The Florida Department of Health (DOH) uses many different surveillance systems to measure influenza activity. A summary of a

As of April 30, 2015, FLS will now code into the ILI syndrome and the Influenza subsyndrome. Historical records have been reprocessed to reflect this change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Difference From Previous Week</th>
<th>Current Week</th>
<th>Previous Week</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of ED and UCC visits due to ILI</td>
<td>▲ 0.1%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>ESSENCE-FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of laboratory specimens positive for influenza</td>
<td>▼ 14.4%</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
<td>Laboratory Surveillance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of reported IILI outbreaks</td>
<td>▲ 1</td>
<td>1</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

The percent of ILI visits to ESSENCE-FL participating facilities has increased slightly in recent weeks and is at or near levels seen in previous years at this time.

The figure to the left shows the percent of visits to EDs and UCCs with chief complaints of ILI, as reported by participating ESSENCE-FL facilities (N=243) from week 40, 2011 through week 34, 2015, accessed September 2, 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: floridahealth.gov/floridaflu

3 As of April 30, 2015, FLS was added to list of abbreviations in ESSENCE-FL and is now expanded to Flu Like Symptoms. As a result of this change, any visit with a chief complaint containing FLS will now code into the ILI syndrome and the Influenza subsyndrome. Historical records have been reprocessed to reflect this change.
The figure below shows P&I deaths for all Florida counties by age group from week 40, 2012 through week 34, 2015, as reported into ESSENCE-FL. Vital statistics death records data are currently considered to be complete through week 33, 2015.

The total number of P&I deaths reported in week 33 is similar to levels seen in previous years at this time.

173 preliminary estimated P&I deaths have been reported for week 33, 2015.

Based on a multi-year regression model to predict P&I mortality in the Florida population, no excess deaths were reported for week 33, 2015. The upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for prediction is 200 deaths.

Influenza and ILI Outbreaks

One influenza outbreak was reported in week 34 in Hillsborough County.

The map to the left shows the number of outbreaks reported in each Florida county since week 20, 2015, as reported by 11 a.m. September 2, 2015. In the last 15 weeks, four outbreaks have been reported into EpiCom.

A hospital in Hillsborough reported eight patients with ILI. Specimens were collected on four ill patients. Specimens were collected from an additional 19 staff and one visitor exposed to the ill patients. Of the 24 specimens collected, eight specimens tested positive for influenza A (H3) by PCR at BPHL; four from the ill patients and four from exposed staff members. Hospital infection prevention staff established a chain of transmission for seven of the eight cases; patients were exposed from symptomatic roommates, and staff were exposed through contact with symptomatic patients. Of the eight confirmed cases, only one was able to be verified as having received the 2014-2015 influenza vaccine. This investigation is closed.

Laboratory Viral Surveillance

The figure below shows the percentage of positive tests for respiratory viruses reported by the National Respiratory and Enteric Viral Surveillance System (NREVSS) and participating and validated laboratories using electronic lab reporting (ELR) with FDOH. Currently, 11 facilities are reporting data for the 2014-2015 season; nine reporting through NREVSS and two reporting through ELR.

Rhinovirus and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are circulating at this time. Rhinovirus and RSV activity have increased in the last week, similar to trends seen in previous years at this time. These viruses circulate annually in Florida and also regularly fluctuate between weeks.