



ARKANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Outbreak Response/Epidemiology Influenza Weekly Report Arkansas 2017-2018

Week Ending Saturday 12/30/2017

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During the flu season the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) produces a Weekly Influenza Report for clinicians. The report provides information on flu activity in the state. The report also compares influenza like illness (ILI) in Arkansas to activity in the U.S. ADH receives reports of only a fraction of flu cases. Therefore, it is important to understand that the information in the weekly update is representative of the timing and location of activity, but it does not reflect the overall burden of disease. It is presumed that there are many more people actually affected than the report shows. Clinicians and policy makers may find the report helpful in terms of communicating to colleagues and patients about the current status of the flu season.

Report Key Points:

- For Week 52, Arkansas reported “Widespread” activity to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for geographic spread of influenza, and “High” or 10/10 for ILI intensity.
- Since October 1, 2017, over 14,000 positive influenza tests have been reported to the ADH online database by health care providers. In Week 52, 70 counties reported influenza cases. The majority of reports came from Benton, Pulaski, Washington, Jefferson, Faulkner, White, Sebastian, Craighead, Saline, Lonoke, Garland, Logan, Pope, Independence, and Stone.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between influenza A and B virus types, 76 percent were influenza A, and 24 percent were influenza B.
- There were 203 positive PCR flu tests last week from private labs: 159 influenza A, and 43 influenza B; 1 was unsubtypeable. There were 7 positive influenza A subtype H3N2, and 2 positive influenza B subtype Yamagata from the ADH lab; no samples tested negative for influenza this week.
- About 6.8 percent of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were there for ILI. About 14.4 percent of outpatient visits were for ILI.
- No school absenteeism rate last week among public schools due to the holidays.
- To date, 28 influenza-related deaths have been reported in Arkansas this flu season among persons 45 and older. No pediatric death has been reported in Arkansas this flu season.
- Since October 1, 2017, 30 facilities including 23 nursing homes have reported influenza outbreaks.
- The proportion of deaths reported to the National Center for Health Statistics attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the system-specific epidemic threshold.
- For Week 51, the geographic spread of influenza was reported as widespread in 36 states, Puerto Rico and 13 states reported regional activity, and one state reported local activity; the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam did not report.
- You can report flu year-round and view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at: <http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/influenza>.
You can also access the reporting website directly at: <https://FluReport.ADH.Arkansas.gov>

For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:
World Health Organization (WHO): http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html.
CDC - Seasonal Influenza (Flu) - Weekly Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

2017-2018 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 52: 12/24/17 - 12/30/17)

Death Report for Week 52

- Deaths from all causes: 593
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 48
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 2
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 3

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 10/01/2017

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 6
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 22
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 28

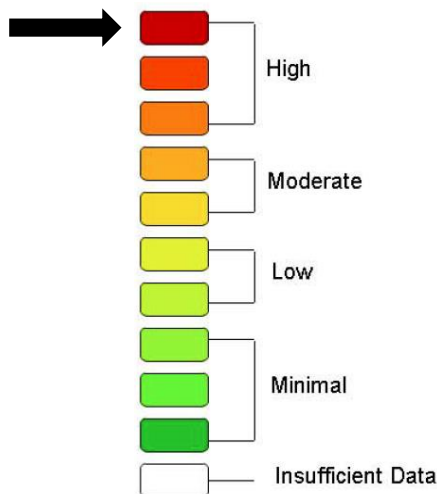
ER Visits

- **Week Ending: 12/30/2017**
Weighted Average: 6.8%
– Total Visits: 23,497
– Visits with ILI: 1,594
- **Previous Week**
Weighted Average: 5.9%
– Total Visits: 22,682
– Visits with ILI: 1,328

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- **PCR Confirmed:**
– Cumulative: 188
– Week ending 12/30/2017: 24
- **Antigen Positive:**
– Cumulative: 476
– Week ending 12/30/2017: 88

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 10/01/2017: 1,185
- Week Ending 12/30/2017: 210

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week 52	Other Labs Week 52	Cumulative Cases Since 10/01/2017
A+	0	159	859
B+	0	43	206
B/Victoria	0	0	0
B/ Yamagata	2	0	6
H1N1+	0	0	10
H3+	5	0	100
Unsubtypeable	0	1	4
Total	7	203	1,185
Negative	0	--	--

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 10/01/2017

Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr.	112	14	0
5-18 yr.	359	14	0
19-24 yr.	70	3	0
25-44 yr.	148	6	0
45-64 yr.	216	47	0
>= 65 yr.	279	104	6
Unknown	1	0	0
Total	1,185	188	6

