

Flu-Kick Off Webinar

Shannon McBee
State Epidemiologist

September 8th, 2026
Online

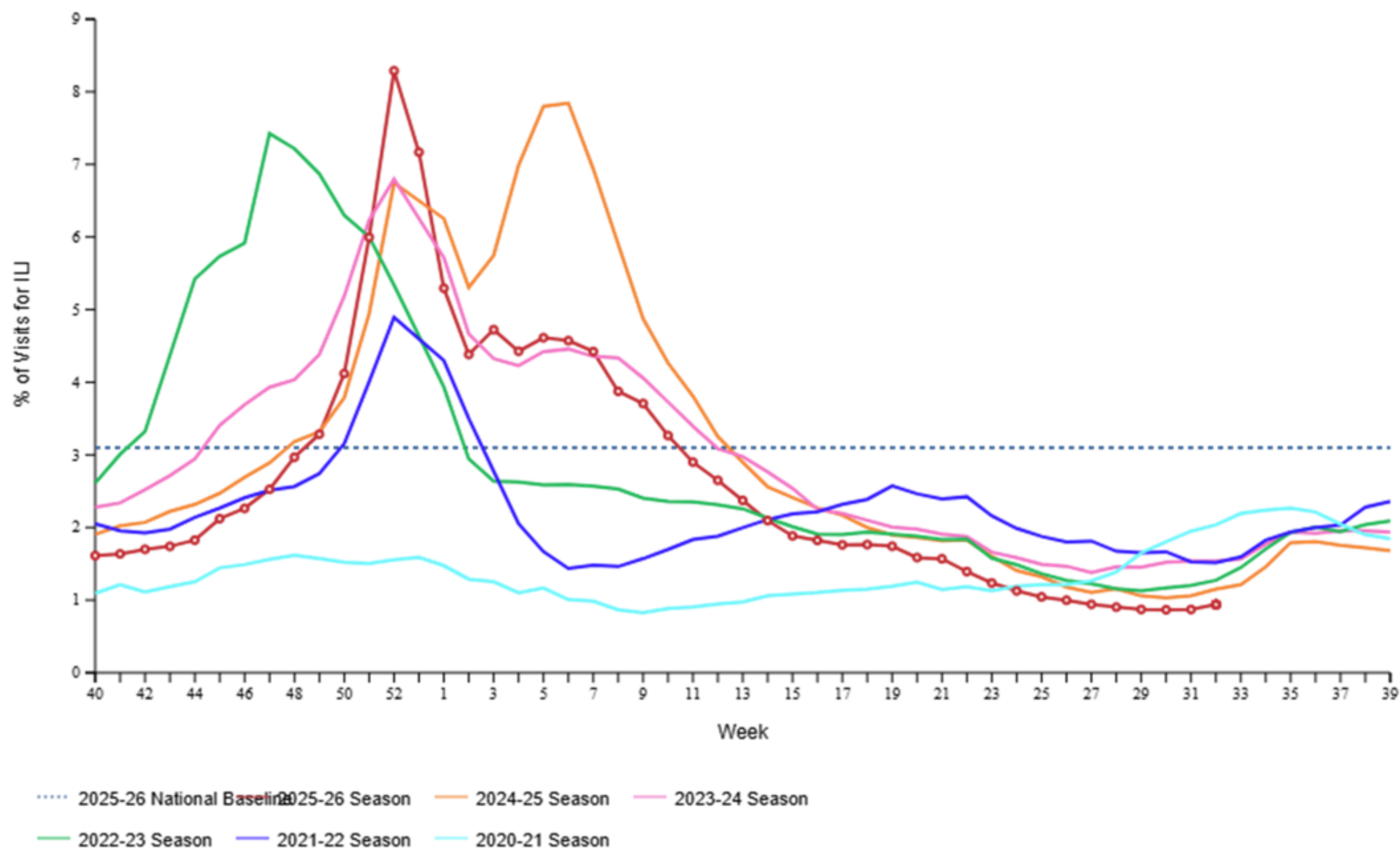


Objectives

