Flu Watch
MMWR Week 8: February 18 to February 24, 2018
All data are provisional and subject to change as more reports are received.

Geographic Spread

South Carolina reported widespread activity this week. This is the eleventh consecutive week at widespread activity.

Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations and Deaths

A total of 191 influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported by 53 hospitals. The cumulative hospitalization rate is 80.4 per 100,000. There were 16 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated deaths reported; however, 7 deaths occurred in previous weeks. The cumulative mortality rate is 3.4 per 100,000. Compared to the previous week, the number of reported hospitalizations decreased by 184 (49.1%) and number of reported deaths decreased by 2 (18.2%). In the current flu season, there have been 3,989 influenza-associated hospitalizations and 167 influenza-associated deaths reported.

Virologic Surveillance

A total of 6,332 influenza cases (6,186 positive rapid antigen detection tests; 146 lab-confirmed tests) were reported from 43 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 7,968 cases (55.7%). In the current flu season, there have been 121,208 influenza cases (118,184 positive rapid antigen detection tests; 3,024 lab-confirmed tests) reported.

Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance

The percent of patient visits to sentinel providers for an influenza-like illness (ILI) was 8.04%, which is above South Carolina’s baseline (3.13%). Compared to the previous week, this is a decrease of 3.95%.

The ILI activity level was high.

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, **146** lab-confirmed cases and **6,186** 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 2/24/2018

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 8  February 18 – February 24, 2018
This week, the ILI activity level was **high** and **8.04%** of patient visits to SC ILINet providers was attributed to an influenza-like illness. This is **above** 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.**

---

**ILI ACTIVITY LEVELS:** **MINIMAL LOW MODERATE HIGH**

---

No color fill indicates either no reporting or does not participate.
Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations And Deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>This Week</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000</th>
<th>Season Total</th>
<th>This Week</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000</th>
<th>Season Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>48.1</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 to 49</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 64</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>100.3</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 &amp; older</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>364.5</td>
<td>2303</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>80.4</td>
<td>3989</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The percentage of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was 7.8%. This is below the epidemic threshold for the week ending February 3, 2018.