



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

**Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology
Influenza Weekly Report
Arkansas 2015-2016**

Week Ending Saturday 11/21/2015

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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 Key points:

- Since October 4th, 2015, there were over 270 positive influenza antigen tests that have been reported to Arkansas Department of Health by healthcare providers; week 46 reports received from Baxter, Benton, Boone, Clinton, Crawford, Cross, Desha, Faulkner, Fulton, Garland, Grant, Hot Spring, Lee, Logan, Lonoke, Miller, Morgan, Poinsett, Pulaski, Saline, Sebastian, St. Francis, Union, and Washington.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between A and B strains, 48% were A, and 52% were B.
- Four sample tested negative by PCR testing at ADH lab last week,
- About 6.0% of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were for ILI. Little over 1% was for outpatient's visits.
- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 5.46%.
- Nationwide, and for week 45, the geographic spread of influenza in Guam was reported as widespread; Puerto Rico reported regional activity; four states reported local activity; 40 states reported sporadic activity; and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and six states reported no influenza activity.
- Arkansas reported "Sporadic" activity to CDC for week 46.
- 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) - Weekly Report: <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!

2015-2016 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 46: 11/15/15 - 11/21/15)

Death Report for Week 46

- Deaths from all causes: 502
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 39
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 10/04/2015

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 1
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 1

ER Visits*

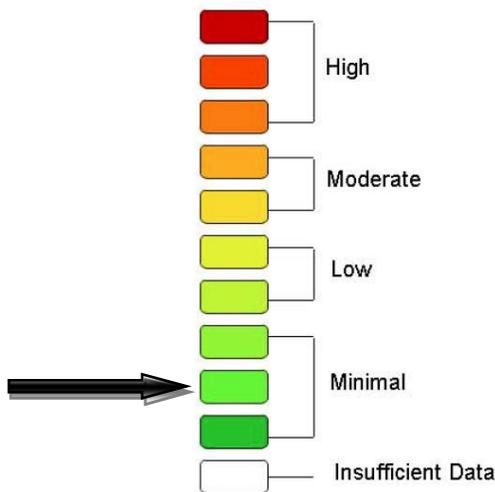
- **Week Ending: 11/21/2015**
Weighted Average: 6.0% (35 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 13081
– Visits with ILI: 779
- **Previous Week**
Weighted Average: 5.3% (37 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 14,285
– Visits with ILI: 751

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

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- **PCR Confirmed:**
– Cumulative: 1
– Week ending 11/21/2015: 0
- **ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**
– Cumulative: 105
– Week ending 11/21/2015: 9

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 10/4/2015: 5
- Week Ending 11/21/2015: 0

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week46	Other Labs Week46	Cumulative Cases Since 10/4/2015
A+	0	0	1
B+	0	0	0
B/Victoria	0	0	0
B/ Yamagata	0	0	0
H1N1+	0	0	2
H3+	0	0	2
Unsubtypable	0	0	0
Total	0	0	5
Negative	4	--	

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 10/4/2015

Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr	0	0	0
5-18 yr	2	1	0
19-24 yr	0	0	0
25-49 yr	0	0	0
50-64 yr	1	0	0
>= 65 yr	2	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	5	1	0

School Absenteeism*

- Week Ending: 11/21/2015
– Percent Absent: 5.46
– Previous week: 5.21

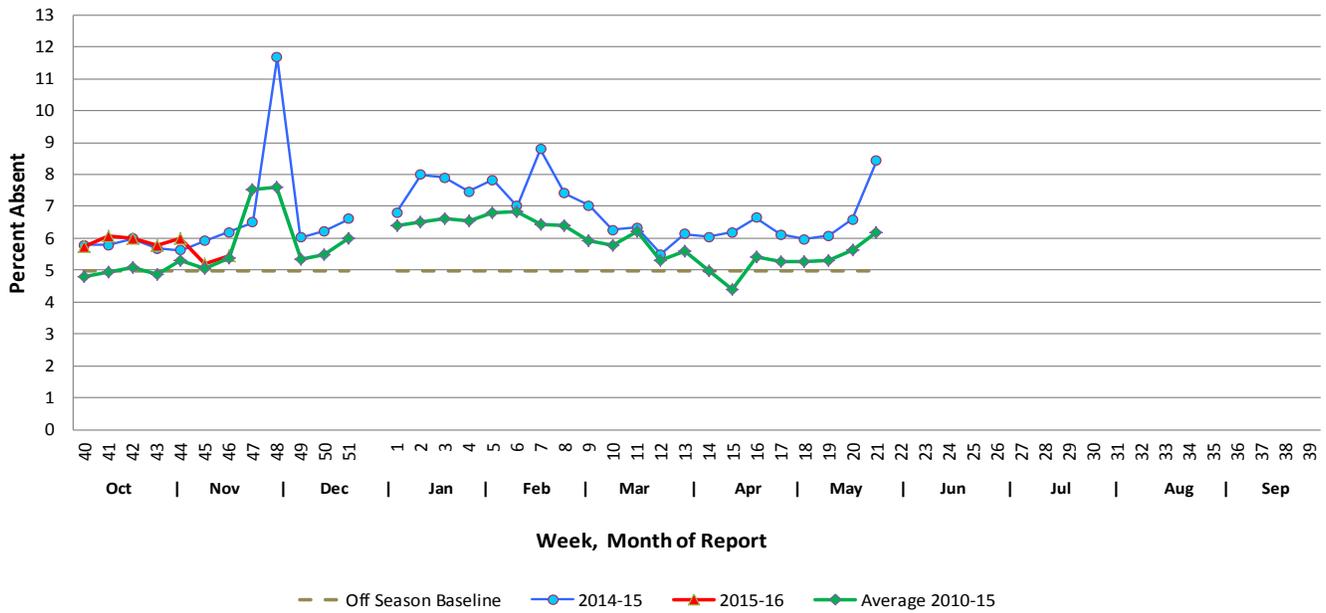
* Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.

Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 46:

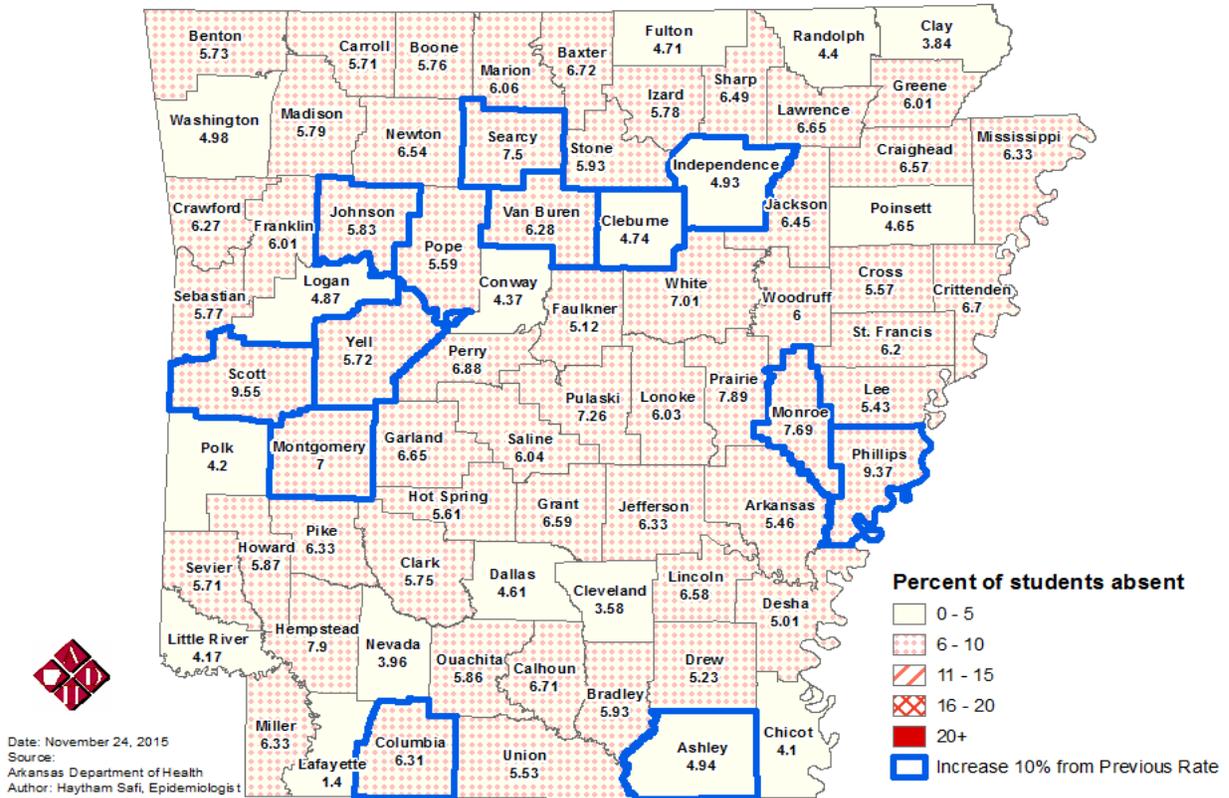


School Report:

Weekly School Absenteeism Rates, Arkansas Public Schools



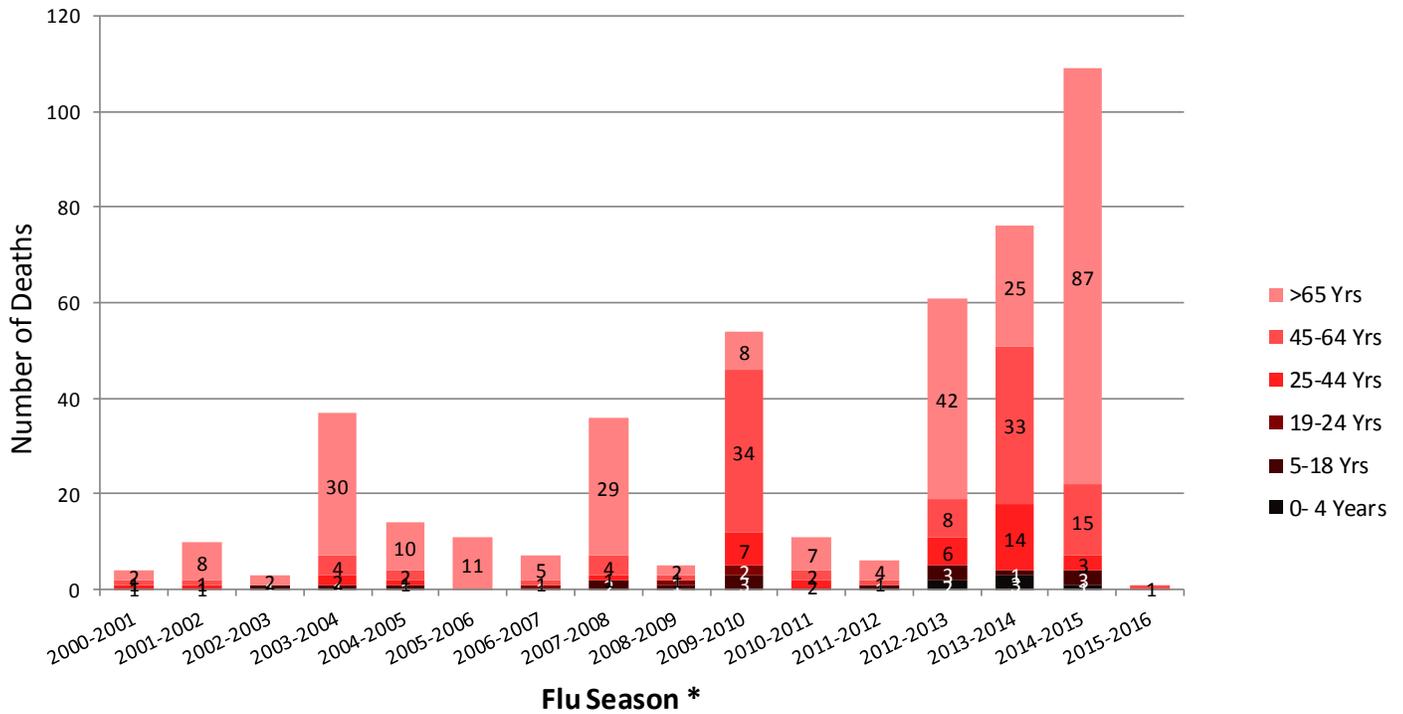
School Absenteeism Rate per County, Arkansas 2015-2016 Percent Absent for Week Ending 11/21/2015



Date: November 24, 2015
 Source: Arkansas Department of Health
 Author: Haytham Safi, Epidemiologist

