Division of Acute Disease Prevention and Emergency Response
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology

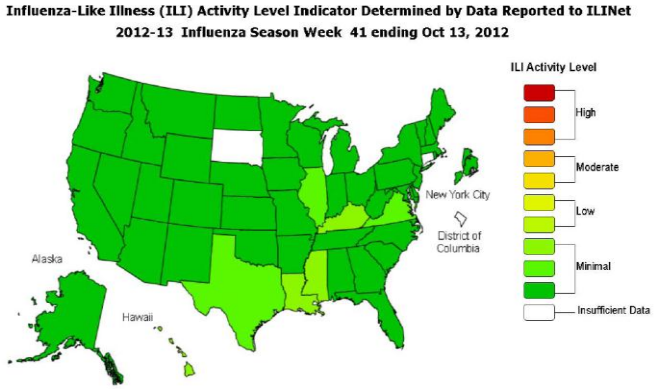
Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network (IISN)

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and Other Respiratory Viruses
Weekly Activity Report
For the week ending October 13, 2012, Week 41

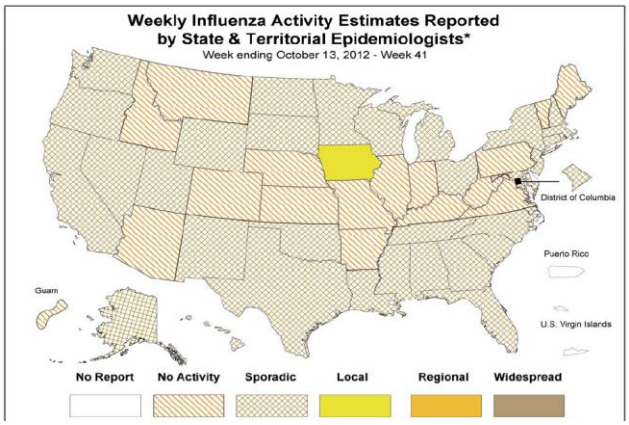
Quick Stats for this reporting week

Iowa activity level[1]	**Local**
Percent of outpatient visits for ILI[2]	0.2 % (baseline 2.1%)
Percent of influenza rapid test positive	0.5% (1/189)
Percent of RSV rapid tests positive	7.0% (6/86)
Percent school absence due to illness	2.1%
Number of schools with ≥10% absence due to illness	0
Influenza-associated hospitalizations*	0/5114 inpatients surveyed
Influenza-associated pediatric mortality**	0

** Hospitalizations due to influenza are voluntarily reported through a weekly survey of Iowa sentinel hospitals.*
***CDC asks states to report any pediatric death (<18 years old) associated with influenza*
Note: All data in this report are provisional and may change as additional reports are received



*This map uses the proportion of outpatient visits to health care providers for influenza-like illness to measure the ILI activity level within a state. It does not, however, measure the extent of geographic spread of flu within a state.



*This map indicates geographic spread & does not measure the severity of influenza activity.

Iowa statewide activity summary

The influenza activity estimate in Iowa is being increased from sporadic to local due to recent increases in laboratory-confirmed flu cases and outbreaks in the central part of Iowa. In this reporting week, the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) confirmed a total of 19 cases of seasonal influenza cases including six influenza A (H3), 11 influenza A (subtype pending) and two influenza B. There were also an influenza outbreak reported from a long-term care facility and two outbreaks in schools mentioned below. While the number of lab-confirmed cases increased, especially in children, the proportion of outpatient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) remained low and below the regional baseline. There were no influenza-associated hospitalizations reported from sentinel hospitals for this reporting period. No school reported 10 percent or greater absenteeism due to illness during this reporting week, however two schools reported influenza-like outbreaks on October 15, 2012, which will fall into the next reporting period. One adenovirus, one parainfluenza virus type 3, and one RSV were also detected during this reporting week. Thus far this season, the other respiratory viruses that have been identified include adenovirus, rhinovirus, parainfluenza 2-3, RSV, and human metapneumovirus (hMPV).

National activity summary - www.cdc.gov

Synopsis: During week 41 (October 7-13, 2012), influenza activity remained low in the United States.

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[1] **No Activity:** No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of influenza-like illness (ILI[2]).
Sporadic: Isolated laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI[2].
Local: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.
Regional: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the regions of the state.
Widespread: Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state.
[2] ILI: Influenza-like Illness is defined as a fever of ≥100° F as well as cough and/or sore throat.

