

# Florida Influenza Surveillance

*Week Ending April 17, 2004 (Week 15)*

*Angela Fix, MPH  
Respiratory Disease Epidemiologist*

*Melissa Covey  
Influenza Surveillance Coordinator*

## Summary

Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity remained low across Florida. Three counties reported as having a high ILI% activity for the week ending April 17, 2004 (week 15). However, not all sentinels have reported at the time that this summary was written (77% reporting as of April 26, 2004). Twelve counties across the state have reported no influenza-like illness activity for the week ending April 17, 2004. The Florida Sentinel Physician Influenza Surveillance Network (FSPISN) providers reported seeing 15,918 total patients during week 15, of which, 112 were seen with influenza-like illness symptoms. Across the nation, regional activity was reported in one state, sporadic activity was reported in 12 states and all other states (including Florida) reported no ILI activity for the week ending April 17, 2004.

The Bureau of Epidemiology would like to remind all sentinel providers that influenza reporting is year round and it is vital to submit reports even if no patients are presenting with ILI. Reporting year round helps to determine the baseline influenza activity level across the state.

## FSPISN Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Summary

To date, 67 sentinels from 58 public clinics and private offices submitted reports for 31 counties during the week ending April 17, 2004 (Week 15). Counties with the highest percentage of patients with ILI were Indian River (2.57%, with 3 of 5 sentinel locations reporting), Orange (2.37%, with all 6 reporting), and Palm Beach (3.35%, with 3 of 4 reporting). Eleven counties reported a low percentage of patients with ILI, and 12 counties reported no cases of ILI. A breakdown of ILI% reported for week ending April 17, 2004 by county is listed in Table 1.

**TABLE 1. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS REPORTING BY COUNTY FOR WEEK ENDING 04/17/04 (WEEK 15)**  
Report Date: April 26, 2004

County	Change	Active within the last 4 weeks		Reporting for Week 15		Participation for Week 15	ILI % Reported Week 15 (Current)	ILI% Reported Week 14 (Updated)	ILI% Reported Week 13 (Updated)
		Active Sentinels	From Offices	Sentinels Reporting	From Offices				
Alachua	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Brevard	Increasing	4	4	3	3	75%	1.63%	1.26%	1.36%
Broward	Increasing	6	6	3	3	50%	0.78%	0.31%	0.00%
Charlotte	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Citrus	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Collier	-	1	1	-	-	0%	-	0.00%	0.00%
Duval	Increasing	6	6	2	2	33%	0.56%	0.28%	0.33%
Hillsborough	Level	4	4	3	3	75%	0.00%	0.00%	0.12%
Indian River	Increasing	8	5	7	3	88%	2.57%	1.07%	0.72%
Lake	Decreasing	2	2	2	2	100%	0.62%	1.41%	1.57%
Lee	Increasing	2	2	2	2	100%	0.42%	0.00%	0.00%
Leon	Increasing	2	2	2	2	100%	0.84%	0.45%	0.23%

Manatee	-	1	1	-	-	0%	-	0.00%	0.00%
Marion	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Martin	Decreasing	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.38%	0.31%
Miami-Dade	Decreasing	5	5	5	5	100%	0.28%	0.40%	0.20%
Monroe	Decreasing	1	1	1	1	100%	0.67%	1.12%	0.00%
Okaloosa	Decreasing	3	3	3	3	100%	0.00%	0.22%	0.00%
Orange	Increasing	6	5	6	4	100%	2.37%	0.79%	0.95%
Osceola	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Palm Beach	Increasing	4	4	3	3	75%	3.35%	1.50%	2.67%
Pasco	Decreasing	1	1	1	1	100%	1.56%	6.15%	0.00%
Pinellas	Increasing	6	6	5	5	83%	1.66%	0.00%	0.00%
Polk	Level	6	4	6	3	100%	1.28%	1.38%	1.64%
Putnam	-	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	-	-
Santa Rosa	Level	2	2	1	1	50%	0.00%	0.00%	-
St. Johns	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
St. Lucie	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Volusia	Level	3	3	3	3	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Wakulla	-	1	1	-	-	0%	-	0.00%	1.59%

## State Laboratory Specimen Testing in Florida

No specimens were submitted to the Jacksonville Central and Tampa Branch laboratories for influenza isolate testing during the week ending April 17, 2004 (Week 15). From September 28, 2003 to April 17, 2004, the Florida laboratories tested a total of 745 specimens and found 238 positive for influenza A (H3N2), 101 that were influenza A of an unknown subtype, and one positive for influenza B. The remaining specimens were negative for influenza.

## National Influenza Surveillance

*This section summarizes the weekly influenza report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More detailed information can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>*

### Influenza-Like Illness Report for the Week Ending April 10, 2004

The week ending January 17, 2004 marked the beginning of this season's decrease in influenza-like illness in the United States, with the percentage of patient visits for influenza-like illness dropping, and remaining below the national baseline of 2.5%. Deaths due to pneumonia and influenza during the week ending April 17, 2004 remain below the epidemic threshold of 7.9%. Of the 622 specimens collected from throughout the United States, nine (1.4%) were positive for influenza. Regional activity was reported in New York. Sporadic activity was reported by twelve states, New York City, Guam, and Puerto Rico and 35 states reported no influenza activity.

## International Influenza Surveillance

*This section summarizes the weekly influenza report from around the globe. More detailed information can be found at the corresponding websites for each organization.*

### Report from the European Influenza Surveillance Scheme (EISS)

The EISS influenza virus characterizations between October and up to the week ending April 10, 2004, determined 96.5% were A/Fujian/411/2002 (H3N2)-like. The majority of the remaining viruses were found to be A/Moscow/10/99 (H3N2)-like, A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1)-like. Few influenza B viruses were found: two B/Hong Kong/330/2001-like, two B/Sichuan/379/99-like and three B/Shanghai /361/002-like. For more information about the EISS report, please visit their website at <http://dev.eiss.org>

### **WHO 2003-2004 Influenza Season Summary**

A summary of the influenza season from September 2003 through January 2004 can be found in *The Weekly Epidemiological Record (WER)*, vol. 79, 10 (pp. 94-96).

### **WHO Recommended Composition of Influenza Vaccine**

WHO recommended composition of influenza virus vaccines for use in the 2004 influenza season <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/influenza/recommendations2004/en/>

## **Influenza Surveillance – Definitions and Reminders**

### **Definitions of the influenza activity codes**

**No Activity:** *No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of ILI.*

**Sporadic:** *Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.*

**Local:** *Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.*

**Regional:** *Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the regions of the state.*

**Widespread:** *Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state.*

### **Important Reminders**

- \* *Influenza activity reporting by sentinel providers is voluntary.*
- \* *The influenza surveillance data is used to answer the question of where, when, and what viruses are circulating. It can be used to determine if influenza activity is increasing or decreasing, but it cannot be used to ascertain how many people have become ill with influenza so far this season.*
- \* *Reporting is incomplete for this week. Numbers may change as more reports are received.*