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Emerging Public Health Topics

May 2023 — New York State Immunization Requirements for School/Entrance for the 2023-24 school year is now available: <https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/>

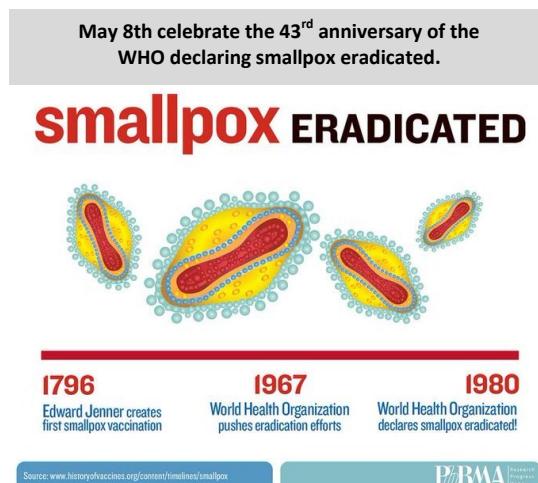
May 3, 2023 — FDA Approves First Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine

RSV causes 160,000 hospitalizations and 10,000 deaths among older Americans annually (as many as 55,000 deaths annually globally)

- **The FDA approved** Arexvy for Individuals 60 Years of Age and Older. The new vaccine will likely be recommended by the CDC in June for persons eligible to receive this fall. A vaccine for young babies is not available at this time.

Learn more at:

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-vaccine>



New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Advisory

May 1, 2023 - Mpox Updates — Epidemiology, Reporting, Prevention, and Treatment

- In November 2022, the World Health Organization announced that “mpox” would be used as the preferred term for monkeypox. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), along with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated their terminology accordingly.
- While the incidence of mpox is currently low in New York State as well as nationally, projections from the CDC indicate that there is still a present risk of resurgence of new mpox cases due to low immunity among populations most affected (<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/mpox/response/2022/risk-assessment-of-resurgence.html>).
- Clinicians should continue to be aware of the risk of mpox and be prepared to provide vaccination, as well as testing and treatment if indicated.

Additional recommendations for HCPs are included in the full advisory available on the NYSDOH Health Commerce System.

Madison County Communicable Disease Reporting

Top 5 Syndromes Observed by Madison County Schools and Hospital Emergency Departments, APRIL 2023*

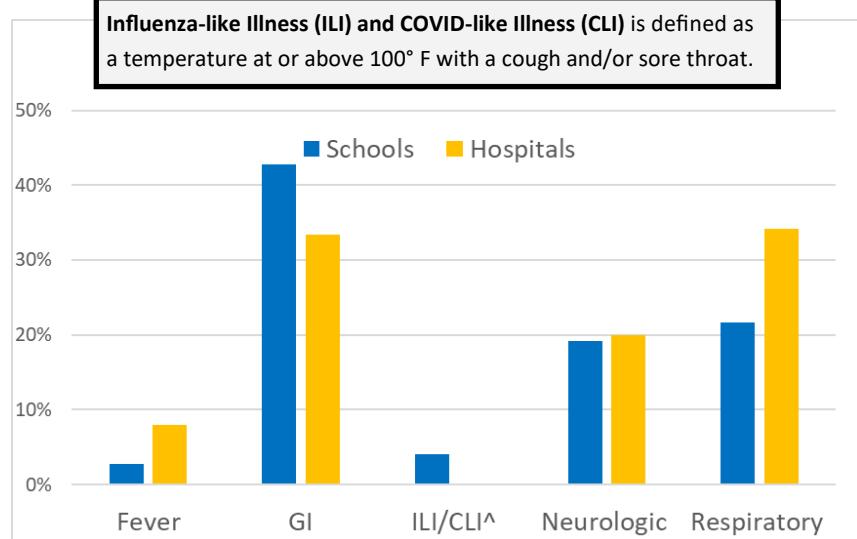
Syndromic surveillance is used to monitor disease indicators in near real-time to detect information about symptoms during early phases of illness and indicate outbreaks of disease earlier than would otherwise be possible with other public health methods.

Complaints of gastrointestinal illness (GI) and respiratory syndromes reported by schools and hospitals remained high in April.

*Data reported as percent of total syndromes observed

[^] Tracked by schools only

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and COVID-like Illness (CLI) is defined as a temperature at or above 100° F with a cough and/or sore throat.

