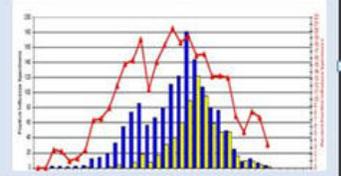


# COLORADO FLU REPORT



## 2012-2013 Influenza Season

Reporting through the week ending November 24, 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 County:** 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 November 24th, influenza activity remained at a low level but increased compared to the previous week with most activity along the Front Range. Influenza B continued to be the predominate circulating strain.

- Six additional influenza-associated hospitalizations reported bringing the cumulative total to 26 hospitalizations from 6 counties, all in the Denver-Boulder metropolitan area and El Paso County.
- Influenza-like illness reported by Kaiser Permanente for the Denver-Boulder metropolitan area increased to 1% for the first time since the 2012-2013 season began. Influenza-like illness reported by Mesa County remained near 0%.
- Sentinel hospital labs (16/19 reporting) tested 338 specimens and 43 (12.7%) were positive (compared to 6.3% the previous week). Of these, 39 (91%) were positive for influenza B.
- Of 31 specimens submitted to the state laboratory, 22 (71%) tested positive for influenza by PCR. Two specimens were collected during the previous week (week ending 11/17) and 20 specimens during the most recent week. Since October 7, 2012, among 54 specimens testing positive at the state laboratory, 14 (26%) have subtyped as H3, 2 (4%) as 2009 H1N1, and 38 (70%) as type B.
- No outbreaks were reported.

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>