

# Maryland Weekly Influenza Surveillance Activity Report

A summary of influenza surveillance indicators reported to DHMH for the week ending January 12, 2013

Prepared by the Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response  
Prevention and Health Promotion Administration  
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

## SUMMARY

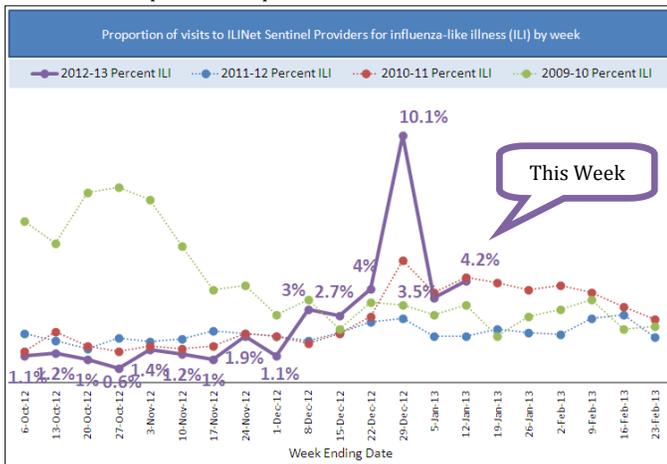
During the week ending January 12, 2013, influenza-like illness (ILI) intensity in Maryland was **HIGH** with **WIDESPREAD** geographic spread of influenza. Influenza activity indicators continue to be elevated.

[Click here to visit our influenza surveillance web page](#)

ILI Intensity Levels	Influenza Geographic Spread
Minimal	No Activity
Low	Sporadic
Moderate	Local
<b>High</b>	Regional
	<b>Widespread</b>

## ILINet Sentinel Providers

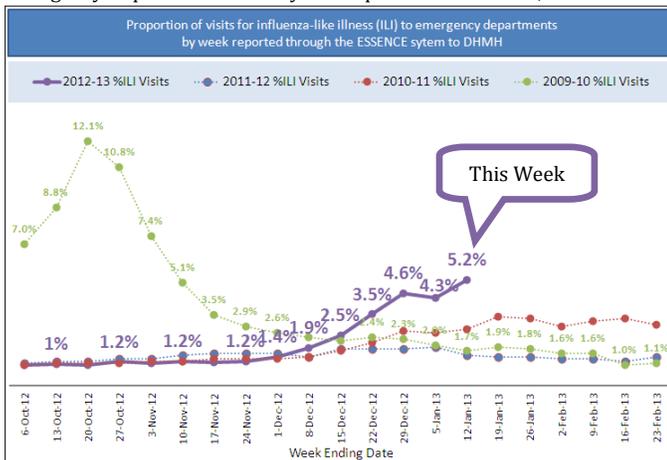
Twelve sentinel providers reported a total of 9,217 visits last week. Of those, 383 (4.2%) were visits for ILI. This is **above** the Maryland baseline of 2.9%.



ILI Visits To Sentinel Providers By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	52 (14%)	50 (26%)	619 (25%)
Age 5-24	163 (43%)	60 (31%)	984 (40%)
Age 25-49	112 (29%)	51 (26%)	607 (25%)
Age 50-64	40 (10%)	23 (12%)	173 (7%)
Age ≥ 65	16 (4%)	9 (5%)	83 (3%)
<b>Total ILI Visits</b>	<b>383 (100%)</b>	<b>193 (100%)</b>	<b>2,466 (100%)</b>

## Visits to Emergency Departments for ILI

Emergency Departments in Maryland reported a total of 52,929 visits through the [ESSENCE surveillance system](#). Of those, 2,745 (5.2%) were visits for ILI.