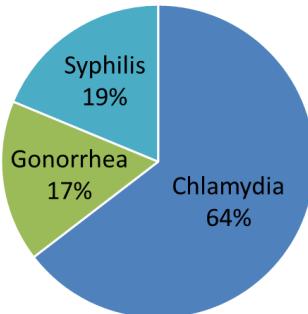


Communicable Disease Activity in Madison County: January-April 2023

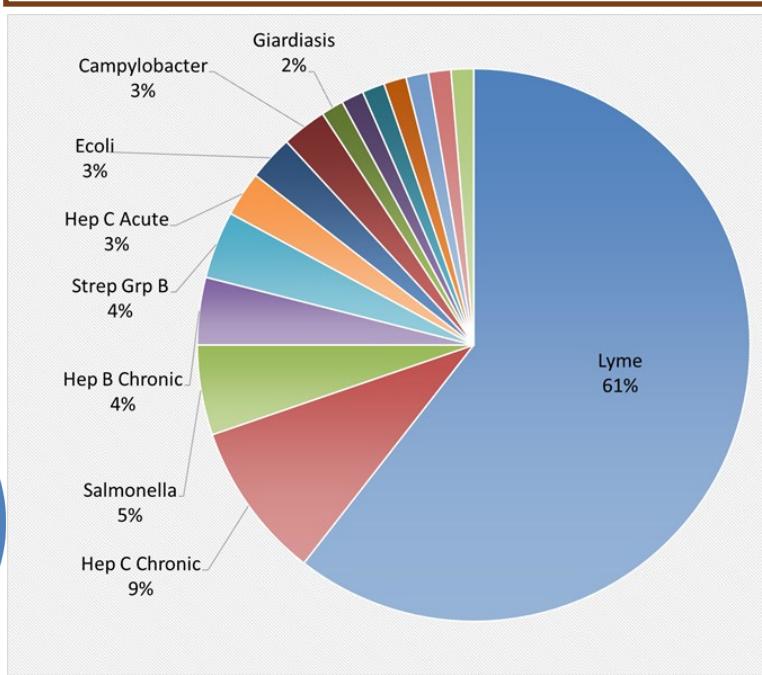
Communicable diseases are spread person to person or from an animal, surface or food to a person. Timely reporting of communicable diseases helps public health identify newly emerging infections, detect outbreaks, prevent secondary transmission, monitor trends, and evaluate the effectiveness of control measures.

Lyme disease continues to be the most common communicable disease among Madison County residents (61%). In addition to the pie graph labels, Legionella, Cryptosporidiosis, Strep Group A, Meningitis (Aseptic), Shigella, and Hepatitis B Perinatal each account for 1% of cases.

Percentage of Confirmed Cases of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) by Type (n=48)

