



Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network (IISN) Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and Other Respiratory Viruses Weekly Activity Report For the week ending November 19, 2011, Week 46

Quick Stats for this reporting week

Iowa activity level ¹	Sporadic
Percent of outpatient visits for ILI ²	0.7% (baseline 2.3%)
Percent of influenza rapid test positive	2.4% (5/210)
Percent of RSV rapid tests positive	1.1% (1/90)
Percent school absence due to illness	2.5%
Number of schools with ≥10% absence due to illness	3
Influenza-associated hospitalizations*	1/6740 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

Iowa statewide activity summary

Influenza activity is increasing in Iowa. There have been six laboratory confirmed cases of influenza identified since October.

This includes three cases of a novel influenza strain in children in Webster and Hamilton counties. This virus, an influenza A/H3N2 recombinant virus, has also been detected in Pennsylvania, Maine, and Indiana in recent months and contains components of human, avian, H1N1, and swine influenza. All spread in Iowa has been human to human, and spread appears to be limited; no further cases have been identified in the last week. Symptoms are similar to regular seasonal flu. Because the virus is unique, surveillance has been increased at clinics and emergency rooms in the area.

The proportion of outpatient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) was 0.7 percent, which is below the regional baseline of 2.3 percent. The percent of influenza rapid tests that tested positive increased while the percent of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) rapid tests that tested positive decreased. There was one influenza-associated hospitalization that occurred in a child and which was reported from sentinel hospitals for this reporting period. The percent of school absence due to illness increased slightly and 3 schools in region 4 reported 10 percent and greater absenteeism (all which appear to be related to gastrointestinal viruses, such as Norovirus). No new cases of other respiratory viruses were detected in this reporting week. For the season, other respiratory viruses identified include rhinovirus, adenovirus, parainfluenza 1-2, RSV, and human metapneumovirus (hMPV).

National activity summary - www.cdc.gov – not available

International activity summary - www.who.int

Influenza activity in the temperate regions of the northern hemisphere remains low or undetectable, though a recent outbreak of influenza A(H3N2) in a seniors lodge has been reported in Alberta, Canada. Significant influenza activity was reported in only a few countries of the tropical zone including Nicaragua in the Americas, Cameroon in central Africa, and Cambodia in South East Asia. Transmission in the temperate countries of the southern hemisphere has returned to intra-seasonal levels, with some persistence of influenza A(H3N2) in Australia.

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 culture tests reported from the Dunes Medical Laboratories at Mercy Medical Center-Sioux City.

¹ ***No Activity:** No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of influenza-like illness (ILI²).

Sporadic: Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI².

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.

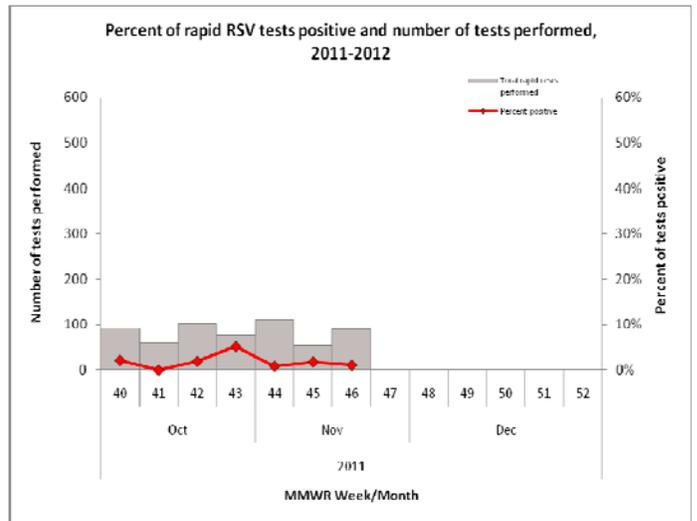
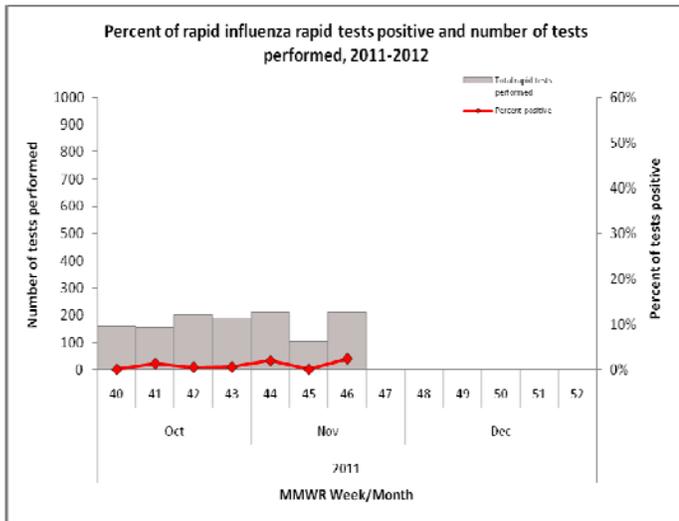
Specimens tested by the State Hygienic Laboratory

