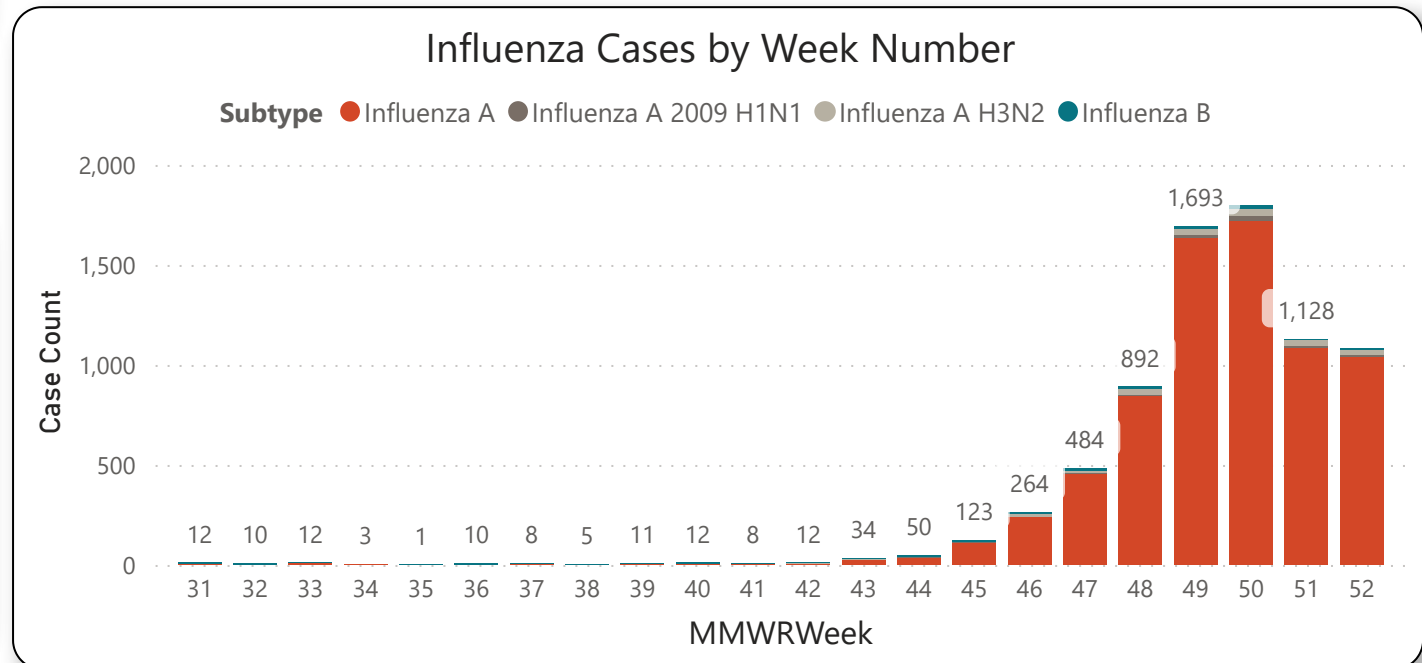


Overall, influenza activity remains elevated across the board, but appears to have slightly decreased from the previous week. With 1,083 new laboratory cases in the previous week and 27.6% lab positivity for influenza, confirmed flu activity remains high. Severe illness remains elevated with 55 new flu-related hospitalizations and 2 new flu deaths.

With these high levels of flu activity, influenza vaccination as the best tool to protect against severe illness/outcomes. For more information regarding flu vaccination, please visit health.nd.gov/immunize

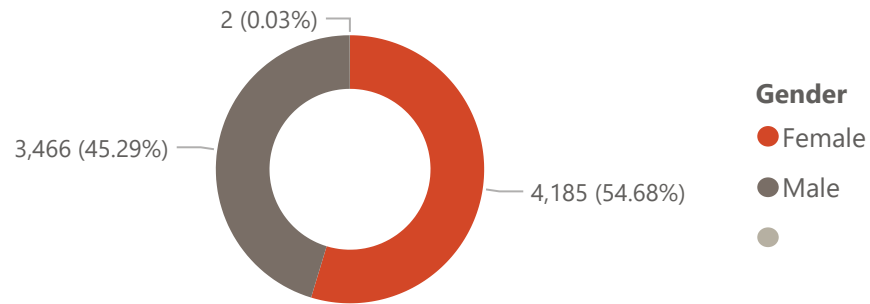
	Last Week	Season Total
New Influenza Cases:	1,083	7,653
Outpatient Visits for Influenza-like Illness:	7.87%	4.40%
Laboratory Specimens Positive for Influenza:	27.60%	9.49%
Percentage of Students Absent from School:	0.00%	12.78%
New Hospitalizations due to Influenza:	55	274
New Deaths due to Influenza:	2	12

Subtype	Cases in Previous Week	Total for Season
Influenza A	1,044	7,255
Influenza A 2009 H1N1	6	82
Influenza A H3N2	24	178
Influenza B	9	138
Total	1,083	7,653

