Influenza activity was categorized as **Local** for MMWR Week 8

- Decreased levels of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) activity seen in emergency departments
  - Of the total emergency room visits, **6.2% were due to ILI**
- Decreased levels of ILI activity reported by outpatient providers
  - Sentinel providers reported **5.1% of patients had ILI**
- Vermont Department of Health Laboratory reported **22 positive flu tests**
- National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System reported **177 positive flu tests**
- **4 Outbreaks**
  - 1 outbreak at a LTCF in the Northwest Region
  - 2 outbreaks at schools in the Northwest Region
  - 1 outbreak at a child care facility in the Northwest Region

*Based on CDC’s Activity Estimates Definitions: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm)
Syndromic Surveillance of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) at Vermont Hospitals, 2017-2018 vs. Historic Data

Week ending 2/24/2018 (Week 8)

* Note: 2009-2010 flu season excluded
** Note: For the 2017-2018 flu season, VDH switched from using EARS (Early Aberration Reporting System) for syndromic surveillance to using ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics)
Sentinel providers report the number of patients with an ILI seen by their practices each week.

ILI is defined as a measured fever of at least 100° F and cough and/or sore throat, without a known cause other than influenza.

There are 16 medical practices located throughout the state currently partnering with the Health Department as sentinel sites.

**Percent of Visits Reported by Vermont Sentinel Providers* with Influenza-like Illness by MMWR Week, 2015/16 – 2017/18 Flu Seasons**

*The ILI data are more robust when a higher percentage of provider reports are received. Recent data are provisional due to reporting lags.*
SENTINEL PROVIDER DATA

Percent of Visits Reported by Vermont Sentinel Providers* with Influenza-like Illness by Age Group by MMWR Week, 2015/16 – 2017/18 Flu Seasons

- Age 65 and older
- Age 50-64
- Age 25-49
- Age 5-24
- Age 0-4

*The ILI data are more robust when a higher percentage of provider reports are received. Recent data are provisional due to reporting lags.
Percent of Visits Reported by Vermont Sentinel Providers* with Influenza-like Illness by Age Group by MMWR Week 2017/2018 Flu Season

*The ILI data are more robust when a higher percentage of provider reports are received. Recent data are provisional due to reporting lags.
Individual influenza laboratory results are not reported to the Vermont Department of Health. The data below represents an unknown subset of the actual number of flu tests done in Vermont.

Vermont Department of Health Laboratory (VDHL) tests specimens for flu to identify exactly which strains are currently causing illnesses in the state. Flu testing at the state laboratory is for surveillance purposes and completed on specimens submitted to VDHL.

National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) data is collected from collaborating university and community hospital laboratories. These participating laboratories report positive results for a number of viruses, including influenza, on a weekly basis. Three Vermont hospitals voluntarily contribute data into this system.

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specimens Tested</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>5,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Specimens</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>67.4%</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>61.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Specimens by Type/Subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>94.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A (2009 H1N1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A (H1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A (H3)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>94.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A (unsubtyped)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza B</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Laboratory data obtained from VDHL and from NREVSS may include the same specimens tested for flu. They are not mutually exclusive. Facilities that report to NREVSS may submit a specimen to VDHL for additional testing, therefore being reported both in NREVSS and VDHL.
Suspected outbreaks of ILI should be reported to the health department

**ILI OUTBREAK DATA**

**Long-Term Care Facility Outbreaks**

- **Number of Outbreaks**: 26
- **Number of Lab Confirmed Outbreaks**: 23

  **Outbreak Regions**
  - Central: 2
  - Northeastern: 2
  - Northwestern: 11
  - Southeastern: 7
  - Southwestern: 4

**School Outbreaks**

- **Number of Outbreaks**: 19

  **Outbreak Regions**
  - Central: 2
  - Northeastern: 2
  - Northwestern: 6
  - Southeastern: 0
  - Southwestern: 9

**Outbreaks at Other Facilities**

- **Number of Outbreaks**: 5

  **Outbreak Regions**
  - Central: 0
  - Northeastern: 0
  - Northwestern: 3
  - Southeastern: 2
  - Southwestern: 0

**MAP OF INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE REGIONS IN VERMONT**

During week 8, influenza activity decreased in the United States. The most frequently identified flu virus type reported by public health laboratories was flu A(H3).

Full FluView report can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm
17 influenza-associated pediatric death were reported to CDC during week 8.
So far this season, there has been 114 influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported to CDC. **There have been no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported in Vermont this season.**

Full FLuView report can be found here: [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm)
The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like Illness for week 8 was 5% which was above the national baseline of 2.2%.

Percentage of Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Reported by the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), Weekly National Summary, 2017-2018 and Selected Previous Seasons

Full FLuView report can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm
During week 8, the following ILI activity levels were experienced:

- New York City, the District of Columbia, and 32 states experienced high activity (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming).
- Puerto Rico and nine states experienced moderate ILI activity (California, Connecticut, Delaware, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, Utah, West Virginia, and Wisconsin).
- Three states experienced minimal ILI activity (Florida, Maine, and Montana).

**Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet**

2017-18 Influenza Season Week 8 ending Feb 24, 2018
Geographic spread for week 8**:

**No activity** was reported by U.S. Virgin Islands.

**Sporadic** activity was not reported.

**Local** activity reported by D.C. and 3 states.

**Regional** activity was reported by Guam and 2 states.

**Widespread** activity reported by 45 states.

**Based on CDC’s Activity Estimates Definitions:**

[www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm)

Full FLuView report can be found here:

[https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm)
Flu Near You is a website where people can anonymously self-report any symptoms they experienced in the past week or if they were healthy. These reports help us track flu both in Vermont and the US.

Click [here](#) to sign up.

Click [here](#) to go to the interactive map.

Flu activity in the United States

Last 7 days:

- **1.91%** Flu-like symptoms (330 reports)
- **7.34%** Other symptoms (1271 reports)
- **92.66%** No symptoms (16048 reports)

The percentage of flu-like symptoms reports in the United States has decreased by 1.0% since last week.
Flu activity in Vermont

Last 7 days

- **2.6%** (2 reports) Flu-like symptoms
- **5.19%** (4 reports) Other symptoms
- **94.81%** (73 reports) No symptoms

The percentage of flu-like symptoms reports in Vermont has increased by 0.5% since last week.