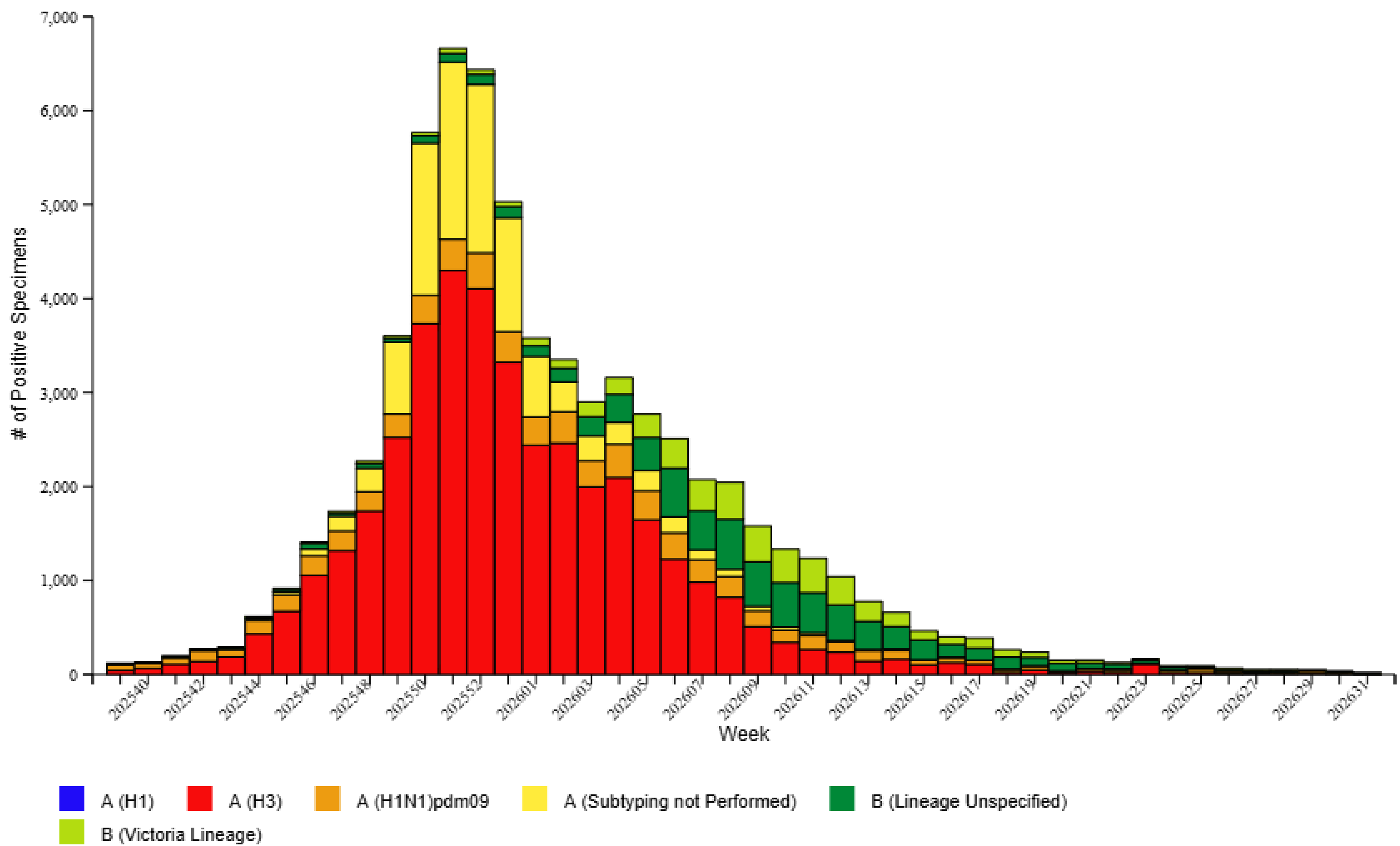
Discuss influenza, RSV, and COVID disease trends and immunization coverage rates from the 2025-2026 influenza season

