

Influenza Surveillance Report

www.infectiousdisease.dhh.louisiana.gov

Week 44: 10/27/13 - 11/2/13

Influenza activity was sporadic in Louisiana during week 44. The top circulating respiratory viruses reported this week, other than influenza, are Rhino/Enterovirus, RSV, Parainfluenza 1, and Adenovirus.

The Influenza Surveillance Summary Report describes the results of the tracking done by the Louisiana Office of Public Health Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section (IDEpi). This report relies on data supplied by sentinel surveillance sites, including hospital emergency departments (ED), laboratories and physicians' offices. Sentinel sites provide weekly data on Influenza Like Illness (ILI) and/or laboratory confirmed cases.

Taken together, ILI surveillance and laboratory surveillance provide a clear picture of the influenza activity occurring in Louisiana each week. If you have any questions about our surveillance system or would like more information, please contact Julie Hand at 504-568-8298 or julie.hand@la.gov.

ILI is defined as an illness characterized by cough and/or cold symptoms and a fever of 100° F or greater in the absence of a known cause. While not every case of ILI is a case of influenza, the CDC has found that trends in ILI from sentinel sites are a good proxy measure of the amount of influenza activity in an area. For this reason, all states and territories participating in the national surveillance program monitor weekly ILI ratios from their sentinel surveillance sites.

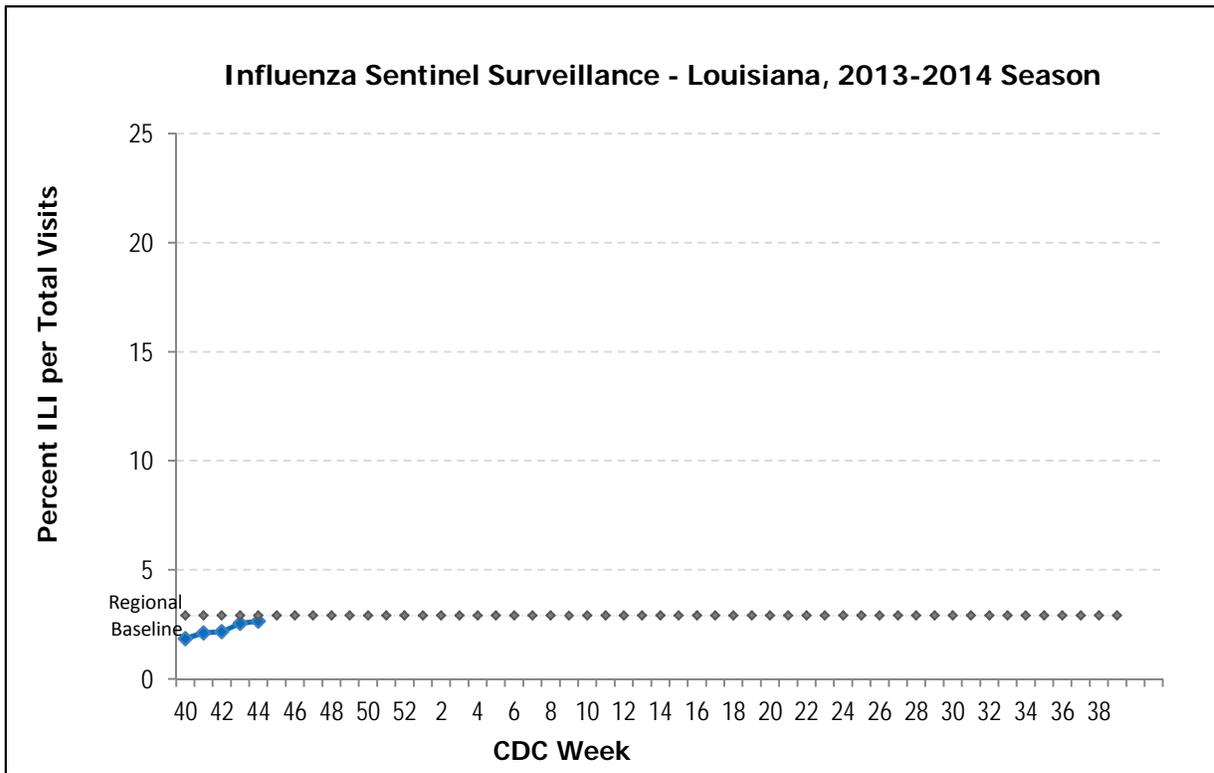


Laboratory testing: Not all sentinel sites have access to laboratory testing. However, many hospitals and physicians' offices do perform some influenza testing. Sites that test for influenza report the number of positive tests each week and the total number of tests performed each week. This information is included on page 3 of this report.