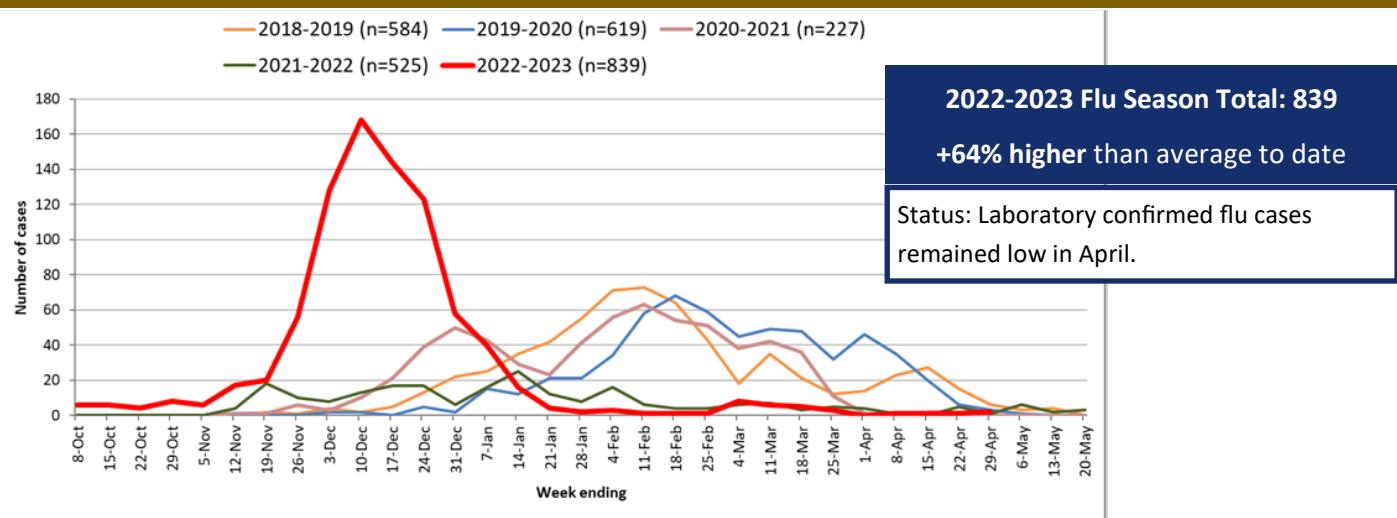


Percentage of Confirmed Cases of Communicable Cases by Type (n=76) *excludes STIs



Influenza (Flu) Activity—through week 17, ending April 29, 2023

Total Laboratory-Confirmed Flu Cases Reported in Madison County, by season



County and State Flu Case Summary

Madison County

New York State

The overall rate of flu in Madison County remains *lower* than New York State.

Cumulative Incidence Rate
(New cases per 100,000 population)

1233.5

1718.7

Type Flu A continued to be responsible for the majority of flu cases in the County and NYS.

Flu Cases by Type

Flu A: 95%

Flu A: 75%

A larger percent of individuals ages 65+ have gotten sick with the flu in Madison County compared to NYS.

Cases by High-Risk Age Groups
(percent overall this season)

0-4 Years: 13.2%
65+ Years: 12.2%

0-4 Years: 17.5%
65+ Years: 17.9%

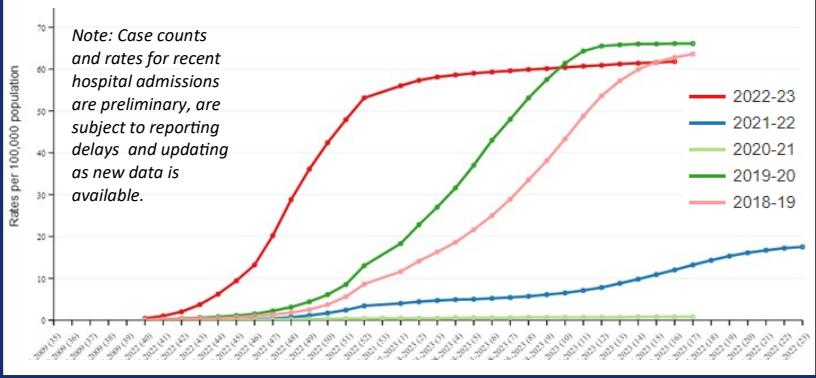
State and National Flu Hospitalizations—through week 17, ending April 29, 2023

- Nationwide, hospitalizations among all age groups peaked early during the 2022-2023 influenza season; however, the cumulative rate has plateaued.
- Both New York State and Madison County hospitals have seen significant increase in hospitalizations for influenza compared to previous years.

Sources:

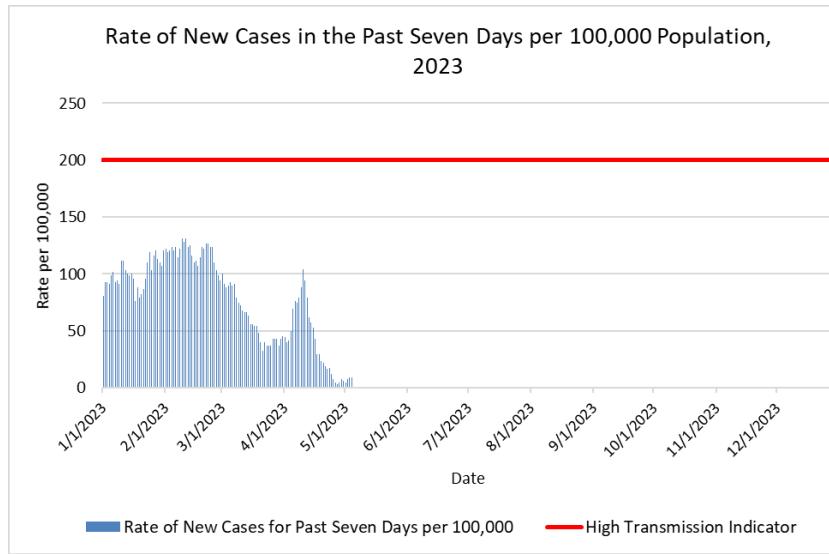
1. NYSDOH Influenza Surveillance and Reports:
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/influenza/surveillance/>
2. CDC, FluView: [cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm).