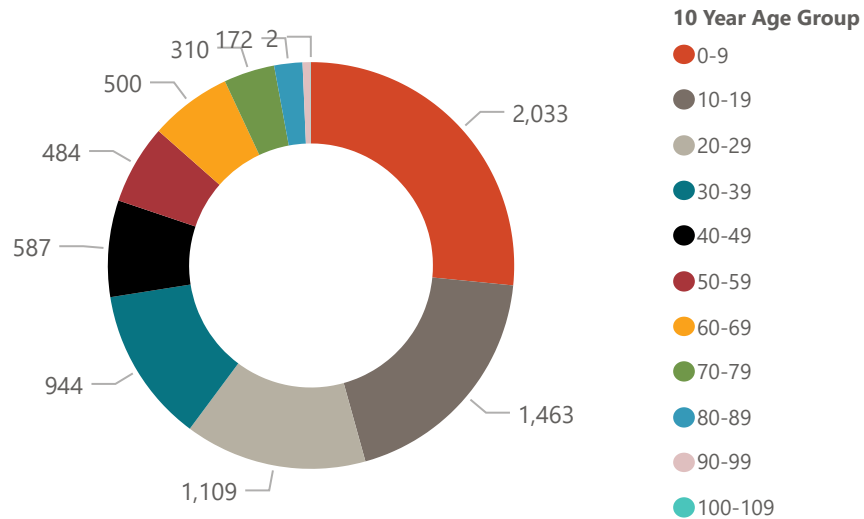


Laboratory-confirmed influenza is a reportable disease in North Dakota. Influenza "cases" include people that have tested positive for influenza in a healthcare setting. It does not include people with influenza who did not seek healthcare, or were diagnosed without a lab test, which is common. The true number of people in North Dakota is underrepresented, but case data allows us where influenza is circulating and in what populations. It also provides context regarding how the current season compares with previous seasons. Find more information about cases on ndflu.com

