

# Maryland Weekly Influenza Surveillance Activity Report

A summary of influenza surveillance indicators reported to DHMH for the week ending February 9, 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 February 9, 2013, influenza-like illness (ILI) intensity in Maryland was **LOW** with **WIDESPREAD** geographic spread of influenza. All indicators are returning to baseline levels, although

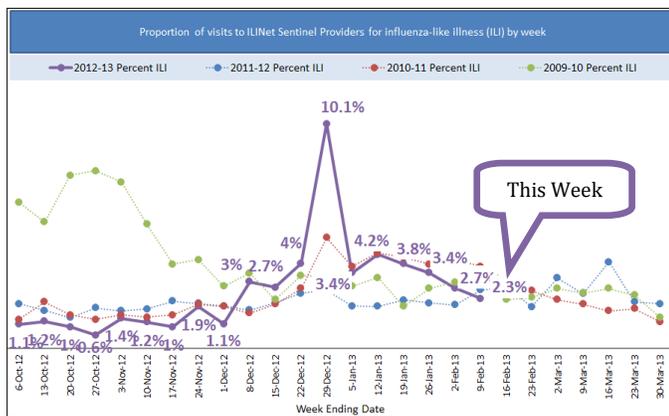
[Click here to visit our influenza surveillance web page](#)

ILI Intensity Levels
✓ Minimal
Low
Moderate
High

Influenza Geographic Spread
No Activity
Sporadic
Local
Regional
✓ Widespread

## ILINet Sentinel Providers

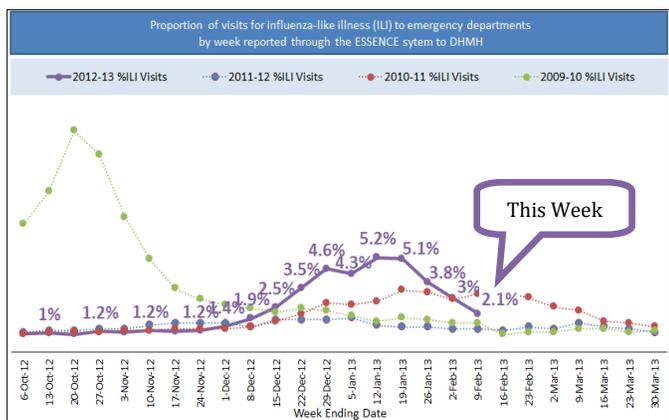
Twelve sentinel providers reported a total of 8,384 visits last week. Of those, 189 (2.3%) were visits for ILI. This is **below** the Maryland baseline of 2.9%.



ILI Visits To Sentinel Providers By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	36 (19%)	46 (20%)	819 (23%)
Age 5-24	78 (41%)	91 (39%)	1,420 (40%)
Age 25-49	54 (29%)	66 (28%)	930 (26%)
Age 50-64	15 (8%)	18 (8%)	261 (7%)
Age ≥ 65	6 (3%)	11 (5%)	120 (3%)
<b>Total ILI Visits</b>	<b>189 (100%)</b>	<b>232 (100%)</b>	<b>3,550 (100%)</b>

## Visits to Emergency Departments for ILI

Emergency Departments in Maryland reported a total of 45,290 visits through the [ESSENCE surveillance system](#). Of those, 952 (2.1%) were visits for ILI.



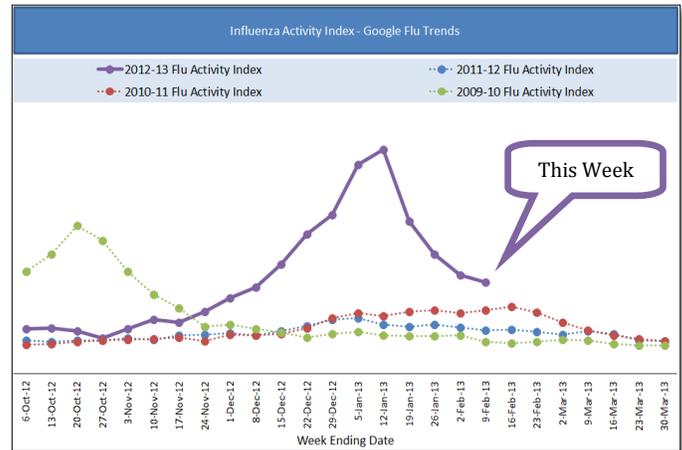
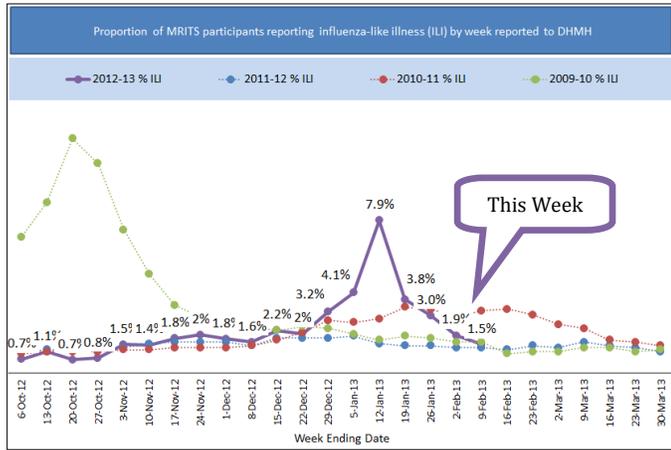
ILI Visits To Emergency Departments By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	166 (17%)	248 (18%)	5,635 (25%)
Age 5-24	328 (34%)	412 (29%)	6,412 (29%)
Age 25-49	260 (27%)	470 (34%)	6,725 (30%)
Age 50-64	136 (14%)	184 (13%)	2,322 (10%)
Age ≥ 65	62 (7%)	87 (6%)	1,245 (6%)
<b>Total ILI Visits</b>	<b>952 (100%)</b>	<b>1,401 (100%)</b>	<b>22,339 (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/oeps/disease/flu/Pages/fluSurveillance.aspx>