Cumulative Rate of Laboratory-Confirmed Flu Hospitalizations
among cases of all ages, by season, MMWR Week 17



COVID-19 Activity

Laboratory Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in Madison County



NYSDOH recommends the use of CDC weekly COVID-19 levels to determine the impact of COVID-19 and guide actions for communities and healthcare facilities to take in response.

Visit the CDC links for recommended level actions.



Weekly level on 4/26/23:

CDC Community Level for Community Action: LOW

CDC Transmission Level for Healthcare Facility Action: LOW

County, State and National Trends (as of April 26, 2023)

Madison County

New York State (excl. NYC)

United States

Weekly Cases
(Rate per 100,000 population)

4.4

19.3

26.6

Weekly Hospital Admissions
(Rate per 100,000 population)

1.7

5.0

3.3

Up-to-Date Vaccination Status
(Population \geq 5 years of age)

17.7%

18.5%

17.8%

IMPACT: End of the Federal Public Health COVID Emergency on May 11

- Vaccines and treatments will remain available. Medication to prevent severe COVID-19, [such as Paxlovid](#), will remain available for free while supplies last. After that, the price will be determined by the medication manufacturer and your health insurance coverage.
- Access to COVID-19 vaccines will generally not be affected for now. The U.S. government is currently distributing free COVID-19 vaccines for all adults and children. To help keep communities safe from COVID-19, HHS remains committed to maximizing continued access to COVID-19 vaccines.
- COVID-19 at-home tests may not be covered by insurance.
- Insurance providers will no longer be required to waive costs or provide free COVID-19 tests.
- Tools, data sources, and national reporting of COVID-19 may change.

Learn more at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/end-of-phe.html>

Sources: NYSDOH: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-data-new-york>; CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>; and CDC Weekly Community Level of Transmission: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html; https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_newcaserateper100k

Environmental Health & Safety

Zoonotic Disease Surveillance in Madison County—Summary April 2023

About 3 out of every 4 new or emerging infectious disease is spread from animals to people – these are known as **zoonotic diseases**. Animal surveillance is used as an early warning sign of potential human illness from a zoonotic disease. Rabies is a zoonosis that we closely monitor and test for.

| Animal Specimens Tested | Animal Bites | Animal Specimens Testing Positive for Rabies | Individuals Authorized for Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (RPEP) |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| 5 (3 cats, bat, fox) | 16 | 1 (fox) | 3 |

Food Safety—March 2023

Food establishment inspections determine the level of compliance for safety and sanitary measures to reduce food-borne illness. Over time, inspection results provide a more accurate picture of compliance practices. Inspections also serve as an opportunity to correct violations and provide education for food establishment owners.

In March 2023, five facility inspections were unsatisfactory and two facilities had unsatisfactory re-inspections.

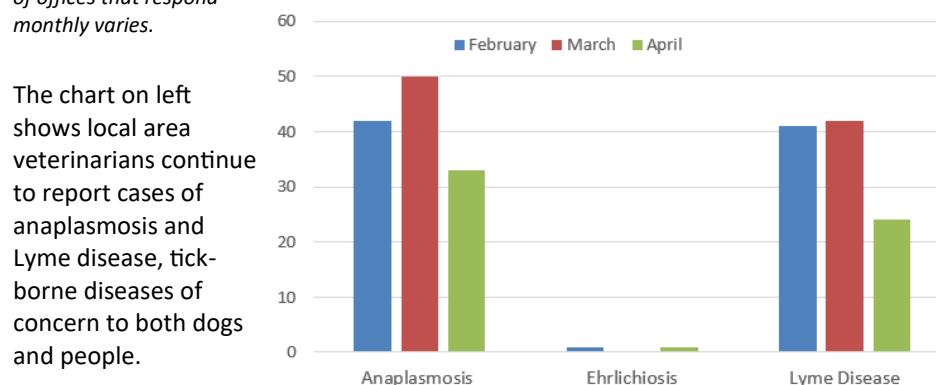
View restaurant inspection results:
<https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/453/Food-Inspection-Results>



Animal Surveillance—Summary February-April 2023

Sentinel animal surveillance is a tool used to detect risks to human health by providing early warning of a potential concern. Although the data does not represent the total number of cases, it remains useful in improving understanding of disease activity in our area. Each month six local veterinary offices are surveyed; responses are voluntary and the number of offices that respond monthly varies.

