

Influenza Surveillance Report

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

2014-2015 Influenza Season Week 15 (April 12, 2015 – April 18, 2015)

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

SUMMARY

- 13 cases of Influenza were reported by hospitals during this reporting period
- Zero pediatric-deaths associated with Influenza were recorded during this reporting period
- For the 2014-2015 Influenza Season to-date, 939 positive Influenza cases have been reported
- DC PHL reported two specimens that tested negative for week 15, as well as three positives out of six tested last week, for a total of 149 out of 210 (70.95 %) specimens testing positive for influenza
- This week’s activity has decreased since last week but has been on par with previous seasons

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE FROM HOSPITALS & AMBULATORY CARE FACILITIES

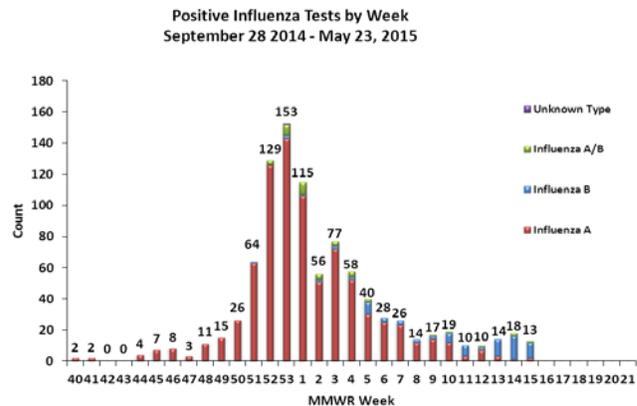
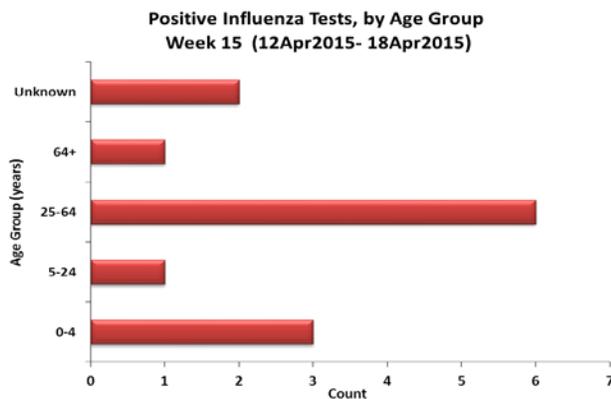
District of Columbia hospitals and laboratories report detailed information on cases of Influenza on a daily basis. However, in accordance with CDC guidelines, only Influenza-associated deaths in cases <18 years of age and Novel Influenza A infections are reportable.

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 15 (April 12, 2015– April 18, 2015), there were 13 new cases of Influenza reported. To date, the District has received 939 positive Influenza cases reported by hospitals.

Surveillance of Influenza Cases Reported By Influenza Type

	Week 15 (April 12, 2015– April 18, 2015)		Cumulative Cases for Weeks 40 – 20 (September 28, 2014 – May 23, 2015)	
Influenza A	2	(15.39%)	823	(87.65%)
Influenza B	10	(76.92%)	78	(8.31%)
Influenza A/B	1	(7.69%)	37	(3.94%)
Influenza (not typed)	0	(0%)	1	(0.10%)
Total	13*	(100%)	939*	(100.00%)

*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 15, 124 out of a total of 143 tests were performed using rapid diagnostic testing in clinical laboratories. Of these, 9 (7.26%) positive Influenza specimens were identified during week 15 using rapid diagnostics.

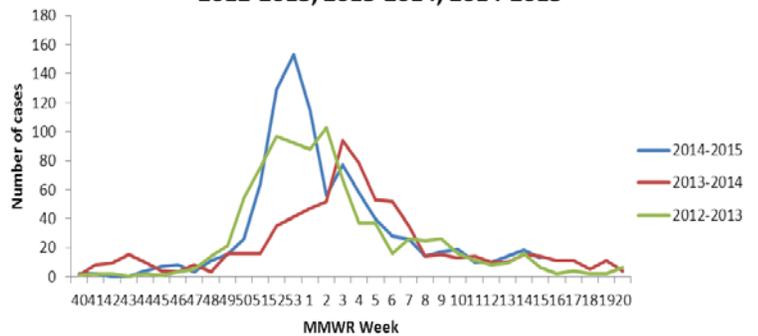
Week: 15 (April 12, 2015 – April 18, 2015)	
No. of specimens tested Rapid Diagnostics	124
No. of positive specimens (%)	9 (7.26%)
Positive specimens by type/subtype	
Influenza A	2 (22.22%)
Influenza B	6 (66.66%)
Influenza A/B	1 (11.11%)
Influenza – unknown type	0 (0%)

WEEK 15 COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SEASONS

For week 15, there were 13 cases in the current 2014-2015 season, 14 cases in last year’s week 15, 2013-2014 season, and 6 cases during week 15 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 805 cases of influenza in the district up to week 15 for the current 2014-2015 season, 660 for last year’s 2013-2014 season, and 768 for the 2012-2013.