- **Viral Surveillance**: Of 3,285 specimens tested and reported by the U.S. World Health Organization and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System collaborating laboratories during week 41, 129 (3.9 percent) were positive for influenza.
- **Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality**: The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was at the epidemic threshold.
- **Influenza-associated Pediatric Deaths**: One influenza-associated pediatric death was reported and was associated with an influenza A virus for which the subtype was not determined.
- **Outpatient Illness Surveillance**: The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 1.1 percent, which is below the national baseline of 2.2 percent. All 10 regions reported ILI below region-specific baseline levels. Forty-eight states and New York City experienced minimal ILI activity and the District of Columbia and two states had insufficient data.
- **Geographic Spread of Influenza**: The geographic spread of influenza in one state (Iowa) was reported as local; the District of Columbia and 32 states reported sporadic activity; Guam and 16 states reported no influenza activity, and Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and one state did not report.

International activity summary - www.who.int

Seasonal influenza transmission has not been picked up yet in the northern temperate zone. In the tropical areas most countries are reporting low or decreasing trends of influenza virus detections. The exceptions are Costa Rica in the Americas, and India, Nepal, Lao PDR and Thailand in Asia. In Sub-Saharan Africa, Cameroon has reported an increase in influenza virus detections. The influenza season has seemed to come to an end in the temperate countries of the southern hemisphere.

Laboratory surveillance program – *influenza and other respiratory viruses*

The State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) is the primary lab testing and reporting influenza tests in Iowa. SHL reports the number of tests performed and the type and strain of positive tests to the influenza surveillance network several times every week. In addition, SHL surveys clinical and reference labs for the number of rapid-antigen tests performed and number positive weekly. This report also includes the positive non-influenza virus tests reported from SHL, the Dunes Medical Laboratories at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, and Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.

Specimens tested by the State Hygienic Laboratory

Table 1. Influenza viruses isolated

	Current week	*Cumulative since 9/2/12*
Flu A	17 (33%)	25 (16%)
A (2009 H1N1)	0 (0%)	1 (<1%)
A (H3)	6 (12%)	13 (9%)
A (H3N2) variant	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Subtyping not reported	11 (21%)	11 (7%)
Flu B	2 (4%)	3 (2%)
Equivocal	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Indeterminate	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Negative	32 (63%)	123 (82%)
Total	51	151

Table 2. Influenza viruses by age group 9/2/12 to present week

Age group	*Flu A (2009 H1N1)*	*Flu A (H3)*	*Flu A (H3N2) Variant*	*Flu A (no typing)*	*Flu B*
0-4	0 (0%)	4 (31%)	0 (0%)	3 (28%)	0 (0%)
5-17	1 (100%)	2 (15%)	0 (0%)	6 (55%)	3 (100%)
18-24	0 (0%)	4 (31%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
25-49	0 (0%)	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	1 (9%)	0 (0%)
50-64	0 (0%)	2 (15%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
>64	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (9%)	0 (0%)
Total	1	13	0	11	3

Note that counts may not add up to the total due to missing age information

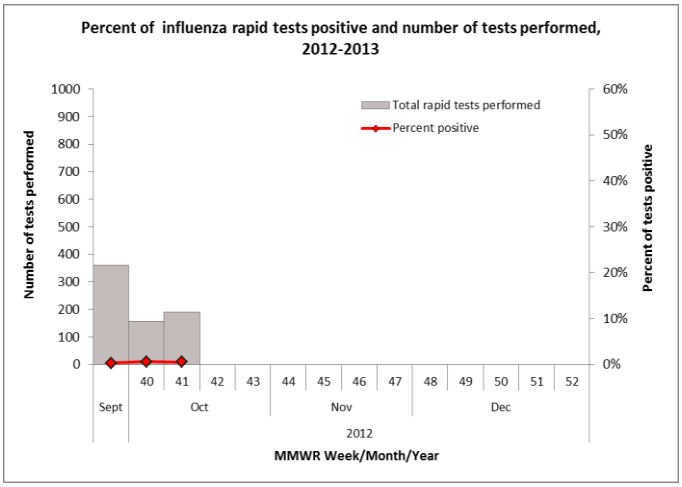
Table 3. Number of positive results for non-influenza respiratory virus isolated by the State Hygienic Laboratory, Mercy Dunes in Sioux City, and Iowa Methodist Medical Center