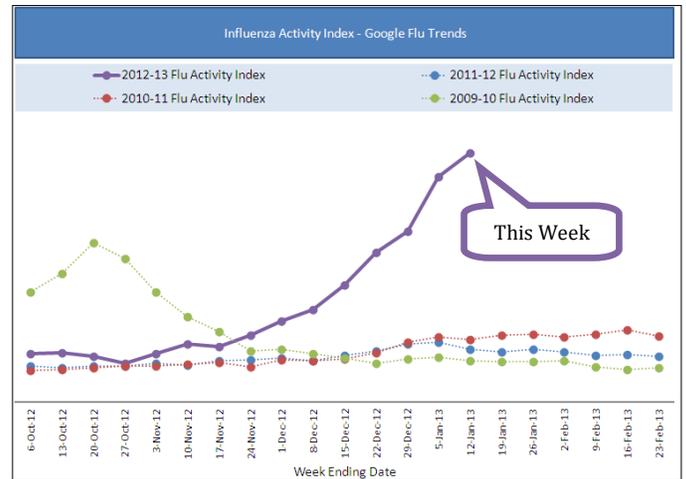
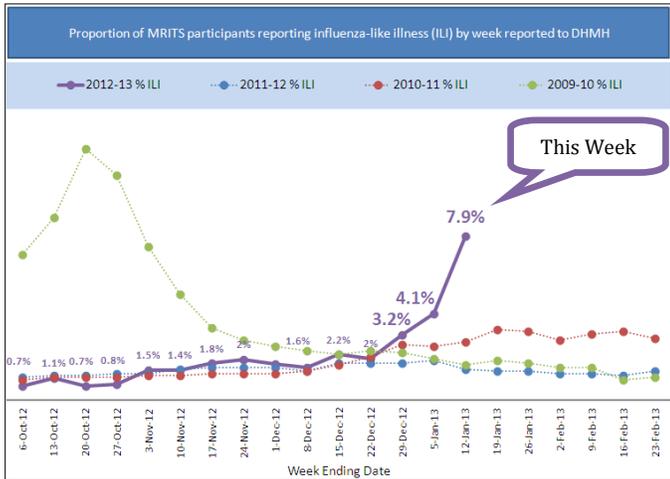
ILI Visits To Emergency Departments By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	492 (18%)	582 (22%)	4,340 (28%)
Age 5-24	743 (27%)	535 (21%)	4,427 (28%)
Age 25-49	943 (34%)	776 (30%)	4,614 (29%)
Age 50-64	377 (14%)	525 (20%)	1,508 (10%)
Age ≥ 65	190 (7%)	182 (7%)	832 (5%)
<b>Total ILI Visits</b>	<b>2,745 (100%)</b>	<b>2,600 (100%)</b>	<b>15,721 (100%)</b>

## Neighboring states' influenza information:

- Delaware <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/epi/influenzahome.html>
- District of Columbia <http://doh.dc.gov/service/influenza>
- Pennsylvania [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/influenza\\_\(flu\)/14161](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/influenza_(flu)/14161)
- Virginia <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Epidemiology/Surveillance/Influenza/>
- West Virginia <http://dhhr.wv.gov/oeeps/disease/flu/Pages/fluSurveillance.aspx>

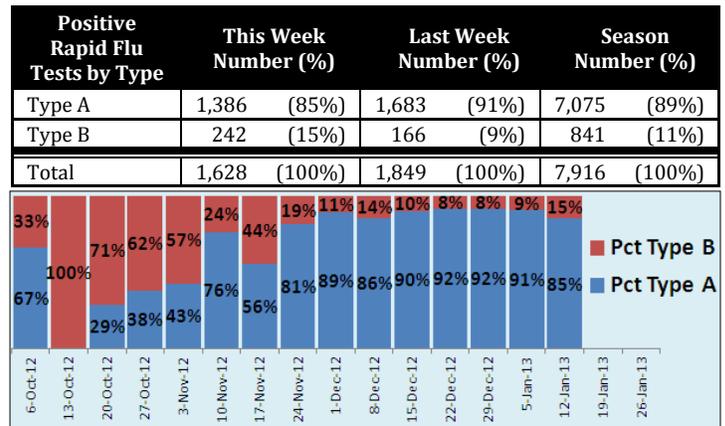
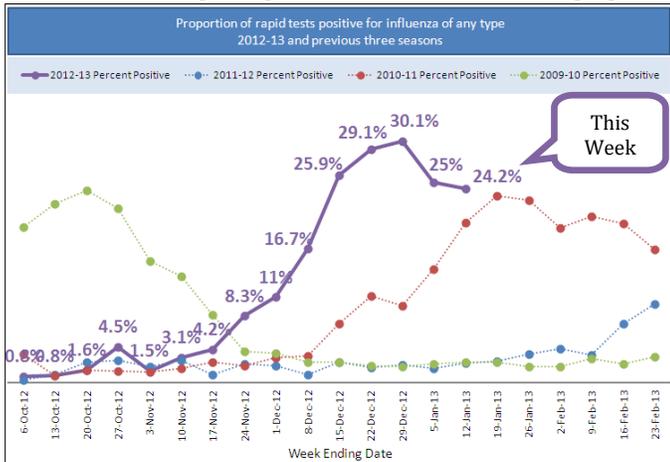
## Community-based Influenza Surveillance (MRITS and Google Flu Trends)