Number of Cases as of Week 15 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 15, sentinel providers reported 70 of 1500 (4.67%) visits that met the criteria for ILI.

Sentinel Surveillance ILI Activity for Washington, DC

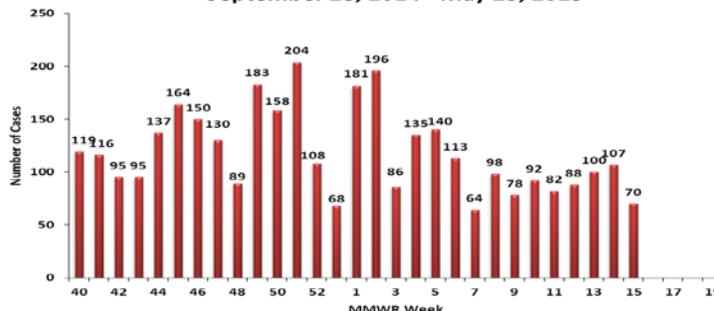
Week of	Activity *
Apr 12 – Apr 18	Local

***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. Two specimens were tested for week 15, both negative. In addition, three specimens out of six tested positive for week 14, for a total of 149 positive specimens of 210 tested (70.95%), with 146 being influenza A H3, and 3 influenza B.

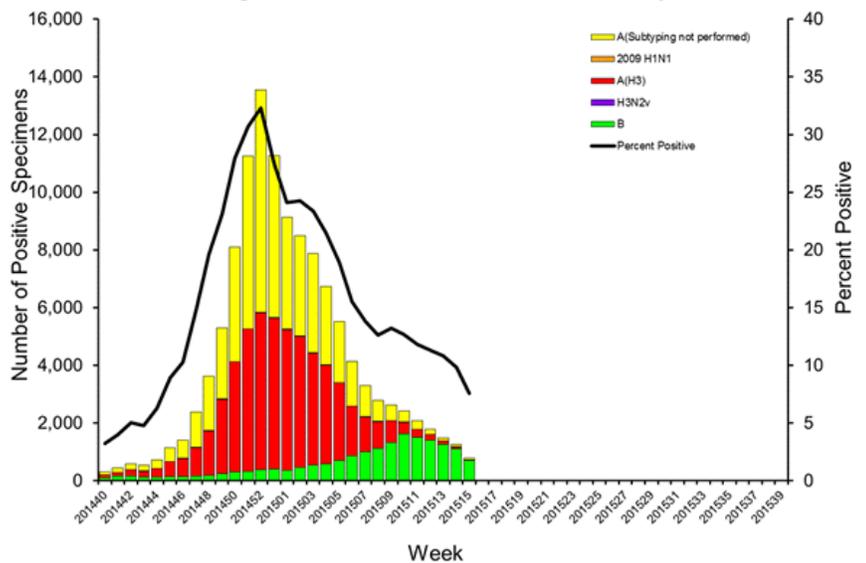
DC PHL Surveillance of Influenza Cases Reported By Influenza Subtype

DC PHL Influenza Testing	April 12, 2015 – April 18, 2015	Total Cases September 28, 2014 – May 23, 2015
Number of specimens tested	2	210
◆ Number of specimens positive for Influenza:	0 (0%)	149(70.95%)
● Influenza A	0 (0%)	146 (97.99%)
▪ H1 2009 H1N1	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
▪ H1 seasonal	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
▪ H3	0 (0%)	146 (100%)
● Influenza B	0 (0%)	3 (2.01%)

NATIONAL INFLUENZA ASSESSMENT

The CDC's weekly seasonal Influenza surveillance report for week 15 noted that influenza activity continued to decrease in the United States. The proportion of deaths due to Influenza and pneumonia in the US was below the epidemic threshold. Three Influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to the CDC during week 15, all three associated with influenza B viruses. For the 2014-2015 season, a total of 128 pediatric deaths associated with Influenza has been reported in the US. During week 15, 10,457 specimens were tested, of which 795 (7.6%) were positive. Of the 795 respiratory specimens that tested positive during week 15, 94 (11.8%) were Influenza A and 701 (88.2%) were Influenza B. Of the Influenza A samples, 6 (6.4%) were 2009 H1N1, 22 (23.4%) were H3, and 66 (70.2%) 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.