Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology
Influenza Weekly Report
Arkansas 2014-2015

Week Ending Saturday 04/4/2015

Dirk Haselow, MD, PhD
State Epidemiologist, Medical Director, Communicable Diseases

Shirley Louie, MS, CIH
Deputy State Epidemiologist, Director, Center for Public Health Practice

Prepared by:

Haytham Safi, MD, MPH
Influenza Surveillance Coordinator
Haytham.Safi@Arkansas.gov
501-661-2920

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During flu season the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) produces this 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 US. ADH receives detailed reports of only a small 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.

Report Summary:

- Since September 28, 2014 (week 40), over 28,900 positive influenza antigen tests have been reported to Arkansas Department of Health by healthcare providers. Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between A and B strains, 83% were A, and 17% were B. for week 13, about 120 positives were reported from 39 counties, 23% were A, and 77% were B.
- About 58.7% of reported positive antigens were in children 18 years old or less.
- Five samples reported last week were confirmed Positive for influenza by PCR testing were 2A+, 1B+, 1B Victoria and 1B Yamagata.
- Less than 3% of patients visiting ER last week and less than 2% of out-patients visits were for ILI.
- Arkansas reported "Local" influenza activity to CDC for week 13.
- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 6%.
- Nationwide, and for week 12, The geographic spread of influenza in four states was reported as widespread; the U.S. Virgin Islands and 20 states reported regional activity; Guam, Puerto Rico, and 22 states reported local activity; and the District of Columbia and four states reported sporadic activity.
- You can view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at: http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx

For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:

Google Flu Trends: Google Flu Trends uses aggregated Google search data in a model created in collaboration with CDC to estimate influenza activity in the United States. For more information and activity estimates from the U.S. and worldwide, http://www.google.org/flutrends/us/#US.
World Health Organization FluNet: Additional influenza surveillance information from participating WHO member nations is available at http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html.
CDC - Seasonal Influenza (**Flu**) - **WeeklyReport**: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
and flu activity surveillance: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm
Flu near you: https://flunearyou.org/. Please sign up and forward to your staff!

2014-2015 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 13: 03/29/15 - 04/4/15)

Death Report for Week 13

- Deaths from all causes: 704
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 76
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 3

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 9/28/2014

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 11
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 48
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 59

ER Visits*

- **Week Ending: 04/4/2015**
  Weighted Average: 3.9% (33 Hospitals)
  – Total Visits: 8,344
  – Visits with ILI: 324
- **Previous Week**
  Weighted Average: 6.2% (37 Hospitals)
  – Total Visits: 15,229
  – Visits with ILI: 941

***% is the number of ILI visits*100/Total Visits**

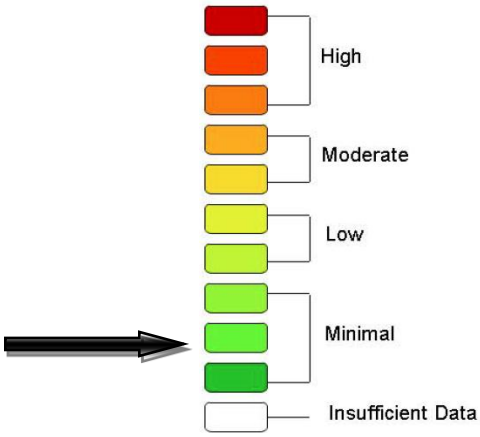
Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- **PCR Confirmed:**
  – Cumulative: 302
  – Week ending 04/4/2015: 1
- **ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**
  – Cumulative: 1735
  – Week ending 04/4/2015: 5

Total Pregnant and HCW with ILI

- **Pregnant, ER Visits: 53**
- **Health Care Workers: 288**

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases in September 2014: 8
- Total Cases since 09/28/2014: 603
- Week Ending 04/4/2015: 5

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week13	Other Labs Week13	Cumulative Cases Since 9/28/2014
A+	1	1	286
B+	0	1	65
B/Victoria	1	0	19
B/ Yamagata	1	0	20
H1N1+	0	0	4
H3+	0	0	209
Unsubtypable	0	0	0
Total	3	2	603
Negative	1	--	

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 09/28/2014

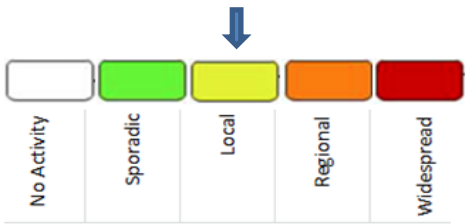
Age Groups	PCR+	Pregnant	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr	33	-	12	0
5-18 yr	80	0	15	3
19-24 yr	36	7	13	0
25-49 yr	138	7	60	1
50-64 yr	102	-	53	3
>= 65 yr	214	-	149	4
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	603	14	302	11

