



# Weekly Influenza Report

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**25 – 31 December, 2016**  
**Week 52**

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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.

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

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## Weekly Summary

Geographic Area	Flu/Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity
Lake County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visits for Upper Respiratory Illness/Influenza-like-illness (ILI) increased slightly (2%), over the previous week. The reporting week was shortened due to the holiday.</li> <li>Lake County Schools: Flu/ILI information was not reported during week 52 due to winter break.</li> </ul>
Cook County	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: <b>Increasing but LOW (Week 51).</b>
Wisconsin (Southeast Region)	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: <b>LOW (Week 51).</b>
Illinois	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: <b>LOW (Week 51).</b>
United States	Flu/ILI Activity is currently: <b>LOW (Week 51).</b>

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

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 easier to interpret.

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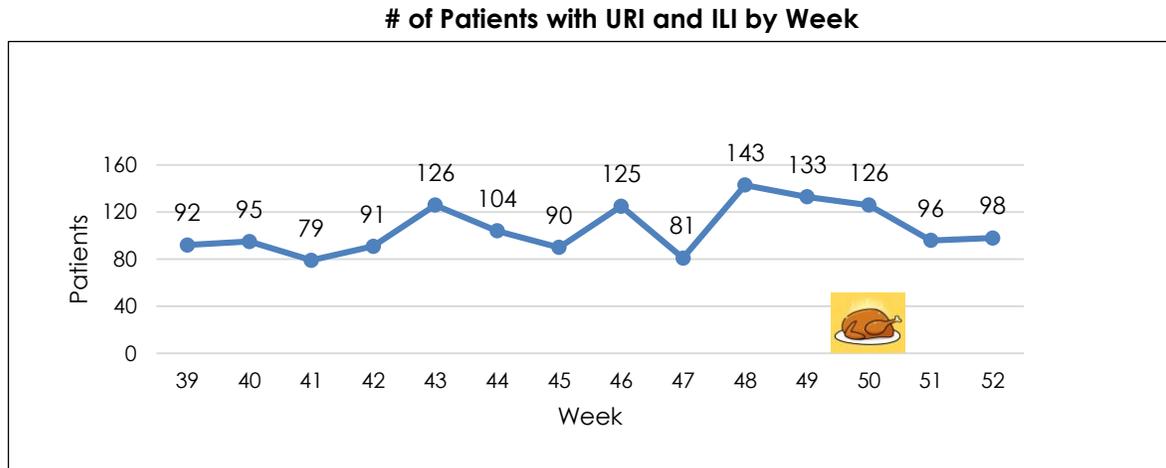
*The 2016-17 U.S. Three component (Trivalent) influenza vaccine contains: A/California/7/2009 (H1N1) pdm09-like virus, A/Hong Kong/4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus, and a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus (B/Victoria lineage). The 4 component (Quadrivalent) influenza vaccine will also include a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage) for this year's flu season.*

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**County Data**

**LCHD/CHC (Federally Qualified Health Center): Week 52 (25 – 31 Dec 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 levelled off in the last week of the year. The lower number of visits could be due to the shortened holiday week.