Describe the goal of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Influenza Sentinel Provider Program and how WV facilities can enroll

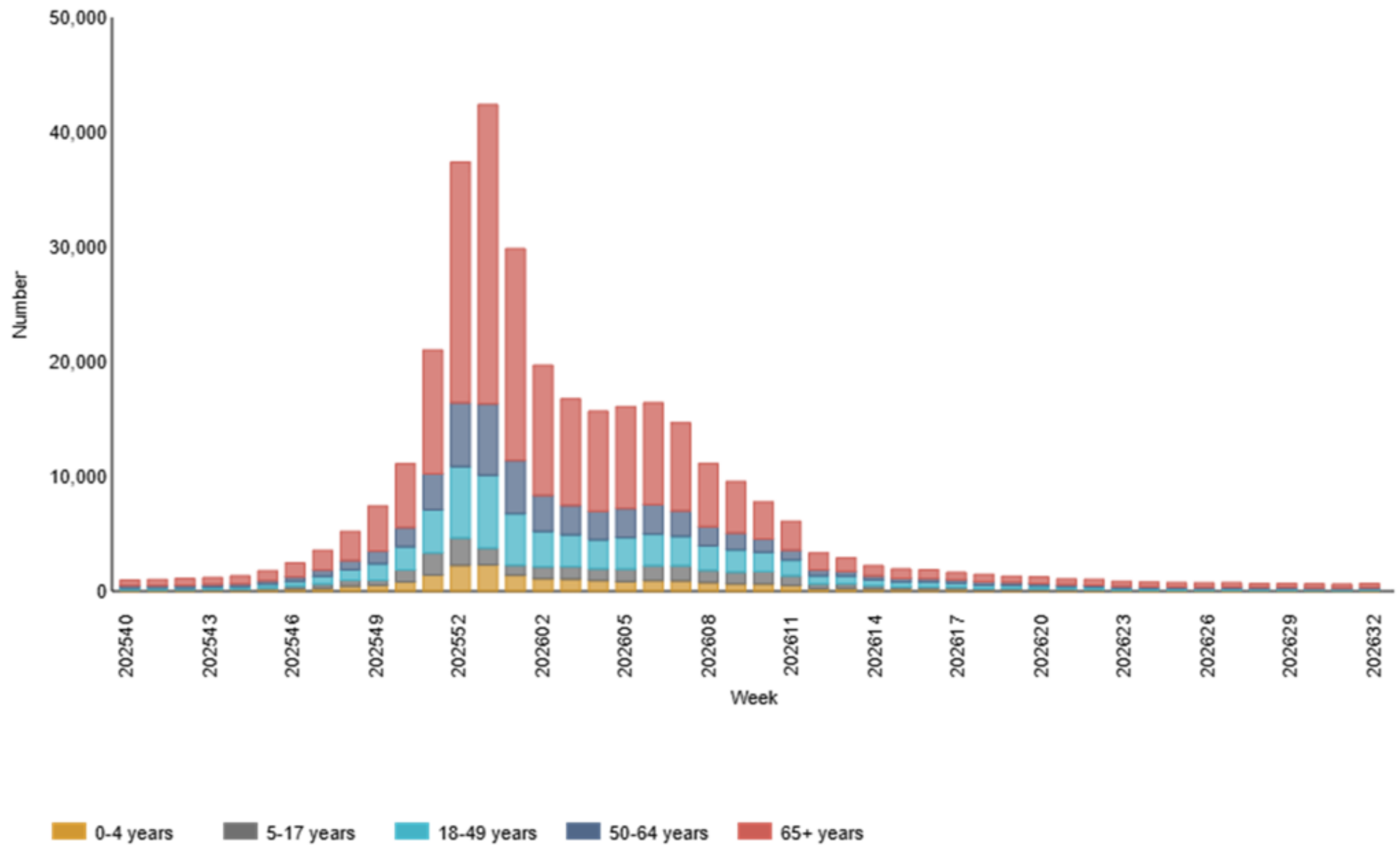
Percentage of Outpatient Visits for Respiratory Illness Reported by
The U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet),
Weekly National Summary, 2025-26 Season and Selected Previous Seasons



Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by Public Health Laboratories,
National Summary, 2025-26 Season, week ending Aug 15, 2026

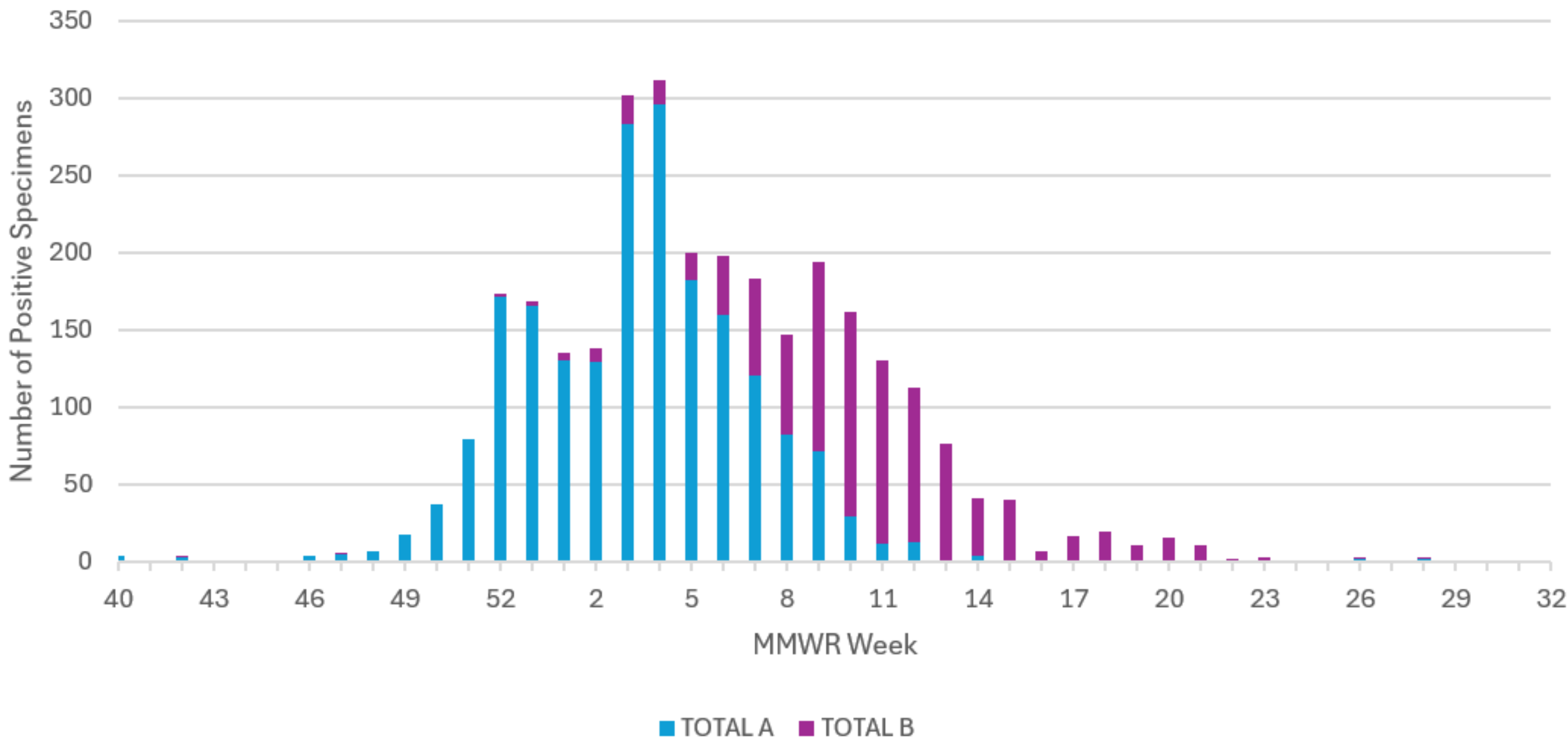


National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Hospital Respiratory Data
Number of Hospital Admissions by Week and Age Group