School Absenteeism*

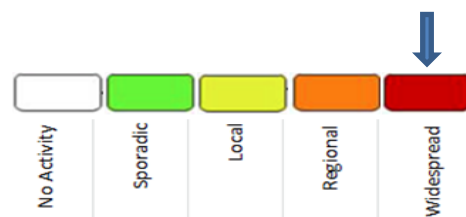
Week Ending: 12/30/2017

- Percent Absent: No report--Holidays

- Previous Week:

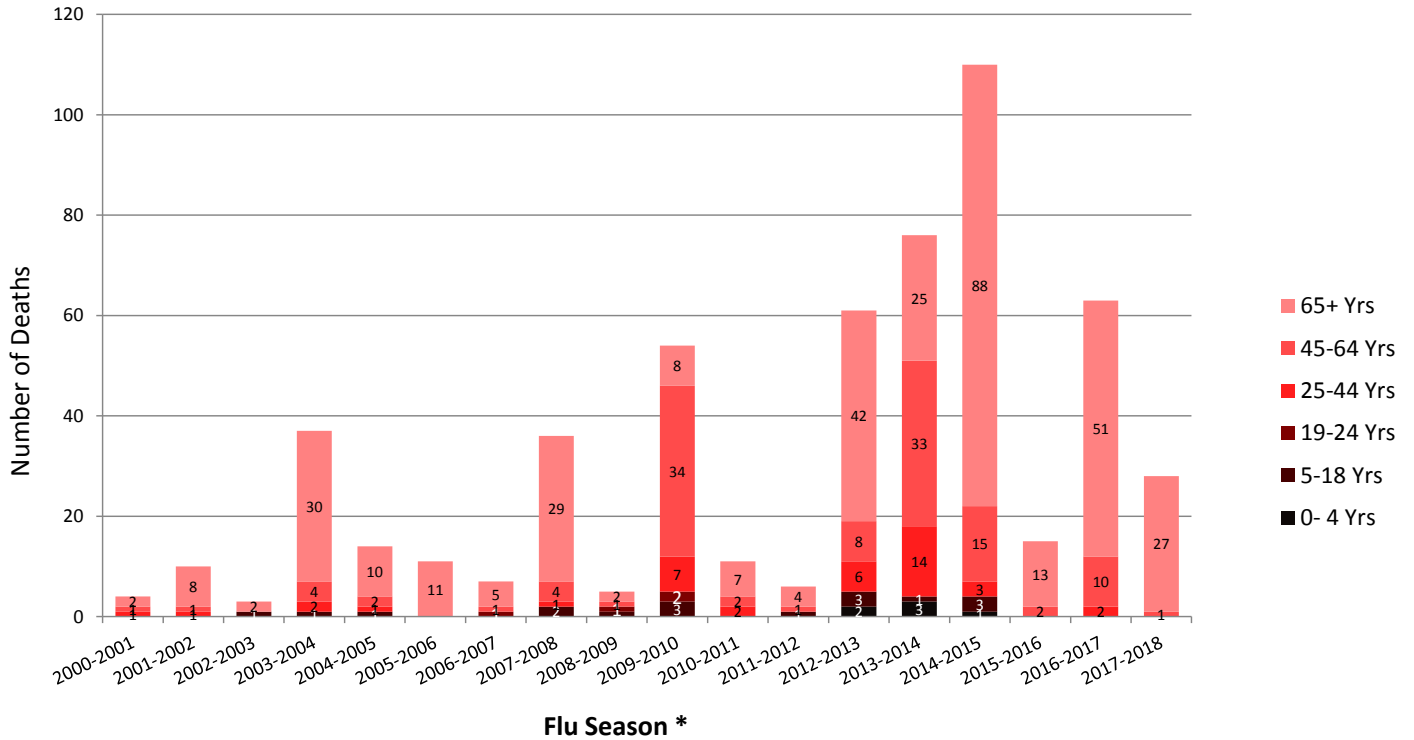
* Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.

Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 52:



Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2017 (Provisional)

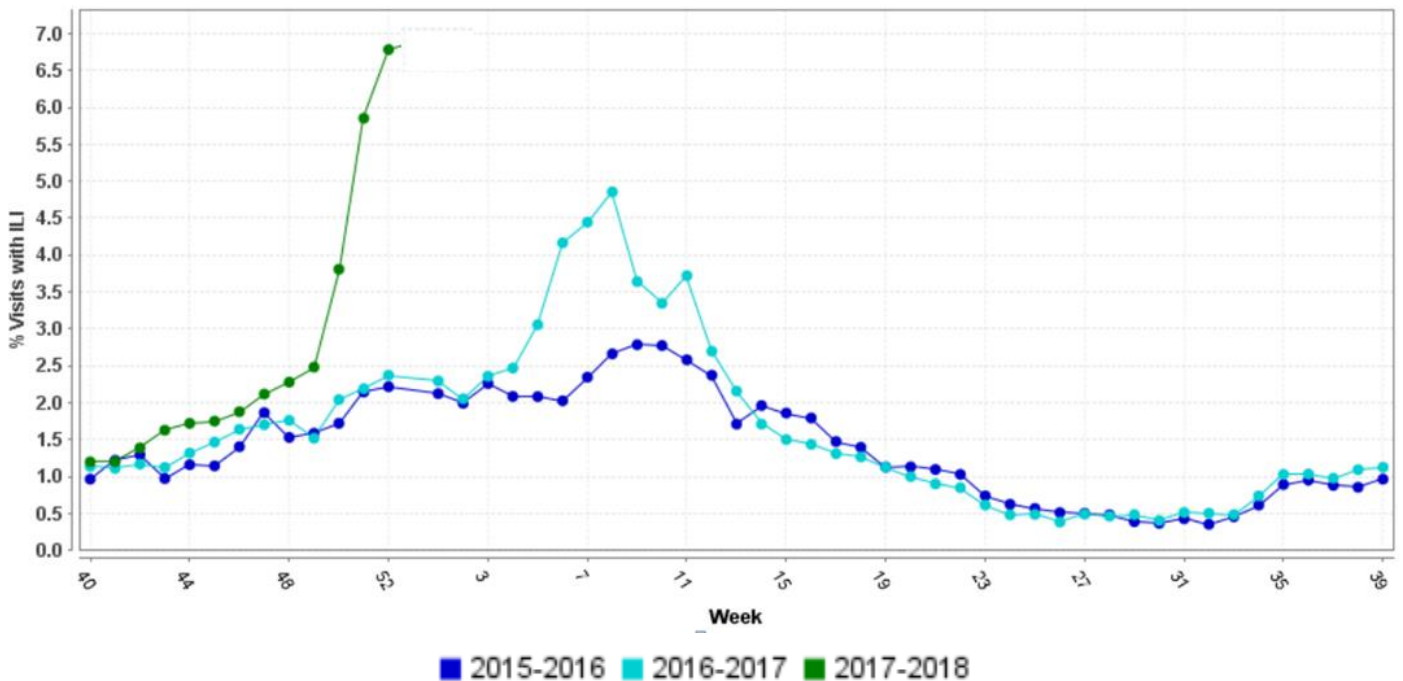
Report Updated: 01/02/2018



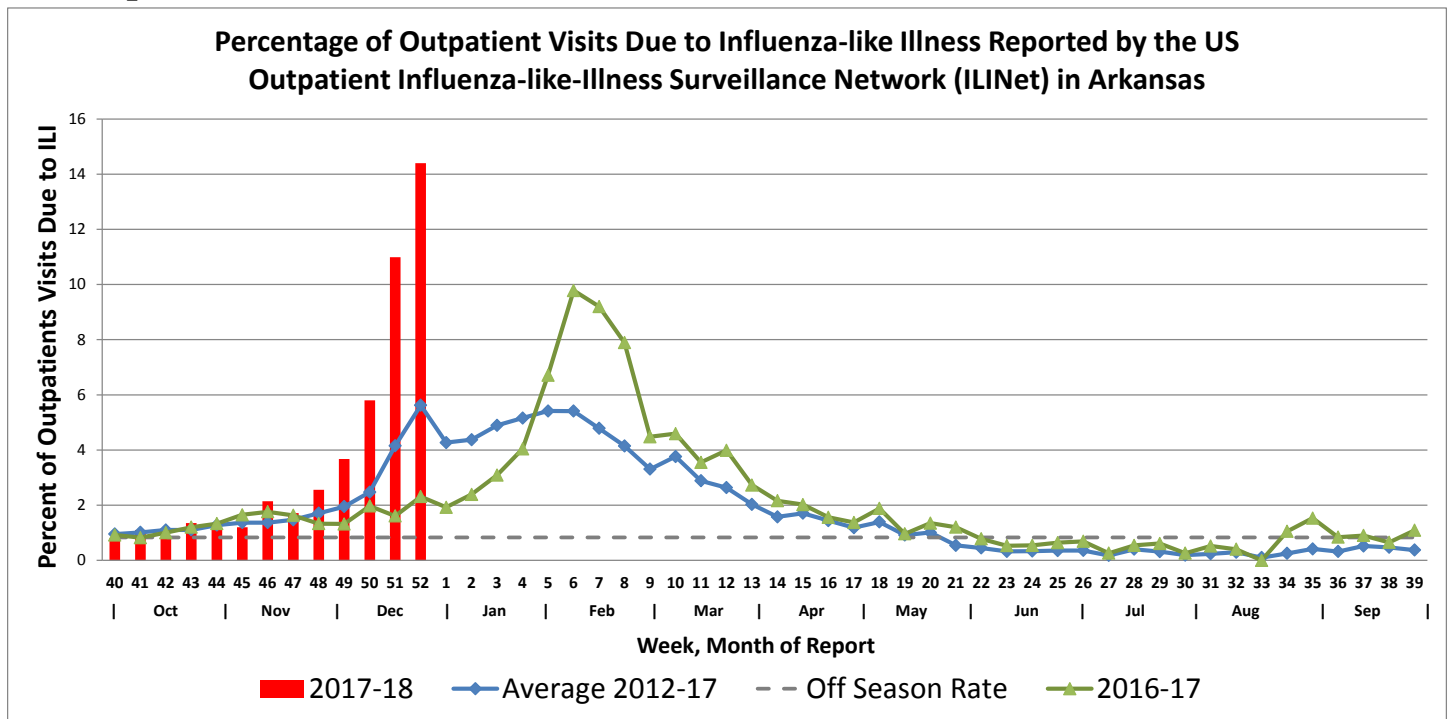
* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
 Source: ADH Immunization Section, Center for Health Statistics