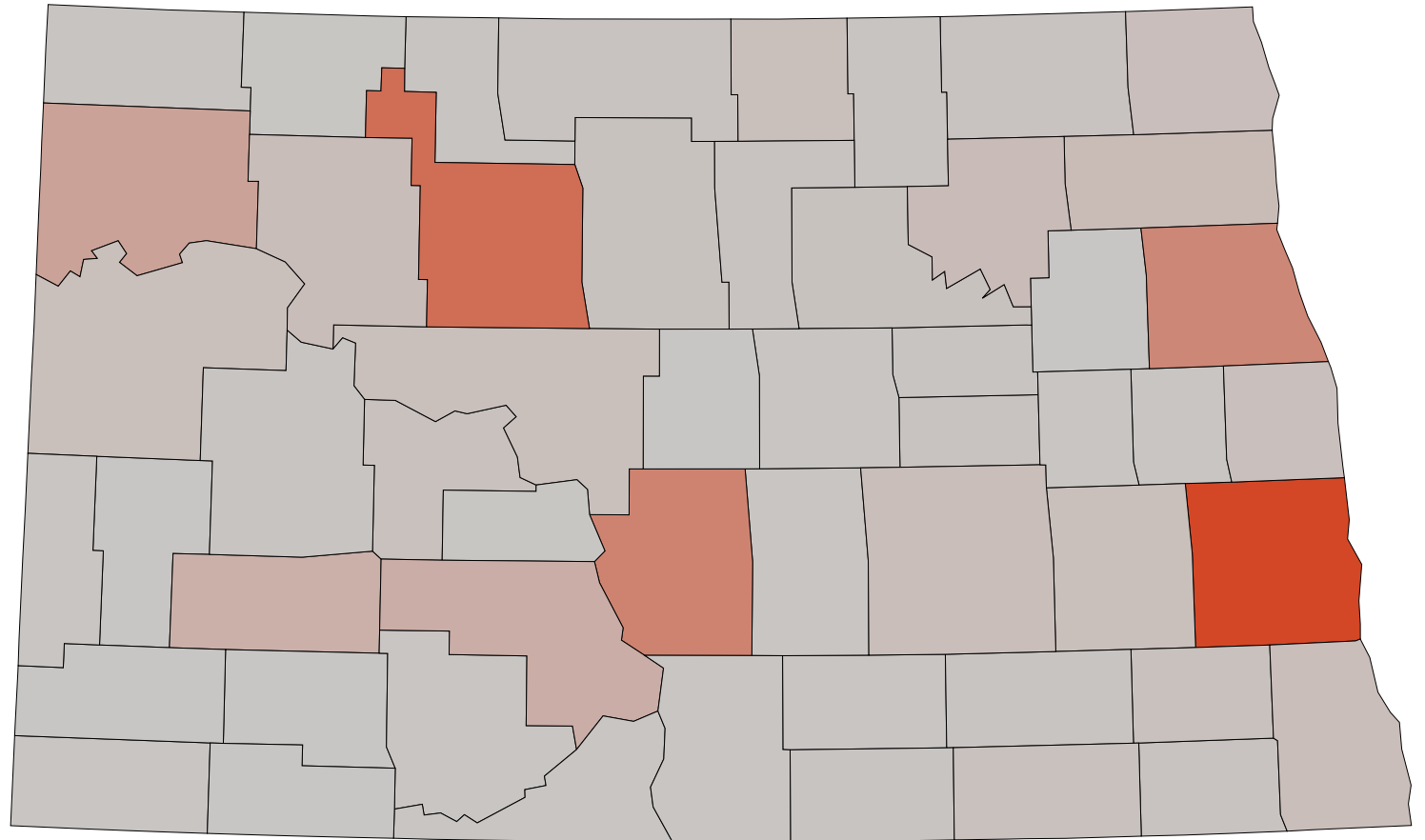
Influenza Cases by Gender



Influenza Cases by Age Group



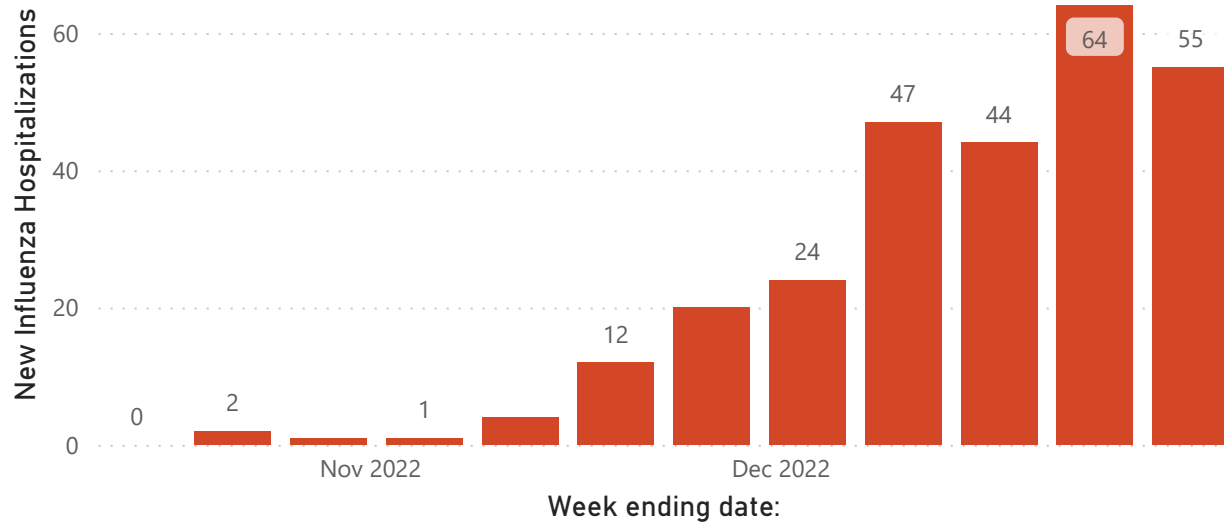
Total Influenza Cases by County



Influenza Hospitalization information is collected via daily aggregated reports to NDHHS. Because this surveillance methodology is new this year, hospitalization numbers this year may not be comparable to previous years.

