**Summary Report**

The school surveillance data from ESU-9 South Heartland District for the 2023-2024 academic year reveals significant trends in student and staff absences due to various illnesses.

**Student Absences:**

* The total number of students absent due to illness fluctuates throughout the year, with noticeable increases during the winter months. January 31, 2024, saw the highest number of student absences at 237.
* The average number of student absences is highest in January, with a peak of 11.28 students per week.
* Known causes for student absences include flu, COVID, RSV, and GI symptoms. GI symptoms are the most common cause, particularly during December and March.

**Staff Absences:**

* Staff absences also peak during the winter months, aligning with student absentee trends. April 10, 2024, marks the highest number of staff absences at 15.
* The average number of staff absences reaches its peak in April.
* Staff absences due to known causes such as flu and GI symptoms show significant increases during the winter. Notably, absences due to unknown causes and other respiratory illnesses peak in March 2024 and Dec 2023.

**Other Illnesses:**

* Absences attributed to other illnesses, including mental health issues and other respiratory illnesses, reveal that respiratory illnesses are a major concern, especially in March, April.

Overall, the data highlights the seasonal impact on absenteeism, with a clear increase in both student and staff absences during the winter months, largely due to respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses. This information is crucial for planning and implementing health interventions in schools to mitigate the impact of these illnesses on education.

**Summary of School Participation in Reporting Absenteeism Data (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

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The chart illustrates the total number of schools participating in reporting student absenteeism data each week from September 2023 to May 2024 within the ESU-9 South Heartland District.

Key Observations:

1. **Consistent Participation:** The participation rate remains relatively steady, with around 20-25 schools reporting each week.
2. **High Reporting Periods:** The highest number of schools reporting occurred in mid-October and mid-December, indicating thorough data collection during these periods.
3. **Holiday Dips:** There are noticeable dips in participation around the holiday periods, particularly in early January and late December.
4. **End-of-Year Decline:** A slight decline in reporting is observed towards the end of the academic year, especially in mid-May.

Overall, the chart demonstrates a strong and consistent commitment to monitoring absenteeism throughout the school year, with some expected fluctuations around holiday periods.

**Participating Schools List 2023-2024**

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| **School Name** |
| 1. SILVER LAKE ELEM SCH-BLADEN (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SUTTON SECONDARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. RAYMOND A WATSON ELEM SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SUTTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. BLUE HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SANDY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. ST CECILIA HIGH SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SILVER LAKE HIGH SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. ADAMS CENTRAL JR-SR HIGH SCH (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. HARVARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. RED CLOUD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. ZION CLASSICAL ACADEMY (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SUPERIOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. ST MICHAEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. HASTINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SUPERIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. SANDY CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. RED CLOUD HIGH SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. ADAMS CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |
| 1. LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (South Heartland District Health Department) |

1. **Total Number of Students/Staff Absent due to Illness (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**
   * This chart shows the total number of students and staff absent each week due to any illness. Notable peaks can be observed during January and February, with the highest number of student absences (237) occurring on 1/31/2024, and the highest staff absences (15) on 4/10/2024.

**Average Number of Students Absent due to Illness (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

The chart highlights the average number of students absent each week. The average absences increase notably during the winter months, peaking at 11.28 students on 1/31/2024.

**Average Number of Staff Absent due to Illness (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

This chart shows the average staff absences each week, with peaks aligning somewhat with student absences. The highest average of 0.83 staff members occurred on 4/10/2024.

**Average Number of Students Absent due to Known Causes (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

The chart displays the average number of students absent due to specific causes such as flu, COVID, RSV, and GI symptoms. GI symptoms are consistently the most reported cause of absences, with peaks in December and March.

**Total Number of Staff Absent due to Known Causes (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

This chart indicates staff absences for specific illnesses. GI symptoms and flu are the most frequent reasons for staff absences, with notable peaks during the winter months.

**Average Number of Students Absent due to Other Illnesses (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

The chart tracks absences due to mental health, other respiratory illnesses, and unknown causes. The highest average absences are attributed to other respiratory illnesses, especially in Feb 2024.

**Average Number of Staff Absent due to Other Illnesses (Sep 2023 - May 2024)**

This chart reflects staff absences due to other respiratory illnesses, unknown causes, and mental health issues. Peaks are observed for unknown causes and other respiratory illnesses in March 2024 and Dec 2023.