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Data Journalism

22 January 2022

**Pitch 1**

With flu season here, I am curious how the numbers compare to previous years to date. There was fear of a “twindemic” due to the double-threat of influenza and COVID-19, so I am curious how the numbers look in D.C. I’ll find my data on the D.C. Health website as well as the CDC to compare the local data to how things are panning out nationally. My preliminary questions are: How people are handling this season’s strain of the virus? If numbers are low, why do medical professionals think this is the case? Does the added protection of masks during the couple years of the pandemic impact how the number of cases have changed over the years? When will the flu season peak? If the numbers are low, is it because of masks and social distancing or is the strain less transmissible? Have we successfully avoided a twindemic? I expect to find relatively lower numbers of the flu, which could possibly be due to masks and social distancing.

* Classmate addition: Number of flu vaccines administered, how many people are getting flu tests when feeling sick

**Pitch 2**

With crime on the rise, I plan to research about the presence of guns in schools in the DMV area. I will analyze how the numver of guns in schools (whether used or found) has or has not changed over the past couple decades. I will look at crime data (violent crimes and gun violence) in the area as well data provided by the school systems. For now, I am planning to look at data in Montgomery County, DC and Prince George’s County. Furthermore, I will assess whether data is similar or different between the different areas. I’ll find data on the police department and sheriff’s department’s websites. My preliminary questions are: Has the presence of guns in school changed over time? If the presence of guns more likely in a certain school district? Does the presence of guns in schools correlate with general gun incidents in the DMV? I expect to find an increase in guns, especially after kids returned to school post-pandemic shutdown.