School Absenteeism*

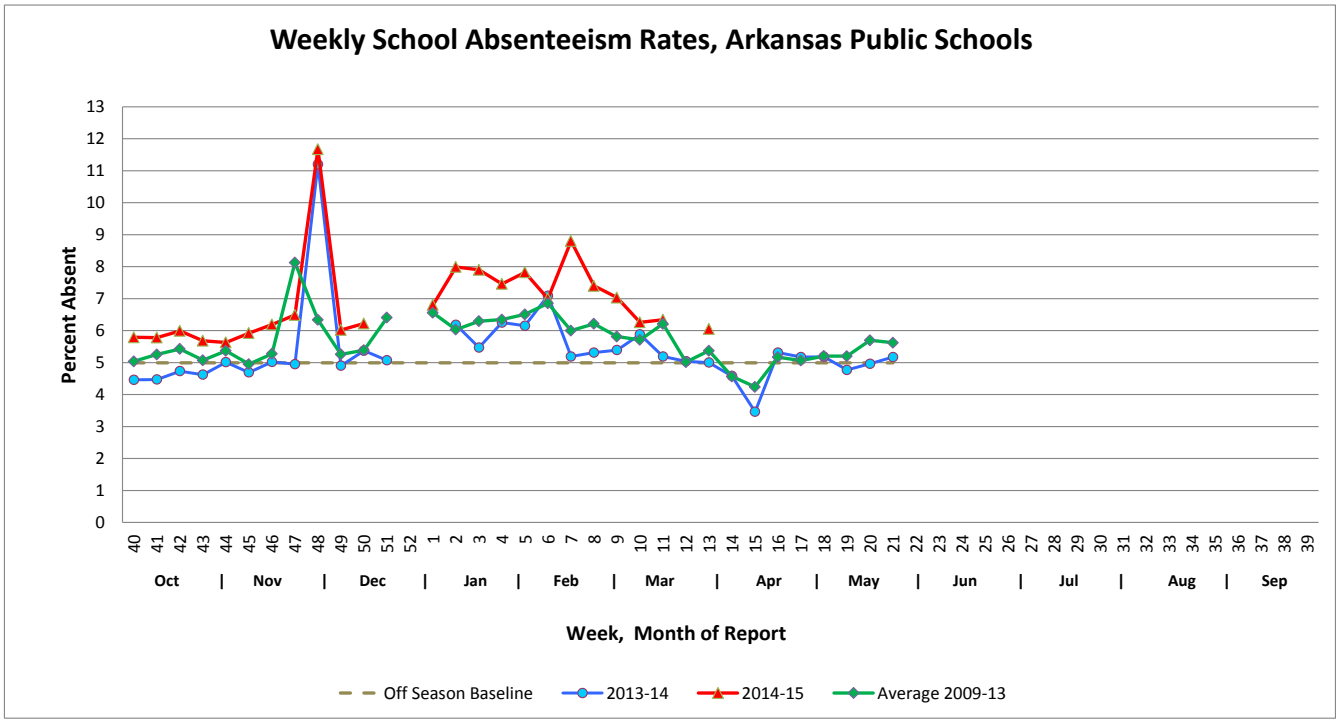
- Week Ending: 04/4/2015
  - Percent Absent: 6.05
  - Previous week: Spring break

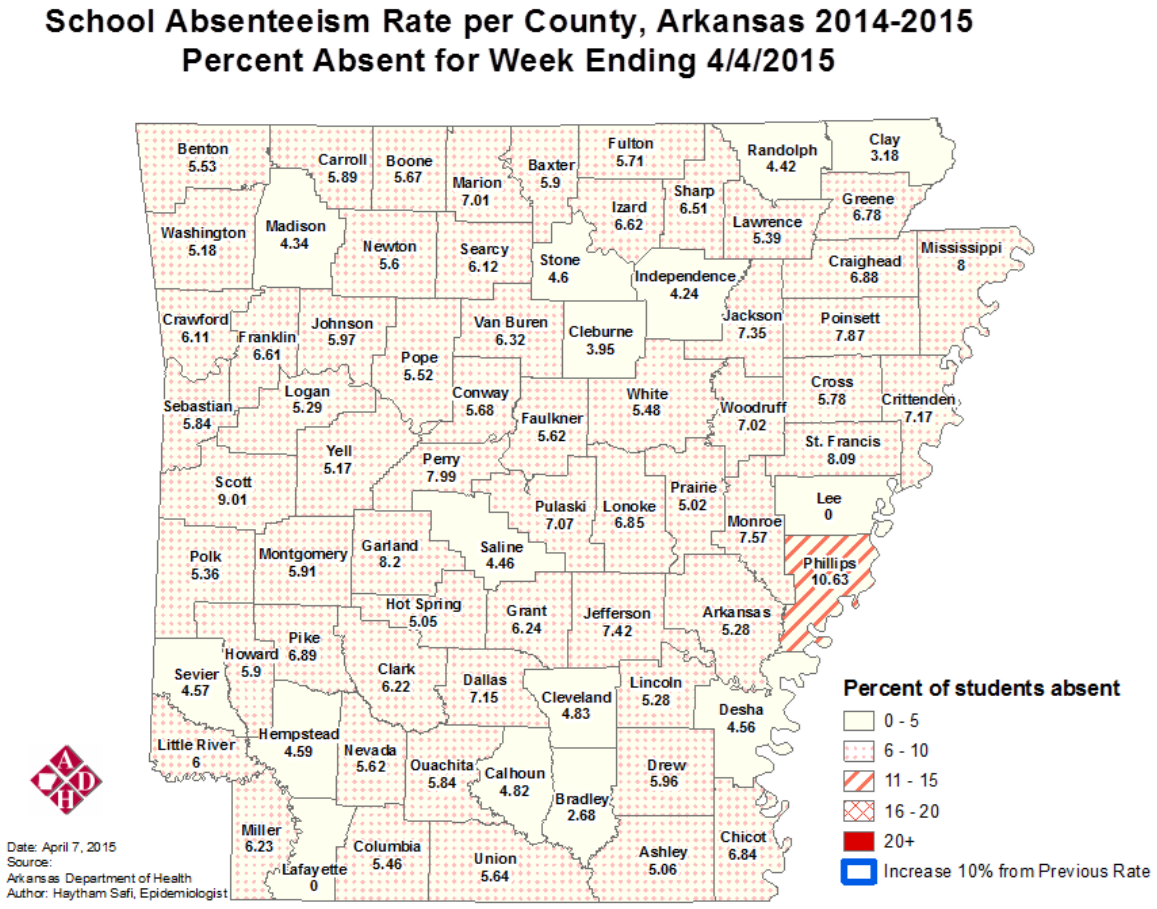
* **Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.**

Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 13:



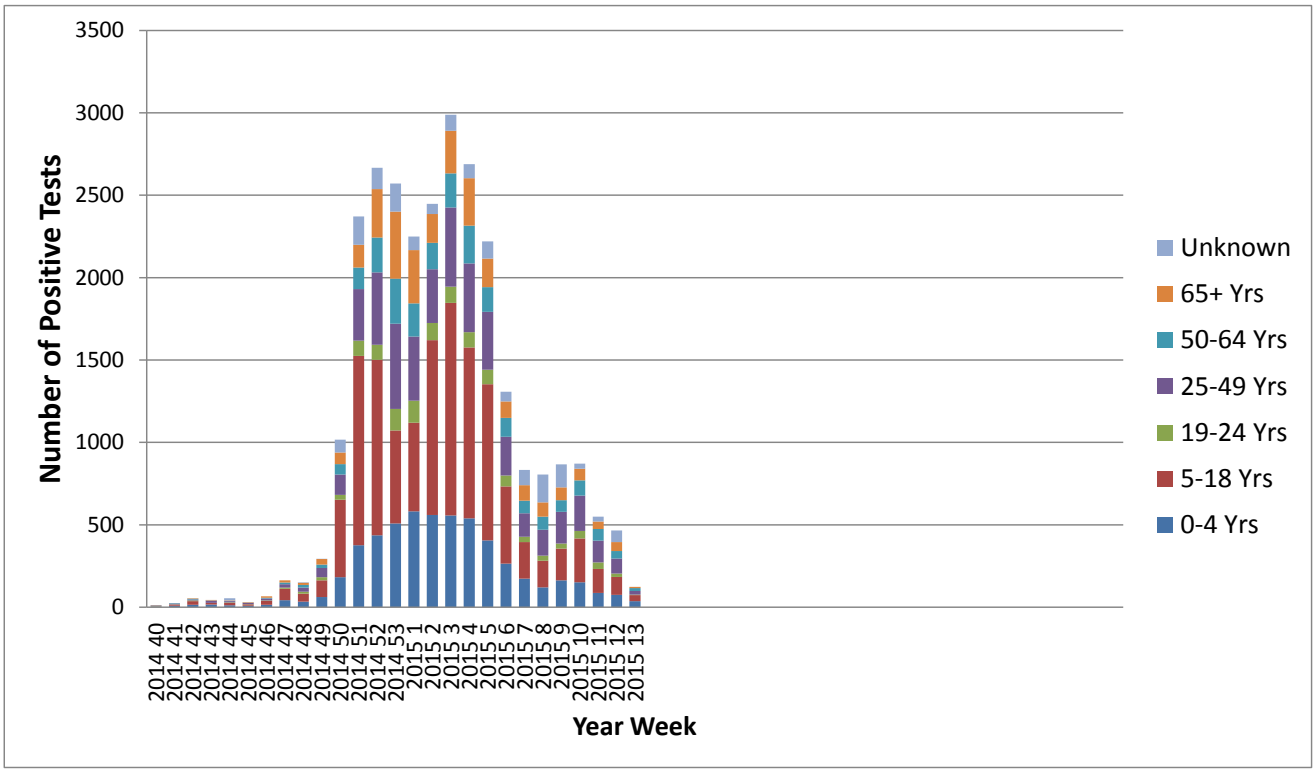
School Absenteeism:



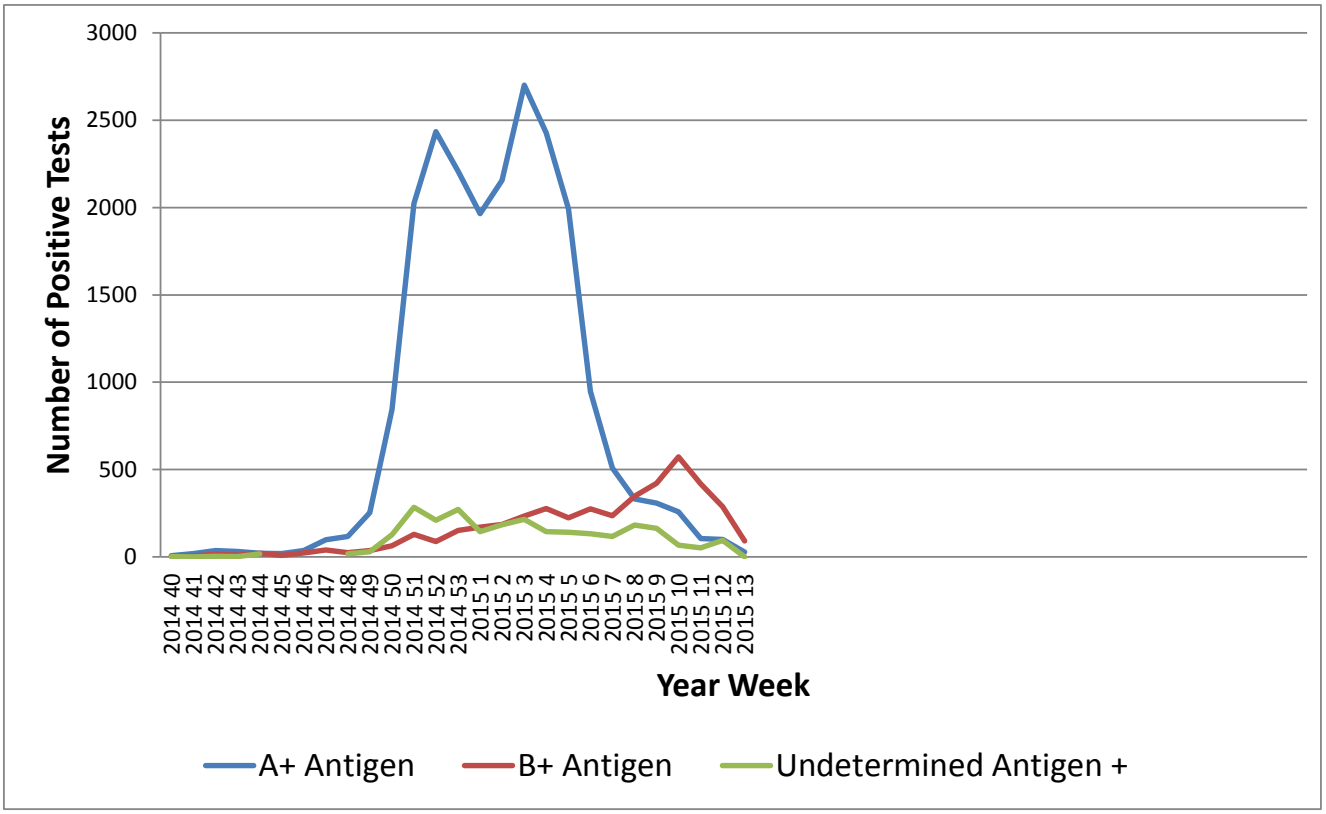


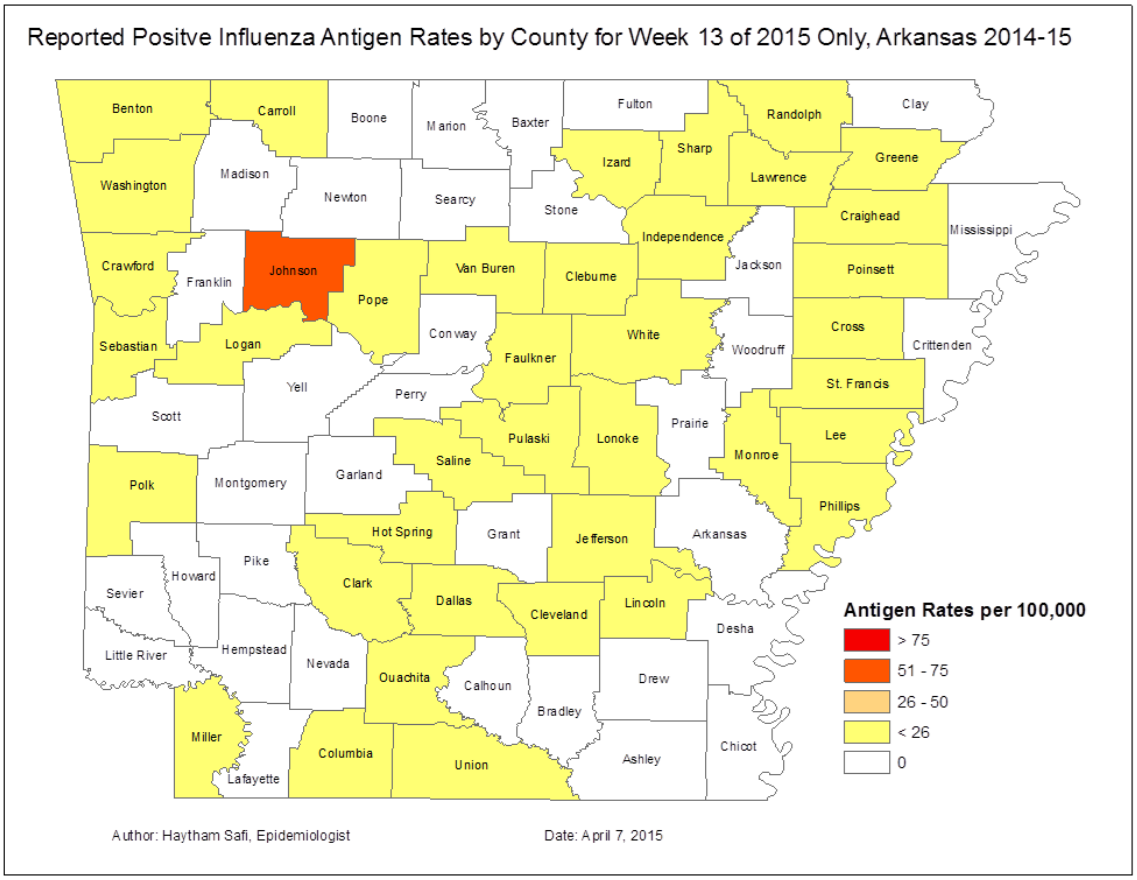
Antigen Report:

