











Gallatin County Weekly Communicable Disease Report

This report provides a weekly snapshot of communicable disease activity in Gallatin County. Data are provisional and are expected to change as more information is received. If you are seeking data that is not included in the report below, please submit a data request through HS@gallatin.mt.gov. The turnaround time depends on the complexity of the request and availability of our staff.

Table 1. Communicable diseases reported in Gallatin County* compared to statewide data during MMWR Week 51 (week ending December 23, 2023).

	Gallatin County			State of Montana	
	Total (2023 Year-to-Date)	MMWR Week 51	Six-Week Trend Line	Total (2023 Year-to-Date)	MMWR Week 51
Influenza (2023-2024 Season)**					
Influenza A	463	244		3,825	1,652
Influenza B	257	73			
Hospitalizations or Deaths	19	12		192	75
General Communicable Diseases					
COVID-19	3,048	92		25,991	801
Enteric Diseases					
Giardiasis	21	1		93	1
Salmonellosis	19	3		176	4
Hepatitis					
Hepatitis C, Chronic	22	1		1,027	5
Sexually Transmitted Diseases					
Chlamydia	525	6		3,615	60
Gonorrhea	56	1		765	12
Other Conditions					
Animal Bites	255	6		Not Reported	

Data source: MTDPHHS Weekly Communicable Disease Epidemiology Report

*Not all cases were contracted in Gallatin County

**Statewide disaggregated influenza data is unavailable.

Communicable Disease News:

- Additional summary of diseases reported in the state of Montana for MMWR Week 51:
 - **Enteric Diseases:** Campylobacteriosis (6), Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) (2)
 - **General Communicable Diseases:** Latent TB Infection (LTBI) (2), Legionellosis (1)
 - **Heavy Metal Exposures:** Lead (3)
 - **Hepatitis:** Hepatitis C, acute (2)
 - **STD/HIV:** HIV/AIDS (1), Syphilis, primary and secondary (1), Syphilis, latent (7)
 - **Vaccine Preventable Diseases:** *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, invasive (5), Varicella (Chickenpox) (1)
 - **Zoonotic:** Rabies, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) (1)

Gallatin City-County Communicable Disease Program

Hours: M-F 8:00AM-5:00PM: (406) 582-3100

Questions? Please Contact:

After hours 24/7 line: (406) 582-2100 ext. 2, ask to page the Health Dept

www.healthygallatin.org

[Reportable Communicable Disease List](#)

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Expanded COVID-19 Data

During the month of December 2023, 289 new COVID-19 cases were reported among Gallatin County residents. This is an approximate 31% increase from the case-level reported for Gallatin County in November 2023, and a 36% decrease compared to December 2022. Due to changes made to state-level reporting requirements, we are no longer able to report data on breakthrough (vaccinated) infections.

Table 2. Summary of COVID-19 activity among Gallatin County residents reported between 3/17/2020 to 1/1/2024.

	Total	MMWR Week 52	% Change from Previous Week
Reported Cases	44,085	77	-7.23%
Hospitalizations	1,660	2	+100.00%
Deaths	140	0	NA*

*Percent change is in calculable when the previous value is zero.

Table 3. Describes the number of active cases by age group per 100,000 residents as of 1/1/2024.

Age Group	Number of Active Cases	Total Number of Residents	Active Cases per 100,000
0 to 4	10	5,906	169
5 to 11	2	9,138	22
12 to 17	6	7,616	79
18 to 29	18	28,995	62
30 to 39	17	17,388	98
40 to 49	15	14,113	106
50 to 59	10	11,667	86
60 to 69	16	12,149	132
70 to 79	10	6,846	146
80+	16	2,968	539

Table 4. Describes CDC COVID-19 hospital admission levels as of 1/2/2024, established to guide recommended preventative actions based on healthcare system strain. Gallatin County is currently experiencing “Low” level, in which CDC recommends staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, maintaining improved ventilation throughout indoor spaces when possible, and following CDC guidelines for isolation and quarantine, including testing if you are exposed or have symptoms. Individuals who are at high risk for severe disease should have a plan for rapid testing if needed and talk to their healthcare provider about whether they are a candidate for treatments like oral antivirals or monoclonal antibodies.