Hospital Report – Downloaded from ESSENCE (Syndromic Surveillance)

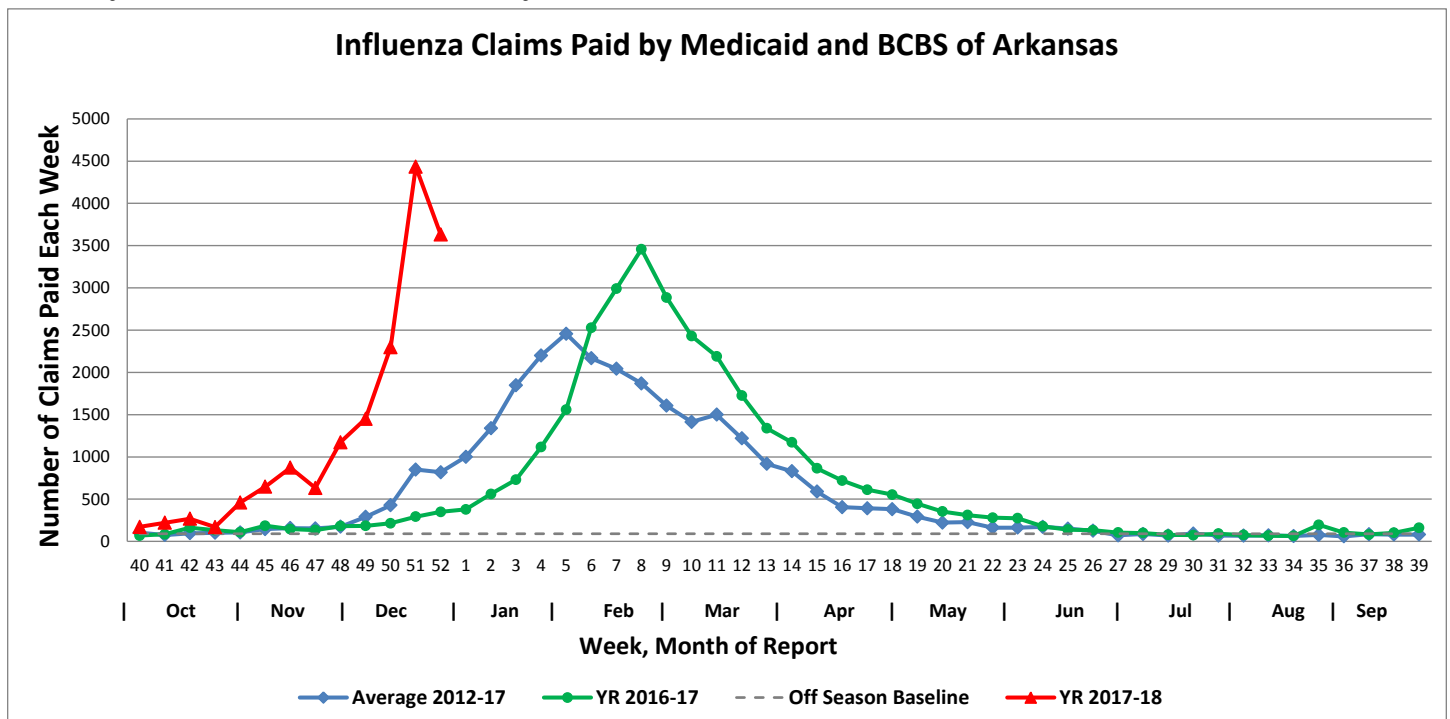
Percent ER Visits with ILI



US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

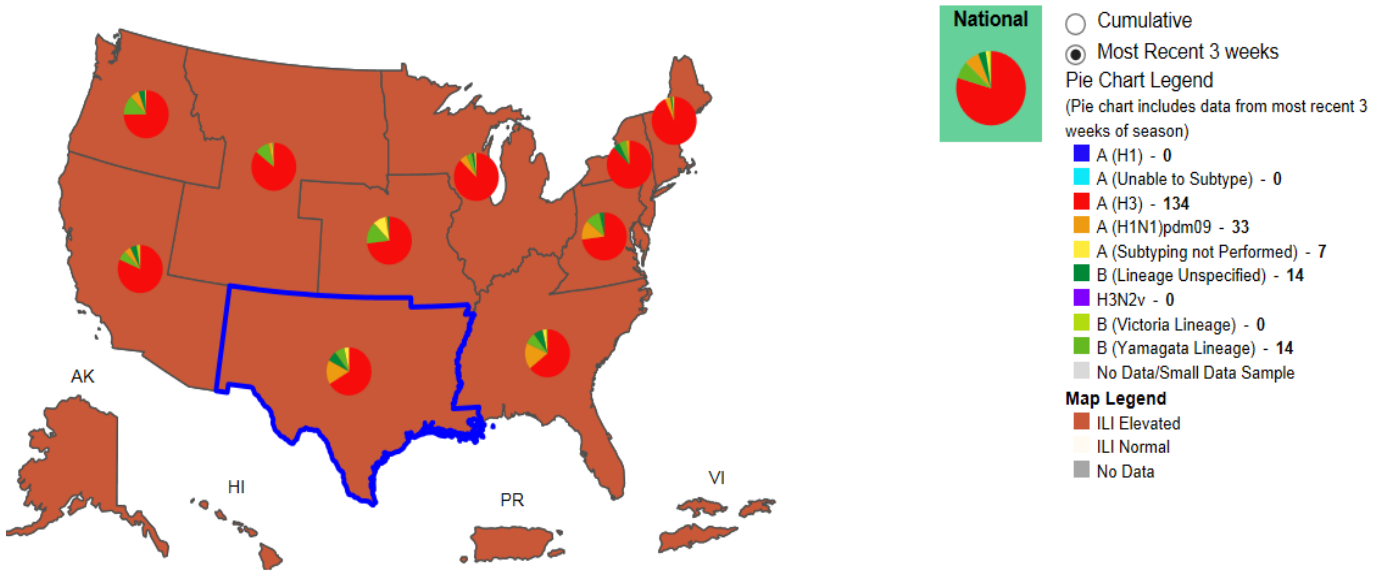


Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS

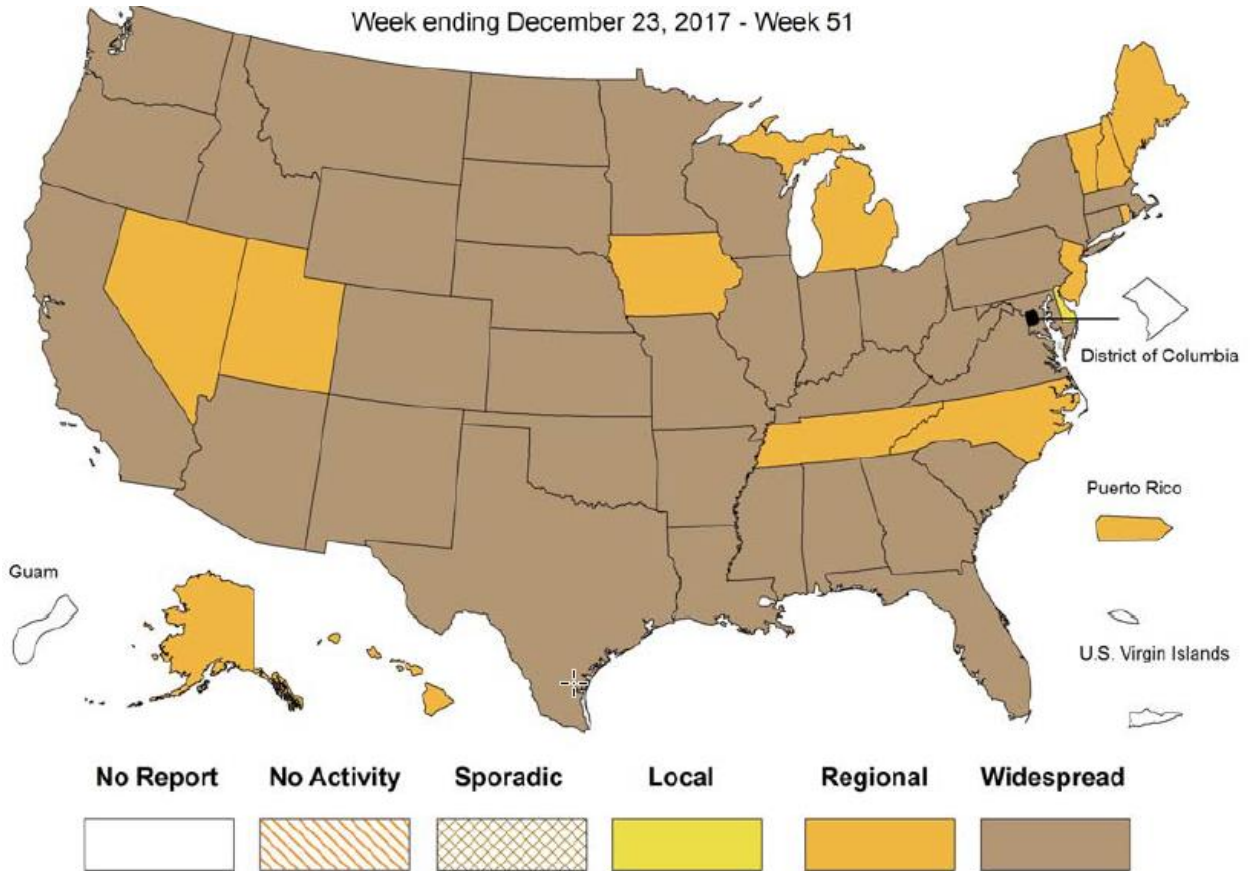


Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2017-2018 Season, Week Ending December 23, 2017

Values in legend is for the highlighted HHS region (Region 6)