Positive Flu Antigen Tests by Age-Groups, Arkansas 2014-15



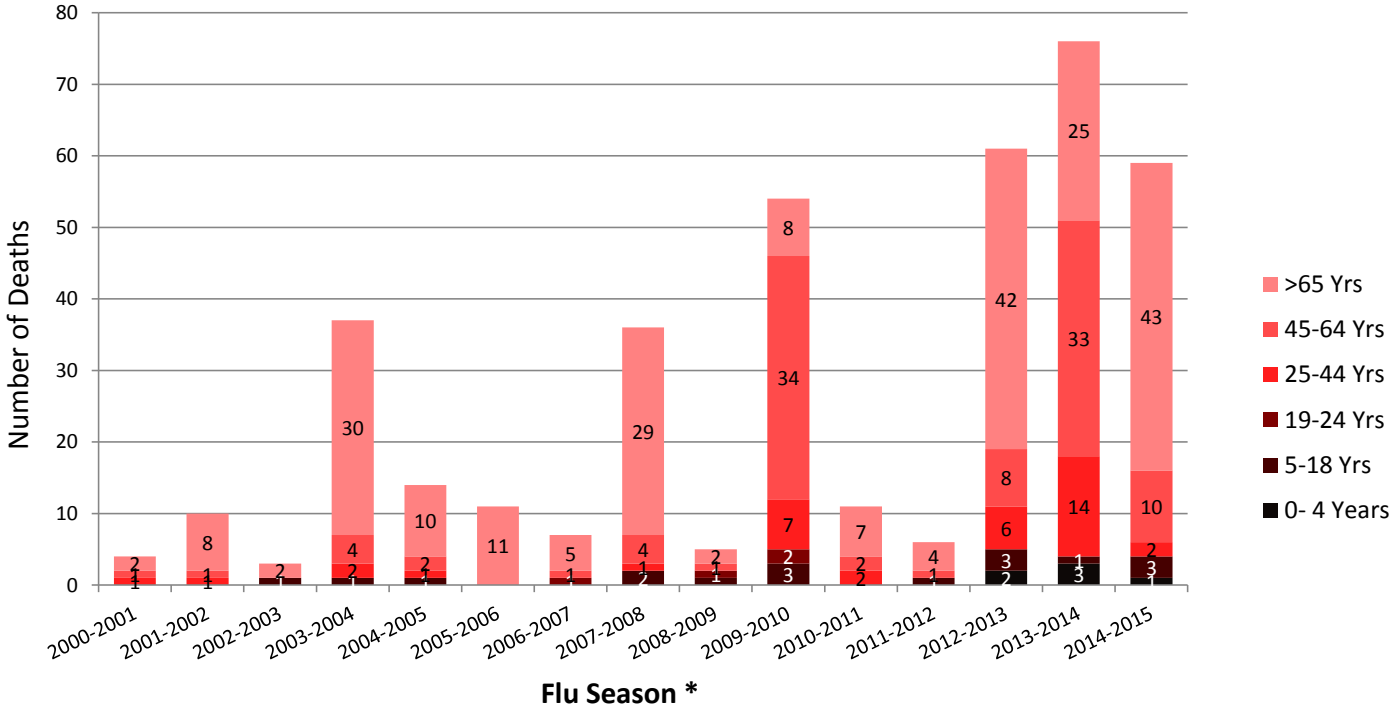
Positive Flu Antigen by Type, Arkansas 2014-15





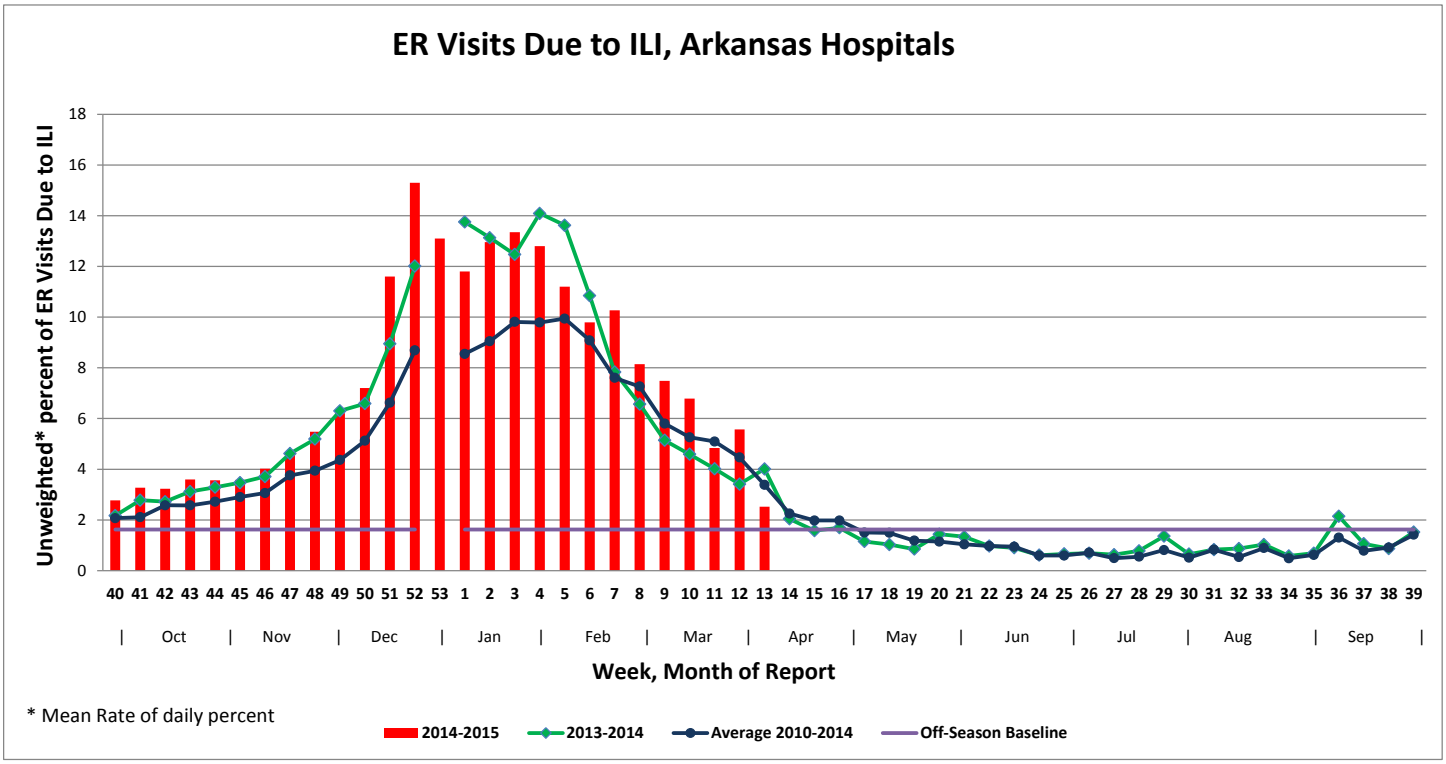
Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2015 (Provisional)

