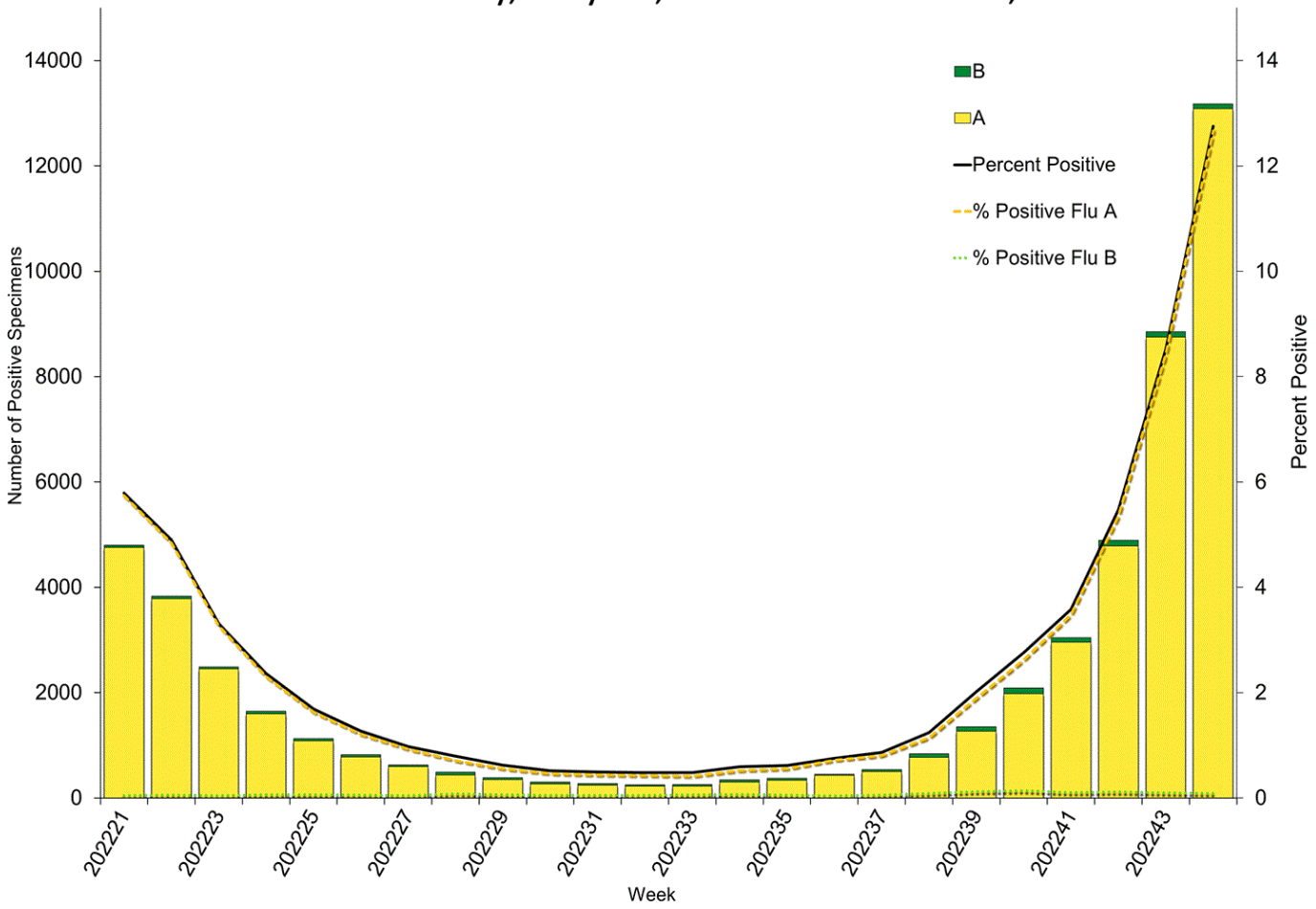
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Clinical Laboratories, National Summary, May 22, 2022 – November 5, 2022



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)