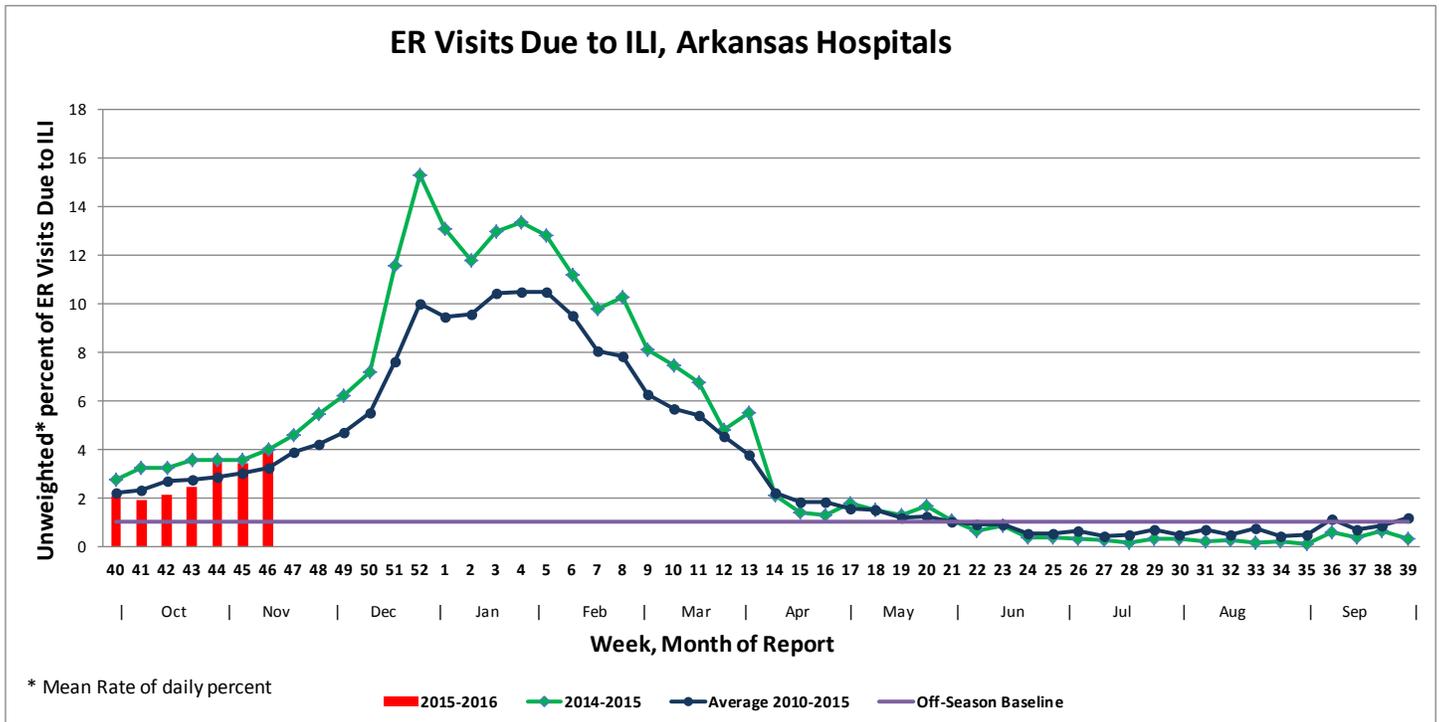
Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2016 (Provisional)