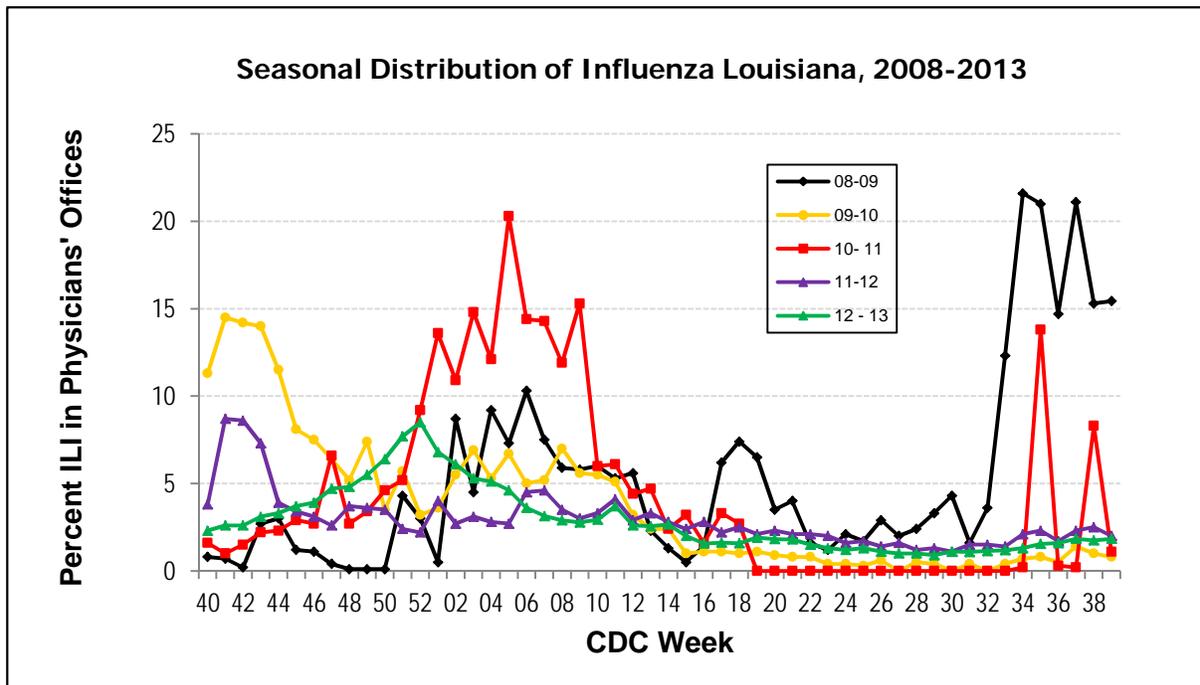
- Page 2 : ILI Activity
- Page 3: Virologic Surveillance
- Page 4: Louisiana & National Activity Maps
- Page 5: National Surveillance

2013-2014 Season

This graph shows the percentage of visits for ILI over the total number of visits for sentinel surveillance sites. This is the best approach to estimate the magnitude of influenza transmission. ILI counts do include some viral infections other than influenza, but experience over the last 50 years has shown that this approach is a reliable method to estimate influenza transmission. It does not show which strain of influenza virus is responsible. The page on lab surveillance does show the proportion of specimens attributable to each virus strain.