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

**Reportable to the Lake County Health Department: Week 52 (25 – 31 Dec 16)**

Quick Stats	Week 52	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	1	1

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

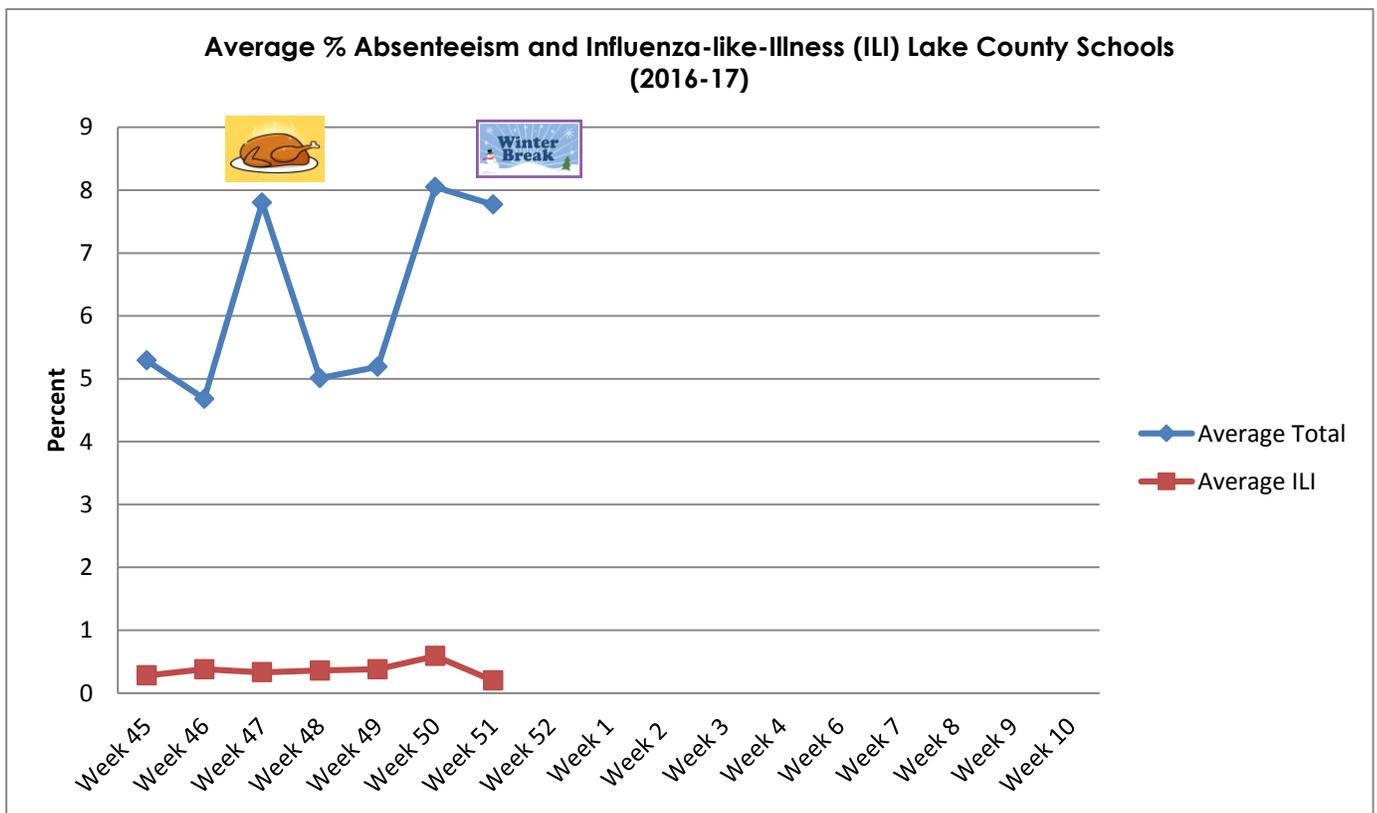
\*Cumulative since week 35. Single positive flu tests are not reportable in Illinois.

