

Philadelphia Department of Public Health Seasonal Influenza Surveillance Report

February 21, 2016— February 27, 2016 (Week 8)

Philadelphia Influenza Activity

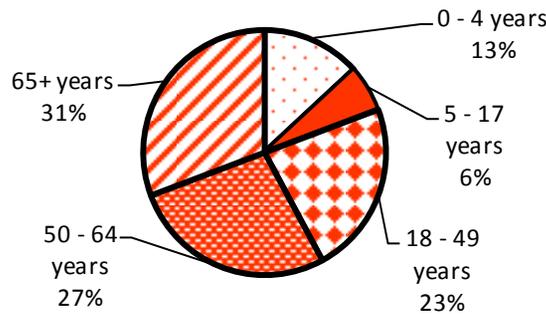
Please note these data are provisional and subject to change.

Thirty-seven hospitalized cases of influenza were reported during week 8. Nearly 100 detections of influenza A occurred at local hospital laboratories, a sharp increase from the previous week. Influenza A has remained the dominant virus this season thus far, with influenza A/H1N1 predominating. Influenza-like illness (ILI) at emergency departments and pediatric outpatient clinics also increased for week 8. To date, there have been four influenza outbreaks in long term care facilities. There have been three influenza-associated deaths reported this season, there were no deaths reported during week 8.

Surveillance type	Compared to week of 2/14–2/20	Compared to 3-yr seasonal* mean
Hospital ED Fever/flu visits	↑	↑
Pediatric Clinics ILI	↑	↑
Laboratory Influenza Surveillance	↑	—

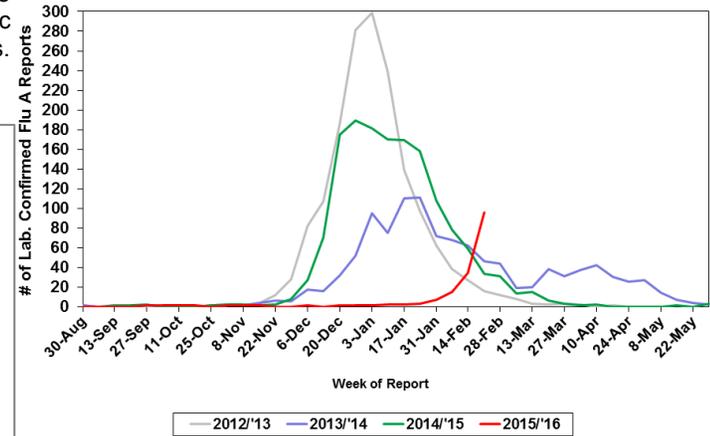
↑ = above 10 % of comparison group
 — = equivalent to comparison group (-10% to +10%)
 ↓ = below 10 % of comparison group
 * mean of 2010-'11, 2012-'13, and 2013-'14 flu seasons epidemic flu activity time period (late)

2015 - 2016 Philadelphia Hospitalized Influenza Cases by Age, N= 114



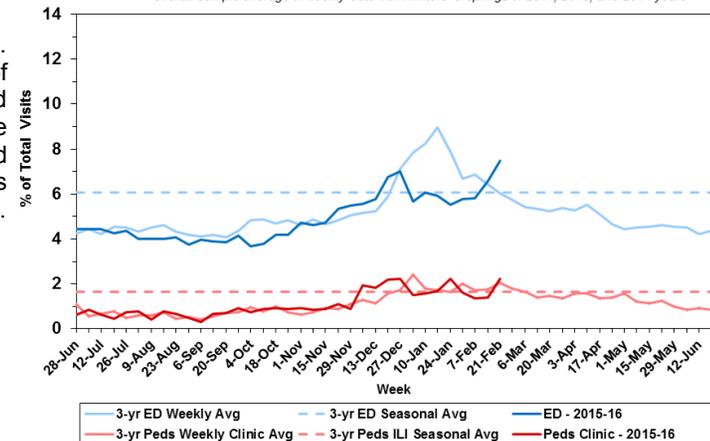
Laboratory-Based Surveillance for Influenza A Philadelphia, 2012/2013 through 2015/2016 Seasons*

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



Influenza-like Illness at Philadelphia Emergency Departments and Pediatric Ambulatory Clinics, 2015-16 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 Influenza Activity

Week 8 (February 21, 2016 — February 27, 2016) produced a sharp increase in new influenza cases reported by the state. There were 1,420 new cases of influenza reported (946 cases were reported the previous week 6). A total of 4,545 cases of influenza (positive by any test type) have been reported this season. Laboratory, hospital emergency department, and sentinel medical provider data all indicate a modest increase in influenza activity. The majority of cases (70.84%) have tested positive (via rapid test, PCR, or viral culture) for influenza A. To date, there have been nine influenza-associated deaths in Pennsylvania (three inside the Philadelphia city limits), one between the ages of 19-49, three between the ages 50-64, the other five 65+. Influenza case activity throughout the state continues to be classified as widespread for week 8. For week 8, influenza activity was the highest in the southeastern part of the state.

United States Influenza Activity

Influenza activity remained elevated this week. The most frequently identified influenza virus type reported by public health laboratories during week 8 was influenza A, with influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 viruses predominating. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza in clinical laboratories increased. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the system-specific epidemic threshold in the NCHS Mortality Surveillance System and above the system-specific epidemic threshold in the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System. Four influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. A cumulative rate for the season of 7.8 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations per 100,000 population was reported. The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 3.2%, which is above the national baseline of 2.1%. Nine of 10 regions reported ILI at or above region-specific baseline levels. Puerto Rico and eight states experienced high ILI activity; New York City and nine states experienced moderate ILI activity; 13 states experienced low ILI activity; 20 states experienced minimal ILI activity; and the District of Columbia had insufficient data. The geographic spread of influenza in Puerto Rico and 33 states was reported as widespread (Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania); Guam and 14 states reported regional activity; the District of Columbia and one state reported local activity; and the U.S. Virgin Islands and two states reported sporadic activity.

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

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Reporting requirements and forms are posted online at hip.phila.gov