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What is Influenza?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines influenza (flu) as a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness. Serious outcomes of flu infection can result in hospitalization or death. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated against the flu each year.

For questions regarding influenza and what is reportable to the Lake County Health Department, contact the Communicable Disease (CD) Program at (847) 377-8130

Weekly Summary

Geographic Area	Flu/Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity
Lake County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in visits for Upper Respiratory Illness/Influenza-like-illness (ILI) by 29% over the last two weeks. School flu surveillance began during week 45.
Cook County	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: LOW (Week 44) .
Wisconsin (Southeast Region)	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: LOW (Week 44) .
Illinois	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: LOW (Week 44) .
United States	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: LOW (Week 44) .

Note: Our report contains different flu weeks for some geographic areas due to different reporting dates of sources.

The 2016-17 U.S. Three component (Trivalent) influenza vaccine contains: A/California/7/2009 (H1N1) pdm09-like virus, A/ Hong Kong/4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus, and a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus (B/Victoria lineage).

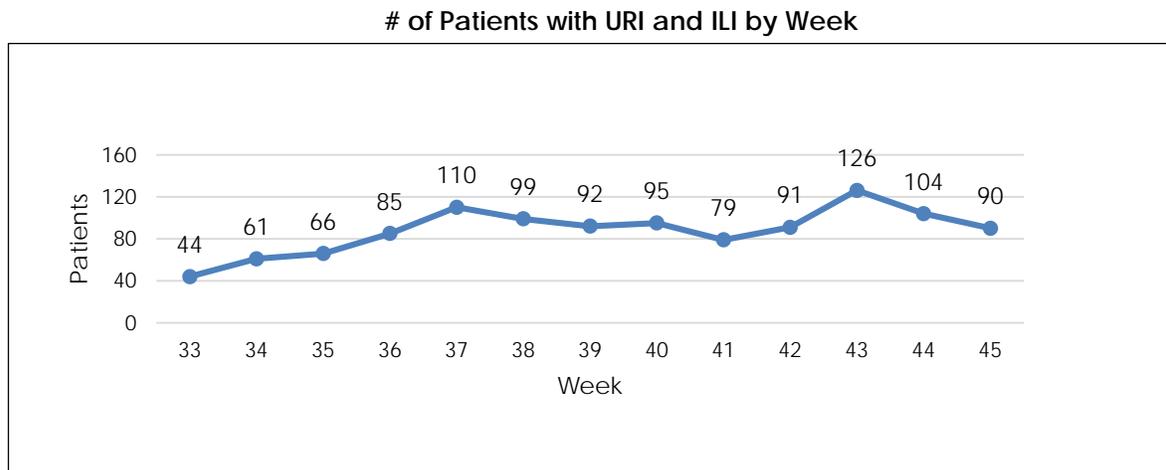
The 4 component (Quadrivalent) influenza vaccine will also include a B/Phuket/3073/2013- like virus (B/Yamagata lineage) for this year's flu season.

The Centers for Disease Control and Surveillance (CDC) have classified flu/Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) activity levels as minimal (levels 1-3), **low (levels 4-5)**, **moderate (levels 6-7)**, and **high (levels 8-10)**. This classification helps in summarizing weekly flu/ILI surveillance information for a particular geographic area and making flu/ILI activity easy to understand for the general public.

County Data

LCHD/CHC (Federally Qualified Health Center): Week 45 (6 - 12 Nov 16)

Visits to the Lake County Health Departments - Community Health Center clinics (LCHD/CHC) for both upper respiratory infections (URI) and/or influenza-like-illness (ILI), have declined over the last two weeks by 29%.



Source: Lake County Health Department Electronic Health Records, 2016.

Reportable to the Lake County Health Department: Week 45 (6 - 12 Nov 16)

Quick Stats	Week 45	Prior Week	Cumulative*
Flu - Intensive care unit (ICU) admissions	0	0	0
Flu - Pediatric Deaths (0-18)	0	0	0
Flu - Outbreaks reported (Congregate settings) **	0	0	0

Source: Illinois' National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS)

*Cumulative since week 35. Single positive flu tests are not reportable in Illinois.

