Flu Watch
MMWR Week 33: August 12 to August 18, 2018
All data are provisional and subject to change as more reports are received.

Geographic Spread

South Carolina reported no activity this week.

Influenza-AssOCIAted Hospitalizations and Deaths

This week 6 influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported by 22 hospitals. The cumulative hospitalization rate is 91.2 per 100,000. There were 0 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths reported this week. The cumulative mortality rate is 5.9 per 100,000. Compared to the previous week, the number of reported hospitalizations increased by 5 (>100%) cases and deaths remained the same. In the current flu season, there have been 4,524 influenza-associated hospitalizations and 292 influenza-associated deaths reported.

Virologic Surveillance

A total of 21 influenza cases (19 positive rapid antigen detection tests; 2 lab-confirmed tests) were reported from 9 counties representing all four DHEC Public Health regions. Influenza A was most frequently reported by clinical labs. Compared to the previous week, the number of reported influenza cases increased by 4 (23.5%) cases. In the current flu season, there have been 135,565 influenza cases (131,975 positive rapid antigen detection tests; 3,590 lab-confirmed tests) reported.

Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance

The percent of patient visits to sentinel providers for an influenza-like illness (ILI) was 0.50%, which is below South Carolina’s baseline (3.13%). Compared to the previous week, this is an increase of 0.19%.

The ILI activity level was minimal.

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, 2 lab-confirmed cases and 19 positive rapid influenza detection tests were reported by clinical labs.

**Influenza A** was most frequently reported by clinical labs.
Map of Influenza Cases (n)*
and Influenza Case Rate/100,000 By County
For Week Ending 8/18/2018

Weekly Influenza Case Rate per 100K

- 0 to 25 persons
- 26 to 50 persons
- 51 to 75 persons
- Greater than 75 persons
This week, the ILI activity level was **minimal** and 0.50% 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 7 counties, representing 3 of the 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

**Influenza-Associated Deaths by Region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Hospitalizations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000</th>
<th>Season Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This Week</td>
<td>Rate per Season Total</td>
<td>This Week</td>
<td>Rate per Season Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 17</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>141</td>
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<td>18 to 49</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>592</td>
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<tr>
<td>50 to 64</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>116.0</td>
<td>1056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 &amp; older</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>407.7</td>
<td>2576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>91.2</td>
<td>4524</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was 3.7%. This is **below** the epidemic threshold for the week ending Jul 28, 2018.