A total of 724 responses to the [weekly flu survey](#) (MRITS) were received. Of those, 57 (7.9%) reported ILI with a cumulative 163 days of regular daily activities lost due to illness. According to [Google Flu Trends](#), influenza activity is now "intense" in Maryland.



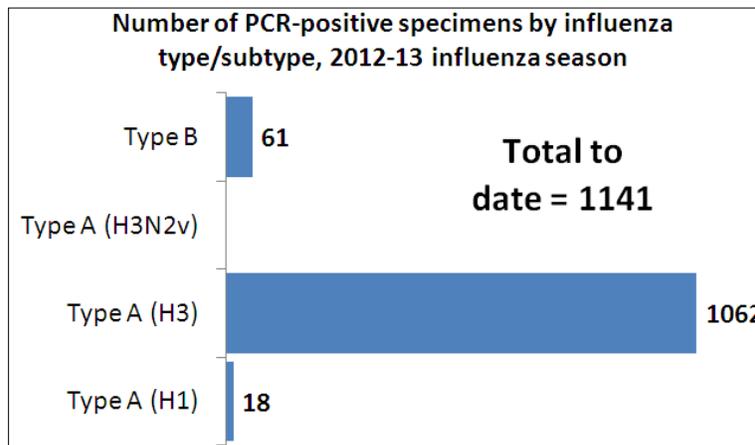
## Clinical Laboratory Influenza Testing

Twenty-seven clinical laboratories reported 6,721 rapid influenza tests performed. Of those, 1,628 (24.2%) were positive. Of those testing positive, 1,386 were positive for influenza type A, and 242 were positive for type B. (Rapid influenza tests are not as accurate as PCR tests. Now that the State Laboratories Administration has reported positive PCR tests for influenza, rapid positive tests are counted as lab-confirmed cases for surveillance purposes.)



## State Laboratories Administration Influenza Testing

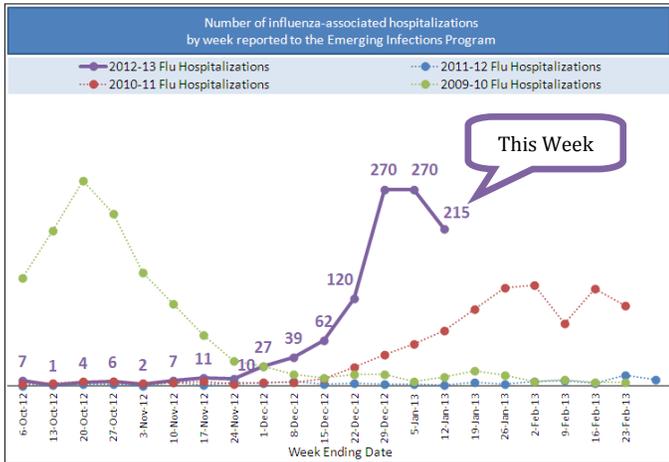
The State Laboratories Administration has reported 1,141 PCR-positive specimens. Of those, 1,062 (93%) were type A(H3), 61 (5%) were type B, and 18 (2%) were type A (H1N1). Influenza tests performed at the State Laboratory are considered the gold standard of influenza laboratory testing for influenza surveillance purposes.