Indicator	Low	Medium	High
New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0 – 19.9	≥20.0

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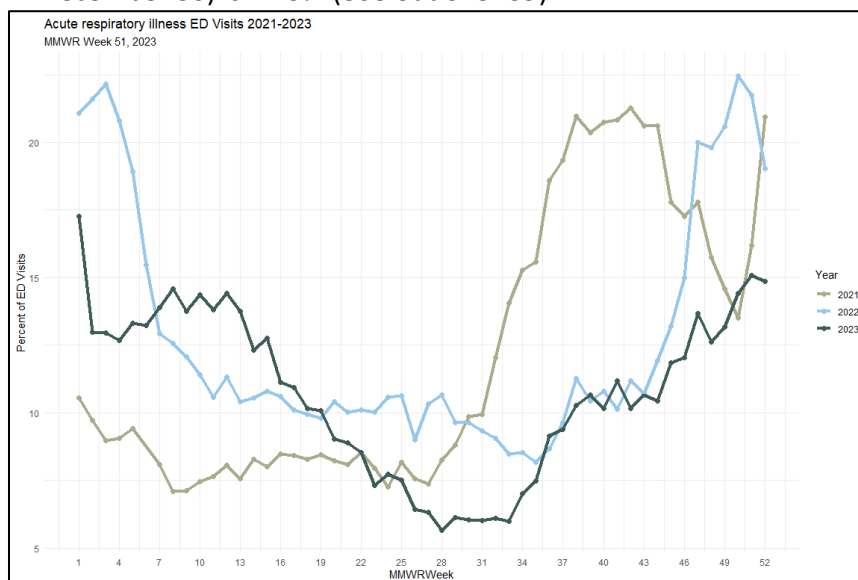
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- Statewide Influenza Summary for MMWR Week 51: Activity is WIDESPREAD**

- Influenza activity is rapidly increasing for the 2023-2024 influenza season in Montana. 1,652 cases of influenza were reported during MMWR week 51, which is nearly double the number of cases reported last week
- Season to date, 3,825 cases, 185 hospitalizations, and 7 deaths have been associated with influenza. Over 90% of total reported flu cases have been reported in the Western and Central regions of Montana.
- During week 51, 1,113 specimens were tested for influenza at partner surveillance laboratories and 269 (24.17%) were positive.
- Influenza A is currently the dominant influenza type circulating in Montana – Flu A seasonal subtype H1N1 (n=135), H3 (n=64), and flu B (n=189) have been detected.
- Emergency department visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) in Montana increased to 3.46%.
- During week 51, 470 specimens were tested for RSV at partner surveillance laboratories and 27 (5.74%) were positive.
- Visit the new CDEpi Pan-Respiratory dashboard [here](#).

- Statewide Syndromic Surveillance: Acute Respiratory Illness**

- Below are data reported from the Montana Syndromic Surveillance system. These data capture real-time changes in the percentage of emergency department (ED) visits related to acute respiratory illness symptoms across the state and are monitored for significant increases. While most hospital facilities participate in syndromic surveillance, not all do. The chart represents only reported data; true numbers may vary. For questions on the data please contact Vanessa Whattam at 406-439-5324 or vanessa.whattam@mt.gov.
- Acute respiratory illness-related ED visits accounted for 15.1% (1135 out of 7526) of total ED visits during MMWR Week 51 in 2023 (December 17 - December 23) which is 0.7% increased from the previous week. In 2022, acute respiratory illness-related ED visits made up 21.7% (1441 out of 6631) of the total ED visits during MMWR Week 51. Over the past five weeks, the mean percentage of acute respiratory illness visits in 2023 is statistically significantly different from the percentage for the same period in 2022. The preliminary rate for MMWR Week 52, 2023 (December 24 - December 30) is 14.9% (808 out of 5439).



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