Week Ending Saturday 12/28/2019

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During 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 since it only requires reports of hospitalizations, deaths, and outbreaks. 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 8 out of 10 for ILI intensity.

- Since September 29, 2019, 5,800 positive influenza tests have been reported to the ADH online database by health care providers, with over 1,100 positive tests reported this week. **Please note that reported cases reflect only a portion of the actual numbers of flu cases in the state.**

- Among flu antigen tests this season that can distinguish between influenza A and B virus types, 49 percent were influenza A, and 51 percent were influenza B.

- There were 192 positive PCR flu tests from private labs this week: 96 tested positive for influenza A, 95 tested positive for influenza B, and 1 positive for both A and B. At the ADH lab, 2 samples tested negative for influenza this week.

- About 6.2 percent of patients visiting emergency rooms this week were there for ILI (Syndromic Surveillance). About 4.5 percent of outpatient visits were for ILI (ILINet sentinel providers).

- No school absenteeism rate last week among public schools due to the holidays.

- To date, 13 influenza-related deaths have been reported in Arkansas this flu season. CDC has reported a total of 22 pediatric deaths nationwide this season.

- To date, one nursing home in Arkansas has reported influenza outbreak.

- Nationally, the proportion of deaths reported to the National Center for Health Statistics attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the epidemic threshold this week.

- For Week 51, the geographic spread of influenza was reported as widespread in 39 states and regional in 9 states; the District of Columbia and 2 states reported local activity; the U.S. Virgin Islands reported sporadic activity; Guam and Puerto Rico did not report.


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**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/)
Death Report for Week 52
- Deaths from all causes: 496
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 43
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 3

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 09/29/2019
- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 1
- Death Certificate or Antigen only: 12
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 13

ER Visits (Syndromic Surveillance)
- Week Ending: 12/28/2019
  Weighted Average: 6.2%
  – Total Visits: 23,914
  – Visits with ILI: 1,487
- Previous Week
  Weighted Average: 4.4%
  – Total Visits: 21,412
  – Visits with ILI: 941

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions
- PCR Confirmed:
  – Cumulative: 53
  – Week ending 12/28/2019: 8
- Antigen Positive:
  – Cumulative: 165
  – Week ending 12/28/2019: 31

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers

PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza Cases
- Total Cases since 09/29/2019: 895
- Week ending 12/28/2019: 192

Reported cases reflect only a portion of the actual numbers of flu cases in the state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PCR Tests</th>
<th>ADH Lab Week 52</th>
<th>Other Labs Week 52</th>
<th>Cumulative Cases Since 09/29/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both A and B</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/Victoria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/Yamagata</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1N1+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H3+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsubtypeable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 09/29/2019

<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>179</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-18 yr.</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-24 yr.</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-44 yr.</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-64 yr.</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;= 65 yr.</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Absenteeism*

Week Ending: 12/28/2019
- Percent Absent: No report - Holidays
- Previous Week: No report - Holidays
  - 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 2005-2020 (Provisional)
Report Updated: 1/2/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>0-4 Yrs</th>
<th>5-18 Yrs</th>
<th>19-24 Yrs</th>
<th>25-44 Yrs</th>
<th>45-64 Yrs</th>
<th>65+ Yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Deaths

Flu Season

* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
Source: ACH Outbreak Response Section, and Center for Health Statistics

Hospital Report – Downloaded from ESSENCE (Syndromic Surveillance)
Percent ER Visits with ILI
Reported Influenza Positive Antigens by Age Group, Arkansas 2019-20

Reported Influenza Positive Antigens by Type, Arkansas 2019-20
Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 52: Widespread
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories, National Summary, 2019-2020 Season

Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality from the National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Surveillance System Data through the week ending December 14, 2019, as of December 26, 2019