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Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology
Influenza Weekly Report
Arkansas 2015-2016

Week Ending Saturday 02/13/2016

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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:

- Arkansas reported "Local" activity to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for Week 6.
- Since October 4, 2015, over 1450 positive influenza antigen tests have been reported to ADH by health care providers. Week 6 reports were received from Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clark, Clay, Columbia, Craighead, Crawford, Crittenden, Dallas, Faulkner, Garland, Grant, Greene, Hot Spring, Jackson, Johnson, Lawrence, Lee, Logan, Lonoke, Mississippi, Ouachita, Poinsett, Pulaski, Randolph, Saline, Sebastian, Union, and Washington.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between Influenza A and B strains, 56 percent were A, and 44 percent were B.
- No positive flu tests confirmed by PCR last week at ADH lab, six samples were negative.
- About 5 percent of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were there for ILI. About 3 percent were of outpatient visits were for ILI.
- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 6.5 percent.
- To date three influenza-related deaths have been reported in Arkansas this flu season. These flu deaths occurred in adults.
- For Week 5, the geographic spread of influenza in Puerto Rico and seven states was reported as widespread; Guam and 17 states reported regional activity; 16 states reported local activity; the District of Columbia and 9 states reported sporadic activity; one state reported no activity; and the U.S. Virgin Islands did not report.
- The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below their system-specific epidemic threshold in both the NCHS Mortality Surveillance System and the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System.
- You can view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at: http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx
- **Now you can report influenza electronically 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/
Flu near you: https://flunearyou.org/. Please sign up and forward to your staff!

2015-2016 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 6: 02/07/16 - 02/13/16)

Death Report for Week 6

- Deaths from all causes: 969
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 114
- 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: 3
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 3

ER Visits*

- **Week Ending: 02/13/2016**
  Weighted Average: 4.9% (37 Hospitals)
  – Total Visits: 12,942
  – Visits with ILI: 631
- **Previous Week**
  Weighted Average: 6.2% (43 Hospitals)
  – Total Visits: 16,619
  – Visits with ILI: 1,038

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

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- **PCR Confirmed:**
  – Cumulative: 5
  – Week ending 02/13/2016: 0
- **ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**
  – Cumulative: 354
  – Week ending 02/13/2016: 17

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers

PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 10/4/2015: 16
- Week Ending 02/13/2016: 0

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week 6	Other Labs Week 6	Cumulative Cases Since 10/4/2015
A+	0	0	2
B+	0	0	4
B/Victoria	0	0	1
B/ Yamagata	0	0	0
H1N1+	0	0	3
H3+	0	0	6
Unsubtypable	0	0	0
Total	0	0	16
Negative	6	--	

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 10/4/2015

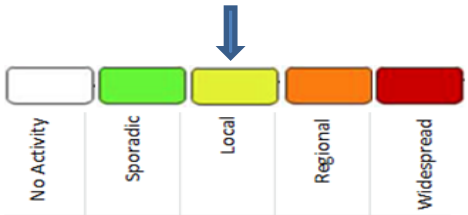
Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr.	2	1	0
5-18 yr.	4	1	0
19-24 yr.	4	1	0
25-49 yr.	2	1	0
50-64 yr.	2	1	0
>= 65 yr.	2	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	16	5	0

School Absenteeism*

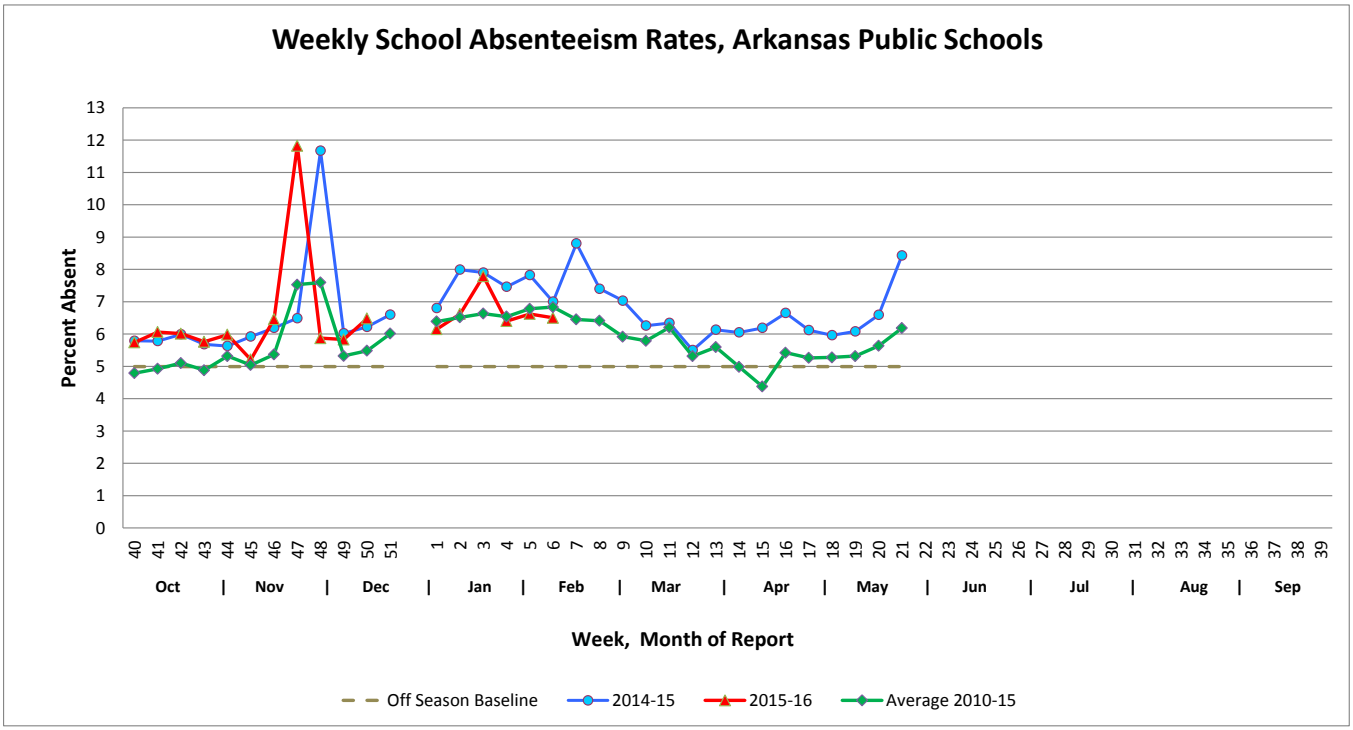
- Week Ending: 02/13/2016
  - Percent Absent: 6.5%
  - Previous week: 6.6%