Report Updated: 11/16/2015

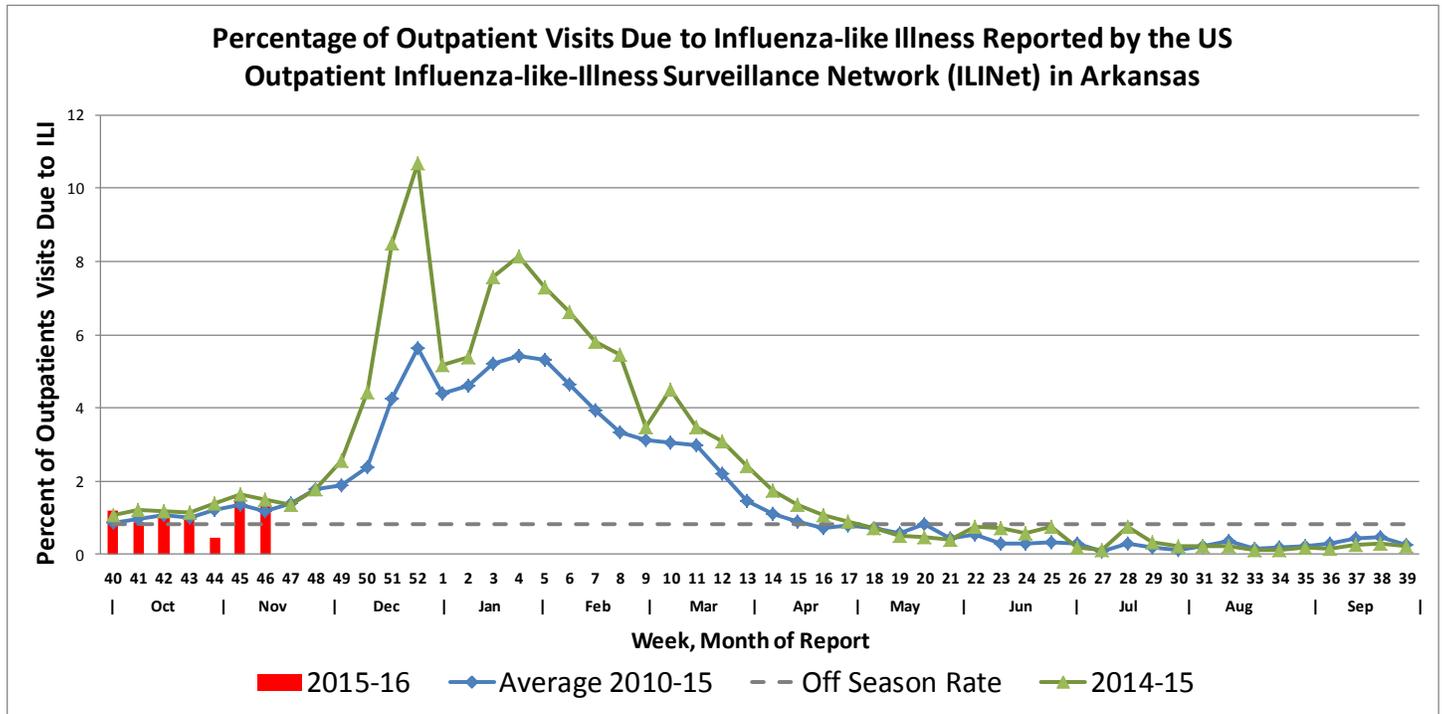


* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
 Source: ADH Immunization Section, Center for Health Statistics

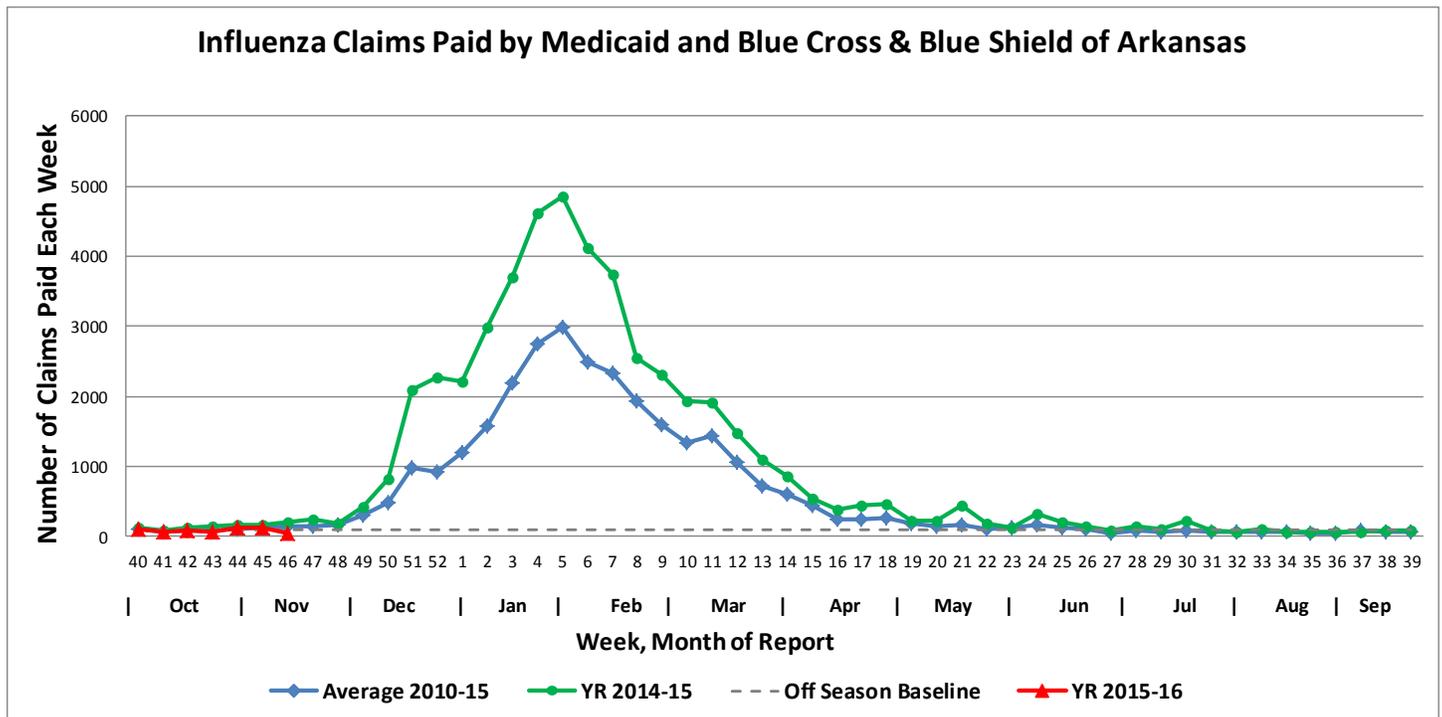
Hospital Report – ER Visits With Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI)



