

Epi Monthly

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

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Public Health LOOK OUT!

- December 6-12 is National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW). In the United States influenza also known as flu season occurs in the fall and winter, with flu activity peaking between December and February. The best way to prevent the flu year round, but especially during the peak months is to get vaccinated annually. Visit <https://vaccinefinder.org/find-vaccine> to find out where to get a vaccine near you.
- December 1-7 is National Handwashing Awareness Week. Handwashing is an easy and effective way to prevent various infections. Now more than ever it is important to wash hands often, as washing hands for 20 seconds with soap and water can save lives and decrease the spread of many illnesses including COVID-19. Review the [key times](#) to wash your hands and share with others.
- World's AIDS day is observed on December 1st. It was the first ever global health day, founded in 1988. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness and funds to help end HIV, help support those living with HIV, and to remember and mourn all those that have lost their lives to this disease.

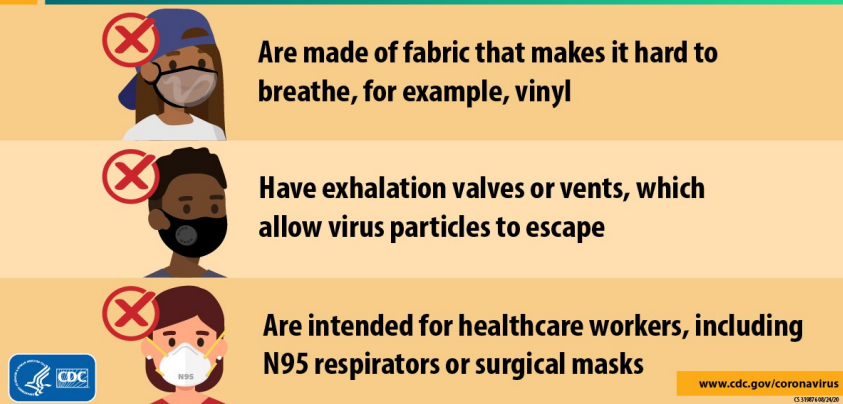
For the most recent information on COVID-19 in Florida please visit:

<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/>

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DO NOT choose masks that



Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl

Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape

Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators or surgical masks

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

Click the image to the left to watch the video.

WE HAVE A NEW ADDRESS!

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County
Epidemiology, Disease Control, and Immunization Services
1350 NW 14th St, Annex Building
Miami, FL 33125
Phone: 305-470-5660
Fax: 305-470-5533
eFax: 786-732-8714



Holiday Celebration Considerations

The safest way to prevent COVID-19 is to celebrate the holidays with only members from your own household. However, if you plan to celebrate with those outside your home do so as safely as possible by following the below recommendations put forth by the CDC.¹

Limit the number of guests who attend.

Have conversations ahead of time to set expectations.

Remind guests to stay home if they are sick or have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

Encourage social distancing.

- Keep gatherings outdoors when possible, and when not possible keep the room well ventilated by opening windows.
- Arrange tables and chairs to allow for a distance of 6 feet from individuals who are not from the same household.
- Consider activities or games where social distancing can be properly maintained.
- Avoid shaking hands, elbow bumps, or hugs by waving or verbally greeting others.

Wear masks when less than 6 feet from others or when indoors.

Clean hands often.

- Consider providing hand sanitizer and hand designated hand washing areas. Make sure there is adequate soap available.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds and remind guests to wash hands before serving or eating food.
- Use single-use paper towels for drying hands so guests do not share a towel.

Limit the number of people handling or serving food.

- Use single-use options or identify one person to serve shareable items.

Limit contact with frequently touched surfaces or shared items

- Consider items such as touchless garbage cans.
- Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces and shared items between use when possible.

References:

1. Personal and Social Activities. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/personal-social-activities.html>



Celebrating Thanksgiving

Accessible version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/thanksgiving.html>



Consider Other Thanksgiving Activities



Host a virtual Thanksgiving meal with friends and family who don't live with you

- Schedule a time to share a meal together virtually.
- Have people share recipes and show their turkey, dressing, or other dishes they prepared.

Watch television and play games with people in your household

- Watch Thanksgiving Day parades, sports, and movies at home.
- Find a fun game to play.



Shopping

- Shop online sales the day after Thanksgiving and days leading up to the winter holidays.
- Use contactless services for purchased items, like curbside pick-up.
- Shop in open air markets staying 6 feet away from others.