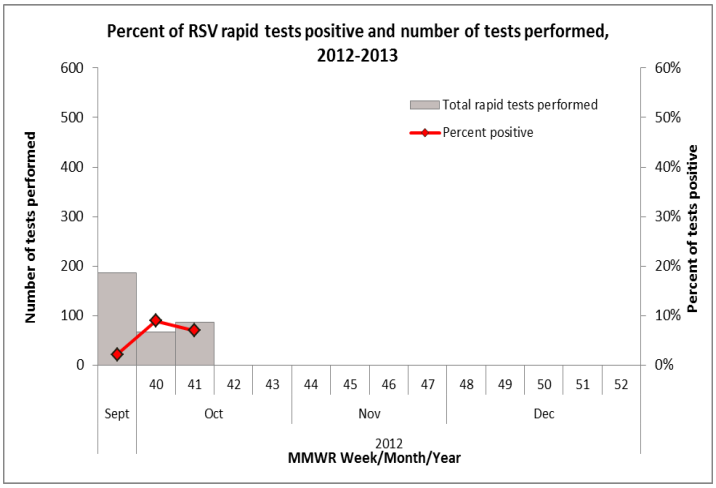
	Current week	*Cumulative since 9/2/12*
Adenovirus	1	1
Parainfluenza Virus Type 1	0	0
Parainfluenza Virus Type 2	0	4
Parainfluenza Virus Type 3	1	8
Rhinovirus	0	9
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	1	4
human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	0	1

Table 4. Percent of influenza rapid tests positive and number of tests performed by region for the present week

Region*	Influenza					RSV		
	Tested	*Flu A*	*Flu B*	*Both*	*% Positive*	*Tested*	*Positive*	*% Positive*
Region 1	15	0	0	0	0.0%	8	1	12.5%
Region 2	5	0	0	0	0.0%	13	4	30.8%
Region 3	12	0	0	0	0.0%	8	0	0.0%
Region 4	19	0	0	0	0.0%	8	0	0.0%
Region 5	42	0	0	0	0.0%	12	1	8.3%
Region 6	96	1	0	0	1.0%	37	0	0.0%

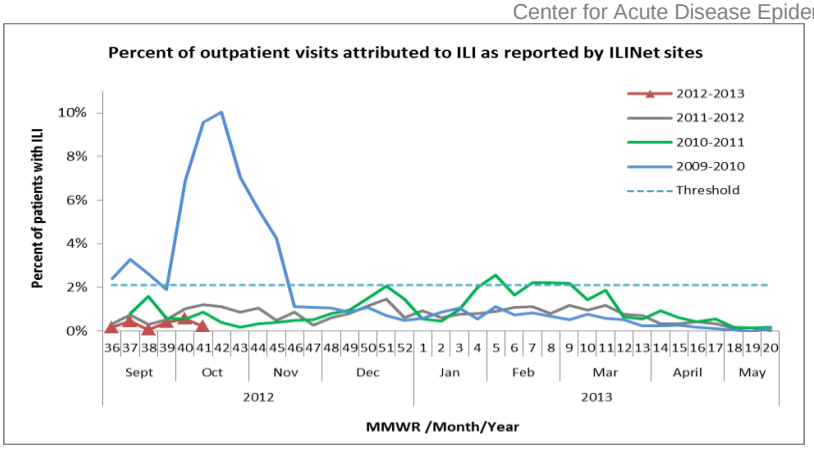
*Region 1- Boone, Calhoun, Carroll, Dallas, Greene, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Jasper, Marshall, Polk, Poweshiek, Story, Tama, Warren, Webster; **Region 2**- Allamakee, Bremer, Butler, Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Howard, Humboldt, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Winneshiek, Worth, Wright; **Region 3**- Buena Vista, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Dickinson, Ida, Lyon, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sac, Sioux, Woodbury; **Region 4**- Adair, Adams, Audubon, Cass, Clarke, Decatur, Fremont, Guthrie, Harrison, Madison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Ringgold, Shelby, Taylor, Union; **Region 5**- Appanoose, Davis, Des Moines, Henry, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Lucas, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Muscatine, Van Buren, Wapello, Washington, Wayne; **Region 6**- Benton, Black Hawk, Buchanan, Cedar, Clayton, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Iowa, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Scott.