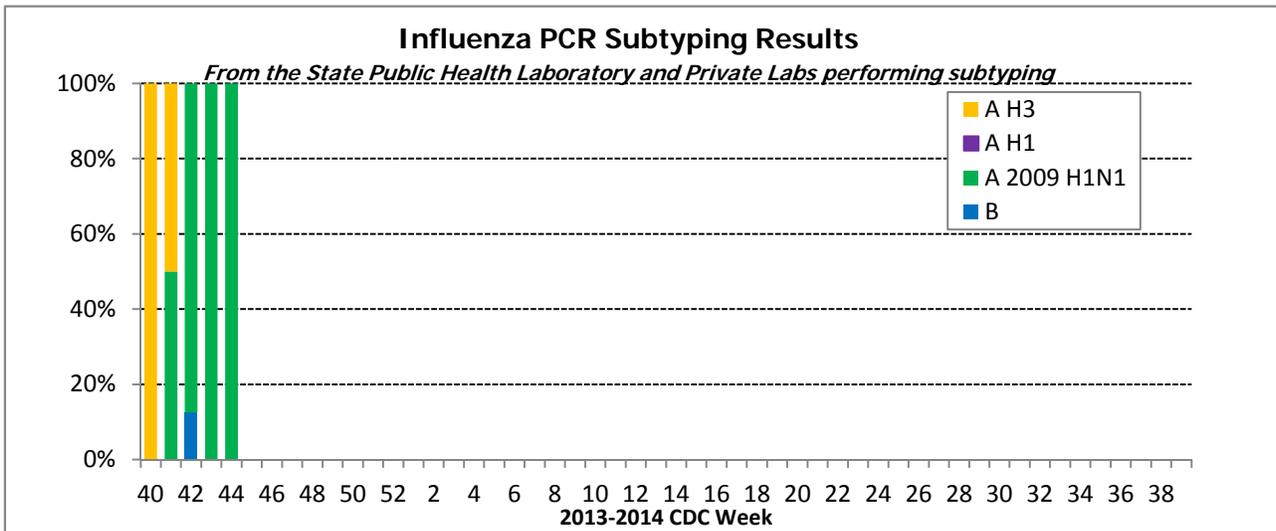
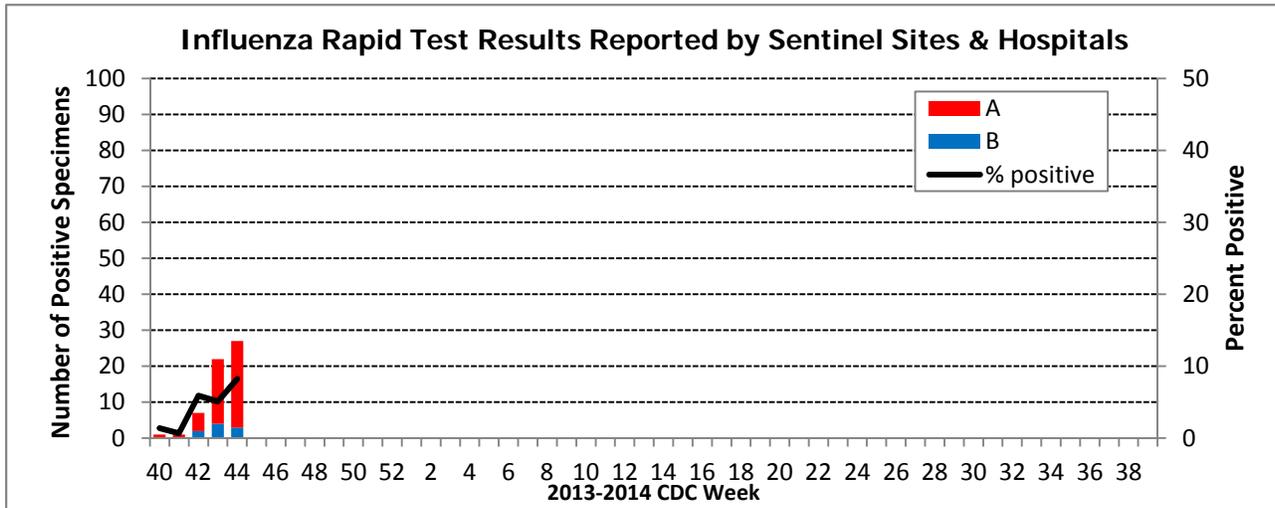


This graph shows the data on ILI surveillance among sentinel physicians' over the past 5 seasons to enable comparisons with previous years and better estimate the amplitude of this season's influenza transmission.

