All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received. As influenza season begins and ends, the number of tests conducted will be smaller than at times of peak activity; therefore, the reliability of positivity figures may decrease as a result. Due to the low number of influenza tests and positive results, surveillance will be discontinued for Cowlitz County after Week 12 and Clark County after week 14, to prevent misrepresentation of flu activity in our communities.

Summary

- Clark County influenza positivity was at 0.9% during Week 14, below the 10% threshold for the third consecutive week.
- Cowlitz County partner labs reported influenza positivity at 13% in Week 12. Since then, positivity is not reported for weeks with fewer than 5 tests conducted.
- The CDC reported national positivity in Week 14 was at 0.8%.
- In Week 14, Washington state influenza positivity was at 0.3%.

Data from Reporting Laboratories

The influenza positivity rate is the percent of influenza tests conducted by reporting laboratories that result positive. Traditionally, agencies including the CDC and WA State DOH use positivity ≥10% to define active influenza season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDC Week</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>A (H1)</th>
<th>A (H1N1)</th>
<th>A (H3)</th>
<th>A (not subtyped)</th>
<th>Type B</th>
<th>Total influenza</th>
<th>No. Tested</th>
<th>Positivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3/15—3/21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3/22—3/28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>3/29—4/4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data from Reporting Laboratories
Washington State, Oregon, CDC

The CDC, Washington State, and Oregon also collect and report influenza activity data on a weekly basis. This allows for comparisons to be made with regional and national trends as the season progresses. In Week 14, the CDC reported national positivity of 0.8%. Washington and Oregon states reported influenza positivity of 0.3% and 0.5%, respectively. Clark County’s positivity was at 0.9%, all well below the 10% positivity threshold.

Positivity Rate of Influenza Tests by Week, USA, Washington, Oregon, and Clark County, 2019-2020

Influenza Outbreaks in Long Term Care Facilities
Clark County

Clark County Public Health identifies and responds to influenza outbreaks in long term care facilities around Clark County, in order to provide recommendations and guide further community action. So far this influenza season, seven lab-confirmed influenza outbreaks have been reported.
Reporting laboratories also may provide details on what strains of influenza are reported positive. The colored bars represent how much of each strain of influenza is being reported, while the black line is the corresponding influenza positivity. The below summaries display the breakdown of influenza strains identified in positive results at the local, state, and national level, by CDC week. Through Week 14, most positive tests were identified as influenza B.
CCPH assesses syndromic surveillance data on influenza-like illness (ILI), in order to view community influenza activity in another way. These data are automatically reported by local hospitals to the CDC’s ESSENCE system, and reflect the proportion of individuals seen with ILI symptoms.

The ILI baseline of 0.73% is defined as the mean percent of patient visit for ILI during non-influenza weeks during the previous two seasons, plus two standard deviations.

During Week 14, Clark County ILI visits were at 1.8%, above the baseline.

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Visits Reported by Sentinel Providers

State and National Level Data

Sentinel provider data can also provide valuable information on the presence of influenza-like illness. These data are captured at the state and national level, and are defined as the percent of patient visits to a sentinel healthcare facility that meet the case definition for influenza-like illness (ILI). ILI is defined as fever ≥ 100° F AND cough and/or sore throat (in the absence of a known cause other than influenza).

During Week 14, National ILI patient visits were at 3.2%, above the CDC baseline for elevated ILI activity of 2.4%. Washington data from Week 14 indicated ILI visits at 2.5%.
Cowlitz County Influenza Surveillance Update

NOTE: All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received. As influenza season begins and ends, the number of tests conducted will be smaller than at times of peak activity; therefore, the reliability of positivity figures may decrease as a result.

Cowlitz and Clark Counties are neighboring local health jurisdictions in Washington State. Although separate entities, both share a common goal of preventing disease and promoting public health. To that end, Cowlitz and Clark County often partner in disease response efforts. This year, Cowlitz and Clark counties will continue working together to provide reliable influenza surveillance data to our communities.

Data from Reporting Laboratories
Cowlitz County

The influenza positivity rate is the percent of influenza tests conducted by reporting laboratories that result positive. Traditionally, agencies including the CDC and WA State DOH use positivity ≥10% to define active influenza season.

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<th>Positivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3/15—3/21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3/22—3/28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>3/29—4/4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NR - weekly positivity not reported for <5 tests
Clark County Public Health Influenza Resources

Influenza Overview:
https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/flu

Information for Schools and Child Day Cares:
https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/schools-child-day-cares

Clark County Public Health—Resources for Healthcare Providers:
  ⇒ Guidance for Outbreak Preparation and Management
  ⇒ Influenza Outbreaks in LTCFs: Frequently Asked Questions
  ⇒ Tamiflu Standing Order Template
  ⇒ Sample Line List Document
  ⇒ Inter-Facility Transfer Form

Latest Weekly Influenza Update (Full Version):

State and National Influenza Resources

National influenza surveillance data are available at:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Washington influenza surveillance data are available at:
http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/5100/420-100-FluUpdate.pdf

Oregon influenza surveillance data available at:

Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices – ACIP – Influenza 2017-2018:
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/rr/rr6703a1.htm

Disease outbreak news from the World Health Organization (WHO):
http://www.who.int/csr/don/en/

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