National influenza activity:
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been identified in U.S. backyard and commercial flocks of birds. HPAI has not been identified in Florida birds, but identifications are anticipated. No people have been identified with HPAI in Florida or the rest of the nation. To learn more about HPAI, please visit: www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-from-animals/novel-influenza-viruses.html

State influenza and influenza-like illness (ILI) activity:
- Emergency department (ED) and urgent care center (UCC) influenza-like illness (ILI) reported into ESSENCE-FL (Florida’s syndromic surveillance system) visits have remained low, which is typical for this time of year.
- In week 22, the preliminary estimated number of deaths due to pneumonia or influenza in Florida is lower than levels seen in previous years at this time.
- In weeks 21 and 22, 25 specimens were submitted to Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) for influenza testing. Seven specimens tested PCR positive: three for influenza A (H3), one for influenza B Yamagata lineage, and one for influenza B not yet subtyped.

Summertime surveillance for influenza and ILI:
- FDOH continues to conduct surveillance for influenza and ILI during the summer months. While activity is traditionally lower during the summer months, some regions of Florida can see year-round activity and elevated out of season activity can suggest important changes in the virus or the introduction of a novel strain of influenza or respiratory illness. Continuing surveillance efforts supports quick response to those events.

Table 1. Summary of Florida ILI Activity, Weeks 21 through 22, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Difference from Previous week</th>
<th>Current Week 22</th>
<th>Previous Week 21</th>
<th>Data source2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of emergency department &amp; urgent care center visits due to ILI</td>
<td>▼ 0.03%</td>
<td>1.30%</td>
<td>1.33%</td>
<td>ESSENCE-FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of laboratory specimens positive for influenza reported in ELR</td>
<td>▼ 16.0%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>Laboratory Surveillance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of reported ILI outbreaks</td>
<td>No change</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>EpiCom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ED and UCC Visits for ILI by Flu Season
ED = emergency department, UCC = urgent care center

In recent weeks, the percent of ILI visits to ESSENCE-FL participating facilities has decreased. The percentage in of ILI visits in weeks 21 and 22 are below levels seen in previous years at this time.

The figure to the left shows the percentage of influenza-like illness visits from ED and UCC chief complaints out of all visits as reported by participating ESSENCE-FL facilities (N=237) for Week 40, 2011 through Week 21, 2015, accessed June 10, 2015.

1 Influenza-like illness (ILI) is considered to be a fever >100°F AND sore throat and/or cough in the absence of another known cause.
2 The Florida Department of Health (DOH) uses many different surveillance systems to measure influenza activity. A summary of all these systems can be found on our website at: www.floridahealth.gov/floridaflu
In recent weeks, there has been an increase in the percent of specimens testing positive for rhinovirus and parainfluenza I-III and a decrease in the percent of specimens testing positive for influenza. This trend is expected to continue as the flu season ends.