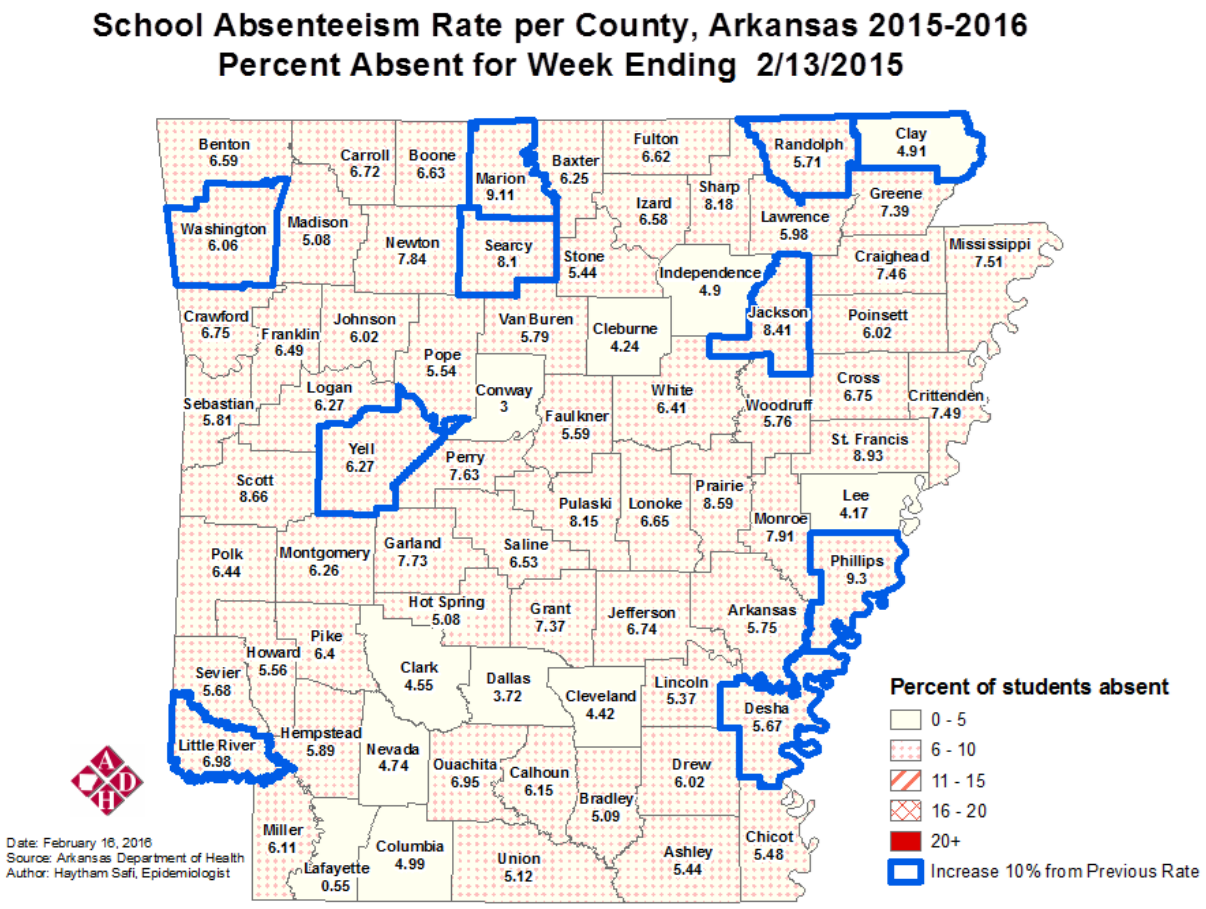
* **Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.**

