VERMONT WEEKLY INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE REPORT
November 25 – December 1, 2018 | MMWR WEEK 48
Influenza activity was categorized as **Regional** for MMWR Week 48

- Decreased levels of Influenza-like Illness (ILI)* activity seen in emergency departments
  - Of the total emergency room visits, **0.9% were due to ILI**
- Increased levels of ILI activity reported by outpatient providers
  - Sentinel providers reported **0.8% of patients had ILI**
- Vermont Department of Health Laboratory reported **1 positive flu test**
- National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System reported **3 positive flu tests**
- No ILI outbreaks reported.

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

**Based on CDC’s Activity Estimates Definitions: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm)**

**VT Flu Geographic Spread**

- No Activity
- Sporadic
- Local
- Regional
- Widespread

**Outbreaks this week: 0**

**Total Outbreaks:** 1
Syndromic Surveillance* of Influenza-Like Illness at Vermont Hospitals, 2018-2019 vs. Historic Data

% of Total Emergency Room Visits Due to ILI

Week Ending Date -- MMWR Week #

Week ending 12/1/2018 (Week 48)

*Data pulled from ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics)
Sentinel providers report the number of patients with ILI seen by their practice each week.

There are 15 medical practices located throughout the state currently providing data.

Percent of Visits Reported by Vermont Sentinel Providers* with Influenza-like Illness by MMWR Week, 2016/17 – 2018/19 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.
Percent of Visits Reported by Vermont Sentinel Providers* with Influenza-like Illness by Age Group by MMWR Week, 2016/17 – 2018/19 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.
Percent of Visits Reported by Vermont Sentinel Providers* with Influenza-like Illness by Age Group by MMWR Week 2018/2019 Flu Season

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### LABORATORY DATA

Individual flu results are not reported to the Vermont Department of Health. The data below represents an unknown subset of the actual number of flu tests performed 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 is performed on specimens collected during an institutional outbreak and routinely by sentinel providers.

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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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specimens Tested</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Specimens</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Positive Specimens by Type/Subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A (2009 H1N1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50%</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>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50%</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>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Laboratory data obtained from VDHL and 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.
### ILI Outbreak Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Number of Outbreaks</th>
<th>Outbreak Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-Term Care Facility</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Central: 0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northeastern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northwestern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southeastern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southwestern: 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>School Outbreaks</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Central: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northeastern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northwestern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southeastern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southwestern: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outbreaks at Other Facilities</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Central: 0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northeastern: 0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northwestern: 0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Southeastern: 0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Southwestern: 0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Suspected outbreaks of ILI should be reported to the health department*

**Map of Influenza Surveillance Regions in Vermont**

Influenza activity in the United States increased slightly. Influenza A(H1N1) viruses were most commonly reported by public health laboratories since September 30, 2018.

Full FluView report can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm
No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to CDC during week 48.
So far this season, there has been 5 influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported to CDC.
There have been no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported in Vermont this season.

Number of Influenza-Associated Pediatric Deaths by Week of Death:
2015-2016 season to present

- 2015-2016: Number of Deaths Reported = 94
- 2016-2017: Number of Deaths Reported = 110
- 2017-2018: Number of Deaths Reported = 185
- 2018-2019: Number of Deaths Reported = 5

Full FluView report can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm
The proportion of outpatient visits for Influenza-like Illness for week 48 was **2.2%** which is **at the national baseline of 2.2%**.

Full FluView report can be found here: [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm)
During week 48, the following ILI activity levels were experienced:
- Two states (Georgia and Louisiana) experienced high ILI activity.
- Two states (Colorado and South Carolina) experienced moderate ILI activity.
- New York City and eight states (Alabama, Arizona, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Utah and Virginia) experienced low ILI activity.

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet
2018-19 Influenza Season Week 48 ending Dec 01, 2018

*This map uses the proportion of outpatient visits to health care providers for influenza-like illness to measure the ILI activity level within a state. It does not, however, measure the extent of geographic spread of flu within a state. Therefore, outbreaks occurring in a single city could cause the state to display high activity levels.

Data collected in ILINet may disproportionally represent certain populations within a state, and therefore, may not accurately depict the full picture of influenza activity for the whole state.

Data displayed in this map are based on data collected in ILINet, whereas the State and Territorial flu activity map is based on reports from state and territorial epidemiologists. The data presented in this map is preliminary and may change as more data are received. Differences in the data presented here by CDC and independently by some state health departments likely represent differing levels of data completeness with data presented by the state likely being the more complete.

Full FluView report can be found here: [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm)
Geographic spread for week 48**:

**No activity** was not reported.

**Sporadic** activity was reported by D.C., Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and 22 states.

**Local** activity reported by Guam and 18 states.

**Regional** activity was reported by 9 states.

**Widespread** activity was reported by 1 state.

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**Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State & Territorial Epidemiologists**

Week ending December 1, 2018 - Week 48

* This map indicates geographic spread & does not measure the severity of influenza activity

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

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

NATIONAL WEEKLY FLU REPORT
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm

NATIONAL WEEKLY FLU REPORT - INTERACTIVE
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluviewinteractive.htm

VERMONT FLU WEBSITE
www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/flu/flusurveillance.aspx

CDC SEASONAL INFLUENZA WEBSITE
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm

KEY FACTS ABOUT SEASONAL FLU VACCINE
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm