

Influenza Surveillance Report

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

2014-2015 Influenza Season Week 53 (December 28, 2014 – January 3, 2015)

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

SUMMARY

- 133 cases of Influenza were reported by hospitals during this reporting period.
- 8 additional cases were reported for weeks 52 and 51.
- Zero pediatric-deaths associated with Influenza were recorded during this reporting period.
- For the 2014-2015 Influenza Season to-date, 389 positive Influenza cases have been reported.
- The DC PHL reported no specimens tested this week, but reported data for weeks 44 through 52 for a total of 33 of 68 (48.53%) tests positive this season.
- As of the end of the current reporting period, the season has been more severe than last year's mild season and is also beginning to become more severe than the season before last.

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.

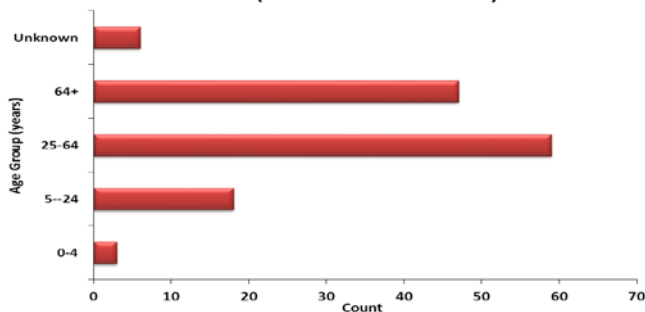
The table below summarizes weekly and cumulative cases of Influenza for the 2014-2015 Season. Data are also presented by age group and by number of cases reported weekly. During week 53 (December 28, 2014– January 3, 2015), there were 133 new cases of Influenza reported. 8 additional cases were also reported for week 51 and 52. To date, the District has received 389 positive Influenza cases reported by hospitals.

Surveillance of Influenza Cases Reported By Influenza Type

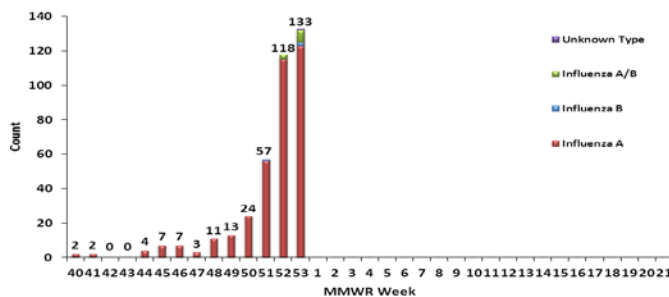
	Week 53 (December 28, 2014– January 3, 2015)		Cumulative Cases for Weeks 40 – 20 (September 28, 2014 – May 23, 2015)	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Influenza A	123	(92.48%)	375	(96.40%)
Influenza B	2	(1.50%)	3	(0.77%)
Influenza A/B	7	(5.27%)	10	(2.57%)
Influenza (not typed)	1	(0.75%)	1	(0.26%)
Total	133*	(100%)	389*	(100.0%)

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

Positive Influenza Tests, by Age Group
Week 53 (28 Dec 2014 - 3 Jan 2015)



Positive Influenza Tests by Week
September 28 2014 - May 23, 2015



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 53, 456 out of a total of 514 tests were performed using rapid diagnostic testing in clinical laboratories. Of these, 124 (27.19%) positive Influenza specimens were identified during week 53 using rapid diagnostics.

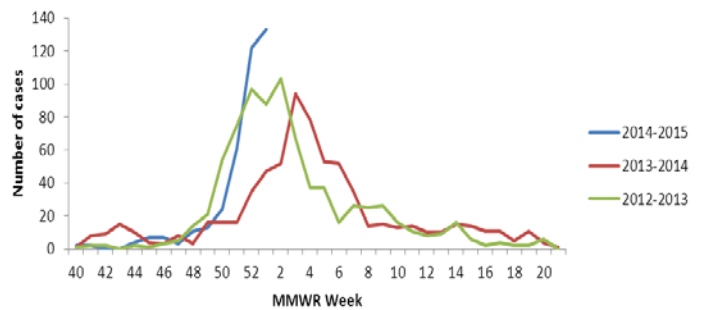
Week: 53 (December 28, 2014– January 3, 2015)	
No. of specimens tested Rapid Diagnostics	456
No. of positive specimens (%)	124 (27.19%)
Positive specimens by type/subtype	
Influenza A	116 (93.55%)
Influenza B	1 (0.80%)
Influenza A/B	7 (5.64%)
Influenza – unknown type	0 (0%)

WEEK 53 COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SEASONS

As there are 53 weeks for 2014 compared to 52 for 2012 and 2013, data for week 53 and 1 for 2014 will be averaged into one count for week 1. For week ‘1’, there were 133 cases in the current 2014-2015 season, 47 cases in last year’s week 1, 2013-2014 season, and 88 cases during week 1 in the 2012-2013 season.

