

# Influenza Surveillance Report

Division of Epidemiology - Disease Surveillance and Investigation  
District of Columbia Department of Health

## 2014-2015 Influenza Season Week 12 (March 22, 2015 – March 28, 2015)

(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received)

### SUMMARY

- 10 cases of Influenza were reported by hospitals during this reporting period
- Zero pediatric-deaths associated with Influenza were recorded during this reporting period
- 37 additional cases were reported for weeks 6 through 11, and 7 cases from week 11 were removed as they were mistakenly reported.
- For the 2014-2015 Influenza Season to-date, 894 positive Influenza cases have been reported
- DC PHL tested two specimens for week 12, both negative, for a total of 146 out of 200 (73 %) specimens testing positive for influenza
- Week 12 of the current 2014-2015 season has been on par with last week as well as with previous seasons.

### INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE FROM HOSPITALS & AMBULATORY CARE FACILITIES

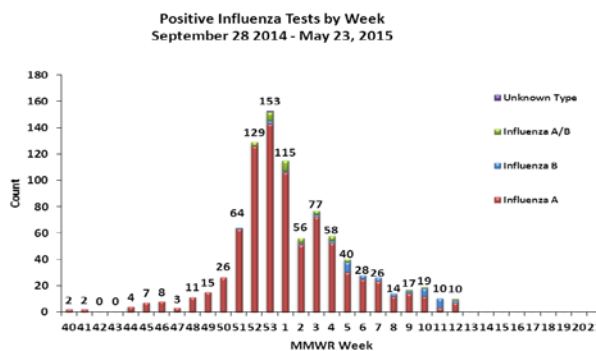
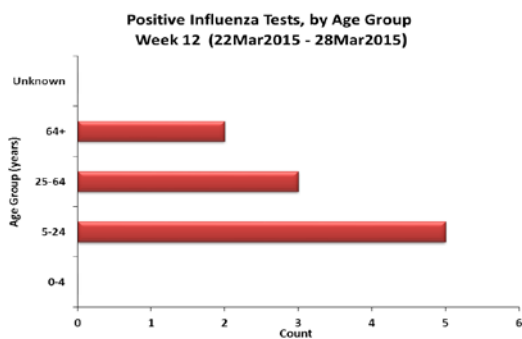
District of Columbia hospitals and laboratories report detailed information on cases of Influenza on a daily basis. However, in accordance with CDC guidelines, only Influenza-associated deaths in cases <18 years of age and Novel Influenza A infections are reportable.

The table below summarizes weekly and cumulative cases of Influenza for the 2014-2015 Season. Data are also presented by age group and by number of cases reported weekly. During week 12 (March 22, 2015– March 28, 2015), there were 10 new cases of Influenza reported. 37 additional cases were reported for weeks 6 through 11, and 7 cases from week 11 were removed as they were mistakenly reported. To date, the District has received 894 positive Influenza cases reported by hospitals.

### Surveillance of Influenza Cases Reported By Influenza Type

	Week 12 (March 22, 2015– March 28, 2015)		Cumulative Cases for Weeks 40 – 20 (September 28, 2014 – May 23, 2015)	
<b>Influenza A</b>	7	(70%)	817	(91.10%)
<b>Influenza B</b>	2	(20%)	42	(4.92%)
<b>Influenza A/B</b>	1	(10%)	34	(3.86%)
<b>Influenza (not typed)</b>	0	(0%)	1	(0.12%)
<b>Total</b>	10*	(100%)	894*	(100.0%)

\*Includes results from Rapid Diagnostic Testing, Viral Culture, RT-PCR, Serology, and Immunofluorescence.



**RAPID DIAGNOSTIC TESTING**

Rapid Diagnostic Tests are screening tests used to detect the Influenza virus in a short period of time. While initially less accurate than PCR and viral culture, rapid diagnostics are more accurate as the Influenza season progresses. During week 12, 134 out of a total of 149 tests were performed using rapid diagnostic testing in clinical laboratories. Of these, 9 (6.72%) positive Influenza specimens were identified during week 12 using rapid diagnostics.

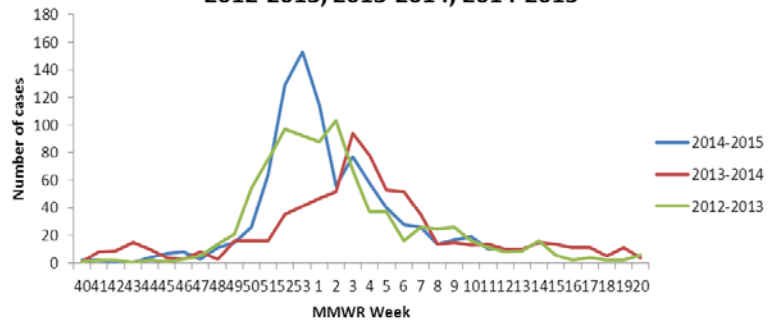
Week: 12 (March 22, 2015 – March 28, 2015)	
No. of specimens tested Rapid Diagnostics	134
No. of positive specimens (%)	9 (6.72%)
<b>Positive specimens by type/subtype</b>	
Influenza A	7 (77.78%)
Influenza B	1 (11.11%)
Influenza A/B	1 (11.11%)
Influenza – unknown type	0 (0%)

**WEEK 12 COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SEASONS**

For week 12, there were 10 cases in the current 2014-2015 season, 10 cases in last year’s week 12, 2013-2014 season, and 8 cases during week 12 in the 2012-2013 season.

As there are 53 weeks in the current season compared to other years, the counts for weeks 53 and 1 of this year have been averaged into week 1. Using this method, cumulatively, there are a total of 760 cases of influenza in the district up to week 12 for the current 2014-2015 season, 621 for last year’s 2013-2014 season, and 737 for the 2012-2013.