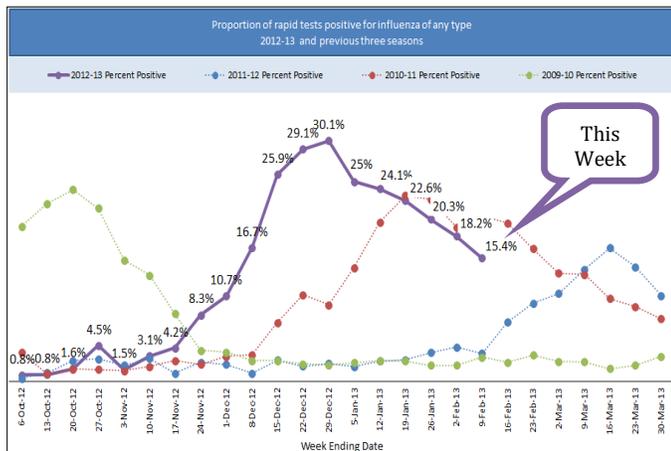
## Community-based Influenza Surveillance (MRITS and Google Flu Trends)

A total of 615 responses to the [weekly flu survey](#) (MRITS) were received. Of those, 9 (1.5%) reported ILI with a cumulative 27 days of regular daily activities lost due to illness. According to [Google Flu Trends](#), influenza activity is now "high" in Maryland.

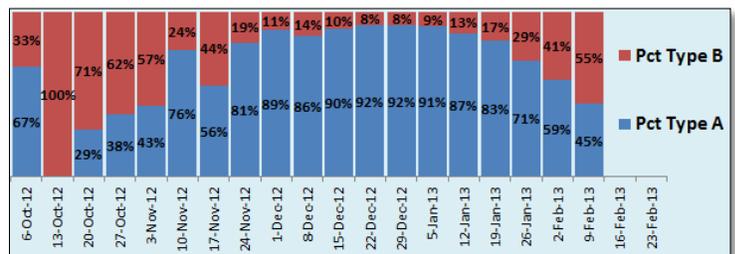


## Clinical Laboratory Influenza Testing

Twenty-eight clinical laboratories reported 3,517 rapid influenza tests performed. Of those, 542 (15.4%) were positive. Of those testing positive, 242 were positive for influenza type A, and 300 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.)

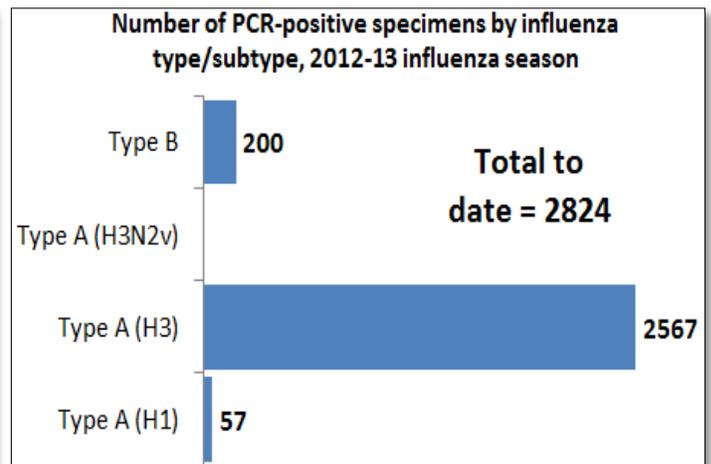
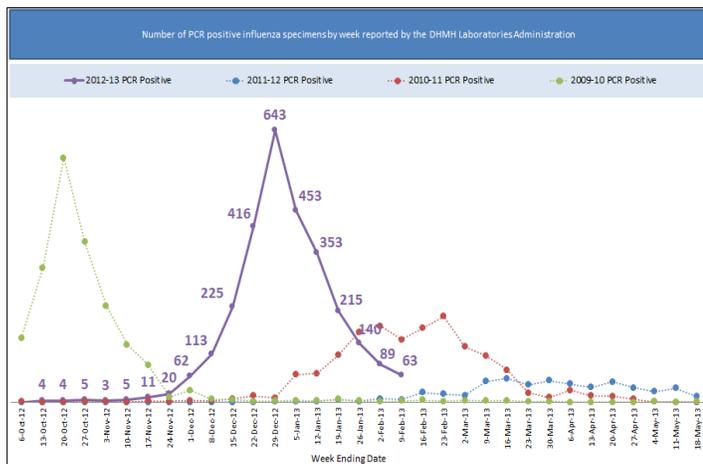