Influenza Death information is obtained from Vital Records, and is based on the listed cause of death on the individual's death certificate.

New Influenza Hospitalizations by Date



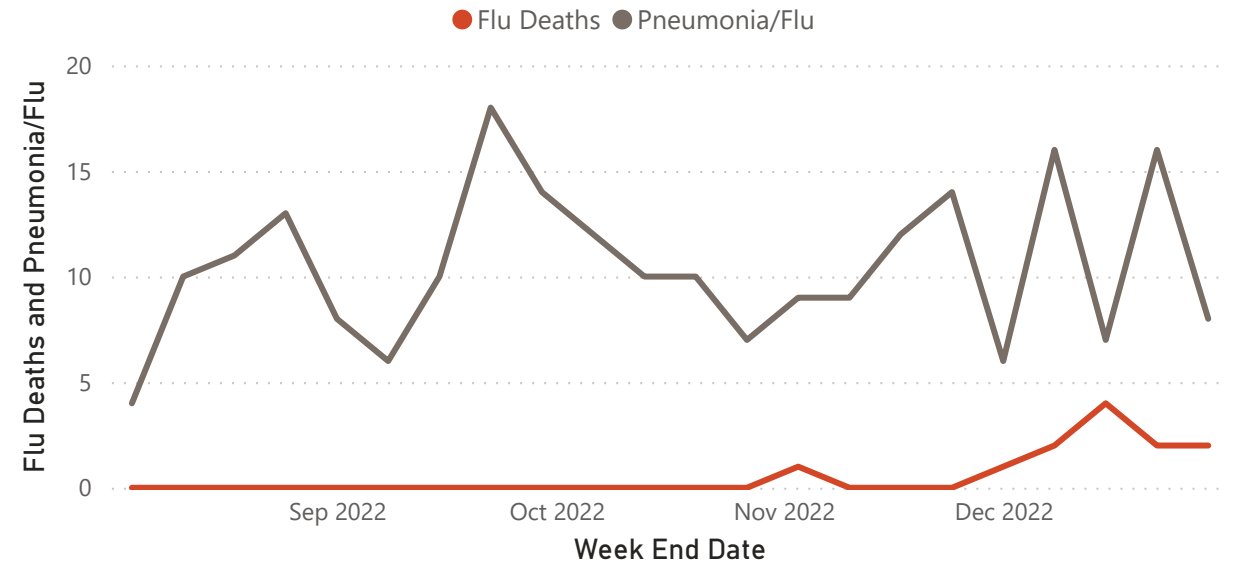
55

New Weekly Hospitalizations

274

Total Hospitalizations for Season

Influenza and Pneumonia Deaths by Date



12

Flu Deaths

230

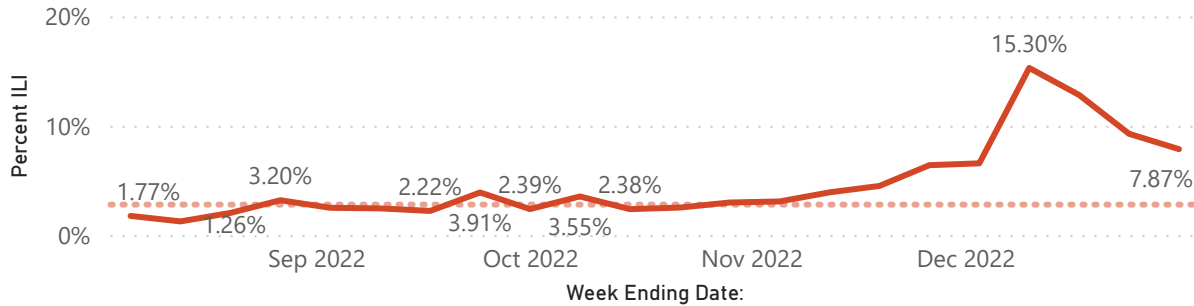
Pneumonia/Flu Deaths

Outpatient Influenza-like Illness (ILI)

