

# Florida Influenza Surveillance

*Week Ending April 24, 2004 (Week 16)*

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## Summary

Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity during the past four weeks continued to decrease across Florida. Four counties reported as having a high ILI% activity for the week ending April 24, 2004 (week 16). However, not all sentinels have reported at the time that this summary was written (85% reporting as of April 26, 2004). Fourteen counties across the state have reported no influenza-like illness activity for the week ending April 24, 2004. The Florida Sentinel Physician Influenza Surveillance Network (FSPISN) providers reported seeing 15,196 total patients during week 16, of which, 109 were seen with influenza-like illness symptoms. Across the nation, regional activity was reported in one state and while most states (including Florida) reported no ILI activity for the week ending April 24, 2004.

The Bureau of Epidemiology would like to encourage all sentinel providers that are seeing influenza-like illness in their patients to submit samples to the state laboratory for testing. If you have questions about submitting samples, please contact your local health department or Melissa Covey, State Influenza Surveillance Coordinator, at (904) 791-1789.

## FSPISN Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Summary

To date, 71 sentinels from 63 public clinics and private offices submitted reports for 27 counties during the week ending April 24, 2004 (Week 16). Counties with the highest percentage of patients with ILI were Brevard (2.22%, with all sentinel locations reporting), Leon (4.81%, with 1 of 2 reporting), Pasco (4.76%, with all reporting), and Pinellas (2.93%, with 4 of 5 reporting). Nine counties reported a low percentage of patients with ILI, and 14 counties reported no cases of ILI. A breakdown of ILI% reported for week ending April 24, 2004 by county is listed in Table 1.

**TABLE 1. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS REPORTING BY COUNTY FOR WEEK ENDING 04/24/04 (WEEK 16)**  
Report Date: April 26, 2004

County	Change	Active within the last 4 weeks		Reporting for Week 16		Participation for Week 16	ILI % Reported Week 16 (Current)	ILI% Reported Week 15 (Updated)	ILI% Reported Week 14 (Updated)
		Active Sentinels	From Offices	Sentinels Reporting	From Offices				
Alachua	--	1	1	0	0	0%	--	0.00%	0.00%
Brevard	Increasing	4	4	4	4	100%	2.22%	1.45%	1.26%
Broward	Decreasing	7	7	6	6	86%	0.46%	0.62%	0.31%
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	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Duval	Decreasing	8	8	4	4	50%	0.35%	1.22%	1.72%
Hillsborough	Level	4	4	4	4	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Indian River	Decreasing	8	3	7	3	88%	1.63%	2.26%	1.07%
Lake	Decreasing	2	2	2	2	100%	0.33%	0.62%	1.41%
Lee	Decreasing	2	2	1	1	50%	0.00%	0.42%	0.00%

Leon	Increasing	2	2	1	1	50%	4.81%	0.84%	0.45%
Manatee	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Marion	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Martin	--	1	1	0	0	0%	-	0.00%	0.38%
Miami-Dade	Increasing	5	5	5	5	100%	0.50%	0.28%	0.40%
Monroe	Decreasing	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.67%	1.12%
Okaloosa	Level	3	3	2	2	67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.22%
Orange	Decreasing	8	5	6	5	75%	1.16%	1.58%	0.99%
Osceola	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Palm Beach	Decreasing	4	4	4	4	100%	1.26%	1.95%	1.50%
Pasco	Increasing	1	1	1	1	100%	4.76%	1.56%	6.15%
Pinellas	Increasing	5	5	4	4	80%	2.93%	1.66%	0.00%
Polk	Increasing	6	3	6	3	100%	1.98%	1.28%	1.38%
Santa Rosa	Level	1	1	1	1	100%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Seminole	Decreasing	2	2	2	2	100%	0.32%	0.46%	0.41%
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	2	2	67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Wakulla	--	1	1	0	0	0%	--	--	0.00%
Walton	--	1	1	0	0	0%	--	0.00%	0.00%

## 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 16). 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 24, 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 24, 2004 remain below the epidemic threshold of 7.9%. Of the 333 specimens collected from throughout the United States, thirteen (3.9%) were positive for influenza. Regional activity was reported in New York for the second consecutive week due to reports of nosocomial outbreaks of influenza B. Sporadic activity was reported in five states (Colorado, Hawaii, New Mexico, Ohio, and Utah) as well as New York City, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Forty-three states reported no influenza activity and one state did not report.

## 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 24, 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 or 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.*