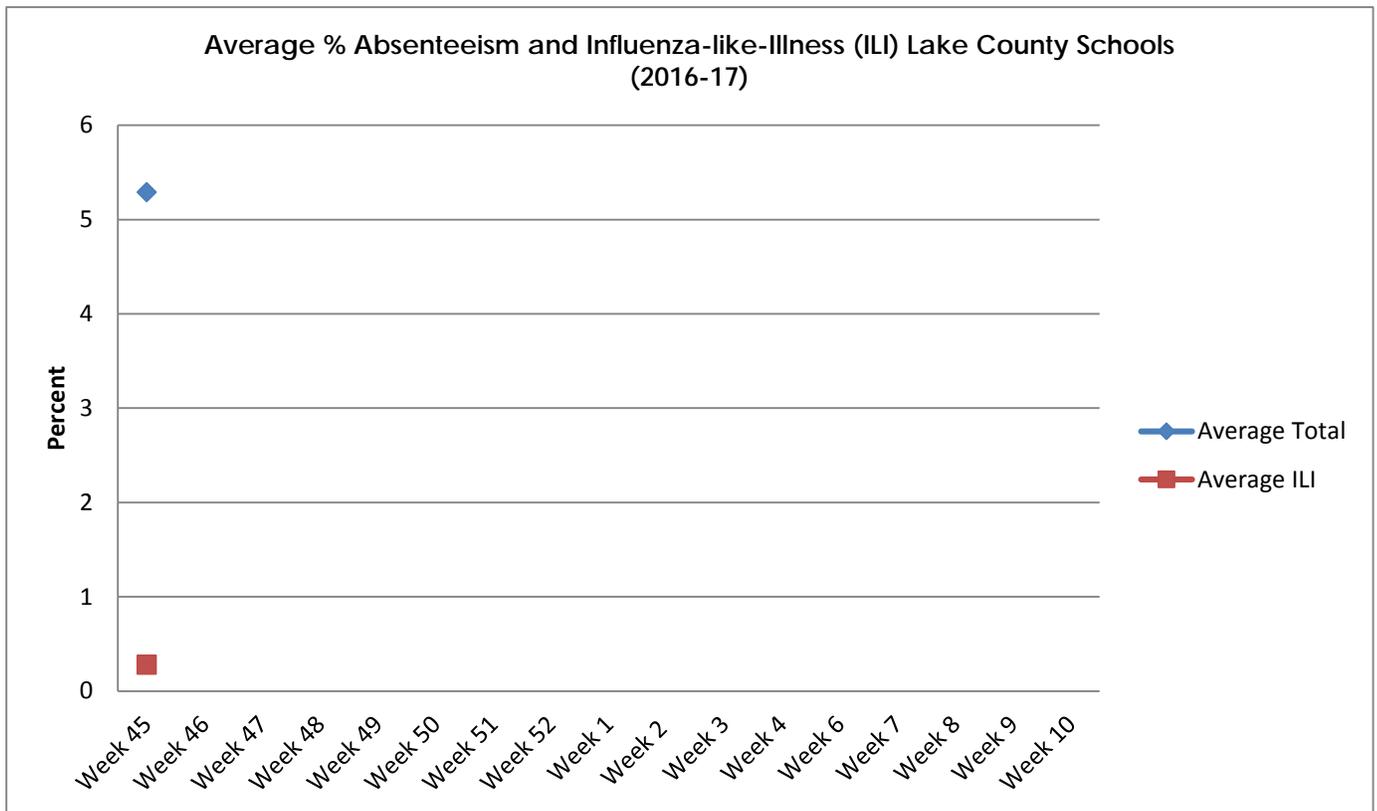
**Correctional, Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities and Hospitals.

School Influenza-Like Activity Surveillance: Week 45 (6 – 12 Nov 16)

Reporting School Districts:

Antioch (34), Community (128), Northshore (112), Waukegan (60), and Zion (6). School flu surveillance began during this week.

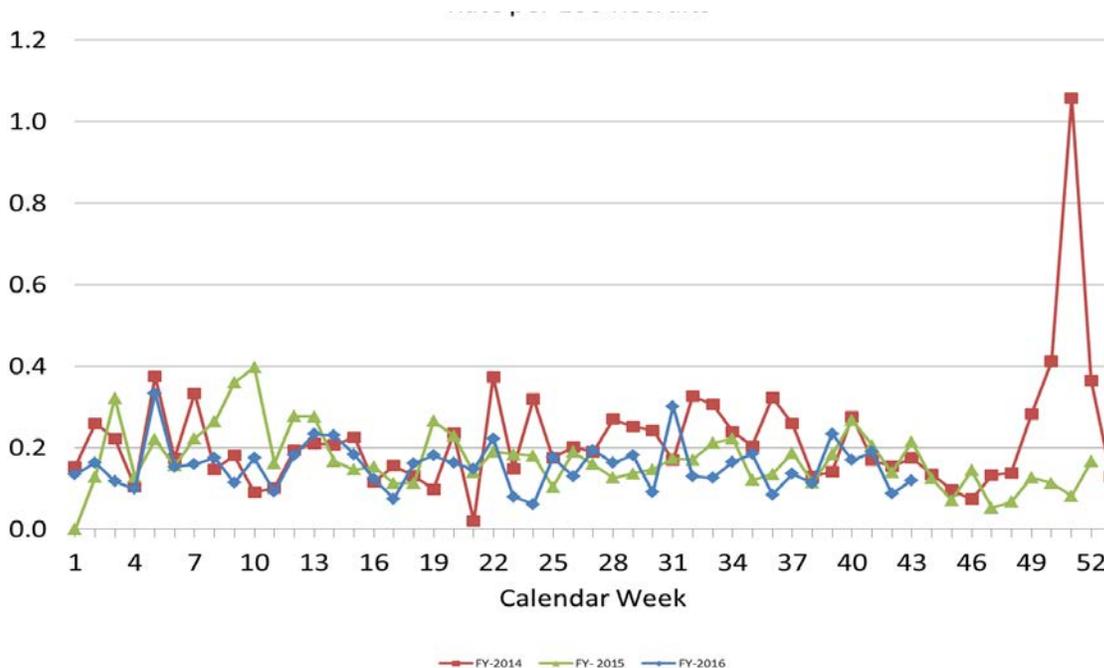
Quick Stats	Current Week	Previous Week
Schools tracking and reporting absenteeism data	40	0
Schools reporting ILI absenteeism ($\geq 5\%$)	0	0
Schools/Pre-schools reporting general absenteeism ($\geq 10\%$)	8	0



