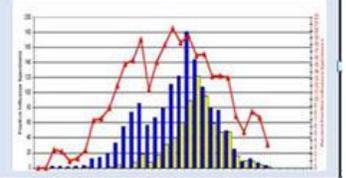


COLORADO FLU REPORT



2012-2013 Influenza Season

Reporting through the week ending November 3, 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 3rd, influenza activity remained relatively low.

- One additional hospitalization was reported during the week ending 11/3, bringing the cumulative total to five from three counties; Arapahoe County (1), Denver County (1), and El Paso County (3). Of these, three (60%) of the specimens confirmed for influenza type B.
- Influenza-like illness reported by Kaiser Permanente for the Denver-Boulder metropolitan area remained less than 1.0% (but increased slightly from 0.57% to 0.69%). Influenza-like illness reported by Mesa County remained 0%.
- Sentinel hospital labs (18/19 reporting) tested 325 specimens and 11 (3.4%) were positive (73% of those testing 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.
- Five additional specimens tested positive for influenza by PCR at the state laboratory. Cumulatively, 12 specimens have tested positive (out of 24 submitted) with 33% confirming as type A and 66% confirming as type B.
- There was one outbreak reported in a LTCF from El Paso County with an onset date during the previous week (week ending 10/27/2012). The outbreak confirmed for influenza 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>