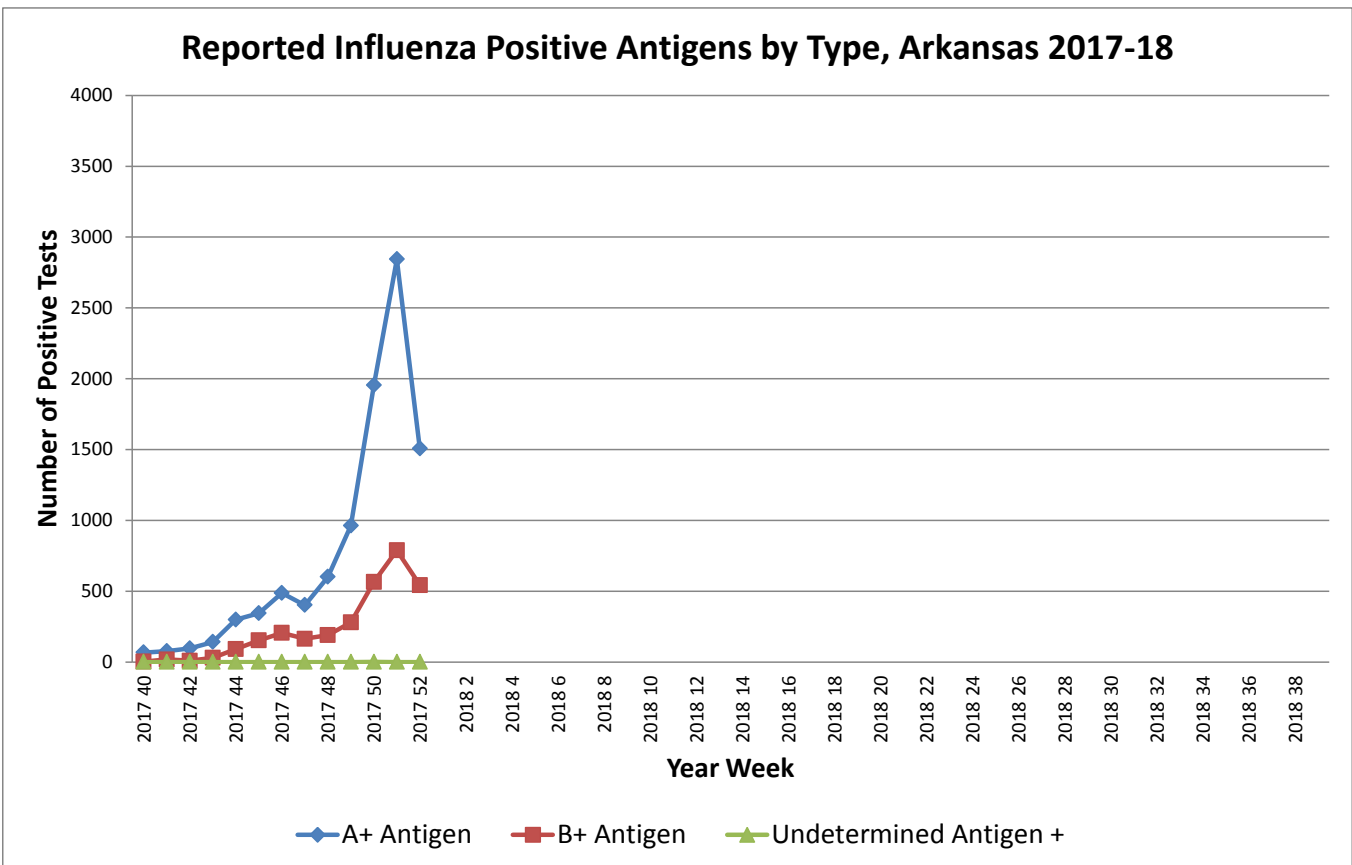
