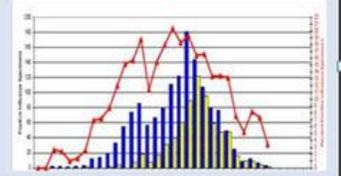


COLORADO FLU REPORT



2012-2013 Influenza Season

Reporting through the week ending December 8th, 2012

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

Overview: Surveillance for the 2012–2013 Influenza Season officially began on October 7th, 2012. The Colorado Flu Report is published weekly to provide a concise and up-to-date summary of influenza activity in the State of Colorado. Current surveillance activities include: reporting of hospitalizations and pediatric deaths due to influenza, reporting of influenza-like illness (ILI) visits by selected outpatient sites, reporting of influenza testing activity by sentinel clinical labs, reporting of ILI outbreaks in long term care facilities, and monitoring circulating influenza viruses through molecular typing at the state public health laboratory.

****Change in Influenza Case Counting:** Due to the increasing level of influenza activity in Colorado this season, as of November 25, 2012, all influenza-associated hospitalizations with any positive influenza test will be counted as cases. Until this point, only influenza-associated hospitalizations with positive DFA, PCR, or viral culture tests were counted as cases.

Synopsis: For the week ending December 8th, influenza activity continued to increase with most of the activity along the Front Range. Influenza B continued to be the predominant circulating type.

- There were 49 additional influenza-associated hospitalizations reported (18 from the week ending December 1st and 31 from the most recent week) bringing the cumulative total to 101 hospitalizations from 13 counties.
- Influenza-like illness reported by Kaiser Permanente for the Denver-Boulder metropolitan area continued to increase from 1.2% to 1.6%. Influenza-like illness reported by Mesa County remained near 0%.
- Sentinel hospital labs (17/19 reporting) tested 623 specimens and provisionally, 70 (11.2%) were positive for influenza (compared to 9.5% the previous week). Of these, 53 (75%) were positive for influenza B.
- For the most recent week, 22 additional specimens (out of 24 submitted) tested positive for influenza by PCR at the state laboratory. Since the season began on October 7th, among 92 PCR positive specimens tested at the state laboratory, 28 (30.4%) have subtyped as H3, 2 (2.2%) as 2009 H1N1, and 62 (67.4%) as type B.
- No additional outbreaks were reported.
- No pediatric deaths have been reported as of December 8th.

To view the weekly Colorado Flu (surveillance) Reports, go to: <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-DCEED/CBON/1251607766255>

To view the weekly CDC flu (surveillance) Reports, go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/index.htm>