Local Veterinarian Zoonotic Disease Reporting,
February to April 2023



Upcoming Clinics and Events

Rabies Clinics by Appointment:

- Saturday—May 20, 2023 from 10am to 1pm**
Bridgeport Elementary School, 9076 N Road, Bridgeport
- Wednesday—June 7, 2023 from 5pm to 8pm**
Madison County Highway Garage in Wampsville, 139 N Court St
- Tuesday—July 11, 2023 from 4pm to 7pm**
Town of Cazenovia Highway Dept, 3425 Constine Bridge Rd

Free to Madison County residents. A \$5 donation per pet is appreciated. Out of County pet owners are limited to four (4) pets per household.

Make an appointment online at healthymadisoncounty.org

Immunization Clinics by Appointment:

Offering all routine immunizations, including COVID-19, flu, and monkeypox/mpox (JYNNEOS).

LOCATION: Madison County Public Health
138 N Court Street, Building 5, Wampsville

- Wednesday—May 17, 2023 from 1pm to 3:30pm**
- Wednesday—May 31, 2023 from 9am to 11:30am**
- Tuesday—June 13, 2023 from 3pm to 5:30pm**
- Tuesday—June 21, 2023 from 9am to 11:30am**

To make an appointment call 315-366-2361—OPTION 2

Health Issue Highlight: Tick Talk this Season

Annually, there are over 30,000 reported cases of Lyme disease in the United States. Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium, transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick (*deer tick*). Typical symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and skin rash. **The best way to prevent Lyme disease is to protect yourself from tick bites.**

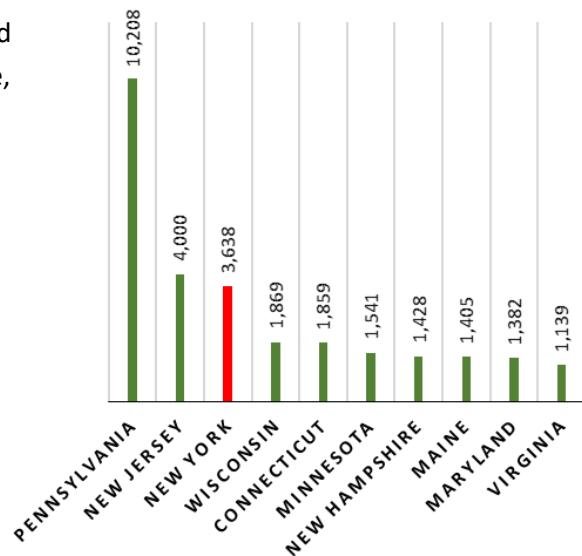
Prevention Tips:

- Avoid grassy or wooded areas
- Wear light colored clothing— pants and long sleeves shirts
 - Consider treating your clothing with insect repellent
- Check your gear, clothing, and pets for ticks
- Shower within two hours of coming inside – check your body for ticks

If you find a tick, remove using fine-tip tweezers as soon as possible. Call your doctor if you experience symptoms.

LEARN MORE: www.cdc.gov/lyme/

LYME DISEASE CASES REPORTED FROM TOP 10 STATES IN 2018*



*Data are incomplete for 2019 and 2020

Health Issue Highlight: Mental Health Awareness

A person's overall wellbeing is dependent on both mental and physical health. Good mental health allows individuals to be productive, engage in health-seeking behaviors, adapt to life changes, and maintain positive relationships with others.

Mental health disorders (MHDs) refer to a broad group of conditions that affect thinking, mood, and behavior. Common MHDs include: anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. In 2018, nearly 17.0% of Madison County adults reported 14 or more poor mental health days in the past month compared to 11.2% of New York State (NYS) adults.



MHDs can increase a person's risk of self-harm and suicide. The rate of suicide deaths in Madison County is higher than NYS (9.6 vs 8.2 per 100,000).

LEARN MORE: [https://www.cdc.gov/mentalhealth/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mentalhealth/index.htm)

Next month's highlight:

MOSQUITOES & RABIES