Source: Lake County Schools 2016-2017

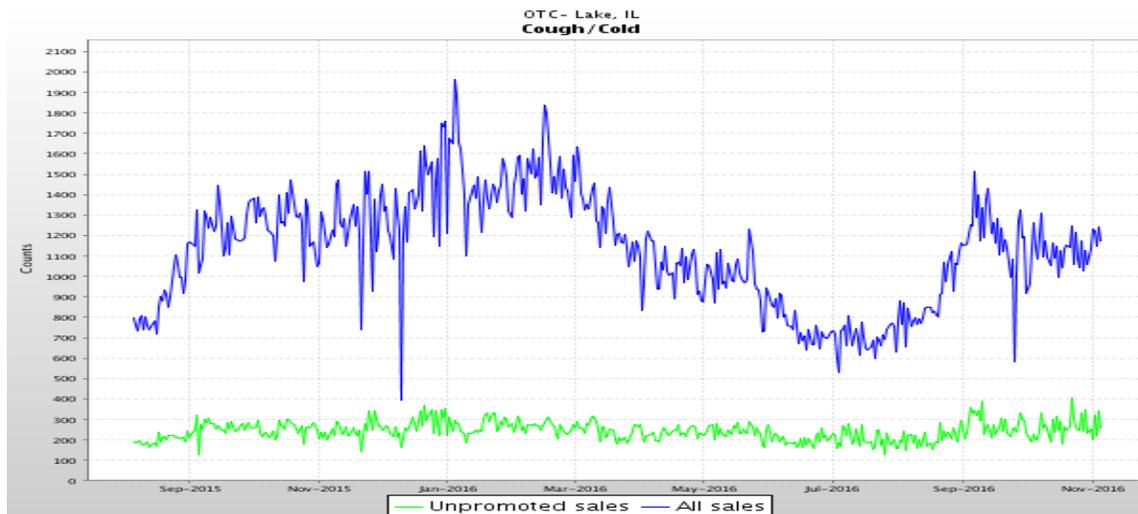
General Sentinel Site: Week 43 (23 – 29 Oct 16) – *No further updates since Week 43!*

Febrile Respiratory Illness Rate (per 100 Doctor Visits)



Sentinel Pharmacies: Past 15 Months (13 Aug 15 – 12 Nov 16)

There are 70 pharmacies in Lake County who report the amount of over-the-counter (OTC) cough and cold medications they sell for Upper Respiratory Infections. This report includes “All Sales” which refers to all cough and cold medicines that were sold in total, and “Un-promoted Sales”, which are cough and cold medicines not promoted but sold.



Source: Real Time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS), 2016-2017.

State Data

Illinois: Week 44 (30 Oct – 5 Nov 16)

Current Week Quick Stats		
Illinois Influenza Geographical Spread	No Activity (see flu activity chart below for definition)	
Percent of outpatient visits for ILI	1.18% (baseline 1.90%)	
Percent/Number of Influenza Positive Tests	Current Week: 0.00%	Season: 0.17%
Influenza-Associated ICU Admissions	Current Week: 2	Season: 13
Influenza Outbreaks	Current Week: 0	Season: 1
Influenza Associated Pediatric Deaths (<u>Season Total</u>)	0	

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Influenza Surveillance, 2016.