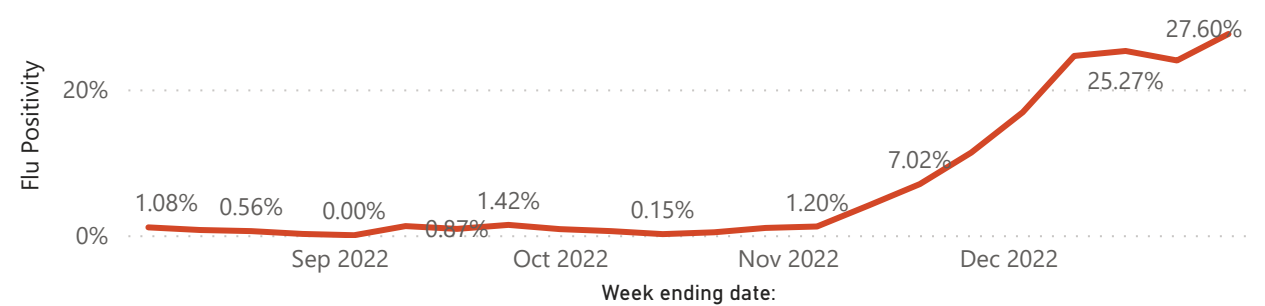
NDHHS participates in the national U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet). Data from participating outpatient providers in North Dakota are pooled to create a state-wide estimate for the weekly percent of healthcare visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI). Patients presenting with a fever of 100 degrees or greater AND a cough and/or sore throat are considered to have ILI. For more information on state and national ILINet data, see [FluView Interactive](#)

Sentinel Laboratory Data NDHHS receives influenza and RSV testing data from participating sentinel laboratories across the state. The total number of positive tests and the total number of tests conducted are reported and used to create a state-wide percent positivity statistic. RSV is not a reportable condition in North Dakota, but

Percent ILI by Week



Flu Positivity by Week

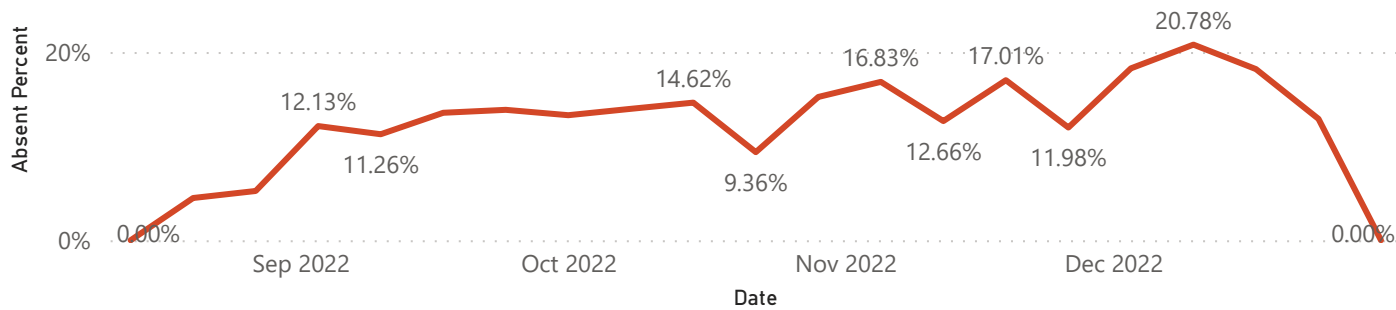


Week Ending Date:	Total # of Patients Seen for Any Reason	Percent ILI
Saturday, November 26, 2022	3,560	6.40%
Saturday, December 03, 2022	3,667	6.57%
Saturday, December 10, 2022	2,589	15.30%
Saturday, December 17, 2022	3,931	12.82%
Saturday, December 24, 2022	2,750	9.27%
Saturday, December 31, 2022	3,494	7.87%
Total	19,991	9.50%

Week ending date:	Total # of Specimens Tested	Flu Positivity	RSV Positivity
Saturday, November 26, 2022	1,605	11.34%	26.29%
Saturday, December 03, 2022	2,490	16.87%	23.96%
Saturday, December 10, 2022	976	24.59%	18.30%
Saturday, December 17, 2022	3,866	25.27%	18.55%
Saturday, December 24, 2022	1,961	23.97%	13.94%
Saturday, December 31, 2022	384	27.60%	8.80%
Total	11,282	21.23%	19.57%

During the influenza season, increases in the **school absenteeism** data can be used as an early indicator for influenza circulation. The NDDoH received absenteeism data from a majority of schools in the state. Data here include absences for all reasons.

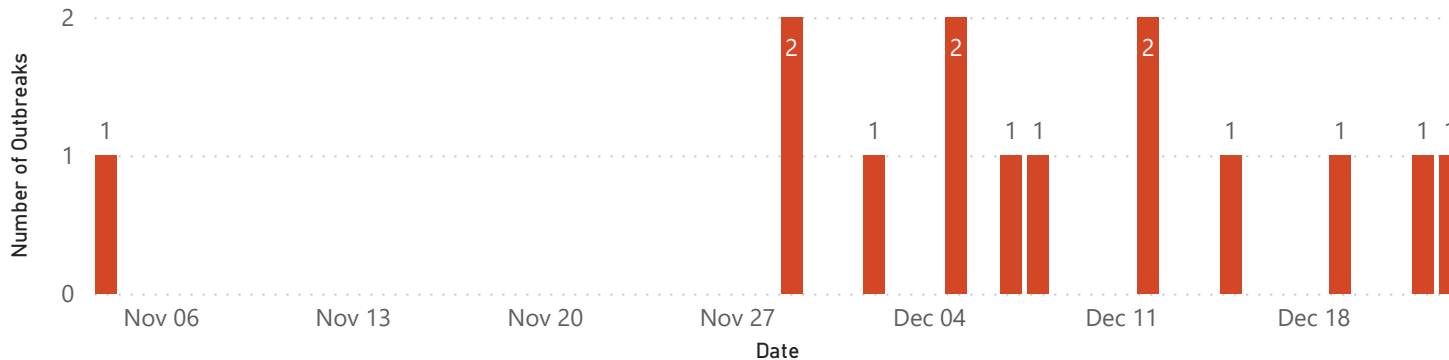
Percent of Children Absent from School by Date



Week End Date	Total Enrollment	Percent Absent
Saturday, December 03, 2022	125,165	18.26%
Saturday, December 10, 2022	125,224	20.78%
Saturday, December 17, 2022	125,366	18.18%
Saturday, December 24, 2022	122,537	12.90%
Saturday, December 31, 2022	4,504	0.00%

During the influenza season, **influenza outbreaks** are common anywhere people gather, including schools, child care centers, long-term care facilities, and health care facilities. Outbreaks of influenza-like illness may be reported to the NDDoH. The following outbreaks have been reported this season.