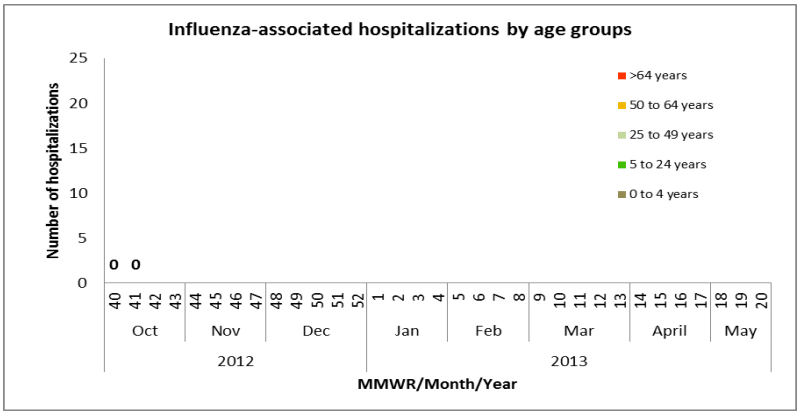
Outpatient health care provider surveillance program (ILINet)

Outpatient health care providers who participate in the ILINet (a national influenza surveillance program) report the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness and the total number of patient visits each week. This system is a key part of Iowa's influenza surveillance. Any Iowa health care providers who are interested in joining this important surveillance program, please contact Yumei Sun at 515-281-7134 or yumei.sun@idph.iowa.gov for more information.



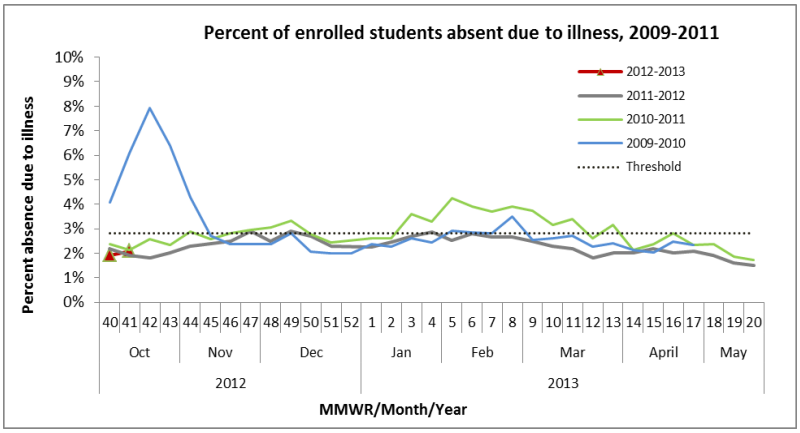
Influenza-associated hospitalizations

Twenty-one sentinel hospitals that participate in IISN voluntarily track and report the number of influenza-associated hospitalizations and the total number of inpatients each week.



School surveillance program

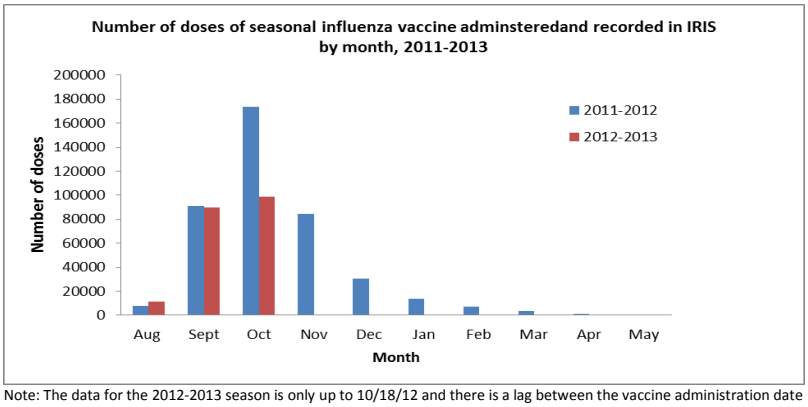
Approximately eighty schools participating in IISN voluntarily track and report absence due to all illness (including non-influenza illnesses) and the total enrollment each week.



Seasonal influenza vaccination

Seasonal influenza vaccination in Iowa was based on doses reported to the Iowa Immunization Registry Information System[3] (IRIS). IRIS is a confidential, computerized, population-based system that tracks immunizations for children, adolescents and adults who are seen in a variety of public and private healthcare provider sites throughout the state.

[3] For information on the immunization data, contact Kim Tichy, IRIS coordinator, at 515-281-4288 or Kimberly.Tichy@idph.iowa.gov



Note: The data for the 2012-2013 season is only up to 10/18/12 and there is a lag between the vaccine administration date and the date reported to the IRIS. Therefore, the current season's data will be adjusted as additional data is received.