Clark County Influenza Surveillance Update

CDC Week 42: October 15—October 21, 2017

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.

Summary

- During CDC Week 42, influenza activity in both Clark and Cowlitz Counties remained low, below the 10% positivity threshold for active influenza season.
- State and national influenza levels for Week 42 also remained low, at 2.4% and 2.5%, respectively.
- Nationwide, reported influenza activity is mostly sporadic, with 11 states reporting elevated “local” activity.
- Reported ILI at the state and national level during Week 42 was at 0.4% and 1.3%, respectively.

Data from Reporting Laboratories

Clark County

The positivity rate is the percent of influenza tests done by reporting laboratories for this influenza season that are positive. Historically, the CDC has used ≥10% positivity to define the baseline for an “active” flu 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>40</td>
<td>10/1—10/7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>10/8—10/14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>10/15—10/21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Positivity Rate of Influenza Tests by Week from Reporting Laboratories in Clark County

![Graph showing positivity rate by week from reporting laboratories in Clark County.](image-url)
Data from Reporting Laboratories  
*U.S., Washington, and Oregon*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDC Week</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Influenza Positivity (%)</th>
<th>U.S. (CDC)</th>
<th>Washington State (DOH)</th>
<th>Oregon (OHA)</th>
<th>Clark County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>10/1—10/7</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>10/8—10/14</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>10/15—10/21</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 42, the CDC reported 2.5% of influenza tests as positive, while Washington State and Oregon reported positivity of 2.4% and 4.4%, respectively. Clark County’s positivity fell within these ranges at 2.9%.

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, no outbreaks have been reported. For additional information on influenza outbreak detection and response, you may refer to the following resources:

- **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

- **Influenza Information for Public Health and Healthcare (WA DOH):**
  [https://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/Immunization/InfluenzaFluInformation](https://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/Immunization/InfluenzaFluInformation)

- **Influenza Toolkit for Long-Term Care Employers (CDC):**
Circulating Strains from Reporting Laboratories
Local, State, and National Data

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 percent of lab tests resulting positive. The below summaries display the breakdown of influenza strains identified in positive results at the local, state, and national level, by CDC week. During Week 42, a majority of positive influenza tests at the local, state, and national level were Influenza A.

Graphs:
- Number of Positive Influenza Tests from Reporting Laboratories in Clark County, by Week and Strain
- Number of Positive Influenza Tests from U.S. Clinical Laboratories, by Week and Strain
- Number of Positive Influenza Tests from WHO/NREVSS Reporting Laboratories in Washington State, by Week and Strain
Beginning in the 2017-2018 season, CCPH will be assessing syndromic surveillance data, 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 each week. As a new point of analysis, these metrics are new and subject to change with available data.

The ILI baseline of 0.95% is defined as the mean percent of patient visit for ILI during non-influenza weeks during the previous two seasons, plus two standard deviations. The period of non-influenza weeks begins with 2 consecutive weeks of positivity below 2%, and ends with two consecutive weeks of positivity above 2%. During Week 42, Clark County ILI patient visits were at 0.50%, below the baseline of 0.95%.

Reported Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by Sentinel Providers

Sentinel provider data, although different than local ESSENCE data in method of collection and assessment, 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 42, National ILI patient visits were at 1.3%, while Washington influenza-like illness was at 0.4%. Both of these are below the respective baselines of 2.0% and 1.1%, respectively.
Cowlitz and Clark Counties are sister 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.

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Data from Reporting Laboratories
Cowlitz County

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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>35</td>
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Influenza in the Local News

Severe flu season winding down: More flu-associated deaths in Clark County than in past years

With 207 deaths so far, one of Washington’s worst flu seasons may be subsiding

Current Flu Season Washington’s Deadliest Since 2010, Officials Say

Clark County flu levels remain elevated

State and National 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 2016-2017:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/acip/index.htm

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

CDC Seasonal Influenza doses distributed:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/vaccinesupply.htm

CDC Interim Estimates of 2016–17 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness — United States, February 2017
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6606a3.htm

Contact Information

For more information, please contact:

Madison Riethman, MPH
CDC CSTE Epidemiology Fellow
Clark County Public Health
Phone: 360-397-8242
madison.riethman@clark.wa.gov

Derel Glashower, MPH
Epidemiologist
Clark County Public Health
Phone: 360-397-8003
derel.glashower@clark.wa.gov