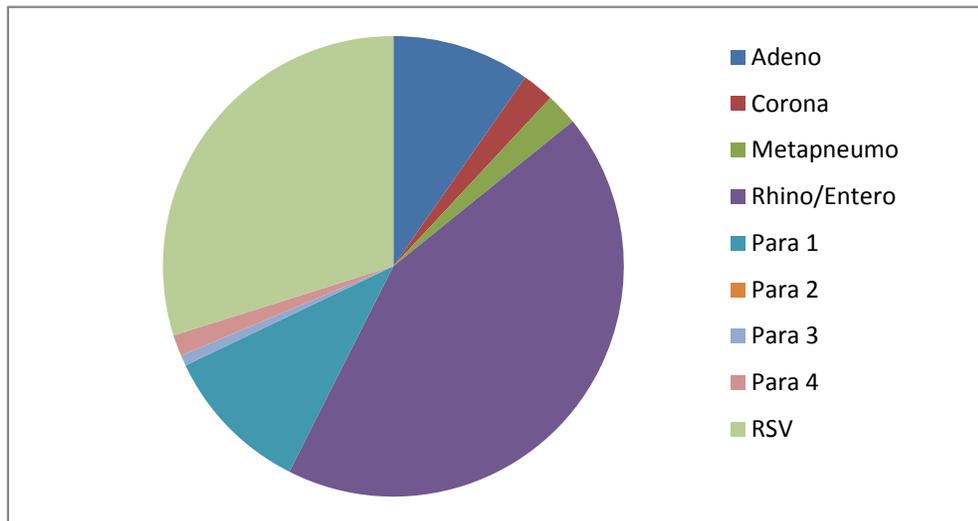


2013-2014 Season

Virologic Surveillance



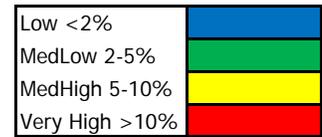
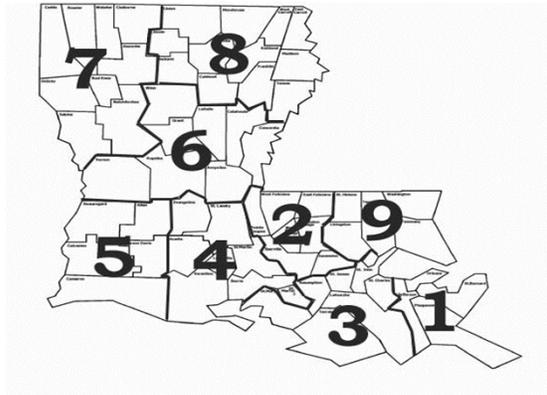
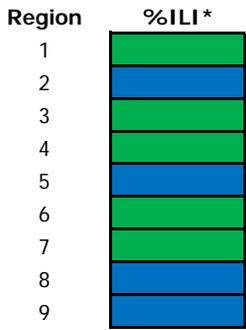
Other Respiratory Viruses*



*Based on results from the State Public Health Laboratory Respiratory Virus Panel (RVP) Testing and other labs reporting RVP results during the current reporting week.