Influenza Positive Tests in West Virginia

Influenza Positive Tests Reported by Clinical Laboratories, WV, 2025-26





United States

- 32M+ Illnesses
- Hospitalization Peak: 9.9 per 100K week ending January 3, 2026
- 174 Pediatric Deaths
- A(H3N2) Predominant



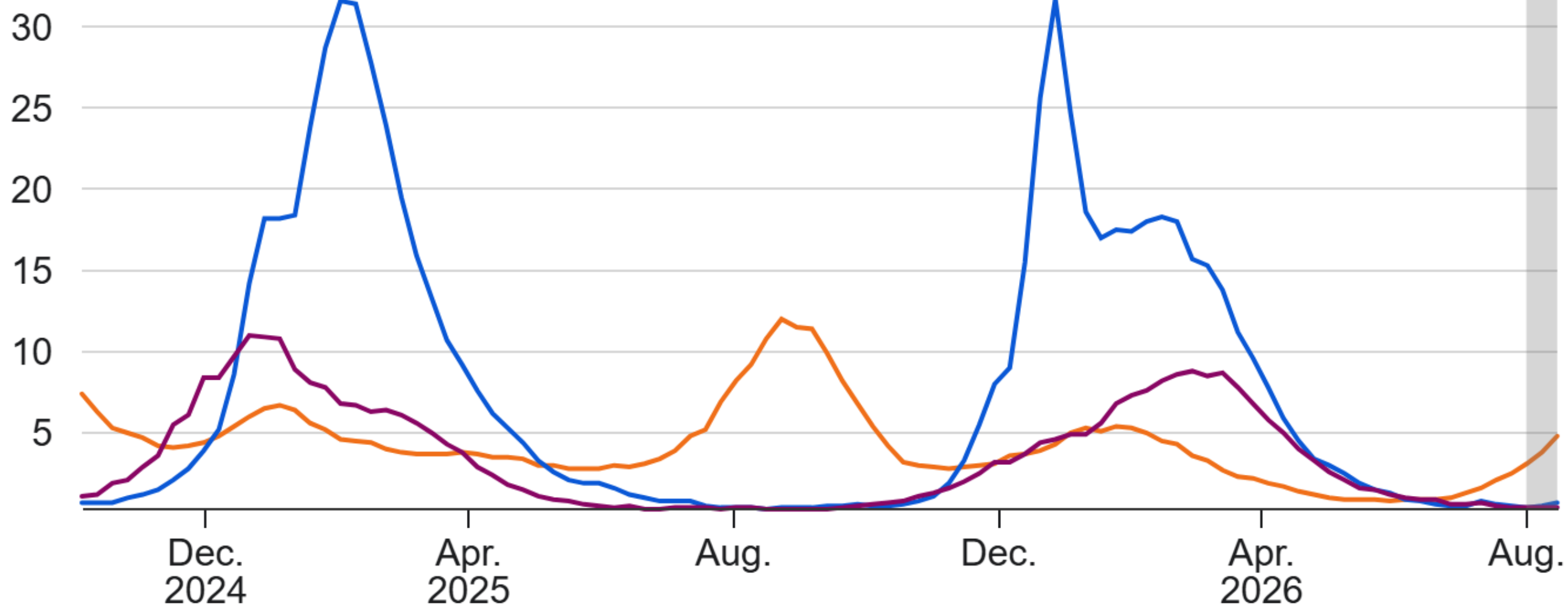
West Virginia

- Hospitalization Peak: 12.9 per 100K week ending January 3, 2026
- 98 Influenza Outbreaks Reported
- 1 Pediatric Death
- A(H3N2) Predominant

