

Respiratory Virus Reporting Requirements

Effective January 1, 2026

Summary of reporting requirements for respiratory viruses: COVID-19, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and influenza (flu)

Reporting Entity	Individual positive diagnostic test results	Pediatric mortality	Novel or variant strains	Weekly aggregate reports	Outbreaks
Laboratories	Required only if capable of sending electronic messages	Required	Required	Required for influenza only if not capable of sending electronic messages	N/A
Health care providers	Required only if capable of sending electronic messages	Required	Required	Required for influenza only if unable to send electronic messages*	Required
Others (such as schools, daycares, long-term care facilities)	Not required*	Required	N/A	Required for influenza only*	Required

**Local health departments and other agencies may require additional reporting based on surveillance needs. Weekly reporting of other conditions such as COVID-19, gastrointestinal illnesses, or strep throat may be required.*

Reporting requirements for diagnostic testing results

Positive molecular and rapid antigen tests and lineage or sequencing results for COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are required to be reported to public health by laboratories capable of sending electronic messages. Electronic messages include electronic laboratory reporting (ELR), electronic case reporting (eCR), and CSV Upload (standardized template). For questions about electronic messages contact mdhhs_mdss@michigan.gov.

Positive results from commercially available rapid diagnostic tests for influenza do not need to be included in individual reports. If submitting via weekly aggregate reporting, rapid test results may be included.

Negative molecular or antigen tests are not reportable. Antibody test results (IgG, IgM, IgA, t-cell, total antibody), positive or negative, are not reportable.

Reporters that are not able to send electronic messages such as long-term care facilities, K-12 schools, childcare centers and some health care providers, are **no longer required to report individual laboratory results of COVID-19 to public health**, however, refer to your [local health department](#) and other agencies, such as CMS, for reporting requirements.

Reporting requirements for respiratory virus-associated pediatric mortality

Reporting of individual pediatric deaths associated with COVID-19 (<18 years of age), influenza (<18 years of age), and RSV (<5 years of age) is **required** in Michigan (Michigan Communicable Disease Rules 325.171-325). To report a suspect or confirmed respiratory virus-associated pediatric mortality, or an unexplained pediatric mortality with clinical suspicion of infection, immediately contact your [local health department](#) or MDHHS at 517-335-8165 (after hours 517-335-9030).

For more information regarding respiratory virus-associated pediatric deaths, please refer to the [Respiratory Virus Pediatric Mortality Investigation](#) guidance.

Reporting requirements for novel or variant strains

All suspected novel or variant strain influenza cases should be tested for influenza, with arrangements to include PCR testing at the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL). Specimens from influenza cases with a history of international travel within two weeks of symptom onset should be submitted to MDHHS BOL. Individual cases of novel coronavirus, including SARS and MERS-CoV are reportable.

Reporting requirements for weekly aggregate reports

Weekly aggregate reporting of influenza counts is required for facilities that are not capable of submitting electronic messages. Health care facilities that report all influenza test results via electronic message meet reporting requirements and do not have to submit a weekly aggregate report. Some LHDs may require aggregate reporting based on local surveillance needs. Weekly aggregate counts of flu-like illness (or influenza-like illnesses) are to be reported to the LHD by school and other congregate settings. Some LHDs may also require weekly aggregate counts of COVID-19, gastrointestinal illnesses, strep throat, and other conditions. Contact your [local health department](#) for information.

Reporting requirements for outbreaks

All communicable disease outbreaks are reportable statewide throughout the year. Outbreaks in settings such as health care facilities, long-term care facilities, childcare centers, schools, correctional settings, and workplaces must be immediately reported to the [local health department](#) or MDHHS at 517-335-8165 (after hours 517-335-9030).

For specific guidance about outbreaks:

- [Guidelines for Respiratory Virus Outbreaks in Long-Term Care \(LTC\) Facilities](#) (MDHHS)
- [Managing Communicable Diseases in Schools](#) (MDHHS)
- [Viral Respiratory Pathogens Toolkit for Nursing Homes](#) (CDC)

Additional Resources

- [Influenza Surveillance, Reporting and Testing Guidance for Local Health Departments](#)
- [Influenza Surveillance, Reporting and Testing Guidance for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Influenza Surveillance, Reporting and Testing Guidance for Laboratories](#)
- [Influenza Testing Algorithm](#)
- www.michigan.gov/covidflursv
- Reportable Disease List by [Condition](#) and [Pathogen](#)
- [Health Care Professional's Guide to Disease Reporting in Michigan \(Brick Book\)](#)