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

Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology
Influenza Weekly Report
Arkansas 2016-2017

Week Ending Saturday 04/08/2017

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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 US. 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 14, Arkansas reported “Local” activity to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for geographic spread of influenza, and “Minimal” or 3/10 for ILI intensity.

- Since October 2, 2016, over 14,800 positive influenza tests have been reported to the ADH online database by health care providers. In Week 14, 52 counties reported influenza cases. The majority of reports came from Craighead, Benton, Pulaski, Washington, Craighead, Baxter, Saline, Clay, Jefferson, White and Pope.

- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between Influenza A and B virus types, 83 percent were Influenza A, and 17 percent were Influenza B.

- There were 28 positive PCR flu tests last week from private labs: 18 Influenza A, 9 Influenza B, and 1 Influenza A Subtype H3N2+. There were 3 positive Influenza A Subtype H3N2 flu tests from the ADH lab.

- About 1.7 percent of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were there for ILI. About 2 percent of outpatient visits were for ILI.

- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 5.6 percent among public schools.

- To date, 58 influenza-related deaths have been reported in Arkansas this flu season. 46 of these deaths were among persons 65 and older. NO pediatric death has been reported in Arkansas this flu season.

- For Week 13, the geographic spread of influenza in 24 states was reported as widespread; Guam, Puerto Rico and 19 states reported regional activity; the District of Columbia and five states reported local activity; two states reported sporadic activity; and the U.S. Virgin Islands reported no activity.

- The proportion of deaths reported to the National Center for Health Statistics attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was above the system-specific epidemic threshold.

- You can view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at: [http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx](http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx)

- You can report influenza online at: [https://FluReport.ADH.Arkansas.gov](https://FluReport.ADH.Arkansas.gov)

**For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:**


**CDC - Seasonal Influenza (Flu) - Weekly Report:** [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/)

**2016-2017 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 14: 04/02/17 - 04/08/17)**
Death Report for Week 14

- Deaths from all causes: 667
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 47
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 3

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 10/02/2016

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 2
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 55
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 57

ER Visits

- Week Ending: 04/08/2017
  - Weighted Average: 1.7%
    - Total Visits: 20,416
    - Visits with ILI: 349
- Previous Week
  - Weighted Average: 2.2%
    - Total Visits: 20,521
    - Visits with ILI: 453

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- PCR Confirmed:
  - Cumulative: 157
  - Week ending 04/08/2017: 2
- Antigen Positive:
  - Cumulative: 705
  - Week ending 04/08/2017: 23

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level

PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 10/2/2016: 1,407
- Week Ending 04/08/2017: 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PCR Tests</th>
<th>ADH Lab Week 14</th>
<th>Other Labs Week 14</th>
<th>Cumulative Cases Since 10/2/2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/Victoria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/ Yamagata</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1N+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H3+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsubtypable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 10/2/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>PCR+</th>
<th>Hospitalized</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 yr.</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-18 yr.</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-24 yr.</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-44 yr.</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>45-64 yr.</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;= 65 yr.</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,407</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Absenteeism*

- Week Ending: 04/08/2017
  - Percent Absent: 5.62
  - Previous Week: 6.09
  - Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.

Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 13:
School Report:

Weekly School Absenteeism Rates, Arkansas Public Schools

School Absenteeism Rate per County, Arkansas 2016-2017
Percent Absent for Week Ending 4/08/2017

Data: April 11, 2017
Source: Arkansas Department of Health
Author: Quynnyta Muntend, Epidemiologist

Percent of students absent
- 0 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 15
- 16 - 20
- 20+
- Increase 10% from Previous Rate
Hospital Report – Downloaded from ESSENCE (Syndromic Surveillance)

Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2017 (Provisional)
Report Updated: 4/10/2017

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

Percent ER Visits with ILI

Week

% Visits with ILI

2014-15 2015-16 2016-17
US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

Percentage of Outpatient Visits Due to Influenza-like Illness Reported by the US Outpatient Influenza-like-Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) in Arkansas

Week, Month of Report

- 2016-17
- Average 2011-16
- Off Season Rate
- 2015-16

Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS

Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS of Arkansas

Week, Month of Report

- Average 2011-16
- YR 2015-16
- Off Season Baseline
- YR 2016-17
Antigen Report:

Reported Influenza Positive Antigens by Age Group, Arkansas 2016-17

Reported Influenza Positive Antigens by Type, Arkansas 2016-17
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories, National Summary, 2016-17 Season

Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality from the National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Surveillance System Data through the week ending March 18, 2017, as of April 6, 2017