Go to <http://dhmh.maryland.gov/flumud/SitePages/getvaccinated.aspx> and click on your county/city of residence. You will be redirected to your local health department website for local information on where to get your flu vaccine.

## Influenza-associated Hospitalizations

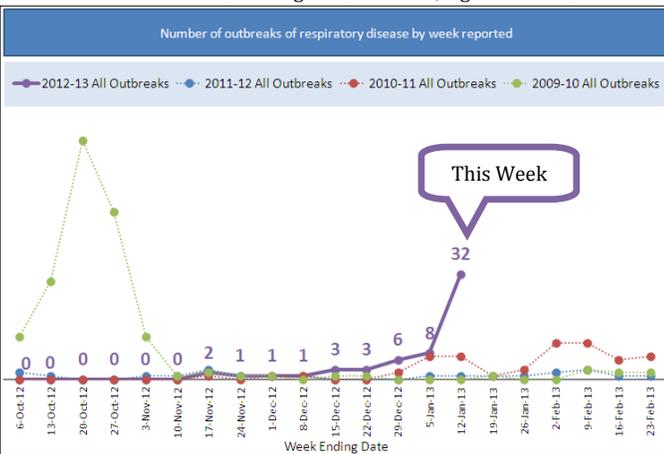
Hospitals in Maryland reported 215 influenza-associated hospitalizations. (A person with an overnight hospital stay along with a positive influenza test of any kind, e.g. rapid test or PCR, is considered an "influenza-associated hospitalization" for purposes of influenza surveillance.)



Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	11 (5%)	17 (6%)	96 (9%)
Age 5-17	7 (3%)	4 (1%)	40 (4%)
Age 18-24	8 (4%)	15 (6%)	53 (5%)
Age 25-49	30 (14%)	36 (13%)	162 (15%)
Age 50-64	28 (13%)	46 (17%)	176 (17%)
Age ≥ 65	131 (61%)	152 (56%)	524 (50%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>215 (100%)</b>	<b>270 (100%)</b>	<b>1,051 (100%)</b>

## Outbreaks of Respiratory Disease

Thirty-two outbreaks of respiratory disease were reported to DHMH. (Disease outbreaks of any kind are reportable in Maryland. Respiratory outbreaks may be reclassified once a causative agent is detected, e.g. from ILI to influenza.)



Respiratory Outbreaks by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Influenza	21 (66%)	7 (88%)	39 (68%)
Influenza-like Illness	7 (22%)	1 (13%)	11 (19%)
Pneumonia	4 (13%)	-- --	7 (12%)
Other Respiratory	-- --	-- --	-- --
<b>Total</b>	<b>32 (100%)</b>	<b>8 (100%)</b>	<b>57 (100%)</b>

## National Influenza Surveillance (CDC)

During the week ending January 12, 2013, influenza activity remained elevated in the United States, but decreased in some areas.

- **Viral Surveillance:** Of 12,360 specimens tested and reported by collaborating laboratories, 3,638 (29.4%) were positive for influenza.
- **Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality:** The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was above the epidemic threshold.
- **Influenza-Associated Pediatric Deaths:** Nine influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.
- **Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations:** A cumulative rate for the season of 18.8 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations per 100,000 population was reported. Among all cases, 49.6% were in adults 65 years and older.
- **Outpatient Illness Surveillance:** The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 4.6%; this is above the national baseline of 2.2%. All 10 regions reported ILI above region-specific baseline levels. Thirty states and New York City experienced high ILI activity; 10 states experienced moderate activity; 7 states experienced low activity; 3 states experienced minimal activity, and the District of Columbia had insufficient data.
- **Geographic Spread of Influenza:** Forty-eight states reported widespread geographic influenza activity; 2 states reported regional activity; the District of Columbia reported local activity; Guam reported no influenza activity, and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands did not report.