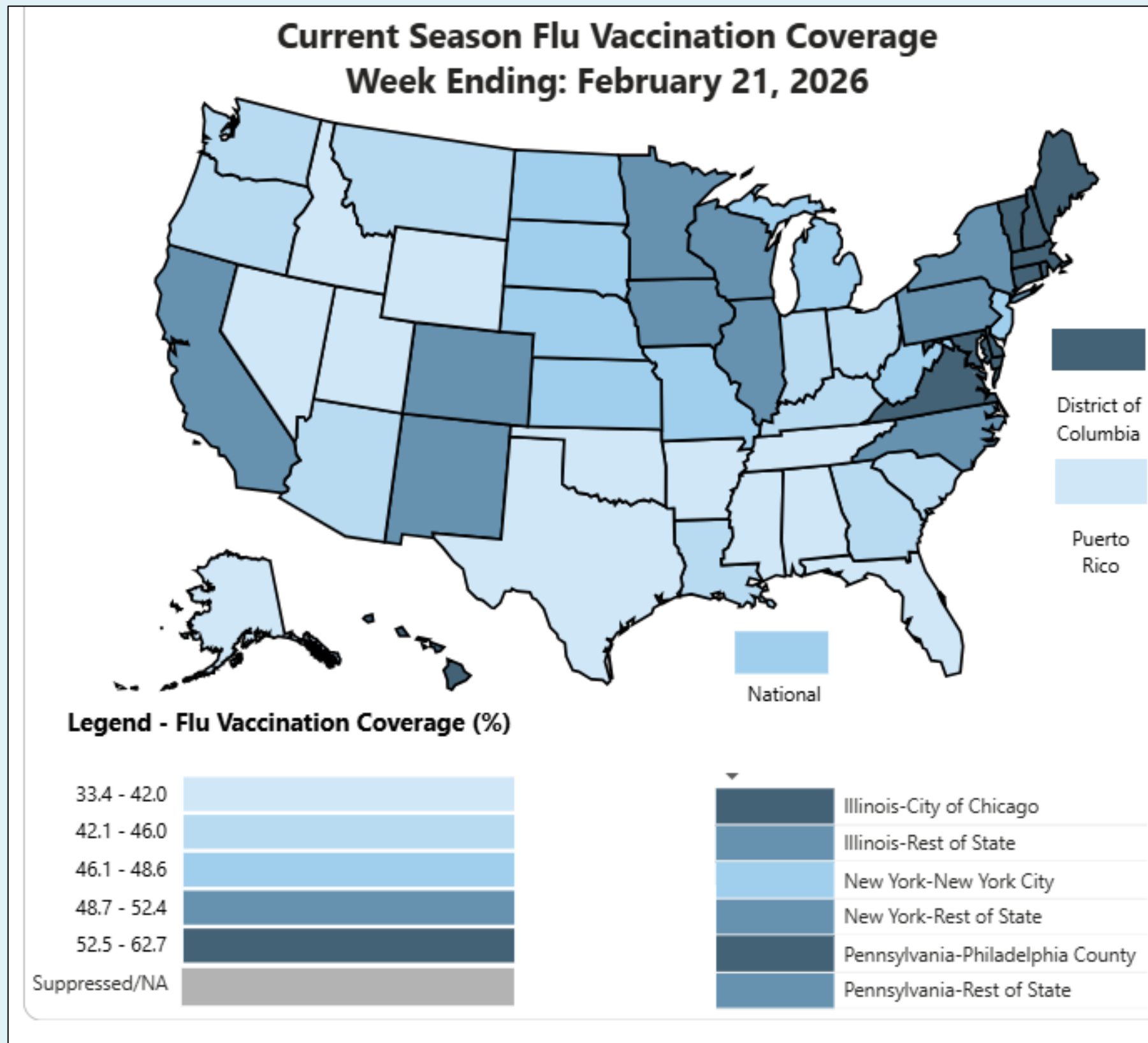
Emergency Department Respiratory Surveillance