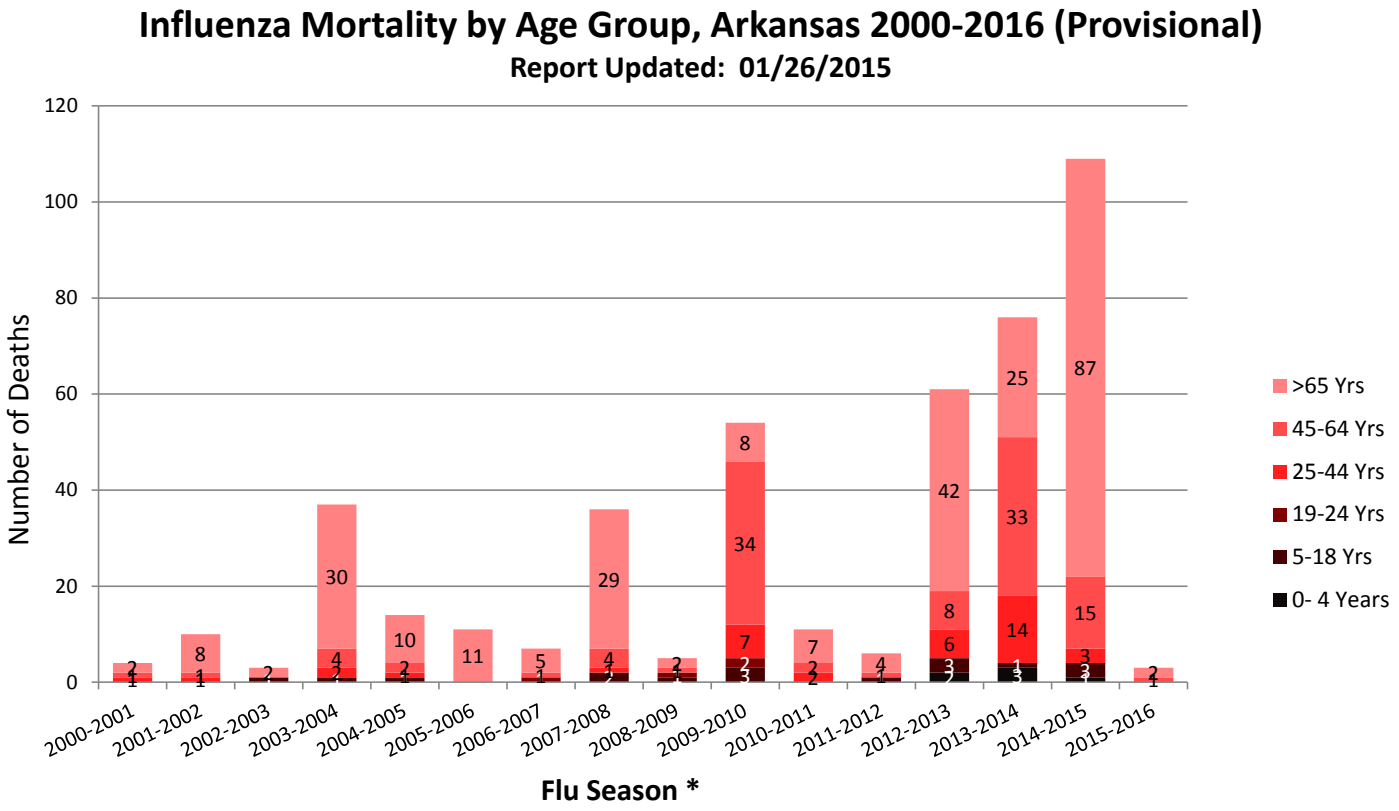
Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 6:



Schools Absenteeism Report:

