



FirstWatch® Regional Influenza Update

According to the CDC, at the end of Week 2 (1/12/13), reports of influenza activity in the United States continued to be above epidemic levels. Although some areas that had been reporting "widespread" activity are now only reporting "regional" activity, those states reporting "widespread" activity increased to 48 states; "regional" in two; and Wash., D.C. reported "local" activity. No state reported limited or no activity.

As in other typical flu seasons, those hit the hardest are the very young and very old, and many of the deaths, were in those with high risk for developing flu complications http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/high_risk.htm. There were 9 pediatric deaths reported this week for a total of 29 for this influenza season; the percentage of adult deaths due to influenza & pneumonia for this week is 8.3%, a percentage point above the epidemic threshold.

The percentage of positive influenza specimens also increased. Of the 12,360 specimens tested for influenza last week, a national average of 29.4% tested positive for influenza, down just a little from the previous week. Of those, 82.5% were from Influenza A and 17.5% from Influenza B, indicating a slight increase in influenza B isolates. Since the flu is so widespread throughout the United States, the Regional review has been deleted from this summary but is available @ <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>. Different Regions, and areas within those Regions, are reporting different dominant strains. An easy-to-use map of the different Regions' dominant strains can be found @ <http://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/fluportaldashboard.html>.

The percentage for outpatient visits for ILI (influenza-like illness) was 4.6%, which is higher than the national baseline of 2.2%, and slightly higher than last week. All ten Regions reported ILI levels above their Regional baseline levels.

For more detailed statistics, including influenza updates by Region and State see:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
- <http://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/fluportaldashboard.html>

For easy to read and view maps and graphs & more detailed statistics, including influenza updates by Region and State, see:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
- <http://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/fluportaldashboard.html>

To find more about influenza surveillance, methods and data collection sets, see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>



For more reference, a list of links, found on the *CDC Fluview* website, and with the following note included are:

CDC Note: Any links provided to non-Federal organizations are provided solely as a service to our users. These links do not constitute an endorsement of these organizations or their programs by CDC or the Federal Government, and none should be inferred. CDC is not responsible for the content of the individual organization web pages found at these links

Google Flu Trends: Google Flu Trends uses aggregated Google search data in a model created in collaboration with CDC to estimate influenza activity in the United States. For more information and activity estimates from the U.S. and worldwide, see <http://www.google.org/flutrends/>

World Health Organization: Additional influenza surveillance information from participating WHO member nations is available through **FluNet** (http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html) and the Global Epidemiology Reports, http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/en/

WHO Collaborating Centers for Influenza located in Australia, China, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

Europe: for the most recent influenza surveillance information from Europe, please see WHO/Europe at <http://www.euroflu.org/index.php> and visit the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control at http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/surveillance_reports/influenza/Pages/weekly_influenza_surveillance_overview.aspx

Public Health Agency of Canada: The most up-to-date influenza information from Canada is available at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

Health Protection Agency (United Kingdom): The most up-to-date influenza information from the United Kingdom is available at <http://www.hpa.org.uk/Topics/InfectiousDiseases/InfectionsAZ/SeasonalInfluenza/>

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