US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

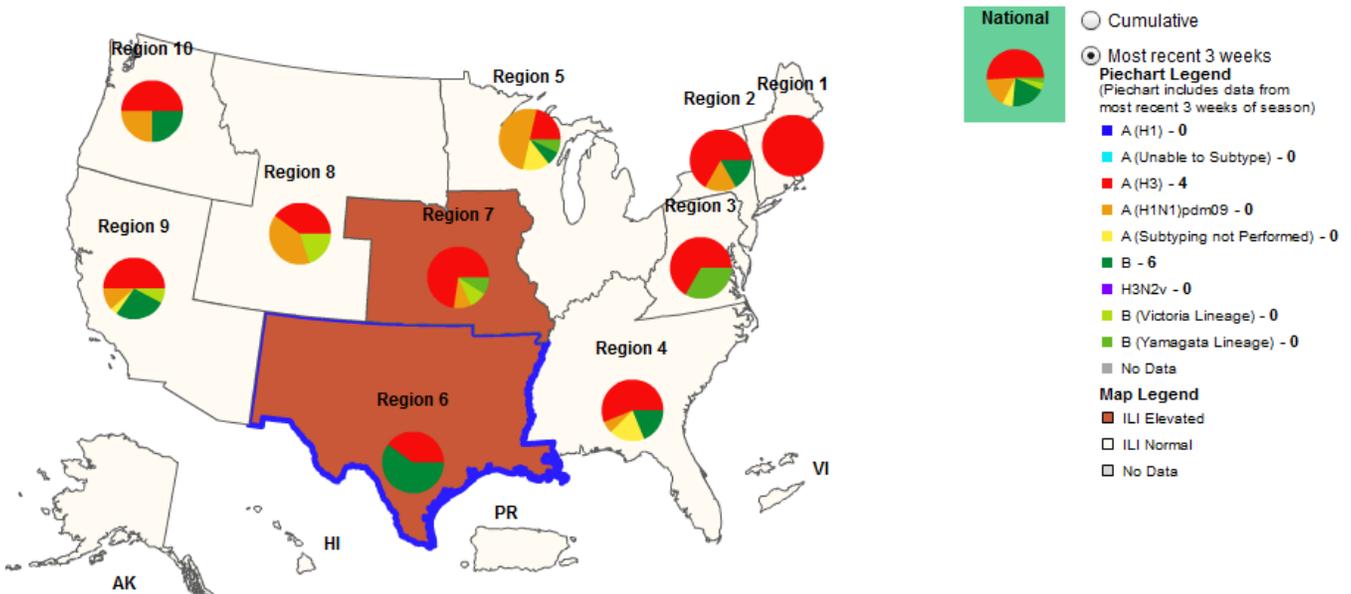


Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS



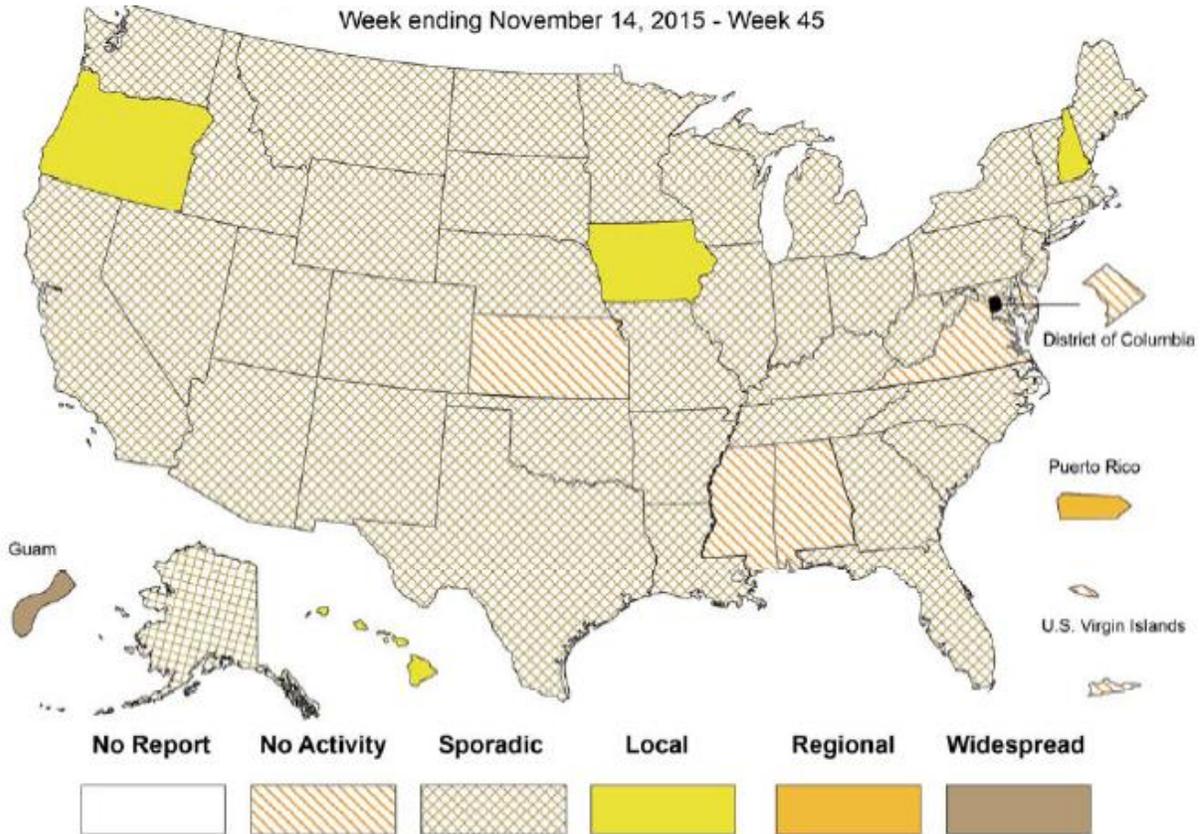
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2015-2016 Season, Week Ending Nov 13, 2015