COVID-19 Influenza RSV

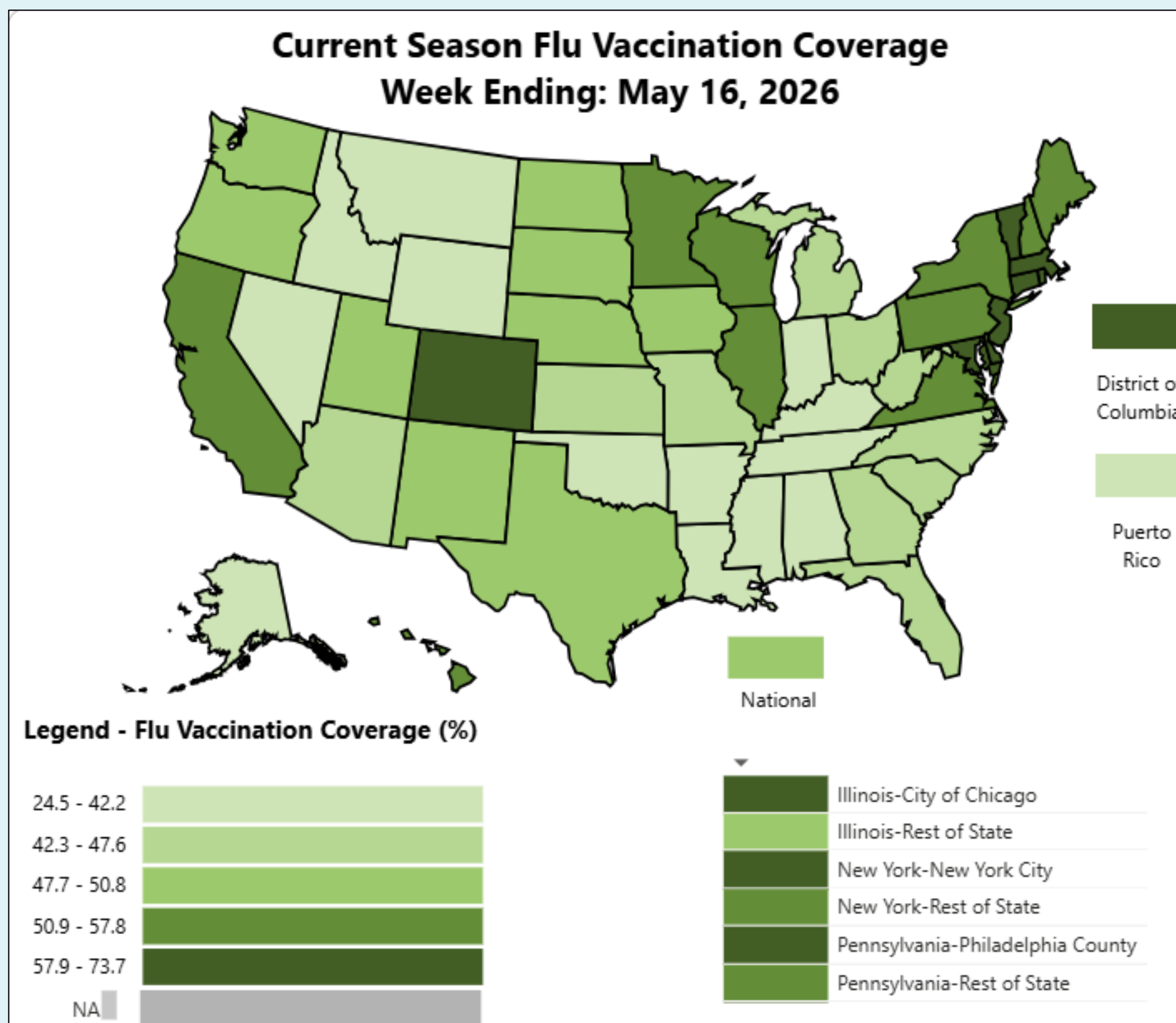
35 percent of tests positive



Influenza Vaccination Coverage



Vaccination Coverage, 6 Months-17 Years



West Virginia influenza Vaccination Intent



44.0% had already received a vaccination

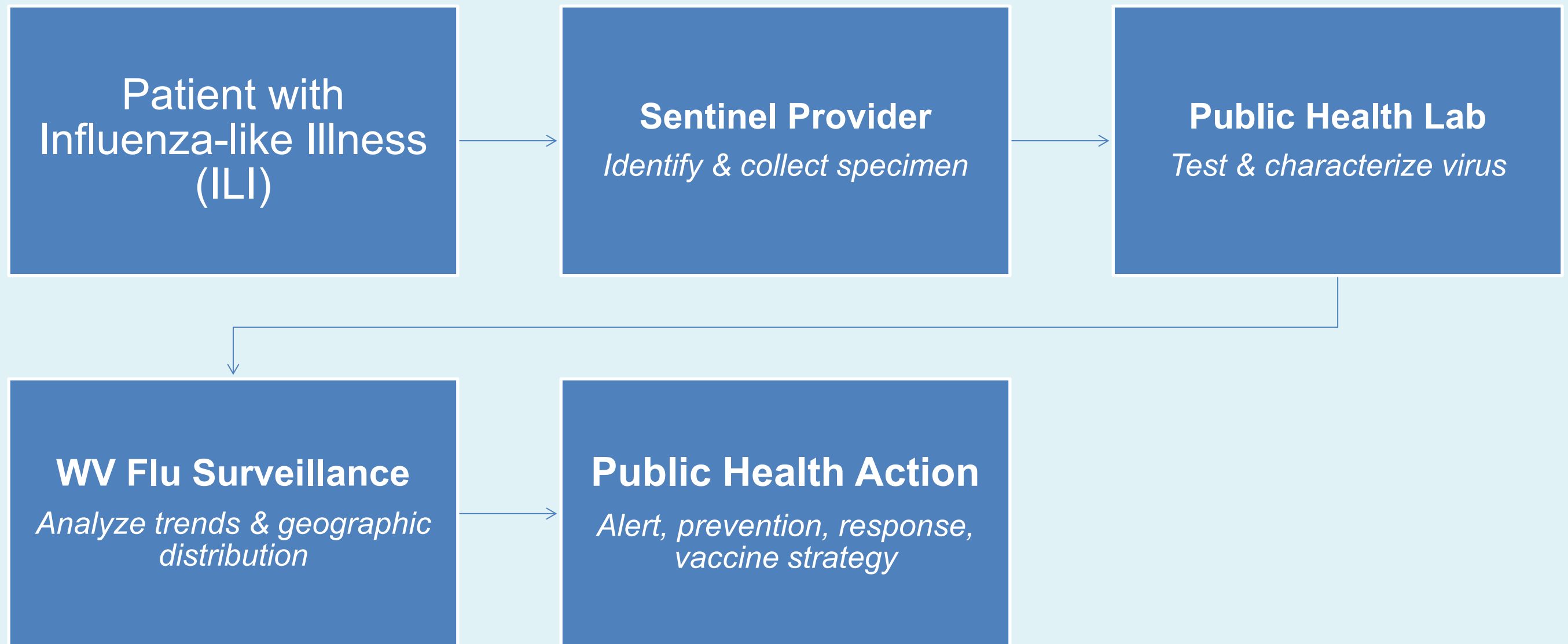
52.3% said they or probably would not get a vaccine

Only 3.7% said they probably would get a vaccine

0% said they would get a vaccine

Understand barriers → Strengthen provider recommendations → Bring vaccination to communities → Track and target improvement

Influenza Sentinel Provider Program



**Sentinel surveillance + laboratory + ED + hospitalization + mortality data =
Complete picture of influenza activity**

What Does a Sentinel Provider Report

Weekly Data	Purpose
Total Patient Visits	Establish denominator
ILI Visits	Measure respiratory illness activity
ILI by Age Group	Identify populations affected
Selected Respiratory Specimens	Identify circulating influenza viruses

ILI definition: Fever $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ + cough and/or sore throat

Contact Information



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