



FirstWatch® Regional Influenza Update

According to the CDC, at the end of Week 51 (12/22/12) report of influenza activity in the United States was elevated, with influenza levels considered “widespread” in thirty-one states; “regional” in fourteen; three states and Wash., D.C. with “local”; two states reporting “sporadic”. Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands did not report. There were NO states that reported “no activity”.

The percentage of positive influenza specimens has increased. Of the 6,234 specimens tested for influenza last week, a national average of 29.6% tested positive for influenza. All regions are now reporting flu in double digit percentages: with the highest percentage for flu (58.4.%) was Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OP, WI); next was Region 3 with 37.7% (DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV); next at 35.1% was Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT), Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, NE) which reported 32.8% positive; and Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN) at 30.1%.

All regions report some flu activity with Region 9 (AZ, CA, Guam, HI, NV) the lowest with 13.4%.

A breakdown of specimens resulted in (29.6%) 1846 that tested positive for influenza; 84.9% for influenza A and 15.1% for influenza B. Those testing positive for influenza A include 61.9% which tested as H3, 37.4% with no subtyping done, and 0.8% as 2009 H1N1.

There were eight pediatric influenza-related deaths (three from Influenza B & five from A); adult pneumonia and mortality is below the national baseline.

Outpatient sampling for ILI (influenza-like illness) was 4.2%, which is higher than the national baseline of 2.2% and higher than last week; 9 of 10 regions reported above region baseline levels.

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

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

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