Influenza viruses isolated 10/2/11 to present week		
	<i>Current week</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>
Flu A	4 (17%)	6 (4%)
Flu A (2009 H1N1)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Flu A (H3)	1 (4%)	3 (2%)
Novel A (H3N2)	3 (13%)	3 (2%)
Flu B	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Equivocal	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Indeterminate	0 (0%)	6 (3%)
Negative	20 (83%)	157 (93%)
Total	24	169

Influenza viruses by age group 10/2/11 to present week				
<i>Age group</i>	<i>Flu A (2009 H1N1)</i>	<i>Flu A (H3)</i>	<i>Novel A(H3N2)</i>	<i>Flu B</i>
0-4	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	* (*%)	0 (0%)
5-17	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	* (*%)	0 (0%)
18-24	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
25-49	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
50-64	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
>64	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Total	0	3	3	0

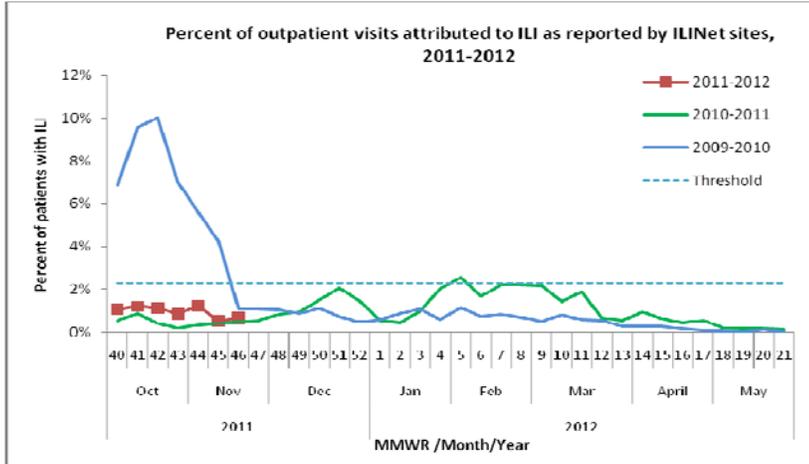
Number of positive results for non-influenza respiratory virus isolated since 10/2/11 by the State Hygienic Laboratory and Mercy Dunes in Sioux City

	<i>Current week</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>
Adenovirus	0	6
Parainfluenza Virus Type 1	0	8
Parainfluenza Virus Type 2	0	3
Parainfluenza Virus Type 3	0	0
Rhinovirus	0	14
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	0	2
human metapneumovirus (hMPV)	0	1



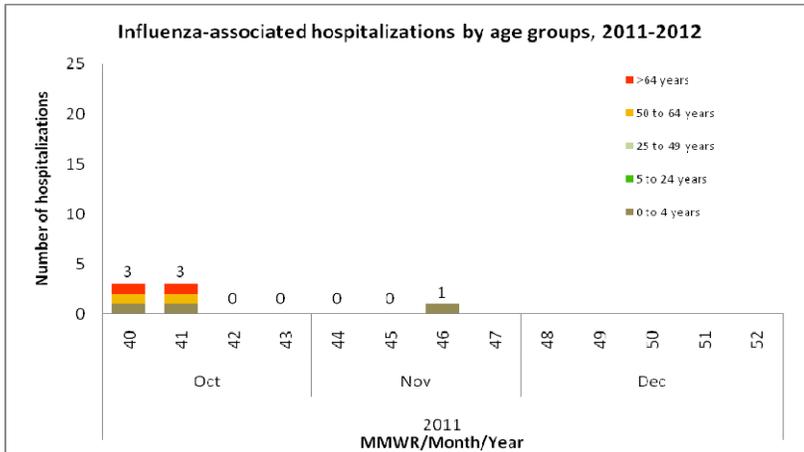
Outpatient health care provider surveillance program (ILINet)

Outpatient health care providers that 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.



Influenza-associated hospitalizations

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

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