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

**School Influenza-Like Activity Surveillance: Week 52 (25 – 31Dec 16) “Christmas Break”**

**Reporting School Districts:** No data was reported during the Holiday week.

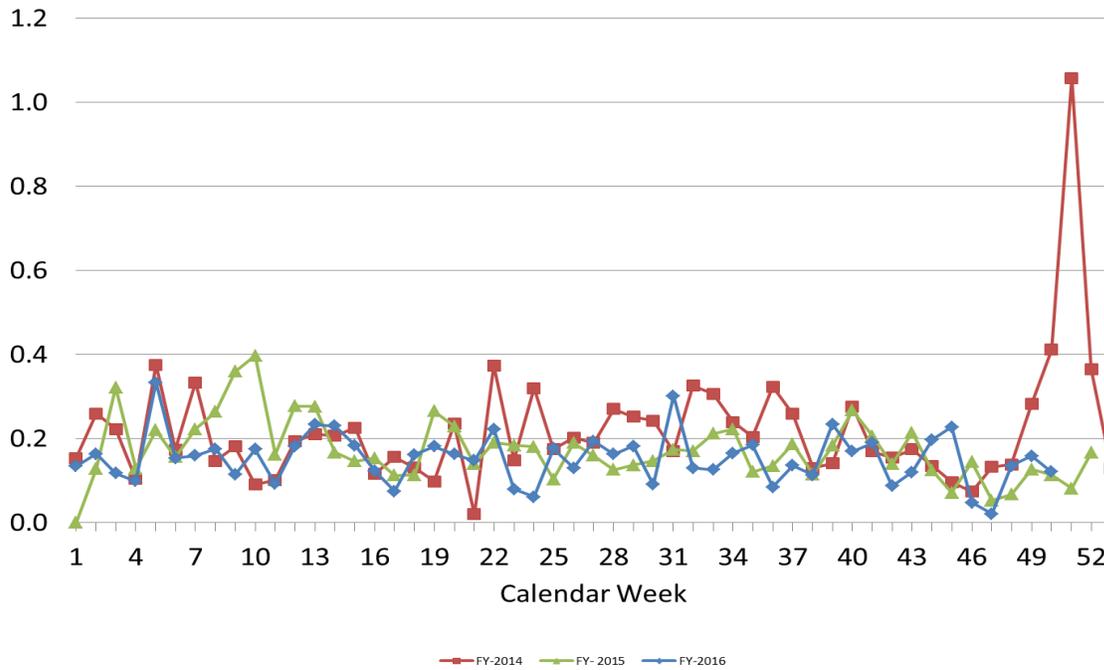
Quick Stats	Current Week	Previous Week
Schools tracking and reporting absenteeism data	0	31
Schools reporting ILI absenteeism ( $\geq 5\%$ )	0	0
Schools/Pre-schools reporting general absenteeism ( $\geq 10\%$ )	0	18



Source: Lake County Schools 2016-2017

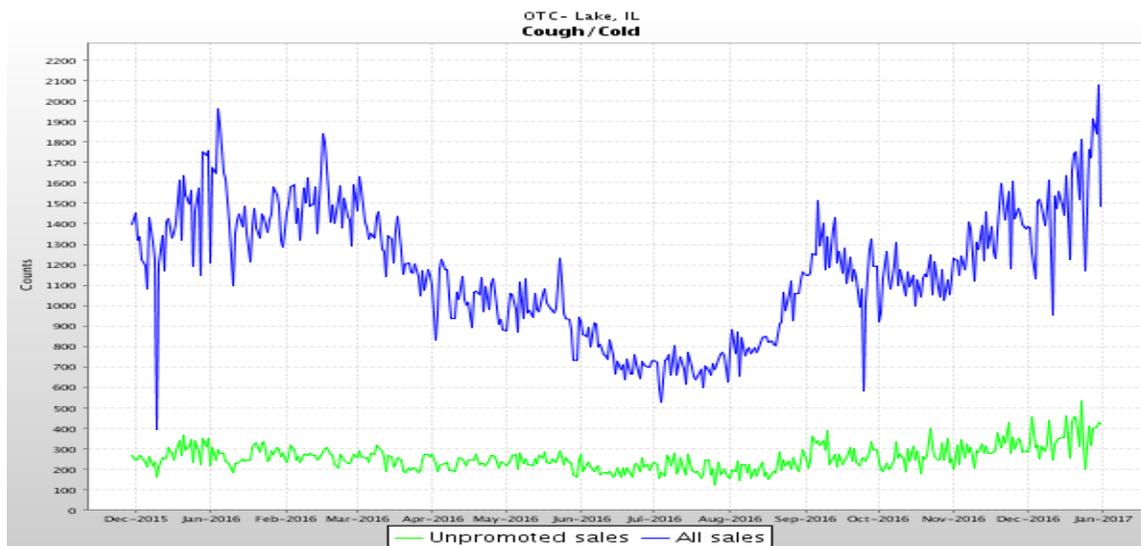
**General Sentinel Site:** Week 50 (11 – 17 Dec 16) - No new reports since Week 50.