Other Activities

- Safely prepare traditional dishes and deliver them to family and neighbors in a way that does not involve contact with others (for example, leave them on the porch).
- Participate in a gratitude activity, like writing down things you are grateful for and sharing with your friends and family.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

Attending a Gathering

Make your celebration safer. In addition to following the steps that everyone can take to make Thanksgiving safer, take these additional steps while attending a Thanksgiving gathering.

- Bring your own food, drinks, plates, cups, and utensils.
- Wear a mask, and safely store your mask while eating and drinking.
- Avoid going in and out of the areas where food is being prepared or handled, such as in the kitchen.
- Use single-use options, like salad dressing and condiment packets, and disposable items like food containers, plates, and utensils.



Hosting a Thanksgiving Gathering



If having guests to your home, be sure that people follow the steps that everyone can take to make Thanksgiving safer. Other steps you can take include:

- Have a small outdoor meal with family and friends who live in your community.
- Limit the number of guests.
- Have conversations with guests ahead of time to set expectations for celebrating together.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items between use.
- If celebrating indoors, make sure to open windows.
- Limit the number of people in food preparation areas.
- Have guests bring their own food and drink.
- If sharing food, have one person serve food and use single-use options, like plastic utensils.

Thanksgiving Travel

Travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others.

If you do travel

- Check travel restrictions before you go.
- Get your flu shot before you travel.
- Always wear a mask in public settings and on public transportation.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from anyone who is not in your household.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your mask, eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Bring extra supplies, such as masks and hand sanitizer.



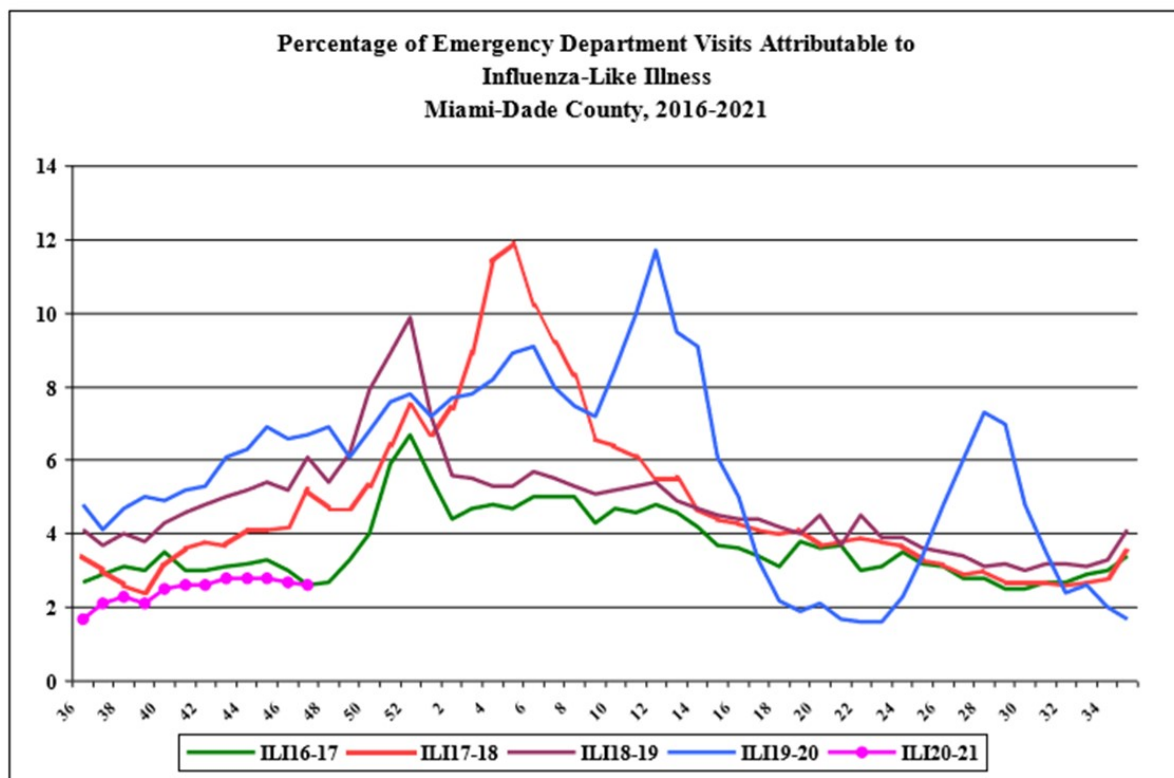
[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Epidemiology, Disease Control and Immunization Services

Influenza Like Illness Surveillance Report

On a daily basis, all of Miami-Dade County's emergency department (ED) hospitals electronically transmit ED data to the Florida Department of Health. This data is then categorized into 11 distinct syndromes. The influenza-like illness (ILI) syndrome consists of fever with either cough or sore throat. It can also include a chief complaint of "flu" or "ILI". This season's 2020-2021 data is compared to the previous 4 influenza seasons (2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020).

