



PHILLY FLU FINDINGS

Philadelphia Department of Public Health
 Seasonal Influenza Surveillance Report
 Week 48: November 27-December 3 2016

Philadelphia Influenza Activity

Please note these data are provisional and subject to change.

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health received four confirmed cases of influenza (Philadelphia resident; positive by rapid test, PCR or culture; hospitalized for ≥ 24 hrs.) during week 48. Five laboratory-confirmed influenza illnesses were reported last week, the same as the previous week. Influenza-like illnesses at emergency departments and pediatric ambulatory clinics changed very little for week 48. No influenza deaths have been reported this season. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) was the predominant circulating virus detected by participating laboratories during week 48. Other non-influenza respiratory viruses detected in clinical specimens include parainfluenza 2, adenovirus, and rhinovirus.

Surveillance type	Compared to week of 11/20–11/26	Compared to 3-yr seasonal mean
Hospital ED Fever/flu visits	—	↓
Pediatric Clinics ILI	—	—
Laboratory Influenza Surveillance	—	↓

Flu & You

Antiviral Drugs

Antiviral drugs are prescription medications that are used to treat people who are diagnosed with the flu. Antiviral drugs ameliorate symptoms and shorten the duration of sickness by 1 to 2 days. Antiviral drugs prevent flu-related complications like pneumonia. Antiviral drugs are most effective when given within 2 days of getting sick. Using them after the 2 day cutoff is still beneficial, especially for those with high-risk factors or for individuals who are very ill with the flu. Antiviral drugs should be taken for 5 days. However, hospitalized individuals may be required to take antivirals for a longer period of time. The CDC recommends three brands of antivirals: oseltamivir (Tamiflu), zanamivir (Relenza), and peramivir (Rapivab). For more information visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/antivirals/whatyoushould.htm>

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

Pennsylvania

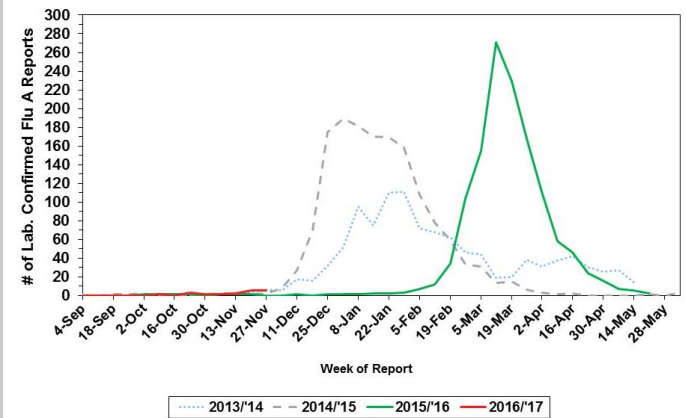
Pennsylvania's flu activity is local. Flu activity increased statewide. From 10/02/16 to 11/12/16, there were 512 flu cases (positive by rapid test, PCR, or culture), an increase from week 47. Influenza A made up the majority of the cases with 369 (72.1%). There were 141 (27.5%) cases of Influenza B and 2 (0.4%) unknown cases. There were 165 total cases of flu in Week 48. Influenza A/H3 made up 70.0% of the season-to-date influenza subtyping results from state public health labs followed by Influenza B/Victoria (20%) and Influenza A/pH1N1 (10%). There were no influenza related deaths or pediatric influenza-associated deaths.

United States

Flu activity increased slightly, but remains low across the U.S. The percentage of respiratory specimens that tested positive for influenza was low for clinical laboratories. A total of 15, 262 specimens were tested at clinical laboratories, and 535 (3.5%) specimens tested positive for influenza. 390 (72.9%) specimens tested positive for Influenza A and 145 (27.1%) specimens tested positive for Influenza B. 783 specimens were tested at public health laboratories and 154 specimens tested positive. There were 141 (91.6%) positive Influenza A specimens and 13 (8.4%) positive Influenza B specimens. Influenza A/H3 was the most frequently identified influenza virus that was reported by public health labs with 112 (79.4%). No 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 1.8%, which is below the national baseline of 2.2%. Puerto Rico experienced high ILI activity. GA had moderate ILI activity. NYC and four states experienced low ILI activity. DE, NJ and PA experienced minimal ILI activity along with 43 other states. Puerto Rico reported widespread influenza activity. Guam, AL, and NC reported regional influenza activity. DE and PA reported local influenza activity along with 17 other states. Sporadic influenza activity was reported by the U.S. Virgin Islands, NJ, and 27 other states. There were 8 laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza reported among DE residents. NJ had 1 case of Influenza H3N2 and 2 cases of Influenza B.

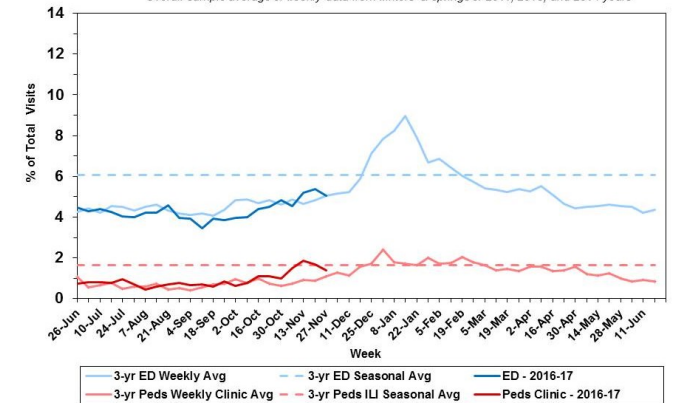
Laboratory-Based Surveillance for Influenza A Philadelphia, 2013/2014 through 2016/2017 Seasons*

*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



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

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