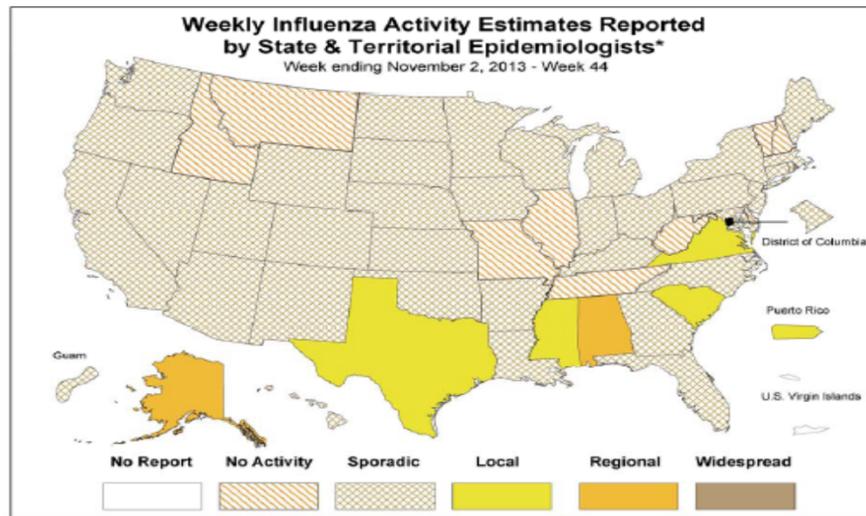
2013-2014 Season

Geographical Distribution of ILI



* %ILI over the last 4 weeks based on sentinel surveillance data

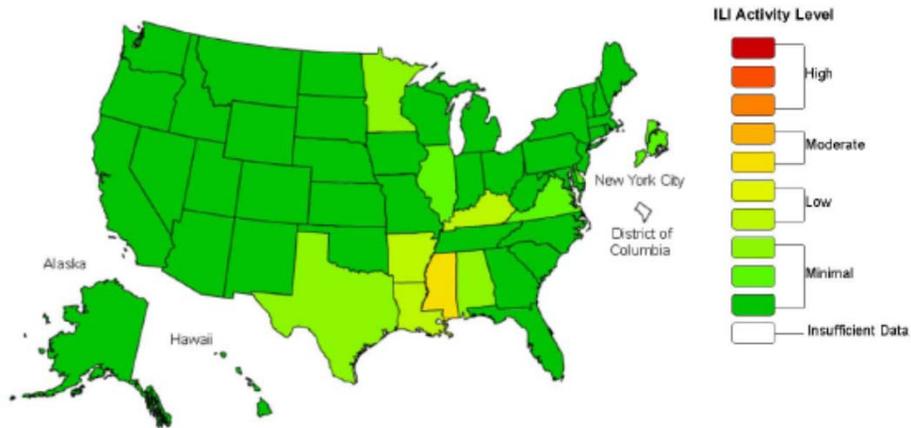
Geographic Spread of Influenza as Assessed by State and Territorial Epidemiologists



* This map indicates geographic spread & does not measure the severity of influenza activity

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet 2013-14 Influenza Season Week 44 ending Nov 02, 2013

ILINet Activity Indicator Map



2013-2014 Season

National Surveillance

During week 44, influenza activity remained low in the United States.

Proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the epidemic threshold.

Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths that occurred during the 2012-2013 season were reported.

Proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 1.4%. This is below the national baseline of 2.0%.

Week 44	
Specimens tested	4,118
Positive specimens	201 (4.9%)
<i>Positive specimens by type/subtype</i>	
Influenza A	167 (83.1%)
A (2009 H1N1)	43 (25.7%)
A (subtyping not performed)	105 (62.9%)
A (H3)	19 (11.4%)
Influenza B	34 (16.9%)

Antiviral Resistance:

Neuraminidase Inhibitor Resistance Testing Results on Samples Collected Since October 1, 2013

	Viruses tested (n)	Resistant Viruses, Number (%)	Viruses tested (n)	Resistant Viruses, Number (%)
		Oseltamivir		Zanamivir
Influenza A (H3N2)	6	0 (0.0%)	6	0 (0.0%)
Influenza B	1	0 (0.0%)	1	0 (0.0%)
2009 Influenza A (H1N1)	37	2 (5.4%)	31	0 (0.0%)

The majority of currently circulating viruses are susceptible to the neuraminidase inhibitor antiviral medications oseltamivir and zanamivir; however, rare sporadic cases of oseltamivir-resistant 2009 influenza A (H1N1) and A (H3N2) viruses have been detected worldwide. Antiviral treatment with oseltamivir or zanamivir is recommended as early as possible for patients with confirmed or suspected influenza who have severe, complicated, or progressive illness; who require hospitalization; or who are at greater risk for serious influenza-related complications. Additional information on recommendations for treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza virus infection with antiviral agents is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/antivirals/index.htm>

Antigenic Characterization:

CDC has antigenically characterized four influenza viruses (three 2009 H1N1 viruses and one influenza B virus) collected by U.S. Laboratories since October 1, 2013 by hemagglutination inhibition (HI). All three 2009 H1N1 viruses tested were characterized as A/California/7/2009-like, the influenza A (H1N1) component of the 2013-2014 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine. The one influenza B virus tested was characterized as B/Massachusetts/02/2012-like, which is included as an influenza B component in both the 2013-2014 Northern Hemisphere trivalent and quadrivalent influenza vaccines.