Positive Rapid Flu Tests by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Type A	242 (45%)	427 (59%)	9,693 (83%)
Type B	300 (55%)	301 (41%)	1,949 (17%)
Total	542 (100%)	728 (100%)	11,642 (100%)



## State Laboratories Administration Influenza Testing

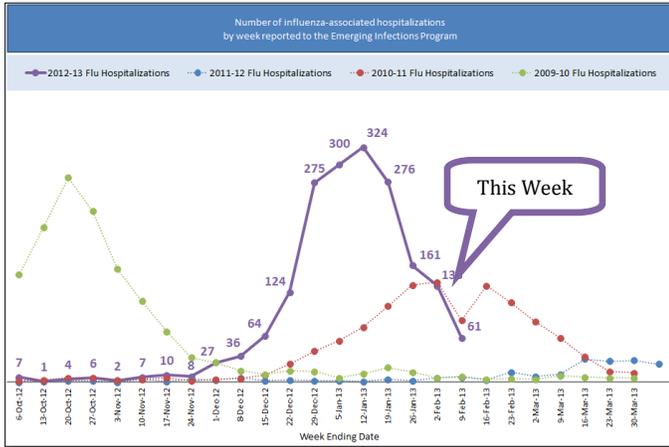
The State Laboratories Administration has reported 2,824 PCR-positive specimens from 4,616 total tests reported this flu season. Of those positives, 2,567 (91%) were type A (H3), 200 (7%) were type B, and 57 (2%) were type A (H1N1). Influenza tests performed at the State Laboratory are considered the gold standard of influenza laboratory testing for influenza surveillance purposes.



Go to <http://dhmh.maryland.gov/flu/md/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

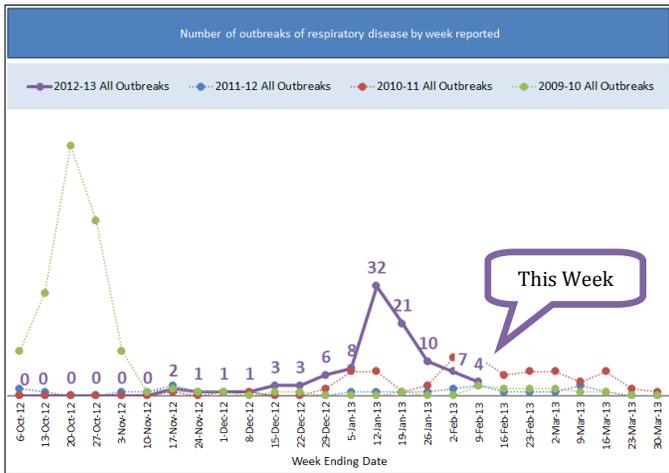
Hospitals in Maryland reported 61 influenza-associated hospitalizations. (A person with an overnight hospital stay along with a positive influenza test of any kind, e.g. rapid test or PCR, is considered an “influenza-associated hospitalization” for purposes of influenza surveillance.)



Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	3 (5%)	11 (8%)	153 (8%)
Age 5-17	3 (5%)	5 (4%)	74 (4%)
Age 18-24	1 (2%)	5 (4%)	73 (4%)
Age 25-49	12 (20%)	15 (11%)	271 (15%)
Age 50-64	10 (16%)	25 (19%)	319 (17%)
Age ≥ 65	32 (52%)	72 (54%)	936 (51%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>61 (100%)</b>	<b>133 (100%)</b>	<b>1,826 (100%)</b>

## Outbreaks of Respiratory Disease

Four 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	3 (75%)	6 (86%)	73 (74%)
Influenza-like Illness	1 (25%)	1 (14%)	18 (18%)
Pneumonia	--	--	8 (8%)
Other Respiratory	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 (100%)</b>	<b>7 (100%)</b>	<b>99 (100%)</b>

## National Influenza Surveillance (CDC)

During the week ending February 9, 2013...