

# Flu Watch

MMWR Week 38: September 17 to September 23, 2017 All data are provisional and subject to change as more reports are received.

## SUMMARY

## **Geographic Spread**

South Carolina reported **sporadic activity.** 

## **Virologic Surveillance**

This week, a total of 71 influenza cases (68 positive rapid antigen detection tests; 3 lab confirmed test) were reported from 16 counties representing all four regions. The predominant circulating flu subtype and type was Influenza A(H3) and Influenza A. Since October 2, 2016, there have been 90,607 influenza cases (88,140 positive rapid antigen detection tests; 2,467 lab confirmed tests) reported.

## Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance

This week, 1.66% of patient visits to sentinel providers were seen for an influenza-like illness (ILI). This is below South Carolina's baseline (3.13%). The ILI activity level was **minimal**.

## **Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations**

There were 6 hospitalizations reported by 23 hospitals. Since October 2, 2016, there have been 2,556 influenzaassociated hospitalizations reported.

## **Influenza-Associated Deaths**

There were no lab confirmed deaths reported this week. Since October 2, 2016, there have been 94 influenza-associated deaths reported.

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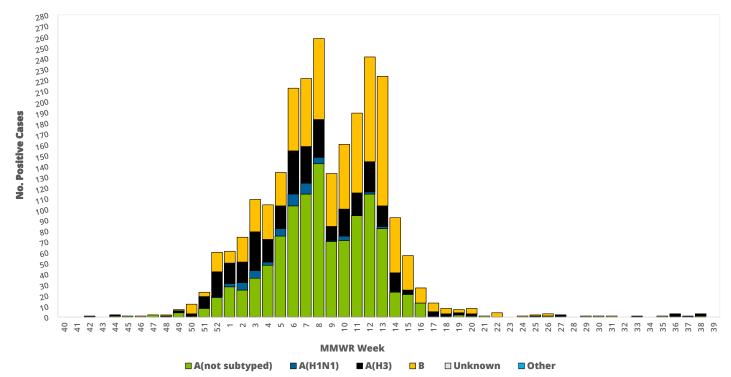
## Lab Confirmed Influenza

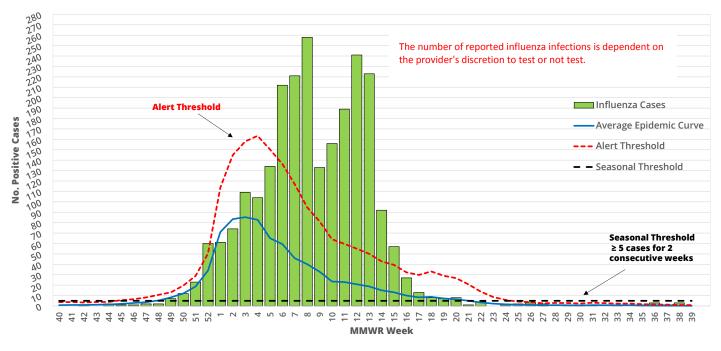
**Cases** include positive testing via respiratory culture, RT-PCR, DFA, and IFA. Reporting is required to DHEC within 3 days via the South Carolina Infectious Disease and Outbreak Network (SCION) or DHEC 1129 card. This week, **3** lab confirmed cases were reported. This compares to **3** lab confirmed cases this same week last season.

#### **Table: Lab Confirmed Influenza Cases**

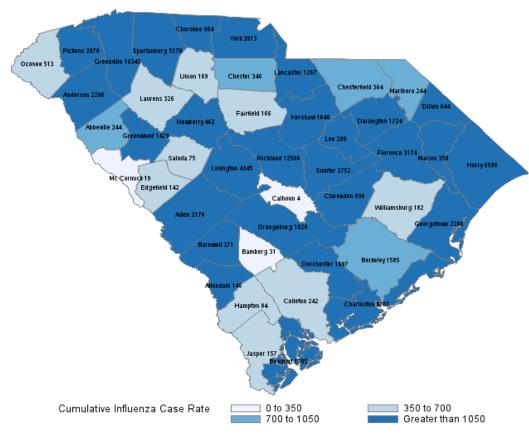
Virus Type/	Ν	o. Positive	No. Positive				
Subtype	This week Previous week		Cumulative YTD 2016-17	Cumulative YTD 2015-16			
A not subtyped	1 (33.3%)	0	1101 (44.7%)	169 (15.2%)			
A(H1N1)	0	0	64 (2.5%)	592 (53.4%)			
A(H3)	2 (66.7%)	1 (100%)	417 (16.9%)	82 (7.4%)			
В	0	0	885 (35.9%)	265 (23.9%)			
Other	0	0	0	1 (0.1%)			
Unknown	0	0	0	0			
Total	3	1	2467	1109			

#### Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Subtype by MMWR Week





#### Laboratory Confirmed Influenza Cases Average and Thresholds



Cumulative Influenza Case Rate/100,000 By County

Includes all lab confirmed and positive rapid cases

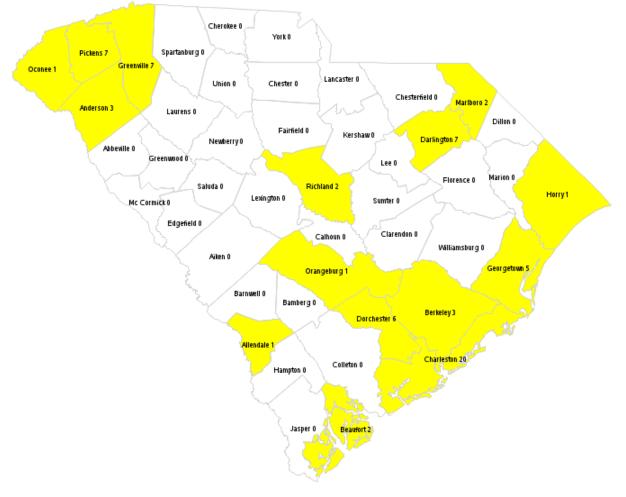
## Positive Rapid Antigen Detection

**Tests** Providers are required to report weekly aggregate no. of positive results and influenza type to their respective regional health department. This week, **68** positive rapid tests were reported. This compares to **48** positive rapid tests reported this same week last season. The predominant influenza type was **Influenza A.** 

#### **Table: Positive Rapid Antigen Detection Tests**

Virus Type	No. Po	ositive	No. Positive		
	This week	Previous week	Cumulative YTD 2016-17	Cumulative YTD 2015-16	
Influenza A	57 (83.8%)	69 (83.1%)	53610 (65.6%)	21531 (65.6%)	
Influenza A/B	1 (1.5%)	3 (3.6%)	656 (1.6%)	516 (1.6%)	
Influenza B	10 (14.7%)	11 (13.3%)	33632 (32.4%)	10631 (32.4%)	
Unknown	0	0	242 (0.4%)	146 (0.4%)	
Total	68	83	88140	32824	

#### Positive Rapid Influenza Tests Weekly Total By County



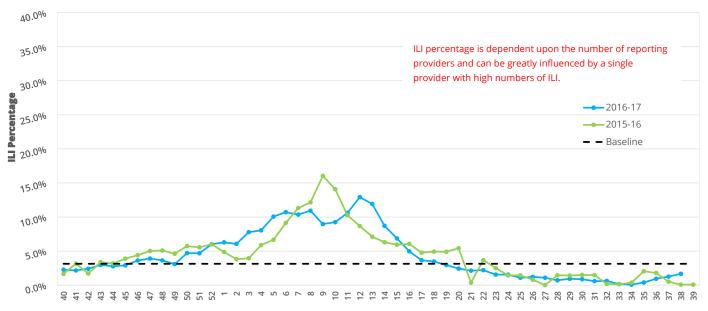
Highlighted areas indicate counts greater than or equal to 1

Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance Providers enrolled in the Center for Disease Control

Influenza-Like Illness Network (ILINet) surveillance system report weekly aggregate no. of patient visits, and of those visits the number of patients seen for an influenza-like illness by age group (i.e. 0-4, 5-24, 25-49, 50-64, ≥ 65). This week, the ILI activity level was **minimal** and **1.66%** of patient visits to SC ILINet providers was attributed to an influenza-like illness. This is **below** the state baseline, **3.13%**. The ILI percentage for the current week last season was **0.51%**. Reports were received from providers in 5 counties, representing 3 of the 4 regions.

ILI Activity Level 2016-17 Calendar											
ОСТ	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
40	44	48	1	5	9	13	18	22	26	31	35
41	45	49	2	6	10	14	19	23	27	32	36
42	46	50	3	7	11	15	20	24	28	33	37
43	47	51	4	8	12	16	21	25	29	34	38
		52				17			30		39

ILI ACTIVITY LEVELS: MINIMIAL LOW MODERATE HIGH



Percentage of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Visits Reported by Sentinel Providers for Past and Current Seasons

