**Alabama’s Weekly Influenza Report**


**WHAT THE FLU IS GOING ON IN ALABAMA?**

- Influenza–like illness* is at **2.17%** statewide. This represents a decrease in the number of patients visiting their doctor with flu-like symptoms as compared to last week.
- During the last three weeks, Influenza A, 2009 H1, Influenza A, H3, and Influenza B; were identified. Although subtype H3 was reported, they were most likely H3N2.
- During Week 17 (April 21 – April 27), 2 influenza-like illness (ILI) outbreaks were reported.

**INFLUENZA ACTIVITY CONTINUES TO FALL BELOW BASELINE IN ALL 8 DISTRICTS, AS EXPECTED ACTIVITY IS NORMALIZING**

- Although, Alabama’s influenza activity is below baseline it still continues to circulate throughout the state. An activity level of **2.17%** does not mean influenza is gone but activity is beginning to normalize.

**INFLUENZA RELATED DEATHS DURING THE 2018-2019 FLU SEASON (SEPTEMBER 30—APRIL 27)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pediatric (1)</th>
<th>Adult (78)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- = 5 individuals
- = 1 individual
**Sporadic Influenza Activity in Alabama**

- **Sporadic** activity signifies that at least one district (Northern) had laboratory confirmed tests and increased ILI activity and/or outbreaks.

**Notes:**

1. Information on outpatient visits to healthcare providers for ILI is collected through the U.S. Outpatient ILI Surveillance Network (ILINet). In Alabama, data is submitted using one of two methods: manual data entry by providers (ILINet) or electronic transmission by hospitals of syndromic surveillance data (ESSENCE).
2. Geographical spread is determined based on district activity levels and virologic surveillance.

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**Fight the Flu**

- Get yourself and your family vaccinated!
- Take everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of flu viruses!
- Take antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them!


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**News From the BCL**

Please remember to submit specimens for surveillance testing even as the current flu season slows down and comes to a close. Your samples provide valuable Information for tracking influenza throughout the year.

**Reported Outbreaks by District for week 17**

(April 21 — April 27)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Number of Reported Outbreaks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What Else is Circulating in Alabama? (April 7—April 27)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respiratory Panel Targets*</th>
<th>NRTH</th>
<th>NERN</th>
<th>WCEN</th>
<th>JEFF</th>
<th>ECEN</th>
<th>SWRN</th>
<th>SERN</th>
<th>MOBL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adenovirus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHAT THE FLU IS GOING ON IN THE UNITED STATES?**

- During Week 16 (April 14 - April 20), Puerto Rico experienced **high** ILI activity; one state experienced **moderate** ILI activity; nine states experienced **low** ILI activity; New York City, the District of Columbia and 40 states experienced **minimal** ILI activity; and the U.S. Virgin Islands had insufficient data.
- Influenza activity continues to **decrease** in the United States. Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, influenza A(H3N2), and influenza B viruses continued to **co-circulate**.
- The geographic spread of influenza in five states was reported as **widespread**; Puerto Rico and 17 states reported **regional** activity; 19 states reported **local** activity; the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and nine states reported **sporadic** activity; and Guam did not report.
- The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased to **2.1%**, which is below the national baseline of 2.2%. This is the first week ILI activity was below the national baseline since mid–November 2018.
- According to FluSurv-Net. The overall hospitalization rate was **64.2** per 100,000 population. The highest rate of hospitalization was among adults aged ≥65 (214.1 per 100,000 population), followed by adults aged 50-64 (79.7 per 100,000 population) and children aged 0-4 (73.1 per 100,000 population).

**RESOURCES**

ADPH’s Influenza Website: [http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/influenza](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/influenza)

ADPH’s Seasonal Trend Graph: [http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/influenza/assets/libclpositives1.pdf](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/influenza/assets/libclpositives1.pdf)