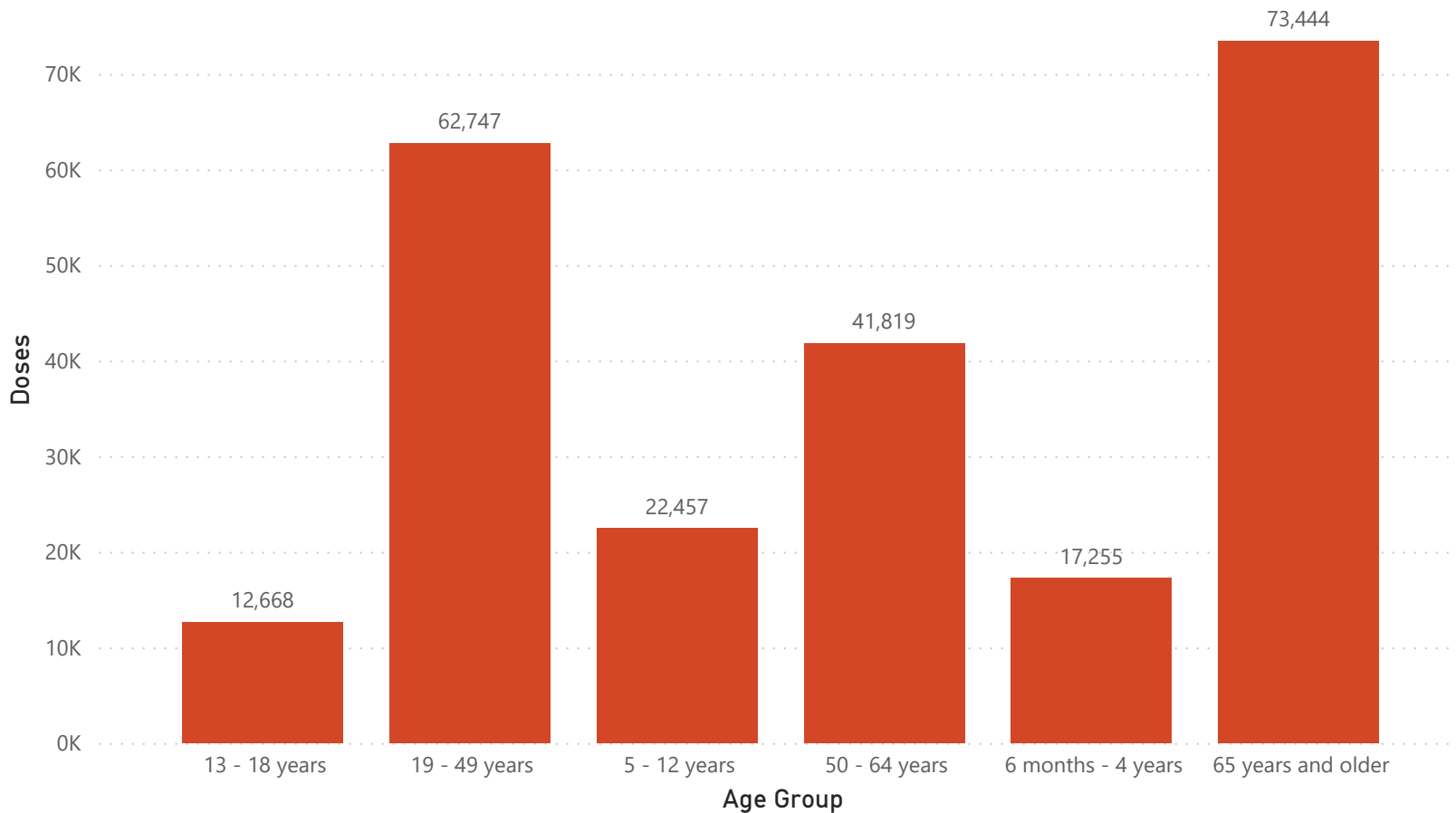
Congregate Setting Outbreaks, by Date



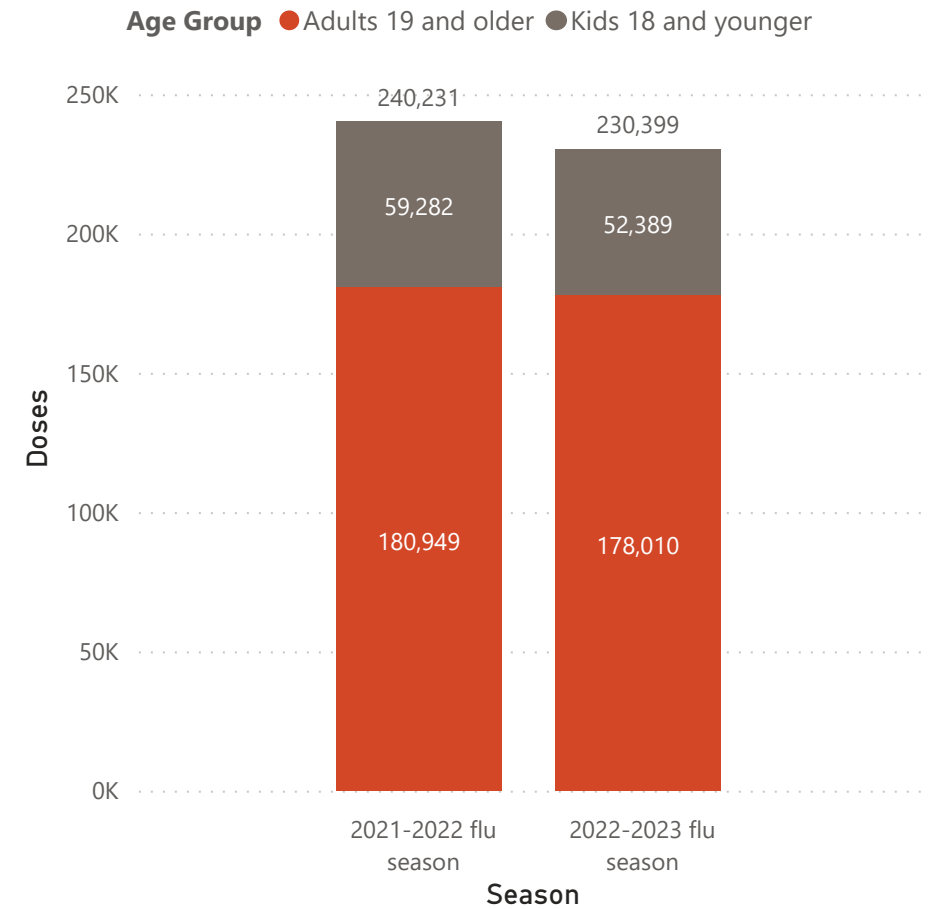
Number of Outbreaks	Congregate Setting Type
4	Assisted Living
2	Child Care
1	Memory Care
7	Skilled Nursing
14	