Report Updated: 04/7/2015

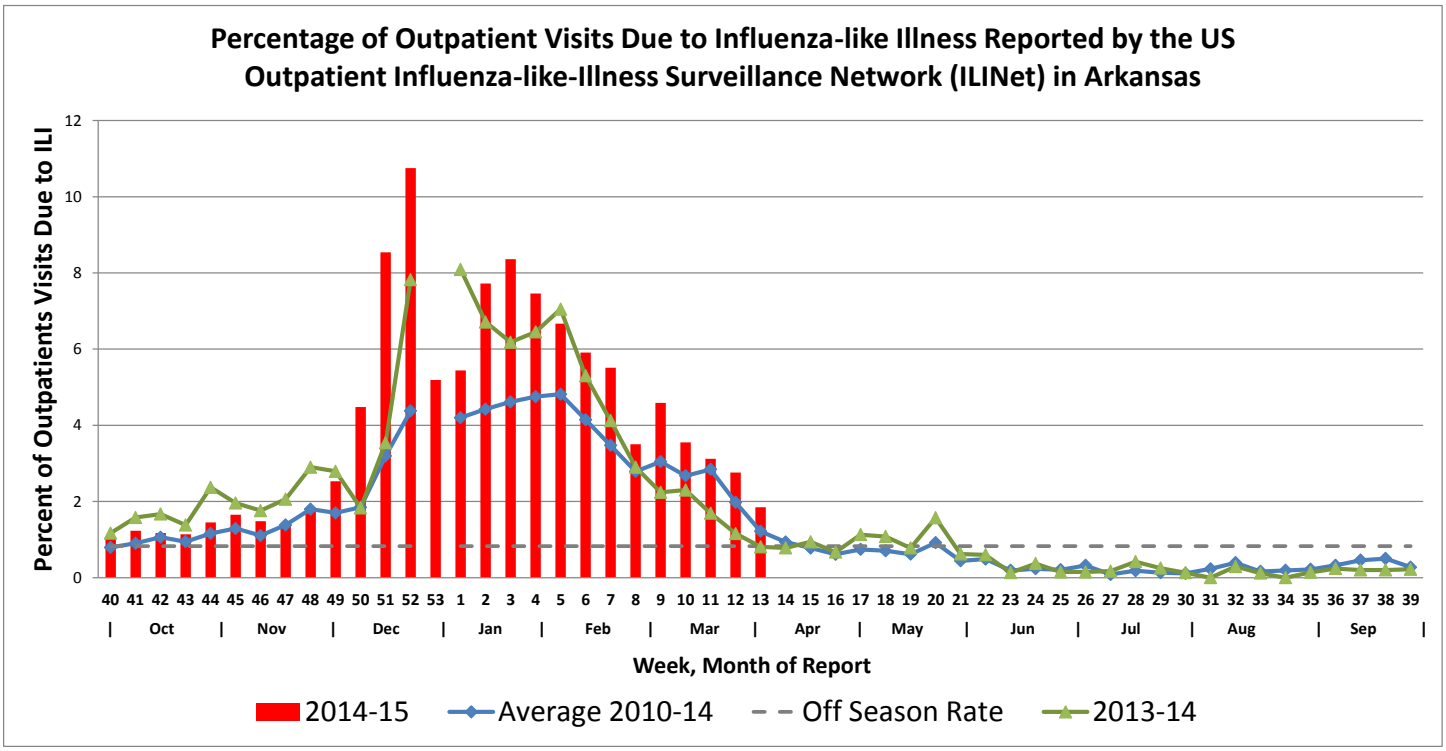


* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
Source: ADH Immunization Section, Center for Health Statistics

