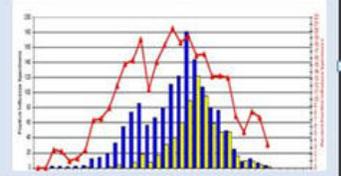


# COLORADO FLU REPORT



2012-2013 Influenza Season

Reporting through the week ending November 17, 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 deaths due to influenza, reporting of influenza-like illness (ILI) visits by selected sites, reporting of influenza testing activity by sentinel hospital labs, reporting of ILI outbreaks in long term care facilities, and monitoring circulating influenza viruses through molecular typing at the state public health laboratory.

**Case Reporting:** Due to the currently low influenza activity and the concern of false positive results from rapid antigen tests, influenza-associated hospitalizations are currently being counted as cases only if they are positive by PCR, DFA or viral culture. This will change as influenza activity increases.

**Synopsis:** For the week ending November 17<sup>th</sup>, influenza activity remained low, but showed increased activity.

- Ten additional hospitalizations were reported; six with a collection date during the previous week (week ending 11/10) and four with a collection date during the most recent week. The cumulative total of hospitalizations is 20 from the following six counties; Adam (3), Arapahoe (6), Boulder (1), Broomfield (1), Denver (5), and El Paso (4).
- Influenza-like illness reported by Kaiser Permanente for the Denver-Boulder metropolitan area continued to increase (0.75% to 0.89%) but remained less than 1.0%. Influenza-like illness reported by Mesa County was near 0%.
- Sentinel hospital labs (18/19 reporting) tested 303 specimens and 19 (6.3%) were positive. Of these, 14 (74%) were positive for influenza B. Caution should be used when interpreting these data based on the possibility of false positive results with the current use of rapid flu tests.
- There were 11 additional specimens (out of 18 submitted) that tested positive for influenza by PCR at the state laboratory. Nine specimens were collected during the previous week (week ending 11/10) and only two specimens were collected during the most recent week. Cumulatively, 12 (38%) of 32 PCR positive specimens have subtyped as H3, 1 (3%) as 2009 H1N1, and 19 (59%) have confirmed as type B.

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>