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



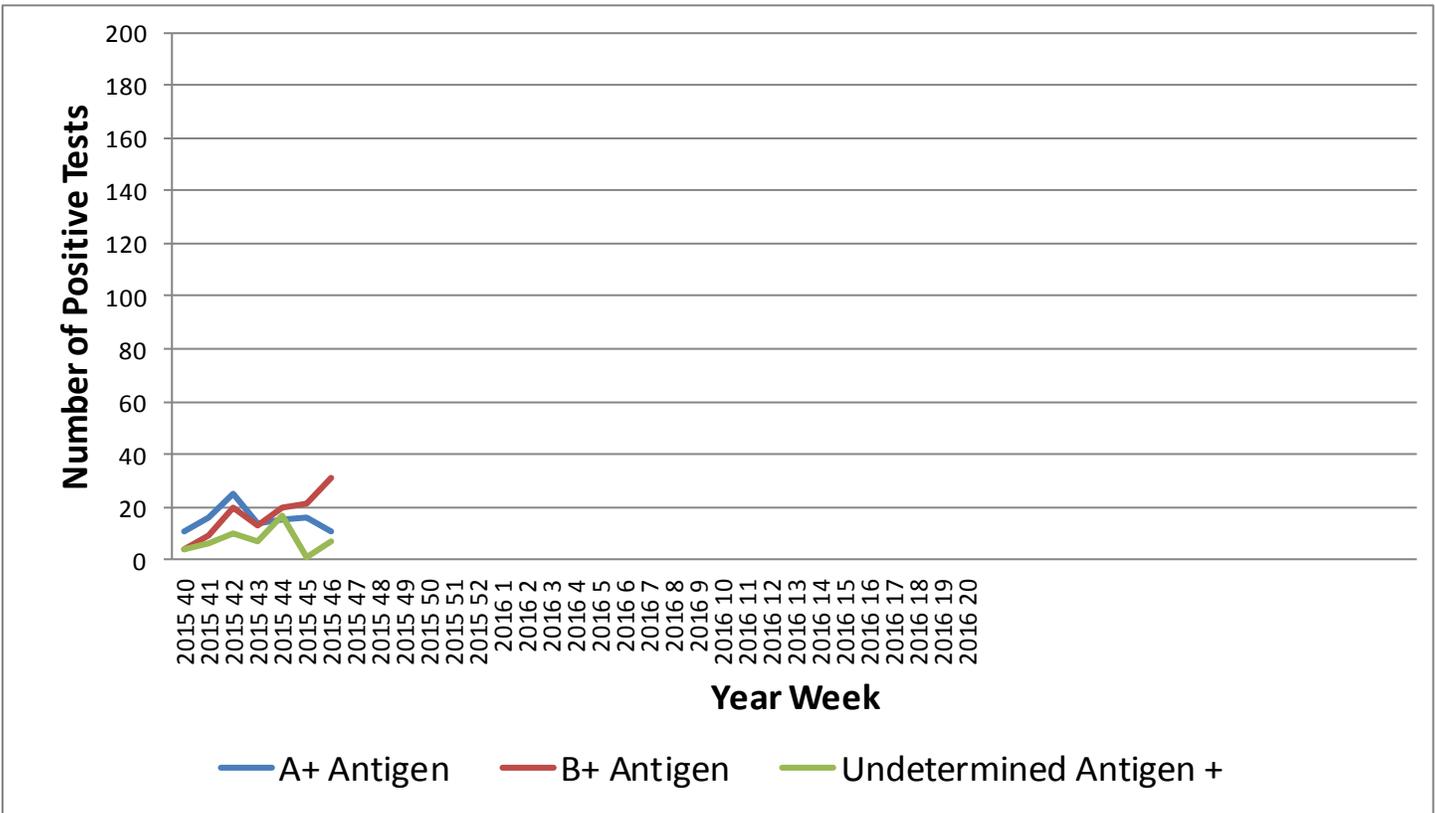
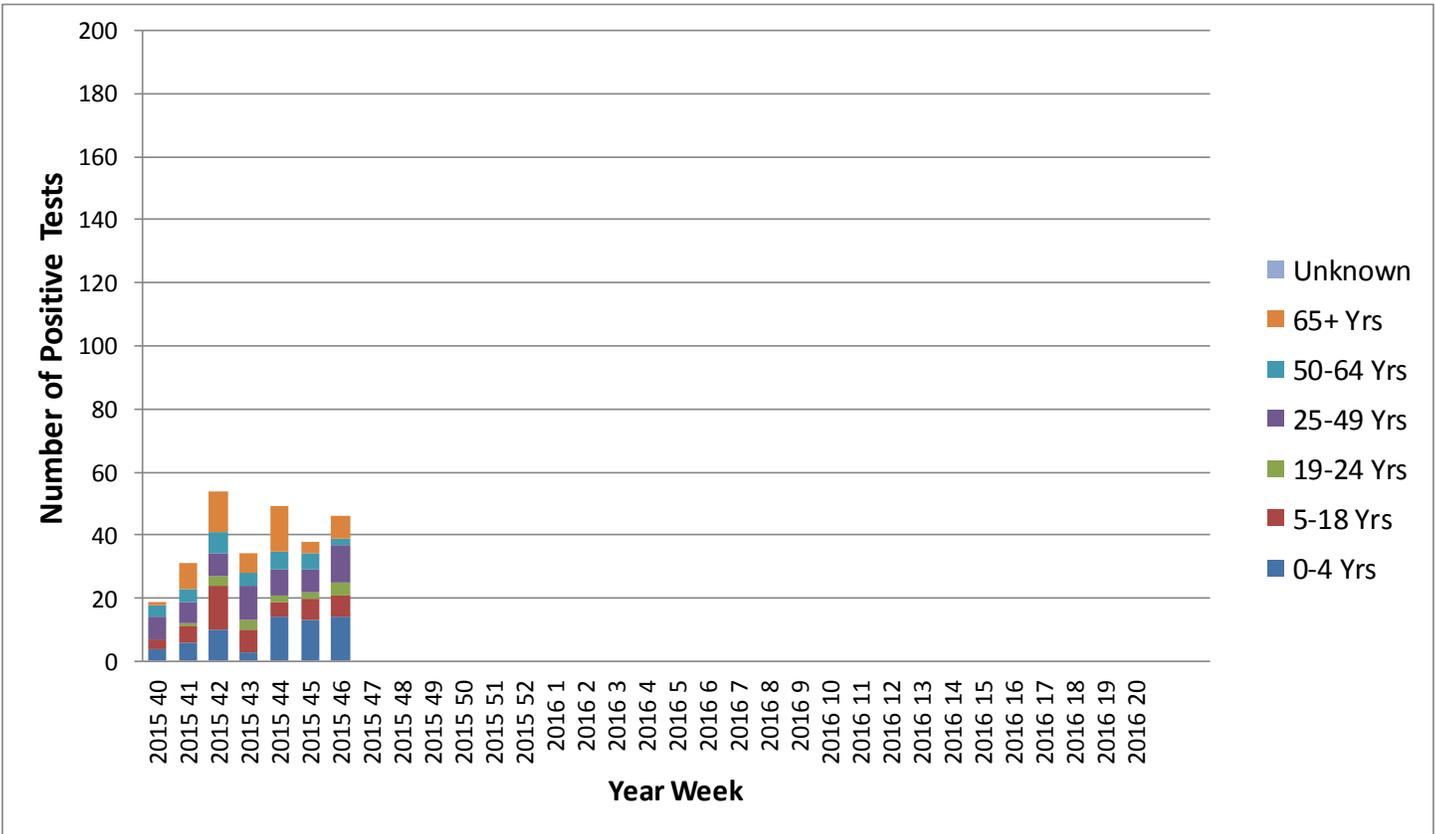
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists

Week ending November 14, 2015 - Week 45



Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 46: Sporadic

Antigen Report:



Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories, National Summary, 2015-16 Season