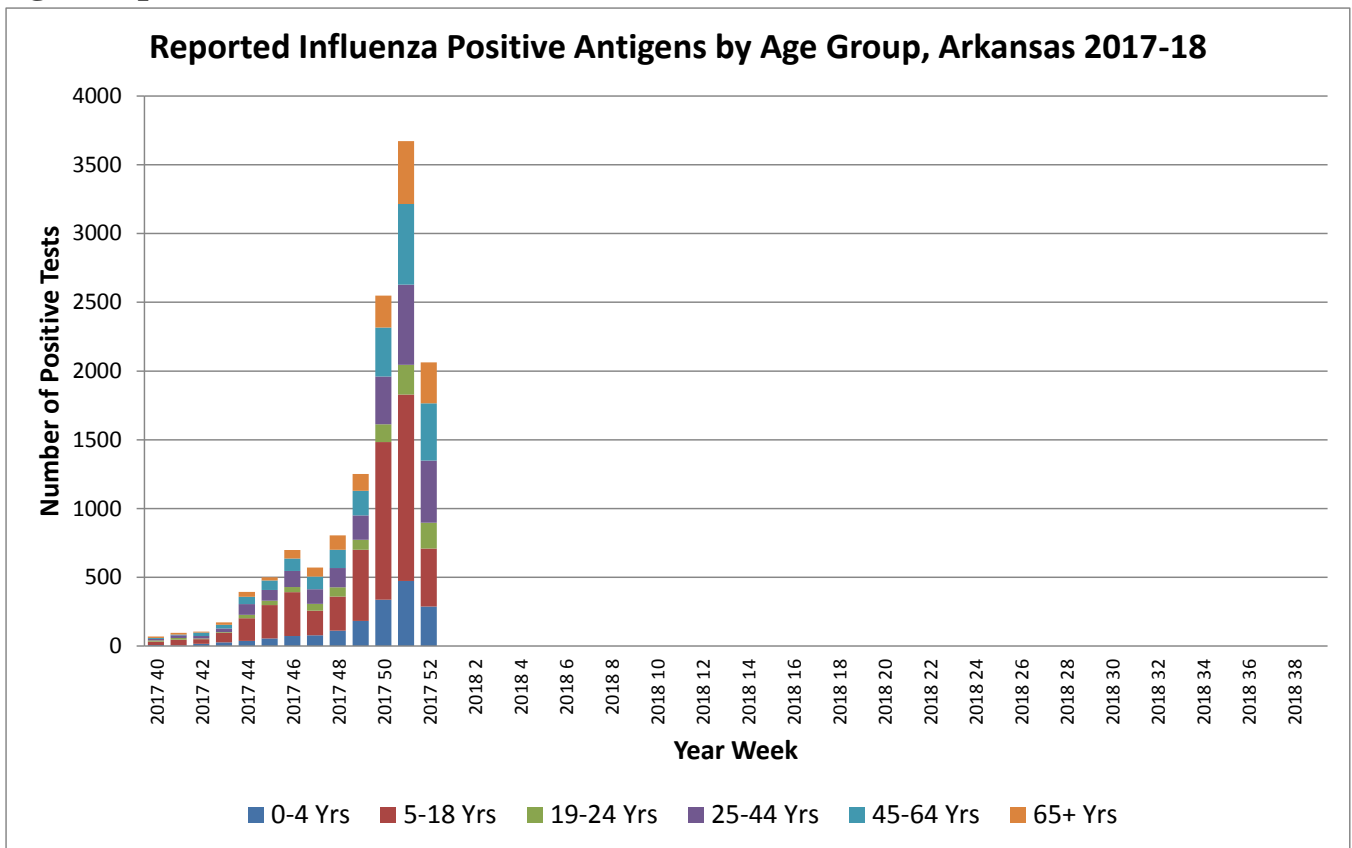


Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists

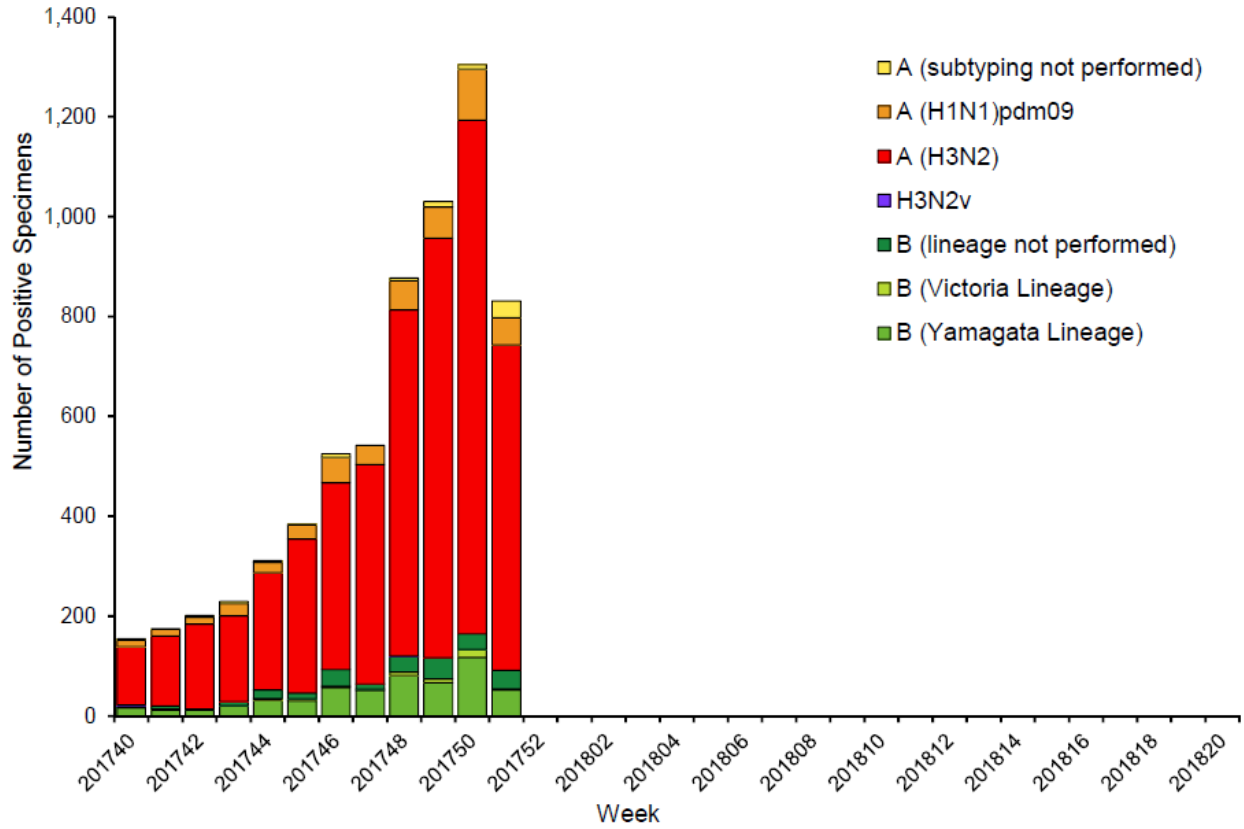


Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 52: Widespread

Antigen Report:



**Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories,
National Summary, 2017-18 Season**



**Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality from the National Center for Health
Statistics Mortality Surveillance System Data through the week
ending December 9, 2017, as of December 28, 2017**

