

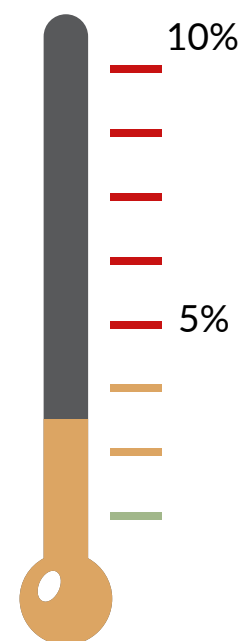
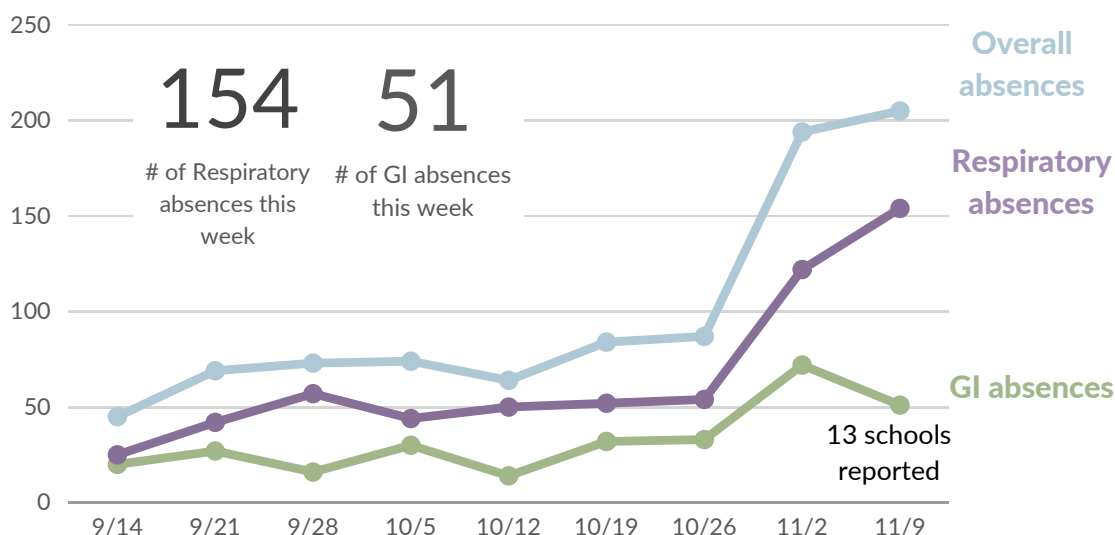
School Surveillance Weekly Report

Week Ending in November 11, 2022

Prepared by La Crosse County Health Department

School Absences

Respiratory illnesses are continuing to rise. Some schools are reporting numbers near or above 5% for overall student absences. School absences average around 3.5% for the schools reporting this week.



3.54% of La Crosse County students were absent this week from reporting schools

Continue to encourage families to keep students home when they are sick. Handwashing and classroom cleaning are important prevention tools to keep using.

Updates

WI Department of Health Services puts out a weekly [Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report](#). In their latest issue we learn:

- RSV is the predominant virus this week.
- Flu is also circulating, with Influenza A being the most common strain.
- Vaccination is the best way to protect against flu and COVID. For vaccine locations, check out [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) or contact your local health care provider, pharmacy, or health department.

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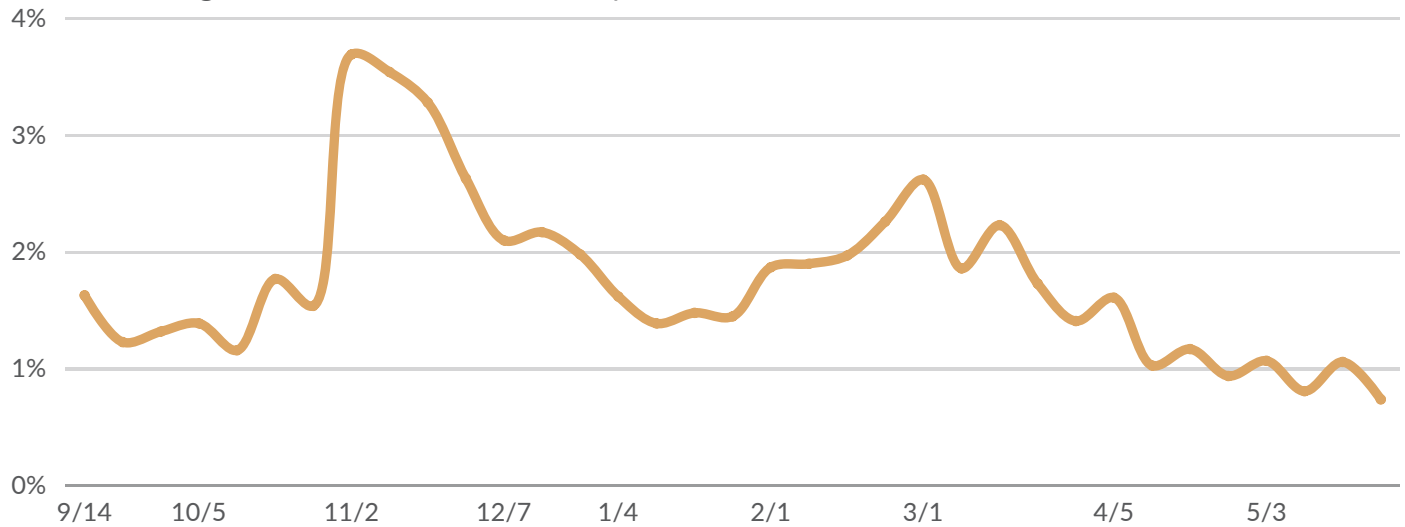
School Surveillance Final Report