**Febrile Respiratory Illness Rate (per 100 Doctor Visits)**



**Sentinel Pharmacies:** Past 15 months (1 Oct 15 – 31 Dec 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 51 (18 – 24 Dec 16)

Current Week Quick Stats		
Illinois Influenza Geographical Spread	<b>Local</b> (see flu activity chart below for definition)	
Percent of outpatient visits for ILI	<b>1.87%</b> (baseline 1.90%)	
Percent/Number of Influenza Positive Tests	Current Week: <b>3.99%</b>	Season: <b>1.53%</b>
Influenza-Associated ICU Admissions	Current Week: <b>4</b>	Season: <b>33</b>
Influenza Outbreaks	Current Week: <b>1</b>	Season: <b>7</b>
Influenza Associated Pediatric Deaths ( <u>Season Total</u> )	<b>0</b>	

**Source:** Illinois Department of Public Health, Influenza Surveillance, 2016.**Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Flu Activity Rating by Geographical Spread**

<b>No Activity</b>	No laboratory confirmed cases of influenza.
<b>Sporadic Activity</b>	Isolated lab-confirmed cases <u>OR</u> lab confirmed outbreak in one institution.
<b>Local Activity</b>	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.
<b>Regional Activity</b>	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.
<b>Widespread Activity</b>	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.

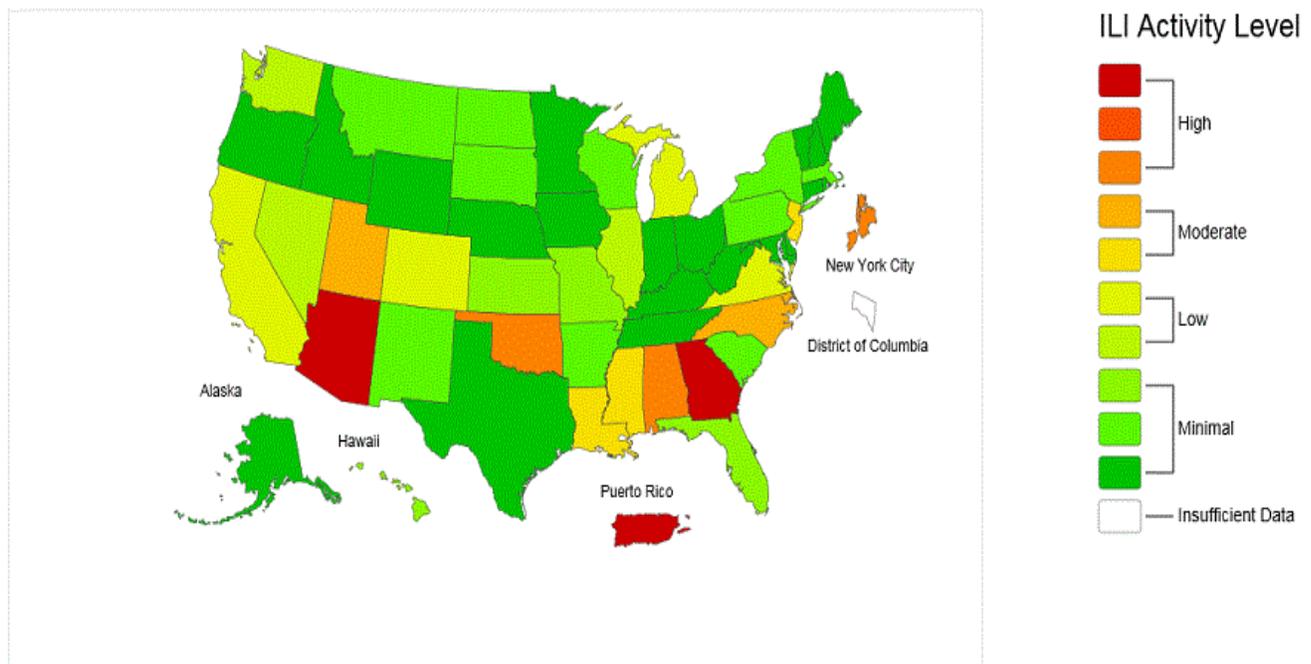
## National Data

**Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** Week 51 (18 – 24 Dec 16)

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

- **Viral Surveillance:** The most frequently identified influenza virus subtype reported by public health laboratories during week 51 was influenza A (H3). The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza in clinical laboratories increased.
- **Influenza-Associated Pediatric Deaths:** No influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported for this flu season.
- **Geographic Spread of Influenza:** The geographic spread of influenza in Guam and eight states was reported as widespread, the U.S. Virgin Islands and 17 states reported regional activity, the District of Columbia and 19 states reported local activity, five states reported sporadic activity, and Puerto Rico and one state did not report.

**Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Activity Level Indicator Determined by Data Reported to ILINet  
2016-17 Influenza Season Week 51 ending Dec 24, 2016**



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