Influenza vaccine doses administered data from the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS) includes all administered doses of flu vaccine documented in the NDIIS to records with a North Dakota address. Adult immunizations do not have to be reported to the NDIIS so there may be more influenza vaccine doses being administered that are not reported to the NDIIS. Age groups are determined base on age at time of vaccination.

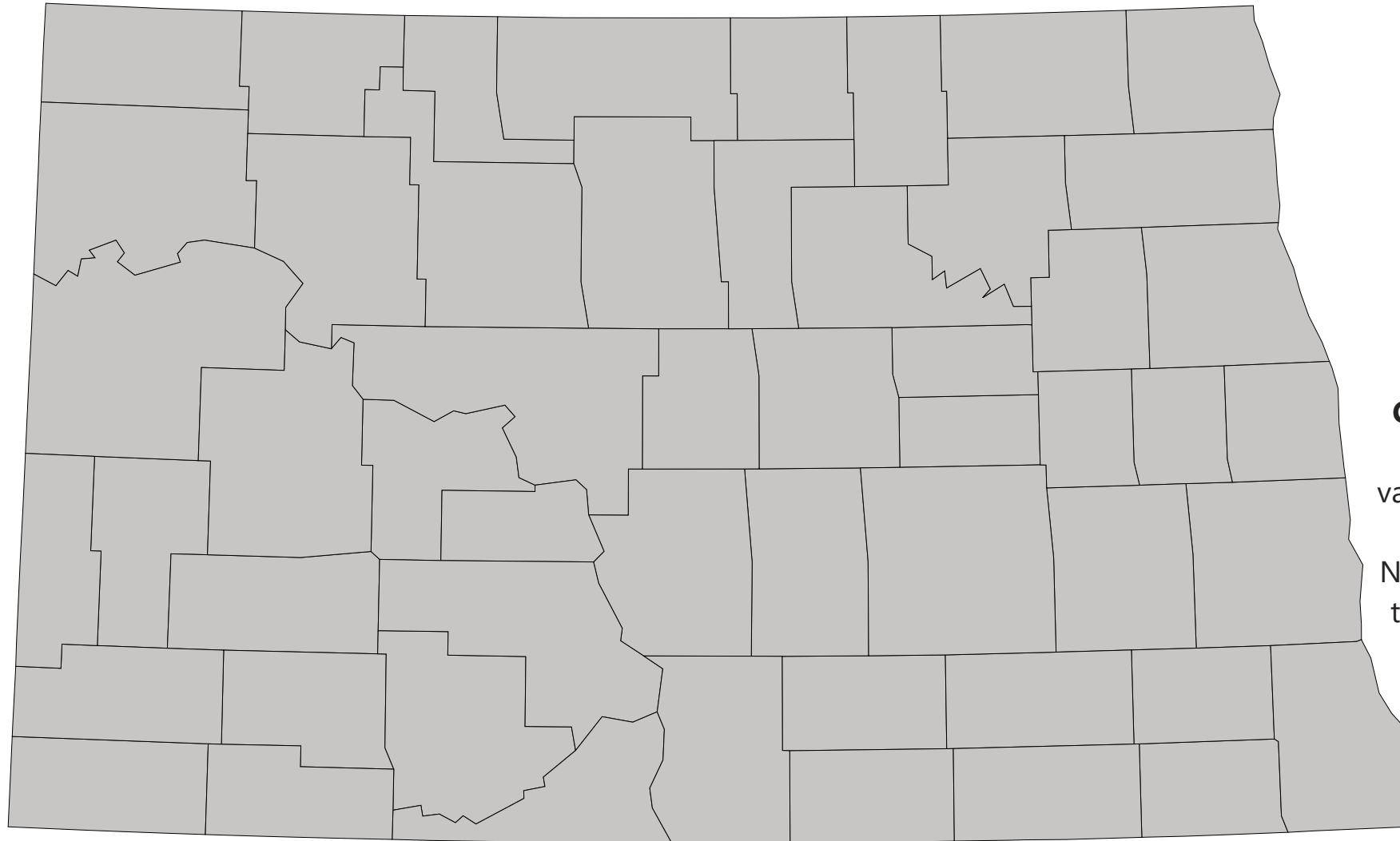
Doses Administered by Age Group



Statewide Doses Administered



Total Influenza Vaccine Doses Administered by County



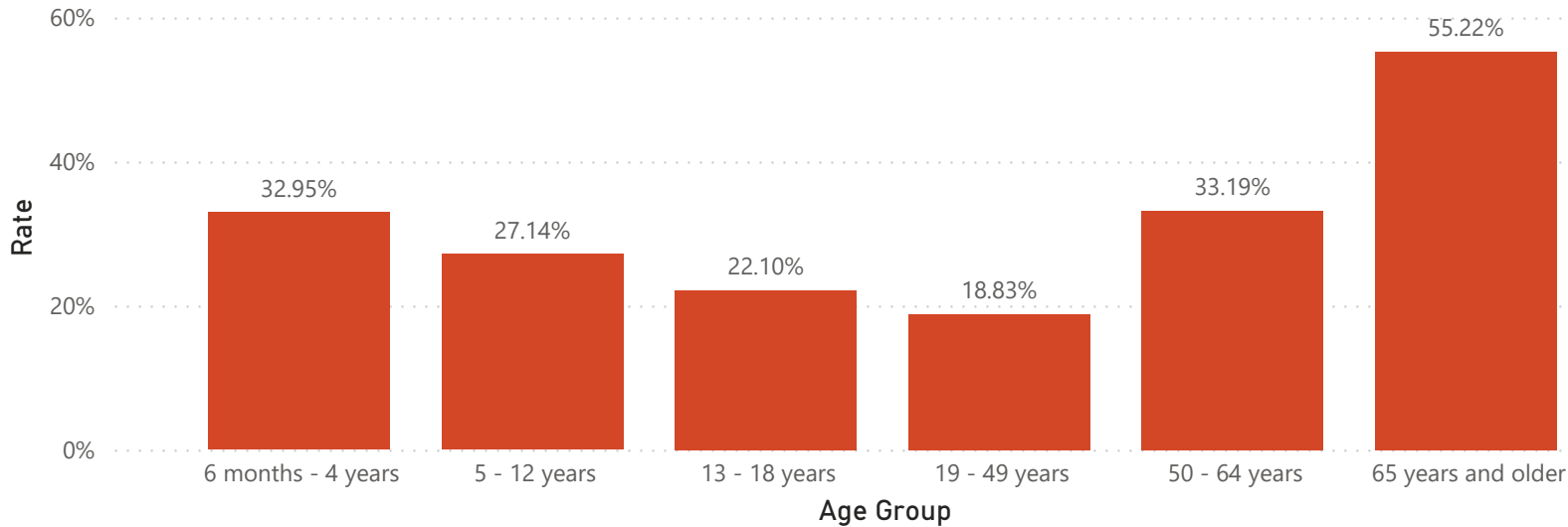
Week Number

WEEK_50

Age Group

County-level doses administered data includes all administered doses of flu vaccine documented in the NDIIS as given to an individual with an address in the North Dakota county, regardless of where the provider who administered the dose was located.

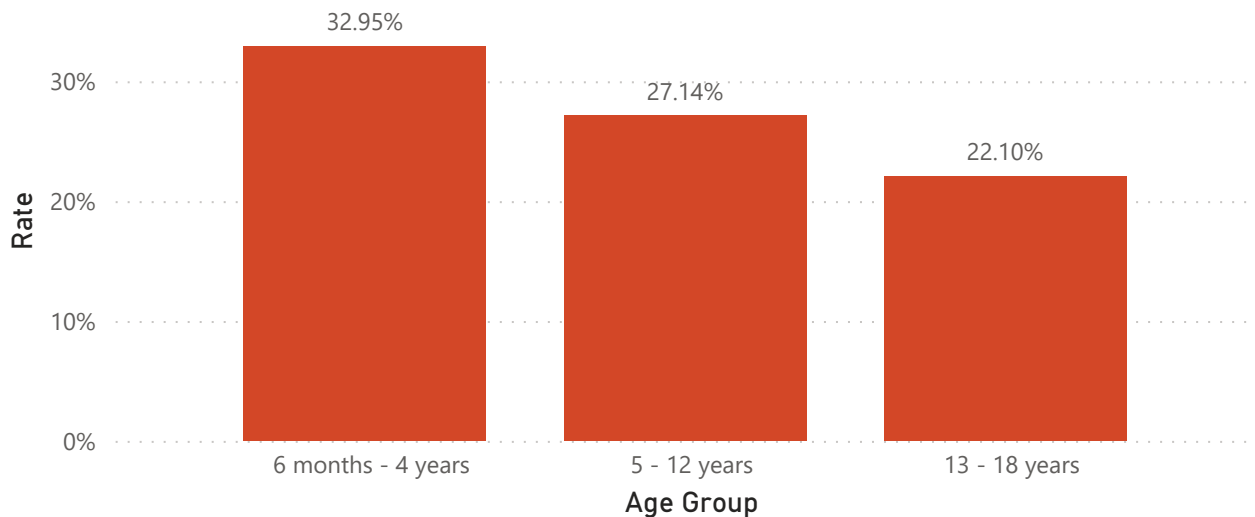
Statewide Flu Coverage for 2022-23 Season