School Year 2022-2023

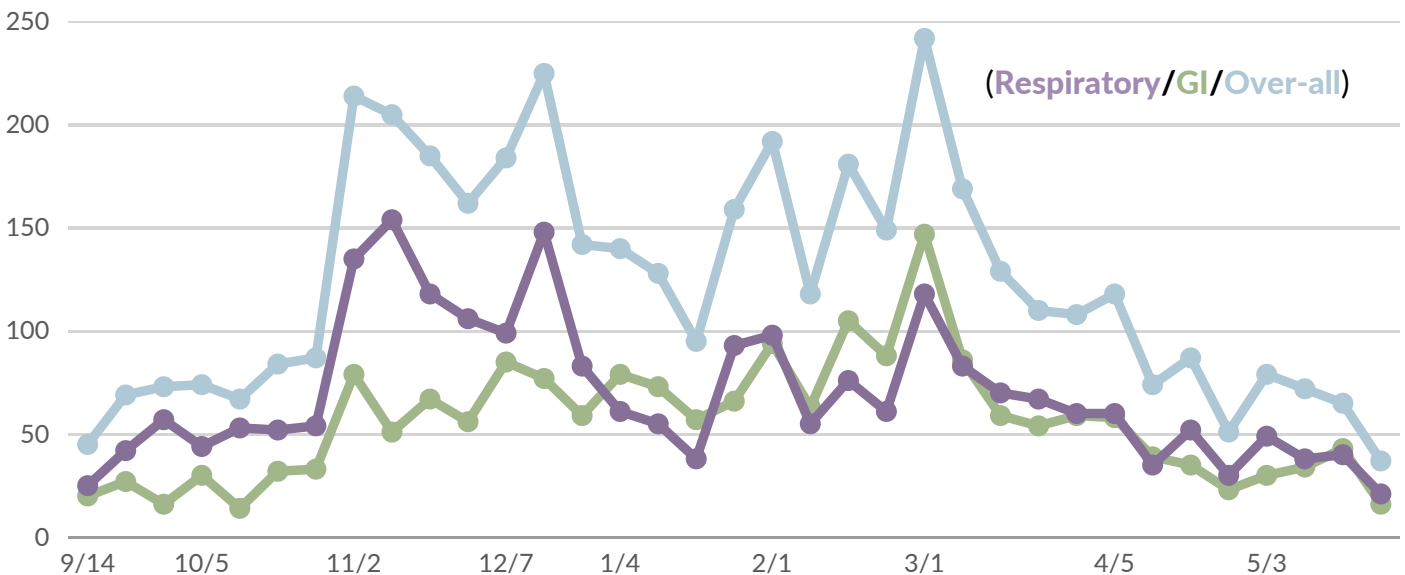
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Year-Long Trends

School absences for the 2022-2023 school year look similar to previous years with the majority of illness happening between November and March. During the COVID-19 pandemic, illness was more variable throughout the year. School absences tracked from 2019 and earlier show a consistent pattern to this school year's absences. The following graph reflects the absence rate for reporting schools throughout the 2022-2023 school year.



Interesting data: Typically, respiratory illness is the most common reason for a school absence. There were two times during the year where GI illness was more prominent in schools. (3 weeks in January and 3 weeks at the end of February/early March)



School Surveillance Weekly Report

School Year 2022-2023

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Congratulations

Throughout the year we worked effectively as partners in keeping students healthy and in class as much as possible! In the 2022-2023 school year, there were several outbreaks and a number of illness cases that could have become more serious and widespread if you had not been actively involved, collaborating with custodial staff, teachers, families, administration, and your local health department. The community appreciates your efforts!

The School Surveillance Team used the data you submitted to mark trends, report findings, and determine what resources you might find to be the most useful. The graphs above provides a bird's eye view of the most relevant information. We hope that you will share this with those who plan curriculums since it can be helpful in avoiding illness trend peaks when scheduling key events for the next school year.

As with any project striving for improvement, you will see some changes next year to our process and our reports. We enjoyed working with you and look forward to working with even more of you next year!

Thank You



Happy Summer

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