**Number of Cases as of Week 12 for 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015**



**INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE**

Sentinel surveillance for ILI consists of three outpatient reporting sites for the District of Columbia. The sentinel surveillance sites report the total number of ILI cases encountered per week and the total number of patients seen at the clinic during that same week. For this system, ILI is defined as the existence of fever (temperature of 100°F [37.8°C] or greater) and a cough and/or a sore throat in the absence of a known cause other than Influenza.

For week 12, sentinel providers reported 88 of 1624 (5.42%) visits that met the criteria for ILI.

**Sentinel Surveillance ILI Activity for Washington, DC**

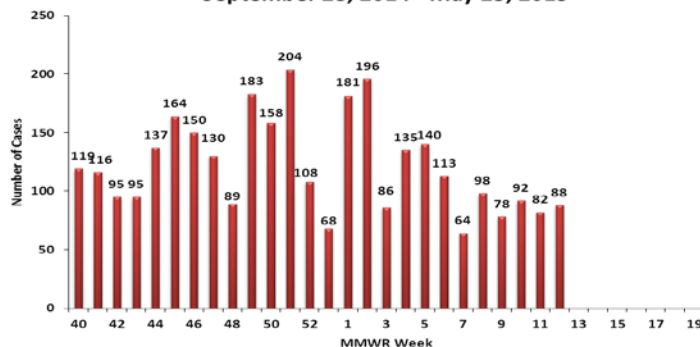
Week of	Activity *
Mar 22 – Mar 28	<i>Sporadic</i>

**\*No Activity** – overall clinical activity remains low and there are no lab confirmed Influenza cases;

**Sporadic** – isolated lab confirmed Influenza cases reported and ILI activity is not increased;

**Local** – increased ILI activity and recent lab confirmed Influenza cases. As the District of Columbia is not a state, this is the highest level of ILI activity it can report.

**Influenza-Like Illness Reported by MMWR Weekly September 28, 2014 - May 23, 2015**



## INFLUENZA TESTING BY THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (DC PHL)

The DC PHL subtypes human isolates to monitor the circulating strains of Influenza. The isolates are submitted to the DC PHL by hospitals and commercial laboratories. There were two specimens tested with no positives for week 12, for a total of 146 positive specimens of 200 tested (73.00%), all of which have been influenza A H3.

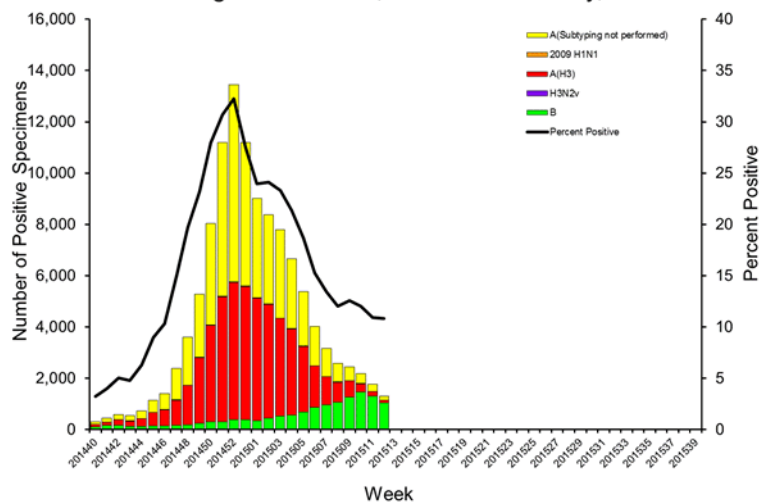
**DC PHL Surveillance of Influenza Cases Reported By Influenza Subtype**

DC PHL Influenza Testing	March 22, 2015 – March 28, 2015	Total Cases September 28, 2014 – May 23, 2015
<b>Number of specimens tested</b>	2	200
◆ <b>Number of specimens positive for Influenza:</b>	0 (0%)	146 (73.00%)
● <b>Influenza A</b>	0 (0%)	146 (100%)
▪ <b>H1 2009 H1N1</b>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
▪ <b>H1 seasonal</b>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
▪ <b>H3</b>	0 (0%)	146 (100%)
● <b>Influenza B</b>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

### NATIONAL INFLUENZA ASSESSMENT

The CDC's weekly seasonal Influenza surveillance report for week 12 noted that Influenza activity decreased, but continued at elevated levels in the United States. The proportion of deaths due to Influenza and pneumonia in the US was below the epidemic threshold. Seven Influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to the CDC during week 12, of which four were associated with an A(H3) virus, one associated with an un-typed A virus, and two associated with an influenza B virus. For the 2014-2015 season, a total of 123 pediatric deaths associated with Influenza has been reported in the US. During week 12, 12,014 specimens were tested, of which 1,300 (19.8%) were positive. Of the 1,300 respiratory specimens that tested positive during week 12, 257 (19.8%) were Influenza A and 1,043 (80.2%) were Influenza B. Of the Influenza A samples, 3 (1.2%) were 2009 H1N1, 99 (38.5%) were H3, and 155 (60.3%) were not subtyped.

**Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2014-15**



**Get Vaccinated!**

To find an Influenza vaccine provider, visit the District of Columbia Immunization Resource Center at <http://doh.dc.gov/node/190532>



For additional information about Influenza and Influenza activity in the United States, please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>. Questions about Influenza in the District of Columbia or this report should be directed to the Division of Epidemiology - Disease Surveillance and Investigation at (202) 442-9150 or email [keith.li@dc.gov](mailto:keith.li@dc.gov).