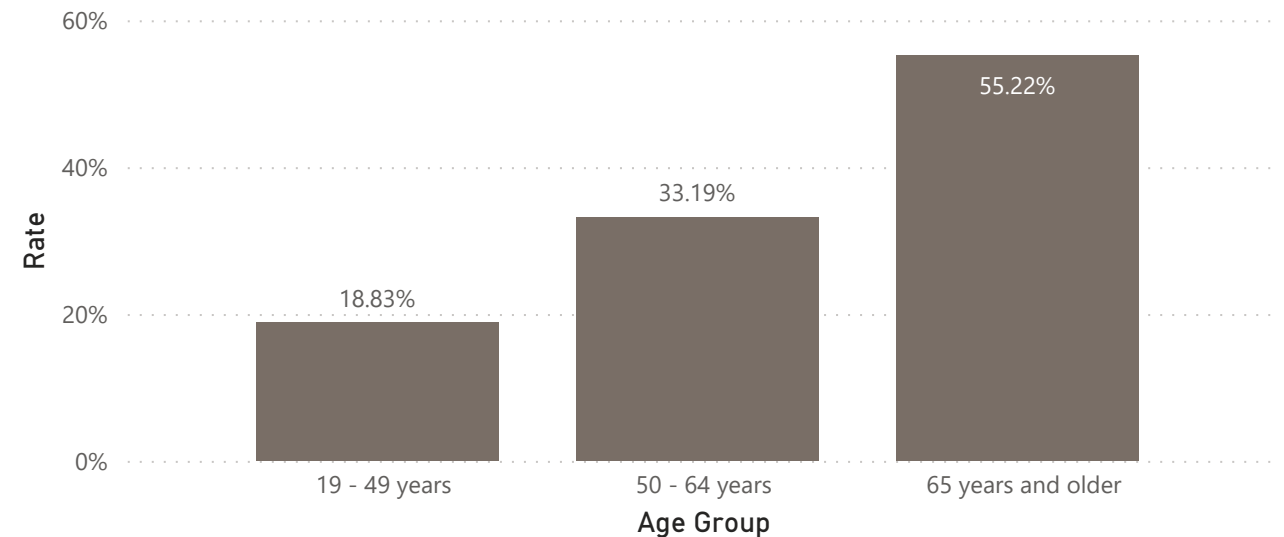
NDIIS data can also be used to estimate the percent of North Dakotans in each age group that have received at least one dose of influenza vaccine so far this flu season. NDIIS records included in **statewide coverage rates** must have a North Dakota address.

Adult immunizations do not have to be reported to the NDIIS so adult coverage rates may be higher.

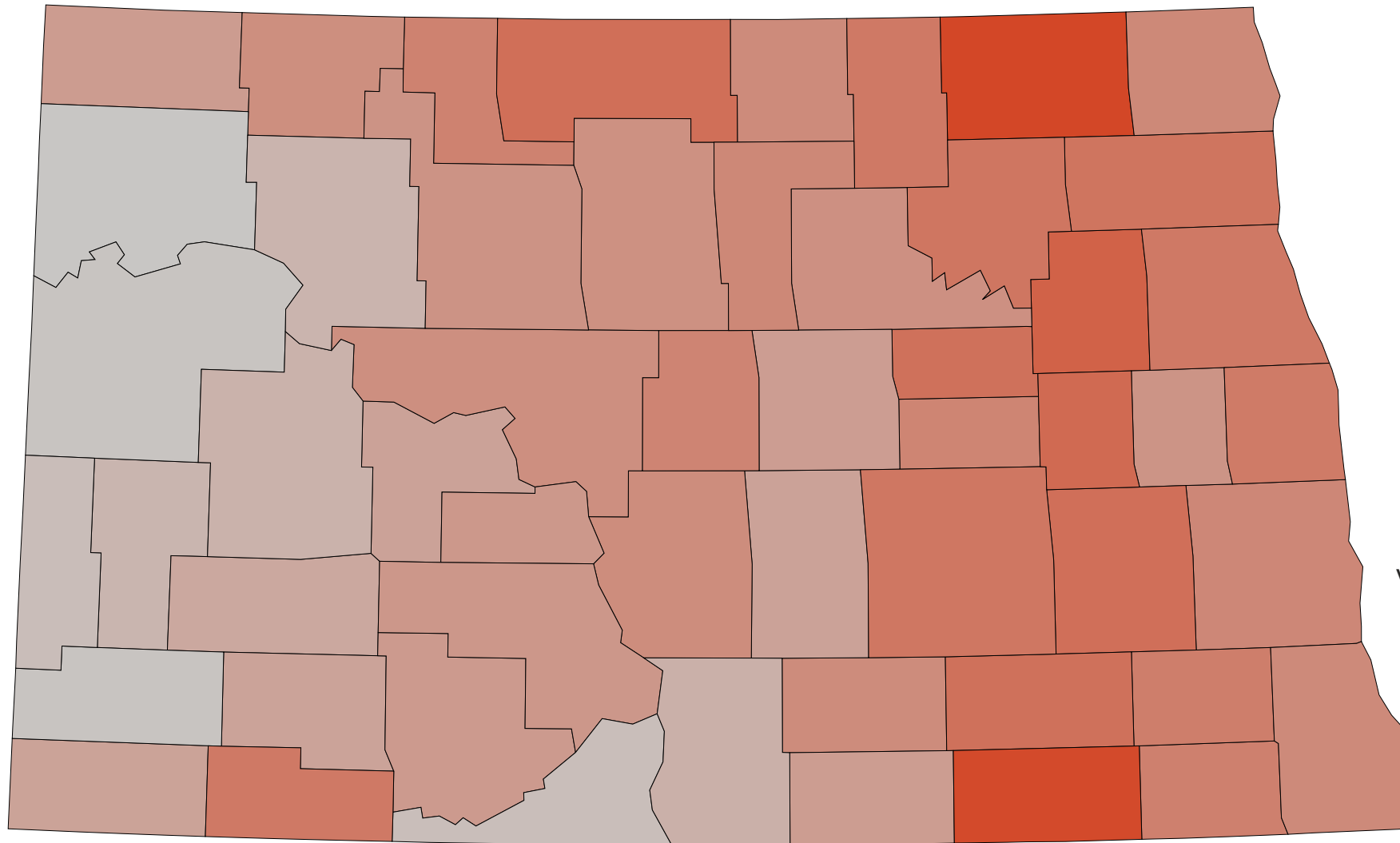
Statewide Flu Coverage for Children <= 18



Statewide Flu Coverage for Adults >= 19



Influenza Vaccine County Coverage Rates



Week Number

51

Age Group

All ND 6 months and older

County-level coverage rate data is calculated for the percent of North Dakotans in each age group that have received at least one dose of influenza vaccine so far this flu season and live in the selected North Dakota county.