**Flu Watch**

**MMWR Week 14: April 1 to April 7, 2018**

*All data are provisional and subject to change as more reports are received.*

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**Geographic Spread**

South Carolina reported **regional activity** this week.

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**Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations and Deaths**

A total of **46** influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported by 41 hospitals. The cumulative hospitalization rate is **88.2** per 100,000. There were **3** laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths reported; however, **all** deaths occurred in previous weeks. The cumulative mortality rate is **5.0** per 100,000. Compared to the previous week, the number of reported hospitalizations **decreased** by **7** (**13.2%**) and number of reported deaths **decreased** by **3** (**100%**). In the current flu season, there have been **4,376** influenza-associated hospitalizations and **249** influenza-associated deaths reported.

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**Virologic Surveillance**

A total of **1,059** influenza cases (**1,035** positive rapid antigen detection tests; **24** lab-confirmed tests) were reported from 35 counties representing all four DHEC Public Health regions. Influenza B was most frequently reported by clinical labs. Compared to the previous week, this is a **decrease** of **560** cases (**34.6%**). In the current flu season, there have been **132,649** influenza cases (**129,267** positive rapid antigen detection tests; **3,382** lab-confirmed tests) reported.

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**Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance**

The percent of patient visits to sentinel providers for an influenza-like illness (ILI) was **2.51%**, which is **below** South Carolina’s baseline (**3.13%**). Compared to the previous week, this is a **decrease** of **0.35%**.

The ILI activity level was **low**.

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For a description of South Carolina’s influenza surveillance components and definitions go to:

http://www.scdhec.gov/Health/DiseasesandConditions/InfectiousDiseases/Flu/FluData/

For national surveillance, please visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
This week, 24 lab-confirmed cases and 1,035 positive rapid influenza detection tests were reported by clinical labs.

**Influenza B** was most frequently reported by clinical labs.
Virologic Surveillance

Map of Influenza Cases (n)*
and Influenza Case Rate/100,000 By County
For Week Ending 4/7/2018

Weekly Influenza Case Rate per 100K

0 to 25 persons
26 to 50 persons
51 to 75 persons
Greater than 75 persons

*Includes all lab-confirmed and positive rapid cases

Flu Watch  MMWR Week 14  April 1 - April 7, 2018
This week, the ILI activity level was low and 2.51% of patient visits to SC ILINet providers was attributed to an influenza-like illness. This is below the state baseline, 3.13%.

Reports were received from providers in 11 counties, representing all 4 DHEC Public Health regions.

**ILI percentage is dependent upon the number of reporting providers and/or can vary by disease activity or the number of providers submitting reports.**
Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations and Deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Hospitalizations This Week</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 This Week</th>
<th>Season Total</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 Season Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 17</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 to 49</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 64</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>112.0</td>
<td>1020</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 &amp; older</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>395.6</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>28.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>88.2</td>
<td>4376</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was 6.7%. This is below the epidemic threshold for the week ending March 17, 2018.