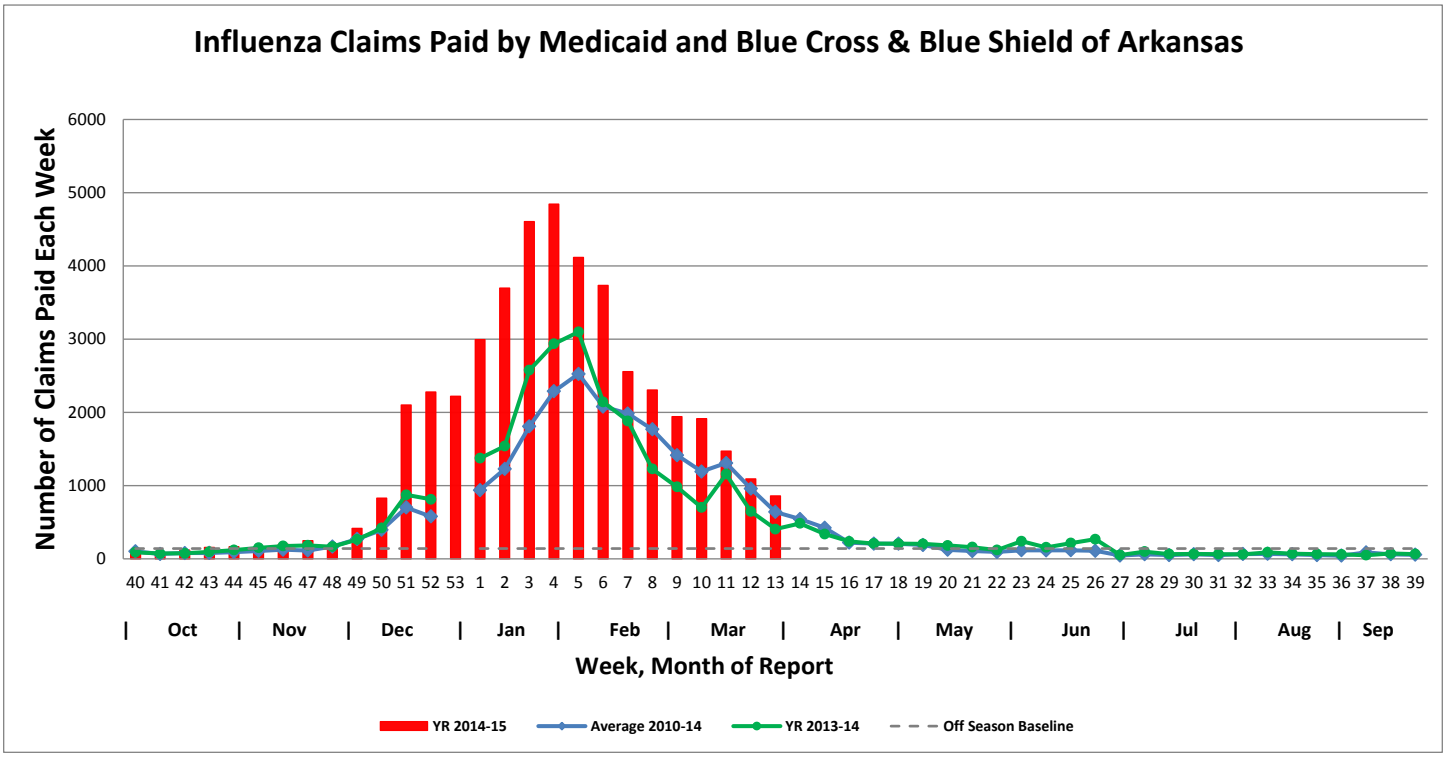
Hospital Report – ER Visits With Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI)



