



# PHILLY FLU FINDINGS

Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
 Seasonal Influenza Surveillance Report  
 Week 45: November 6-12 2016

## Philadelphia Influenza Activity

Please note these data are provisional and subject to change.

A total of 8 cases of flu has been seen since September in Philadelphia. Influenza A accounted for 6 of those cases. Only one laboratory-confirmed influenza illness was reported last week, a decrease from the previous week. Influenza-like illnesses at pediatric ambulatory clinics increased last week. No influenza deaths have been reported this season. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and rhinovirus detections increased in frequency during week 45, with rhinovirus predominating at participating clinical laboratories. Other non-influenza respiratory viruses detected in clinical specimens include parainfluenza 2 and adenovirus.

Surveillance type	Compared to week of 10/30– 11/5	Compared to 3-yr seasonal mean
Hospital ED Fever/flu visits	—	↓
Pediatric Clinics ILI	↑	—
Laboratory Influenza Surveillance	—	↓

↑ = above 10 % of comparison group  
 — = equivalent to comparison group (-10% to +10%)  
 ↓ = below 10 % of comparison group

## What's New With Flu?

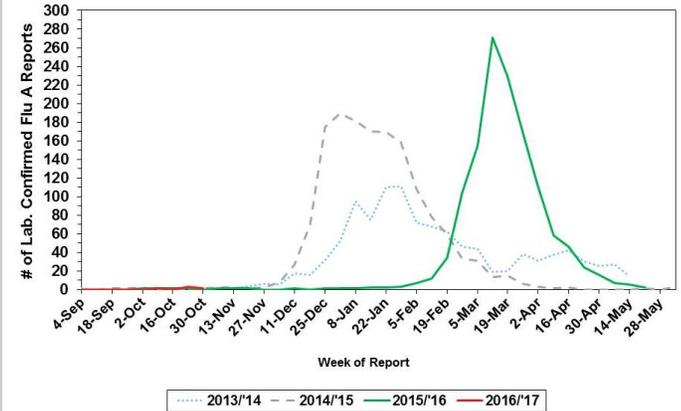
### New Flu Vaccines for the 2016-2017 Season

There is a new flu vaccine for the 2016-2017 season that contains adjuvant. Adjuvant is an ingredient that is used to enhance immune response in an individual's body when they receive a vaccine. This new vaccine (FLUAD) is approved for use in people 65 years of age and older. For more information please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/adjuvant.htm>

Additionally, a flu vaccine that protects against four flu viruses made with virus grown in cell culture will be available for the first time in the U.S. This vaccine is known as FLUCELVAX and it is approved in people ages 4 years and older. Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/freeresources/general/factsheet-whats-new-2016-17.pdf> to learn more.

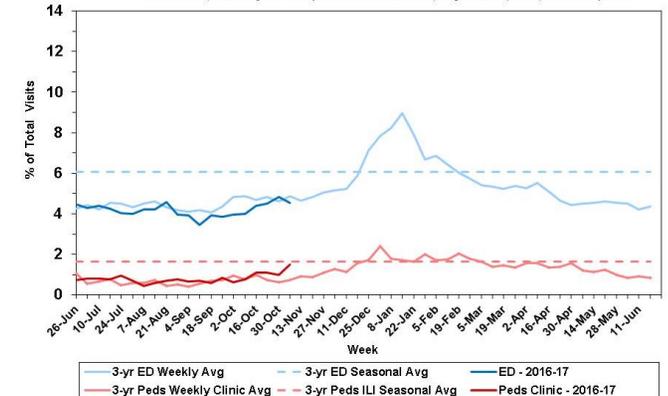
## Laboratory-Based Surveillance for Influenza A Philadelphia, 2013/2014 through 2016/2017 Seasons\*

\*Based on select hospital laboratories participating in surveillance across respiratory virus seasons



## Influenza-like Illness at Philadelphia Emergency Departments and Pediatric Ambulatory Clinics, 2016-17 Data Compared to 3-Year Historical Weekly\* and Seasonal\*\* Averages

\*Weekly average of values from 2011, 2013, and 2014 years  
 \*\*Overall sample average of weekly data from winters & springs of 2011, 2013, and 2014 years



## Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's flu activity is low and sporadic. From 10/02/16 to 11/12/16, there were a total of 200 flu cases (positive by rapid test, PCR, or culture). 133 of the cases were attributed to Influenza A, while Influenza B made up 67 of the total cases. There were 48 cases of flu during week 45, an increase in 3 cases from week 44. Influenza A/H3N2 was reported as the majority (87.5%) of the season-to-date influenza subtyping results from state public health labs followed by Influenza A/pH1N1 at 12.5%. There were no influenza related deaths or pediatric influenza-associated deaths.

## United States

Flu activity is low throughout the United States. The percentage of respiratory specimens that tested positive for influenza was low for clinical laboratories. A total of 11,481 specimens were tested at clinical laboratories, a decrease from week 44. 199 specimens tested positive for influenza and 163 (81.9%) specimens tested positive for influenza A. Of the 547 specimens tested in public health laboratories, only 35 specimens tested positive. The majority of these specimens tested positive for Influenza A (34, 97.1%), while only 1 (2.9%) specimen tested positive for Influenza B. Influenza A/H3N2 was the most frequently identified influenza virus that was reported by public health labs with 30 (88.2%). 53 specimens were tested for resistance to the neuraminidase inhibitor antiviral drugs, and none of the tested viruses were resistant to oseltamivir, zanamivir, and peramivir. No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. The proportion of people visiting their health care provider for influenza like illness (ILI) was 1.6%, which is below the national baseline of 2.2 %. Puerto Rico experienced high ILI activity. Two states reported low ILI activity. Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania experienced minimal ILI activity along with New York City and 45 other states. Guam reported widespread activity. Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and New Hampshire reported regional influenza activity. Six states reported local influenza activities. Five states reported no activity. Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania also reported sporadic flu activity along with 40 other states. There was one laboratory-confirmed case of influenza among Delaware residents. In New Jersey, two specimens tested positive for Influenza B.

**All institutional outbreaks and hospitalized and fatal cases of influenza are to be reported to PDPH.**

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