MMWR Week

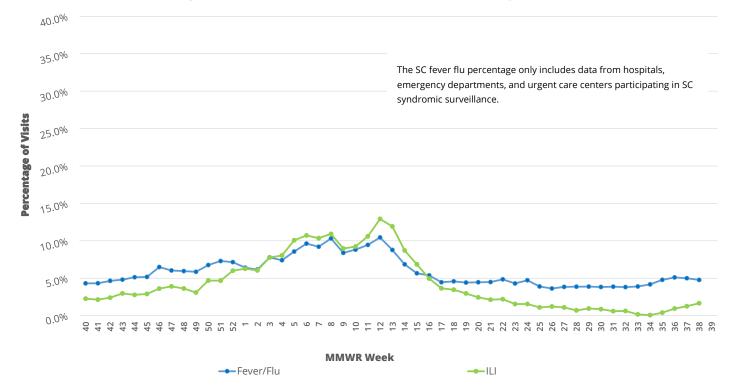
County	ILI %	County	ILI %
Abbeville		Greenwood	NR
Aiken	NR	Hampton	
Allendale		Horry	
Anderson	NR	Jasper	
Bamberg		Kershaw	
Barnwell		Lancaster	
Beaufort	NR	Laurens	NR
Berkeley	NR	Lee	
Calhoun		Lexington	
Charleston	NR	Marion	
Cherokee		Marlboro	NR
Chester		McCormick	
Chesterfield		Newberry	
Clarendon		Oconee	NR
Colleton		Orangeburg	
Darlington	0.00%	Pickens	NR
Dillon		Richland	NR
Dorchester	NR	Saluda	NR
Edgefield		Spartanburg	NR
Fairfield		Sumter	0.00%
Florence	0.29%	Union	
Georgetown	NR	Williamsburg	
Greenville	3.14%	York	0.62%

#### Influenza-Like Illness Reported by Sentinel Providers

NR: No reports received ---: No enrolled providers ILI percentage is dependent upon the number of reporting providers and can be greatly influenced by a single provider with high numbers of ILI.

## South Carolina Disease Alerting, Reporting & Tracking System

**(SC-DARTS)** is a collaborative network of syndromic surveillance systems within South Carolina. Currently this network contains the following data sources: SC Hospital Emergency Department (ED) chief-complaint data and Poison Control Center call data. The hospital ED syndromic surveillance system classifies ED chief complaint data into appropriate syndrome categories (i.e. Respiratory, GI, Fever, etc.). This week, the statewide percentage of ER visits with fever-flu syndrome was **4.77%**.



#### Percentage of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and Fever/Flu Syndromic Visits

## Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations

are reported weekly in aggregate no. to their respective regional health departments.

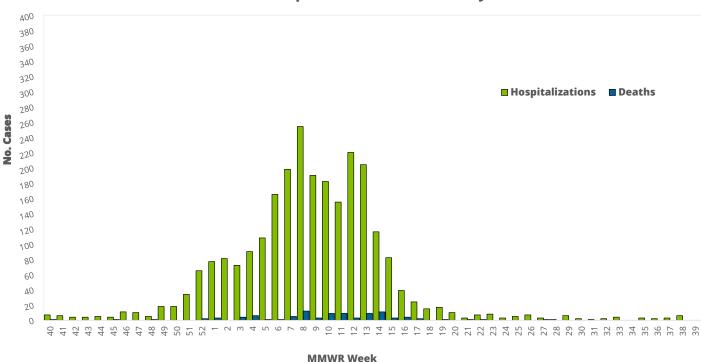
This week **6** laboratory confirmed hospitalizations were reported by **23** hospitals. This compares to **4** lab confirmed hospitalizations this same week last season.

#### Table: Influenza Associated Hospitalizations

Age Group	No. Hospitalizations					
	This week	Previous week	Rate per 100,000*	Cumulative YTD 2016-17	Cumulative YTD 2015-16	
0-4	0	0	38.7	117	190	
5-17	0	0	17.1	133	128	
18-49	0	0	17.3	346	448	
50-64	0	1	63.2	576	476	
65+	6	2	219.0	1384	625	
Unknown	0	0		0	0	
Total	6	3	55.3	2556	1867	

\*Population size based on 2010 Census Data

Laboratory confirmation for hospitalizations and deaths includes culture, PCR, DFA, IFA, rapid antigen detection testing, or autopsy (deaths only).



#### Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations and Deaths by MMWR Week

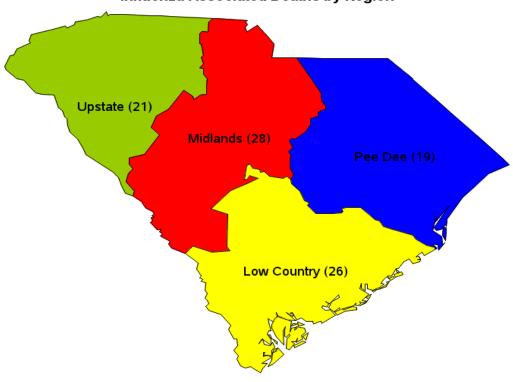
Table: Influenza Associated Deaths							
Age Group	No. Deaths						
	This week	Previous week	Rate per 100,000*	Cumulative YTD 2016-17	Cumulative YTD 2015-16		
0-4	0	0	0.3	1	0		
5-17	0	0	0.1	1	1		
18-49	0	0	0.4	8	9		
50-64	0	0	1.7	16	17		
65+	0	0	10.8	68	20		
Unknown	0	0					
Total	0	0	2.0	94	47		

## Influenza-Associated

**Deaths** are urgently reportable to DHEC within 24 hours of initial notification.

**0** laboratory confirmed deaths were reported this week. This compares to **0** laboratory confirmed deaths this same week last season.

\*Population size based on 2010 Census Data



#### Influenza-Associated Deaths by Region

CDC has begun summer publication of a much-abbreviated Flu View report.

To view national data, go to: <u>http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/</u>

**Activity Level (Geographic Spread):** Indicator of the geographic spread of influenza activity which is reported to CDC each week.

**No activity:** No increase in ILI activity and no laboratory-confirmed influenza cases.

**Sporadic:** No increase in ILI activity and isolated laboratory-confirmed influenza cases.

**Local:** Increased ILI or 2 or more institutional outbreaks in one region and laboratory-confirmed influenza cases within the past 3 weeks in the region with increased ILI or outbreaks.

**Regional:** Increased ILI or institutional outbreaks in 2-3 regions and laboratory-confirmed influenza cases within the past 3 weeks in the regions with increased ILI or outbreaks.

**Widespread:** Increased ILI and/or institutional outbreaks in at least 4 regions and laboratory confirmed influenza in the state within the past 3 weeks.

#### Activity Level (Influenza-like Illness):

Comparison of the current week mean reported percent of visits due to ILI to the non-influenza weeks mean reported percent of visits due to ILI. The activity level corresponds to the number of standard deviations below, at, or above the mean for the current week compared to the mean of the non-influenza weeks.

**Minimal:** less than 2 standard deviations above the mean.

**Low:** 2 to less than 4 standard deviations above the mean.

**Moderate:** 4 to less than 6 standard deviations above the mean.

**High:** greater than or equal to 6 standard deviations above the mean.

**Alert Threshold:** indicates influenza activity (no. of laboratory confirmed influenza cases) that is higher than the past 5 seasons. Threshold is defined as 1.645 standard deviations above the average epidemic curve for each MMWR week.

#### **Additional Resources**

Center for Disease Control and Prevention Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report

World Health Organization <u>FluNet Report</u>

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control <u>Weekly Influenza Situation</u>

Government of Canada Weekly Influenza Report **Average Epidemic Curve:** Typical influenza activity (no. of lab confirmed influenza cases) for a season. Centered on the median week of the past 5 seasons, the 4 week moving average is calculated for each MMWR week.

**Fever-Flu Syndrome:** Includes chief complaints with any of the following ICD codes or terms: flu, fev, high temp, tem10, feel hot, night sweat, FEB, shiver, FUO, chill, 780.6, viral INF, pain all over, ILI, and body ache. Weekly fever flu count is the sum of all the records, statewide, that were categorized into the fever flu syndrome, The state denominator is a broader modification of the respiratory syndrome that includes records that have fever flu chief complaints and general respiratory illness complaints, which include: cough, coughing URI, pneumonia, croup, bronchitis, and cold. The fever flu percentage equals (weekly fever flu count/weekly state denominator)\*100.

**Influenza-like Illness (ILI):** Fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}$ F (37.8°C) AND cough AND/OR sore throat (without a known cause other than influenza). The SC baseline is the mean percentage of patient visits for ILI during non-influenza weeks (weeks when the percent of positive lab tests were less than 2% of the total season's positive lab tests for two consecutive weeks) for the previous three seasons plus two standard deviations.

**MMWR week:** Term for influenza surveillance week. Each week begins on Sunday and ends on Monday. Nationally, the influenza season begins with MMWR week 40 and ends with MMWR week 39. The 2016-17 influenza season began on October 2, 2016 and will end on September 30, 2017.

**Seasonal Threshold:** indicates the start of the influenza season when the threshold is exceeded for two consecutive weeks. Threshold is defined as the median value of the average epidemic curve.