US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

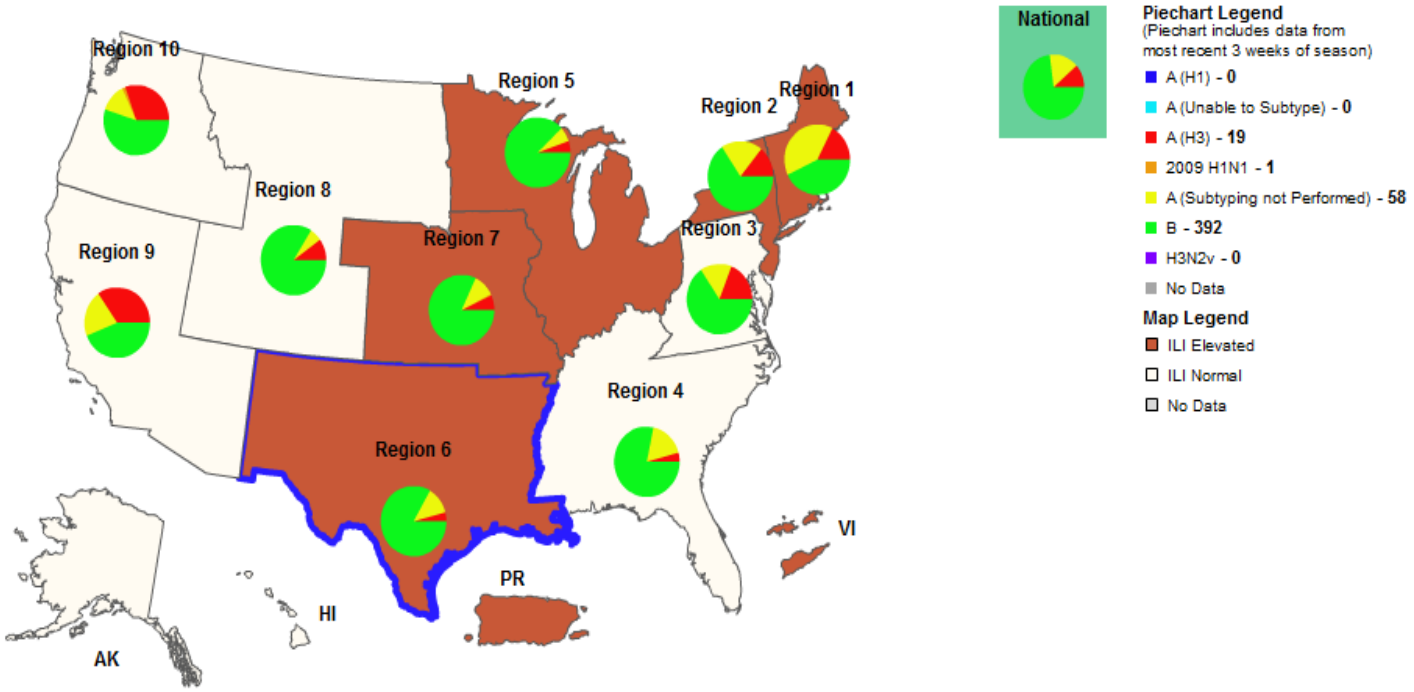


Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS

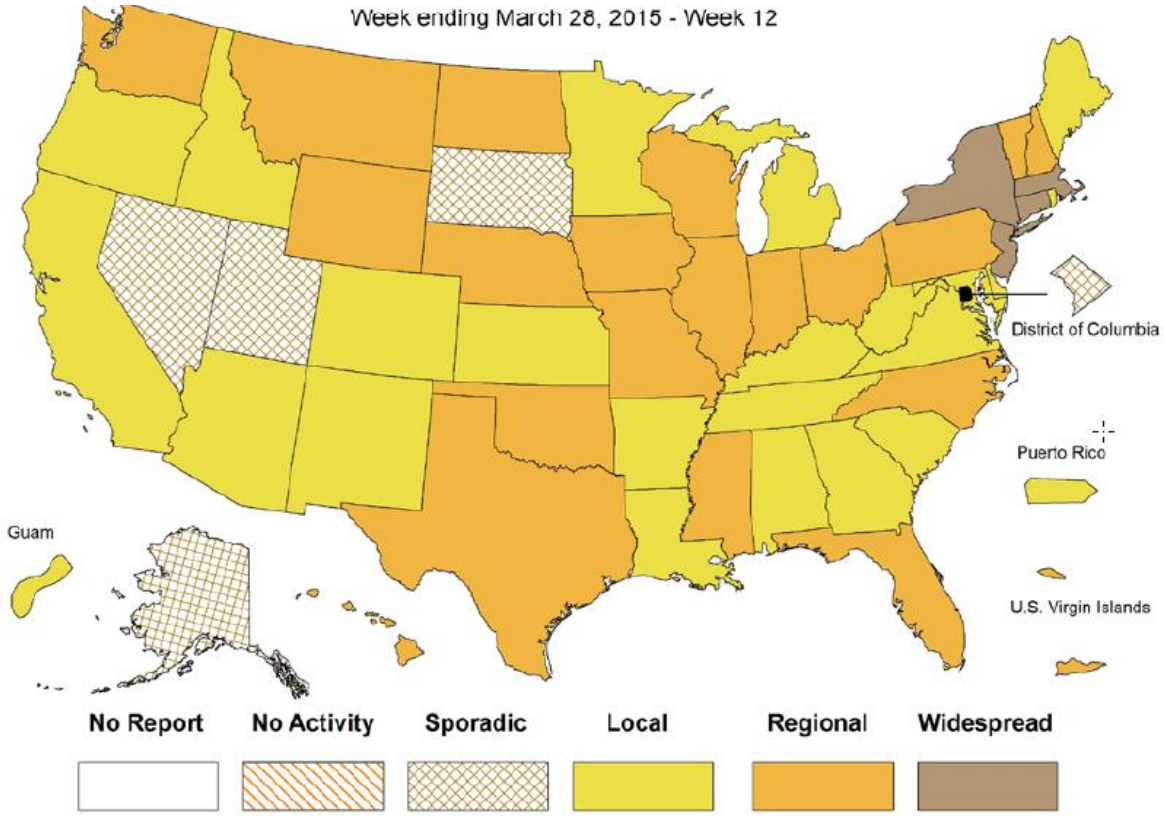


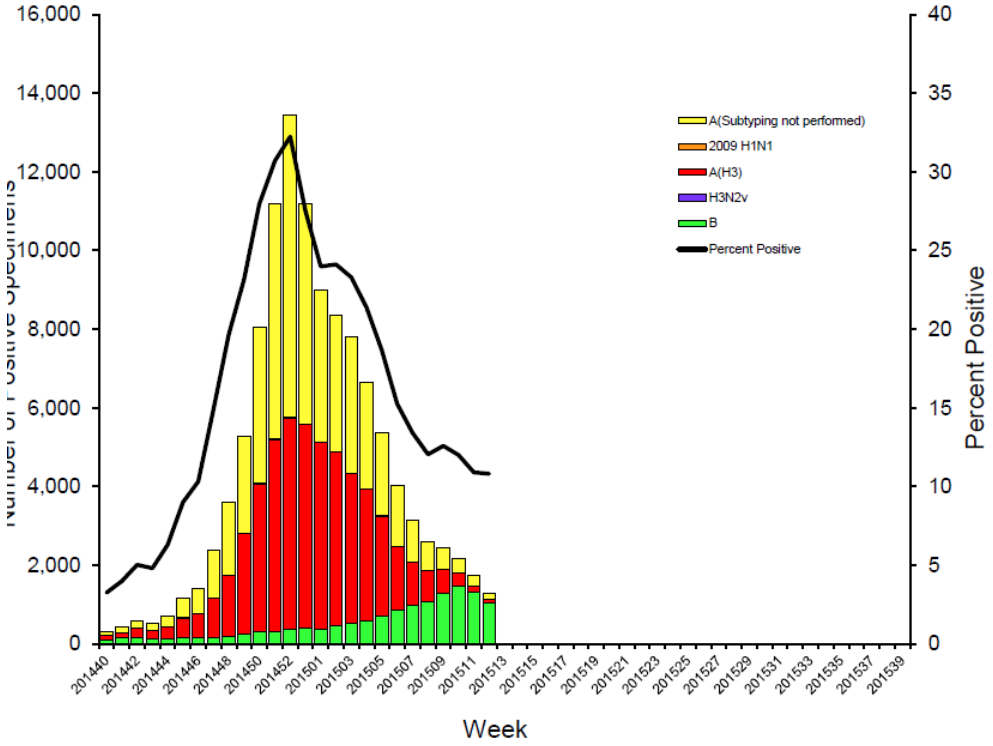
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2014-2015 Season, Week Ending Mar 27, 2015

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



Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists



Arkansas Geographic Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 13: Local

Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2014-15