Influenza-Like-Illness, All Age



Across all ages, there were 32,255 ED visits; among them 853 (2.6%) were ILI. During the same week last year, 6.7% of ED visits were ILI.

PARTICIPATE IN INFLUENZA SENTINEL PROVIDER SURVEILLANCE

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County NEEDS Influenza Sentinel Providers!

Sentinel providers are key to the success of the Florida Department of Health's Influenza Surveillance System. Data reported by sentinel providers gives a picture of the influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. and Florida which can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.

- Providers of any specialty, in any type of practice, are eligible to be sentinel providers.
- Most providers report that it takes **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report data on the total number of patients seen and the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness.
- Sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients to the state laboratory for virus isolation **free of charge**.

For more information, please contact
Stephanie Calle at 305-470-5660.



Miami-Dade County Monthly Report Select Reportable Disease/Conditions October 2020

Diseases/Conditions	2020 Current Month	2020 Year to Date	2019 Year to Date	2018 Year to Date
HIV/AIDS				
AIDS*	29	278	358	363
HIV	76	826	1165	1099
STD				
Infectious Syphilis*	53	394	314	398
Chlamydia*	1159	9661	12638	11272
Gonorrhea*	626	3871	3993	3545
TB				
Tuberculosis**	5	59	95	100
Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services				
Epidemiology				
Campylobacteriosis	45	461	733	676
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	2	1
Ciguatera Poisoning	1	11	41	34
Cryptosporidiosis	6	20	59	37
Cyclosporiasis	1	9	26	0
Dengue Fever	3	19	0	0
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	7	41	127	152
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	17	101	156	154
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	0	1	1
Legionellosis	3	24	41	54
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	1
Listeriosis	0	9	5	5
Lyme disease	0	3	3	4
Malaria	0	2	4	11
Meningitis (except aseptic)	1	5	6	9
Meningococcal Disease	0	2	3	0
Salmonella serotype Typhi (Typhoid Fever)	0	0	3	4
Salmonellosis	93	691	862	699
Shigellosis	2	89	227	249
Streptococcus Pneumoniae, invasive disease	2	42	0	0
Vibriosis	0	14	16	6
West Nile Virus	5	27	0	0
Zika Virus (non-congenital)	0	0	22	27
Immunization Preventable Diseases				
Measles	0	0	0	3
Mumps	0	22	59	7
Pertussis	0	9	32	15
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Varicella	3	29	144	66
Hepatitis				
Hepatitis A	2	13	34	15
Hepatitis B (Acute)	1	35	25	42
Healthy Homes				
Lead Poisoning	7	77	110	163

*Data is provisional at the county level and is subject to edit checks by state and federal agencies.

** Data on tuberculosis are provisional at the county level.

What's New at DOH Miami-Dade

- The Monday before Thanksgiving is celebrated as Public Health Thank You Day! The Florida Department of Health thanks all public health professionals for working to keep our residents safe and healthy.
- The DOH-Miami-Dade Epidemiology Disease Control and Immunization Services has a new address! We are now located at 1350 NW 14th St, Annex Building, Miami, FL 33125.
- To find a free COVID-19 testing location near you please visit: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/initiatives/coronavirus/testing-locations.page>.







**University of Miami
Pediatric Mobile Clinic**

is offering

**FREE VACCINES
FOR ALL CHILDREN**

By appointment only
305-243-6407
10:30 AM - 5:00 PM



To report diseases and for information, call EDC-IS at:

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	305-470-6877
Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance	305-470-5660
Hepatitis Program	305-470-5536
HIV/AIDS Program	305-470-6999
Immunization Services	305-470-5660
STD Program	305-575-5430
Tuberculosis Program	305-575-5415
Appointment Line	786-845-0550

About the Epi Monthly Report

The Epi Monthly Report is a publication of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County: Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services. The publication serves a primary audience of physicians, nurses, and public health professionals. Articles published in the Epi Monthly Report may focus on quantitative research and analysis, program updates, field investigations, or provider education. For more information or to submit an article, please contact Vanessa Villamil at 305-470-5643 or vanessa.villamil@flhealth.gov.