Cumulatively, there are a total of 389 cases of influenza in the district up to week ‘1’ for the current 2014-2015 season, 191 for last year’s 2013-2014 season, and 365 for the 2012-2013.

Number of Cases as of Week 52 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 53, sentinel providers reported 68 of 458 (14.85%) visits that met the criteria for ILI.

Sentinel Surveillance ILI Activity for Washington, DC

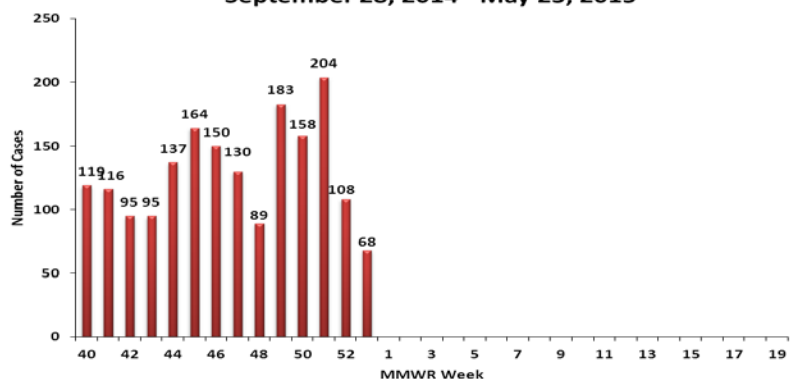
Week of	Activity *
Dec 28 – Jan 3	Local

***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. No specimens were reported by the PHL for week 53, but additional data was reported for weeks 44 through 52, with 68 specimens tested and 33 (48.53%) of them positive, all of them influenza A H3.

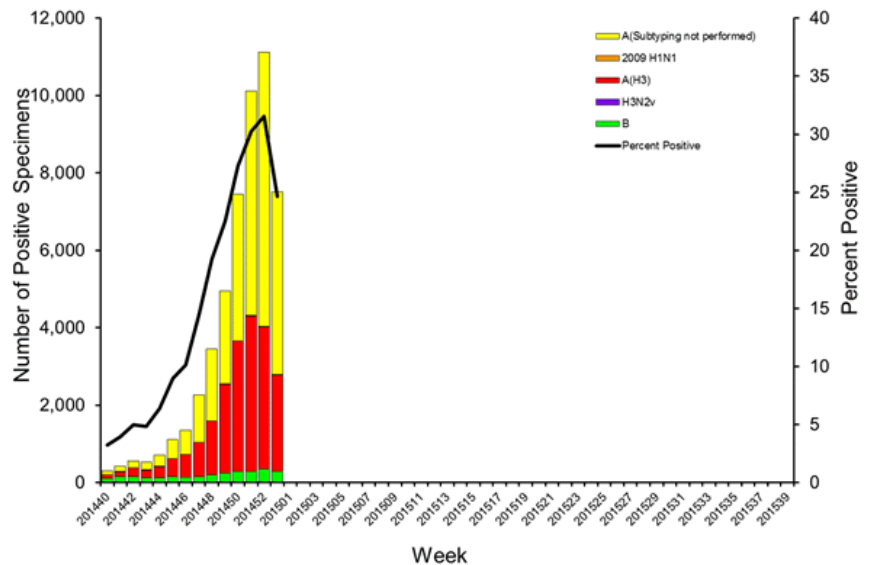
DC PHL Surveillance of Influenza Cases Reported By Influenza Subtype

DC PHL Influenza Testing	December 28, 2014 – January 3, 2015	Total Cases September 28, 2014 – May 23, 2015
Number of specimens tested	0	68
◆ Number of specimens positive for Influenza:	0 (0%)	33 (48.53%)
● Influenza A	0 (0%)	33 (100%)
▪ H1 2009 H1N1	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
▪ H1 seasonal	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
▪ H3	0 (0%)	33 (100%)
● Influenza B	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

NATIONAL INFLUENZA ASSESSMENT

The CDC's weekly seasonal Influenza surveillance report for week 53 noted that Influenza activity continued at elevated levels in the United States. The proportion of deaths due to Influenza and pneumonia in the US was above the epidemic threshold. Five Influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to the CDC during week 53, of which all were associated with an un-typed A virus. For the 2014-2015 season, a total of 26 pediatric death associated with Influenza has been reported in the US. During week 53, 30,469 specimens were tested, of which 7,515 (24.7%) were positive. Of the 7,515 respiratory specimens that tested positive during week 53, 7,218 (96.0%) were Influenza A and 297 (4.0%) were Influenza B. Of the Influenza A samples, 8 (0.1%) were 2009 H1N1, 2,486 (34.4%) were H3, and 4,724 (65.4%) 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.