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Flu Activity Rating by Geographical Spread

No Activity	No laboratory confirmed cases of influenza.
Sporadic Activity	Isolated lab-confirmed cases <u>OR</u> lab confirmed outbreak in one institution.
Local Activity	Recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab evidence of influenza in region with increased ILI <u>OR</u> recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab evidence of influenza in region with the outbreaks; virus activity is no greater than sporadic in other regions.
Regional Activity	Increased ILI in > 2 but less than half of the regions <u>AND</u> recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in affected regions. <u>OR</u> institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in > 2 and less than half or regions <u>AND</u> recent lab confirmed influenza in affected regions. A region is defined as the regions States use for public health purposes.
Widespread Activity	Increased ILI and/or institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in at least half of the regions <u>AND</u> recent (within the past weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the state.

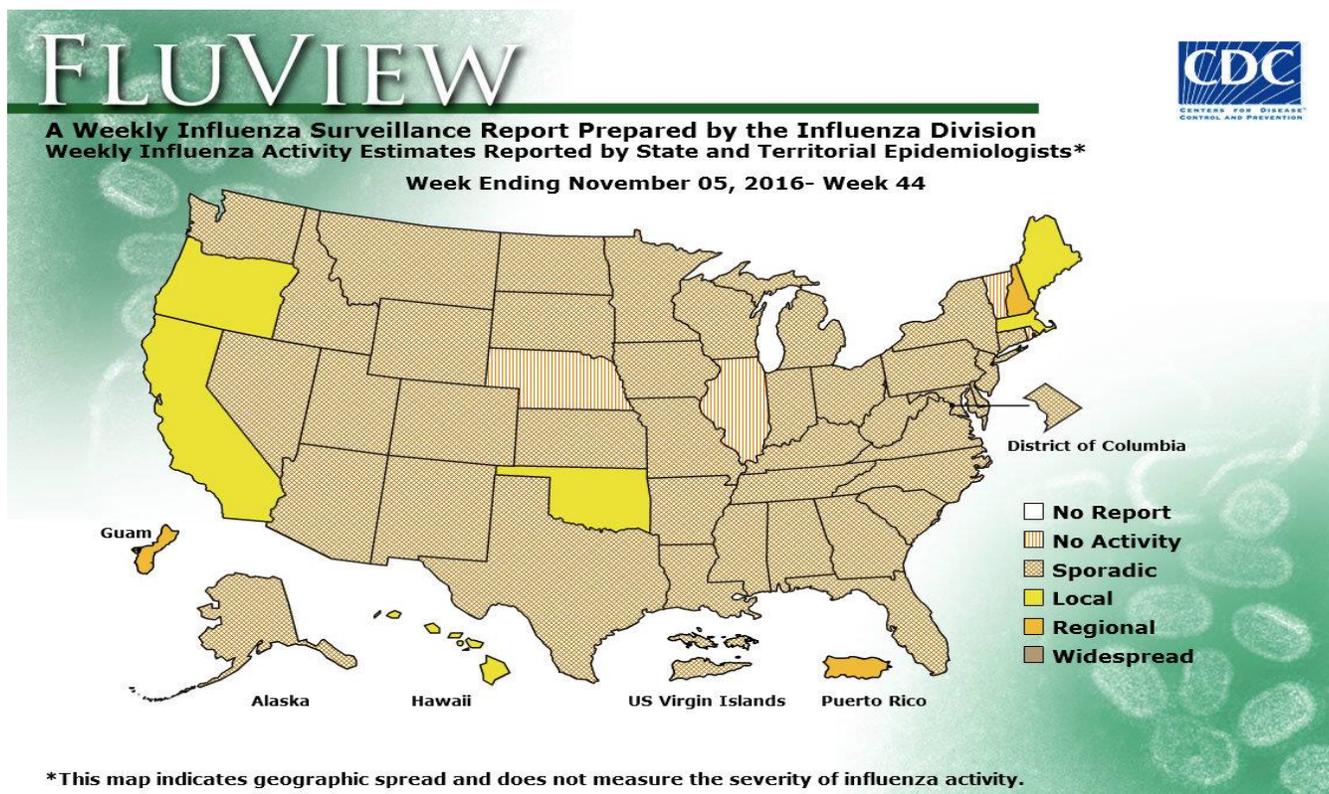
Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Influenza Surveillance, 2016.

National Data

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [Week 44 \(30 Oct – 5 Nov 16\)](#)

Flu/Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) activity is low in the United States

- **Viral Surveillance:** The most frequently identified influenza virus subtype reported by public health laboratories during week 44 was influenza A (H3). The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza in clinical laboratories increased slightly but remained low.
- **Influenza-Associated Pediatric Deaths:** No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.
- **Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality:** The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the system-specific epidemic threshold in the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Mortality Surveillance System.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Flu Activity and Surveillance*, 2016.