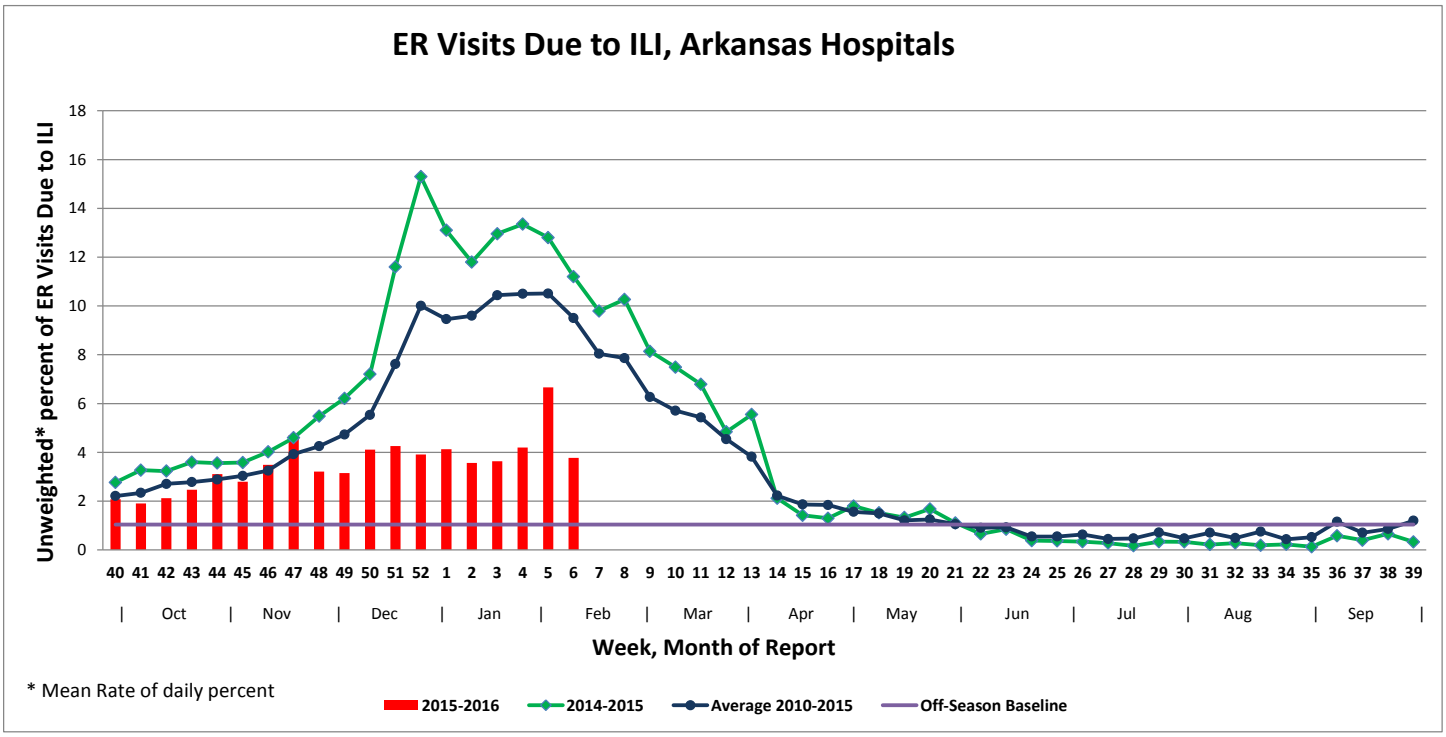






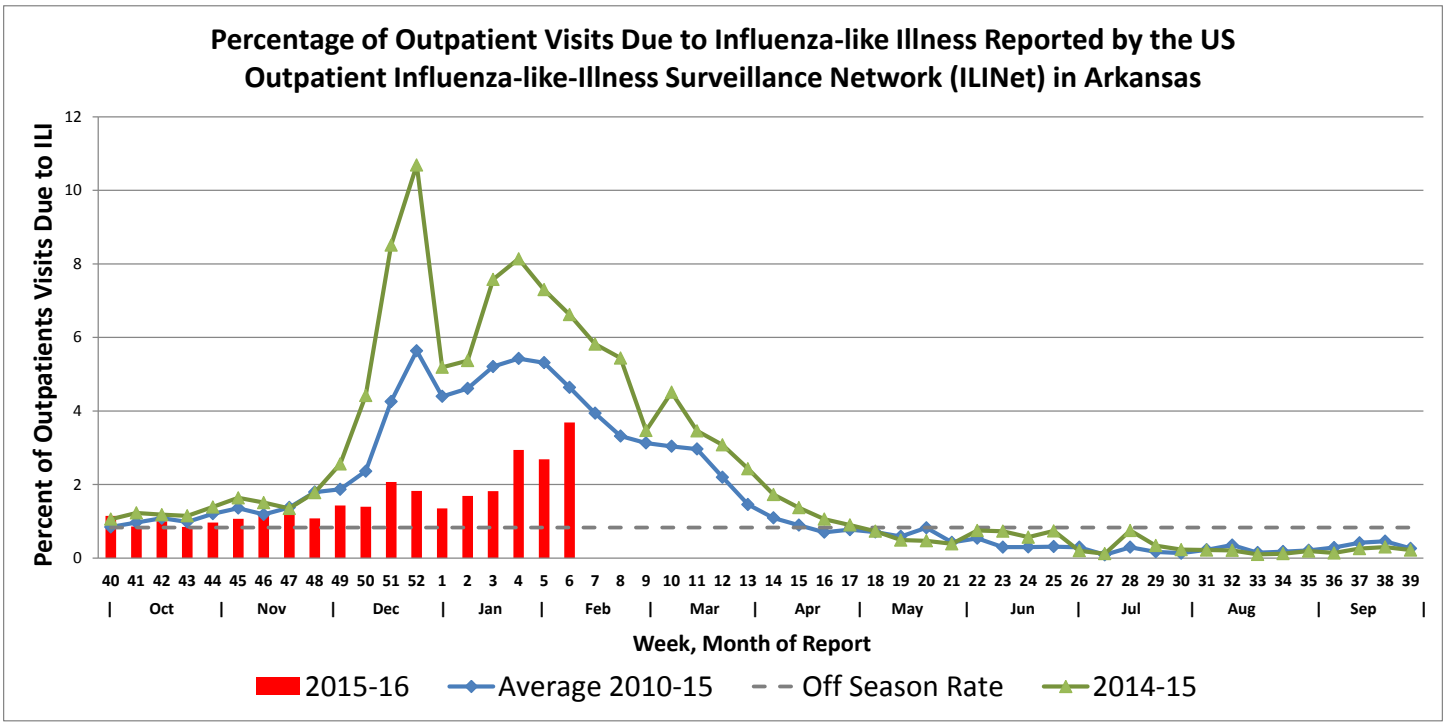
* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
Source: ADH Immunization Section, Center for Health Statistics

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



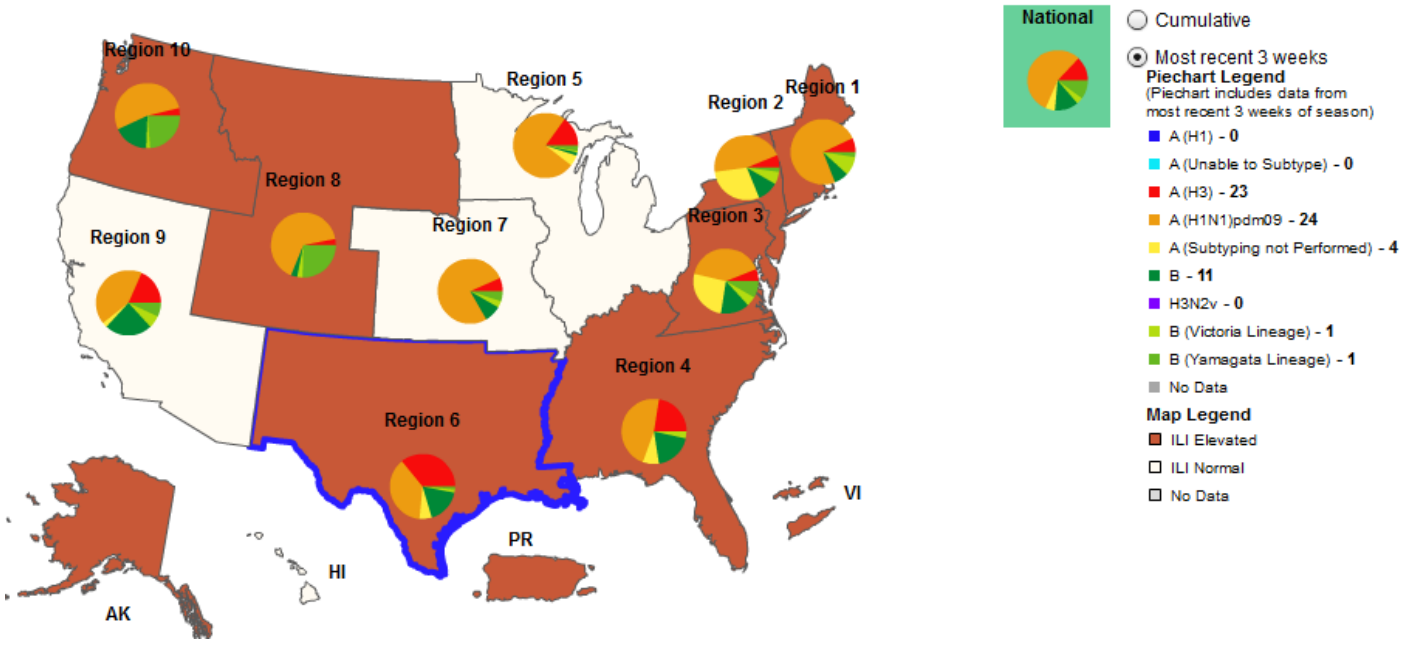
* Mean Rate of daily percent

US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

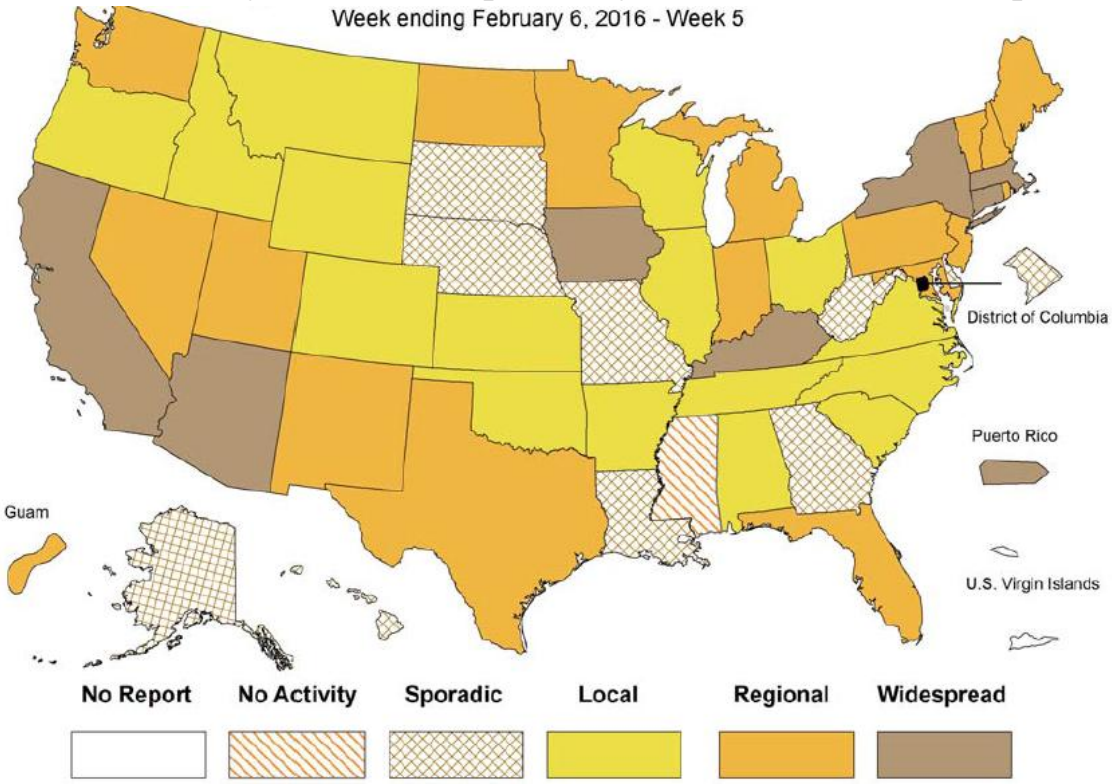


Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2015-2016 Season, Week Ending Feb 6, 2016

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

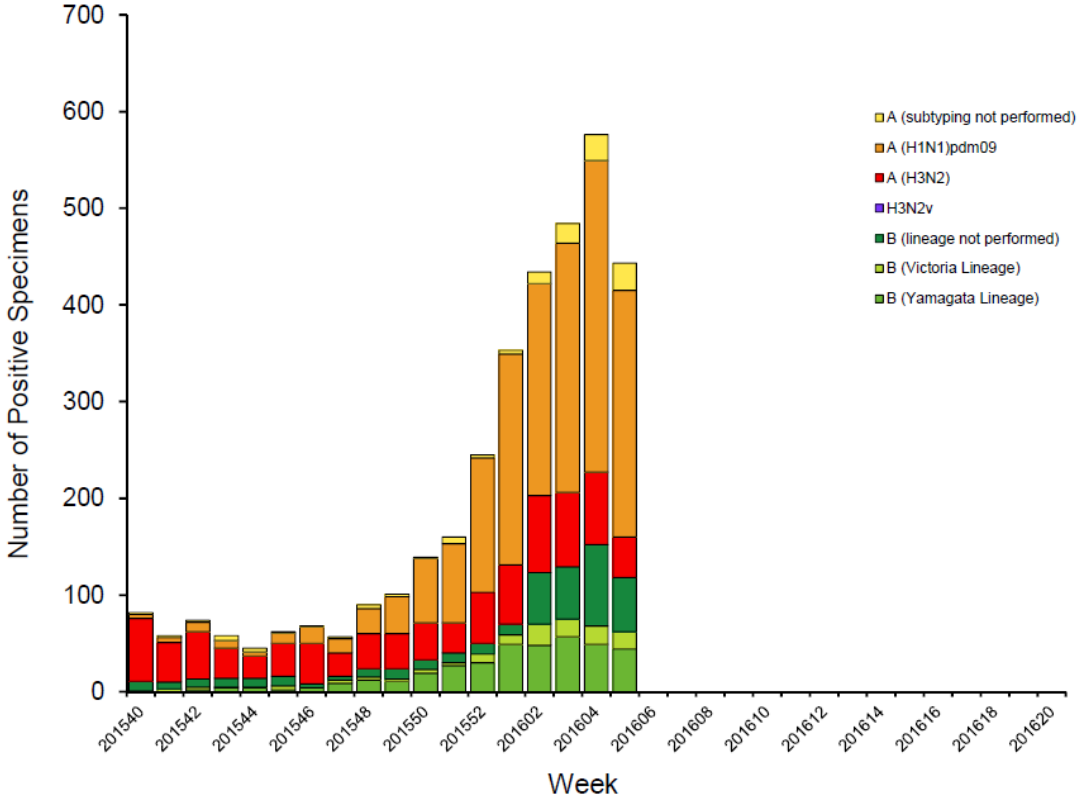


Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists

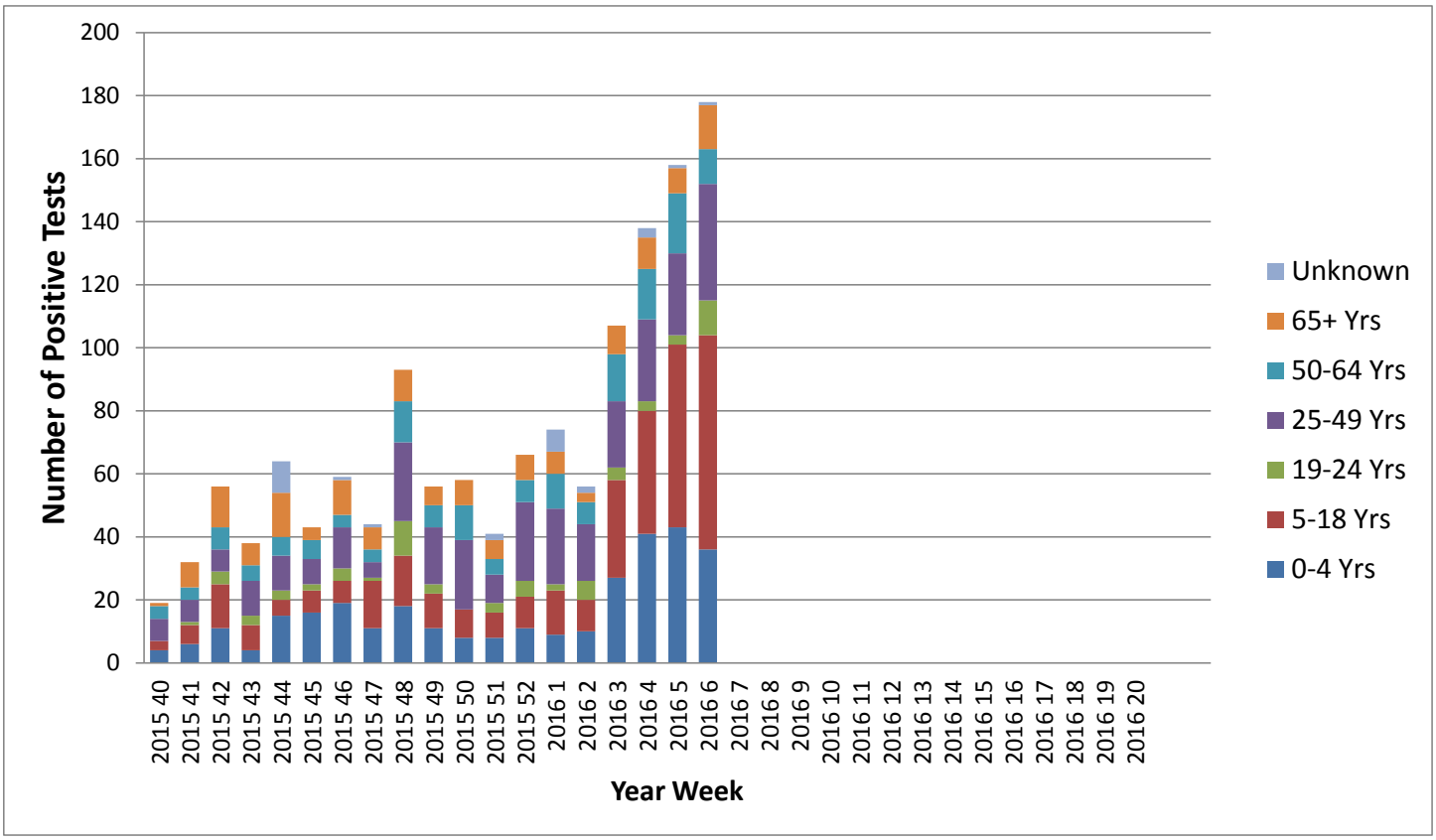


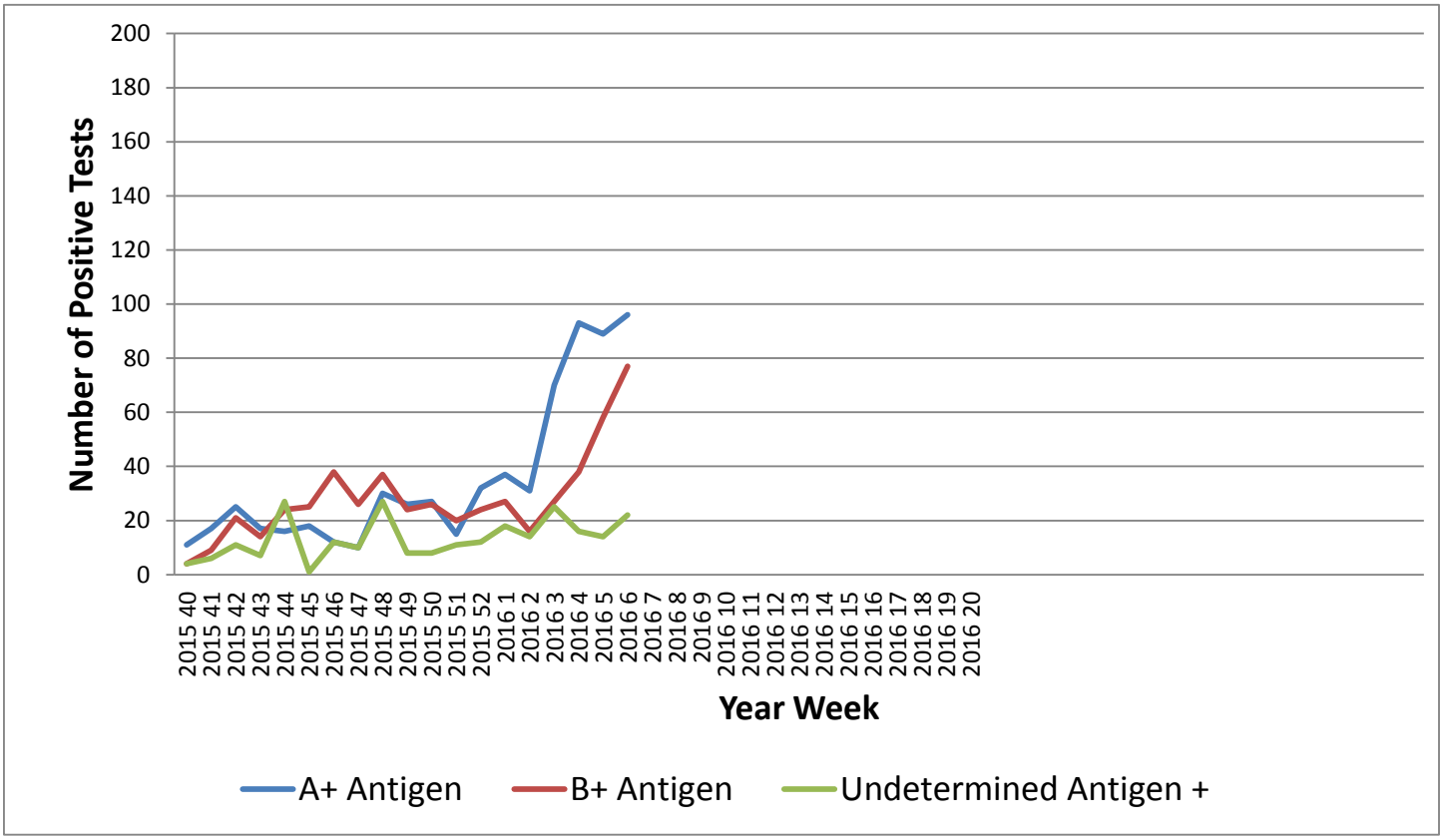
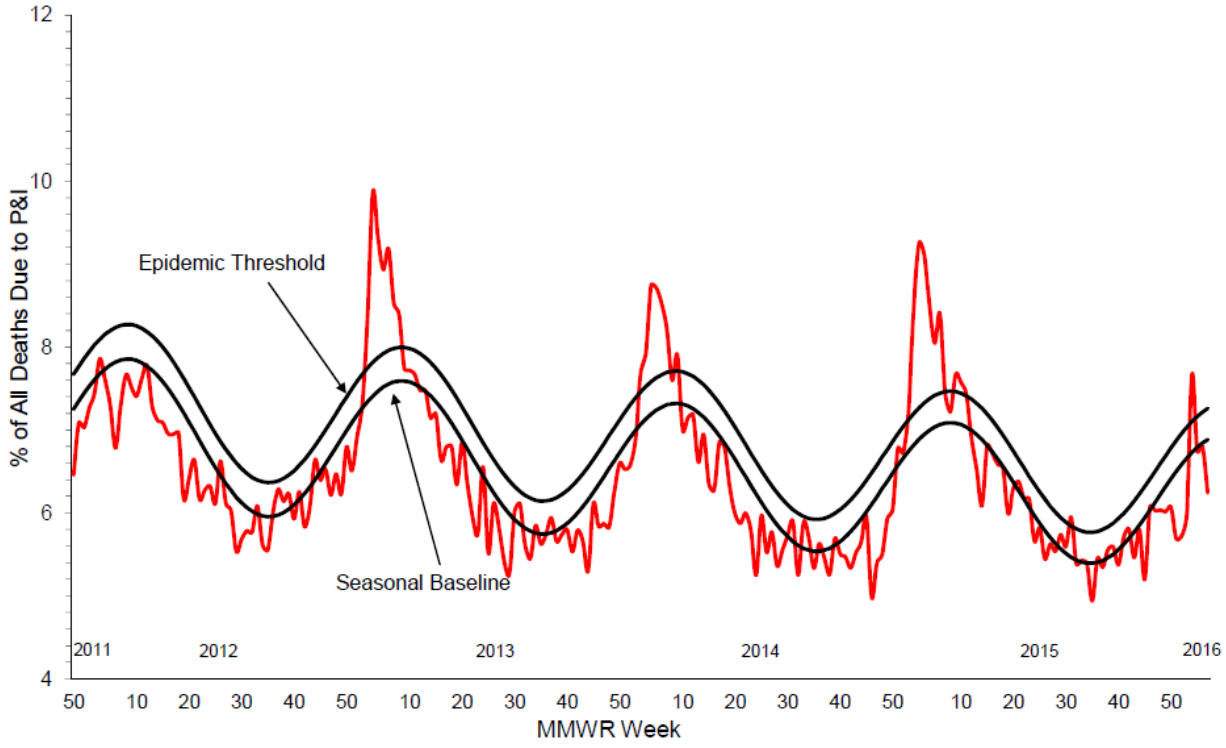
Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 6: Local

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



Antigen Report:





Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality for 122 U.S. Cities
Week ending February 6, 2016